HINDU PARENTS NETWORK

Diwali Knowledge Check

High School | 12 questions | Based on the HPN Diwali presentation

Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Circle the best answer for each question. All answers are based on the presentation.

1. What does Deepavali mean?

A. A row of lamps
B. A new lunar month
C. A sacred river
D. A festival of spring

2. What does Rama's homecoming symbolize in the presentation?

A. The founding of a kingdom in Europe
B. Restoration of Dharma
C. A change in the Gregorian calendar
D. The origin of Kali Puja

3. Which quality is placed under "Light" in the slide on symbolism?

A. Cruelty
B. Ignorance
C. Integrity
D. Dishonesty

4. Which set of elements describes the festival's multiple layers?

A. Trade, monarchy, astronomy
B. War, politics, commerce
C. Travel, sport, language
D. Ritual, community, reflection

5. Why can Diwali fall on different Gregorian calendar dates?

A. It follows a lunisolar calendar
B. It always occurs on December 25
C. The date is chosen by city governments
D. It must be on the first Sunday of November

6. What is the central association of Dhanteras in the high-school deck?

A. Historical texts by Al-Biruni
B. Dhanvantari, health, and prosperity
C. Sibling gifts only
D. Rama's coronation only

7. What does Naraka Chaturdashi commemorate in this deck?

A. The observance of Bandi Chhor Divas
B. Mahavira's liberation
C. Krishna and Satyabhama's victory over Narakasura
D. The return of Rama after exile

8. Which practice is associated with Lakshmi Puja?

A. Offering Annakut only
B. Celebrating sibling bonds only
C. Reading a historical account by Harsha
D. Offering prayers for abundance and auspiciousness

9. What does Govardhan Puja particularly emphasize in the presentation?

A. Gratitude toward nature and sustaining resources
B. Rejection of all community rituals
C. The Gregorian New Year
D. Historical writing in the 11th century

10. How does the high-school deck describe the Jain association with Diwali?

A. The 52 princes' liberation
B. Mahavira's liberation (moksha)
C. The return of Rama exclusively
D. Satyabhama's victory

11. Which historical writer is mentioned as recording the Kartika new-moon observance?

A. Rajasekhara
B. Lakshmana
C. Al-Biruni
D. Harsha

12. Which question fits the deck's approach to studying a living tradition?

A. Why does every Hindu family celebrate identically?
B. Why should all festivals have one meaning?
C. Which single custom must everyone follow?
D. How do communities preserve and adapt Diwali practices?

Answer Key & Explanations

For teacher or presenter use. Slide references refer to the supplied finalized HPN presentation.

1. A — A row of lamps. Slide 2 defines Deepavali as a row of lamps. (Slide 2)

2. B — Restoration of Dharma. Slide 3 links the return to the restoration of Dharma. (Slide 3)

3. C — Integrity. Light is associated with knowledge, integrity, and compassion. (Slide 4)

4. D — Ritual, community, reflection. Slide 5 groups Diwali into ritual, community, and reflection. (Slide 5)

5. A — It follows a lunisolar calendar. The Hindu lunisolar calendar combines lunar months with adjustments to the solar year. (Slide 7)

6. B — Dhanvantari, health, and prosperity. Slide 9 associates Dhanteras with Dhanvantari and well-being. (Slide 9)

7. C — Krishna and Satyabhama's victory over Narakasura. Slide 10 tells of victory over Narakasura and the freeing of captives. (Slide 10)

8. D — Offering prayers for abundance and auspiciousness. Families light diyas and pray to Devi Lakshmi for well-being and abundance. (Slide 11)

9. A — Gratitude toward nature and sustaining resources. Slide 12 emphasizes gratitude for land, animals, food, and resources. (Slide 12)

10. B — Mahavira's liberation (moksha). Slide 14 identifies Mahavira's moksha in Jain traditions. (Slide 14)

11. C — Al-Biruni. Slide 15 identifies Al-Biruni with an 11th-century reference. (Slide 15)

12. D — How do communities preserve and adapt Diwali practices?. Slide 18 stresses sacred narratives, lived traditions, and cultural continuity. (Slide 18)