

THEME: BELIEFS

VOCABULARY

WORDS TO LEARN

- 1. AGNOSTICISM** – not inclined towards a religious belief
Synonym – sceptic, doubter
Antonym- believer
- 2. ANIMISM** – a belief that every natural thing has a soul
Synonym – spiritualism, totemism
Antonym- scientism
- 3. ATHEISM** – the belief that there is no god
Synonym – non-belief; impiety
Antonym- belief; faith
- 4. DUALISM** – the quality of being dual
Synonym – dichotomy; polarity
Antonym- nondualism, oneness
- 5. GENTILE** – not belonging to one's religious community
Synonym – heathen, idolator
Antonym- Israelite, Judaist
- 6. MONOTHEISM** – belief that there is one God
Synonym – faith, theism
Antonym- polytheism
- 7. ORACLE** – a person with great wisdom
Synonym – foreteller, diviner
Antonym- amateur, dilettante
- 8. POLYTHEISM** – worship of more than one God
Synonym – religion, deism
Antonym- monotheism
- 9. PROSELYTE** – a new convert
Synonym – convert; neophyte
Antonym- disbeliever, doubter
- 10. SYNCRETISM** – combining different religions
Synonym – union; unification
Antonym- separation, detribalisation

EXERCISES

EXERCISE 1

FIND THE SYNONYMS FOR THE MAIN WORD

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|---------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1. SYNCRETISM | a) believer | b) impiety | c) unification | d) deism |
| 2. MONOTHEISM | a) atheism | b) non-belief | c) blasphemy | d) theism |
| 3. DUALISM | a) single | b) monism | c) dichotomy | d) idea |
| 4. GENTILE | a) religion | b) scientism | c) heathen | d) faith |
| 5. ORACLE | a) diviner | b) amateur | c) sceptic | d) fable |

EXERCISE 2

FIND THE ANTONYMS FOR THE MAIN WORD

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|----------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. POLYTHEISM | a) monotheism | b) multiple | c) deism | d) faith |
| 2. PROSELYTE | a) neophyte | b) doubter | c) convert | d) union |
| 3. AGNOSTICISM | a) diviner | b) impiety | c) believer | d) journal |
| 4. ANIMISM | a) union | b) faith | c) scientism | d) convert |
| 5. ATHEISM | a) doubt | b) sceptic | c) union | d) believer |

EXERCISE 3

FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE APROPRIATE WORDS FROM THE VOCABULARY LIST

- _____ is the belief in many gods, while _____ believes in the existence of only one God.
- The Christian _____ converted after twenty years, after following the path of _____ and non-belief.
- _____ the belief that everything has a soul is often combined with other religions through _____.
- He was raised as a Christian, but identified himself as a _____, later on he followed the path of _____.
- When the _____ touched his hand, she said that Jim needs to perfect his _____ about the world and people.