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# THE BIBLE

1. In Judaism you are called

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| Click to enter answer. |  | Click here to enter answer. |  | Click here to enter answer. |  | Click here to enter answer. |
| *Your Hebrew Name* |  | *Son/*  *Daughter of* |  | *Father’s Hebrew Name* |  | *Mother’s Hebrew Name* |

* 1. What does your Hebrew name literally mean? (Look in any naming book.)

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. After whom were you named?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is a “sidra” () or “parsha” ()?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. In which book of the Torah is your Bar/Bat Mitzvah sidra found?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. In a sentence or two, what is your sidra about?

Click here to enter answer.

1. A Haftarah is read after the Torah reading on Shabbat, festivals, High Holidays and fast days.
   1. From which section of the Bible is the Haftarah taken?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. From which book is your Haftarah taken?

Click here to enter answer.

1. The Haftarah has some connection (theme, similarity in part of the story, etc.) to the Torah portion. Can you find your connection?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Identify the three sections of the Bible in Hebrew and English.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is the Hebrew word for the whole Bible?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Christians consider our Bible, which they call the Old Testament, to be holy. They call their addition the New Testament. Why do we, as Jews, prefer not to use the term Old Testament?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Name the five books of Moses, in order.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. With what story does the first book of the Torah begin?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. How does the last book of the Torah end?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. List five “happenings” or important parts that occur in between. (Be sure to include what took place at Mount Sinai-Exodus, ch. 20.)

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. List the first three Kings of Israel.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. In whose reign did Jerusalem become the capital? (Hint: Jerusalem is also known as the City of **Click here to enter answer.**.)
  2. In whose reign was the Temple built?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. After whose reign was the kingdom divided into two parts: Judah and Israel?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is a prophet?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Name three prophets.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Explain some of the ideas the prophets spoke about.

Click here to enter answer.

1. What is the Talmud (also known as the Oral Law)?

Click here to enter answer.

# THE SYNAGOGUE

1. The following are three terms for the synagogue. Each has a different meaning. Look up the words, translate each one and explain how the modern synagogue fulfills that role:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Click here to enter answer. |
|  | Click here to enter answer. |
|  | Click here to enter answer. |

* 1. What are the parts of the tallit that make it a tallit?

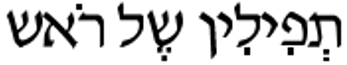
Click here to enter answer.

* 1. When is a tallit worn?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What are tefillin?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. We have  and . What do those terms mean?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Click here to enter answer. |
|  | Click here to enter answer. |

* 1. Of what should the tallit and tefillin remind us?

Click here to enter answer.

1. In Judaism, the Torah is very special and we treat it accordingly.
   1. Who writes the Torah?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. On what is it written?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is one way we show respect for the Torah?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is an aliyah to the Torah?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. At least how many aliyot are there on Shabbat?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. How many aliyot are there on Monday and Thursday?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Define the terms “Siddur” and “Mahzor.”

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. The Shema is the declaration of God’s Oneness. Read the first paragraph following the Shema (V’ahavta), found on page 112 of your Siddur Sim Shalom. What are at least three mitzvot it tells us to observe?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Look at the third paragraph (va’yomer), middle of page 113. In a sentence or two, summarize what it says.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Jews have three prayer services every day. List them.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is “the prayer” which is found in all three services?

Click here to enter answer.

1. What is the Hallel service? List at least two times when Hallel is recited.

Click here to enter answer.

1. What does the word “*Musaf*” mean? List at least two times when we recite *Musaf* services.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is a mezuzah?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. On which side of the door should it be placed?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is written inside, on the klaf or parchment?

Click here to enter answer.

1. If someone went snooping in your home, he would probably discover that your family is Jewish by the ritual objects that you have. List at least five things in a home that might tell someone that this is a Jewish home.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What does the word “kosher” literally mean?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. How does keeping kosher change the ordinary act of eating into something special?

Click here to enter answer.

1. List two rules of kashrut.

Click here to enter answer.

1. What blessing do we recite over the Shabbat candles? Write out the blessing in Hebrew. When on Shabbat is this blessing said?

Click here to enter answer.

# KIDDUSH

* 1. Look up the Friday night Kiddush (found on page 49 in the Siddur). What two events in Jewish history does it refer to?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Wine (and Kiddush) is used on occasions of joy in Judaism. List two occasions, other than Friday night, when we say the blessing over wine.

Click here to enter answer.

1. What is the blessing over bread and by what one word is it known?

Click here to enter answer.

1. What prayer do we recite after each meal?

Click here to enter answer.

1. The Jewish calendar seems to “change” every year in comparison to the secular calendar. For example, although Chanukah starts on the 25 th of Kislev each year in the Jewish calendar, it varies in the secular calendar. That is because the secular calendar is a solar one. On what is the Jewish calendar based?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Name the Hebrew months of the year and the major holidays that occur during these months. (See any Jewish calendar for assistance.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. Shabbat is a cornerstone of Jewish tradition. With the exception of Yom Kippur, it is the most important of Jewish holidays. What is Shabbat a reminder of?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is the Havdalah ceremony?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What ritual objects are used?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What does smelling the spices symbolize?

Click here to enter answer.

1. In Israel there is only one Passover Seder and one day of Yom Tov for Shavuot, etc. How did the custom begin that Jews in the diaspora observe two days of Yom Tov instead of one?

Click here to enter answer.

# SUKKOT/SIMCHAT TORAH

1. The  or three Pilgrimage Festivals have in common that they each have historic associations and agricultural ones. What agricultural time and what historical event does this holiday of Sukkot recall?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What are four species used on Sukkot?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What do they symbolize?

Click here to enter answer.

1. What is the correct method of handling the lulav and etrog?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Yizkor” is recited four times during the year.
   1. What is Yizkor?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. On what holidays is it recited?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What does Simchat Torah mark?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is a “Hakafah”?

Click here to enter answer.

# PASSOVER

* 1. What historical event does Passover recall?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What agricultural season does Passover recall?

Click here to enter answer.

1. It is forbidden to eat “chametz”—leavened foods—on Passover.
   1. Name three products, which we do not eat on Passover.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. List three ways in which we prepare our homes for Passover.

Click here to enter answer.

1. List the items on the Seder plate and what they stand for.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What does the word “Seder” mean?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What does the word “Haggadah” mean?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is the Haggadah?

Click here to enter answer.

1. In a sentence of two, explain why we repeat the same story of Passover each year. What is the purpose?

Click here to enter answer.

1. On the second day of Passover we begin to “count the Omer” and we continue for 49 days until the holiday of *Click here to enter answer.* During that period we celebrate Lag B’Omer. What do we remember on that holiday?

Click here to enter answer.

# SHAVUOT

* 1. What historical event does the holiday of Shavuot recall?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What agricultural season does Shavuot recall?

Click here to enter answer.

1. List the main points of each of the Ten Commandments or Statements. See either Exodus Chapter 20 or Deuteronomy Chapter 5. Each Commandment has to do with either the relationship between man and God or the relationship between man and man. Indicate next to each, which it is.

Click here to enter answer.

1. Choose three of the commandments and explain what they mean to you.

Click here to enter answer.

# OTHER SPECIAL DATES

1. During the summer we observe the fast day of Tisha B’Av. What does it recall?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Answer the following regarding the historical background of the holiday of Chanukah.
   1. What nation ruled Judea then?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Who was their king?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What were the dates of the Jewish Revolution?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Who led the revolt?

Click here to enter answer.

1. There is a special order for lighting the Chanukah candles. Draw the Chanukah menorah-Chanukiah—as it would look on the sixth night of Chanukah. Number the candles in the order in which you would light them.

Click here to enter answer.

1. Which book of the Bible (one of the five Megillot or scrolls) do we read on Purim?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Look up the word “anti-Semitism.” Can you, in a paragraph, relate the meaning of the word to the story of Purim?

Click here to enter answer.

# HIGH HOLIDAYS

* 1. What do the words Rosh Hashanah mean?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Explain briefly two ways in which Rosh Hashanah differs from the secular New Year (January 1).

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Explain one way in which we prepare for Rosh Hashanah and for the High Holiday season in general.

Click here to enter answer.

1. How many different sounds does a shofar make?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Why do you think the shofar is blown during the month before Rosh Hashanah?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Jews “repent” by doing “teshuvah.” However, teshuvah is more than simply “confessing” our sins. What must a Jew do before he/she can be “forgiven” for sins against another person?

Click here to enter answer.

1. The Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is called “Shabbat Shuvah,” the Sabbath of Repentance. Why?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Fasting in Jewish tradition serves many purposes. On certain fast days, such as Tisha B’Av and T’som Gedalia, we mourn concerning historical events. What purpose does fasting serve on Yom Kippur?

Click here to enter answer.

1. The Kol Nidre prayer absolves us of certain vows and commitments we made during the past year. This prayer was especially important to the Marranos during the Spanish Inquisition. In a short paragraph, describe who the Marranos were and why this prayer was so meaningful to them.

Click here to enter answer.

1. The book of Jonah is read at Mincha on Yom Kippur. Several lessons can be learned from this story that have to do with the themes of repentance and forgiveness. In a paragraph, tell one part of the story and explain how it relates to Yom Kippur. (If you do not remember the story, look at the Book of Jonah in the Bible. It is a very short book.)

Click here to enter answer.

# THE JEWISH LIFECYCLE

1. Brit Milah means “covenant of circumcision.” What is the meaning of a “covenant”? (See Genesis chapter 17.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. Traditionally, when and where is a Jewish girl named? What modern rituals have developed for the naming ceremony?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What does the word “Mitzvah” mean?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What do the words “Bar Mitzvah” literally mean?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What do the words “Bat Mitzvah” literally mean?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Jewish education is a lifelong process. What are some ways in which one can continue his/her education after Bar/Bat Mitzvah? (List at least two.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. Define the following terms relating to a Jewish wedding.
   1. Chupah

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Ketubah

Click here to enter answer.

1. How many special blessing are recited at the wedding? What are they called?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Why do Jews break a glass at the end of a Jewish wedding ceremony?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Traditionally, Jews are buried in plain wooden caskets (or in Israel in a shroud). In a sentence or two, why do you think simplicity is stressed in this way?

Click here to enter answer.

1. In Judaism we have ceremonies, which mark all changes or passages in life, including divorce. What is a “get”?

Click here to enter answer.

1. “Shiva” comes from the root meaning seven and refers to the seven days of mourning after the funeral. List three customs observed in the house of Shiva.

Click here to enter answer.

1. When someone is “sitting shiva,” we who visit should be there to help. What are two ways in which you think we could show our concern for the “mourner”?

Click here to enter answer.

1. The mourner’s kaddish reaffirms faith in God and life. It does not speak of death.
   1. Therefore, why do you think we chose to recite this prayer after the death of a close relative?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. For husband and wife we recite kaddish for 30 days. For how many months is this prayer recited for parents, siblings or children?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Define the term “yahrzeit”.

Click here to enter answer.

1. An unveiling may be held anytime after the 30-day period of mourning but within the first year. What happens at an unveiling?

Click here to enter answer.

# JEWISH BELIEFS

1. Jews are often referred to as the “chosen people.” We do not mean to say we are better than others, but rather that we have been chosen for a special reason. What is that reason?

Click here to enter answer.

1. What does the term Messiah literally mean?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Several of the prophets described what the world would be like in Messianic times, when the Messiah comes. What are two things that you think will be different about the world when the Messiah comes? (See Isaiah 2:1-4 or Micah 4:1-4.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. The preceding questions (#74 and #75) deal with a very complex issue on which whole books have been written. However, in a sentence or two (basing your answer on what you said in questions #74 and #75), explain how the Christian belief in Jesus as the Messiah contradicts our Jewish definition of the Messiah.

Click here to enter answer.

1. Is it important for a Jew to belong to a synagogue and why?

Click here to enter answer.

1. List two other ways in which a Jew can identify with his/her people.

Click here to enter answer.

1. What does the word tzedakah mean?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Knowing that tzedakah is a “mitzvah,” what does that tell us about our responsibility to give tzedakah? (Remember your definition of mitzvah in question #61.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. Name two Jewish tzedakah organizations.

Click here to enter answer.

1. Rabbis receive several years of training after their college education at rabbinical seminaries in order to perform their duties. List four responsibilities of a rabbi. (See the rabbi if you do not know.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. The Conservative movement in Judaism developed out of reaction to the Reform and Orthodox movements. In a few sentences, explain what the early founders of the Conservative movement envisioned it to be. (Be sure to include why it was called the Conservative movement.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. Identify the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Click here to enter answer.

# JEWISH HISTORY

* 1. Who was Ezra?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What was his importance in connection with the Torah?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Two famous rabbis of the Mishnaic period were Rabbis Hillel and Shammai. Look up the word “Mishnah.” To what does it refer?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Look up the word “Talmud.” How is it connected to Mishnah?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Look up Rabbi Akiba. Give a few facts about his life.

Click here to enter answer.

1. Rabbi Akiba became a Jewish scholar at age 40. How does that relate to question #62?

Click here to enter answer.

1. What does the term “halacha” mean?

Click here to enter answer.

1. Jews who do not live in Israel are said to live in the “diaspora.” What does the word diaspora mean?
   1. Name the two largest diaspora communities.

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Name two other countries that at some time in history were thriving centers of Jewish life in the diaspora.

Click here to enter answer.

1. Moses Maimonides, also known as the Rambam, was one of the greatest of Jewish philosophers.
   1. When and where did he live?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Name one of his works that we still use today.

Click here to enter answer.

1. The Hassidic Movement was founded in the 19 th century by the Baal Shem Tov. In a sentence or two, describe:
   1. What is Hassadism?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What new ideas did it bring to Judaism?

Click here to enter answer.

1. What is the world Jewish population today?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is the American Jewish population?

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. What is the Israeli Jewish population?

Click here to enter answer.

# ISRAEL

1. To which Israelite did God first promise to “give the land to you and your descendants forever”? (See Genesis, chapter 12.)

Click here to enter answer.

1. What does the word “Zionism” mean?

Click here to enter answer.

1. In a sentence or two, identify each of the following:
   1. Theodore Herzel

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. First Zionist Congress

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Chaim Wiezmann

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Balfour Declaration

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Golda Meir

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Israel’s current Prime Minister

Click here to enter answer.

* 1. Hatikvah

Click here to enter answer.

1. How does the Israeli Knesset (Parliament) put together a government after an election?

Click here to enter answer.

1. In the above map of the State of Israel, please fill in the following information:
   1. Neighboring countries
   2. Major cities: Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Be’er Sheva, Eilat, and Safed.
   3. Bodies of water
   4. Sections: West Bank, Negev, Galilee, Golan Heights, Gaza Strip.

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