

RE Topic 1 Year 8 Judaism

1. Judaism

Judaism is the world's oldest monotheistic religion, dating back nearly 4,000 years.

Jews believe that God appointed the Jews to be his chosen people to set an example of holiness and behaviour to the world.

2. Abraham

Abraham's story is about his faith in one God. According to the beliefs, God asked Abraham to leave his home and go to a new land that God promised to give him. This showed Abraham's trust and obedience to God. Abraham is seen as a role model for believers in these religions. His faith, obedience, and trust in God are lessons that followers try to emulate in their own lives.

3. Moses in Exodus

Exodus the book in the Torah and the Bible which tells the story of when Moses helped free Hebrew slaves from Egypt. With the help of God, Moses freed the Israelites from slavery and led them to the promise land. During this journey God called Moses to the top of Mount Sinai and delivered Moses the 10 commandments carved into stone.

4. Passover

Passover is a Jewish festival that lasts for around a week. It celebrates and remembers the time when the Jewish people were set free from slavery in Egypt. This event is a significant part of Jewish history and traditions. A special meal is had with family called the Seder Meal and the Seder plate contains symbolic foods and items representing things Jews should remember about the story of Moses.

5. The Torah

The Torah is a very important sacred text in the Jewish religion. It is made up of the first five books of the Hebrew Bible, which are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Imagine it as a special book that tells the story of how the world began, the history of the Jewish people, and the laws they follow.

For Jewish people, the Torah is not just a book – it is a guide for how to live a meaningful life and to connect with God. It is read and studied in synagogues, which are like Jewish places of worship, and its teachings are used to celebrate festivals like Passover and Yom Kippur.

6. Key Words

Covenant- A special contract, a promise between God and His people

Synagogue – Jewish place of worship

Torah – holy book in Judaism – actually a scroll

Abraham – Known as the first leader of Judaism

Tefillin - Tefillin or phylacteries, are a set of small black leather boxes with leather straps containing scrolls of parchment inscribed with verses from the Torah.

Kippah - A kippah is a brimless cap, usually made of cloth, traditionally worn by Jewish males to fulfil the customary requirement that the head be covered

Tallit -A tallit is a fringed garment worn as a prayer shawl by religious Jews.

7. Quote Bank

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one." – Shema

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."–
Exodus 20:8

"Let my people go!"- Exodus 5:1

RE Topic 2 Life of Jesus

1. Who Was Jesus?

Jesus Christ is a central figure in Christianity. According to the Bible, he was born around 4 BCE in Bethlehem. Jesus grew up in Nazareth and became a preacher and healer. He is believed to have performed miracles, including healing the sick and raising the dead. Jesus' teachings emphasized love, compassion, and forgiveness. He attracted many followers and gained both supporters and opponents. Jesus was eventually arrested, crucified, and resurrected, according to Christian belief. Today, Jesus is seen by Christians as the Son of God and the saviour of humanity. His life and teachings continue to inspire millions around the world.

2. Holy Week

Holy Week is an important time in the Christian calendar, leading up to Easter Sunday. It commemorates the events that took place in the last week of Jesus Christ's life on earth.

The week begins on Palm Sunday, when Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed by crowds waving palm branches. This event is still celebrated today, with processions and the blessing of palms in many churches.

On Maundy Thursday, Christians remember the Last Supper, where Jesus shared bread and wine with his disciples. This meal is known as the Holy Communion or the Eucharist. Some churches also practice the washing of the feet, symbolizing Jesus' act of humility and service.

Good Friday is a solemn day when Christians reflect on the crucifixion of Jesus. Many attend church services and engage in prayer and reflection to commemorate the sacrifice made by Jesus for humanity's sins.

Holy Saturday represents the day when Jesus' body lay in the tomb before his resurrection. It is a time of quiet and anticipation.

Finally, Easter Sunday celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. It is a joyous day when Christians gather for worship, sing hymns, and exchange Easter greetings. It signifies the victory of life over death and hope for new beginnings.

3. Resurrection and Ascension

- Jesus's resurrection and ascension are significant events in Christian teachings. According to the Bible, Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried, but on the third day, he rose from the dead. This event, known as the resurrection, symbolizes victory over sin and death.
- After his resurrection, Jesus spent forty days appearing to his disciples and teaching them. Then, in front of his followers, he ascended into heaven, which marked the end of his earthly ministry. Christians believe that Jesus's ascension was a sign of his divine nature and his return to his heavenly kingdom.

4. Early Christianity

Christianity is a religion that originated in the 1st century AD. It is based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, who is considered the Son of God. Early Christianity spread rapidly after Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was sent by Jesus to his disciples, starting in the eastern Mediterranean and eventually reaching Europe.

The early Christians faced persecution from the Roman Empire because they refused to worship the Roman gods. Despite this opposition, Christianity continued to grow.

In the early years of Christianity, followers met in small groups in people's homes. They shared meals, studied the teachings of Jesus, and supported each other. These gatherings eventually evolved into formal church structures.

Early Christian texts, such as the Bible, played a key role in spreading the teachings of Jesus. The writings of the apostles and early Church leaders were collected and formed the basis for Christian doctrine.

5. Key Words

Jesus: A religious leader and central figure of Christianity, believed by Christians to be the Son of God.

Disciples: Followers and students of Jesus who learned from his teachings.

Messiah: The promised deliverer of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible.

Crucifixion: A form of execution in which a person is nailed or tied to a cross *and left to die, typically associated with Jesus' death.*

Resurrection: The belief in the rising of Jesus from the dead three days after his crucifixion.

Gospel: The teachings or life story of Jesus found in the New Testament of the Bible.

Parable: A simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson, often associated with Jesus' teachings.

Quote Bank

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."—*John 1:14*

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son."— *John 3:16*

"he has risen." *Matthew 28:6*

RE Topic 3 Year 8 Christianity

<h2>1. Qualities of God</h2>	<h2>4. Christian Practices</h2>	<h2>6. Evil and Suffering</h2>
<p>The Trinity refers to the idea that God is one but exists in three different Persons all with different qualities and purposes. The belief is confirmed in The Nicene Creed. The nature of God is revealed throughout the Bible and Jesus. God is omnipotent (all powerful), omnibenevolent (loving), omniscient (all knowing), merciful, just and fair. God cannot be fully understood by humans as he is a complex divine being that the human mind cannot fully comprehend.</p>	<p>There are many different ways in which Christians practice their religion and show the believe and follow God. Worship is any act that shows devotion or love for God, ranging from praying at home to attending a church service Most Christians are baptised to show they believe in Christianity's core beliefs. Some Christian take part in holy communion/Eucharist (taking bread and wine) to show their belief in Jesus.</p>	<p>Suffering is part of human life since the Fall (when Adam and Eve disobeyed God). God allows suffering but can bring good from it. Jesus himself suffered and died – so Christians believe God understands human pain. Suffering can help people grow in faith, strength, and compassion.</p> <p>Christian Explanations for Evil Free Will- God gave humans free will to choose between good and evil. Moral evil exists because people misuse their freedom. Original Sin- Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve. Humans are born with a tendency to sin, which causes suffering. Earth is a place for soul development. Test of Faith (Job's story)- The Bible shows suffering as a test of faith (e.g. Job remained faithful despite intense suffering). Some believe suffering is a way to bring people closer to God. God's Plan- Christians believe that humans can't always understand God's reasons. God has a plan, and everything will be made right in Heaven.</p>
<h2>2. Religious Experiences</h2>	<h2>5. Religious Upbringing</h2>	<h2>7. Key Words</h2>
<p>Religious Experience can also lead to people starting to believe in God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Miracles – Things that happen that science cannot explain so some people use God to explain how it happened,• Numinous experience – seeing something and it being so awesome and wonderful it inspires a belief in a higher being.• Answered prayers – Praying and having the prayer answers can lead to believing God must exist and is listening• Near Death Experiences - Some people report dying temporarily and seeing images of god or heaven so when they come back to life (e.g. someone who's heart stops in surgery) they now believe in God	<p>There are different aspects of a child's upbringing that can lead to a belief in God. This can include -</p> <p>Faith Schools - Sending your child to a faith school. This means their teachers will likely have a belief in God and their education will be guided by religious belief.</p> <p>Sunday School/Mosque School – Sending your child to an extra learning session at your place of worship where the learning is focussed on religious belief.</p> <p>Prayers – Making prayer a part of a child's daily routine, since prayer is communicating with God this can support a child in believing that God is listening.</p> <p>Festivals – Celebrating festivals as a family and learning about God in this way supports believing in God.</p> <p>Parental Guidance –Children naturally trust the person raising them as this is the person who keeps them safe and guides them. If your parent/guardian teaches you that God is real you are more likely to believe this is true.</p>	<p>Theist – Someone who does believe in God Faith- Strong believe in teachings and values of a religion and the belief in God based on spiritual conviction not proof Omnipotent – God is all powerful Omniscient – God is all knowing Omnibenevolent – god is all loving Moral Evil – Evil caused by humans (e.g. murder, war, cruelty). Natural Evil – Evil not caused by humans (e.g. earthquakes, floods, disease).</p>
<h2>3. Diversity in Christianity</h2>	<h2>Quote Bank</h2>	
<p>Christianity has over 100 different denominations(Christian groups). This means each type of Christian has different worship styles, church structures, biblical interpretations, and beliefs about certain events and topics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worship and practices range from traditional liturgy to contemporary services.• Interpretations of the Bible vary, with some focussing on literal readings and others metaphorical interpretations.• Beliefs about key events and values focus on the importance of different things e.g. Jesus, The Bible, worship and the nature of God. <p>This diversity means everyone can connect to Christianity in different ways. All ways are accepted, and all Christians are equally loved by God.</p>	<p>"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." – <i>John 1:1</i></p> <p>"Go and make disciples of all nations." – <i>Matthew 28:19</i> " Church is the body of Christ"- 1 Corinthians</p>	

RE Topic 4 Year 8 Holy Books

<p style="text-align: center;">1. The Qur'an</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4. Scrolls of Ibrahim</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Key Words</p>
<p>The Qur'an considered the word of God (Allah) as revealed to the Prophet Muhammad by the angel Gabriel. The Quran is written in Arabic and is divided into 114 chapters called Surahs, which are further divided into verses called Ayahs. It contains principles, moral guidance, and laws that Muslims believe should be followed. The Qur'an is the foundation of Islamic belief and is there to guide Muslims day to day.</p>	<p>The Scrolls of Ibrahim, also known as the Suhuf-i-Ibrahim, are believed to be sacred scriptures mentioned in the Quran. They are believed to contain revelations given to the Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) and detail lessons, rules and other teachings. The scrolls have since been lost and no longer exist in form</p>	<p>Revelation: knowledge of God and spiritual matters which can be discovered through supernatural means Prophet: A messenger, chosen by God. Holy book: Texts which give true divine knowledge of God sent by God and known as the word of God.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2. Revelation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5. The Torah</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Quotes</p>
<p>The revelation refers to the process by which God communicates His teachings and guidance. The Qur'an was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. This revelation took place over a period of about 23 years. The angel Jibril conveyed the messages to Muhammad, who then recited them to his followers. The revelation is divided into two categories: Meccan and Medinan, based on the location where they were revealed.</p>	<p>According to Jewish beliefs, the Torah was revealed by God to the prophet Moses on Mount Sinai, approximately 3,300 years ago. The Torah as the ultimate source of authority and guidance. It provides moral and ethical teachings, laws, and commandments that outline how individuals should live in accordance with God's will. In Islam, the Torah is respected and acknowledged as a significant source of guidance and wisdom. While there may be differences in interpretations between Judaism and Islam, the recognition of the Torah as a sacred text strengthens the connection between these two faiths.</p>	<p>"Indeed, this Qur'an guides to that which is most just and right." – <i>Qur'an 17:9</i></p> <p>"Recite in the name of your Lord who created." – <i>Qur'an 96:1</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3. Hadith</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6. Psalms and the Gospel</p>	<p>"We have sent down to you the Book as clarification for all things." – <i>Qur'an 16:89</i></p>
<p>The Hadith refers to the sayings, actions, and approvals of the Prophet Muhammad. These teachings were documented by his companions and later scholars. The Hadith helps Muslims understand and apply the teachings of the Quran in their daily lives. Scholars categorized Hadith into different collections based on their reliability and authenticity.</p>	<p>Psalms are a collection of religious songs and poems found in The Bible. They were revealed to the prophet Dawud (David). The Psalms express a range of emotions, including praise and thanksgiving. They are highly regarded by followers of the Abrahamic faiths and often used in worship and devotion to express thanks and admiration. The Gospels includes the revelation of Isa (Jesus). They are a description of the life of Jesus, another prophet of Islam.</p>	<p>"This is the Book about which there is no doubt, a guidance for those conscious of Allah." – <i>Qur'an 2:2</i></p>

RE Topic 5 Year 8 Buddhism

<p style="text-align: center;">1. Who Was the Buddha?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4. The Eightfold Path</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6. Key Words</p>
<p>Buddhism was founded by Siddhartha Gautama, who later became known as the Buddha, meaning "The Enlightened One." He was born around 2,500 years ago in Lumbini (modern-day Nepal), a prince who lived a life of luxury. However, after seeing four sights—old age, sickness, death, and a holy man—he left his palace to seek the truth about suffering. He meditated under the Bodhi tree and achieved enlightenment. Afterward, he taught others how to overcome suffering and find inner peace.</p>	<p>The Eightfold Path is a the middle way. A guide for living ethically and mindfully to reach enlightenment. It is divided into three sections:</p> <p>Wisdom</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Right View 2. Right Intention <p>Ethical Conduct</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Right Speech 4. Right Action <p>5. Right Livelihood</p> <p>Mental Discipline</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Right Effort 7. Right Mindfulness 8. Right Concentration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buddha – "The Enlightened One", founder of Buddhism. • Dukkha – Suffering, a central concept in Buddhism. • Enlightenment – Gaining true understanding and escaping the cycle of rebirth. • Karma – Cause and effect of actions. • Nirvana – A state of perfect peace and the end of suffering. • Sangha – The Buddhist community of monks, nuns, and lay followers.
<p style="text-align: center;">2. The Four sights</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">Quotes</p>
<p>The Four Sights are key events in Siddhartha Gautama’s life that led him to begin his spiritual journey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Age – He saw an old man and realised aging happens to everyone. • Sickness – He saw a sick person and realised no one is free from illness. • Death – He saw a dead body and understood that death is unavoidable. • Holy Man – He saw a peaceful wandering holy man and realised the importance of a spiritual path. <p>These sights showed Siddhartha that life is full of suffering and inspired him to seek a deeper truth.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5. Beliefs and Practices</p>	<p>“Three things cannot be long hidden: the sun, the moon, and the truth.” – The Buddha</p> <p>“To understand everything is to forgive everything.” – The Buddha</p> <p>“Peace comes from within. Do not seek it without.” – The Buddha</p> <p>“Do not dwell in the past, do not dream of the future, concentrate the mind on the present moment.” – The Buddha</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">3. The Four Noble Truths</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karma: Every action has consequences. Good actions bring positive results; bad actions bring suffering. • Rebirth: Buddhists believe in a cycle of birth, death, and rebirth (samsara). • Nirvana: The goal of Buddhism is to escape the cycle of suffering and reach Nirvana – a state of peace and freedom from craving. • Meditation: A key practice used to develop concentration, mindfulness, and inner peace. • Temples and Shrines: Places where Buddhists go to meditate, give offerings, and show respect to the Buddha. 	
<p>The Buddha’s teachings are based on the Four Noble Truths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dukkha – Life involves suffering. • Samudaya – Suffering is caused by craving and desire. • Nirodha – Suffering can end. • Magga – The way to end suffering is by following the Eightfold Path. <p>These truths help Buddhists understand the nature of suffering and how to overcome it.</p>		