THE WRITTEN & ORAL LAW

Judaism Practices

- 1. Which of the following is the small box fixed to the door posts of Jewish [1 mark] homes which contains scripture?
 - A) a mezuzah

B) Mitzvot

- C) a menorah
- D) mazel tov

2. Give two books of the Torah.

[2 marks]

Genesis/ Exodus/ Leviticus/ Numbers/ Deuteronom

3. Describe two sacred writings of Judaism.

[4 marks]

The Torah: The 5 books of Jewish law/ attributed to Moses/ literally means 'instruction'/ features the Exodus, the covenants and the Mitzvah The Talmud: interprets and applies the Torah/ features the entirety of Jewish civil and religious law including commentaries on the Torah/ Includes the Mishnah and the Gemara/ some Jews see it as more relevant than the Torah because it aims to make the Torah relevant/ literally means "study"

4. Explain two reasons why Jews study the Torah.

[5 marks]

To learn about the covenant with Abraham: descendants, land, being a blessing etc To learn about the covenant with Moses: The Mitzvot, freedom etc To know and understand the story of the Exodus and of Passover To learn the 10 commandments

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5. 'The Talmud is the most important Jewish writing.'

[12 marks]

Reasons to agree:

Helps to make sense of the Torah/ makes the Torah relevant to today. Literally means "study" – studying very important to Jews. Has shaped Jewish culture. Includes commentaries from many rabbis including Rabbi Yehudah ha-Nasi (Rabbi Judah the Prince). Includes the Mishnah and the Gemara, the study of and completion of Jewish law

Reasons to disagree:

Reasons to disagree: The Torah is the original. The Talmud is effectively commentary on the Torah so the Torah is the most important. The Torah has the law, the covenants, the Exodus, the 10 Commandments, the 613 Mitzvot. The Torah is kept in the Ark in the synagogue and can only be handled by Jewish men – shows its importance