

Worksheet 1

The Pyramids

Religious Beliefs

The Ancient Egyptians believed that when people died, their spirits would live on in the afterlife. The dead were often buried with clothes, food, jewellery and little clay figures of servants who would supposedly serve them in the afterlife. Pyramids were built to house the bodies of Pharaohs and their Queens as they were thought to be Gods living on earth and thus required a steep ramp to climb up to heaven. But what do other people believe about the afterlife?

Task 1: Complete the empty boxes in the table below by locating information about 'afterlife' beliefs of the six different religions listed:

| Religion | What do followers of this religion believe about the afterlife? | According to this religion, do our lives on earth affect our afterlife experience? How? |
|--------------|---|---|
| Christianity | | |
| Buddhism | | |
| Judaism | | |
| Islam | | |
| Hinduism | | |
| Spiritualism | | |

Extension Activity:

- Write an informative text about how another group of people explain what they believe happens in the afterlife. Choose from:

Indigenous cultures e.g. Australian Aboriginals, Maoris, Native Americans, Tibetans

Ancient civilizations e.g. Greeks, Romans, Aztecs

Specific Religious Denominations e.g. Seventh Day Adventists, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses

Philosophical movements e.g. Existentialists