

Exploring Hindu Beliefs and Traditions

Learning objective: To understand the core concepts of Brahman, the Trimurti, and the significance of dharma and karma in the lives of Hindu followers.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of Hindu traditions to provide detailed, thoughtful responses. Ensure your answers reflect an understanding of both the diversity and the shared values within Hinduism.

N/A

Word bank: Brahman · Trimurti · Brahma · Vishnu · Shiva · Dharma · Karma · Ahimsa · Atman · Mandir

1. Explain the concept of the Trimurti. How do the roles of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva represent the cycle of life? (3 marks)

2. Max the monkey is trying to understand the connection between 'Dharma' and 'Karma'. Define both terms and explain how a person's actions today might influence their future, according to these beliefs. (4 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the importance of the Mandir for a Hindu follower with how other religious groups might use their own places of worship. Why is the Mandir considered a 'home' for the divine? (3 marks)

4. The principle of 'Ahimsa' (non-violence) is central to many Hindu teachings. Justify why this concept is important in promoting peace within a local community. (2 marks)

5. What might happen if a society did not believe in the concept of Karma? Explain how the belief in consequences for one's actions shapes the way people behave towards one another. (4 marks)

6. Ellie the elephant remembers that Hinduism is one of the world's oldest religions. Explain why it is difficult to name a single founder for Hinduism compared to other major world religions. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a representation of the Om (Aum) symbol or a design for a Mandir, incorporating patterns that reflect the harmony of the Trimurti.



Extension challenge: Research the festival of Diwali. Write a short, persuasive speech from the perspective of someone preparing for the festival, explaining why light and the victory of good over evil are universal themes worth celebrating. How does this festival reflect the values of Dharma?