

Final Performance Task Options for Unit 8

Important Information for All Three Options

The following are the main ideas that you are to understand from this unit. They should appear in this final performance task so that your teacher can assess whether you learned the most essential content.

- The Book of Revelation was written at a time in which the early Christian communities faced persecution.
- The Book of Revelation uses the conventions of apocalyptic literature, including symbolism, crisis imagery, and visions.
- The Letter to the Hebrews presents a Christology that draws on the tradition of the ancient Israelite priesthood.
- The pastoral epistles, which are attributed to Paul, and the catholic epistles address the various needs and situations of the early Christians.

In addition to demonstrating understanding of these four main concepts of the unit, your final performance task must also contain or demonstrate the following:

- In-depth, substantial content appropriate for an upper-level high-school religious studies course
- Responsible and accurate use of Scripture
- Substantive content that creatively and accurately engages with and interprets the material of this unit
- Proper grammar, spelling, and diction
- A neat and well-organized presentation

Option 1: An Exegetical Paper

Choose one passage, approximately five to fifteen verses in length, from any of the late first-century New Testament writings that you have studied in this unit. Ask your teacher to approve the passage that you select. Then, research and write a four- to five-page exegetical paper in which you interpret that passage. Use one of the exegetical methods you studied in unit 2, and consult at least three sources of information other than your student book. Your paper should follow this structure:

- an introduction that situates the passage you have chosen within the broad context of the literary, historical, and theological emphases of the book in which it appears
- an overview of the major topics or questions regarding the selected passage that your paper will explore



- an explanation of the methodology you will use to interpret the passage—that is, literary, sociohistorical, or ideological
- at least three substantive body paragraphs in which you analyze the passage using the methodology you have chosen and present your interpretation
- a conclusion in which you apply your interpretation of the passage to some aspect of the world today: for example, a concern that many young people face, a problem that your school is encountering, or a pressing matter of national or international justice
- a bibliography

Option 2: A Catholic Radio Talk Show

Write and produce a 5- to 8-minute episode of a Catholic radio talk show titled *Misunderstood Books of the Bible*. The focus of this episode will be misunderstood books of the New Testament, especially those late first-century writings that are difficult for modern-day audiences to read and interpret because of their literary genre, sociohistorical context, or theological perspective. Your show may include interviews with biblical scholars, appearances by time-traveling authors of one or more of these books, or phone calls from listeners who offer comments or questions. On the due date, submit a written transcript of your program, as well as an audio file of the program itself.

Option 3: A Bible Game Show

Develop a Bible game show in which contestants demonstrate the extent and depth of their knowledge of late first-century New Testament writings. You may model your show on one with which you are already familiar (like *Jeopardy* or *Knowledge Bowl*), or you may develop your own. Be sure that the bank of questions you generate for your show covers not only the basic factual information of this unit but also more complex and in-depth analysis and understanding. On the due date, submit your show in either paper or electronic format, as well as a list of all of your questions and answers. We may play part of your show in class, with your classmates as the contestants.

