

Exploring the Divine: A Journey through Hindu Concepts

Learning objective: To understand key concepts in Hinduism including Brahman, the Trimurti, and the importance of symbols and deities.

Ellie the elephant has been studying the rich history and traditions of Hinduism. She has prepared a 'True or False with Reasoning' challenge for you. For each statement, decide if it is True or False. If you choose False, you must provide a brief explanation of why the statement is incorrect to show your depth of understanding.

Word bank: Brahman · Trimurti · Brahma · Vishnu · Shiva · Dharma · Mandir · Aum

1. True or False: Hindus believe that Brahman is the supreme, universal spirit that exists in everything. Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

2. True or False: The Trimurti consists of four gods who are responsible for the creation, destruction, and maintenance of the universe. Justify your answer. (2 marks)

3. True or False: A 'Mandir' is the term used for a Hindu place of worship where devotees go to perform 'puja'. Explain the significance of this space. (2 marks)

4. True or False: The symbol 'Aum' (or Om) is considered a sacred sound and a spiritual icon in Hinduism, representing the essence of the ultimate reality. Explain why symbols are important in religious traditions. (2 marks)

5. Compare and contrast the roles of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva within the Trimurti. How do their roles work together to maintain balance? (3 marks)

6. What might happen to the understanding of Hindu faith if the concept of 'Dharma' (duty or cosmic order) were removed from the belief system? Justify your answer. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw and label a 'Mandir' or a representation of the 'Aum' symbol. Include details that reflect the peaceful and reflective nature of Hindu worship.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an architect designing a new community space that respects the traditions of Hinduism. Write a short proposal (100 words) describing the features you would include to help visitors experience 'puja' and meditation, and explain the purpose behind your design choices.