

Exploring Hindu Beliefs and Traditions

Learning objective: To identify key concepts in Hinduism, including the nature of Brahman, the diversity of deities, and the significance of festivals.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of Hindu beliefs to provide detailed, thoughtful answers. Use the word bank to help you construct your explanations.

Word bank: Brahman · Trimurti · Dharma · Diwali · Deities · Atman · Ahimsa · Mandir

1. Max is curious about the concept of Brahman. Explain why Hindus believe that Brahman is described as being in everything and everywhere at the same time. (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the roles of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva within the Trimurti. How do these roles reflect the cycle of life? (3 marks)

3. Zara is learning about the festival of Diwali. Justify why the 'Festival of Lights' is such an important symbol for Hindus, linking it to the concept of inner light. (2 marks)

4. Explain why many Hindus practise Ahimsa (non-violence) in their daily lives. How might this belief influence the food choices or actions of a believer? (2 marks)

5. What might happen if a community did not have a Mandir? Discuss the importance of a shared place of worship for the Hindu community. (2 marks)

6. Evaluate the idea that there are many different deities, yet they are all part of one ultimate reality. How do Hindus reconcile these two ideas? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a 'Diya' lamp and decorate it with patterns that represent the triumph of light over darkness. Include a label explaining what the light symbolises for a Hindu family.



Extension challenge: Leo, the poet, wants you to write a short poem or a reflective paragraph about 'Dharma' (duty/righteousness). In your writing, explore how performing one's duty helps to maintain balance in the world, and consider why this is a core value in Hindu teaching.