

Diwali: The Festival of Lights Fact-File

Learning objective: To identify and explain the significance of Diwali, the Festival of Lights, using accurate historical and cultural vocabulary.

Use your research skills to complete this fact-file about Diwali. Think about why the festival is celebrated, the traditions involved, and the message it shares. You may use the word bank to help you structure your sentences.

Word bank: dias · triumph · good over evil · rangoli · tradition · celebration · symbolise · prosperity · community

1. The Origin Story: Briefly explain the historical or traditional significance of Diwali and why people light lamps. (3 marks)

2. The Meaning of Light: Why is Diwali often called the 'Festival of Lights'? Describe what the light represents. (2 marks)

3. Traditional Customs: Describe two activities that families might take part in during the festival, such as making rangoli patterns or sharing food. (3 marks)

4. Global Celebration: How might someone celebrate Diwali in the UK today compared to how it might be celebrated in other parts of the world? (3 marks)

5. Personal Reflection: If you were celebrating Diwali, which part of the festival would you find most interesting and why? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are Ellie the elephant. Write a short journal entry (50-80 words) describing the sights, sounds, and smells of a Diwali celebration you have just witnessed.