

English 8 / Dr. Eicher  
Summer Reading 2021  
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## *REQUIRED Summer Reading Texts:*

Yann Martel's *Life of Pi* (Canadian 2001)

Sandra Cisneros's *The House on Mango Street* (American 1984)

- You may read these novels in print or electronic versions.
- You must purchase your own copies of the two novels.
- Both novels are required reading. Please do not pick just one – you absolutely must read them both.
- If you have already read these novels, reread them.
- You are not required to send me a postcard, or an email, or communicate with me in any way over the summer when you have completed the books.
- There will be an exam made up of short answer questions over both novels.
- The summer reading test is a crucial part of your first quarter grade.
- The summer reading test will be administered during the first full week of classes – – quite likely on the Monday of that week.
- Any reading notes you personally take over the novels can be used on the test you will take in August.
- Please avoid all internet sites that offer literary interpretations, summaries, theories, and analysis, such as SparkNotes. Please do your own reading and your own thinking.
- I highly recommend starting your reading early and starting your reading with *Life of Pi*. Please break up the reading and do it with great care.
- You are welcome to watch the movie version of *Life of Pi*, but keep in mind it leaves out large parts of the novel. I do not recommend reading it in place of the novel.