

The Festival of Lights: Hanukkah Logic Puzzle

Learning objective: To understand the historical significance, traditions, and symbolism of the Jewish festival of Hanukkah.

Max the Monkey has found some scattered notes about Hanukkah, but he has mixed them up! Use the word bank to fill in the blanks in the sentences below to help Max complete his study notes.

Word bank: Menorah · Maccabees · Dreidel · Eight · Oil · Miracle · Gelt

1. The festival of Hanukkah celebrates the victory of the _____, a small group of Jewish fighters who reclaimed their temple. (1 mark)
2. When they returned to the temple, they found only enough _____ to light the lamp for one day, but it miraculously lasted for _____ days. (2 marks)
3. This event is remembered as a _____, which is why Jewish families light a special nine-branched candelabra called a _____. (2 marks)
4. Children often play a spinning top game with a _____. Sometimes they receive chocolate coins, which are traditionally known as _____. (2 marks)
5. Explain why the shamash candle is important. (Hint: It is the 'helper' candle used to light the others). (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a Menorah with all the candles lit. Remember to include the shamash candle in the center, which is often slightly higher than the others!



Extension challenge: Imagine you are explaining Hanukkah to a friend. Write three sentences describing why the light of the candles is so important to the story of this festival.