

Religious Education Assessment: The Festival of Diwali

Learning objective: To demonstrate an understanding of the origins, significance, and traditions of Diwali within Hindu, Sikh, and Jain communities.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Diwali traditions to provide clear and thoughtful answers. Ensure your writing is neat and uses correct British English spelling.

Diwali, often known as the Festival of Lights, is a significant celebration observed by millions of people across the globe. While the historical stories differ between faiths—such as the return of Lord Rama to Ayodhya or the release of Guru Hargobind Ji—the central theme of light overcoming darkness remains constant. Families spend weeks preparing their homes, creating intricate patterns on the floor, and sharing delicious sweets with their friends and neighbours.

Word bank: Diyas · Rangoli · Lakshmi · Rama and Sita · Light · Darkness · New beginnings · Community

1. Identify two reasons why families choose to light clay lamps, known as diyas, during the festival of Diwali. (2 marks)

2. Explain the significance of 'Rangoli' patterns in a Hindu household during the festive period. (2 marks)

3. Max the monkey is trying to calculate the cost of a party for his friends. If he buys 5 boxes of sweets at £3.50 each and a pack of decorations for £4.25, how much does he spend in total? Show your working. (3 marks)

4. How do the themes of Diwali, such as the victory of light over darkness, influence the way people behave towards others in their community? (4 marks)

5. Compare how different religious groups (Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains) might celebrate Diwali. Mention at least two differences in their historical focus or traditions. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing Task: Nova the owl is writing a diary entry about the importance of hope. Write a 150-word reflection on why festivals like Diwali are important for modern society, focusing on the concepts of unity, generosity, and reflecting on the year past. (5 marks)

7. Define the term 'Auspicious' in the context of Diwali celebrations. (2 marks)

8. Describe one way in which someone might show kindness or charity during the Diwali festival. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a symmetrical Rangoli pattern that you might find on a doorstep during Diwali. Use geometric shapes and include a space for a diya in the centre.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research and write a short paragraph explaining the significance of the date of Diwali in the Hindu lunar calendar.