**Judiasm Practice Essay Question**

***“Living as a Jew in the world means living according to an ancient system of beliefs and laws expounded in sacred writings.”***

**Discuss the truth of this statement using examples to illustrate your understanding of Judaism as a living religion.**

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| INTRODUCTION: Outline your position, do you think the statement is correctObservant Jews live their lives according to an ancient system of belief. All Jews, regardless of their expression, believe three key things about their God. Firstly they believe that God is one, which is in contrast to many other ancient religions. Secondly they believe that this one God entered into a covenant with humankind and thirdly they believe that this one God was responsible for giving the law to the Jewish people. These three principal beliefs are revealed in the sacred writings of Judaism, especially in the Torah. It is evident therefore that these beliefs found in the sacred writings and held by Jews since the foundation of the religion point to Judaism being a living religious tradition, as in each age new generations of believers engage with the beliefs of the tradition and attempt to live ethical lives according to these beliefs.  | Jew, belief, God, law, ethic, writing, Torah covenant principal ethical |
| **Body paragraph 1:** Expand on each of the three principal beliefs **and how each belief** is reflected in the sacred texts | God, eternal, one, omnipotent, omnipresent, incorporeal, monotheism, covenant, Exodus 20, psalm, Deuteronomy 6, Genesis, expressions law Sinai ShemaTenak Talmud |
| Body Paragraph 2++: Possible paragraph(s) explaining HOW these beliefs help Jews to LIVE their life.  | Ethical monotheism, Ethics Torah Nevi’im, Ketuvim prophetic tradition Tikkun Olam Gemmilut Chasidism, Tzedakah, Bal Tashkit Wisdom, proverbs Halachah, sources, expressions |
| Body Paragraph 4: Possible mention of rituals that reflect Jewish ethics or beliefs.  | Shabbat candles mother prayers blessing challot  |
| CONCLUSION: Never to be forgotten… helps you to end up where you started☺ |  |