

NAME _____

SCHOOL _____

DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION

This question is based on the accompanying documents. The question is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Some of these documents have been edited for the purposes of this question. As you analyze the documents, take into account the source of each document and any point of view that may be presented in the document. Keep in mind that the language used in a document may reflect the historical context of the time in which it was written.

Historical Context:

Throughout history, humans have asked questions about their origins, the requirements to live a good life, and life after death. The answers that the world's major monotheistic belief systems- Judaism, Christianity, and Islam give their followers are sometimes similar, but each faith has beliefs and practices that make them unique.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, write an essay in which you

Choose **two** major beliefs systems and

- *describe* the beliefs and/or practices of **each** belief system
- *compare and contrast* the beliefs and/or practices of the two belief systems

In developing your answers, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

(a) describe means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”

(b) compare and contrast means “to express similarities and differences”

Part A
Short-Answer Questions

Directions: Analyze the documents and answer the short-answer questions that follow each document in the space provided.

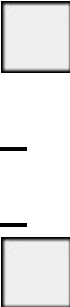
Document 1

The origin story that appears in the Book of Genesis is present, in varying forms, in the Torah, The Holy Bible, and the Qu’ran. Though the words are different in the holy books, the origin story is the same.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
And God said, Let there be light: and there was light[....]
And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so[....]
And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind[....]
And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament [sky] of heaven[....]
And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.
So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.
And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth[....]

Source: Genesis 1:1- 31, King James Version of the Holy Bible. Retrieved July 28, 2014, from <http://www.sacred-texts.com/bib/kjv/gen001.htm>

1. Based on this excerpt from the Book of Genesis, identify **two** beliefs that Jewish people, Christians, and Muslims share.



Document 2

The Ten Commandments, from the Book of Exodus, are in the Torah and the Holy Bible. They are also mentioned in the Qu'ran.

The Ten Commandments

And God spake all these words, saying,

- (1) I am the LORD thy God[...]
- (2) Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven [engraved] image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them[...]
- (3) Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain[...]
- (4) Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy[....] in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates[....]
- (5) Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
- (6) Thou shalt not kill.
- (7) Thou shalt not commit adultery [cheat on one's husband or wife].
- (8) Thou shalt not steal.
- (9) Thou shalt not bear false witness [lie] against thy neighbour.
- (10) Thou shalt not covet [want] thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's[....]

Source: Exodus 20: 1-21, King James Version of the Holy Bible. Retrieved July 29, 2014, from <http://www.sacred-texts.com/bib/kjv/exo020.htm>

2. Based on this excerpt from the Ten Commandments, identify **two** beliefs that Jewish people, Christians, and Muslims share about the requirements to live a good life.

Document 3

This excerpt comes from a section of the Book of Matthew from the New Testament in the Holy Bible known as “The Sermon on the Mount” in which Jesus of Nazareth addresses his followers.

And seeing the multitudes, he [Jesus of Nazareth] went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:[A]nd taught them, saying,[...]

Think not that I am come to destroy the law [The Ten Commandments], or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil...

Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:
But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment[...]

Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth:
But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite [strike] thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you [...]
Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

Source: Matthew 5: 17-48, King James Version of the Holy Bible. Retrieved July 29, 2014, from <http://www.sacred-texts.com/bib/kjv/mat005.htm>.

3. Identify **two** ways that Jesus of Nazareth’s beliefs were different than the Ten Commandments.

Document 4

The Nicene Creed was written in 325 CE by leaders in the Christian Church. This statement of beliefs is still used today in most Roman Catholic Churches.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten [produced] of the
Father before all worlds;
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one
substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.
Who, for us men for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate
[made human] by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;
and was crucified[...]
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures;
and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick [living] and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end...

Source: Nicene Creed. (325 CE). Retrieved July 29, 2014, from <http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/nicene.htm>

4. According to the Nicene Creed, identify **two** beliefs that Christians have about Jesus.

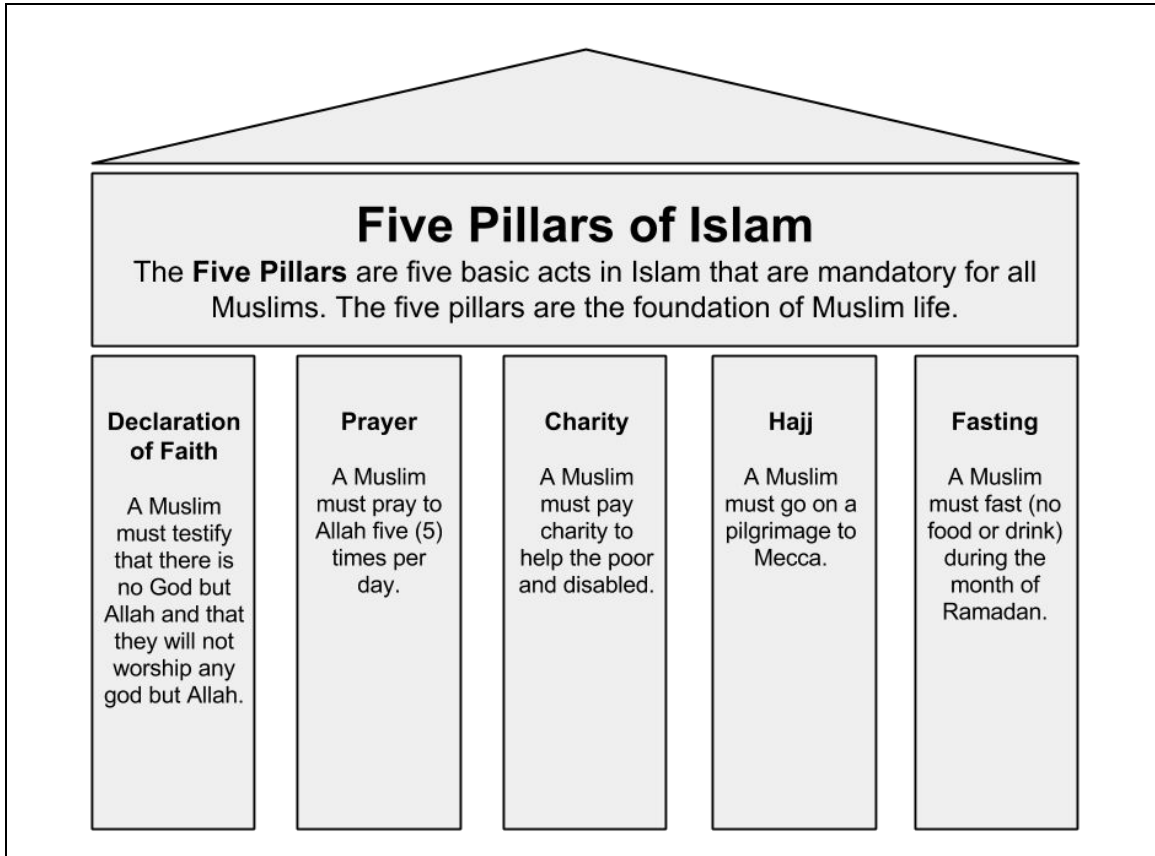
Document 5

1. *In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful [forgiving].*
2. Praise be to Allah,
The Cherisher and Sustainer [one who keeps something/someone alive] of the
Worlds;
3. Most Gracious, Most Merciful;
4. Master of the Day of Judgement.
5. Thee do we worship,
And Thine aid we seek.
6. Show us the straight way,
7. The way of those on whom
Thou hast bestowed [given] Thy Grace,
Those whose (portion)
Is not wrath [extreme anger],
And who go not astray [morally off course].

Source: ‘Abdullah Yusuf ‘Ali (Ed.). (1999). *The Meaning of The Holy Qur’an*. Beltsville, MD. Amana Publications.
Retrieved from the August 2005, NYS Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

5. Based on this excerpt from The Holy Qur’an, identify **two** Muslim beliefs about Allah.

Document 6



Source: Adapted from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Five_pillars_of_Islam.svg

6. Based on this chart of the Five Pillars of Islam, identify **two** religious beliefs and/or practices of Muslims.

Document 7

al-Baqara 2:177 (Asad) True piety [religiousness] does not consist in turning your faces towards the east or the west- but truly pious [religious] is he who believes in God, and the Last Day; and the angels, and revelation, and the prophets; and spends his substance [wealth] - however much he himself may cherish - it - upon his near of kin, and the orphans, and the needy, and the wayfarer, and the beggars, and for the freeing of human beings from bondage; and is constant in prayer, and renders the purifying dues; and [truly pious are] they who keep their promises whenever they promise, and are patient in misfortune and hardship and in time of peril: it is they that have proved themselves true, and it is they, they who are conscious of God.

Source: *The Holy Qur'an*, al-Baqara 2:177:2:1. Retrieved from: <http://www.islamcity.com>

7. According to this excerpt from the Holy Qur'an, identify **two** practices that Muslims should follow to live a good life.

Document 8

The following is an excerpt from The Immortality Project website at the University of California, Riverside.

On what timeline do afterlife events occur? What punishment or reward awaits one in the afterlife?

Christianity: Many [Christians] believe that the resurrection will not take place until the end of the world, after the return of Christ to earth and the coming of the kingdom of heaven and the end of earth as we know it.[...]The most generally accepted view is that the resurrected person or the soul is destined for Heaven, a place of spiritual peace and union with God, or Hell, a place of everlasting torment[....]

Islam: [...]What seems nearly universally accepted among Muslims is that the world will end and at that time there will be a Day of Judgment in which the righteous will be admitted to heaven and the wicked damned for all eternity [...] destined for Hell, a place of boiling fire and torment.

Judaism: As is the case with Muslims most Jews (viz. Orthodox Jews) who believe in an afterlife believe that the dead will be raised on a Day of Judgment at the end of time [...]However, there were/are certain Jewish schools of thought which say that the righteous will go to Heaven and the damned sentenced to eternal isolation from God's love. In Judaism there is relatively little historical mention of the more traditional notion of eternal torment by fire for the damned, unlike with the Christian and Islamic traditions.

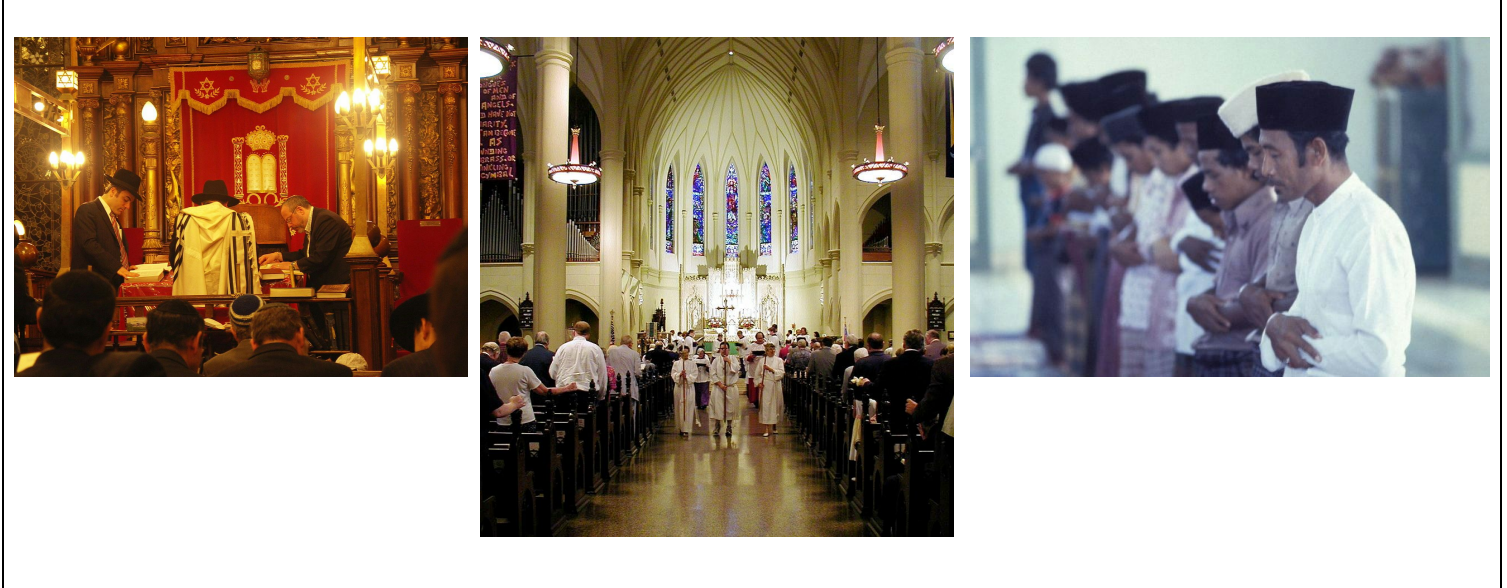
Source: Gray, J.D. (2014). Three Questions for Comparing and Contrasting the Afterlife Beliefs of Six Prominent World Religions.Retrieved from <http://www.sptimmortalityproject.com/background/three-questions-for-comparing-and-contrasting-the-afterlife-beliefs-of-six-prominent-world-religions/>

8. Based on this excerpt, identify **one** belief about the afterlife that the major monotheistic religions have in common.



Document 9

In the far left image, Jewish men meet in a synagogue on a Saturday to celebrate the sabbath together and read from the Torah. Christians Congregate in a church to read from the Holy Bible and to celebrate the sabbath at a Sunday mass in the center picture. To the far right, a group of Muslim men meet at a mosque for one of the day's five prayer times.



Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synagogue#mediaviewer/File:BialyBimah.JPG>,
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Procession_at_St._Marys_Episcopal_Cathedral.jpg
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:COLLECTIE_TROPENMUSEUM_Moslimmannen_tijdens_het_gebed_op_vrijdag_in_de_moskee_Tulehu_TMnr_20017952.jpg

9. Based on the description and images above, what belief(s) and/or practice(s) are similar among Jewish people, Christians, and Muslims?



Part B Essay

Directions: Write a well-organized essay that includes an introduction, several paragraphs, and a conclusion. Use evidence from at least four documents in your essay. Support your response with relevant facts, examples, and details. Include additional outside information.

Historical Context:

Throughout history, humans have asked questions about their origins, the requirements to live a good life, and life after death. The answers that the world's major monotheistic belief systems, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, give their followers are sometimes similar, but each faith has beliefs and practices that make them unique.

Task: Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of global history, write an essay in which you

Choose **two** major beliefs systems and

- describe the beliefs and/or practices of **each** belief system
- compare and contrast the beliefs and/or practices of the two belief systems

In developing your answers, be sure to keep these general definitions in mind:

(a) **describe** means “to illustrate something in words or tell about it”

(b) **compare and contrast** means “to express similarities and differences”

Guidelines:

In your essay, be sure to

- Introduce your topic, creating an argument in response to the task
- Develop your argument with textual evidence while attending to the strengths and limitations of that evidence:
 - Accurately identify all primary and secondary sources using evidence, including the date and source of the information.
 - Make connections between the documents by comparing information and noting discrepancies in the documents.
 - Use evidence from the documents to support both claim(s) and counterclaim(s).
- Provide an accurate summary of relevant historical information, including outside information on the topic not found in the documents when possible
- Provide a concluding statement supporting your argument.
- Maintain a formal style and objective tone in your writing.

