

Sacred Texts: Wisdom Across Traditions

Learning objective: To understand the significance of sacred texts within world religions and analyse how they provide guidance and moral frameworks for believers.

Ellie the Elephant is curating a 'Library of Wisdom'. She has found various teachings and concepts from different sacred texts, but they are all jumbled up! Match the concept or theme to the correct sacred text from the word bank. Then, use your knowledge to justify why these texts are considered 'sacred' rather than just ordinary books.

Word bank: The Torah · The Bible · The Qur'an · The Bhagavad Gita · The Guru Granth Sahib · The Tripitaka

1. Which text is considered the literal word of Allah, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad? (1 mark)

2. Explain why a religious community might treat their sacred text with special physical care, such as wrapping it in silk or placing it on a raised stand. (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast the role of the Guru Granth Sahib in Sikhism with the role of the Bible in Christianity. How do believers interact with these texts during worship? (4 marks)

4. The Bhagavad Gita is part of a much larger epic. Justify why a story about a battlefield might be considered a sacred text for spiritual guidance. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to a religious community if they did not have a written sacred text to refer to? Discuss the importance of tradition and oral history. (3 marks)

6. Select one sacred text from the word bank. If you were a believer, explain which specific teaching or 'golden rule' from that text you would find most helpful in your daily life at school. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene of Ellie the Elephant in a peaceful library setting. On the table in front of her, illustrate an open sacred text with glowing light emanating from its pages to represent the 'wisdom' held within.



Extension challenge: Design an original 'Book of Values' for your own classroom. Choose five moral principles you believe are essential for a kind and successful community. Write a short 'proverb' or 'verse' for each principle, using sophisticated vocabulary, to explain why it is important.