



Open Minded Path: Leader Assessment

Prepared by Elder Tehilah Firewind – Beltane 2020 – Required for Leader status as of 1 June 2020

Instructions

Section 1 consists of a series of short answer, multiple choice, true/false, and matching questions, each which has a single correct answer (or a list of terms). Section 2 has all open-ended questions which should be answered in 200-500 words, depending on the question. This assessment must be submitted to, reviewed by, and discussed with the Elder Council (email openmindedpath@gmail.com). Once it is accepted, a certificate of leadership will be issued, but please note that existing Open Minded Organization (OMO) may have additional requirements for membership. The newly certified leader can start their own OMO with however many additional requirements they want (as long as they are ethical) once certified.

Certified Leaders are endorsed by the lineage, being listed on the website along with their OMO if they start one. Certified Leaders are allowed to list ads for services on our lineage website and lead rituals and events of any kind on our community, the Open Minded Crossroads. Certified Leaders are expected to participate on the Crossroads from time to time, and at least keep an eye out for any announcements or discussions for Leaders on the Crossroads.

This assessment is designed to ensure all OMLs are academic, ethical, professional, and qualified in the following areas: leadership; divination, dream interpretation, or counseling; basic science, history, linguistics, and anthropology (enough to verify the validity if scientific and historical claims); ritual construction and ministration; and open mindedness. These questions cover certain areas that may seem irrelevant to some, but which ensure a solid understanding of the fundamental themes which unite all religions and science.

There is no time frame on this assessment. Complete it as slowly as necessary, get feedback from others as needed, look things up, and spend time reflecting on the questions. Good luck, have fun, and blessed be!

Section 1: Short Answer & Multiple Choice

1. What are the 4 main planes of existence in Kabbalah and how does their name represent the nature of consciousness on each level?
2. Where are these higher planes of existence? Can you physically travel there? Why or why not?
3. Which of the following describes what a scientific theory is?
 - A. A good guess as to why something might happen based on intuition and past observations
 - B. A very likely explanation for why something happens, one which explains all the known facts and doesn't contradict any existing scientific laws
 - C. An observation of what is physically happening
 - D. None of the above



4. Which of the following scientific statements are true and which are false:
- A. Subjective morality is justified by relativity, i.e. everyone's beliefs are valid because everything is relative. True or false.
 - B. It's possible to change your current reality, or physical existence, by experiencing an alternate timeline. True or false.
 - C. Time is both physically limiting and non-existent at the same time. True or false.
 - D. Experiences like seeing ghosts and auras are physical sensations or perceptions. True or false.
 - E. Only physical experiences affect our realities, or our physical existence. True or false.
 - F. A person can pop into existence and out of existence again in a distant part of space because of randomness. True or false.
 - G. Particles can manipulate time and physically experience timelessness while macroscopic objects, like humans, cannot. True or false.
 - H. The physical body can sense metaphysical energy (as in the energy of a space itself) without using the physical senses. True or false.
 - I. The physical body can influence metaphysical energy. True or false.
 - J. Hallucinations are always a sign of mental illness. True or false.
 - K. Mental illness can be caused by dreams, memories of past lives, and metaphysical misalignment. True or false.
 - L. Humans can learn to manipulate physical objects with their energy only. True or false.
 - M. Humans can learn to physically teleport across space because particles can, and humans are made of particles. True or false.
 - N. Humans can draw energy from either inner divinity or external divinity, recharging themselves on higher planar awareness. True or false.
 - O. Alternate dimensions are places one can physically travel to, and there are many alternate dimensions full of other physical versions of us. True or false.
 - P. Universes are like marbles, containing an infinite number of timelines based on a single set of physical laws, and there are an infinite number of marbles. True or false.
 - Q. Objective truth exists, but there is always room for interpretation. True or false.
 - R. Subjective reality, i.e. personal perception of the world we share, is just as valid as objective reality. True or false.
 - S. Jungian archetypes, or the idea that mythology and human religion follow set patterns based around themes from common human experiences, and the idea of the collective unconscious are largely accepted by the psychology community. True or false.
5. Which of the following historical statements are true and which are false:
- A. Patriarchy largely originated in one part of the world and spread throughout the other regions. True or false.
 - B. The Bible is considered an accurate account of history. True or False.
 - C. There is a lot of controversy surrounding the historicity of Jesus. True or False.
 - D. Witchcraft was deemed unacceptable in the past because it involved nature worship. True or false.
 - E. Most deaths in the witch-hunt era were unjust, live burnings. True or false.
 - F. The witch-hunt era was a time of ageism, sexism, and racism. True or false.



- G. There is significant evidence that aliens visited earth in Ancient Times. True or false.
- H. The Ancient Egyptians invented the notion of after life. True or false.
- I. The Mayans predicted the world would end in 2012. True or false.
- J. The dead sea scrolls describe true accounts of history. True or false.
- K. The Kurgan hypothesis essentially describes the diffusion of patriarchy into matrilineal Mesolithic Europe. True or false.
- L. All mythologies in Europe, the Americas, the Near East, and India share common influences and themes. True or false.

6. Which of the following statements regarding keeping an open mind are true:

- A. Other animals are necessarily inherently less intelligent than humans. True or false.
- B. Other animals are necessarily less spiritually advanced than humans. True or false.
- C. All religious paths involve some kind of shielding for protection from the influence of others. True or false.
- D. One should be free to choose their own path regardless of the religion they were born into. True or false.
- E. Death-energy based magic is necessarily bad and considered black magic. True or false.
- F. People who follow their religious doctrines flawlessly are the only true followers of that religion. True or false.
- G. People can make use of whatever practices work for them, even if they borrow from sources that don't align with their ethnicity and heritage. True or false.
- H. One should be free to choose their own path regardless of the religion they were born into. True or false
- I. Ritual cannot succeed unless everyone present believes in the exact same things. True or false.
- J. Everyone participates in rituals of some kind. True or false.

7. Match each type of shielding with its corresponding definition:

- A. Hard Shield
- B. Porous Shield
- C. Filtered Shield
- D. Invocated Shield

_____ energy is filtered naturally as it comes in and transforms into one's own energy in the process, allowing one to decide (typically subconsciously) what does and doesn't influence oneself

_____ some things can get in, and others cannot, based on the intent and vibe of the energy

_____ nothing gets in, nothing gets out, and one doesn't easily notice or observe anything on the other side of the shield

_____ everything gets in, but negative or ill-intentioned energy are cleansed of their influence first

8. What types of shielding does each religious path typically use:

- A. Hard Shield
- B. Porous Shield
- C. Filtered Shield
- D. Invocated Shield



- Judaism: _____
- Wicca: _____
- Buddhism or Taoism: _____
- Witchcraft: _____
- Christianity: _____
- Polytheism or Pagan: _____
- Satanism or Atheism: _____
- Islam: _____

9. Someone within your organization spontaneously decides to work with another mentor, in a separate Open Minded Organization (OMO). Which of the following actions should you **not** do?
- A. If possible, find out why they are leaving and get feedback
 - B. Reach out to the new mentor and offer up any relevant details of their spiritual progress to the new mentor
 - C. Let the Elders know of the update
 - D. Berate them for wanting to leave the lineage
 - E. All of these are appropriate
 - F. None of these is appropriate
10. Someone from another OMO wants to transfer to yours. What is the first thing you do?
- A. Berate them for not being loyal to their organization
 - B. Report the change to the Elders
 - C. Reach out to the leadership of their previous organization to request details and keep them in the loop
 - D. Try to find out why they want to switch organizations
 - E. None of the above
11. Match the following divination techniques with their general applications:
- | | | |
|------------|---------------|---------------------|
| A. Tarot | D. Palmistry | G. Dream Int. |
| B. Runes | E. Numerology | H. Horary Astrology |
| C. Scrying | F. Pendulum | |

_____ seeing visions of events from other locations and times, often unintentionally, as well as interacting with deity and spirit guides and learning about one's own psychology; exploring the deeper self

_____ predicting the outcome of specific, well-defined questions which are likely to be influenced by outside, physical forces

_____ predicting the outcome of an individual person's entire life

_____ questions can be well-defined or left a bit vague, requiring some amount of detailed knowledge and some intuitive decision making also

_____ receiving direction to nearby, missing things, as well as answering yes or no questions of any nature



_____ purposefully discerning context for vague questions or seeking knowledge about broad notions only

_____ well defined, mundane questions and things which require a lot of very detailed knowledge, often of a great many, little things

_____ analyzing numbers (of dates, words, or names) to determine what will happen to someone or some group of people at a certain time, or overall throughout their time to come

Section 2: Open Ended Questions

Attach answers on external sheets of paper, and write somewhere between 200 – 500 words if possible (total, not per part, for the questions with multiple parts).

1. Describe your personal practice, and your choice in spiritual name and title. If no title or name is chosen, explain how you plan to help those who do need such things, if you yourself, do not.
2. List the benefits and practices involved with deity work using aspects of deity versus unnamed deity (in general) for deity-based faiths.
3. Describe briefly how it is possible for deity believers and deity-of-self worshippers to coexist, i.e. what unites the belief in and the lack of belief in deity together as one philosophy?
4. In metaphysical terms, what is life and death (or light and dark) energy, and what is chaos? Which do you use most in your practices?
5. Select 5 different types of meditation and describe the benefits and key applications specific to each. When would you recommend each kind?
6. Write a guided meditation script which works for any purpose.
7. Write a full ritual based on your own faith with any purpose. Remember to include which tools are required, which incenses (or blends) are used (if applicable), which offerings, which times of day, month, or year, and all of the details surrounding when, where, and how this ritual would be done. This will be published on the website.
8. Outline the basic ritual steps to take in the following 3 types of ceremonies (independent of any personal beliefs): weddings/handfastings, funerals, baby or house blessings.
9. What is prayer, and why do people do it? For those who don't work with external deity, what are some alternatives to prayer?
10. Two members of your organization have vastly different perspectives on what it means to lead a "moral" existence. Neither is overtly disrespectful, but they often bicker, and at times, they can bog down channels, steal discussions, or sound heated enough to make others nervous, even if they both



know it is all in good fun in the end. Others have begun to complain about their back and forth. How do you resolve the situation?

11. Someone joins your organization and before being there more than a few weeks, begins to correct others when they speak, even on personal matters, going so far as to tell others how they feel and put words in their mouth. No one has complained yet, but you know it's a matter of time. How do you resolve this situation?
12. Someone within your organization has an issue with you and begins talking about you behind your back. Apparently, they have been doing it a lot, and saying some not nice things, but they haven't said anything to you. Someone felt bad and came to let you know what they were saying; how do you proceed?
13. Someone joins your organization and begins harassing people for their lifestyle choices or modes of speech, for example, calling people out all the time for culturally appropriating practices sourced outside of their heritage culture, bashing those who eat meat and insisting they violate the tenet of "harm none", or harassing those of a certain sexual orientation or gender, etc. How do you moderate the situation?
14. You've noticed someone has been really down lately, and you want to help them, but you aren't sure how. How do you go about finding out what is wrong and what would be your strategy to help in the following cases: (1) abusive issues at home, (2) depression, (3) anxiety, (4) relationship issues, and (5) issues with self-esteem.

Section 3: Produce Content

1. Write blog entries, or produce published video content on 2 of these subjects (one of which should have at least 5 academic citations consisting of facts, figures, quotes, interviews, etc.):
 - *History* – can be any historical subject
 - *Opinion* – any subject or perspective, something reflective or provocative that makes people think and promotes discussion
 - *Scientific* – any scientific subject, from psychology to physics
 - *Motivational* – help others find themselves or better themselves in some way
 - *Instructional* – teach people a new skill, from religion-specific skills to crafting to life tips
2. Content must be published in a public place to count. The Coven of the Open Mind YouTube channel is happy to publish or promote any video content for other Leaders. Likewise, a personal site or blog may be used, but the Open Minded Path website has a blog for this purpose as well.