

English 8

Test Outline – *Life of Pi*

Section A: Multiple Choice (Knowledge & Recall)

Purpose: Check understanding of key facts and plot details

Length: 10–15 questions

Students should know:

- Pi's full name and meaning
- His background (India, family zoo)
- Key events (shipwreck, lifeboat survival)
- Animals on the lifeboat
- Names (Richard Parker, Tsimtsum, etc.)
- Ending events (Mexico, interviews, two stories)

Skills tested: memory; basic comprehension

Section B: True or False (Quick Understanding)

Purpose: Identify accurate vs incorrect statements

Length: 10–15 statements

Focus areas:

- Pi's religion (multiple beliefs)
- Animal survival order
- Floating island facts
- Shipwreck details
- Survival methods
- Ending interpretation

Skills tested: attention to detail; comprehension accuracy

Section C: Short Answer (Understanding & Explanation)

Purpose: Explain key ideas in 3–5 sentences

Length: 4–7 questions

Students should be able to explain:

- Meaning of Pi's name
- Why Pi leaves India
- Role of zoo knowledge in survival
- How Pi controls Richard Parker
- Survival techniques (food/water)
- Floating island discovery
- End interview purpose
- Two versions of the story

Skills tested: understanding, summarizing, explaining cause/effect

Section D: Long Answer (Analysis & Interpretation)

Purpose: Deep thinking and thematic analysis

Length: 2–4 questions

Possible prompts:

- Religion and faith in Pi's survival
- Symbolism of Richard Parker
- Truth vs storytelling (two versions of the story)
- Survival and human nature
- Floating island symbolism
- Pi's character development

Skills tested: analysis, critical thinking, evidence use, essay writing