1. **avel** — the name given to a bereaved Jewish person after the burial of the deceased has taken place

2. **chuppah** — a canopy, usually made from cloth and supported by four poles, under which the marriage service takes place

3. **Conservative Judaism** — a movement that originated in the 19th century and which advocates a midway course between Orthodox and Reform Judaism

4. **covenant** — a binding agreement, usually enacted by a more powerful party (i.e. God) and a less powerful one (i.e. Israel)

5. **embalming** — to chemically delay a corpse from decaying

6. **enlightenment** — an 18th century European movement which celebrated science and philosophy over religion and superstition

7. **eschatology** — the doctrine of 'the end times'

8. **euthanasia** — a method whereby a terminally sick person is given assistance to die

9. **exegesis** — the study and exposition of the scriptures

10. **get** — a Jewish writ of divorce

11. **halakha** — Rabbinic law i.e. that which is contained in the Talmud

12. **heresy** — a belief or teaching that differs from those taught by the orthodox or dominant religion

13. **kaddish** — a prayer dating from before the destruction of the temple; often taking the form of a mourner's prayer

14. **ketubbah** — a marriage contract dating from the first century BC

15. **kiddushin** — the first part of the two marriage ceremonies, including blessings and vows

16. **kosher** — means 'fit to be eaten'; food that conforms to the stipulations set out in Deuteronomy and Leviticus

17. **mikveh** — a ritual water bath taken for purification purposes

18. **mishnah** — the first codification of Jewish law, dating from the third century

19. **misnaghim** — opponents of the Hassidic movement

20. **mitvot** — commandments from God or any obligation which brings one in closer alignment with God's will

21. **niddah** — rules that relate to female and family purity in marriage

22. **nissuin** — the second part of the marriage ceremony, where the couple are joined in holy matrimony beneath a chuppah (or wedding canopy)

23. **numerology** — a system whereby mystical secrets are revealed using number patterns