

Summer Reading Assignments

English 3 Honors

WARNING: *If the assignments are not completed on time, are incomplete, plagiarism is detected there is a possibility you may be asked to be placed in the appropriate alternative English class. All assignments are due on the first day of class and will be turned in through canvas, unless stated otherwise. Be prepared to be tested on the reading material the first week of school.*

Novel: Life of Pi by Yann Martel

- **Potential Sensitivity Issues:** Murder; cannibalism; animal death
- **Protagonist/Central Conflict:** Sixteen-year-old Pi Patel, a hyena, a wounded zebra, an orangutan, and a large Royal Bengal tiger are stranded on a lifeboat in the Pacific Ocean after their cargo ship sinks. When only Pi and the tiger are left, they must coexist until their rescue 227 days later. Pi tells his two stories to the authorities, but which is to be believed?
- Essay Rubric:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oycbqLSPpKC8ZQ3CGxDzicyX7YXD2KrT/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104831359813127444630&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Comprehension and Organizational Assignments

1. Please fill out the plot graphic organizer using complete sentences and well-thought-out answers. Follow the directions stated on the worksheet.
 - a. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-GiW0pijvI2en7IJry1uYxxDzWIFdKw-/view?usp=sharing>

Essay

- The essay should be printed and turned in on the first day of class, but there will also be a canvas drobox open to run it through TurnItIn. **12pt. font and Times New Roman, double spaced**
- This is essay is meant to demonstrate your reading comprehension and writing capabilities. Your style should be formal or academic in nature. Meaning, you should not sound as though you are texting your best friend.

- You should include a proper heading and citations. Proper citations, for the purpose of this essay, include the page number where your reference or quote is located inside of parenthesis before your ending punctuation of said sentence. In English classes, you will follow proper MLA citations, if you have questions on formatting please refer to: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_general_format.html
- **Words to stay away from:** *basically, like, so, really, that, 'you know', almost, always, literally, actually, seriously, just*

Student Prompt: Choose from one of the prompts below. Write a structured and well-developed essay (5 paragraphs). Include a thesis statement, at least three main points supported by text details, and a conclusion.

1. The novel consistently addresses the blurring of fact and fiction in Pi's narrative. What is the significance of believability in the novel? How is Pi's method of storytelling connected to his father's dreaming and Mamaji's remembering? How might Pi's narrative be impacted by Pi's assertion that language is unable to capture beauty?

2. Pi's early life is spent primarily dealing with animals in his father's zoo where his father repeatedly reminds Pi not to anthropomorphize the animals. Pi, however, makes several connections between animals and humans in *Life of Pi*. What are the strongest comparisons made between humans and animals in the novel? Why does Pi use zoo animals as a metaphor for his journey? What does each of the animals have in common, symbolically speaking, with the humans they represent, and how can these be evidenced in the novel? How does Pi himself emulate animalistic behavior?

3. Pi identifies a connection between his two majors at the University of Toronto, Zoology and Religious Studies. What connection is made by Pi between his two majors? How does animal hierarchy contribute to the blending of the two studies? How does Pi use religion to understand the natural world? How does Pi feel about people who lend too much credence to factual evidence?