

Judaism Practices Knowledge Organiser

Synagogue

This is the Jewish place of worship & reminds Jews of the Temple in Jerusalem.

Orthodox Synagogue: Men & women sit separately, seating on 3 sides faces the Bimah, Men lead all of the services.

Reform Synagogue: Men & women sit together, women can read the Torah, women may wear a Tallit.

SOWA: "A multitude of people is a king's glory" (Proverbs)

Features of the Synagogue:

Ark: Where the Torah is kept.

Ner Tamid: Everlasting light showing Almighty is present.

Menorah: 7 branched candle stick.

Bimah: Where the Torah is read from.

Yad: Reading stick.

Public Acts of Worship

Prayer can take place at the synagogue.

Shabbat Services: Friday evening-Saturday evening, Amidah is said at the Synagogue as it needs a Minyan (10 men) present to be said, whole Jewish family is expected to attend.

Daily Prayers: Jewish people can pray at home but need a Minyan present to pray at the synagogue, Jews must pray 3 times a day, prayers said in Hebrew if Orthodox services.

SOWA: "Morning, noon & night I will cry out to the Lord" (Shema)

Private Prayer

This takes place at home.

1. **Shabbat Prayer:** Meal is prepared, candles are lit, Kiddush is said (reminding them of their escape from Egypt- Pesach)

2. **Shema:** Instructed by Almighty to pray morning, noon & night, keeps Almighty at the forefront of their mind, allows them to ask for help if they need it.

3. **Why?** Allows Jewish people to praise Almighty, ask for his help, pray as a family.

SOWA: "Morning, noon & night I will cry out to the Lord" (Shema)

TOP TIP: You could be asked to compare similarities or differences between Christian & Jewish beliefs about worship.

The Tenakh & Talmud

The Torah is the most important Jewish book.
Talmud is Oral Law.

Tenakh: Contains 3 books

1. **T: Torah:** Jewish laws, it is used in synagogue services and is kept in the Ark at the synagogue.
2. **N: Nevi'im:** Book of Prophets.
3. **K: Ketuvim:** Book of writings.

- The Torah is used in daily worship.
- The rest of the Tenakh shows how Jewish people lived & how to live a good Jewish life.

SOWA: "A man has acquired the words of the Torah, he has attained afterlife" (Perkei Avot)

Talmud: Oral Law

1. Means instructions or learning.
2. Oral Torah was given to Moses
3. Contains teachings of early Rabbis, customs & history..

Jewish Food Laws

1. **Kosher:** Food Jews can eat- Cows, Chicken, Fruit & Veg
2. **Treifah:** Food Jews can't eat- pig, birds of prey, crab.
3. Meat & Dairy cannot be mixed. **SOWA: "You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk."**

Shema & Amidah

This is part of daily prayer for Jewish people.

Shema: Most important prayer in Judaism, Said 3 times a day, declares belief in one Almighty.

SOWA: "Morning, noon & night I will cry out to the Lord" (Shema)

Amidah: 2nd most important prayer in Judaism, known as the standing prayer, said at the synagogue, reminds Jews of their relationship with Almighty & that he needs praise, request & thanks.

Shabbat

Friday sundown-Saturday sundown.

How is it celebrated at home?

1. Jewish men go to Friday synagogue services.
2. Share a meal in the house as a family.
3. Candles are lit before Shabbat begins.

How is it celebrated at synagogue?

1. Torah is read.
2. Rabbi gives a sermon.
3. Kaddish prayer is read.

SOWA: God rested on 7th day" (Genesis)

Judaism Practices Knowledge Organiser Festivals

Rosh Hashanah

Jewish New Year

What are they remembering?

- Jewish people are remembering the story of Creation.

What do they do?

- It is celebrated over 2 days.
- They reflect on their behaviour & make peace with Almighty.
- Visit the synagogue
- Shofar horn is blown 100 times

Why is it important?

- It allows them to reflect on the year before judgement is finalised on Yom Kippur.

SOWA: "Present a food offering to the Lord."



Yom Kippur

Day of Atonement

What is it about?

- Asking forgiveness from Almighty for their wrongdoing.

What do they do?

- Ask Almighty for forgiveness.
- Almighty decides their fate.
- Fast for 25 hours.
- Cancel any promises to the Almighty that they can't keep.

Why is it important?

- It allows them to repair their relationship with each other & Almighty.

SOWA: "There will be a rest day for you... you shall do no work" (Leviticus)



Pesach

Jewish Passover

What are they remembering?

- When Moses set the Israelites free from Egypt.

What do they do?

- Read the Passover story from Exodus.
- Share the Sedar meal- each item stands for their suffering.
- Egg- hard times & new life from slavery.
- Salt water- tears of their ancestors.
- Lamb Bone- blood put on the door to keep them safe from angel of death.

Why is it important?

- It allows them to remember their time in slavery and Moses setting their ancestors free.

SOWA: Moses leading the Israelites from Egypt (Exodus)



Sukkot

Time in Desert

What are they remembering?

- 40 years spent in the desert after Pesach.

What do they do?

- Build Sukkots (huts) in their back garden.
- Eat, sleep & pray in the Sukkot for 8 days.
- Go to the synagogue.

Why is it important?

- It allows them to remember the time their ancestors spent in the desert after their escape from Egypt. Allows them to remember that God kept his people safe from harm.

SOWA: "You shall rejoice before your God" (Leviticus)



Shavuot

Harvest Festival

What are they remembering?

- Jewish people are remembering the Law being given to Moses on Mt.Sinai

What do they do?

- Decorate home in greenery.
- Read the book of Ruth.
- Eat dairy products- cheese & milk.

Why is it important?

- It allows them to remember the giving of the Law & the Mitzvot they have to follow.

SOWA: Moses being given the Decalogue (10 Commandments) at Mt Sinai



Judaism Practices Knowledge Organiser Rites & Rituals

Brit Milah

Male Circumcision

What is it about?

- The Covenant made with Abraham that all Jewish boys will be circumcised at 8 days old.

What do they do?

- Mohel carries out the ceremony.
- Baby boy is held by Grandfather.
- Baby given a Jewish name.

Why is it important?

- It allows them to keep the promise that Almighty & Abraham made that boys would be circumcised as a way of showing that they are Jewish.
- It is also a time for celebration of new life and continuation of the Jewish faith.

SOWA: "Abraham circumcised Isaac at 8 days old as God had commanded him" (Genesis)



Bar Mitzvah

Jewish coming of age ceremony.

What is it about?

- The Jewish boy becoming a Man.

What do they do?

- Read a verse in Hebrew from the Torah.
- Form part of a Minyan for synagogue services.
- Wear the Tefillin containing the Shema.

Why is it important?

- It allows the boy to take responsibility for his actions.
- It allows the boy to take part in synagogue services.
- It allows the boy to make up part of a Minyan so that worship can take place at the synagogue.
- It is also a time for celebration of new life and continuation of the Jewish faith.

SOWA: "As soon as he becomes of age he brings him to the synagogue" (Midrah Hashkem)



Jewish Marriage

Joining of Man & Woman in Matrimony.

What is it about?

- Two people coming together as one.

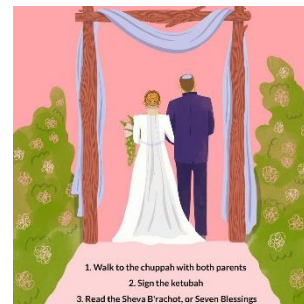
What do they do?

- Stand under a Chuppah- symbol of their new home.
- Exchange rings- sign of commitment.
- Break a glass to remember the tearing down of the Temple.
- Sign the Ketubah- marriage contract.

Why is it important?

- Brings couples together to start a new life together.
- It allows for the promise of children- allowing the Jewish faith to continue growing.

SOWA: "A man without a wife is incomplete"



Death & Mourning

Jewish Funeral Traditions.

What is it about?

- How Jewish people mourn their loved ones.

What do they do?

1. **Aninut:** Lasts 24 hours- from death of person to burial.
2. **Shiva:** First 7 days after someone dies, stay home, don't cut hair, sit close to floor, no mirrors.
3. **Sheloshim:** First 30 days to complete mourning rituals- no parties.
4. **Yud-bet-chodesh:** Year of mourning a parent- no parties, rituals or ceremonies, festivals.
5. **Yarzeit:** Marks a year since loved one died, light a candle.

Why is it important?

- Jews are normally buried in 24 hours.
- They are wrapped in their Tallit
- Plain coffins are used.
- Chance to say goodbye to loved ones & to pray for them

SOWA: "Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days." (Genesis)

