

World Religions
Video: Religions of Small Societies (Basic Religions)

1. What is meant by the term “small society?”

2. Name three common characteristics of religions of small societies.

3. What is a “shaman” and what role does the shaman play?

4. How can “animism” best be described?

5. Why do small societies revere nature more than modern humans do, according to the video?

6. What are some of the ways that Native Americans experience a connection with the spirit world?

7. What is the purpose of the mask in religions of some small societies?

8. What role do ancestors play in the religions of some small societies?

9. What is the role of sacrifice in these religions? Why is fire an important aspect that is connected with sacrifice?

In tonight's textbook reading, you will read about the common features of basic religions. As you read, think about which of these features might also be present in the major religions of the world today.