

AP WRITING SUMMER READING 2020-2021

PSAT Summer Exercises and Life of Pi discussion questions.

You have **2 books** this summer. One is a **PSAT workbook** and the other is the novel *Life of Pi*. Use the following instructions to complete your work in both.

Barron's PSAT 1520 workbook:

Complete the following reading and writing drills. **This assignment will be due on the first day of school.** Write all answers in your book.

Reading Drills, pgs. 15--39

Writing and Language Drills, pgs. 125--135

Life of Pi:

Answer all discussion questions. **Each answer should be the length of a well thought out paragraph that opens with a topic sentence. Please type up all responses** (double space and use Times New Roman, 12 pt font). **This is due on the first day of school.**

Remember to keep a dictionary nearby to look up unknown words that hinder your understanding of a section.

There are several layers of meaning within the book (just as there are within these questions) —so think while reading. We'll talk about the book in August. **Write down any questions you have while reading.** One suggestion is to use sticky notes to record your thoughts and questions about a passage. I'll be teaching you about active reading in the fall.

Life of Pi discussion questions

1. Pi defends zoos. Are you convinced? Summarize his argument. Then answer this: Is a zoo a good place for a wild animal?
2. According to Pi, how are the three religions he practices alike? Why does he insist on practicing all three?
3. Chapters 21 & 22 are very short, yet the author has said that they are at the core of the novel. Explain how this can be true.
4. How do the human beings in your world reflect the animal behavior observed by Pi? What do Pi's strategies for dealings with Richard Parker teach us about confronting the fearsome creatures in our lives?
5. After finishing the novel, think about the 2 different versions of Pi's story. Which do you believe? Which do you like better? Why?