Faith Across Regions

Read geographic patterns through places and cultural features

WG.4.6 "Map the distribution patterns and concentration areas of the world's major religions and identify cultural features and population centers associated with each."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each religion's concentration areas, circle one population center for each religion, and number one associated cultural feature for each religion from 1 to 5 in the order the religions appear.

A World of Overlapping Patterns

1. Imagine tracing religious landscapes across a blank world map. Christianity has large populations across Europe, the Americas, sub-Saharan Africa, and the Philippines. In many places, churches are community landmarks, and São Paulo, Brazil, is a major city with a substantial Christian population. Islam is concentrated across North Africa, the Middle East, and parts of South and Southeast Asia. Mosques and the call to prayer shape public life in many Muslim communities. Jakarta, Indonesia, is a major city in the world's most populous Muslim-majority country. These patterns show broad concentrations, not borders that separate believers neatly.

2. South Asia is the main concentration of Hinduism, especially India and Nepal. Temples and celebrations such as Diwali are visible cultural features, and Delhi is a major population center with many Hindus. Buddhism has important concentrations in mainland Southeast Asia and East Asia, though beliefs and practices vary widely within those regions. Monasteries and images of the Buddha mark many Buddhist communities; Bangkok, Thailand, is a large city in a Buddhist-majority country. Judaism has its largest population concentrations in Israel and the United States. Synagogues and observance of the Sabbath are cultural features; Jerusalem and New York City are population centers with substantial Jewish communities.

3. A map of these patterns needs more than one dot per religion. Cities mark population centers, while shaded regions show wider concentrations; neither means everyone there shares one faith. For example, Indonesia and India both lie in Asia, yet Islam is the majority religion in Indonesia and Hinduism is the majority religion in India. Religious populations also extend beyond their main concentration areas through migration. A city such as London includes Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, and Jewish communities. When describing a pattern, name the region, identify a relevant city, and connect a cultural feature to people who practice that religion.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Which areas on both sides of the Atlantic have large Christian populations? Name one city and one cultural feature associated with Christianity in the passage.

2. How do the religious concentration patterns of India and Indonesia differ? Name a population center in each country.

3. Compare the concentration areas of Buddhism and Judaism. Give one population center and one cultural feature associated with each.

4. Why would a map that gives London just one religious label misrepresent its population? Use the passage to support your answer.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a 75 to 95 word audio-guide script that traces a route from South Asia through Southeast Asia to the Americas. Describe three religions along the route, giving a population center and cultural feature for each, and explain why a city cannot represent everyone's beliefs across its region.

Faith Across Regions

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each religion's concentration areas, circle one population center for each religion, and number one associated cultural feature for each religion from 1 to 5 in the order the religions appear. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Which areas on both sides of the Atlantic have large Christian populations? Name one city and one cultural feature associated with Christianity in the passage.	**The Americas and Europe or sub-Saharan Africa have large Christian populations. São Paulo is a population center, and churches are a cultural feature.**
2	How do the religious concentration patterns of India and Indonesia differ? Name a population center in each country.	**Hinduism is concentrated in India, while Indonesia has a Muslim majority. Delhi is a population center in India, and Jakarta is one in Indonesia.**
3	Compare the concentration areas of Buddhism and Judaism. Give one population center and one cultural feature associated with each.	**Buddhism has important concentrations in mainland Southeast Asia and East Asia; Bangkok is a population center, and monasteries are a cultural feature. Judaism has its largest concentrations in Israel and the United States; Jerusalem is a population center, and synagogues are a cultural feature.**
4	Why would a map that gives London just one religious label misrepresent its population? Use the passage to support your answer.	**London includes Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, and Jewish communities. One label would hide that mix and suggest that everyone in the city shares one faith.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Begin in South Asia, where Hinduism is concentrated in India and Nepal. Delhi is a major city with many Hindus, and temples are a visible feature. Travel southeast to Indonesia, where Islam is the majority religion. Jakarta is a major population center, and mosques serve many communities. Cross the Pacific and continue to South America, where Christianity has a large population. In São Paulo, churches may be community landmarks. These cities help locate patterns, but no city represents every person's beliefs across its region.

Accept other accurate cities and cultural features named in the passage. In the audio guide, check the route order, all three city-feature connections, the 75 to 95 word limit, and the explanation that population centers are not single-faith areas.