

LIFE OF PI



Name:

Teacher:

Class:

Date:

SCAVENGER HUNT

“The world isn't just the way it is. It is how we understand it...” In order to better understand the world presented in the novel *Life of Pi*, you will be conducting some research.

Start by accessing my website www.sanjuan.edu/rhaak. Then go to **Honors English I**, click on **Life of Pi**, then **Background Research**, and then find and click on each of the categories listed below to locate the correct answers. Make sure to answer all questions on a separate sheet of paper.

Learning Target: I will be able to _____ on the _____ of _____ in order to _____ the _____ in the novel *Life of Pi* and _____ these _____ his _____.

Christianity *"The presence of God is the finest of rewards" (Martel 63).*

Video

1. What is the central idea of Christianity?
2. How is our modern calendar influenced by the Christian faith?
3. Define Atonement.

Introduction to Christianity

4. What is the trinity?
5. What is the meaning behind being baptized?
6. Compare and contrast the medieval celebration of Christmas with the modern one.

Hinduism *"Hindus, in their capacity for love, are indeed hairless Christians..." (Martel 54).*

Video

7. What were the two initial ideas that helped form Hinduism?
8. Explain the universe according to the Hinduism faith?
9. What is Samsara?

Introduction to Hinduism

10. Where did Hinduism originate, and about how much of the population consider themselves Hindu?
11. What are some of the major differences between Hinduism and Christianity?
12. Explain the importance of each of the three Hindu Gods: Vishnu, Shiva, and Lakshmi?

Islam *"I challenge anyone to understand Islam, its spirit, and not to love it" (Martel 67).*

Video

13. How did the Islam faith begin? Who was the prophet?
14. Name the religions involved in the “religious melting pot” on the Arabian peninsula?
15. What are the 5 pillars of faith and what do they mean?

Introduction to Islam

16. The followers of Islam are called _____ and there are approximately _____ followers.
17. How does the Islam belief in God/Allah differ from the Hindu faith?
18. Explain the two Muslim holy days.

History of India *"Progress is unstoppable. It is a drumbeat to which we must all march" (Martel 82).*

Video

19. How did the ancient Indian civilizations use math to help them further explore their religion?
20. What mathematical practices rooted in Ancient India are still in use today?

History and Geography Website

21. What was discovered in the 200-year reign of the Gupta Empire, and who made this discovery?
22. Name some of the advancements in the "Golden Age" between 1527-1707. What famous structure was built?
23. When did Britain take control of India?
24. What was Ghandi's role in India's history? When and from whom did they declare independence?

Geography and Culture *"I am a Hindu because of sculptured cones of red kumkum powder and baskets of yellow turmeric nuggets..." (Martel 79).*

Video

25. How many people make up India's democracy?
26. What mountain region in the north of India shares its boundaries with Pakistan, China, and Nepal?

History and Geography Website

27. Name India's bordering countries and two bodies of water that surround its peninsula.
28. What is the social ranking system called? How is someone's placement determined and what is the order?
29. Name three interesting facts about animals and nature in India's varied climate zone.

Wildlife *"We commonly say in the trade that the most dangerous animal in a zoo is Man" (Martel 36).*

Video #1

28. How many parks and wildlife centers are located in India?
29. What is the animal that most tourists hope to see while visiting India?

Video #2

30. Watch the video images and record the names of some of the wild animals that live in India.

Bengal Tigers

31. How many tiger species were there at one time? What happened to them?
32. What are tigers hunted for?
33. Write down some of the statistics of these amazing creatures.

Yann Martel *"It is true that those we meet can change us, sometimes so profoundly that we are not the same afterwards..." (Martel 20).*

Video #1

34. When did Martel begin writing? How did he begin this career?
35. What does the book, *Life of Pi*, teach us?
36. At the core of art and religion are _____.

Biography

37. Name some of the "odd jobs" that Martel had after college.
38. What prizes and awards has Martel received?
39. Name a few books he has written.