

Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Learning objective: To understand the story of Rama and Sita and the significance of Diwali.

Read the story below carefully. Answer the questions in full sentences. Use the word bank if you need help.

Long ago, a prince named Rama and his wife, Sita, were sent away from their home. A ten-headed king named Ravana kidnapped Sita and took her to a distant island. Rama fought a great battle to rescue her. When they finally returned home, the people were so happy that they lit thousands of small clay lamps called diyas. They placed these lamps in rows to guide Rama and Sita home. This night is known as Diwali. It is the festival of lights. People celebrate by sharing food, wearing new clothes, and lighting lamps to show that light wins over darkness.

Word bank: Diwali · Rama · Sita · Ravana · light · darkness · diyas · good · evil · celebrate

1. Who are the two main people in this story? (2 marks)

2. Why did the people light the diyas when Rama and Sita came home? (2 marks)

3. What does the festival of Diwali represent? (2 marks)

4. Name two ways that people celebrate Diwali today. (4 marks)

5. Imagine you are waiting for Rama and Sita to return. Describe how you feel and what you see. Use the sentence starter: I am standing in the street and I can see... (5 marks)

6. Pip the caterpillar wants to know why the lamps are important. Explain in your own words why light is a symbol for good. (5 marks)

7. How many heads did the king Ravana have in the story? (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a beautiful diya lamp with a bright flame. Add patterns around the edge of the lamp.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Imagine you are planning a Diwali party. If you buy 3 packets of sweets for £2 each, how much money do you spend in total?