

# A Journey of Faith: Writing About Pilgrimage

*Learning objective: To explain what a pilgrimage is and describe why people choose to undertake one, using appropriate religious vocabulary.*

Read the opening passage carefully. Use the paragraph prompts below to structure your writing. Use your own words to explain the purpose of a pilgrimage and what a believer might hope to gain from the journey.

A pilgrimage is a special journey that a person takes to a place they consider to be holy or significant to their faith.

*Word bank: pilgrimage · pilgrim · sacred place · devotion · reflection · spiritual journey · tradition · furthermore · in addition to · consequently · however · purpose*

**1. Introduction: What is a pilgrimage? Start by saying: A pilgrimage is more than just a holiday because... (2 marks)**

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**2. Reasons for the journey: Why do people go on a pilgrimage? You could mention: People might choose to travel to a sacred site to... (3 marks)**

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**3. The experience: What might a pilgrim do when they reach their destination? Start by saying: Once they arrive at the sacred place, a pilgrim might... (3 marks)**

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**4. Personal reflection: How might the person feel when they return home? Start by saying: After completing their journey, a believer might feel... (2 marks)**

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**5. Conclusion: Summarise your thoughts. Start by saying: In conclusion, a pilgrimage is important because... (2 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: Research one famous pilgrimage site (such as Lourdes, Mecca, or Varanasi). Write a short paragraph describing where it is and why it is special to the people who visit it.*