

Final Performance Task Options for Unit 5

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 Gospel of John consists of a prologue, the Book of Signs, the Book of Glory, and an epilogue.
- John portrays Jesus as the Divine Son of God.
- The Gospel of John presents the person of Jesus through metaphors and symbolism.
- Careful exegesis of John's Gospel enables us to avoid any damaging anti-Semitic misinterpretations.

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 from the Gospel of John, approximately five to fifteen verses in length. 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 textbook. Your paper should follow this structure:

- An introduction that situates the passage you have chosen within the broad context of the literary structure and theological emphases of John's Gospel
- An overview of the major topics or questions regarding the selected passage that your paper will explore



- A 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 Triptych

A triptych is a painting or drawing with three side-by-side sections, all of which present different facets of a common theme. Generally, the image in the middle section of the triptych focuses the viewer's attention on a core or central aspect of that theme; the images on either side supplement, support, or broaden the viewer's understanding.

Use any artistic media to create a triptych that presents the first three sections of John's Gospel: the prologue, the Book of Signs, and the Book of Glory. Incorporate what you have learned about John's literary, theological, and Christological emphases into your triptych. To accompany your artistic work, write a one-page (minimum) explanation, including a justification for your arrangement of the images (that is, your rationale behind which image you placed in the middle and which ones you put on the sides).

Option 3: A Presentation at a Youth Conference on Monotheistic Religions

Your diocesan office of youth ministry is sponsoring a conference for teens who practice the world's three monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The conference has been designed to promote understanding among these three religions and to cultivate an appreciation for both our common roots and our uniqueness. You have been invited to facilitate a one-hour session at this conference on the Gospel of John, in which you present basic information about the Gospel, with particular attention to the way in which it has been misused to cause harm and division or to foster hatred and intolerance. Write a detailed outline for your session, including the content you will present and the strategies you will use to engage a religiously diverse group of young people in an exploration of this Gospel. Be sure to include creative activities that enable the group to interact with Gospel texts, and with each other, in meaningful ways.

