

**SYNAGOGUE** - house of assembly / public prayer / study / assembly for Jews. **SHEKINAH** - God's presence in the world, where God rests. **Covenant** - an

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**BASIC CHECKLIST BELIEFS**

1. What is the nature of God & ideas with sources
2. Why are the Covenants with Abraham + Moses important
3. What is special about the ten commandments.
4. What is Pikuach Nefesh and how is its importance shown.
5. What is mitzvot / free will and the relationship between them
6. What are the different views on the afterlife.
7. What are the different views on the Messiah.
8. Differences between Orthodox + Reform beliefs.

**Importance of Sholomah** (Describe Explain)

B. **God's presence** (reshing place on earth)

- S. Exodus - pillar of fire by night or cloud by day to protect Israelites
- Ezekiel (Tenach) - roar of water
- S. Modern - lighting of Shabbat candles so present in home / Ner Tamid in the synagogue. S. In Israel - walking Temple
- I. Brings a sense of calm/peace - some think feminine aspect of God

**Different views of the Messiah**

**DO NOT TALK ABOUT CHRISTIAN VIEWS**  
**DO NOT REFER TO JESUS AS SON OF GOD**

1. Messiah means anointed one - some Jews think descendant of King David. Will be like a king/saviour
2. Matanides in 12th century said Messiah would be great political leader who will bring world to end. Orthodox believe there is a time for this or that M is a physical person
3. Reform think not a physical person but Jews can bring a Messiah age through their actions / mitzvot
4. Book of Daniel seen as a supernatural figure. 85. In Isaiah seen as one who help the poor.

**Diff Views on Life after Death**

1. Olam Ha-Ba.
1. Orthodox - Resurrection physical / spiritual
2. Reform - immortality of soul - no resurrection
3. Some Orthodox only good resurrected. Others all end of judgement
4. Some resurrected. Others not resurrected

**GOD IS ONE**

**Belief - monotheism only 1 God**

Sources - Exodus - commandment 'No other Gods before me'

- Shema 'Hear Oh Israel the Lord our God is one'
- Shema is key Jewish prayer in Deuteronomy. Jews teach it to children.
- Shema is in mezuzah on door frame + befillin on head

**Beliefs on the Nature of God**

**GOD IS CREATOR**

**Belief - Only God created life**

Humans have responsibility to look after world

Sources: Genesis in Torah "God created the world, day + night"

"he created humans + gave them a special role to caretake all he had made"

**Impact on life - creation celebratd at Rosh Hashanah / Day of rest at Shabbat**

**Pikuach nefesh - saving life matters more than anything else as God created it.**

**LINKS**

More important life on earth or Olam Ha Ba?

All Jews focus on life on earth, live it well you are prepared for next life but God gives law + is a judge

**What is it**

Saving life matters more than following any rule e.g. putting out a fire on shabbat, eating non-kosher food in emergency

**What is it important**

Because of teaching in Tenach that show how important life is + that created by God

S. Psalm 139 "For you created my inmost being"

Genesis 1 "Let us make mankind in our image"

**Mitzvot v Free Will**

**Free Will**

Jews born with inclination to do good or bad. All Jews have freedom to choose what is good or bad. Mitzvot be followed.

R. some not relevant - interpret help to choose God.

O. Follow all God given. May be only relevant to stop Jews doing bad. (Always choose good don't read them?)

**GOD IS LAWGIVER**

**Belief - God gave ten commandments + mitzvot to Moses. Sign of Covenant with the Jews. Framework of Jewish life.**

Sources - Exodus 20 e.g. Worship on Sabbath. Do not commit murder / worship one God.

**Impact on life: Orthodox follow strictly as believe literally God given + need for promised land. Reform amend for modern life.**

**GOD AS JUDGE**

**Belief - God will judge how Jews follow mitzvot + the 10C**

Sources: - Exodus - 'The fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning'

**Impact on life: - Between Rosh Hashanah + tom Kippur Jews have to seek forgiveness for their sins. God starts at judgement at Rosh Hashanah**

Possible 2

Describe Jewish beliefs on God as ----

Explain the importance of different Jewish beliefs about God.

"God is lawgiver" is the most important Jewish belief. Discuss can use other ideas also - one judge, creator, covenant belief in messiah...

**LINKS**

**In an argument 10C**

- could be more important than 10C
- links to creation
- more important than mitzvot.

**Pikuach Nefesh**

**Impact on Life**

Can apply to issues of abortion e.g. may think ok to save life of mother. Euthanasia - not ok as not saving a life. Transplant of organs after death - ok if saves life. Orthodox may say no as need body intact for resurrection.

**Debate - should Orthodox Jew work on Sabbath??**

**LINKS**

Pikuach Nefesh

10 command

Free Will

Mitzvot as best guide for Jews?

**1. GIVEN TO GOD BY MOSES**

S. Exodus - Moses given 10C + Torah by God on Mount Sinai. In return lead to promised land

**2. SHOULD BE FOLLOWED BY ALL JEWS**

S. "Keep my covenant + you will be my treasured possession"

I - All Jews follow 10C Orthodox / Reform interpret differently

**COMPANIONSHIP ABOUT RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS**

S. Do not commit murder links to P.N. - abortion, euthanasia

Do not commit adultery

Importance of marriage

**FORM BELIEFS + PRACTICES IN JUDAIISM**

**3. COVENANT DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS TO CREATOR GOD**

S. Ex. Do not have other gods

I - vestrares in synagogue

**WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

Possible 3's

Explain the importance of the 10C to Jews.

Very likely to be a discuss

few may have to argue the importance of the commandments against each other.

you may have to argue if they are the most important.

Arguments against are that P.N. and Free Will may matter more or the covenant of belief in God as one.

**WITH ABRAHAM**

Called Abraham to the promised land (Canaan now Israel).

S. Genesis "Go to the land I will show you"

I - Jews consider this their homeland and have lived there for 5,200 yrs.

**WITH MOSES**

After Abraham, made when Jews escaped slavery to go back to promised land.

Chosen by God to lead Jews out of slavery.

S. Ex "I will send you to the Pharaoh, that you may bring my people out of Egypt"

I. Moses thought he was not capable, shows specialness of his relationship with God - greatest prophet

**IMPORTANCE OF COVENANTS**

Which is most important (and why?)

1. God promised Abraham he would make a great nation from him

S. Genesis "I will make you very fruitful I will make nations from you"

I - The Jewish people consider themselves descendants of Ab

S. "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me + you"

I - Jews belief God's chosen people

**2. GIVEN TORAH BY GOD**

also believe he was given Mishra and your descendants after you the Oral Torah. S. Exodus

I. Rules to follow (see 10C + mitzvot)

**3. ESTABLISHED COVENANT WITH GOD**

Now if you obey me + keep my covenants - you will be my treasure + I will love you + be with you

S. Brit Milah - boys. S. day

**MESSIAH** - the anointed one / descendant of David living in New era. **KOSHER** - fit or proper. Foods that can be eaten according to Leviticus 11

# BASIC CHECKLIST PRACTICES

1. What happens in the synagogue
2. Why is the home important
3. Evaluate which is more important for worship home or synagogue
4. What happens at Bar Mitzvah/ Bat Chayil
5. What are the main features of a wedding
6. What happens in Bat Mitzvah/Naming
7. What happens when someone dies
8. Evaluate which rituals are the most important
9. What is the origin/meaning + celebration of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Pesach and Sukkot
10. Evaluate which festival is most important
11. How does belief impact on Jewish life
  - a) Use of Toraht/Talmud
  - b) Dietary laws
12. Differences between Orthodox + Jewish practice - at home / in synagogue / interpretation of scripture / male + female / clothing in worship

**Bimah R**  
 Raised platform to read Torah scrolls.  
 Or - In middle R - at front with Torah  
 Importance - Central feature showing importance of Torah

**ARON KADOSH**  
 The ark containing scrolls of Torah  
 Or - Curtain on inside of ark R - Curtain outside  
 Most important place in synagogue as contains Torah, Ner Tamid next to it showing shekinah. Faces Jerusalem.

**TORAH SCROLLS**  
 Handwritten by scribes kept in the ark (Doppel) when not in use. Can't touch.  
 Read each Shabbat service In Orthodox minyan (10 men needed)

**NER TAMID**  
 Eternal lamp above ark  
 Or / R.F. - different designs  
 In Exodus told to keep a lamp burning annually also symbol of menorah that used to burn in temple.

**SEATING**  
 Or - Separate men + women, R.F. all sit together

## FEATURES OF A SYNAGOGUE

**6. Minyan**  
 pressing of 10 men for service R.F. all reject need for minyan or all women also. Amidah/ Kaddish not recited without minyan

**House of Prayer**  
 Where Jews pray as a community  
 Saturday morning Sabbath  
 In Orthodox when a minyan  
 Saying Amidah

**Social**  
 Programmes of social events  
 Care for elderly  
 Charity  
 For Jews in Britain important part of community  
 Explain how attending a synagogue can impact on the life of a Jew.

**Life Pillin**  
 Two boxes containing Shema worn on head and bound to upper arm  
 Or - males only on weekday services after Bar Mitzvah R.F. Men + Women  
 Obey mitzvot to wear words of Shema on heart + head  
**6. Lippah**  
 A head covering  
 Or - most males R.F. men + women  
 Sign of respect / symbol of Jewish identity

Links to Worship can be done at home or synagogue.  
 We learn how both = important?

**House of Study**  
 A place to study their faith.  
 In Britain - learn Hebrew Prepare Bar Mitzvah. Study Torah Talmud

**Place of Celebration**  
 A place to celebrate rituals  
 Special services e.g. Tom Lupur 5 services celebrate Bar Mitzvah etc Naming ceremony

**ITEMS WORN FOR WORSHIP AT HOME OR SYNAGOGUE**  
**2. Tallit**  
 A four cornered garment with fringes - can be a shawl or vest worn under clothes  
 Or - some wear vest all day. Most shawl in worship R.F. many wear prayer shawl  
 The Toraht says Jews should wear fringes on the corner of clothes.  
 "All Jews should worship in the same way." Discuss.

**How Jews Worship at Home**  
 Explain the importance of the home in Jewish worship.

1. Preparing for Festivals  
 e.g. Passover - clean house + eat meal or Sukkot - build shelters e.g. Shabbat - Women Havdalah Shabbat meal
2. Reciting Prayers  
 e.g. Orthodox Jews say the Moshen Ani thanking God for return of the soul. Saying Amidah s'adar - prayer book at home
3. Displaying Mesuzah  
 Box on door with scroll of Shema - belief in One God. Reminder of faith and symbol of protection.
4. Keeping Kosher  
 Obeying Jewish laws about what is fit + proper to eat + do.
5. Keeping Jewish Values  
 Passing on values to children - an instruction in Shema  
 Having a charity box to show justice  
 Minyan in Orthodox house after funeral

# JEWISH FESTIVALS

**ROSH HASHANAH** - 2 days + Yom Kippur  
 • Reminder of Creation  
 • Happy Time  
 • Reminder God is Judge  
 • Limited to Yom Kippur  
 • 10 day between to atone  
 • Special services in synagogue eat sweet fruit like Pomegranate to mark fringed being sweet  
 • Shofar blown 100 times to reunite soul with God  
 • Tashlich performed to show moving away from sins  
 • Spend 10 days apologising making of 100 usings doing

**PESECH PASSEOVER**  
 celebrate freedom from slavery. Source Exodus  
 In Exodus God commanded east should happen each year Reminds of angel of death passing over Jewish houses  
 Eat Matzah - bread that could not rise in leaving  
 Salled Festival of Freedom, may for captives  
 Clean house of leaven  
 Eat seder meal  
 Read prayers + tell No sover story from Haggadah  
 Leave glass of wine for Elijah with prayers + harvest

**SUKKOT**  
 Harvest festival that is a mitzvah  
 + Remembers 40 yrs in desert on way to the promised land  
 + Shelters/Sukkahs are built in home / synagogue  
 + Last 7 days + starts with 2 day holiday  
 + Eat + Sleep in Sukkah as Jews did in desert  
 + Etrog + lulav are waved every morning  
 + Sukkahs decorated with green + yellow + orange  
 + Fruit  
 Sukkah is Jewish holy book - includes Torah - the rest 5 books of Moses + read every week in synagogue. Also contains Prophets + other writings.  
 Talmud - Oral law (Mishnah) interpretations (Gemara)

"The Ark is the most important feature of the synagogue" Discuss

**4. Mourning**  
 + Lots of differences between families.  
 + Simple funeral with leadish prayer.  
 Or - holes in coffin - no metal - Toraht / oshbah  
 + Sit Shiva for a week. Minyan visit pray - Tear clothes. Cover mirrors  
 + Year for close relatives

**3. Marriage**  
 + R.F. allows some sex or does not  
 + In synagogue / hotels open spaces  
 + Stands under Chuppah canopy - symbolise home  
 + Begins with Kiddush first part of ceremony betrothal  
 + Then blessings called Nisui  
 + Rings exchanged  
 + Sign Ketubah - contract  
 + Glass stamped by groom - Fragility of marriage - A man shall fulfill Torah - leave his father + mother + be united with his wife - role as orth boy

**2. Bar Mitzvah**  
 Son of Law. Orth Boys + Reform Boys 13. R.F. girls Bar Mitzvah 12. Read Torah from Bimah. Boys enter man hood, wear baalitz etc, part of minyan  
 Need to keep Mitzvot

**PURPOSE OF RITUALS**  
 • Establish a relationship with God e.g. Responsibility in Bar M  
 • Jewish identity e.g. custom  
 • Keeps Jewish traditions - the faith alive e.g. Brit milah through Abraham's covenant  
 • Affirms faith e.g. Prayes in marriage  
 • Based on lifecycle of Jew. God always with them.

**Why Sabbath important**  
 + Exodus - obey Mitzvot to keep it Holy  
 + Reminder of Creation  
 + Gift from God to forgive weekday women  
 + Brings Peace to home

**BAT CHAYIL**  
 For Orthodox girls age 12. Recite a poem from book of Ruth about role of women. Take on more responsibility + role around the home  
 Not required to do some. Not required to do some. Not required to do some. Not required to do some.

**SABBAT SERVICES**  
 Services on Friday night Saturday afternoon  
 Shabbat morning  
 Includes - saying Shema + Amidah  
 A week's sermon from Rabbi / a Kiddush  
 Brings Jewish community together. Learn from sermon based on readings  
 Through a service

**THE IMPORTANCE OF SYNAGOGUE SERVICES**  
 • A way to communicate with God  
 • Said individually or collectively.  
 • Often pray in morning / before bed + before mitzvot  
 • Praise God / thank God / make requests  
 • Some in English other say in Hebrew.  
 • Builds relationship with God.

**THE AMIDAH**  
 + A prayer said at every Jewish service  
 + Means standing + all stand for prayer  
 + Contains 18 blessings which thank, praise + make requests  
 + Recited silently  
 Shows belief in God, at end take 3 steps back + bow + bow 3 types of prayer

**PRAYER**  
 • A way to communicate with God  
 • Said individually or collectively.  
 • Often pray in morning / before bed + before mitzvot  
 • Praise God / thank God / make requests  
 • Some in English other say in Hebrew.  
 • Builds relationship with God.

**How Shabbat is celebrated**  
 Orthodox Jews.  
 No work  
 Prepare house + food night before e.g. By Challah  
 No driving / cooking / carrying unless Pilvach Nefesh

**Orthodox Jews**  
 No work  
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