

Year 7: Unit 1 -To What Extent Is Religion Important Today?

Keyword	Definitions
Religion	The belief in or worship of God/Gods
Community	A group of people with shared interests or beliefs
Belief	Something a person thinks is true or real.

Why are Communities important?

Communities are important for several reasons. **Firstly**, they allow you to meet new people and make friends who share your interests. For example, joining the school football team can help you connect with others who enjoy the sport too. **Secondly**, communities provide opportunities to celebrate occasions together. For instance, Muslims celebrate Eid at the end of Ramadan by hosting festivals and sharing meals. **Moreover**, communities enable you to explore new things; joining clubs can introduce you to new activities and help you become part of different communities. **In addition**, being part of a community can make you feel like you belong to something bigger. A clear example of this is Christians attending church with others who follow Christianity. **Finally**, communities are often a part of your identity, as they have distinct rules and values. For instance, in Judaism, followers adhere to dietary laws by only eating food that is 'kosher'.

How can we see religion all around us?

We can see religion all around us through clothing like hijabs, crucifix necklaces, and kippahs; festivals such as Easter and Eid; buildings like churches and mosques; and various symbols, even reflected in the media, as well as through songs and films.



Is Religion good or bad?

On the one hand, some people might say religion is good because it can make you feel part of a community. For example, Christians can meet as a community in church on Sundays. This means they feel a part of something bigger when they connect with others who share the same beliefs. **On the other hand**, some people might say religion is bad because it can lead to prejudice against those from certain religions. For example, sometimes religious people are wrongly labelled as terrorists due to misreported news stories. This means they face discrimination and endure hate.

Additionally, some people might say religion is good because it can provide hope and meaning for people. For example, many religions offer the hope of an afterlife. This means people feel comfort knowing their loved ones are at peace in an afterlife. **However**, some people might say religion is bad because it can cause wars. For example, the Crusades were fought over claims to holy land. This means religion can result in significant conflict and suffering for many people.

Finally, some people might say religion is good because it can contribute positively to local communities. For example, churches often run activities for young people and support local food banks. This means religion aims to alleviate suffering and show care for others

Why is religion important?

Religion is important because it helps people understand life's big questions, like "Why are we here?" and gives them a sense of purpose. It also provides comfort during tough times, like when someone is sick or sad, by offering hope and making them feel less alone. Finally, religion connects people to their history and culture through traditions, stories, and practices that have been shared for generations, helping them feel closer to their roots.

Year 7: Unit 2- How did Judaism begin?

Key Words	Definitions
Abraham	The founding father of Judaism
Covenant	A special promise or agreement with God.
Moses	A prophet who led the Israelites out of Egypt
Slavery	When a person is owned by someone else and forced to work without pay or freedom.
Hebrews	An ancient group of people who were the ancestors of the Jewish people. They followed Abraham and later became known as the Israelites.
Ten Plagues	Disasters that, according to the Bible, God sent to Egypt to force Pharaoh to free the Israelites from slavery.
Ten Commandments	A set of important laws given by God to Moses that all Jewish people must follow

Why are the 10 commandments important to Judaism?

The Ten Commandments are important to Judaism because they are rules given by God to help people live a good and fair life. They teach Jews how to respect God and treat others kindly. These rules help people live in peace and make good choices. The Ten Commandments are the basic laws for Jewish people and are still important today in how they live their lives.

Why is Moses important to Judaism?

One reason why Moses is important to Judaism is that he was a leader in all aspects, and his people respected him for his courage and determination in setting them free from Pharaoh's rule. For example, Moses led the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, an event commemorated annually during Passover. This means that Moses played a key role in the birth of the Israelite nation.

Another reason why Moses is important to Judaism is that he received the Torah from God at Mount Sinai, including the Ten Commandments. For example, these laws form the core of Jewish religious practice and continue to guide Jewish beliefs and traditions. This means that Moses is seen as the one who helped shape the moral and religious foundation of Judaism.



- What are the Ten Commandments?
- The Ten Commandments are a set of rules given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai.
1. You shall have no other gods before me.
 2. You shall not make or worship idols.
 3. You shall not misuse God's name.
 4. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
 5. Honour your father and mother.
 6. You shall not murder.
 7. You shall not commit adultery (cheat).
 8. You shall not steal.
 9. You shall not give false testimony (lie).
 10. You shall not covet (desire other people's things).

Year 7: Unit 3 What does it mean to follow Jesus?

Key Words	Definitions
Nativity	The story of Jesus' birth, celebrated by Christians at Christmas.
Baptism	A special Christian ceremony that welcomes someone as a Christian
Miracle	An extraordinary event that cannot be explained by science. Religious people believe they are caused by God.
Parable	An earthy story with a heavenly meaning
Resurrection	To rise from the dead. The term which describes how Christians believe Jesus came back to life after death on the cross.

Why are miracles important?

One reason why miracles are important is because they show God's kindness and love for people. For example, in the Feeding of the 5,000, Jesus gave food to a huge crowd, making sure no one went hungry. This showed that God cares for people's needs.

Miracles are also important because they prove that Jesus was the Son of God. When Jesus calmed the storm, his disciples were amazed because only God has power over nature. This showed that Jesus was special and the promised Messiah.

Finally, miracles give people a glimpse of the Kingdom of God. When Jesus healed the blind man, he not only helped him see again but also showed that, in God's Kingdom, there will be no pain or suffering. This miracle helped people understand God's power and what heaven will be like.

Differences and Similarities in the Birth Narratives

Matthew's Gospel tells the story from Joseph's point of view and shows Jesus as a King. It includes the Wise Men who bring gifts, showing that Jesus is important. King Herod becomes jealous and orders all baby boys in Bethlehem to be killed. To stay safe, Joseph, Mary, and Bethlehem, escape to Egypt, which Matthew says was part of God's plan.

Luke's Gospel, however, focuses on Mary's point of view and shows Jesus as a saviour for everyone, including ordinary people. The Angel Gabriel visits Mary to tell her she will give birth to Jesus. Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem for a census, and Jesus is born in a stable, placed in a manger. Instead of Wise Men, shepherds visit Jesus, showing that his message is for all people, not just the rich or powerful.

Both Matthew and Luke say that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, and that Mary was a virgin, showing that his birth was special. Both say that Jesus is the Son of God, sent to save people. Angels appear in both stories to announce his birth. Matthew includes the Wise Men, King Herod's massacre, and the family's escape to Egypt, while Luke includes the Angel Gabriel's message, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit of the shepherds. Matthew presents Jesus as a King, while Luke shows him as humble and close to ordinary people.



The Miracle of Feeding the 5,000

One day, a large crowd of 5,000 men, plus women and children, followed Jesus to a remote place to hear him teach. As it got late, the disciples told Jesus to send the people away to find food. Instead, Jesus asked them what food they had. They found five loaves of bread and two fish, but this seemed far too little to feed so many people.

Jesus blessed the food, broke it into pieces, and told the disciples to distribute it. Miraculously, the food kept multiplying, and everyone ate until they were full. In the end, there were 12 baskets of leftovers, showing that God's power provides more than enough.

This miracle is important because it shows God's compassion, as Jesus cared for both the spiritual and physical needs of the people. It also demonstrates Jesus' divine power, proving that he was the Son of God.