

CORE BELIEFS TEACHINGS AND PRACTICES: JUDAISM

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1. Complete the 'missing gaps' passage activity.
2. Key vocabulary - write out the word, give a summary of its meaning and draw an image to help you remember it.
3. Complete the a,b,c and d questions that follow. Use the following link to help you: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9kx2nb>
4. After each question is a slide with information to help you with the content of your response.



Warm up activity

Cloze activity: Unit 1 Judaism Core Beliefs

The largest of the world's religions, Christianity and Islam, are monotheistic. This means that they teach the existence of _____ God who created the universe and plays an active part throughout time and space. It has been argued that neither of these religions could have existed without _____, the first faith to think of God as one. The main Jewish groups in the UK include: 1) _____. For this group, the Law of the Torah is eternal and _____, and they practise observance of the _____, religious festivals, holy days and the dietary laws. 2.) _____ Jews. This group believes that Jewish practices have to be modernised with _____ life. Reform Jews believe that the Jewish law is inspired by _____ and people can choose which laws to follow. The belief in one God is declared in the _____. This is a _____ declaring Jewish _____ and is said by many Jews _____ a day. Jews believe God is the _____ of the universe and this is remembered when through observing the commandment to 'keep the _____ day holy.' Jews believe God is _____, _____ and omnibenevolent. Jews also believe God is _____ (everlasting) and _____ (within and beyond the universe). Mitzvot are _____ found in the T_____ (the written version of the Jewish oral law and commentaries on it. The _____ consists of the first five books of the Old Testament. Dietary laws on _____ can be found in the Torah. Jews worship God as a community in the _____ and at home with the _____. The _____ is a religious leader with authority to make decisions on issues of _____ law.

Word Bank
Judaism
faith
Modern
duties
Eternal
twice
Shema
omnipotent
one
Sabbath
God
omnipresent
Orthodox
eternal
Prayer
creator
Shabbat
Transcendent
Torah
Talmud
Kosher
Synagogue/shul
Family
Jewish
Rabbi

Judaism - key words

- **Aron HaKodesh** – The Holy Ark containing the Torah Scrolls. It is on the wall facing Jerusalem and is the focal point of the synagogue.
- **Kashrut** – The body of the Jewish law dealing with what food can and cannot be eaten and how those foods must be prepared. The word 'Kashrut' comes from the Hebrew, meaning fit, proper or correct. The word kosher described food that meets the standards of kashrut.
- **Kippah** – A cap worn by Jewish boys and men (and sometimes women) during services. Some Jews wear a kippah at all times. It is a reminder of God's presence. It is sometimes called a yarmulke.
- **Ner Tamid** – 'Eternal light'; a constantly lit lamp near the ark in the synagogue that symbolises God's presence.
- **Omnibenevolence** – The all-loving and infinitely good nature of God (God is omnibenevolent)
- **Omnipotence** – The all-powerful and almighty nature of God. (God is omnipotent)
- **Orthodox** – A major branch within Judaism which adheres faithfully to the principles and practices of traditional Judaism. Orthodox Jews believe that the law of the Torah is eternal and unchanging, and they practise observance of the Sabbath, religious festivals, holy days, and the dietary laws.
- **Rabbi** – A religious teacher and leader with authority to make decision on issues of Jewish law. A rabbi is the chief religious official of a synagogue, who often (but not always) leads worship and conducts rites and rituals.
- **Reform** – A major branch of Judaism which seeks to embrace a diversity of interpretations of Jewish law and customs, whilst preserving the beliefs, values and traditions central to faith. Reform Jews believe that Jewish Law is inspired by God and people can choose which laws to follow.
- **Shabbat** – Day of spiritual renewal and rest. Beginning at sunset Friday and closing at nightfall on Saturday.
- **Shema** – A prayer declaring Jewish faith that it said by many Jews twice a day. The Shema states that there is only one God. It is placed in the Mezuzah case and tefillin.
- **Synagogue** – House of assembly; building of Jewish public prayer and, study and assembly.

(a) What is meant by 'Omnipotence'? [2]

2-mark questions
= 1 sentence per
mark (maximum!)

Don't waste time repeating the
wording of the question.

Examples of God's power in the Old Testament:

- Ten plagues sent upon Egypt as a warning to the Pharaoh.
- Moses parting the Red Sea enabling the Israelites to cross to freedom.
- Creation of the universe and everything in it; everything works together according to God's plan.
- Almighty.
- Characteristic of God.

(b) Describe how the home is a place of Jewish traditions. [5]

DESCRIBE

In 'B' questions you are demonstrating knowledge and understanding of a topic . As a guideline, you will be describing 5 pieces of information.

(b) Describe how the home is a place of Jewish traditions. [5]

- Jews can **practise their faith** there (examples? How?)
- When Jews pray they will always face **Israel** and use the **siddur** (prayer book = guides Jews through daily prayers both in the synagogue and at home.)
- Orthodox homes have a **Mizrah** showing the direction of **Israel** (why?)
- It is a place where children learn about their religion (how?)
- From birth, children are immersed in Jewish culture in the home
- **Shabbat** is celebrated in the home (what? How?)
- Jews prepare for and celebrate festivals in the home e.g. **Pesach (Passover)** preparations and meal (what? how?)
- Observing **kashrut** takes place in the home (what? how? why?)
- Many Jewish homes place **mezuzot** on their doorposts (Mezuzah/mezuzot = a small case containing the Shema inscribed on parchment. It is attached to a door frame. Touching the mezuzah is a reminder to live by the words of the Shema.)
- Famous saying in Judaism says - 'If you are looking for God, go home.' (what does this mean? Examples?)

(c) Explain why it is important for Jews to maintain a kosher kitchen. [8]

EXPLAIN:

Demonstrating knowledge and understanding of **CONTEXT**.

Explaining involves going deeper (hence more marks available), being able to give reasons behind a certain phenomena. As a guideline - focus on explaining 3-4 examples.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I3gSqWiGqrY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifKFC4jYqS8>

Key words:

Kosher Fitting; foods that observant Jews may eat.

Treifa Forbidden.

Parev Permitted to be eaten with meat or milk.

Shechitah Ritual slaughter.

Shochet A Jew trained in ritual slaughter.

(c) Explain why it is important for Jews to maintain a kosher kitchen. [8]

Points to consider:

- It shows respect to God and Jewish traditions (how?)
- It contributes towards maintaining a Jewish identity (how?)
- It is a reminder of the Covenant between God and the Jews
- Jews are reminded of God's commandments
- The laws have been in existence for centuries; therefore they have a religious and social importance for Jews
- The Torah, the sacred text of Judaism, contains information about milk and meat laws, which should be kept
- It is an important duty of a Jewish woman to maintain a kosher kitchen

(d) 'Maintaining Shabbat is too time-consuming.'

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.

(You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjmjZWHXKFY>

12-15 marks -

An excellent, highly detailed analysis and evaluation of the issue based on comprehensive and accurate knowledge of religion, religious teaching and moral reasoning.

Clear and well supported judgements are formulated and a comprehensive range of different and/or alternative viewpoints are considered.

Uses and interprets religious/specialist language, terms and sources of wisdom and authority extensively, accurately, appropriately and in detail.

(d) 'Maintaining Shabbat is too time-consuming.'

- The real meaning can be lost due to its set, repetitive nature.
- It could be considered a burden
- Preparations for **Shabbat** are time consuming; cleaning the house, getting the food etc
- It occurs **every** week so some people may not enjoy taking part in the celebrations
- There are other festivals where Jews can devote their time to God
- It is impossible to have a complete day of rest in today's society
- It is one of the **Ten Commandments** from God and therefore should not be considered time consuming: Exodus 20:11
- Shabbat should be a reminder to the Jewish people of the Covenant between themselves and God
- It is important that Jews, every week, remember their freedom from slavery
- It is an opportunity to worship God and study the **Torah**
- It is an opportunity for the family to get together to think about God
- Jews are able to maintain their **identity, heritage and customs** which should not be considered time consuming

The ABC 'Hot-Shot' Lawyer Approach

A - State the argument

B - Back it up with evidence and reference to sources of wisdom

C – Counter argument/ Acknowledge how this argument might be challenged.

A – Alternative viewpoint (not opposite point of view, but another reason for the same conclusion)

B - Back it up with evidence and reference to sources of wisdom

C Acknowledge how this argument might be challenged