

AP ENGLISH 4

SUMMER READING ADVENTURE

June, 2026

Mrs. Hume: shume@hbuhdsd.edu / Dr. Hume: dhume@hbuhdsd.edu

SNAPSHOT:
READ
Life of Pi &
Participate in 2
BookChats

*My greatest wish-
other than salvation,
-was to have a book.
-Pi Patel, Life of Pi*

In AP English 4 we value the following characteristics in our students: creativity, curiosity, insight, active reading, risk-taking, critical thinking, precision, strong work ethics, dedication, perseverance, initiative, self-motivation, and preparedness.

THE BOOK TO READ THIS SUMMER:

Life of Pi, by Yann Martell

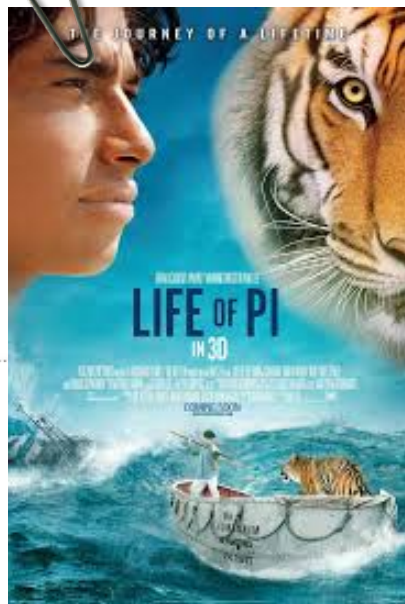
ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SUMMER READING:

We would like you to conduct yourselves as careful, thoughtful readers as you read this novel this summer. During the summer, you will earn points towards your first semester grade by participating in some discussions with us. Details of this assignment are on page 2 of this handout.

To demonstrate your comprehension of this novel, you will take a reading quiz on *Life of Pi* on the second day of school, September 3, 2026. This will be a test of your close-reading skills. Questions will be pointed and specific. Read closely and carefully. Reading "for the gist" will not be enough.

To demonstrate your critical thinking about the novel, you will write an in-class essay on *Life of Pi* on the third day of school, September 4, 2026.

Congratulations on your forthcoming elevation to Senior Status! In order to continue your development as well-read, intelligent, thoughtful individuals, and to succeed on AP Exams and in college, AP English students need to do summer reading.



Don't watch the movie until after you've read.



A tiger on a lifeboat!



The Pacific Ocean is a big place.

Full Participation Bonus:

1. Attend a Book Chat **and**
2. Have annotations checked 10 minutes before the chat begins **and**
3. Demonstrate basic understanding of the text.
 - 3.1. You will take a 3-question quiz.
 - 3.2. Scoring 2/3 will earn you a 5% bonus
 - 3.3. Scoring 3/3 will earn you a 10% bonus
4. Bonus will be added to your Summer Reading Quiz on September 3rd.

SUMMER READING DISCUSSIONS



Life of Pi — The stage adaptation was in Los Angeles in Spring 2025



Richard Parker dares you touch his keyboard

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Sometimes it is easy to lose touch with your school habits over the course of the long summer vacation. While we recognize (and appreciate ourselves, believe us!) that summer is a time to recharge, relax, and take a break from the hectic schedules of studying we face during the school year, we also know that it is important to challenge our thinking skills regularly. Critical thinking is a skill to use all of the time, summer included!

With this in mind, we would like you, as you complete your summer reading, to share some of your reading experiences with each other and with us. Challenging one another's thinking and considering other points of view via some discussion days during the summer will help keep our close reading and analytical skills sharp for next fall.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Participation is worth 20% of your total grade in AP4. Each quarter, you will be required to earn 10 oral participation points by contributing meaningfully to an in-class discussion. There are also participation points for annotation and summer reading.

Annotations for Summer Reading is required and will be checked at the BookChats or on the third day of school (Sept 4, 2026). You will earn **1** point for annotating each half of the book, for a total of **2** summer annotation points.

This summer, we'd like to meet and discuss the summer reading book as you move through it. Attending the optional Summer Reading Chat discussions will earn you participation points for the first quarter. You are required to earn **4** Summer Reading participation points and **2** Summer Reading annotation points. You'll earn **1** point for attending a Summer Reading Chat and **1** additional point for speaking during the discussion—up to **2** points per session. You must earn a total of **4** participation points for the summer. If you are unable to attend any of the chats, or if you need to make up points, you'll have an opportunity once school begins in the fall to earn all 4.

Summer Speaking Participation Points	4
Summer Annotation Participation Points	2

Summer Reading Discussion Days

Please join us for a BookChat:

BookChat 1: *Life of Pi*, Chapters 1-60

Wednesday, July 22nd

1pm-2:00pm

BookChat 2: *Life of Pi*, Chapters 61-100

Wednesday, August 12th

1pm-2:00pm

To earn full credit, come to both sessions and speak **once each time**.

If you won't be able to make it to a BookChat, don't worry. Read and annotate the book over summer. You will be able to earn all summer participation points after school begins.

Be Ready To Start the School Year !!!

Acquire a copy of

How to Read Literature Like a Professor

by

Thomas C. Foster,

but **don't** read it over the summer.

We will read it together in the Fall.

