

**Summer Reading Assignment
English I Gifted/Honors 2011-2012**

The summer reading assignment for this class is **due on the first day** of class. **Late assignments will receive a grade of 0.**

1. Choose **ONE** of the novel selections by either purchasing the novel or borrowing it from a local library.

Choices:

Life of Pi by Yan Martel
OR
Ithaka by Adele Geras

2. Keep a dialectical journal as you read the novel. The directions for the journal are attached. A complete entry includes: page number, quotation, and a two-three sentence analysis referenced to a theme from the novel. Your quotes should be kept in order of their appearance in the novel.
3. Bring your completed dialectical journal to class with you on the first day of school. **Late assignments will receive a grade of 0. BE PREPARED TO TAKE A TEST ON THE NOVEL THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!**
4. For *Life of Pi* you will have a total of 8 entries in your journal. The entries must correspond with the following chapters.

Entries 1-2: Chapters 1-36
Entries 3-4: Chapters 37-58

Entries 5-6: Chapters 59-84
Entries 7-8: Chapters 85-100

For *Ithaka* you will have a total of 8 entries in your journal. The entries must correspond with the following chapters/pages.

Entries 1-2 : Pages 3-125
Entries 4, 5, 6: Pages 127-232
Entries 7-8: Pages 234-360

(Chapters: *Before the War to The Suitors Arrive*)
(Chapters: *Quarrels to Talking to Penelope*)
(Chapters: *Klymene and Mydon to On the Shore*)

The dialectical journal is based on the following themes:

Life of Pi
Coming of age/maturity
Faith and religion
Fear

Ithaka
Loyalty
Betrayal
Courage

Your dialectical journal will be a conversation on the page. On the left you will write important quotations from the novel; on the right you will write why the quote is significant in the context of the story. Set it up like this:

Note Taking	Note Making
<p>Identify a theme, write a significant quote from the text, and cite the page number on this side of the page. The excerpts of text will add meaning for your understanding of a theme from the novel.</p> <p>Examples: YOU MAY NOT USE THESE!</p> <p>Religion: “Bapu Ghandi said, ‘All religions are true.’ I just want to love God”, I blurted out, and looked down, red in the face.” (Chapter 23)</p> <p>Fear: “I looked Richard parker dead in the eyes. Suddenly his brute strength meant only moral weakness. It was nothing compared to the strength in my mind.” (chapter 80)</p>	<p>Directly across from the significant quote, write your original ideas about the importance of the text. This analysis must be at least three to five complete sentences. Your analysis should include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interpretation of how the quote illustrates theme. • Explanation of how the quote fits in with the plot of the novel <p>Pi is frustrated with this teachers and parents who insist that he choose one religion to follow. Instead, Pi seeks a simpler version of faith that does not include controversies and arguments that adults squabble over. Pi has intense faith, but he is not necessarily religious.</p> <p>Pi finally confronts the fear that has been mentally exhausting him throughout this excursion. He realizes that he has nothing to fear since his mental strength far surpasses the tiger’s physical strength.</p>

This journal must be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font. It must be printed out in hard copy format and ready to hand in the first day of class. Also, be sure to save the assignment on a your hard drive or a flash drive since **you will be required to submit to *turnitin.com*** once your teacher gives you the directions on how to do this.