

## THE FUNCTION OF ANIMALS IN T. S. ELIOT'S *THE WASTE LAND*

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### ABSTRACT

The study discusses the function of the animals mentioned in T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*. The study analyzes these different animals relying on four different and interconnected perspectives. The first one discusses briefly how these animals illustrate the shift from traditional, or previous, poetry to modern poetry. The second part discusses the absence of large animals and the presence of small animals from an ecocritical perspective. The third one discusses the symbolism of these animals and how they are related to the environment and people in the poem. Moreover, it discusses the imagery of these animals whether the imagery is visual (seeing), auditory (hearing), tactile (touching), or kinesthetic (moving and doing). The last idea discusses briefly intertextuality in the poem and how Eliot uses animals from other writers to form his poem.

**KEYWORDS:** Animals, Ecocriticism, Modern Poetry, Symbolism, T.S Eliot