

Unit 4: Synagogue

1. Students should be aware of the different prayer services:
 - Morning blessings / Introductory Psalms / Borchu / Shema / Amida / Repetition of the Amida / Tachanun / Torah Reading / Musaf / Concluding prayers / Anim Zemirot / Aleinu/ Song of the day / Adon Olam + Yigdal.

2.

Services	Origin 1:	Origin 2:
Shacharit	Avraham prayed in the morning	Morning sacrifice brought in the Temple.
Mincha	Yitzchak prayed in the afternoon	Afternoon sacrifice brought in the Temple.
Maariv	Yaakov prayed in the evening	Evening sacrifice brought in the Temple.

3. On Shabbat / Rosh Chodesh / Festivals – additional sacrifices brought – Musaf Offerings- We add an extra Amida prayer on this day.
4. Morning Blessings:
 - Recognising G-d's gifts to us. Eg Thanking G-d for the ability to go to the toilet / clothing / wisdom / Torah study.
5. Introductory Psalms (Pesukei Dzimrah)
 - Collections of songs mostly from Psalms. Eg Ashrei / Yishtabach.
6. Borchu
 - Jews bow at this stage - Pray together publicly.
7. Shema
 - 3 paragraphs 1st paragraph - Loving G-d , learning Torah/ teaching children. 2nd paragraph – Fulfilling the Mitzvot and its consequences

for lack of keeping the Mitzvot. 3rd Paragraph – Exodus from Egypt / Tzitzit.

8. Amida – Standing prayer

- 3 sections: Praise / request / thank
- Face towards the Kotel / Israel.
- Recite in an undertone + should not interrupt.
- 3 steps backward and 3 steps forward.
- At completion of the Amida – 3 steps back and bow to the left, then right and then forward.
- On Rosh Chodesh / Festivals – add in Yaale Vayavo.
- Chanukah + Purim add Al Ha' Nissim.
- Seasonal additions. Eg. Requesting for rain to fall in Israel.

9. Repetition of the Amida prayer

- Requires a Minyan
- Chazan repeats the Amida prayer.
- Reason given as in the past certain communities did not know how to read it themselves. Therefore, the Chazan would say it out loud to help them fulfil their obligation. The Kedusha + Modim is also said together.

10. Tachanun

- Asking for G-d's forgiveness after the Amidah prayer

11. Torah Reading

- Torah reading every 3 days – Mondays / Thursdays / Shabbat.
- On Festivals – Selected pieces relating to the Festival.
- On Shabbat – The full Sedra is recited.
- On the afternoon of Shabbat- One reads a small section from the Sedra for the coming week.
- The following amount of men would be called up to the Torah:
- On Monday / Thursday + Shabbat afternoon – 3 men called up.
- Rosh Chodesh / Chol Hamoed – 4 men are called up.
- On Festivals - 5 men are called up.
- On Shabbat – 7 men are called up.

- After reading from the Torah – A person is asked to lift the Torah ‘Hagbah’ and another person is asked to roll up the Torah ‘Glilah’.

12. Concluding prayers

- Themes include redemption + Torah study.

13. Aleinu

- Declaration of faith and that one day everyone will recognise G-d's authority.
- Reference to the Messianic age.

14. Song of the day

- In the Temple the Levites would sing a different Song which related to the day.

15. Friday night / Kabbalat Shabbat

- Pre Service to Maariv.
- 6 Psalms finishing with Lecha Dodi.
- Shabbat is described like a bride.
- In 16th Century – Jews in Northern Israel Tzefat would go out to the fields as if they were greeting Shabbat. We remember this by the pre service .

16. Haftorah – Parting / Conclusion

- It was instituted at the time of the Greek Empire.
- Limit Jewish Freedom.
- Against public reading of the Torah.
- Therefore, Jews would read a section from Prophets that related to the Torah portion.
- After the ban was removed the Jewish tradition preserved reading the Haftorah.

17. Synagogue

- Centre of Worship was in the Temple in Jerusalem.

- After the destruction Jews built Shuls where they pray and connect with the past and the Temple that stood.
- Layout:
- Front – Aron Hakodesh contains the Torah Scroll like the Holy of Holies which contained the Golden Ark and tablets of stone. The Ark faces the direction of Jerusalem.
- Ner Tamid: Remembers how the Menorah was lit daily in the Temple.
- Bimah / Platform – located in the centre of a Shul and reminder of Mount Sinai and how the Jews assembled around the Mountain.

18. Minyan

- 10 males from the age of 13+.
- Divine presence rests.
- Ability to recite Kaddish / Borchu / Repetition / Priestly blessing / Torah reading / Haftorah.