Life of Pi Worksheet

I. Quiz

1. Piscine Molitor Patel is named after __________.
   (A) a famous Indian government official  (B) a scientific instrument
   (C) a swimming pool                    (D) a close family relative

2. Pi’s father runs the ________.
   (A) Pondicherry drug store            (B) Pondicherry Zoo
   (C) Pondicherry Circus                 (D) Pondicherry veterinary clinic

3. Pi’s father teaches him and his brother, Ravi, a lesson about wild animals by ________.
   (A) laying a video tape of a lion circus stunt gone wrong
   (B) feeding a wild goat to a tiger      
   (C) throwing fish into a shark tank    
   (D) showing them a scar he received from a hyena 

4. Which of the following religions does Pi not practice?
   (A) Islam                              (B) Christianity
   (C) Buddhism                           (D) Hindu

5. When they set sail, Pi’s family is headed to ________.
   (A) Mexico                             (B) England
   (C) the United States                  (D) Canada

6. Crew members throw Pi into a lifeboat because ________.
   (A) they are simply following protocol
   (B) they want to get him out of harm’s way
   (C) his family is already in the lifeboat
   (D) they are trying to lure out a hyena that’s hiding there 

7. Pi shares the lifeboat with all of the following except ________.
   (A) a zebra                            (B) a tiger
   (C) an agouti                          (D) a hyena

8. Richard Parker is ________.
   (A) a house pet                        (B) Pi’s uncle
   (C) the ship’s captain                 (D) a dangerous animal

9. Pi sees an orangutan named Orange Juice floating on a raft made of ________.
   (A) oars                                (B) wood planks
   (C) bananas                            (D) oranges

10. In the lifeboat’s locker, Pi discovers cans full of ________.
    (A) water                              (B) soup
    (C) soda                               (D) beans

11. To keep himself at a safe distance from Richard Parker, Pi ________.
    (A) swims alongside the boat           (B) builds a raft and tethers it to the boat
    (C) constructs a wall from wooden planks (D) hangs off the side of the boat
12. The hyena meets its end when _______.
   (A) a wave washes it overboard       (B) it succumbs to dehydration
   (C) a shark catches it               (D) Richard Parker kills and eats it

13. The zebra sustained which of the following injuries jumping into the lifeboat?
   (A) A chipped hoof                   (B) A torn ear
   (C) A broken leg                     (D) A gash in its side

14. Which becomes Pi’s most valuable tool in training Richard Parker?
   (A) A whip                           (B) A whistle
   (C) An oar                           (D) A megaphone

15. The first time Pi kills a fish for food, he __________.
   (A) rejoices                         (B) throws it back
   (C) cries                            (D) sings

16. Pi decides to leave the strange floating island because __________.
   (A) wild beasts inhabit it           (B) he worries no one will ever find him there
   (C) there is nothing for him to eat  (D) the vegetation is man eating

17. After his rescue, Pi is interviewed by two officials from the
   (A) Japanese Ministry of Transport   (B) Japanese Department of Police
   (C) Japanese Shipping Association    (D) Japanese Zoological Society

II. Group discussion
1. How does the idea of survival play out in this film?
2. Religion is of utmost importance to Pi. Discuss the role of religion in his life and how it helps him survive his hardship.
3. Why does Pi give two accounts of his ordeal? Which is the true story, and which one would you rather believe?
4. Discuss the importance of believability in this film.