

Religious Education Assessment: The Festival of Diwali

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of the origins, traditions, and significance of Diwali for Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains.

Read each question carefully. Answer in full sentences where requested. Ensure your spelling and grammar are accurate.

Diwali, often called the Festival of Lights, is a major celebration observed by millions of people across the world. While the historical reasons for the festival vary between traditions, the core message remains the same: the triumph of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. Families clean their homes, decorate with colourful patterns on the floor, and light small oil lamps called diyas to welcome prosperity and positivity into their lives.

Word bank: Diyas · Rangoli · Lakshmi · Rama · Sita · Light · Good over evil · New beginnings

1. What is the common meaning behind the 'Festival of Lights' for those who celebrate Diwali? (2 marks)

2. Identify two ways in which families prepare their homes for the festival of Diwali. (2 marks)

3. Why do you think the lighting of diyas is such an important part of the celebration? (3 marks)

4. Explain the significance of Rangoli patterns. How are they created and what do they represent? (4 marks)

5. Compare how Diwali might be a time for reflection as well as a time for celebration. Refer to the idea of 'new beginnings' in your answer. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Imagine you are writing a diary entry from the perspective of someone celebrating Diwali. Describe the atmosphere of the day, the preparations made, and why the festival is important to your family and community. (5 marks)

7. If a family spends £12.50 on coloured powders for Rangoli and £7.50 on new clay diyas, what is the total cost of their decorations? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a symmetrical Rangoli pattern that you might find on a doorstep during Diwali, incorporating at least three geometric shapes.



Extension challenge: Total: /25