

World religions: respectful source inquiry

Supported preparation only; actual school choices and assessed work remain separate

Belief, practice, experience

Three different things, and they vary within one tradition.

- Links between them need evidence.
- Study interprets; it does not require belief.

Belief, practice and respectful comparison: source representation

Original source / task evidence

Original accounts: one participant values a communal celebration; another values quiet reflection within the same unnamed tradition. Compare without ranking them.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Belief, practice and experience

Two participants, one tradition: compare emphases without ranking them.

Worked: celebration and reflection

- 1 **Accounts** a communal celebration; quiet reflection
- 2 **Read as** different emphases, not rival traditions
- 3 **Check** who speaks, on what occasion, why
- 4 **Limit** no doctrine from one experience

Decision

Different emphases; neither is more authentic.

Your turn: what a label tells you

Why does naming a tradition not tell you each **adherent**'s practice?

- Pause and answer.
- Think of one adherent, not the whole.

Review: variation inside a tradition

A label gives neither doctrine nor evidence of lived practice.

- Name the actual source and setting.
- Compare reliable accounts.

Text, practice, interpretation

A source's authority depends on tradition, community, genre and context.

- Authority depends on genre and context.
- Keep the differences.

Sources, meaning and religious practice: source representation

Original source / task evidence

Task: a community leaflet describes an ideal practice; a voluntary participant describes a different everyday experience. Are they necessarily contradictory?

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Source status and context

An ideal account and an everyday account can both be true.

Worked: the leaflet and the participant

- 1 **Leaflet** an ideal, prescriptive account
- 2 **Participant** everyday practice, one person's scope
- 3 **Examine** purpose, audience, setting
- 4 **Conclude** not necessarily contradictory

Decision

Ideal and observed practice can coexist.

Your turn: one local community

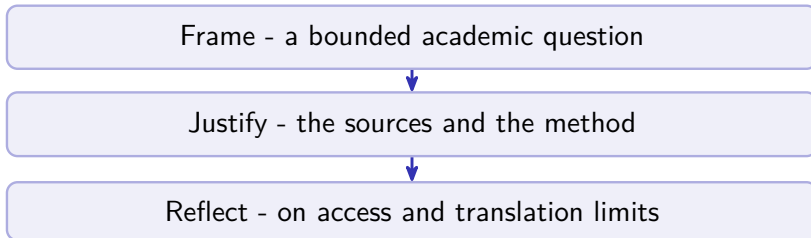
What would support a claim about one local community, not all adherents?

- Pause and answer.
- Keep the claim local.

Review: evidence for a local claim

You need	Because
community-specific records	date, purpose, status
varied approved accounts	more than one voice
ideal vs observed	kept apart

Preparing a bounded inquiry



A bounded religious-studies inquiry: source representation

Original source / task evidence

Task: a proposed interview would reveal classmates' religious identity publicly.
Redesign the preparation.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Investigative preparation

Protect participants first: consent, privacy and the right to decline.

Worked: redesign the interview

- 1 **Approval** school approval and informed consent
- 2 **Privacy** anonymised voluntary accounts; a narrow question
- 3 **Never** invent interviews or read refusal as belief

Decision

Protect participants before collecting anything.

Your turn: one word, two meanings

A key translated word could mean duty or voluntary gift. What do you do?

- Pause and answer.
- Do not pick the convenient one.

Review: handling an ambiguous word

Record - the original wording and translation source



Compare - reliable contextual interpretations



Qualify - narrow the claim if still unresolved

Check yourself

A visitor infers a universal doctrine from one local practice. What is missing?

- Insider sources, not one practice.
- Local is not universal.