

Covenant:

- The meaning and significance of the Abrahamic Covenant and the Covenant with Moses
- The Importance of the Ten Commandments

Key Concepts:

Covenant	A promise or agreement between God and the Jews	Shabbat	Day of rest for Jews from Friday to Saturday sunset
Shekhinah	Place where God's presence rests and can be felt	Kosher	Foods and practices allowed
Messiah	Anointed one who will bring about a new age for mankind	Synagogue	Place of worship and learning for Jews
Mitzvot	Duties or commandments	Torah	The five books of the Tenakh

Exam Practice:

- Explain why Moses is important in Judaism (8)
- Describe the Abrahamic Covenant (5)
- ‘Keeping the ten commandments is the most important part of Judaism.’ Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (15)

Key Sources of Authority:

- ‘You shall be circumcised through the flesh of your foreskin. This shall be the mark of the covenant between Me and you’ Genesis 17 (part of Abrahamic Covenant)
- ‘Proof that I have sent you will come when you get the people out of Egypt. All of you then will become God's servants on this mountain’ Exodus 3 (part of the covenant with Moses)
- The Ten Commandments given by God to Moses - Exodus 20

Key Beliefs:

Covenant	In the <b>Torah</b> , <b>God</b> made relationships through a <b>covenant</b> or agreement with individuals or groups. Each marks a special time in God's relationship with the Jewish people.
The Abrahamic Covenant	There are three main parts of the <b>covenant</b> between God and <b>Abraham</b> . Firstly, God called <b>Abraham</b> and his family to the new land of <b>Canaan</b> (often referred to as the <b>Promised Land</b> ). Secondly, God promised <b>Abraham</b> he would make a great nation from him. Thirdly, God promised to <b>bless Abraham</b> and his family. As part of the <b>covenant</b> God gave <b>Abraham</b> the rite of <b>circumcision (Brit Milah)</b> .
The Covenant with Moses	<b>Moses</b> is considered to be the greatest <b>prophet</b> . He is believed to have been the only person to have seen God face to face. Moses was chosen by <b>God</b> to lead <b>Israelites</b> out of slavery in <b>Egypt</b> . This journey is remembered and celebrated at the festivals of <b>Succoth</b> and <b>Pesach (Passover)</b> . God promised to be with him in his role. <b>Moses</b> was given the <b>Torah</b> by God on <b>Mount Sinai</b> . <b>Orthodox</b> Jews believe he was also given the <b>Torah</b> and also the <b>oral Torah</b> (commentary of the Torah). <b>Moses</b> formed a <b>covenant</b> with <b>God</b> that as <b>God's chosen people</b> the <b>Israelites</b> would keep <b>the commandments</b> .
The importance of the Ten Commandments	Many Jews believe these were <b>revealed</b> by God to <b>Moses</b> and they should be kept by every Jew and are central to Jewish beliefs and practices. The first four shows the relationship with God and humans and the final six show how people should relate to each other. The <b>Ten Commandments</b> forbid <b>idolatry</b> , blasphemy, adultery, stealing, murder, lying and envy and tell Jews to remember the importance of God, to remember and keep the <b>Sabbath</b> day and to honour parents. Each year there is a <b>Mitzvah Day</b> on which Jews aim to make a positive impact on their local community.

Key Connections:

- How do beliefs about Abraham relate to *Brit Milah*?
- How do beliefs about Moses relate to the festivals of *Pesach* and *Sukkot*?
- How do the Ten Commandments relate to *Pesach*; the *Shema*; nature of God; *Shabbat*; *Pikuach Nefesh*