The Formation of the Bible

The library of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ which make up the Bible is in\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the Hebrew Scriptures)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the writings about Jesus and the first Christians)

These books are written by different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and in different \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over a period of \_\_\_\_\_\_ years. They were mainly written in these languages: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The Old Testament

The Old Testament went through three main stages of development:



The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ came first; the stories were handed down by word of mouth.

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of oral accounts in those times is much \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than it would be in today’s society because there was so little \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ then. The people’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were trained better than ours are today. These stories are reliable in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but not in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

These stories were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to fill a specific need of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ community such as liturgical prayers and instructional materials.

This material was then \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to best suit the religious traditions.

The core story of the \_\_\_\_ Testament is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ event. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ event is the story of how \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ led the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of slavery and into the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ land.

The New Testament

When the first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ groups met together for worship they continued the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ practice of reading the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

At first those who had actually known \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were able to speak about his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (oral accounts).

But as the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ died a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ record became essential (written account).

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Apostles were treasured and kept. They were eventually given the same \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as the \_\_\_\_\_ Testament Scriptures (edited stage).

The core story of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ Testament is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ.