

Challenge Area 7, Building Block A

NAME _____

DATE _____

Performance Task – Time and Place: Buddhism and Christianity Develop

Goal of task

Target Concept: I can explain how and why Christianity developed in the Mediterranean regions, circa 1st century CE. I can explain how it was affected by the historical context (e.g., conditions and circumstances) in that particular time and place. I can apply what I know about the context to a source.

For this task you will be evaluated on your ability to:

- Identify and explain the conditions and circumstances in which Christianity developed.
- Explain how those conditions and circumstances might relate to a source from that time. For this task you will be evaluated on your ability to complete the tasks below

Task summary

The three activities in this task will help you check your knowledge of what Christianity is, and think about the context in which it developed and apply that to a source.

Task 1: Belief System Identification

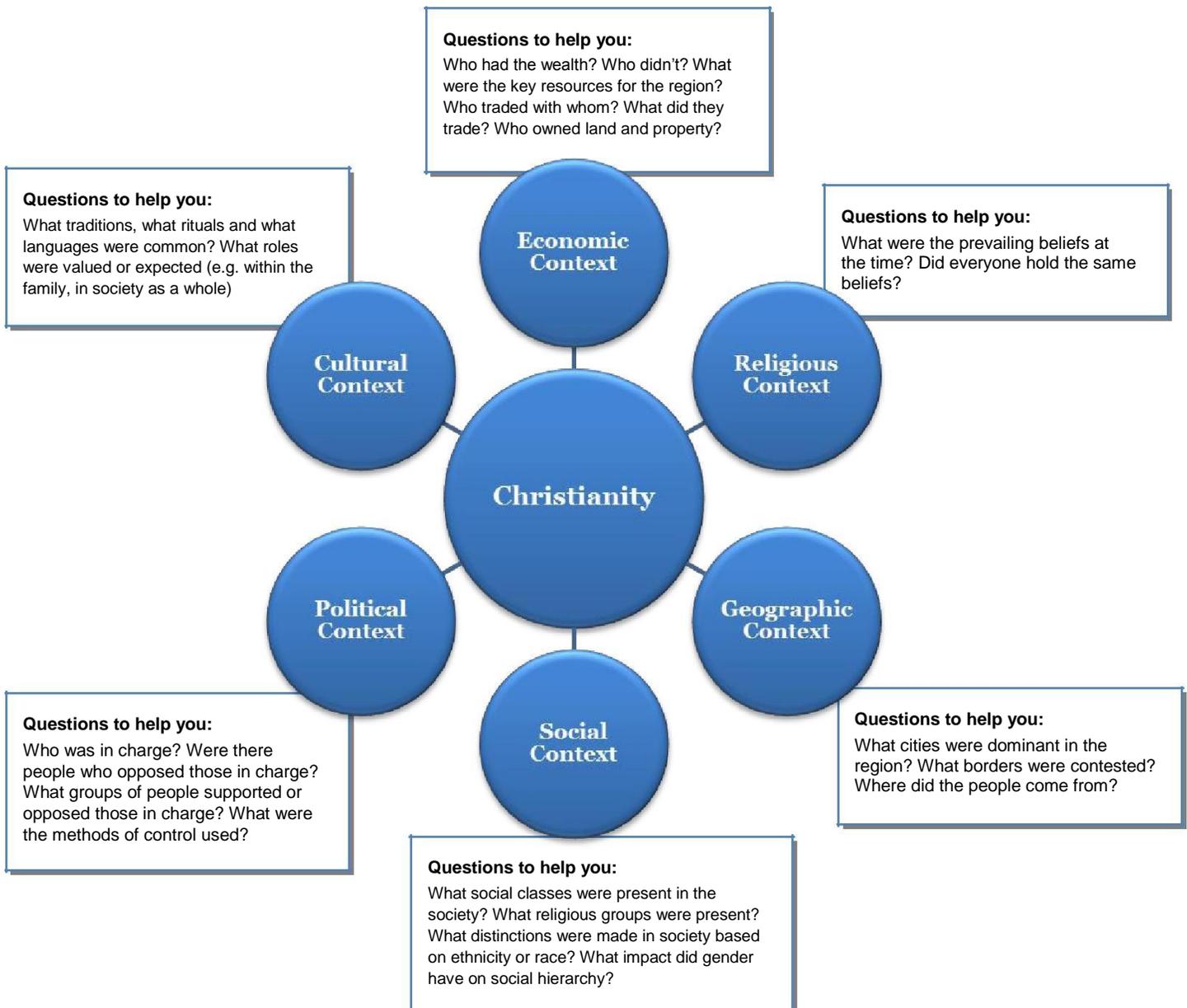
You have in front of you the names of three religions on separate pieces of paper. You will be presented with a series of major beliefs of one of these three religions. For each one, hold up the piece of paper with the name of the religions you think it is associated with.

Choose from: Christianity, Buddhism, and Judaism.

Task 2: Contextualization Graphic Organizer for Christianity

The mind-map below shows different things to think about when considering historical context. Working with your group, draw the mind-map below on a large sheet of paper (with Christianity in the middle and the 5 headings around it). Write a description of the circumstances or conditions that relate to the development of Christianity under each of the headings. For example, under Geographic Context, you might put “Mediterranean region” (although you may want to be more specific in terms of cities or other details)

There are some questions provided to help guide you but you should try to think of other questions in your group.



Check your understanding

Review your mind-map of Christianity.

- Have you described all the conditions and circumstances under each heading you can think of?
- Can you see links between the conditions and circumstances you described under different headings?

Task 3: Apply your understanding: Historical Context and Early Christianity (the writings of Paul)

Read the following two passages carefully.

Passage 1

Source: Paul of Tarsus, early Christian missionary, Roman citizen, Greek educated scholar and former Jewish lawyer, letter to people in Galatia, written ca. 50 CE

- 26 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith,
27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.
- 28 There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
- 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:26-29

Passage 2

Source: Paul of Tarsus, early Christian missionary, Roman citizen, Greek educated scholar and former Jewish lawyer, letter to people in Galatia, written ca. 50 CE

- 22 The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.
- 24 Those who belong to Christ, Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
- 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.
- 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

Galatians 5:22-26

