Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Participation Quiz: “Through the Tunnel” by Doris Lessing**

1. What kind of swimmer is Jerry at the beginning of the story? What kind of swimmer is he at the end?
2. What does Jerry do to prepare himself for the swim through the tunnel?
3. What fears does Jerry have about the tunnel and swimming through it? Are his fears understandable? Why or why not?
4. What unexpected problems does Jerry have as he swims through the tunnel?
5. Is Jerry’s mother overly protective or does she allow him to experience appropriate levels of independence? Does she give him too much freedom? Explain your answers.
6. Why is Jerry driven to accomplish the feat of swimming through the tunnel? Do you think that Jerry's determination in achieving his goal is healthy? Why or why not? Why doesn’t Jerry tell his mother about his accomplishment?
7. Why does Jerry have no desire to return to the bay and swim through the tunnel again?
8. **SYMBOL**: A symbol is a person, place, or thing that stands for something beyond itself. For example, the flag stands for patriotism and national heritage. In this story, the beach where Jerry’s mother spends her time is described as the “safe beach,” while Jerry’s bay is described as “wild and rocky.” What do these two places symbolize? How does Jerry feel about the tunnel? What does it symbolize for him?
9. **THEME**: By the end of the story, how has Jerry changed? How does Lessing describe the boy's behavior with his mother and the big boys in the beginning of the story in comparison to his behavior at the end? Using 3 adverb clauses and 3 participial phrases, write 6 sentences explaining the theme of “Through the Tunnel.”

Adverb Clause:

Adverb Clause:

Adverb Clause:

Participial Phrase:

Participial Phrase:

Participial Phrase:

1. **SIMILES**: The story contains many similes (comparisons that use like, as, resembles, or than). How do the following similes help you picture the setting?
   1. “He went out fast over the gleaming sand, over a middle region where rocks lay like discolored monsters under the surface…”
   2. “There she was, a speck of yellow under an umbrella that looked like a slice of orange peel.”
   3. “He felt like an inflated balloon…”