**Jewish Beliefs**

**Revision and homework guide**

**Name**

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**Introduction to Judaism**

**Week One. DUE………………………………………………**

Judaism began 4000 years ago. Jews were originally Israelites, a wandering tribal people in the desert. They were held in slavery by the Egyptian Pharaoh and then freed and taken to the land of Israel which they believe is their homeland.

There are many different groups of Jews, they are generally found in America and Israel but also all over Europe and south America. Judaism began with Abraham, the father of the nation. They believe they have a special relationship with god as his chosen people.

**Orthodox Jews**

They believe that the oral and written law has total authority for their lives. Traditional beliefs about worship, dietary laws, ceremonies and studying torah.

**Reform Jews**

Try to bring historical Jewish beliefs into modern day life, believe you don’t need to follow strict Jewish law to the letter. Believe in God, Torah and Israel. They also believe that the torah is revealed continuously revealed allowing Judaism to move with the times. Gender equality, focused on bringing peace and harmony to the world.

You need to know the answers to these questions from memory:

1. Describe one feature of an Orthodox Jewish belief \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. Describe the beliefs of Reform Jews.

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1. What does gender equality mean? Do reform or Orthodox Jews believe in Gender equality?

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1. What is a major difference between Orthodox and Reform Jews?

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1. Learn this quote for next week:

Concept and nature of God- **‘Hear O Israel! The lord is our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart’**

This quote means that …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Week two Due…………………………………………….**

**The concept and nature of God**

**What is God like?**

Judaism is a monotheistic religion, they believe there is one god who is a whole, indivisible entity that can never be divided. He is infinite and eternal, the only one who should be worshipped/praised. This separated Jews from other people who believed in different gods.

God is the creator of the world, he created every living being from nothing. God is omnipotent, benevolent, omniscient and omnipresent. God is ever present in people’s lives, every experience involves god.

God sustains (looks after) his creation by caring for people, God has given them laws that they need to follow and is the only one that can judge how they follow the laws. God has provided enough resources on the planet for all to be sustained.

**Shema**

Important Jewish prayer. Begins with:

*‘Hear O Israel! The lord is our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart’*

Jews need to be totally loyal to God and love him as he loves them.

**God as creator**

*‘When God began to create heaven and earth…’*

In Genesis it explains that God created the world, from nothing, how God wanted it to be. Genesis tells how it took God 6 days to create the world and all living things in it. On the 7th day God rested and made it a holy day. Jews remember this on Shabbat. Orthodox Jews believe this as a literal truth. They will reject scientific theories of evolution. Reform Jews believe in evolution and the big bang, some may believe that God started this.

As God created everything, he created good and evil and gave people free will to choose right and reject evil. To have free will they need to be able to make this choice, it makes doing good more morally significant.

**God as lawgiver**

God has given Jews laws they need to follow, god wants them to live a certain way. The foundation for these laws are the 10 commandments which God gave to Moses. The Torah contains 613 laws that outline how people should behave. They are called mitzvoth and form the basis of Jewish law. By obeying the laws, Jews think that they are fulfilling God’s will on earth. God is the ultimate law-giver. 7 laws were given to Noah for everyone to follow, a spiritual and ethical code of practice.

If you follow the laws you will be rewarded spiritually. Some of the laws apply to men, to men or only during Temple times. They cover all aspects of life.

**God as judge**

Jews believe God will judge them on how well they follow the laws. Everyone will be judged on behaviour, actions and beliefs. God is fair and merciful. Jews believe they are judged during Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year, and after death.

**The divine presence (shekhinah)**

God’s divine presence on earth, Jews can’t see God but can feel God. Jews refer to the Shekhinah being present in the tabernacle (a portable structure the Jews took with them after their exodus from Egypt). On the journey from Egypt they were led by a pillar of fire/cloud which could be the Shekhinah. It is associated with God’s presence among his people, a sign of his glory and power.

1. What does the word shekhinah mean?

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1. Give an example of where the divine presence can be found according to Jews.

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1. What does the word omnipotent mean?

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1. What does the word omnipresent mean?

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1. Give an example of when God is a creator.

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1. Give an example of when God is a judge.

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1. Give an example of when God is a lawgiver
2. Learn this quote for next week

God as creator **‘When God began to create heaven and earth…’** This quote means that……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**Exam questions CHOOSE ONE TO PRACTICE**

Explain two Jewish beliefs about God/God the creator. 4 marks/5 marks

Explain two ways that belief in God influences Jews today. 4 marks

Explain two ways that belief in God as the creator influences Jews today. 4 marks

Explain two Jewish beliefs about the divine presence. 4 marks

‘Jews should spend all their time trying to understand God’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

**WEEK THREE**

**Life after death**

There is little teaching in Judaism about life after death, it is not mentioned in the Torah. Jews have different beliefs about what happens when you die, there is not one set belief, some believe it is physical, some spiritual. There is some indication in the Torah that righteous souls will be reunited with their loved ones after death. Physical man in god’s creation came from dust, so the body will return to dust. The soul comes from the essence of god so lives on.

**Afterlife**

Some Jews believe they are judged as soon as they die, others believe it is on the day of Judgement after the Messiah has come. God will judge us based on actions. Ideas of resurrection in the Tenakh, people will rise from their graves to live again when the Messiah comes. However many Jews reject this.

*‘Many of those that sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to eternal life, others to reproaches’*

Jews believe that the present is more important than the afterlife and they should focus on the life they are living now.

Olam Ha-ba, the world to come, a perfect version of this world after the messiah. Not life after death but after the messiah. The perfectly good will enter paradise, Gan Eden, straight away, others will go to Sheol or Gehinnom where their souls are cleansed. They will stay here for up to 12 months and then move on. They reflect on their actions. Very wicked souls may be destroyed after this. Gan Eden is with god but there is no teaching about what it is like.

**Activities**

1. Explain different Jewish beliefs about life after death

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1. Why do you think Jews focus on this life rather than the next?

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1. What are the different places you can go after death?

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1. What does the word Olam Ha-ba mean?

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1. Explain two Jewish beliefs about the afterlife. 4/5 marks
2. Learn this quote for next week. Life after death **‘Many of those that sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to eternal life, others to reproaches’**. This quote means that………………………………………………………………………………………………

Optional stretch:

Explain two ways in which Jewish beliefs about life after death influence Jews today 4 marks

‘Jewish people should focus on this life, not the next’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

‘The afterlife is not as important as life now’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

**WEEK FOUR**

**The messiah**

The messiah is a future leader of the Jews, a king of Israel, a descendent of King David.

‘*Nation shall not take up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore’*

Orthodox Jews believe that a human Messiah will come and will lead a Jewish government. All the laws of the Torah will be followed, the Temple rebuilt and all Jews gathered back to Israel. World peace, kindness and justice. Some believe the dead will be resurrected. Everyone believes it is a time of peace, with no war. Political and spiritual peace.

Reform Jews believe that everyone should work together to bring about a world of peace, it will be achieved through all of humanity working together, not an individual leading them.

This may happen at a set time by god, when humanity most needs it or most deserves it. It gave Jewish people hope when they were exiled that one day they could live there in peace. Belief in the Messiah is said in the Amidah, three times a day.

**Activities**

1. What is the Messiah?

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1. How do Reform and Orthodox Jews differ in their beliefs about messiah ?

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1. How do you think this belief influences Jews?

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1. What was the Temple?

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1. Explain two Jewish beliefs about the Messiah 4 marks
2. Learn this quote for next week

The messiah **‘Nation shall not take up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore’**

This quote means that……………………………………………………………………….

**Extension**

Explain two ways believing in the Messiah will influence Jewish people. 4 marks

**WEEK 5 The covenants**

A covenant: Permanent link, can never be dissolved. God needed a people he could ‘dwell’ in, who would serve him. God would never abandon them.

**Covenant with Abraham**

Abraham was born to a family of idol worshippers. He became convinced that there was only one God and idol worship was wrong. He was the first monotheist. God called Abraham and told him to leave his country and his people and travel to Canaan (modern Israel).

God said *‘I will make of you a great nation, I will bless you…’*

*‘the lord your God chose you to be his treasured people’*

Jews believe that God has chosen them, given them the responsibility of serving God through following the mitzvot. Everyone has an obligation to God, just a different one.

Abraham and God made a covenant, a promise/agreement. It is binding forever, for all Jews today. Jews believe that God will never break his side of the covenant. The covenant leads Jews to believe they are the chosen people, chosen by god to fulfil his laws. It is a responsibility, not a reward.

God promises to: make Abraham the father of a great nation, gave him a son, blesses him and his people, give him numerous descendants and give them the promised land. Abraham promises he will worship only God and the will circumcise all Jews males as a sign of the covenant. God enables his wife, Sarah, to conceive even though she is very old. His son, Isaac, is a gift from God to mark the covenant. God later tested his faith by seeing if he would sacrifice his son.

**Covenant with Moses**

The Jews were living in slavery in Egypt under the Pharaoh. Moses was Jewish but brought up in the palace. He killed an Egyptian for whipping a Jewish slave. He ran away and God spoke to him through a burning bush and told him to free the Jews. God sent 10 plagues, eventually they were allowed to leave. They fled through the desert towards Israel. They wandered for 40 years. At mount Sinai, Moses went up the mountain. God gave him the 10 commandments, dictated them to him. God is the great law-giver.

They are the basis of the Sinai covenant. God promised to be the God of the Jews and protect them from harm, they promised to obey his laws and keep the Sabbath day. The 10 commandments give guidance on how to create a society where people had rights and could live in peace. Based on the fact that God freed the Jews from Egypt.

**10 commandments**

Found in the Torah, given by god. 4 are about the relationship between God and Jews, 6 are about people’s relationship with each other. For every believer, in every time. Source of authority for Jewish life.

**Impact of the covenant**

* Rights and responsibilities on both sides, God and Jewish people.
* Abraham- father of the Jewish nation
* Covenant binds every Jew together
* Circumcision unites off Jewish males
* Beginning of the idea of the promised land, home for the nation

**Activities**

1. What is a covenant?

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1. What did God promise to Abraham?

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1. What did God promise to Moses?

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1. What did Abraham promise?

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1. What did Moses promise?

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1. Give three reasons why each covenant is most important

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1. Explain how each covenant influences Jews today

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1. Learn these quotes for next week

Covenant with Abraham **‘I will make of you a great nation, I will bless you…’**

This quote means that……………………………….

**‘the lord your God chose you to be his treasured people’** This quote means that……………………………..

**Stretch: Exam questions**

Explain two Jewish beliefs about the covenant 4/5 marks

Explain two ways in which belief in the covenant influences Jews today 4 marks

‘The covenant at Sinai is more important to Jews than the covenant with Abraham’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

‘Abraham is a role model for all’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

‘All Jews should live in Israel’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

**Week 6 Moral principles in Judaism**

Judaism provides believers with guidance about how to live life in a good way that pleases god.

**Justice**

Needs to be accompanied by truth and peace. Bringing about what is right and fair, according to the law, righting any wrongs.

*‘Do justice and to love goodness and to walk humbly with god’*

Jews believe that the Torah and prophets were sent by God to help people understand and bring about justice in a way that demonstrates mercy. The torah gives guidance on how to treat poor and vulnerable people. Everyone needs to contribute to this.

Tzedakah- justice and charity. God has given Jews wealth as a loan, have to use it for the less fortunate. Need to work for a just world. Civil rights, equality, poverty etc

**Healing the world (tikkun olam)**

Healing/repairing the world, draws Jews closer to God. Responsibility of mankind. Jews might get involved with social action e.g. volunteering. Some Jews believe it is more than charity work, it should include obeying the mitzvoth and trying to become closer to god, spiritually. Creates social harmony and a better community.

Jews should be *‘a light to the nations’.* Jewish communities should be an example to others.

The more people who practice it, the more the world is repaired, comes closer to messianic age (harmony and social justice). Shabbat- day of rest, Jews renew their efforts to bring about a better world. Mitzvah day- encourages Jews to volunteer for community projects. Tzedakah- ‘doing righteous acts’, Jews obliged to give money for the welfare of humanity.

Jews pray for harmony of nations, uniting of people, no hatred etc Found in Aleinu prayer (said three times a day), some say it tells humans to heal the world.

**Kindness to others**

The Torah gives guidance on how to be kind to others. Murder and other actions are forbidden; positive laws are given to encourage kindness. Chesed (kindness) in the torah 245 times, central to the commandments and people’s relationships.

*You shall love him (the stranger) as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt*

*The world is built on chesed*

The teachings of the Jewish Fathers say that the world is built on three things: Torah, God and loving kindness. Can be done for rich and poor, by money and actions. Designed to create a society where everyone is kind, helpful, protects people etc

**Activities**

1. What is justice?

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1. What is Tikkun Olam

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1. How does Judaism believe you can practice justice/Tikkun Olam/kindness?

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1. Explain how the Torah shows the importance of kindness

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1. Explain how Jews can carry out Tikkun Olam

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1. Give two key moral principles in Judaism. 2 marks
2. Learn this quote for next week

Justice **‘Do justice and to love goodness and to walk humbly with god’** This quote means that……………………….

Extension:

Explain two ways Jews in which believing in Tikkun Olam influences Jews today. 4 marks

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‘In the modern world, Tikkun olam is the most important principle for all Jews’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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‘Resolving injustice would solve all the world’s problems’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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‘If all Jews followed Tikkun Olam, there would be no need for the mitzvot’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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**Week 7 Sanctity of Life**

Humans were created in the image of God, by god. Life is holy and sacred because god created it. In Genesis, God breathes life into Adam and gave him free will. Bodies belong to god, not humans. Jews consider sanctity of life when considering war, murder, abortion etc God gives humans life, only god can take life away. Humans need to make their lives purposeful and make the most of the gift of life.

Preserving life is a duty in Judaism as all life belongs to god. Death should be natural. Some Jews think that patients should be kept alive it all costs but some think you shouldn’t prolong a natural death if someone is in great pain.

*He who destroys one soul…it is as if he destroyed a whole world…he who saves one soul…it is as if he has saved a whole world’*

**Pikuach Nefesh**

The obligation to save a life. Human life is so valuable for Jews that life takes precedence over other responsibilities and Jewish law.

For example, you can break Shabbat to save a life. Examples in the Talmud include: rescuing a child from the sea, putting out a fire that is endangering people. In modern times it could include driving someone to hospital or doing an operation. To be safe, even if you are not sure if a life was at risk, you must act as though it is.

People should ‘live’ by the law, the law should protect people’s lives. This could include things such as organ donation e.g. when you donate a kidney you are preserving someone’s life.

**Activities**

1. What is sanctity of life?

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1. Why can’t Jews end life early?

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1. What is the difference between sanctity of life and pikuach nefesh?

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1. How does pikuach nefesh help Jews to respect sanctity of life?

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1. How are sanctity of life and pikuach nefesh basic principles of Judaism?

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1. Explain two ways in which belief in sanctity of life influences Jews today. 4 marks

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1. Explain two ways in which belief in pikuach nefesh influences Jews today. 4 marks
2. Learn this quote for next week : Chesed- **‘You shall love him (the stranger) as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt’** This quote means that…………………………

The world is built on chesed

**Extension**

‘Sanctity of life is more important than keeping the law’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

**Week 8 Free will and mitzvot**

**Free will**

Adam and Eve’s disobedience in Genesis teaching Jews that they can live their lives how they want. But their choices will always have consequences. Choosing to act in a way that pleases God will give you a good life and God’s favour on Judgement day. Severe consequences if you disobey god. Without free will, actions have no moral or religious value. If god rewards and punishes, we must be free to choose.

*The blessing is obeying the commandments of your god….the curse is if you do not obey the commandments*

**Mitzvot**

Obeying the mitzvoth is following God’s instructions. 613 commandments in Torah, others in the Talmud. Worship, family, conduct in society. 248 positive mitzvoth- strengthens bond with god. 365 negative mitzvot- tells people what not to do, try to stop the bond between God and humans being damaged. Some are clear e.g. do not murder, some are not e.g. keep the Sabbath. The Halakah, Jewish Law, explains how to follow the commandments. It is added to so that Judaism is up to date.

If you follow the mitzvoth, impossible to disobey god. Provides divine guidance on how to live. Help Jews make responsible choices

**Mitzvot between man and god**

The first four 10 commandments govern a person’s relationship with god. Only one god, don’t misuse God’s name, no idols etc On Shabbat, Jews rest and honour god. Many other mitzvot give guidance about how to improve relationship with god e.g. observance, food, sacrifice, worship etc

**Mitzvot between man and man**

Must love God and love neighbour, both equally important. Being kind to others is pleasing to god. If you don’t love others, you don’t love God. Positive guidance that help them to live as true members of their faith and community. World a better place if they are followed. Ethics, behaviour code. Following the rules is walking in the path of god, bringing God’s holiness into the world.

**Activities**

1. Jews have free will. Does this mean they can act however they want?

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1. How is free will linked to consequences?

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1. Why is it important for Jews to observe the mitzvot?

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1. Why are mitzvoth important for Jews in their daily lives?

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1. Give examples of some mitzvoth

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1. ‘The mitzvot help Jews to use their free will properly’ Evaluate this statement
2. Learn this quote for next week : **Sanctity of life** **‘He who destroys one soul…it is as if he destroyed a whole world…he who saves one soul…it is as if he has saved a whole world’**

Extension ‘The mitzvot bring Jews closer to God, therefore they should be the ultimate guide for their actions’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

Week 9 Learn all these words for your test:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 10 commandments |  |
| Charity |  |
| Circumcision |  |
| Covenant |  |
| Free will |  |
| Halacha |  |
| Judgement |  |
| Justice |  |
| Merciful |  |
| Messiah |  |
| Mitzvot |  |
| Monotheistic |  |
| Omnipotent |  |
| Omnipresent |  |
| Omniscient |  |
| Orthodox Jews |  |
| Pikuach Nefesh |  |

Learn this quote for next week

Free will **‘The blessing is obeying the commandments of your god….the curse is if you do not obey the commandments’**

Week 10 Learn all these words for your test:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Promised land |  |
| Rabbi |  |
| Reform Jews |  |
| Resurrection |  |
| Shabbat |  |
| Shekhinah |  |
| Shema |  |
| Talmud |  |
| Temple |  |
| Tenakh |  |
| Tikkun Olam |  |
| Torah |  |
| 10 commandments | Ten laws given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai |
|  |  |
| Charity | Providing help/love to those in need |
| Circumcision | Removal of the foreskin from the penis |
| Covenant | An agreement between God and the Jewish people |
| Free will | Belief that God has given people the opportunity to make decisions for themselves |
| Halacha | Collection of Jewish laws based on written and oral torah. |
| Judgement | God will judge you based on your actions and reward/punish as a result |
| Justice | Bringing about what is right and fair, making up for a wrong that has been committed |
| Merciful | God showing compassion or forgiveness to humans |
| Messiah | Anointed one. Leader of the Jews who will be born at some point. |
| Mitzvot | Jewish rules or commandments |
| Monotheistic | Belief there is only one God |
| Omnipotent | Almighty, unlimited power |
| Omnipresent | Everywhere at all times |
| Omniscient | Know everything |
| Orthodox Jews | Jews who believe the Torah is the direct word of god, given to Moses. Every word must be followed |
| Pikuach Nefesh | The oligation to save a life, even if doing so breaks Jewish law |
| Promised land | The land of Israel/Canaan which God promised to the Jews |
| Rabbi | Jewish religious leader |
| Reform Jews | Group that tries to bring Jewish beliefs into modern day life, focus on Tikkun Olam. Don’t believe the Torah came from God |
| Resurrection | The belief that at the end of the world the body will rise and God will judge them |
| Shabbat | Jewish holy day of the week, Friday evening to Saturday evening |
| Shekhinah | Divine presence of god |
| Shema | Jewish prayer that tells Jews there is only one god |
| Talmud | Commentary on the Torah, purpose is to teach. Made up of Mishnah and Gemara (the oral law) |
| Temple | The centre of Jewish worship, meeting place between God and priest |
| Tenakh | First five books of the bible plus Prophets and Writings |
| Tikkun Olam | Being involved in God’s work to sustain the world e.g. protecting environment, social justice |
| Torah | First five books of the bible |

Learn this quote for next week

Tikkun Olam **‘a light to the nations’** This quote means that………………………….

**Jewish Practices**

**Homework booklet**

**Contents:**

* **Synagogue**
* **Worship**
* **Shabbat**
* **Family rituals- Birth, Bar/bat mitzvah, Marriage, Death**
* **Dietary laws (kosher)**
* **Festivals**

**Week 1 Synagogue**

The synagogue is a house of assembly, where Jews meet for prayer, worship, study, education, place to celebrate family events and festivals. Certain prayers need a minyan, 10 adult men, to say. Jews believe it is good to pray in a group to keep the community together and the synagogue is where they meet for this.

Synagogues can be any size or shape, there are no rules about what they must look like. There are no pictures of humans or animals as Jews cannot have idols.

The synagogue is the centre of the Jewish community. There will be classes to educate Jews of all ages. Social activities and community events take place here. Youth clubs, music, senior citizens groups etc

**Features of synagogue**

* **Prayer hall-** faces towards the bimah, chairs on three sides, the fourth is for the ark.
* **Ark (Aron Hakodesh**)- holiest place in the synagogue, Torah kept inside. Represents the original ark of the covenant where the 10 commandments were held. Jews worship facing towards the ark. Placed on the bimah, above worshippers, to remind them that God and Torah are above them. Opened during special prayers. An honour to open it.
* **Ner tamid-** ever-burning light, in front of the ark. Symbolises God’s eternal presence
* **Bimah-** Raised platform in the centre, used when people read from the torah. Easier for everyone to hear/see.

**Orthodox synagogue services**

* Person leading the service faces the ark, back to people praying
* Service is in Hebrew, no music used
* Men and women sit separately, women at the back or upstairs
* Men always cover their heads when praying, a sign of respect for and fear of god. Married women cover their hair
* Three services a day

**Reform synagogue services**

* Not always daily services, concentrate on Shabbat and festivals
* Men and women sit together
* Person leading the service faces the people praying
* Women can perform all of the roles that men can e.g. leading prayer, reading from the torah
* Women count in the minyan
* Services in Hebrew and the country’s own language
* Most men cover their heads, some women do

**Activities**

1. Draw and label a picture of a synagogue

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1. Give three differences and three similarities between Orthodox and Reform synagogues

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1. Explain each part of the synagogue and why it is important to Jews

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1. State 5 uses of the synagogue

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1. Explain two contrasting ways that worship is conducted in the synagogue. 4 marks

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1. Explain two features of the synagogue. 4 marks

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1. ‘The most important duty of Jews is to attend the synagogue’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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**Week 2 Worship**

During morning prayers, Jewish men wear tallit (prayer shawl) and tefillin (leather boxes containing bits of the Torah). The tallit reminds Jews that they are obeying God’s word whenever they wear it. The Tefillin contains bits of the Shema, they remind God that when they prayer they should concentrate on God and prayer should be from the heart.

*And this shall serve as a sign on your hand and as a reminder on your forehead’*

**Jewish services**

Jews believe that prayer builds the relationship between God and humans. Orthodox Jews pray three times a day, morning, afternoon and evening. A minyan is needed to say certain prayers. They are read from the Siddur, prayer book.

A prayer service will consist of: psalms that praise and give thanks to God, the Shema (Jewish statement of belief) and the Amidah (standing prayer) which praises God, requests for help and thanks god.

**Importance of prayer**

Jews believe that prayer is vital for communicating with god, brings them closer to God, focus their hearts, minds and souls on God. Formal synagogue prayer helps strengthen the Jewish community.

**Activities**

1. What is a minyan?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What are tallit?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is a kippah? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. What is the shema?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why do Jews wear Tallit, tefillin and kippah when they prayer?

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1. Describe what happens in a typical morning prayer service?

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1. Give three reasons why prayer is important to Jews

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1. ‘Jews can pray whenever they want, they don’t need set times’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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Extension

‘Prayer is the most important thing a Jew can do’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

**Week 3 Shabbat**

Shabbat- a day of rest and renewal, described as a bride or queen. Special holy day. A time to rest and relax, worship God and forget concerns of every-day life. Begins just before sunset on Friday evening and lasts until sunset Saturday evening. No work is done on Shabbat, no cooking, no cleaning no work.

*Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day…you shall not do any work*

Reminder of the covenant that God made with the Jewish people. Rejoice that God kept his promises. Idea of rest comes from the Genesis story where God rested on the seventh day. Shabbat is a time to relax and worship, spend time with family.

**Services on Shabbat**

Friday evening- brief service, Shabbat welcomed like a bride.

Saturday morning- longer services, prayers and Torah reading. Rabbi gives a sermon.

Torah- During the Saturday service, the ark is opened and everyone stands. The Torah is taken from the ark and paraded around the synagogue. Part of the torah is read and then it is put away. This is to remind Jews of how the Israelites stood at the bottom of Mount Sinai when Moses brought the 10 commandments and when the Jews carries the ark from Mount Sinai to Jerusalem.

**Shabbat in the home**

All work is done and home prepared before Shabbat begins. House cleaned, food made etc Table set with best cutlery and plates.

Two candles are lit- to observe and remember Shabbat. A female lights the candles and says the blessing, this is the start of Shabbat. Everyone goes to Synagogue. After, the parents bless the children and then they say blessings over the wine, wash their hands as an act of purification and then say a blessing over the bread and all eat a piece. Long family meal, singing etc

Saturday- synagogue in the morning then a family lunch. In the afternoon- torah study, family time etc

Shabbat ends when you can see three stars, Jews do the Havdalah service.

**Activities**

1. What is Shabbat?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Give three reasons why Shabbat is special to Jews\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. How do Jews get ready for Shabbat?

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1. Write an explanation of what Jews do on Shabbat

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1. Explain two ways in which Shabbat is celebrated in the home. 4 marks

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1. Explain two reasons why Shabbat is important to Jews. 5 marks

Extension: ‘Shabbat is the most important Jewish celebration’ Evaluate this statement? 12 marks

**Week 4 Family rituals**

**Birth -** Birth of children is a happy event, fulfils God’s commandment.

*Be fruitful and multiply*

Three Jewish rituals at birth

**Naming ceremony**- Blessing in synagogue on first Shabbat after birth. Father says a blessing. Baby girls names are announced now.

**Brit Milah**- circumcision to recall the covenant that God made with Abraham. Lifelong reminder.

*You shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin and that shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you’*

Baby boys have the ceremony at eight days old. The father blesses his son, a blessing is said over wine, the baby is named. A trained circumciser removes the foreskin of the baby’s penis.

**Redemption of the firstborn son**

Some Orthodox Jews give a small amount of money 31 days after birth of firstborn son to ‘redeem’ him from Temple service. In Temple times, first born sons would become priests in the Temple. This is a symbolic ceremony now.

**Bar/bat Mitzavh**

When Jewish boys reach 13 and girls reach 12, they can take full responsibility for practicing their faith. Become a ‘son/daughter’ of the commandment.

Bar mitzvah- Shabbat after the boy turns 13, he is called to read from the Torah. He will have had special classes to prepare for this, wear a tallit for the first time, lead part of the services and make a short speech. Often a celebration meal/party afterwards.

Bat Mitzvah- Reform girls will often do exactly the same as boys do. Read from the Torah, give a speech, lead prayers. Orthodox Jewish women do not active lead synagogue worship so they may make a speech or give a brief Torah lesson.

**Marriage**

In traditional Jewish families, parents choose a partner for their children, often helped by a matchmaker. Marriage is seen as a spiritual bond, two souls fusing together.

*Hence a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, so they become one flesh*

Two parts to a marriage, betrothal and wedding:

Betrothal- ‘Made holy’ or ‘Set aside’. Legal status in Jewish law, cannot be broken. Used to be held a year before the wedding but now it is at the same time. Wedding contract is drawn up. Gives husband’s duties to his wife, inheritance, how family will be supported if they divorce. Reform ketubah- focuses more on spiritual rather than legal rights.

Wedding- Take place anywhere, led by a Rabbi, under a chuppah, which symbolises the couple’s home. Fast on wedding day to cleanse themselves. Groom under chupah, bride joins him. Circles him seven times. Blessings over wine, ring on bride’s finger. Sign marriage contract, seven blessings given. Groom breaks glass to show regret for the destruction of the temple. Couple spend a short time together in a private room, party with music and dancing follows.

**Death**

When a Jew is nearing death, family visits them, they recite the Shema if they can. After they die, the mourners tear their clothes, and say a blessing that refers to God as the true judge to show they accept God taking a person’s life.

*Jacob rent his clothes, put sackcloth on his loins and observed mourning for his son*

Clear periods of mourning that allow a family to grieve but also to get back to normal life. They believe that the soul doesn’t fully leave the person until the burial. After the burial the family are given bread and effs to eat, symbols of new life.

**Funeral**

Jews should be buried within 24 hours, someone stays with the body, washes it and wraps it in a plain linen cloth. Men are wrapped in their tallit as well. Simple coffins to show everyone is equal. Body taken to the cemetery, psalms and prayers said, rabbi speaks about the person. Everyone shovels earth on top. Everyone washes their hands as they leave to show they are leaving death behind. A tombstone is placed on the grave 12 months later, end of mourning period.

**Mourning**

Shiva- seven days intense mourning, Mourners stay at home, sit on low stools, no leather, no shaving, no make-up, no work. Mirrors are covered, pray three times a day. Friends come to make up a minyan every evening, recite Kaddish, prayer to praise God.

30 days- lesser mourning. Normal life resumes but no music, parties, shaving. Kaddish said daily for one year.

11 months- no parties. Mourning ends after a year, every year mark the anniversary by lighting a candle and saying kaddish.

**Activities**

1. Explain what happens when a baby boy or girl is born

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1. A brit milah is important to Jews because…

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1. Explain what happens at a bar/bat mitzvah

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1. Why is marriage important for Jews?

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1. What is a ketubah?

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1. What is the chuppah?

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1. Explain two symbols used in a Jewish wedding ceremony

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1. What happens at a Jewish funeral?

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1. How do Jews mourn?

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1. Explain two contrasting ways that a baby boy and girl’s birth is celebrated in Judaism. 4 marks

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Extension:

Explain two things that happen in a Jewish wedding and what they symbolise. 4 marks

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Explain two contrasting ways in which Jews mourn for the dead. 4 marks

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Explain two contrasting ways in which Jews get married. 4 marks

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‘Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies are no longer relevant in modern Britain’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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‘Jewish rituals are the best way to practice the religion’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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**Week 5 Dietary Laws- Kosher**

Food that is permitted is called kosher, food that is unacceptable is called treif. Kosher laws are found in the torah, the Talmud gives more detail about how these are put into practice.

No logical reasons given, some people think they are for health reasons, some because animals had more value not as food, less disease or to ensure Jews married other Jews. Orthodox Jews follow the laws strictly, believe it is a test and marks Jews out as different, helps them develop self control and remind them of their faith. Reform Jews- often think the laws are outdated, up to the individual.

Meat- must be killed in the proper way, slaughtered with a sharp knife by a trained Jew. Throat cut so the animal doesn’t suffer. All blood is drained.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Kosher food** | **Treif food** |
| Cows, sheep, chicken | Pork, camel, rodents, reptiles |
| Fish that has fins and scales e.g. salmon, tuna, cod | Seafood e.g. prawn, lobster, oyster, crab |
| Cheese certified as kosher | Cheese that has not been declared kosher |
| Any fruit/vegetables free of insects | Any insects or amphibians e.g. frogs |

*Make sure that you do not partake of the blood, for the blood is the life*

*You shall not boil a kid in its mother’s milk*

Many orthodox homes have kitchens with two sinks. They will have two sets of cutlery, plates and saucepans to keep milk and meat separate. Food in the supermarket will be labelled as kosher or brought from kosher shops.

**Activities**

1. Name three kosher foods

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1. Name three non-kosher foods

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1. Jewish people keep kosher because…

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1. How is a kosher animal killed?

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1. Create a kosher menu

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1. Explain two contrasting Jewish views on the importance of following dietary laws. 4 marks

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1. Explain two beliefs about being kosher. 5 marks

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**Extension:**

‘Eating kosher food is outdated and unnecessary’. Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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**Week 6 Festivals**

**Rosh Hashanah**

Celebrated over two days to mark the start of the Jewish new year. 10 days, beginning with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur are the days when Jews reflect on their lives and actions over the past year and ask for forgiveness.

It is the anniversary of when God created humans, a day of judgement. God weighs your deeds, judges you and makes a decision about your fortunes for the next year. Jews pray, do charity and make up for any wrongs they have caused. People take responsibility for their actions.

Special prayers for forgiveness are said, candles are lit, everyone goes to synagogue. Eat a festive meal- apples dipped in honey for a sweet new year. Other symbolic foods eaten like fish heads or pomegranates. Shofar, ram’s horn, blown 100 times.

**Yom Kippur**

Holiest and most important day for Jews.

*For on this day atonement shall be made for you to cleanse you of all your sins*

This day of atonement is when God seals the book of judgement, last day to repent of any sins. Jews repent and God forgives them, restoring their relationship.

No work done, Jews fast for 25 hours, no sex, washing, leather, wear white as a symbol of purity.

Spend most of the day in synagogue, general confession of sins as a community. Service ends with blowing of the shofar.

**Pesach**

Also called Passover, recalls the night when God ‘passed over’ the homes of Jewish slaves but killed the Egyptian firstborn. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let the Israelites go, he refused so God sent plagues. They finally escaped across the sea, wandered in the desert for 40 years and then entered the land God had promised them.

Preparations for Pesach- Jews eat unleavened bread, (without yeast), for seven days of the festival. All chametz, yeast, is removed from the home e.g. wheat and oats. This recalls how Jews did not have time to let their bread rise. House is cleaned thoroughly to make sure none is left.

Seder-on the first and second evening, a Seder service and celebration meal is held. Candles lit to welcome the festival in, blessings over the wine. On the table is wine, matzah, Haggadah (special book) and seder plate. On Seder plate there is: green vegetable (new life in promised land), bitter herbs (bitterness of slavery), charoset (mortar used by the slaves), roasted egg and lamb bone (sacrifices made in the Temple). Dipping vegetables in salt water- bitter tears in slavery.

The story of the escape from Egypt is told, wine is drunk.

Importance to Jews- great significance for the Jewish community, joyous as it celebrates the birth of the Jewish nation, freedom from slavery, entering the promised land and receiving God’s laws. A chance to show gratitude for God for doing this for them. Passing the story to the next generation ensures Jewish faith and traditions are passed on. Feel empathy for those who still live under oppression.

**Activities**

1. What is the difference between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur?

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1. Why do most Jews celebrate these festivals (more than any other)?

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1. What do Jews do on Rosh Hashanah?

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1. What do Jews do on Yom Kippur?

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1. What do Jews do on Pesach?

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1. Why are each of these festivals important to Jews?

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1. Explain the meaning of three things on the Seder plate

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1. ‘The most important religious festival for Jews is Yom Kippur’ Evaluate this statement. 12 marks

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**Week 7 Memorise these key terms:**

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| Aron Hakodesh |  |
| Bar/Bar Mitzvah |  |
| Bimah |  |
| Brit Milah |  |
| Chazzan/Cantor |  |
| Dietary Laws |  |
| Gemara |  |
| Kaddish |  |
| Ketuvim |  |
| Kosher |  |
| Marriage |  |
| Menorah |  |

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| Aron Hakodesh | The Ark, holiest part of the synagogue, Torah kept inside |
| Bar/Bar Mitzvah | Celebration of a boy/girl coming of age. ‘Son/daughter of the commandment’ |
| Bimah | Platform in a synagogue from where the Torah is read |
| Brit Milah | Ceremony of male circumcision, removal of the foreskin to keep the covenant |
| Chazzan/Cantor | Person who leads the prayers in synagogue |
| Dietary Laws | Rules that deal with foods that can be eaten, how they are prepared etc |
| Gemara | Commentary on the Mishnah, part of the Talmud |
| Kaddish | Prayer said by Jewish mourners that praises God and asks for peace |
| Ketuvim | The third section of the Tenakh, the writings |
| Kosher | Food that meets the requirement of Jewish laws |
| Marriage | Legal union of two people as partners in a relationship |
| Menorah | A candlestick that holds 7 or 9 candles |

Week 8 memorise these key terms:

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| Minyan |  |
| Mishnah |  |
| Mourning |  |
| Ner Tamid |  |
| Nevi’im |  |
| Pesach (Passover) |  |
| Rabbi |  |
| Rituals |  |
| Rosh Hashanah |  |
| Shabbat |  |
| Shiva |  |
| Star of David |  |
| Synagogue |  |

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| --- | --- |
| Minyan | A group of at least 10 adults, required for a Jewish prayer service |
| Mishnah | Part of Jewish oral law, part of the Talmud |
| Mourning | Period of time spent remembering a person that has died |
| Ner Tamid | Eternal light, kept burning above the ark |
| Nevi’im | Second section of the Tenakh, the prophets |
| Pesach (Passover) | Festival in remembrance of the Jewish exodus from Egypt |
| Rabbi | Jewish religious leader and teacher |
| Rituals | Religious ceremonies performed according to a set pattern |
| Rosh Hashanah | The Jewish new year |
| Shabbat | Jewish holy day of rest, day of spiritual renewal. Friday evening until Saturday evening |
| Shiva | Intense period of mourning that lasts for seven days |
| Star of David | Symbol of Judaism, said to represent the shield of King David |
| Synagogue | A building for Jewish prayer, study and gathering |

**Knowledge:**

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| Amidah | ‘Standing prayer’, central prayer of Jewish worship |
| Aron Hakodesh | The Ark, holiest part of the synagogue, Torah kept inside |
| Bar/Bar Mitzvah | Celebration of a boy/girl coming of age. ‘Son/daughter of the commandment’ |
| Bimah | Platform in a synagogue from where the Torah is read |
| Brit Milah | Ceremony of male circumcision, removal of the foreskin to keep the covenant |
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| Shiva | Intense period of mourning that lasts for seven days |
| Star of David | Symbol of Judaism, said to represent the shield of King David |
| Synagogue | A building for Jewish prayer, study and gathering |
| Tallit | Prayer shawl |
| Talmud | Rabbi’s commentary on the Torah |
| Tefillin | Small leather boxes containing extracts from the Torah, strapped to arm and forehead for morning prayers |
| Tenakh | 24 books of Jewish scripture |
| Torah | Five books revealed to Moses by God. Jewish written law |
| Yom Kippur | A day of atonement, a fast day |

**Jewish Practices- Practice exam questions:**

**One mark**

Which term represents the everlasting light above the Aron hakodesh?

1. Ner tamid b) bimah c) Nar temid d) Torah

What would you find inside the Aron hakodesh?

1. the bimah b) the Ner tamid c) Torah d) Talmud

What is the name of the platform at the top of the steps in the Reform Synagogue?

1. Lectern b) minyan c) Chazzan’s seat d) bimah

What is the group of 10 men called who can perform the Kaddish prayer in the Orthodox

Synagogue?

1. minion b) mynyin c) minyan d) midrash

What is the symbol of Judaism usually used in a synagogue?

a) Star of Solomon b) Star of David c) Star of Moses c) Star of

Abraham

What is the Halakah?

 Jewish New year festival

 Shabbat candle

 Jewish law

 Unclean food

What two foods can Jews not eat together?

 Fruit and milk

 Pulses and chicken

 Fish and vegetables

 Meat and milk

Where is the Torah kept in the Synagogue?

 In the gallery

 In the ner tamid

 In the Ark

 In the bimah

What is not found on the seder plate?

 Shankbone

 Charoset

 Karpas

 Bread

Which of the following is the written law in Judaism?

 Torah

 Tefillin

 Tzitzit

 Talmud

**2mark**

Give two features of an Orthodox synagogue

Name two of the three parts of the Tenakh

Give two features of the Talmud

Give two rules of Kosher

Give two key features of the synagogue

Give two features of a Reform synagogue

Give two religious reasons why most Jews marry

Give two religious reasons why Jews celebrate Pesach

Give two of the rituals carried out during Shabbat

Name two of the Jewish prayers

Name two items worn for prayer

Give two features of Brit Milah

Give two features of Bar Mitzvah]

Give two responsibilities of the Hevrah Kadishah

Give two features of burial in Judaism

Name two of the four parts of the Jewish mourning period

Give two religious reasons why Jews celebrate Rosh Hashanah

Give two religious reasons why Jews celebrate Yom Kippur

Give two of the items found on a sedar plate

**4 marks**

Explain two contrasting Jewish views about the importance of the synagogue

Explain two contrasting Jewish rituals which are carried out during Pesach

Explain two contrasting ways in which worship is carried out in the synagogue by Reform

and Orthodox Jews

Explain two contrasting ways in which Jews mourn for the dead

Explain two ways in which the Talmud is important

Explain two ways in which Tenakh is important

Explain two ways in which the ner temid is important in the synagogue.

Explain two ways in which the bimah is important in the synagogue.

Explain two ways in which the Aron Hakodesh is important in the synagogue.

Explain two contrasting Jewish views about the importance of worship at home

Explain two contrasting views about the importance of dressing for worship

Explain two views about the importance of Shabbat

Explain two views about the importance of Brit Milah

Explain two views about the importance of Rosh Hashanah

Explain two views about Bat Mitzvah

Explain two views about the importance of Bar Mitzvah

Explain two Jewish rituals which are carried out during the marriage ceremony

Explain two processes of preparing a dead person for burial in Judaism

Explain two of the processes of the mourning period in Judaism

Explain two ways in which the dead are remembered in Judaism

Explain two of the features of the Seder meal

Explain two contrasting Jewish views on the importance of following dietary laws

**5 marks**

Explain two ways in which the ark (Aron hakodesh) is important in the synagogue. Refer to

Jewish teaching in your answer.

Explain two ways in which Shabbat is practiced in the home. Refer to Jewish teaching in your

answer.

Explain two reasons why private prayer is important to Jews. Refer to Jewish teaching in

your answer.

Explain two ways in which Jews celebrate Pesach. Refer to Jewish teaching in your answer.

Explain two ways in which Jews celebrate Rosh Hashanah. Refer to Jewish teaching in your

answer.

Explain two ways in which pilgrimage to the Western Wall in Jerusalem is important to Jews.

Refer to Jewish teaching in your answer.

Explain two ways in which Jews consider the Shabbat to be important. Refer to Jewish

teaching in your answer.

Explain two ways in which Jews consider dietary laws to be important. Refer to Jewish

teaching in your answer.

Explain two ways in which Jews consider the synagogue to be important. Refer to Jewish

teaching in your answer.

Explain two ways in which Jews consider the treatment of the dead to be important. Refer

to Jewish teaching in your answer.

**12 marks**

‘The Torah is the only important part of the Tenakh’

‘Holy books are not relevant to life today’ (refer to the Tenakh in your answer)

‘Jews only need the Mishnah to understand how G-d wants them to live’

‘It is fine for Jews to eat non-kosher food if there is no kosher meat available’

‘It is not difficult to keep a kosher diet in the UK today’

‘The most important role of the synagogue is as a place of worship’

‘Aron hakodesh is the most important part of a synagogue’

‘A synagogue only needs a Sefer Torah’

‘It is enough to remain mindful of G-d at all times, so there is no need for worship’

‘Jewish acts of worship can be led by anyone’

‘The Shema is the most important prayer for Jews’

‘For Jews, the words of a prayer are not the most important part of praying’

‘It isn’t necessary to dress for prayer’

‘All prayer should take place in the synagogue’

‘The most important religious festival for Jews is Yom Kipppur’

‘The most important duty of a Jew is to attend synagogue’

‘Shabbat is the most important ritual in Judaism’

‘Shabbat should be observed however much a person feels like it’

‘New-born children should always be welcomed in to a religion’

‘Coming of age ceremonies have no place in modern society’

‘Bar Mitzvah is more of a celebration than a serious religious event’

‘Marriage ceremonies should be exactly as a couple want them, not dictated by tradition’

‘There is no need for a religious marriage ceremony nowadays’

‘Funeral ceremonies should be the most important ritual in life’

‘It is too difficult to complete Jewish mourning rituals in today’s world’

‘Jewish mourning rituals are designed to support the bereaved rather than remember the

dead’

‘Yom Kippur is the most important day of the year for Jews’

‘Pesach has no influence on a Jew’s life other than during the festival’

‘The home is more important than the synagogue for the learning of religion’

‘Festivals just remember the past and are pointless in modern life’

‘Prayer is more important than action in the world today’

‘Jews should be able to live as they want, not be dictated to by tradition’

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| **Teaching** | **Source of Authority** | **Specification** |
| Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your might. | Deuteronomy 6:4-5 | Beliefs – Key beliefs  Themes – The existence of God and revelation |

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| In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. | Genesis 1:1–3. | Beliefs – Key beliefs    Themes – Religion and life Themes – The existence of God and revelation |
| Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. | Exodus 40:34-35 | Beliefs – Key beliefs  Themes – The existence of God and revelation |
| Many of those sleeping in the dust of the earth will awaken, some to everlasting life and some to everlasting shame and abhorrence | Daniel 12:2 | Beliefs – Key beliefs  Themes – Religion and life Themes – The existence of God and revelation |
| He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. | Micah 4:3 | Beliefs – Key beliefs |
| For you are a people set apart as holy for *ADONAI* your God. *ADONAI* your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his own unique treasure. | Deuteronomy 7:6 | Beliefs – Key beliefs  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |
| Rather, treat the foreigner staying with you like the native-born among you — you are to love him as yourself, for you were foreigners in the land of Egypt; I am *ADONAI* your God. | Leviticus 19:34 | Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Themes – religion, human rights and social justice |
| I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.  You shall have no others gods before me. | Exodus 20:2-3 | Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Beliefs – Key beliefs |

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| Whoever destroys a soul, it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world. And whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world. | Talmud | Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Themes – Religion and life   Themes – Religion, peace and conflict |
| Small acts of kindness can change and humanise our world. | Rabbi Jonathan Sacks | Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Themes – Religion and life Themes – Religion, peace and conflict |
| Here is the conclusion of the matter. Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. | Ecclesiastes 12:13 | Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Beliefs – Key beliefs |
| Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long.  Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies. | Psalm 119:97-98 | Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Practices – The synagogue and worship |
| Then he brought the ark into the tabernacle, set up the curtain as a screen and concealed the ark for the testimony, as *ADONAI* had ordered Moshe. | Exodus 40:21 | Practices – The synagogue and worship |
| Moreover, it will serve you as a sign on your hand and as a reminder between your eyes, so that *ADONAI*’s *Torah* may be on your lips; because with a strong hand *ADONAI* brought you out of Egypt | Exodus 13:9 | Practices – The synagogue and worship  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |
| These words, which I am ordering you today, are to be on your heart; and you are to teach them carefully to your children. You are to talk about them when you sit at home, when you are traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them on your hand as a sign, put them at the front of a headband around your forehead, and write them on the door-frames of your house and on your gates. | Deuteronomy 6:6-9 | Practices – The synagogue and worship  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |
| When the ark moved forward, Moshe said, “Arise, Adonai! May your enemies be scattered!  Let those who flee before you! | Numbers 10:35 | Practices – The synagogue and worship  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |

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| My Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare Your praise. | Amidah prayer | Practices – The synagogue and worship |
| Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy | Exodus 20:8 | Practices – The synagogue and worship  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |
| Prepare the meal of perfect faith, which is the delight of the holy King, prepare the meal of the King. | Kiddush prayer | Practices – The synagogue and worship  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |
| The decisions of the Talmud are the words of the living God. Jehovah himself asks the opinion of earthly rabbis when there are difficult affairs in heaven | Talmud | Practices – The synagogue and worship |
| You shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin, and that shall be the sign of the covenant between Me and you. | Genesis 17:11 | Practices – Family life and  festivals  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |
| Behold you are consecrated to me by means of this ring, according to the rituals of Moses and Israel. | From the Wedding vows | Practices – Family life and festivals  Themes – Relationships and families |
| May there be abundant peace from heaven, and life, for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen. He who creates peace in His celestial heights, may He create peace for us and for all Israel; and say, Amen. | From the Kaddish prayer for mourners | Practices – Family life and festivals  Themes – Religion and life |
| Such, then, is the law concerning animals, flying creatures, all living creatures that move about in the water, and all creatures that swarm on the ground.  Its purpose is to distinguish between the unclean and the clean, and between the creatures that may be eaten and those that may not be eaten | Leviticus 11:46-47 | Practices – Family life and festivals  Themes – Religion and life |
| Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of days, is a time when we do more than confess and seek atonement for our sins. Its the supreme day of Teshuvah, which means returning, coming home. To come home we have to ask who we are and where we truly belong. It is a day when we reaffirm our identity.” | Rabbi Jonathan Sacks | Practices – Family life and festivals |
| To those who fully open themselves to it, Yom Kippur is a life- transforming experience. It tells us that God, who created the universe in love and forgiveness, reaches out to us in love and forgiveness, asking us to love and forgive others. | Rabbi Jonathan Sacks | Practices – Family life and festivals |

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| For seven days you are to eat *matzah* — on the first day remove the leaven from your houses | Exodus 12:15 | Practices – Family life and festivals |
| You shall not commit adultery | Exodus 20:14 | Themes – Relationships and families |
| That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh | Genesis 2:24 | Themes – Relationships and families  Practices – Family life and festivals  Themes – Religion and life |
| Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness | Genesis 1:27 | Themes – Religion and life  Themes – Relationships and families |

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| God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” | Genesis 1:28 | Themes – Religion and life  Beliefs – Key beliefs  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Themes – Relationships and families |
| The earth is the LORD’S, and everything in it | Psalm 24:1 | Themes – Religion and life  Beliefs – Key beliefs |
| The righteous care for the needs of their animals | Proverbs 12:10 | Themes – Religion and life |
| Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you | Genesis 9:3 | Themes – Religion and life |
| A season is set for everything, a time for every experience under heaven: A time for being born and a time for dying | Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 | Themes – Religion and life Beliefs – Key beliefs |
| Before I formed you in the womb I knew you | Jeremiah 1:5 | Themes – Religion and life |
| They will beat their swords into ploughshares | Isaiah 2:4 | Themes – religion, peace and conflict |
| Human being, you have already been told what is good, what *ADONAI* demands of you —  no more than to act justly, love grace and walk in purity with your God. | Micah 6:8 | Themes – religion, peace and conflict  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot  Themes – religion, crime and punishment |
| You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against your countrymen. Love your neighbour as yourself. | Leviticus 19:18 | Themes – religion, peace and conflict  Beliefs – The Covenant and the mitzvot |
| He who fails to use a stick hates his son, but he who loves him is careful to discipline him | Proverbs 13:24 | Themes – religion, crime and punishment  Themes – Relationships and families |
| Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’ | Ezekiel 33:11 | Themes – religion, human rights and social justice Themes – religion, crime and punishment  Themes – religion, peace and conflict |
| Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year | Deuteronomy 14:22 | Practices – Family life and  festivals  Practices – The synagogue and worship |

**RS GCSE- Themes Paper-How to get the marks!**

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| **??** | **How does the question start?** | **What do I need to write?** | **Any other tips?** |
| 1 mark | Which of these is…. | Just circle the correct answer | You will only be asked about words listed on the specification |
| 2 mark | Give two examples of  Give two aims…. | Two bullet points- that’s it! | Do not write long sentences explaining or justifying them  Example- something you can see happening e.g. recycling |
| 4 mark | Explain two contrasting religious view about…  OR  Explain two contrasting beliefs in contemporary British society about…. In your answer you should refer to the main religious tradition of Great Britain and one or more religious traditions. | You need to give DIFFERENT (opposite) views about the topic.  You can:   1. Give a quote and then explain the meaning e.g. ‘Thou shall not kill’ this is against abortion because only god should take a life away 2. Make two short points e.g. Christians believe life begins at conception, this means abortion is the same as murdering a human being | You can use non-religious views as long as you include the word Christian or Jewish  e.g. Christians believe in reformation because…  If it asks for the ‘main religious tradition of Great Britain’- you MUST give at least one Christian view |
| 5 mark | Explain two religious beliefs about…. | You need to give two religious beliefs about the topic. They can be the same or different.  You MUST: Give a quote  Then  Answer how you would on a 4 mark question e.g. Explain two different views. Link one to the quote.  e.g. ‘Forgive your brother 70x7’ This shows that Christians believe that people make mistakes in their life but everyone deserves a second chance to reform themselves. | For the fifth mark you need to include scripture e.g. a bible quote  You can’t just say sanctity of life, stewardship etc. It needs to be an actual quote  The mark you get for using a quote is separate from the explanation marks |
| 12 mark | ‘Statement’  Evaluate this statement  In your answer you:   * Should give reasoned arguments in support of this statement * Should give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view * Should refer to religious arguments * Should refer to non-religious arguments * Should give a justified conclusion | Opinion given with reasons to back it up- 1-3 marks  Reasons given for different points of view OR a well-argued one-sided argument backed up by evidence 4-6 marks  Reasoned consideration of different points of view. Two sides of the argument, well-explained, backed up by evidence and information. 7-9 marks  A well-argued response, reasoned consideration of different points of view. Logical chains of reasoning, judgement made supported by knowledge and understanding of evidence. | If your answer is one-sided or doesn’t include religion, you can only get 6 marks. |