

SMARTWIZ

GRADE 12 ENGLISH LITERATURE EXAM

MARKS: 55

TIME: 2 HOURS

SCHOOL _____

CLASS (eg. 4A) _____

SURNAME _____

NAME _____

MARKS	
-------	--

Instructions for Learners:

- Read all instructions carefully before you begin the exam.
- Write your full name and student number clearly on the answer sheet/book.
- Answer all questions unless otherwise instructed.
- Show all your work/calculations where necessary.
- Write neatly and clearly.
- Use only a blue or black pen. Do not use correction fluid or tape.
- Electronic devices (calculators, cell phones, etc.) are not allowed unless explicitly permitted.
- Raise your hand if you have any questions.
- Do not talk to other learners during the exam.
- Any form of dishonesty will result in immediate disqualification from the exam.

This exam consists of Five pages, including the cover page.

SECTION A: POETRY

[30 MARKS]

QUESTION 1: Prescribed Poem – “To Autumn” by John Keats (adapted extract)

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eves run;

To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease.

1.1 What is the poet's attitude towards autumn as shown in this extract?

(2)

1.2 Explain the phrase “Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun.”

(2)

1.3 Identify two examples of imagery and explain their effects.

(4)

1.4 How does the poem use nature to symbolize a larger theme?

(3)

1.5 Discuss how the mood changes throughout this extract. Support your answer with examples.

(4)

QUESTION 2: Unseen Poem – “The Visitor” (Imaginary)

A shadow slips through the empty hall,
 Silent footsteps in the dark,
 A breath caught in the stillness,
 Like a secret waiting to spark.

The visitor lingers long,
 In corners cold and bare,
 Whispering forgotten stories,
 Hanging thick in the air.

2.1 What mood is created by the poem?
 (2)

2.2 How does the poet use alliteration and personification in the poem? Give one example of each and explain their effect.
 (4)

2.3 What could the “visitor” symbolize? Give two possible interpretations.
 (4)

2.4 Comment on the theme of memory and the past in the poem.
 (4)

SECTION B: *LIFE OF PI*

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3: Contextual Question

“I realized that Richard Parker and I were both lonely. We understood each other’s loneliness, and it was the beginning of a friendship.”

3.1 Who is Richard Parker and what is the significance of this friendship?

(3)

3.2 How does Pi's perception of Richard Parker evolve throughout the novel?

(4)

3.3 How does this friendship affect Pi's chances of survival?

(3)

3.4 Discuss how Pi's loneliness is portrayed in the novel and how it contrasts with his relationship with Richard Parker.

(4)

QUESTION 4: Essay

Write a 250–300 word essay on the following:

“In *Life of Pi*, survival is both a physical and psychological struggle.”

Discuss how Pi manages both aspects of survival, referring to specific examples from the novel.

[15 marks]

TOTAL : 55

MEMO



SECTION A: POETRY

[30 MARKS]



QUESTION 1: “To Autumn” by John Keats

1.1

The poet expresses **admiration and gratitude** for autumn. It is described as **fruitful, generous, and peaceful**.

✓ (2)

1.2

“Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun” personifies autumn as a **companion** of the sun, showing cooperation in the **ripening and harvest** process.

✓ (2)

MYST PATHWORKS

1.3

Two examples of imagery:

- “To bend with apples the moss’d cottage-trees” – visual imagery emphasizes **abundance**.
- “To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells” – tactile/visual imagery shows **fullness and ripeness**.

✓ Award 2 marks for each, including explanation.

✓ (4)

1.4

Nature is used to symbolize the **later stage of life** or **maturity**. Autumn is a time of **fulfillment and preparation** before decline, mirroring the life cycle.

✓ (3)

1.5

The mood begins as **warm and serene** with descriptions of ripening fruit. As the stanza progresses, there's a **sense of richness**, but also a gentle **hint of ending**, especially with “until they think warm days will

never cease.”

✓ (4)

📌 QUESTION 2: “The Visitor” (Unseen Poem)

2.1

Mood: **Eerie, mysterious, and reflective.** There’s a sense of quiet tension or ghostly presence.

✓ (2)

2.2

- **Alliteration:** “Silent steps” – emphasizes the hush and mystery.
- **Personification:** “The visitor lingers long” – gives human qualities to a presence, enhancing the theme of haunting memory.

✓ 2 marks each.

✓ (4)

2.3

Two possible interpretations of “the visitor”:

- A **ghost or memory** from the past.
- A metaphor for **loneliness, trauma, or regret.**

✓ (4)

2.4

The poem reflects on how the **past lingers** and affects the present. The visitor symbolizes how **memories or unresolved emotions** can haunt a person.

✓ (4)

✓ **TOTAL SECTION A: 30 MARKS**

📘 SECTION B: *LIFE OF PI*

[25 MARKS]

QUESTION 3: Contextual Question

3.1

Richard Parker is the **Bengal tiger** Pi is stranded with. Their “friendship” is a **survival mechanism**, keeping Pi alert and giving him a sense of purpose.

✓ (3)

3.2

At first, Pi fears Richard Parker, seeing him as a predator. Over time, he comes to **respect**, then emotionally rely on him. Eventually, Pi sees him as a **companion**, even if distant.

✓ (4)

3.3

The need to train and coexist with Richard Parker keeps Pi mentally active and helps prevent **hopelessness or insanity**. He survives partly because of this focus.

✓ (3)

3.4

Pi’s loneliness is depicted through his **longing for human connection** and emotional breakdowns. In contrast, Richard Parker provides a **living presence**—not companionship in the human sense, but enough to make Pi feel **less alone**.

✓ (4)

QUESTION 4: Essay – Physical & Psychological Survival

Criteria	Marks
Insight into both types of struggle	6
Relevant textual references	3
Logical essay structure	3
Language, tone, and grammar	3
Total	15

Suggested content points:

- **Physical survival:** Hunting for food, building a raft, collecting water, taming Richard Parker.
- **Psychological survival:** Using faith, storytelling, mental routines to avoid despair.
- Pi maintains **hope, belief, and imagination** as forms of resilience.

- The two stories he tells at the end highlight how the **mind copes with trauma**.
-

✓ TOTAL : 55

