

# AP Literature and Composition

## Summer Reading Assignment 2023

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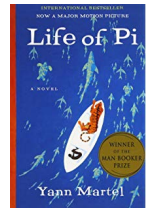
Dear AP Student,

Congratulations on enrolling in AP Literature and Composition! These two summer reading assignments are important and will help you to develop and observe your independent, authentic, close-reading, and writing skills. Reading and writing over the summer, when you can plan and observe your own schedule and habits, will help you cultivate long-term life skills. Independent reading and writing help you develop critical thinking skills, independence, self-reliance, and self-confidence.

### Part 1: Please read the novel, *The Life of Pi*.

**There will be an in-class timed writing assessment on this novel during the first week of school.**

Life of Pi by Yann Martel. *When Pi is sixteen, his family emigrates from India to North America aboard a Japanese cargo ship, along with their zoo animals bound for new homes. Pi finds himself alone in a lifeboat with his only companions: a hyena, an orangutan, a wounded zebra, a 450-pound Bengal tiger, and God.*



**Directions:** Read this novel completely. Purchase this paper edition: Mariner edition. 2003. ISBN: 9780156027328. Bring your book to class on the first day of school.

### Part 2: Please read one of the following plays. There will be an in-class timed writing assessment during the first week of school.

- A Streetcar Named Desire. Tennessee Williams. *This drama follows troubled former schoolteacher Blanche DuBois as she leaves small-town Mississippi and moves in with her sister, Stella. Blanche's flirtatious Southern-belle presence causes problems for Stella and her husband Stanley.*
- Fences. August Wilson. *This play explores themes of men and masculinity, sports and dreams, family relationships, The American Dream, Hopes, Betrayal, Freedom, and Plans that don't always work out in the end.*
- A Midsummer Night's Dream. William Shakespeare. *Lysander loves Hermia, and Hermia loves Lysander. Hermia's father wants her to marry Demetrius. Hermia is given four days to choose between Demetrius, life in a nunnery, or a death sentence.*
- Death of a Salesman. Arthur Miller. *Written in 1949, this Pulitzer Prize-winning play is a cornerstone of American literature. It explores the nature of The American Dream and what happens when our plans do not work out. It explores family, growing up, father-son relationships, betrayal, broken hearts, and materialism.*