**Name:** _____
**Period:** _____
**Date:** _____

# Through the Tunnel

## Literary Response and Analysis Questions

**Directions:**
Read each question carefully and then respond to each thoughtfully, correctly and completely. Responses are worth two points each.

1. Why is it so important to Jerry to be with the boys on the wild beach? What significant details does the author provide to help us understand Jerry's feelings about the boys?

2. Identify the physical and mental "tortures" Jerry undergoes, first as he prepares for his ordeal and then as he swims through the tunnel. Which details suggest that Jerry's quest has great significance?

3. A ticking clock is usually good for creating suspense. What device does Lessing use to create a sort of "ticking clock" that increases our anxiety?

4. What breakthroughs has Jerry achieved by the story's end? Describe in detail.

5. What do you think is the main message, or theme, of this story? Use support and evidence from the short story to support your theme.