

Shared Values, Shared Lives

Read how belief systems guide community choices.

6.4b "Belief systems and religions are based on sets of mutually held values."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB In each paragraph, underline a value or guiding principle and circle an action that puts it into practice. Draw a line connecting each value to its example.

Values That Guide Communities

- ① Judaism developed among the ancient Israelites in Southwest Asia. Jewish religious teachings affirm belief in one God, but a belief is not the same as a value. Values are ideas about how people should live. Jewish teachings call people to seek justice and follow God's laws. For example, a community member who uses honest weights in a market and returns a lost item acts on these values. The Torah, a central Jewish sacred text, includes laws and teachings that help communities share these guiding values.
- ② Buddhism began in ancient India with the teachings of Siddhartha Gautama, the Buddha, in the first millennium B.C.E. Buddhists hold teachings about suffering and its causes. They also value compassion and mindful self-control. These values can guide choices: a person may pause before speaking angrily, then use kind words to settle an argument. Meditation is a practice that can help people develop attention and self-control. Buddhist teachings were later carried to other parts of Asia, where communities formed around these shared values.
- ③ Confucianism grew in ancient China from the teachings of Kong Fuzi, also called Confucius, in the late 500s B.C.E. It is a belief system focused on relationships and good conduct. Confucian values include respect for family, responsibility, and learning. In a household, an older child who patiently helps a younger sibling study shows responsibility and care within the family. Reading and discussing classic teachings were practices that helped people consider how to live by these values. Different systems have different values, yet each can unite a community around shared guidance.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

- 1** In paragraph 1, which idea is a belief rather than a value? Name two Jewish values or guiding principles from the paragraph.

- 2** What action in the Buddhism paragraph shows mindful self-control? What action shows compassion?

- 3** How can texts or practices help people live by shared values? Use two examples from the passage.

- 4** How does the older child in paragraph 3 show a Confucian value? Name the value and the action.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Choose Buddhism or Confucianism. Write exactly three sentences about a group facing a realistic problem and using two values named in the passage. Name both values and explain how an action shows each one.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

In each paragraph, underline a value or guiding principle and circle an action that puts it into practice. Draw a line connecting each value to its example. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	In paragraph 1, which idea is a belief rather than a value? Name two Jewish values or guiding principles from the paragraph.	The belief is in one God. The values or guiding principles are seeking justice and following God's laws.
2	What action in the Buddhism paragraph shows mindful self-control? What action shows compassion?	Pausing before speaking angrily shows mindful self-control. Using kind words to settle an argument shows compassion.
3	How can texts or practices help people live by shared values? Use two examples from the passage.	The Torah includes laws and teachings that help communities share values. Meditation can develop attention and self-control, and reading classic teachings can help people consider how to live by values.
4	How does the older child in paragraph 3 show a Confucian value? Name the value and the action.	The child shows responsibility by patiently helping a younger sibling study. The action also shows care within the family.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

A lunch group uses the Buddhist values of compassion and mindful self-control. When a disagreement starts, each student pauses instead of shouting, showing self-control. They listen and use kind words so no one is left out, showing compassion.

Accept accurate value-action explanations supported by the passage. Do not accept belief in one God as a Jewish value, because the passage identifies it as a belief; accept justice and following God's laws as guiding principles.