

Year 5 Religious Education Assessment: The Nature and Purpose of Prayer

Learning objective: To evaluate the significance of prayer within religious traditions, exploring different forms, motivations, and the impact it has on the lives of believers.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of different religious practices to provide detailed answers. Ensure your explanations are clear and use subject-specific vocabulary where appropriate.

Prayer is a universal practice found in many world religions, though the methods and motivations vary significantly. For some, prayer is a structured, daily ritual performed at specific times. For others, it is an informal, spontaneous conversation with the divine. Some people pray silently in the sanctuary of their own minds, while others participate in loud, communal worship. Despite these differences, prayer often serves to focus the mind, express gratitude, seek guidance, or intercede for the well-being of others.

Word bank: Meditation · Devotion · Intercession · Liturgical · Spontaneous · Reflective · Communal · Supplication · Gratitude · Sanctuary

1. Identify two different purposes for prayer mentioned in the passage and explain why a believer might choose each one. (2 marks)

2. Distinguish between 'liturgical' prayer and 'spontaneous' prayer. Provide an example of how each might feel to the person praying. (3 marks)

3. Explain why some religious groups place high importance on communal prayer rather than praying alone. What might be the benefits of this? (3 marks)

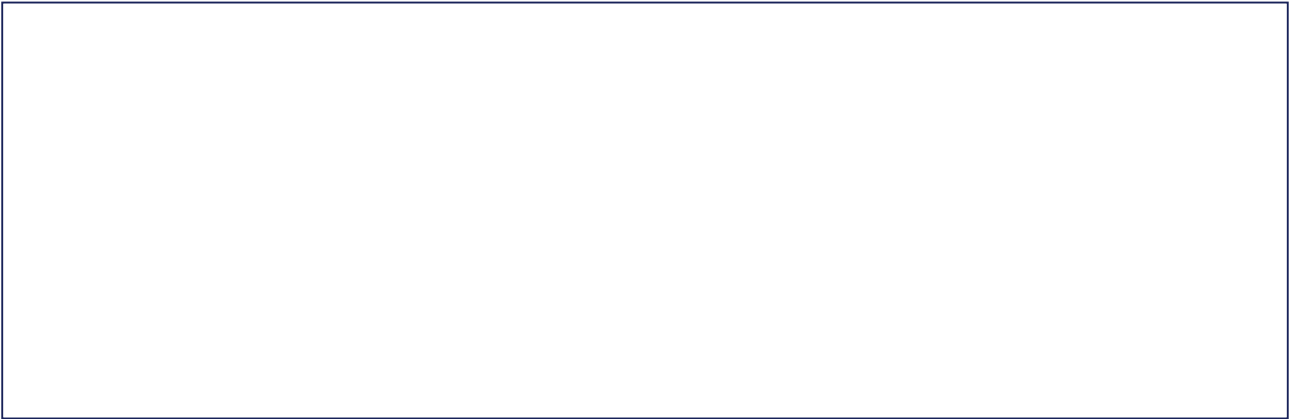
4. Compare and contrast the practice of silent meditation with vocal prayer. Which do you think would be more challenging for a person to maintain for a long period? Justify your answer. (4 marks)

5. Nova the owl is curious about how prayer can change a person's behaviour in their daily life. Explain the link between a person's prayer life and their actions towards others in their community. (4 marks)

6. Extended Response: 'Prayer is only useful when you are asking for something.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Provide a balanced argument considering different viewpoints. (5 marks)

7. If a person does not follow a specific religion, can they still participate in 'prayer' or something similar? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a symbolic representation of what 'inner peace' looks like to you, including at least three elements that help a person feel calm or reflective.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are designing a modern space for reflection that is accessible to people of all faiths and none. Write a short proposal (150 words) describing the sensory experience of the room (sights, sounds, and smells). Explain why your design choices would encourage contemplation. Total: /25