

Class 4 RE Assessment: The Meaning of Christmas

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of the religious significance of Christmas for Christians and how it is celebrated in the community.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Christian beliefs and traditions to answer in full sentences. Ensure your spelling and grammar are accurate.

For Christians, Christmas is a significant festival celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a time marked by reflection on the story of the Nativity, the lighting of candles during the season of Advent, and acts of charity towards others. Whilst many enjoy the festive traditions of decorations and gifts, the core religious meaning focuses on the belief that Jesus was God coming to live among humanity.

Word bank: Incarnation · Nativity · Advent · Emmanuel · Generosity · Bethlehem · Shepherds · Community

1. Identify two key figures from the Nativity story and explain why they are significant to the event. (2 marks)

2. What is the purpose of the Advent season for Christians? How does this prepare them for Christmas Day? (2 marks)

3. Explain why Christians believe the birth of Jesus is a 'gift' to the world. Use the term 'Incarnation' in your answer. (3 marks)

4. Max the monkey is confused. He thinks Christmas is only about receiving presents. Write a short explanation to help Max understand why Christians focus on giving to others during this time. (3 marks)

5. Compare and contrast how a Christian might celebrate Christmas at home versus how they might celebrate it in a church service. What are the main differences in their focus? (4 marks)

6. Justify your answer: Why do you think the story of the Nativity has remained an important part of Christian tradition for over two thousand years? Consider the values it teaches. (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Describe the 'true meaning of Christmas'. In your answer, discuss how the Nativity story influences the way Christians treat their neighbours and local community today. (5 marks) (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene that represents the concept of 'peace on earth'. Think about how people in your community show kindness to one another during the winter season.



Extension challenge: What might happen to the way Christmas is celebrated if the story of the Nativity were forgotten? Write a short paragraph justifying why religious stories are important for culture and history. Total: /25