Animal Imagery in *The White Tiger*

**In the India of *The White Tiger*, society is a:**

- The road is a jungle. p. 48
- The day the British left - the cages had been let open; and the animals had attacked and ripped each other apart and the jungle law replaced zoo law. Those that were the most ferocious, the hungriest, had eaten everyone else. p. 54
- The Buffalo, The Stork, The Raven - names for the landlords around Laxmangarh (p. 20-21): “The animals stayed and fed on the village, and everything that grew in it, until there was nothing left for anyone else to feed on” p. 21
- The Great Indian Rooster Coop....A handful of men in this country have trained the remaining 99.9 percent - as strong, as talented, as intelligence in every way - to exist in perpetual servitude; a servitude so strong that you can put the key of his emancipation in a man's hands and he will throw it back at you with a curse. p. 149
- That is the way of this jungle we live in. p. 268

**In this society the people at the bottom are:**

- Balram’s father: “a human beast of burden” p. 23
- Balram’s father: “My whole life I have been treated like a donkey.” p. 26
- Better to call them human spiders. p. 43
- Balram is called “country-mouse” by Vitiligo-Lips. p. 105
- I sniffed in between the mats like a dog. p. 117
- The drivers were passing his cell phone from hand to hand and gazing at it like monkeys gaze at something shiny. p. 129
- I crouched on the floor, happy as a dog. p. 141
- The Rooster Coop was doing its work. Servants have to keep other servants from becoming innovators, experimenters or entrepreneurs. p. 166

**Balram feels about his place in this world that:**

- School Inspector: “What is the rarest of animals - the creature that comes along only once in a generation?”
  I thought about it and said:
  “The white tiger”
  “That’s what you are, in this jungle” p. 30
- Let animals live like animals; let humans live like humans. p. 237
- I can't live the rest of my life in a cage. p. 239
Mr. Ashok is:

- Mr. Ashok: I don’t believe in killing animals needlessly. p. 71
- Balram about Mr. Ashok: If we were back in Laxmangarh we would have called you the Lamb. p. 120

When Balram kills Mr. Ashok:

- I held what was left of the bottle up to the light. Long and cruel and clawlike jags. p. 234.
- When Balram sees the white tiger at the zoo: The ground beneath me was shaking. Something was digging its way toward me, and then claws tore out of the mud and dug into my flesh and pulled me down into the dark earth. p. 238

Summarise the use of animal imagery in the novel by using this template:

In *The White Tiger*, through the narrator of Balram, Aravind Adiga characterises/represents/depicts/portrays society as........Balram describes how society is......In this India, people like Balram and his father who are at the bottom are like....However, Balram doesn’t accept that his fate will be to.....He views himself as....and feels that...Before he kills Mr. Ashok, Balram has a....where he...