

Haftarah Reading and Alternative Choices

Choose one option below. Parent and student should sign at the bottom and return to your tutor. Please contact Cantor Berlin with any questions.

1. Learn a traditional Haftarah of 3-5 verses and the blessings before and after:

The b.mitzvah will learn a traditional Haftarah portion in Hebrew. This portion comes from the Prophets and has a thematic connection to the Torah portion. Haftarah is only read in a Shabbat morning service.

2. Write a biography of the Prophet mentioned in that week's Haftarah portion:

The b.mitzvah will research the Prophet from the week's Haftarah portion and present this information in the service. This biography should be 2-3 paragraphs.

3. Write an interpretation of the week's Haftarah portion:

Instead of reading the actual portion in Hebrew, the b.mitzvah may choose to write an interpretation of the reading in the form of a poem or prayer.

4. Write a "D'var Haftarah":

Write a short essay/explanation about the Haftarah portion and lessons learned from it. (2-3 paragraphs)

5. Write an introduction to a prayer:

The b.mitzvah student may choose 2-3 prayers that they find meaningful and write an introduction to each. This would minimally include a brief summary of its theme, some historic information, and why it is meaningful to the student. Each piece should be 1-2 paragraphs.

6. Write an interpretation of a prayer:

Choose a prayer that is meaningful to you or that you enjoy and write an interpretation in the form of a poem or song.

7. Reflection on Edmund Fleg's *I am a Jew*:

Read *I Am A Jew* by Edmund Fleg on page 85 of the prayerbook. Write a reflection on this piece. How does it make you feel? Which statements speak to you the most? Are there any that don't reflect your beliefs? Is there a statement not mentioned that you might add to reflect your personal feelings more accurately?

8. A Shabbat observance and reflection based on the [Sabbath Manifesto](http://sabbathmanifesto.org):

After reading The Ten Principles of the Sabbath Manifesto, design your own personal Shabbat observance using the Ten Principles. After your Shabbat observance, write a 1-2 page reflection describing your experiences that Shabbat. (sabbathmanifesto.org)

Parent Signature _____

Student Signature _____