Diwali: The Festival of Lights Assessment

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of the significance, traditions, and symbolism of Diwali within Hinduism, Sikhism, and Jainism.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Diwali to provide thoughtful and accurate answers. Write clearly and ensure your explanations are supported by facts.

Diwali is a significant festival celebrated by millions of people across the world. Often called the Festival of Lights, it represents the victory of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. Families clean their homes, decorate with vibrant patterns, and light small oil lamps called diyas. It is a time for reflection, generosity, and joy, bringing communities together to welcome new beginnings.

Word bank: Diyas · Rangoli · Lakshmi · Light · Darkness · Celebration · New beginnings · Community

1. Identify two ways in which families prepare their homes for the Diwali festival. (2 marks)

2. Explain why light is considered the most important symbol of Diwali. Use evidence from the passage. (3 marks)

3. Max the monkey has £10.00. He wants to buy a box of traditional sweets for £4.50 and a set of decorative diyas for £3.25. How much change will he receive? Show your working. (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast how Diwali is celebrated in the home versus how it is celebrated in the wider community. (4 marks)

5. Justify why Diwali is often described as a festival of 'new beginnings'. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Imagine you are hosting a Diwali celebration. Describe the atmosphere of your home, the food you might share, and the meaning behind the decorations you choose. Use descriptive language to explain how these actions show kindness and respect to others. (5 marks)

7. What might happen if a family chose not to light diyas during Diwali? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a Rangoli pattern. Use geometric shapes and vibrant colors to show how these patterns are used to welcome guests and bring good luck.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research why different religions celebrate Diwali for different reasons. Write a short paragraph explaining the main difference between the Hindu celebration and the Sikh celebration of Bandi Chhor Divas.