

Exploring Sacred Texts: Wisdom Through the Ages

Learning objective: To understand the significance of sacred texts to believers and compare how different traditions treat their holy books.

Use this writing frame to explore the importance of sacred texts. Refer to what you have learned about how texts are treated, read, and used in daily life. Use the word bank to help expand your sentences.

Across the world, many different religions hold specific books as sacred, viewing them not just as paper and ink, but as vital sources of wisdom and guidance.

Word bank: revered · significant · tradition · sacred · guidance · furthermore · consequently · in contrast · symbolises · devotion

1. Why do you think believers consider their sacred texts to be 'holy' or 'set apart'? Start your answer by saying: I believe a text is considered sacred because... (2 marks)

2. Describe the ways in which a sacred text is treated with respect. Start your answer by saying: To show devotion, believers might... (2 marks)

3. Explain why it is important for a community to share the teachings from their sacred text. Start your answer by saying: Sharing these stories is essential because... (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast: How might the way a person uses a sacred text at home differ from how it is used in a place of worship? Start your answer by saying: Whilst at home a person might..., in a place of worship, the text is used to... (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: If a sacred text were lost, why would this be a significant event for a religious community? Start your answer by saying: Losing a sacred text would be significant because... (3 marks)

6. What might happen if a sacred text was translated into many different languages? Start your answer by saying: If a text is translated, it allows... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are writing a 'Book of Wisdom' for your own community. Write a short paragraph explaining three key rules or stories that you think are important for everyone to follow, and explain why you chose them.