

Name:

Date:

Period:

Why Moses Could Not Enter the Promised Land

Directions: Use the article to answer the questions below.

1. According to the author, which two 'sources' that make up the Torah as we have it offer explanations for why Moses was excluded from Canaan?
2. Which of these sources 'likes' Moses, and which one doesn't? Explain the evidence that supports this distinction.
3. According to each source, who is allowed to serve in the Israelite priesthood?
4. Which source describes Moses as 'uncircumcised of lips'? What is this meant to suggest about Moses? What does this tell us about the author's attitude towards Moses, and prophets in general?
5. How does the treatment of Aaron in the P source reveal the author's attitude towards priests and prophets?
6. What are the two 'rival' groups that Moses represents to the P source? Why does the author think that this causes the P source to treat Moses with ambivalence?

