

A) Explain the meaning of the concept 'Jihad'



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Means 'to strive' or struggle for one's religion.

EXAMPLES?

The greater Jihad is to strive to live as a good Muslim.

The lesser Jihad is 'holy war' in defence of Islam.

B) Explain the importance of Zakah



Jannah



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Completes one of five pillars – obligations given by God in the Qur'an

Supports those who are poor

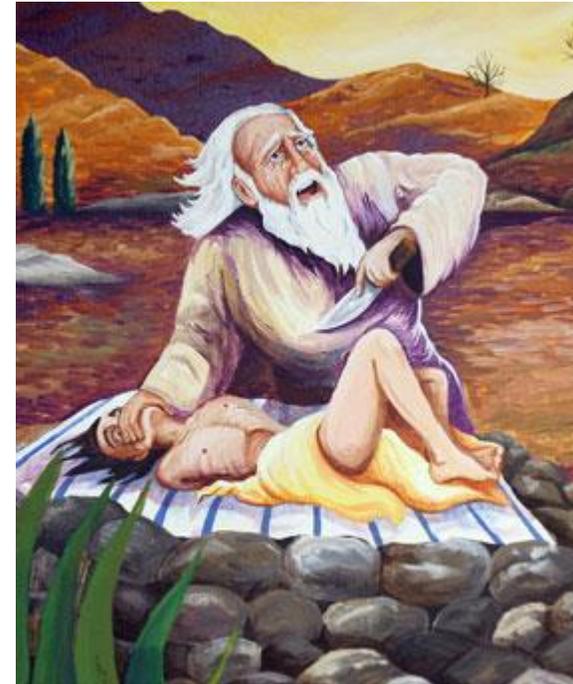
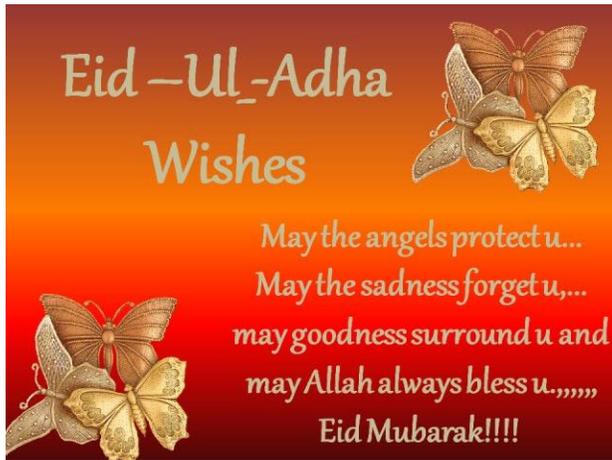
It pleases God and was commanded by Muhammed to take care of the poor: 'The one who looks after...a poor person is like a warrior fighting for God's cause' (Muhammad in the Hadith)

Creates a stronger ummah

Is considered a good deed so may be rewarded with Jannah

Recognises that wealth is not ours but simply a gift from Allah to be shared

C) Explain the significance of two Muslim festivals (8)



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EID UL ADHA

Remembers the story of **Ibrahim** and his willingness to obey God by sacrificing his son **Ishmael**

Celebrates the successful completion of Hajj

Chance for all Muslims across the world to worship and celebrate together building the ummah

An opportunity for charity as meat from the animal sacrifice is distributed to the poor

Reminds muslims of true sacrifice to God 'Their meat will not reach God, nor will their blood, but what reaches him is piety from you'

C) Explain the significance of two Muslim festivals (8)

EID UL FITR

Celebrates the completion of Ramadan – a well deserved reward

An opportunity to thank God for giving them the strength needed to fast

A public holiday which allows family, friends and neighbours to celebrate together = builds the ummah

Encourages a strong sense of generosity – charity for the poor

Zakat-ul-Fitr required to be paid so everyone, even those in poverty can eat a generous meal. Muhammed instructs this in the Hadith when he says to make the donation of Zakat-ul-Fitr 'for the purpose of providing food for the needy'.

C) Explain the significance of two Muslim festivals (8)

ASHURA

For Sunni Muslims: a day of fasting established by the prophet Muhammed.

An opportunity to make sacrifices for the sins of the people

An occasion to thank God for saving the Israelites from the pharaoh through the prophet **Musa** (Moses).

For Shia Muslims: remembers the death of Husayn (the rightful successor to Muhammed) at Karbala.

An opportunity to mourn the events which caused the Sunni/Shia divide.

Celebrated by Shi'a Muslims across the world – unites these Muslims.

Many pilgrimage to **Karbala** to take part = sense of community.

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AGREE

Jumu'ah prayers (congregational prayer) unites Muslims. Pray shoulder to shoulder and gather at the mosque.

Even if a prayer is missed Muhammad encourages it to be made up later 'If one of you sleeps and misses a prayer, or forgets it, let him offer the prayer when he remembers'.

Allah commanded Muslims to pray 50 times a day on Muhammed's night journey, but it was the prophet Musa (moses) who convinced Allah 5 times was more reasonable. This is more frequent than any other Muslim practice.

Muslims pray at the same time all around the world which builds the Muslim Ummah on a frequent basis.

Du'a prayers (personal prayers) are opportunities to spend time in the presence of God. Prayer also can be an opportunity to remove sins.

DISAGREE

Many Muslims can't partake in Jumu'ah prayers ie. Elderly and disabled. Therefore receiving Zakah may be more important.

The shahadah is most important as it was Muhammed's mission to ensure Muslim's understand the concept of Tawhid and that Islam remained monotheistic. This is shown when he destroyed the idols in the Kaa'ba.

Hajj is most important as it is the best way to build a sense of community especially through Eid-ul-Adha to celebrate it's end.

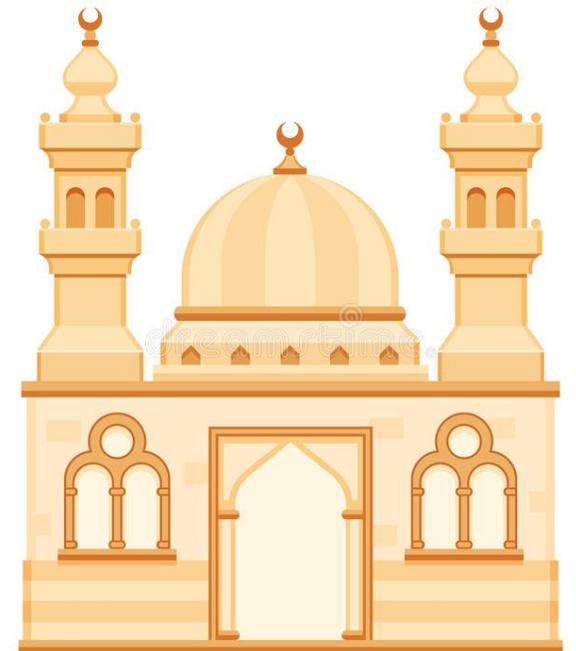
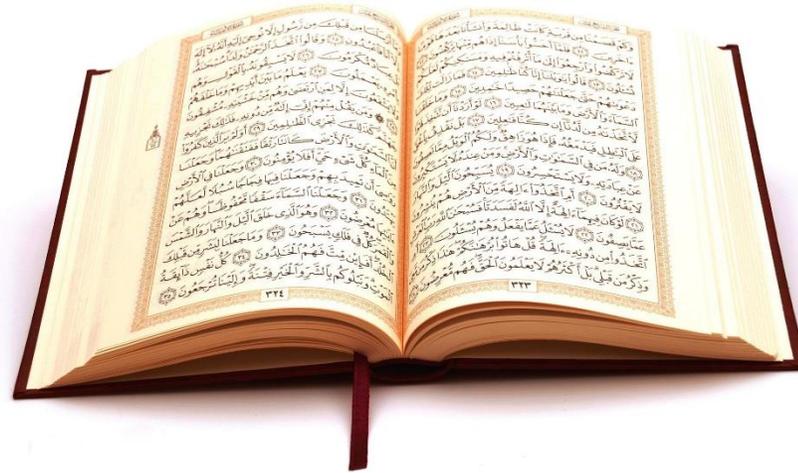
For many Muslims prayer has become routine but has little meaning. Therefore, Sawm (fasting) may be more important as it truly challenges them and plays a more important part in their greater jihad.

a) State two things that are 'halal' in Islam

Eating permitted foods
Prayer
Going to the mosque



b) Explain how Muslims might choose to worship (5)



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- Read the Qur'an 'This is the book about which there is no doubt' (Qur'an).
- Go to the mosque and take part in communal prayer – Jumu'ah prayers
- Complete personal prayers – Du'a prayer
- Follow the five pillars of Islam ie. Shahadah
- Give to charity – Zakat and Sadaqah

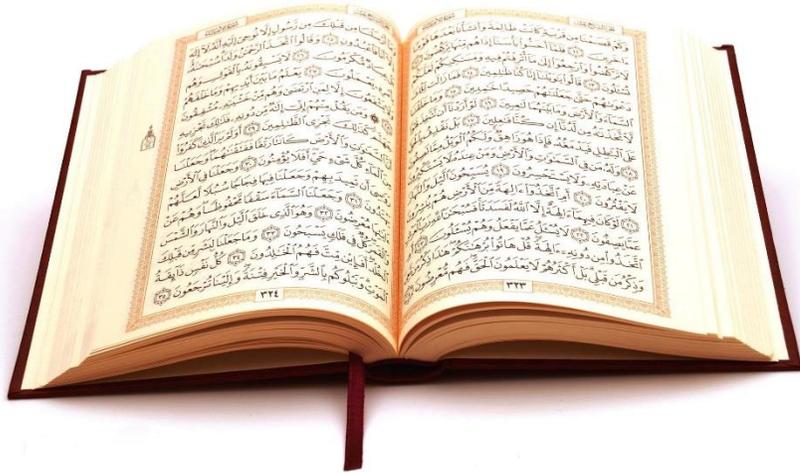
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- An opportunity to build the Ummah as Muslims from all over the world gather
- A chance to express equality through the wearing of the Ihram
- An opportunity to be reminded of the key teachings of Islam ie. circling the Kaa'ba and focussing on the concept of Tawhid.
- Remembrance of significant past events in the Muslim faith ie. Hagar searing fro water between Mount Safa and Marwa
- A chance to repent from sin ie. stoning of the devil (jamarat)
- A chance to grow closer to God ie. worshipping on mount Arafat
- Concludes with eid-ul adha where all Muslims celebrate the end of hajj together and charity is given to the poor.
- Part of a Muslims greater jihad to commit to going to Hajj – shows dedidctaion to their religion and they become a Hajji to show this.

D) “Fasting should be carried out by all Muslims in the UK”



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AGREE:

- Can cause discrimination as it is not a usual practice in the UK
- May not be adequately catered for in UK society ie. schools may not be understanding
- If you are too young, elderly, pregnant or sick you do not need to fast
- Some Muslims may not strongly identify with their religion and may see no reason to fast
- Can sometimes clash with important events like exams or events like **the 2012 London summer Olympics** so some Muslims should be exempt

DISAGREE:

- Commanded in the Qur’an “**decreed upon you is fasting**”
- Follows the example of Muhammed in the Sunnah
- Helps Muslims to identify with the poor – many Muslims are more generous during this time (**Sadaqah**)
- Helps unite these Muslims with the wider Muslim ummah.
- **Unites Muslims in their communities and families through the suhur (before dawn) and iftar (breaking fast) meals**
- **Practices self-control as not only do you abstain from food and water but also smoking, sex, evil thoughts and harmful actions.**
- It is a way of Muslims expressing their faith in a country where their religion is not the majority.
- Remembers the first month in which Muhammad received the Qur’an on **laylut –ul-Qadr.**