Religious Education Assessment: Understanding Judaism

Learning objective: To demonstrate knowledge of Jewish beliefs, sacred texts, and practices.

Read each question carefully. Use your knowledge of Judaism to provide detailed and accurate answers. Ensure your writing is clear and follow the marks allocated for each question.

Ellie the elephant has been reading about the rich history and traditions of the Jewish faith. She has learned that Judaism is one of the world's oldest monotheistic religions. It is a faith rooted in history, sacred texts, and a deep sense of community responsibility. From the weekly observance of Shabbat to the study of the Torah, Jewish life is filled with ancient traditions that continue to be meaningful today.

Word bank: Torah · Synagogue · Rabbi · Shabbat · Mitzvah · Covenant · Kippah · Menorah

1. What is the Torah and why is it considered the most important sacred text in Judaism? (2 marks)

2. Define the term 'Mitzvah' and explain how performing one might impact a person's life. (2 marks)

3. Describe the purpose of a Synagogue. Who is the person responsible for leading a congregation? (2 marks)

4. Explain the significance of Shabbat. What are some of the ways Jewish families observe this day? (4 marks)

5. Judaism teaches the concept of 'Tikkun Olam', which means 'repairing the world'. Give two examples of how a person might apply this teaching in their own local community. (4 marks)

6. Compare and contrast the roles of tradition and modern practice in Jewish life. How do these elements work together to keep the faith relevant for younger generations? (5 marks)

7. Identify one Jewish festival and explain its origin and how it is celebrated today. (6 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of a Synagogue or a ritual object used in Jewish worship, such as a Menorah or a Yad. Label the key features of your drawing.

Extension challenge: Total: /25. Think about the values shared between Judaism and other religions you have studied. Write a short paragraph explaining why 'kindness' and 'justice' are universal themes in many faiths.