

ROSH HASHANAH & YOM KIPPUR

Judaism Practices

1. What does Yom Kippur mean? [1 mark]
A) Judgement Day B) Forgiveness Friday C) Day of Atonement D) Sin Saturday
2. Give two ways that a Jew may practice teshuvah. [2 marks]
Teshuva means to repent or literally “to return” they may practice this to go back to what God wants for them/ they may realise they have been doing the wrong thing/ living an unrighteous life
3. Describe two customs that a Jew might follow on Rosh Hashanah [4 marks]
Listen to the schofar horn – three blasts is a call to repentance
Tashlich – Jews go down to a riverbank and shake out their pockets to symbolically cast off their sins
Some do not sleep the first night of Rosh Hashanah and instead pray, meditate and soul-search.
Attend synagogue, special service to say sorry for sin
Sweet food is eaten eg honey cake. Pomegranate, many seeds = many good deeds

4. Explain two practices that a Jew may follow on Yom Kippur

[1 mark]

Fast> from food, drink, leather shoes and sex> focus on God. Numbers they should “afflict the soul”

Synagogue starts with Kol Nidre prayer chanted. Asks for release from pledges made to God recognising that all make rash promises.

Synagogue, story of Jonah shown to inspire people to abandon evil ways

5. 'Yom Kippur is the most important time of the year for Jews.'

[12 marks]

Reasons to agree:

The day of atonement> atonement means to cover over sin> a day when Jews can be forgiven and redeemed> a day for confession and repentance and focusses on that. Everyone sins and makes mistakes so everyone needs atonement> Jews want to ensure their name is in the book of life

The fasting shows the importance of the day> it is one of the busiest Jewish holy days which shows how important it is

Jews are commanded to take part in the Torah

Reasons to disagree:

Rosh Hashanah is more important> lasts for 48 hours> also about repentance Celebrates new year/ celebrates the birthday of the universe

Some do not sleep the first night of Rosh Hashanah and instead pray, meditate and soul-search

Pesach more important> freedom from slavery/ God's deliverance/ commanded to do it as well. Shabbat more important> sign of the covenant with Moses> Mitzvah etc> Weekly so more often so more important