

Objective: Students will read *The Life of Pi* (Martel) and analyze the development of Pi Patel throughout the novel. Students will also make connections between the characterization of Pi and the development of an overarching theme.

Part I: Reading

Read *The Life of Pi* and annotate the text using sticky notes or another separate piece of paper. Be sure to annotate important plot events, powerful use of syntax/diction/figurative language, direct quotes to use for your characterization log.

Part II: Characterization Log

Directions: Create a chart that resembles the one below. The analysis must be typed. Then write a short theme analysis per the instructions below.

Name of Novel _____

Character Name _____

Write 10 Direct quotes that contribute to the characterization of your chosen character. Include the page numbers.

The response should be at least 1 paragraph for each quote and include the following:

Explain the quote in context. Then write an analysis explaining how the quote contributes to the overall characterization of your chosen character. In other words, what does the quote reveal about the character? Do not merely summarize the plot.

Part III: Theme Analysis

Theme Analysis:

Write a short essay (300 words) to explain how the characterization connects to a specific theme from the novel. You may use the completed chart as evidence to support your analysis.

Please note: A **topic** is a one word category – such as “love” or “forgiveness.” A **theme** is a statement that conveys a truth that the author wants his/her reader to know about life, such as, “Love often inflicts pain as well as joy,” or “Forgiveness cannot be given without compassion.” Themes are **not** clichéd statements: “Love conquers all;” “All’s well that ends well;” “You get what you deserve...” Avoid these statements like the plague.

Your work should be reflective of careful thought. Remember, this is your first impression in your AP Literature class. Impress your teacher.

Point Breakdown:

- 1 point per quote and 2 points per analysis = 30 Points

Rubric for quote analysis -

- 2 - The writer includes the quote in context and a well-focused analysis of the quote. The writing is free of grammatical errors.
- 1 - The writer is missing the quote in context, the analysis is lacking, and/or there are multiple grammatical errors.

- Theme analysis = 20 Points

Rubric for theme analysis-

- 20 – The theme is a convincing general statement. Specific evidence from the novel is used to support the analysis. The paragraph does not rely on summary.
- 10 – The theme is less convincing and/or there is not enough specific evidence to support the theme. The paragraph relies more heavily on summary than analysis.
- 0-5 – The paragraph relies completely on summary or fails to respond to the question.

- Overall total score is out of 50 Points

Due Date:

* This assignment will be collected on the first day of class and will be the first score in the grade book. If you have any questions regarding the assignment email me at darrenchang@cusd.com.

I look forward to seeing you all in the fall!