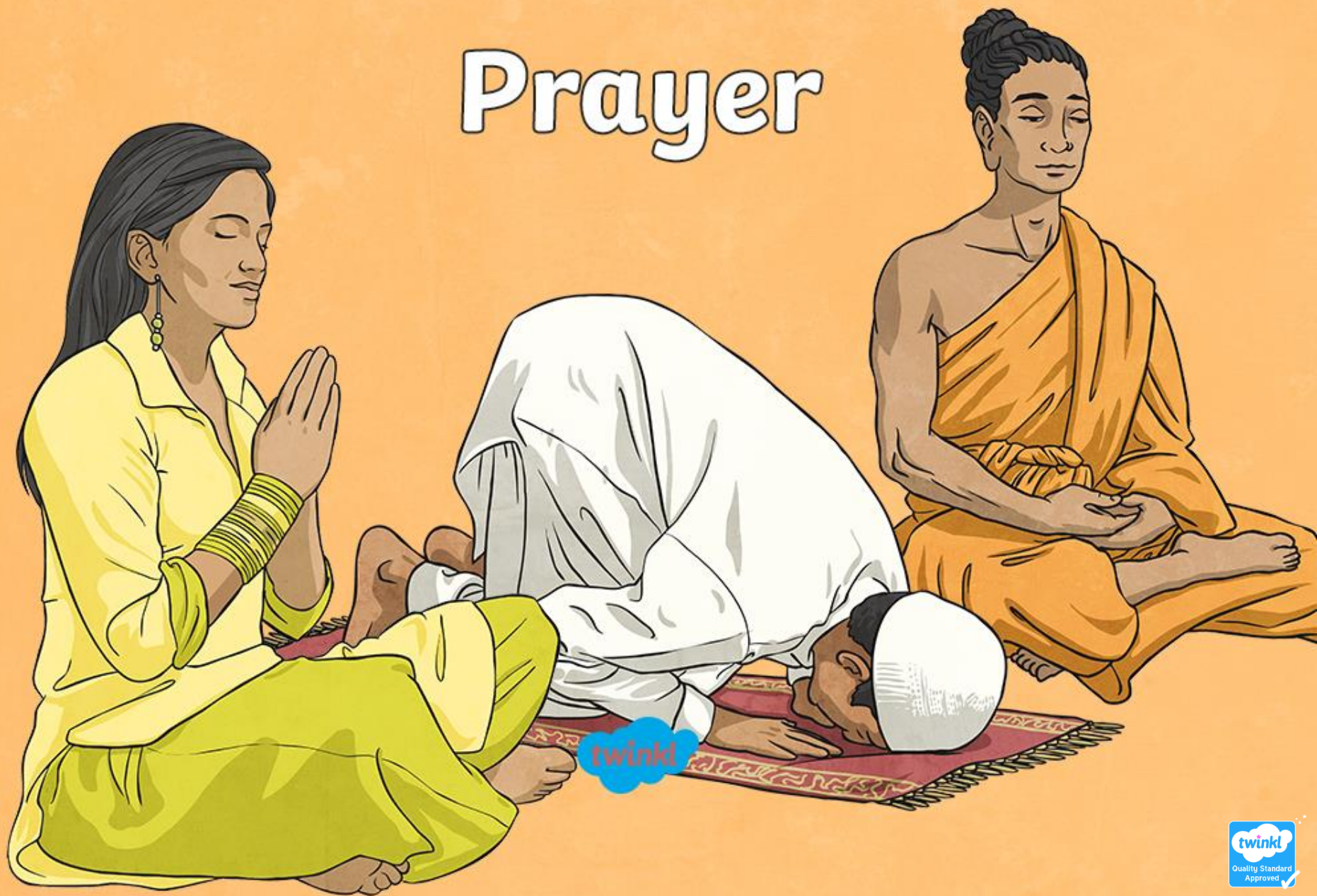


Prayer



What Is Prayer?



Prayer Is...



For religious believers, praying is a way of talking to God. People pray in different ways. They might...

...pray the same prayers at the same time every day.

...pray on their own, choosing their own words.

...pray to God or another special person or thing.

...pray silently.

...pray together, saying the same words at the same time.

...wash before they pray.

...pray before they eat.

...count their prayers.



The Lord's Prayer



What is this prayer about?

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.



Shema



Jewish believers have a special prayer, too. This prayer is prayed every day in the morning and the evening. It is even found in a special scroll, called a **mezuzah**, on the doorposts of their homes. The prayer is called the **Shema**.

The words of the Shema are taken from the Jewish holy book, the Torah. It is a long prayer but begins with the words, '**Hear, Israel, the Lord is our G-d, the Lord is One**'. This helps to remind Jews of their belief that their God is the only God.

Interesting Fact!

Did you notice that the letter 'o' is missing from the word 'God'? This is because Jews believe that God's name is holy and should not be written down where it could be changed or erased.

Shema



Whole Class

Hear, **Israel**, the Lord is our G-d, the Lord is One.
Blessed be the Name of His glorious kingdom for
ever and ever.

And you shall love the Lord your G-d with all
your heart and with all your soul and with all
your might.

And these words I command you today shall be
in your heart.

And you shall teach them diligently to your
children, and you shall speak of them when you
sit at home, and when you walk along the way,
and when you lie down and when you rise up.
And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand,
and they shall be for frontlets between your eyes.
And you shall write them on the doorposts of
your house and on your gates.

Is this prayer asking
for something or
making a promise?
Whu/whu not?

Jews pray this prayer
as a reminder of
God's power and their
promise to follow His
commandments.
to them, it might not
be as special to other
people who do not
share their beliefs.

What's in a Prayer?



Look at the examples of prayers from other religions.

A large illustration of two hands raised in a prayer gesture, palms facing up. The hands are rendered in a realistic style with shading. The background is a soft-focus landscape with rolling green hills, a bright sun setting or rising behind the hills, and a sky with warm orange and yellow hues.

What is the prayer about?

Why might religious believers pray this prayer?

How might someone feel as they pray this prayer? How might they feel after praying?

“Amen”



Christians end their prayers by saying “Amen”.

What do you think “Amen” means?

“Amen” means “I agree” or “so be it”.

Why might people say “I agree” or “so be it” at the end of a prayer?

