

INCOMING HONORS SOPHOMORES



SUMMER

READING

DUE DATE: THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS IN FALL 2026

**STUDENTS IN BOTH SECTIONS WILL BE GIVEN
TIMED-WRITING AND SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS ON THE
SUMMER READING NOVELS WITHIN
THE FIRST FEW CLASSES OF THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR.**

NOVELS:

ASSIGNMENT 1:

Read George Orwell's *Animal Farm*

While you read annotate your novel for the following literary elements:

Characterization

ID: Identification

MV: Motivation

CR: Changes in Relationship

CA: Changes in Attitude/Demeanor

Themes:

I. Corruption

II. The power of language & education

III. Working Class vs. Upper Class

IV. Propaganda

V. Abuse of Power

Motifs:

Songs

Rituals

Food and drink

Literary Devices/Structure

Symbolism,

Allusions,

Allegorical elements,

Style/Tone,

Setting,

Metaphors,

Similes,

Foreshadowing

ASSIGNMENT 2:

II. Read Yann Martel's *Life of Pi*

- While you read complete the summer reading assignment: dialectical journal of quotes and analysis.
 - Assignment: record one relevant quote and one three-sentence annotation/analysis for every two chapters (50 total). *you may include more quotes and analysis as you desire.
- A hard copy of the journal will be provided to you and is also posted on the class google-classroom page or the school website under summer reading.
- **This assignment must be handwritten, and complete/turned in on the first day of classes.**
- You may use this assignment on your *Life of Pi* timed-writing during the first week of school.
- Tips, hints, and suggestions will be added to the Honors Google-classroom throughout the summer:

**Honors Summer
Google-Classroom**

add-code: mx73viuf

LIFE OF PI ANNOTATIONS: DIALECTICAL JOURNAL

HONORS SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT: MRS. JOHNSON & MR. LOPEZ, HONORS ENGLISH II

DUE DATE: FIRST DAY OF CLASS FALL 2026

Background Explanation:

Yann Martel uses detail and imagery to attempt to tell a story that will make the reader “believe in God.” Martel’s writing is surprisingly complex, sometimes readers are only given a small piece of information that is left undeveloped until later in the story when Martel weaves together the past and present to present a richer story. Some of the most memorable aspects of his writing style are his use of simile, metaphor, imagery, personification, symbolism, and motifs that weave throughout the story. Martel’s use of these devices often results in irony and deeper understanding.

Student name

Assignment Instructions:

I. As you read *Life of Pi*, use the attached chart to write down one significant quote for every two chapters. 100 chapters: so you should have 50 total quotes.

- Each quotes should be an example of a theme, a motif, Pi’s religious worldview, simile, metaphor, imagery, personification, or symbolism.
- Make sure to include the citation/page number of the quote in MLA.
Example: (Martel 45).

TO ANALYZE IS TO EXAMINE METHODICALLY AND IN DETAIL THE DEEPER SIGNIFICANCE, HIDDEN MEANING, OR LITERARY STRUCTURE OF THE TEXT.

II. Next, ANALYZE the quote in three sentences by following steps 1-3 below:

(1) Identify: What writing style or literary element is being used in this quote? (theme, motif, simile, metaphor, imagery, personification, or symbolism, tone, mood, sentence structure, rhythm); and

(2) Examine: How this quote relates to the author’s values, deeper message, theme; **or** how this quote continues to develop a previously introduced motif; and

(3) Interpret what is the reader’s takeaway (what can the reader learn from this quote about life, humanity, faith, history, etc.)

THEMES

ARE THE RECURRING CENTRAL IDEAS IN A NOVEL: DEEPER ISSUES THAT WORKS OF LITERATURE ENGAGE WITH THAT HAVE A BROADER SIGNIFICANCE BEYOND THE TEXT.

THEMES TO ANALYZE IN *LIFE OF PI*:

1. STORYTELLING
2. FAITH/RELIGION/TRUTH
3. SURVIVAL/THE WILL TO LIVE

BE AWARE, PI’S WORLDVIEW IS POLYTHEISTIC- HE BELIEVES IN MANY RELIGIONS; WE AS CHRISTIANS KNOW THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD.

HOW IS PI’S BELIEF SYSTEM CONTRARY TO THE CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW?

MOTIFS

ARE RECURRING CONCEPTS THAT REINFORCE A THEME. MOTIFS CAN BE SYMBOLS, SOUNDS, ACTIONS, IDEAS, OR WORDS.

MOTIFS TO EXAMINE IN *LIFE OF PI*:

- THE SEA
- OPPOSITES
- CIRCLES AND GEOMETRY
- ZOOLOGY
- COLOR (PARTICULARLY ORANGE)
- SKY AND STORMS
- TERRITORY/DOMINANCE/BOUNDARIES
- RITUALS/ PRAYER

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LIFE OF PI ANNOTATIONS: DIALECTICAL JOURNAL

HONORS SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT: MRS. JOHNSON, HONORS ENGLISH II



EVIDENCE

ANALYSIS

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EVIDENCE

ANALYSIS



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