

Exploring Beliefs: Life After Death

Learning objective: To understand that different religions have diverse beliefs about what happens after a person dies.

Read the text carefully and answer the questions below. Use full sentences where appropriate.

People all over the world have different ideas about what happens after a person dies. This is often called 'life after death' or the 'afterlife'. Ellie the elephant, who loves hearing stories from history, explains that these beliefs help people find comfort when they are sad. Many Christians believe in heaven, a place of peace where people go to be with God. Meanwhile, many Hindus and Buddhists believe in reincarnation. This is the idea that when a body dies, the soul is born again into a new life, like a seed growing into a new plant. Other people believe that our 'afterlife' is the legacy we leave behind. They think that by being kind, creating art, or helping others, we continue to live on in the memories of our friends and family. Although these ideas are very different, they all share a common theme: the importance of living a good, meaningful life today. Whether through a spiritual place or the love we share with others, thinking about the afterlife helps us appreciate the beauty of our time on Earth.

Word bank: afterlife · reincarnation · heaven · belief · peace · legacy · tradition

1. According to the text, what is reincarnation? (2 marks)

2. Name two different religious or personal beliefs about life after death mentioned in the passage. (2 marks)

3. Why does the author suggest that thinking about the afterlife can be helpful for people who are sad? (2 marks)

4. How can a person's 'legacy' act as a form of life after death? (2 marks)

5. The passage says it is important to live a 'meaningful life today'. Do you agree with this? Explain your reason. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture that shows your idea of a peaceful legacy, such as a tree being planted or a beautiful piece of art being shared.



Extension challenge: Research one other religion or culture not mentioned in the text and write two sentences about what they believe happens after death.