

Exploring the Path of Buddhism: A Year 5 Assessment

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Buddhist beliefs, practices, and the significance of the Eightfold Path.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Buddhist teachings to provide detailed and thoughtful answers. Ensure your writing is clear and uses appropriate religious vocabulary.

Buddhism originated in ancient India and is based on the teachings of Siddhartha Gautama, who became known as the Buddha. The core of Buddhist belief focuses on understanding the nature of life and finding a path to inner peace, known as Enlightenment. Buddhists believe that by following the Eightfold Path, which includes right thinking, right speech, and right action, they can live a life of compassion and wisdom.

Word bank: Siddhartha Gautama · Enlightenment · Eightfold Path · Dharma · Meditation · Nirvana · Suffering · Compassion · Shrine · Tripitaka

1. Identify two key virtues that Buddhists aim to cultivate in their daily lives. (2 marks)

2. Briefly explain the significance of Siddhartha Gautama in the history of Buddhism. (2 marks)

3. What is the primary purpose of meditation in Buddhist practice? (2 marks)

4. Explain why the Eightfold Path is considered a 'middle way' for Buddhists. (3 marks)

5. Compare and contrast the importance of a shrine in a Buddhist home with a place of worship in another religion you have studied. (4 marks)

6. Justify why 'Right Action' and 'Right Speech' are considered essential components of the Eightfold Path for maintaining a harmonious society. (4 marks)

7. Write a short response (5 marks): Discuss how the concept of 'Nirvana' influences how a Buddhist chooses to live their life. Consider the impact of their actions on themselves and others. (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a symbolic representation of the Eightfold Path. Consider using the image of a wheel (the Dharmachakra) and label the sections with the core principles you have learned.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension Task: Imagine you are writing a letter to a friend explaining what Buddhism teaches about dealing with difficult emotions. Use your knowledge of the Four Noble Truths to suggest how one might find peace in a challenging situation.