

FINAL PRECISION ESSAY
A TALE OF TWO CITIES

Student's Name

English 10
Mrs. Hall
Due Date

When justice is distorted into vengeance, then it leads to more oppression and vengeance. The characterization of humans as animals shows how justice can be distorted into vengeance, leading to more oppression and eventually more vengeance

When the Marquis Evremonde is characterized as a predator, it shows how the aristocracy oppressed the common people, which led to rebellion. Just before the marquis is killed, “he moved like a refined tiger” (150). The Marquis is characterized as a tiger, which is a predator. The characterization of the Marquis as a tiger shows how he has oppressed the common people. This oppression of the common people by the aristocracy led to a terrible cycle of revenge against the aristocracy.

Characterizing revolutionaries as desirous of being a predator shows how the revolutionaries eventually rose up and became oppressors. When Defarge shows the road-mender the aristocracy in Paris, Defarge says to Jacques “‘judiciously show a cat milk if you wish her to thirst for it. Judiciously show a dog his natural prey if you wish him to bring it down one day’” (208). Defarge says to Jacques that showing a predator what it naturally eats, then it will want to eat that. Defarge means that the revolutionaries must show the peasants what they are capable of doing, and capable of gaining through the revolution for it to succeed. As the revolution progresses, the revolutionaries are seen more like predators, just like the oppressive aristocracy were, showing how the common people will eventually become the new oppressors.

The revolutionaries characterized as predators shows how the revolutionaries became the new oppressors after the aristocrats were brought down. When Darnay is tried for the last time, the revolutionaries are described as “a jury of dogs empanelled to try the deer” (390). The revolutionaries on the jury are described as predators judging their prey. The revolutionaries are described as predators now that they have become the

new oppressors, while the aristocracy has become the prey. This transformation from prey to predator shows how the revolutionaries have become the new oppressors in their revenge against the aristocracy.

When the revolutionaries and the aristocracy are characterized as animals, it shows how justice can be distorted into vengeance again and again. The distortion of justice into vengeance will always lead to more vengeance, over and over again.