

Draw an image to represent the stages of the event, as you read through it.

You will then need to put the key stages of the event into your own words, using the images as reference points.

THE AMRIT SANSKAR – SIKH INITIATION CEREMONY

The ceremony takes place at the local Gurdwara in front of the Guru Granth Sahib.

There are five initiated Sikhs present. These five people symbolise the original five to be initiated – the Panj Piaras.

Hymns are read from the Sikh scriptures and aardas are said.

The amrit is prepared. This is a mixture of sugar and water, and then stirred with a double-edged sword.

Draw an image to represent the stages of the event, as you read through it.

You will then need to put the key stages of the event into your own words, using the images as reference points.

THE AMRIT SANSKAR – SIKH INITIATION CEREMONY

Those to be initiated drink from the same bowl before having the amrit sprinkled on their eyes and over their hair.

Each of those to be initiated then recite the mool mantra – the fundamental beliefs of Sikhism.

Readings are spoken from the Guru Granth Sahib. These reaffirm the fundamentals of their belief system.

Karah prashad (a sweet made from semolina, sugar and ghee that has been blessed) is passed around all those who are present.

Draw an image to represent the stages of the event, as you read through it.

You will then need to put the key stages of the event into your own words, using the images as reference points.

THE AMRIT SANSKAR – SIKH INITIATION CEREMONY

Family members may give one of the 5 K items as gifts and the initiated will adopt the 5 Ks.

The initiated will change their surname to Singh, meaning 'lion', (if male) or Kaur, meaning 'princess' (if female).

- 1 Cut out the statements and arrange them according to which you think is the most significant part of amrit sanskar to the least significant part. Explain your choice of most and least significant reason.
- 2 After completing the task on the naam karan (baby naming ceremony), use the Venn diagram to compare and contrast the key features of the two ceremonies.
- 3 Look up the following passages using the Internet – ‘Bhai Gurdas Var 3.11’ and ‘Bhai Gurdas Var 41’. Explain how these affect a Sikh’s attitude to amrit sanskar.
- 4 Use the Internet to research the views of khalsa and sahadhari Sikhs in joining the khalsa and wearing the five Ks. How do they compare?
- 5 Using the picture below as the central point, mind map everything you know about the formation of the first khalsa. You could start by stating who and what you can see.

The similarities and differences between practices at two different Sikh ceremonies.

Key Features
of Amrit Sanskar

Key Features
of the Naam Karan

Similarities between
Amrit Sanskar and
Naam Karan

