World History, AP
Dunwoody High School
Dr. J. Davis

Name: _____
Date: _____
Class: _____

Pillars of Faith: Religions of the World

Directions: Use the questions below to answer key topics concerning FIVE major world religions.

1. Discuss the origins of religious worship. Why did "worship" become more organized?

2. Why were gods so important in daily life for ancient peoples?

3. When did Hinduism start? Why is the term "Hinduism" difficult to apply to the Hindu belief?

4. Why does the Hindu faith seem as though it is not a cohesive religion? (Why can't it apply to mass amounts of people worshiping Hindu gods across various continents?)

5. How does time differ for Hindus from other major world religions?

6. Why did Gautama Buddha or "the Buddha" reject Hindu practices transition people into the later Buddhist faith?

7. Provide TWO similarities and TWO differences between Hinduism and Buddhism.

8. Where are some of the locations that Buddhism spread? How did it began to take over some of the geographic areas of the Hindu faith? (What allows Buddhism to continue to spread to other areas of the world like the West?)

9. Where can the Jewish, Christian and Islamic faiths be found? What similarities do these three religions share?

10. How did monotheism develop within Judaism?

11. Discuss the beginnings of the Judaic peoples? What historical document can this story be found? (Be specific!!!)

12. Why is the Torah (The Law) so important to the Judaic faith? What does the Torah instruct Jewish people to do?

13. What past historical events provide Jewish people with points of worship?

14. What has been the challenge for Jewish people to share geographical spaces with other peoples around the world?

15. How was Christianity birthed from the Jewish religion?

16. What are TWO similarities and TWO differences between the Judaic faith and Christianity?

17. What were some of the discussions (debates) about the early Christian bible? How does this effect Christianity today?

18. Why is Abraham important in linking the Jewish, Christian and Islamic faith?

19. How are the Islamic Five Pillars similar to other traditions/teachings within major religions?

20. What do the video commentators share about the transition of religions from its first generations to present day understandings?