

Week 1

Purusharthas- Four goals/purposes in life.

Hindus recognise four purposes (or goals) in life known as Purusharthas. Each aim is good and builds upon each other.



Dharma- leading a good life through duty and actions.



Kama- love, desire and pleasure.



Artha- Wealth and prosperity.

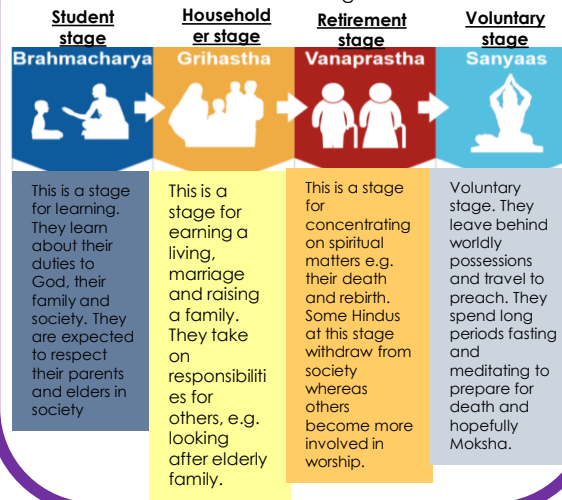


Moksha- Freedom from Samsara (the cycle of death and rebirth), becoming one with Brahman

Week 2

Ashramas

Hindus believe there are four stages in life. These are:



Week 3

Kumbh Mela

There are four different pilgrimage sites for the Kumbh Mela, used in rotation every three years but large festival takes place every twelve years.

The story around the Kumbh Mela

- Demons fought a great war. They fought over a special pot (the Kumbh) which contained amazing liquid.
- The liquid could give immortality (live forever).
- During the battle, the liquid fell to earth and landed in four rivers-Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari and Shipra.
- During Kumbh Mela, this liquid is thought to take on powers once more.

How is Kumbh Mela celebrated?

- Pilgrims bathe in the sacred river at dawn as they believe that bathing in the Ganges free them from sin to help them be liberated from the cycle of birth and death.
- Over 55 days pilgrims share Hindu stories, sing, recite prayers and dance, eat food. Place marigolds into the river as offerings.

Year 8: Hinduism Term 2

Week 4

Rites of Passage

Birth-

- Chhathi happens 6 days after the baby's birth.
- A Hindu priest reads the astrological signs, and a letter is given to the parents which they use to decide the child's name.
- The ceremony starts by a candle being lit.
- Aum is written on the baby's tongue in honey to ensure only sweet words are spoken.
- Red powder is put on the forehead of the baby.
- God's name written at the top of a page and left for God to write the child's future.

Marriage

- Some Hindu marriages are arranged by parents.
- Hindus consult horoscopes to check for compatibility.
- During the ceremony, the couple sit on an elevated platform to symbolise they are elevated to God's status.
- The bride changes during the wedding ceremony into a red outfit.



Week 5

Rites of passage

Death.

- Hindus believe in **reincarnation**- the belief that the soul enters a new body after death.
- A Hindu's body is cremated so the soul can be released, and their ashes are scattered in a river, usually the Ganges.
- A funeral for a Hindu takes place as soon as possible.
- The body will be washed by family.
- The body is displayed in an open casket
- Mantras (prayers) are said over the body.

Rites of passage can vary depending on different denominations.



Key words:

Brahman- God in Hinduism

Atman- Soul

Pilgrimage- A special religious journey.

Pilgrims- A person who journeys to a sacred place for religious reasons.

Horoscope- a forecast of someone's future based on the positions of the stars and planets at the time of that person's birth.

Denomination- Different groups within a religion.

Rites of passage- a ceremony or event marking an important stage in someone's life.

Reincarnation- rebirth of a soul in another body.

Mantras- Hindu prayers

Week 1

Questions	Answers
How many purposes (goals) are there in life in Hinduism? What are they called?	There are four purposes (goals) in life.
Which Purushartha is leading a good life through duty and actions?	Dharma
Which Purushartha is love, desire and pleasure?	Kama
Which Purushartha is wealth and prosperity?	Artha
Which Purushartha is freedom from Samsara?	Moksha

Week 2

Questions	Answers
How many Ashramas are there?	Four.
What is the Brahmacharya	They learn about their duties to God, their family and society. They are expected to respect their parents and elders in society
What is the Grihastha stage?	Earning a living, marriage and raising a family. They take on responsibilities for others, e.g. looking after elderly family.
What is the Vanaprastha stage?	Concentrating on spiritual matters e.g. their death and rebirth. Some Hindus at this stage withdraw from society whereas others become more involved in worship.
What is the Sanyaas stage?	They leave behind worldly possessions and travel to preach. They spend long periods fasting and meditating to prepare for death and hopefully Moksha.

Week 3

Questions	Answers
How many times is Kumbh Mela celebrated?	Every three years then a large festival every 12 years.
What is the story behind Kumbh Mela?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demons fought a great war. They fought over a special pot (the Kumbh) which contained amazing liquid. The liquid could give immortality (live forever). During the battle, the liquid fell to earth and landed in four rivers-Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari and Shipra. During Kumbh Mela, this liquid is thought to take on powers once more.
How is Kumbh Mela celebrated?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilgrims bathe in the sacred river at dawn as they believe that bathing in the Ganges free them from sin to help them be liberated from the cycle of birth and death. Over 55 days pilgrims share Hindu stories, sing, recite prayers and dance, eat food. Place marigolds into the river as offerings

Week 4

Questions	Answers
When does the Chhathi happen?	6 days after the baby is born.
How is this ceremony celebrated?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Hindu priest reads the astrological signs, and a letter is given to the parents which they use to decide the child's name. The ceremony starts by a candle being lit. Aum is written on the baby's tongue in honey to ensure only sweet words are spoken. Red powder is put on the forehead of the baby. God's name written at the top of a page and left for God to write the child's future.
How do Hindus check for compatibility?	Hindus consult horoscopes to check for compatibility.
Why does the bride and groom sit on an elevated platform?	During the ceremony, the couple sit on an elevated platform to symbolise they are elevated to God's status.

Year 8: Hinduism

Week 5

Questions	Answers
What is reincarnation?	Reincarnation is the belief that the soul enters a new body after death.
Why do Hindus believe in cremation?	A Hindu's body is cremated so the soul can be released, and their ashes are scattered in a river, usually the Ganges.
How is a Hindu's body prepared after death?	The body is washed by family members.
When do Hindu funerals take place?	A Hindu funeral needs to take place as soon as possible.

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