

Renaissance High School

Summer Assignment

11th grade World History: World Religions

In order to prepare for your junior year, you must have a good understanding of the many religions that are practiced across the globe. Below are a number of questions that you should be able to answer before your World History class begins. Be sure to include a thorough answer for each of the following questions. Your assignment must include a works cited page and proper citations throughout. Be sure to choose valid sources for your information. If you are unsure of your sources validity, be sure to check your information. If you need a refresher on citations [click here](#)

(<https://owl.english.purdue.edu//owl//resource//747//01//>)

All work must be saved: Microsoft word or PDF format. This assignment will be submitted during the first week of school via **turnitin.com**. All work must be you own words excluding citations. Please be mindful of plagiarized work.

1.) The list below is of the 5 most practiced religions in the world. For each religion determine where the majority of its followers are located, and the piece of text they worship with. Also describe how this religion began (including when and where it began, who started it, why followers joined).

- Hinduism
- Christianity
- Judaism
- Buddhism
- Islam

2.) Click [here](#) (<http://www.religionfacts.com/compare/religions>) look at

this chart and choose five additional religions. Create a chart comparing these religions on a basis of location, number of members, beliefs, and how they practice their religion.

3.) What similarities do you find across the 10 religions that you have now researched?

4.) What are some of the most common differences?

5.) What is the difference between Pantheism, Monotheism, and Polytheism?

7.) How did religion contribute to the exploration of the Western Hemisphere? The conquest of the continent of Africa? The establishment of the Justice system in the United States?

6.) Use the information that you have researched to write a paper (instructions below).

Would you consider religion a unifying or dividing force?

Your paper should include the following things:

A clear introduction including a strong thesis statement.

A strong argument for either a unifying or dividing force.

Support for your argument from 3 secondary sources and 1 primary source.

1500 words, single spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman