

Christianity: Beliefs and Practices

Learning objective: To describe and explain the core beliefs, symbols, and practices of Christianity, reflecting on their significance to believers.

Use this writing frame to structure your explanation of Christianity. Ensure you use precise vocabulary to describe the significance of these beliefs. Remember to justify your points by explaining why these elements are meaningful to Christians.

Christianity is a major world religion that centres on the life, teachings, and significance of Jesus Christ.

Word bank: significance · sacred · denomination · community · compassion · tradition · symbolism · furthermore · consequently · in contrast · spiritual · devotion

1. Core Beliefs: Explain what Christians believe about Jesus and the nature of God. Start by saying: 'At the heart of the Christian faith is the belief that...' (2 marks)

2. Sacred Texts: Describe the role of the Bible in the lives of Christians. Consider why it is considered a guide for daily life. Start by saying: 'The Bible is regarded as a sacred text because...' (2 marks)

3. Symbols and Worship: Identify one key Christian symbol (such as the cross or the fish) and explain its meaning. Start by saying: 'A significant symbol in Christianity is..., which represents...' (2 marks)

4. Living the Faith: Compare how Christians might express their faith in a church community compared to their personal, daily lives. Start by saying: 'Christians express their devotion in various ways, such as...' (3 marks)

5. Justification: Explain why festivals like Christmas and Easter are important for the Christian community. Start by saying: 'Festivals like Christmas and Easter are vital to Christians because...' (3 marks)

6. Critical Thinking: What might happen if a Christian community did not have a place of worship? Justify your answer by considering the importance of gathering together. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are interviewing a member of the local church. Compose three sophisticated, open-ended questions you would ask them to better understand how their faith influences their choices in modern society. Then, write a short paragraph explaining the challenges a believer might face in today's world.