

Week 1

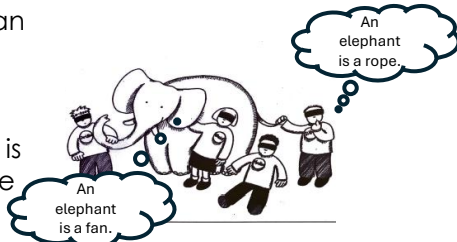
What do Hindus believe about Brahman?

Hinduism is seen as both a monotheistic religion (belief in one God) and polytheistic religion (belief in multiple Gods).

Hindus believe in one God known as **Brahman**. However, they are also considered to be a polytheistic religion because they believe God is unlimited so can take many different forms which helps people to better understand God.

Hindus take a Pluralist viewpoint when it comes to God. **Pluralistic- Different ideas and beliefs contribute equally.**

If blind men were to touch an elephant (representing God/truth) each experience only part of the truth. Each idea of what an elephant is, is correct but not the complete truth.



Like the Blind men no one can completely know the whole truth of God. Brahman (God) is beyond human understanding (transcendent).

Week 2

Trimurti

The three most significant forms of Brahman.

Brahma **Vedas**

Rosary- symbolising time

Four heads/ arms- the four Vedas and Brahmans ability to see in every corner of the universe. Symbolic of his omniscience/omnipresence.

Brahma is the creator of the universe

Sceptre (spoon) To pour holy oil during prayer

Water pot- Source of life

Vishnu

Discus- mind

Conch (shell) Source of life

Mace- Mental/physical strength

Lotus flower- Freedom

Vishnu is the preserver.

Shiva

Drum- The sound of the universe.

Shiva is often known as being the master of dance.

Trident- Three functions of the Trimurti

Serpent- Shiva's gentle nature, the creature is comfortable in his presence. Shiva has no fears.

Shiva is the destroyer/transformer

Each form have various symbols which have meaning.

Trimurti means 'three forms'

Brahman is represented in different images of God/Goddesses which are aspects of the divine one (Brahman)

Week 3

Deities and Murtis

- Hindus believe in one **God that takes many different forms** as Gods/Goddesses.
- Hindus believe we cannot truly understand God because he is transcendent (beyond human understanding)

Deities (Hindu Gods/Goddesses) help Hindus to better understand God's different aspects/personalities of Brahman.

Murtis are the embodiment (Visible form) of Brahman. During worship Hindus believe that the presence of God enters the Murtis.



Deity- A Hindu God, a form of representing a part of God

Murti- A statue or image of a Hindu God

Year 8: Topic Hinduism

Week 4

Hindu practices- Worship in the home and Mandir.

Puja- The Sanskrit word for **worship**.

Hindus can worship both at home or in the mandir

Mandir- A Hindu place of worship.



Puja uses all the five senses.



Arti lamp- waved in front of the deity, the worshiper passes their hands over the eyes and head to receive the blessings of God.

Water/Milk- to wash the deity.

Bell- to wake the deity

Incense stick/holder- welcome the God with a pleasant aroma

Kum Kum powder- marked on the head of the Murti (God) and the worshipper as a sign of respect.

Prashad- Is food that is offered to God.

Flowers- Offerings to God.

Mantras- Short, powerful statements of belief often repeated during Puja

Week 5

Reincarnation- Karma, Samsara and Moksha

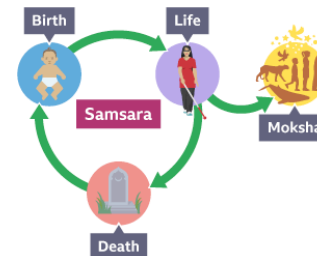
Reincarnation- The **belief** that the soul enters a new body after death. In Hinduism you can be reborn into a human or animal body. This depends on your Karma in your previous life.

Karma- means 'actions' the consequences which influence the next life.

Samsara- Means to flow, the cycle of life, death and rebirth.

Moksha- means 'release' escaping Samsara.

Atman- 'Soul' the part that lives on after death



One of the ways a Hindu can improve their Karma is doing their duty this is known as Dharma.

Key words:

Brahman- God in Hinduism

Vedas- Hindu Scriptures

Puja- The Sanskrit word for **worship**.

Deity- A Hindu God, a form of representing a part of God

Murti- A statue or image of a Hindu God

Karma- means 'actions' the consequences which influence the next life.

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Moksha- means 'release' escaping Samsara.

Atman- 'Soul' the part that lives on after death

Transcendent- God is beyond human understanding

Omnipotent- All powerful

Omniscient- All knowing

Week 1

Questions	Answers
How many Gods do Hindus believe in? What is the term we use?	They believe in one God which is known as monotheism.
What is the name of the Hindu God?	Brahman
Why is Hinduism also considered to be a polytheistic religion when they only believe in one God?	They believe God is unlimited so can take many different forms which helps people to better understand God.
What does Pluralism mean?	Different ideas and beliefs contribute equally.
What does Transcendent mean?	The term used to mean that God is beyond our human understanding.

Week 2

Questions	Answers
What does Trimurti mean?	Three forms.
Which form of Brahman is the creator?	Brahma
Which form of Brahman is the preserver?	Vishnu
Which form of Brahman is the destroyer?	Shiva
Have a go at writing down some symbols the Trimurti hold and its meaning.	Check your answers

Week 3

Questions	Answers
What is a deity?	A Hindu God, a form of representing a part of God
What is a Murti?	A statue or image of a Hindu God
Why are there so many different Gods/Goddesses in Hinduism?	Hindus believe that God can take many different forms. These help Hindus to better understand the different aspects/personalities of God.
What do Hindus believe happens to the Murtis during worship?	The presence of God enters the Murtis.
What term is used to mean when we can never truly understand God?	Transcendent.

Year 8: Hinduism

Week 4

Questions	Answers
What is Puja?	The Sanskrit word for worship
Where do Hindus go to worship?	Hindus can worship in a Mandir or in their own homes.
List what items would be on a Puja tray and its purpose.	Arti lamp - to receive the blessings of God Prashad - Is food that is offered to God. Flowers - Offerings to God. Kum Kum powder - marked on the head of the Murti(God) and the worshipper as a sign of respect. Bell - to wake the deity Water/Milk - to wash the deity. Incense stick/holder -welcome the God with a pleasant aroma
What are Mantras?	-Short, powerful statements of belief often repeated during Puja

Week 5

Questions	Answers
What is reincarnation?	The Hindu belief that the soul enters a new body (animal or human) after death depending on your Karma.
What is Karma?	'actions' the consequences which influence the next life.
What is Samsara?	the cycle of life, death and rebirth.
What is Moksha?	'release' escaping Samsara.
What is Atman?	'Soul' the part that lives on after death
How can Hindus improve their Karma?	By doing their duty (Dharma).

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