

Name _____

Sacred Structures

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary, but students should consider elements such as sacred symbols, artwork, lighting, and space layout that promote a sense of reverence and community within the religious building.
2. Both temples and mosques feature architectural elements that reflect their respective cultural and religious significance. For example, temples often have intricate statues and altars dedicated to deities, while mosques have minarets and mihrabs indicating the direction of Mecca for prayer.
3. Religious symbols and artwork play a crucial role in creating a sacred atmosphere within religious buildings. For example, Christian churches may feature stained glass windows depicting biblical stories, and Sikh gurdwaras may display the Khanda symbol. These symbols and artwork connect worshippers to their faith and heritage.
4. Religious buildings contribute to the cultural identity and spiritual life of communities by providing spaces for worship, reflection, and communal gatherings. For example, churches often host religious ceremonies and community events, while temples serve as cultural and spiritual centers for Hindu communities.

