RE: Prayer

WALT: compare prayers.

Below are three types of prayers. The first one is a Hindu prayer, the second one is an Islamic prayer and the last one is a Jewish prayer.

Questions to think about:

- \*What do the prayers actually ask for?
- \*If someone prayed this every day, what sort of outlook on life might they develop?
- \*What can we learn from the ways religious people use light as a symbol?

## Three prayers to think about

The Hindu Gayatri Mantra, used by millions as a morning prayer.
(Simplified for children and put into English)

"You, light of all lights,
Sunshine of the universe,
Let us see the truth.
Everything comes from you.
Everything returns to you.
Show us the light
So that we may do all our duties today
As we travel on the road
To your holy place."

The Opener:
The First Surah of the Qur'an, used in Muslim prayer's times a day
(Simplified for children and put into English).

"In the name of God
The Compassionate, the Merciful
Praise be to God, Lord of the Worlds
The Compassionate, the Merciful
Ruler of Judgment Day
You alone we worship
To You alone we pray for help
Guide us to the straight path
The path of those You have favoured
Not of those who incurred Your wrath,
Nor of those who have gone astray

Adon Olam: A widely used Jewish prayer (Put into English. Only part of this prayer has been used).

"The Lord of the Universe who reigned before anything was created. When all was made by his will He was acknowledged as King.

And when all shall end He still all alone shall reign. He was, He is, and He shall be in glory.

And He is one, and there's no other, to compare or join Him. Without beginning, without end and to Him belongs dominion and power.

And He is my G-d, my living G-d. to Him I flee in time of grief, and He is my miracle and my refuge, who answers the day I shall call."

## Your Task

What are the similarities and differences of these prayers?

| Similarities | Differences |
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