

THE PROPERTY OF _____

EDEXCEL PAPER 2: RELIGION, PEACE & CONFLICT THROUGH ISLAM



EXAM

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

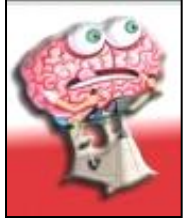
(1 HOUR 45 MINUTES)

REVISION BOOKLET

REMEMBER...



This exam lasts 1 hour and 45 minutes, and is worth 50% of your overall mark. You will have to answer 4 questions - broken down into 4 parts: a), b), c) and d) - aim to spend roughly **25 minutes** on each section.



THE BASICS – READ THE QUESTIONS

- 1) Read the questions carefully. Remember to answer all the parts of the questions.
- 2) Be aware of how much time you're using. Leave plenty of time for the long-answer questions. The more marks a question's worth, the longer you should be spending on it – for these exams, allow around 1 minute per mark. Try to leave yourself 5 minutes at the end to check your work.
- 3) Some questions will have extra marks available for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPaG) – 6 marks in total for each paper. The exam paper will tell you which questions offer SPaG marks – so make your writing for these the best it can be.
- 4) Don't use any fancy colours – write only in black ink.

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PART A) QUESTIONS

* Part a) questions are worth 3 marks.

* They're straightforward - 3 short points will earn you full marks. You'll be asked to either 'State' or 'Outline'.

* 'STATE' QUESTIONS - these will only ask you to write down three points and you don't need to write in a full sentence.

E.g. a) State three religious traditions, other than Islam, in Great Britain. (3)

Christianity, Judaism and Buddhism.

* 'OUTLINE' QUESTIONS – these questions could ask you about different aspects, e.g. religious beliefs on a topic, teachings, or ways that believers do something. Keep your answers short - 3 points for 3 marks.

E.g. a) Outline three Muslim beliefs about the afterlife.

The afterlife is where people go after the Day of Judgement. The reward for good people will be entry into jannah (paradise) and for those who have done bad deeds, the punishment is jahannam (hell).

Don't be tempted to write lots - this answer would be enough to get you three marks.

PART B) QUESTIONS WILL USUALLY ASK YOU TO 'EXPLAIN TWO ...'

* Part b) questions are worth 4 marks.

* You need to give two reasons; you will not get marks for giving more than two reasons.

* You need to demonstrate a higher level of understanding by giving a reason and then by developing it.

* Development must address both the question set and the reason already given; they must link clearly.

* The best forms of development are quotations, examples and evidence which support the reason.

* To get full marks, candidates need to: give a reason and then develop it, then give a second (different) reason and develop it in a way different from the first reason.

E.g. Explain two reasons why the five roots of 'Usul ad-Din' are important for Shi'a Muslims.

They are the five principles of faith so they show a person what they must believe to be a Muslim. Therefore, they are the beliefs that Muslims must hold if their practices are to be correct and they ensure that the practices that they teach are the correct ones. Secondly, they come from the teachings of the Qur'an, for example Surah 112 says "He Allah is one", and as it's their holy book they must follow its teachings.

COMPARISON OF ISLAM WITH CHRISTIANITY

* You should compare and contrast two areas of belief and practice within Islam with Christianity:

• Beliefs about the afterlife and their significance

• The practice and significance of worship

* You will be expected to study Islam within the context of the wider British society.

E.g. Describe two differences in forms of worship between Islam and the main religious tradition of Great Britain.

You are required to recognise that Christianity is the main religious tradition of Great Britain.

Muslims must wash before worship, but Christians are not commanded to prepare for worship by washing.

Secondly, Muslims have prescribed times for worship, yet Christians can choose their own times for communal worship.

PART C) QUESTIONS WILL ASK YOU TO 'EXPLAIN TWO...'

* Part c) questions are worth 5 marks.

* They will ask you to explain two aspects, such as beliefs, teachings, ways that believers respond, or reasons why something is important.

* You need to give two points and develop them, but for full marks you must refer to a source of wisdom and authority (sacred text or religious teaching). This could be by including a quotation, or by paraphrasing - explaining what's said in your own words. You'll need to say which text or teaching the information comes from.

* There's only one mark available for including a source, so one quote or reference will do.

E.g. Explain two Muslim teachings on jihad. You should include an example from a source of wisdom and authority.

Greater jihad is the struggle to live life according to Allah's teachings. It's a personal struggle, and individuals must work to be the best Muslims they can be. Lesser jihad can involve defending Islam. This could be in a peaceful way, or by fighting a threat to Islam in self-defence. The Qur'an says: "Permission [to fight] has been given to those who are being fought".

PART D) QUESTIONS WILL ASK YOU TO 'EVALUATE...'

* You'll need to write a longer answer for the part d) question. It's worth 12 or 15 marks, depending on whether it tests SPaG (see below).

* You'll be given a statement and a list of bullet points — these tell you what to put in your answer.

* You need to give arguments for and against the statement, so read it carefully, then make a rough list of all the views on each side that you can think of.

* Plan out your answer before you start writing — it needs to be clear and organised for the examiner.

E.g. 'There are more similarities than differences between Sunni and Shi'a Muslims.'

Evaluate this statement considering arguments for and against. In your response you should:

*** refer to Muslim teachings**

*** refer to different Muslim points of view**

*** reach a justified conclusion (12 marks + 3 SPaG)**

Some would see this is a true statement because the basic beliefs of Sunni and Shi'a Muslims are the same.

This is because they have a shared history and both believe in the Qur'an and the prophethood of Muhammad, from where Muslim teachings come. Therefore, beliefs such as Tawhid and Risalah unite Sunni and Shi'a Muslims, and feature in their main principles of belief, such as the six Beliefs and five roots of 'Usul ad-Din.

However, they do also differ on certain aspects, such as who should have led the Muslim community after the Prophet's death. Sunni Muslims believe in all four caliphs after the death of Muhammad, but Shi'a Muslims do not accept the first three, and consider Ali to have been the rightful leader of Muslims. As a result of this split, both groups have developed their own separate paths because of some fundamental disagreements - like the importance given to ahl al-bayt. Sunnis do not accept the authority of the Shi'a imams, or vice versa. Sunni and Shi'a Muslims also have differences in the way they pray (for instance, Shi'as place a turban on the ground) and how they conduct marriages and divorces. This affects unity within Islam and has even led to violent clashes, such as in some parts of the Muslim world today. There are also further divisions within the two branches, like in Shi'a Islam where Twelvers and Seveners have separate lines of imams.

I believe that there are more similarities than differences between Sunnis and Shi'as because the Five Pillars - Shahadah: reciting the Muslim profession of faith; Salat: prayers five times each day; Zakat: giving to charity; Sawm: fasting; and Hajj: pilgrimage to Mecca - are accepted by Shi'as too. They are also generally seen to be united rather than disunited. For example, Sunni and Shi'a Muslims are often seen praying and going on pilgrimage together. This is in the spirit of teachings that promote unity: 'Hold fast to God's rope all together' (Qur'an, Surah 3:103).

SOME PART D) QUESTIONS HAVE 3 EXTRA MARKS FOR SPaG

* Part d) of questions 1 and 3 has 3 extra marks for spelling, punctuation, grammar and specialist terminology. So that's 6 marks per exam, and 12 marks in total.

* The examiner will look at your spelling, punctuation and grammar in general, but they'll also look at how many technical terms you use and how accurately you use them.

* Leave 5 minutes at the end of the exam to check your work. That isn't long, so there won't be time to check everything thoroughly. Look for the most obvious mistakes.

* Start by checking questions 1 d) and 3 d) since they're the only ones that award SPaG marks. Only check the rest of your answers if you've got time.



My favourite kind of SPaG...

INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM

Islam was founded in the 7th century. It shares some ideas with Judaism and Christianity. Muslims believe in one god, Allah. The Qur'an is the Muslim holy book — Muslims also follow the prophet Muhammad's teaching.



ISLAM IS DIVIDED INTO TWO MAIN TRADITIONS — SUNNI AND SHI'A

* About 85-90% of Muslims are Sunni Muslims — most of the rest are Shi'a Muslims.

* Muhammad was the founder of Islam — Allah revealed the Qur'an to him. After Muhammad died, Muslims had to choose a new leader (caliph). The next four caliphs were Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali.



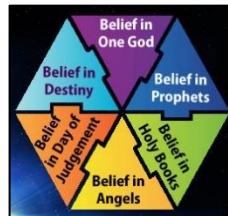
* However, some Muslims had wanted Ali to be the first caliph, and thought the first three caliphs shouldn't have been given the role. Others said Ali shouldn't be the caliph at all.
* After Ali died, two groups formed — the Sunnis and the Shi'as. Each group followed a different line of caliphs. The Sunnis accepted the next caliph after Ali, but the Shi'as (Shi'at Ali or Party of Ali) followed Ali's descendants. Sunnis and Shi'as have been separate groups ever since.

SUNNIS AND SHI'AS HAVE MANY SIMILAR BELIEFS

Sunnis and Shi'as share many beliefs, but have some different ideas. Their **basic beliefs — articles of faith** — are slightly different, but they **share beliefs in Allah, the holy books, prophets and a day of judgement**. These, along with a belief in **angels**, are mentioned in the Qur'an (4:136) and other teachings, e.g. **The Book of Faith: Kitab al-Iman 1:4**.

There are **six articles of faith** in **Sunni Islam**:

- 1) belief that **Allah is the one and only god** (Tawhid)
- 2) belief in **angels** (Malaikah)
- 3) belief in the **holy books**
- 4) belief in Allah's **prophets** (Nubuwwah)
- 5) belief in the **Day of Judgement**
- 6) belief that **Allah knows and decides everything that's going to happen** (predestination — al-Qadr)



There are **five articles of faith** in **Shi'a Islam**. They're known as the '**Usul ad-Din** — roots/foundations of faith:

- 1) belief that **Allah is the one and only god** (Tawhid)
- 2) belief in **divine justice** ('Adl)
- 3) belief in **prophethood** (Nubuwwah)
- 4) belief in the **authority of imams** (Imamah)
- 5) belief in the **Day of Resurrection** (Mi'ad)



KEY SUNNI BELIEFS

- 1) **No one after Muhammad** received knowledge from Allah. Muslims should **focus on Muhammad and his way of life (sunnah)** rather than paying too much attention to Ali and his sons.
- 2) Muslims should be **guided by the consensus (majority view)** of the community.

KEY SHI'A BELIEFS

- 1) **Ali was the first true caliph**. Allah gave him knowledge to ensure his teaching and actions were right.
- 2) There are many branches of Shi'a Islam. They share a common belief in a line of imams after Ali, who all had the same knowledge from Allah as Ali. **Shi'a imams are leaders and figureheads of the religion. They're all descendants of Muhammad**. In Sunni Islam, the word 'imam' simply means 'prayer leader'.
- 3) The **different branches of Shi'a Islam split off from each other after disagreements about the line of imams**. The **Twelvers are the largest branch**, but there are many others.
- 4) **Twelver Shi'as believe in a line of 12 imams**, the last of whom is in hiding and will eventually return. The Twelvers are led by religious scholars while they wait for the last imam's return.
- 5) **Isma'ili Shi'as** (often called '**Sevensers**') thought the seventh imam should be Isma'il, the elder brother of the one chosen by the Twelvers. The **biggest group of Isma'ilis today, the Nizaris**, think each imam can select the next and are still led by an imam now, known as the Aga Khan.



SECTION 1: MUSLM BELIEFS

Islam is a monotheistic religion — Muslims believe in **only one god, Allah**. They believe in **many prophets**.

TAWHID IS CENTRAL TO ISLAM - “Say, ‘He is Allah, [who is] One’ ” (Qur’an 112:1).

- 1) The word **Allah** is from the **Arabic** al-ilah, meaning ‘**the god**’, i.e. the **only god**. Several of the ninety-nine names of Allah make this clear, including al-Ahad (the one and only) and al-Wahid (the one).
- 2) Saying Allah is the only god is the **first part of the shahadah, the Muslim declaration of faith**.
- 3) **Shirk** — **believing in other gods as well as Allah, or that anyone or thing could share in Allah’s oneness** — is seen as the **worst sin**. Muslims therefore disagree with the Christian idea of the Holy Trinity and with polytheism (believing in multiple gods). Images of Muhammad aren’t allowed, in case of shirk.

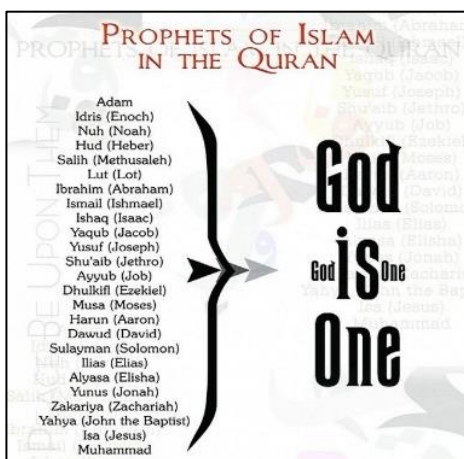
“**Allah does not forgive association with Him**, but He forgives what is less than that...” (Qur’an 4:116): ‘Association with Him’ is worshipping other gods as well as Allah.

- 4) According to a **hadith, Muhammad said that when telling non-Muslims about Islam, the first thing Muslims should mention is Tawhid**: “let the first thing to which you will invite them, be the Tauhid [Tawhid] of Allah” (Sahih al-Bukhari 93:469).

ALLAH HAS MANY CHARACTERISTICS

- 1) **MERCIFUL** — Muslims believe Allah shows mercy and compassion. All but one of the Qur’an’s chapters begin by saying this: “**In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful**” (Qur’an 1:1) — it’s known as the **bismillah**. They believe **Allah is kind and forgives people’s sins**.
- 2) **OMNIPOTENT** — Allah is **all-powerful**. He **created the universe** and is **in control** of everything. He has **predetermined people’s lives** (decided what will happen), though people do have **free will**.
- 3) **BENEVOLENT** — Allah is **all-good** — he can do no evil. He **cares for his people** — this is seen in his intervention in the world, e.g. his **revelations to the prophets** were to show people **how to live a good life**.
- 4) **JUST** — Muslims believe Allah will **judge people’s behaviour in a fair way**. This concept is particularly **important to Shi’a Muslims** — known as ‘Adl, it’s one of the ‘Usul ad-Din.
- 5) **IMMANENT** — Allah is **present and involved in the world**. He’s **close to every human** and knows them: “And We have already created man and know what his soul whispers to him, and We are closer to him than [his] jugular vein” (Qur’an 50:16).
- 6) **TRANSCENDENT** — Allah’s also **above everything** — he can’t be thought of in human terms. He has **no equal**.

There are **ninety-nine names for Allah listed in the Qur’an**. Each refers to one of his characteristics. Points 1-4 above are each English translations of one of these names (originally in Arabic). **Muslims recite them in daily prayers**.



RISALAH: PROPHETHOOD

Belief in the prophets is an article of faith for **both Sunnis and Shi’as**.

* **Allah’s compassion** means he **can’t leave people to sin without helping them**. So he **sends messages about how to live a good life**. He almost always does this **via angels**, who pass on his words to **human prophets (rasuls)**. **Risalah is the concept of messengership** — the way Allah communicates with humans.

* Allah chose many people as prophets. **25 prophets are mentioned in the Qur’an**, although some believe there have been 124 000. Some prophets were given holy books to pass on to humankind.

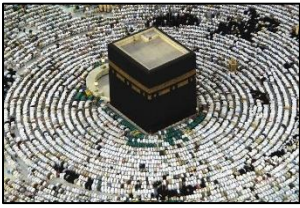


* Muslims believe the **prophets taught the same basic ideas**, most importantly **belief in one god**. They see all the prophets as **equal to each other** — “We make no distinction between any of them” (Qur’an 2:136).

* Muslims believe the prophets **performed miracles to prove they were really prophets**.

* The **first prophet was Adam**, who was also the **first man**, created by Allah in his image. Others were **Ibrahim (Abraham), Isma’il (Ishmael), Musa (Moses), Dawud (David), Isa (Jesus) and Muhammad**.

* **Adam** was sent to Earth after eating fruit forbidden to him by Allah. Allah forgave him his sin though. Adam is considered to have been the **first Muslim**. Some believe he **first built the Ka’aba**.



* **Ibrahim rejected the idea of many different gods**. Muslims can **learn from his devotion to Allah** — he proved his faith by being **willing to sacrifice his own son**, Isma’il. Ibrahim is thought to have **rebuilt the Ka’aba** and he and his family’s story plays an important role in the **hajj rituals**.

* Ibrahim’s son **Isma’il** was also a prophet and **helped him build the Ka’aba**. It’s believed many Arabs, including Muhammad, are **descended from Isma’il** — he’s known as Abul Arab, the father of the Arabs.



* **Musa** is the **only prophet that Allah spoke to directly**, rather than through the angel Jibril (Gabriel). He’s important as he **kept trying to guide people to believe in one god**, even when they worshipped others.

* **Dawud** is known for **killing Jalut (Goliath)** during a battle between Jalut’s large army and Talut’s (Saul’s) smaller one. Dawud later succeeded Talut as king. As well as his **bravery**, Muslims can learn from his **wisdom** and his **loyalty to Allah** — he would **pray for a third of each night**.



* Allah sent **Isa** when he thought people had **strayed from Musa’s teachings**. Muslims believe Isa **wasn’t crucified** (Allah wouldn’t let that happen) but **after 3 years’ teaching Allah brought him up into heaven**.

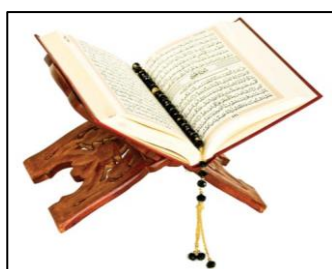
* Muslims believe all these prophets **paved the way for Muhammad**:



MUHAMMAD

- Muhammad was born about 570 CE in Makkah (Mecca). One day, while Muhammad was meditating, **Allah sent the angel Jibril to him with a message**.
- Muhammad was scared at first, but as **Jibril gradually revealed more and more of the message** from Allah, Muhammad **began preaching this message to others**.
- The **early messages** said people should **worship one god**, Allah, and that people would be **judged on their behaviour**. Later on, the revelations gave **more detail on how Muslims should live their lives**.
- Eventually, this message from Allah was **written down as the Qur’an**. The Qur’an is seen by Muslims as a **miracle** — **the final revelation from Allah**.
- Muhammad is often called the ‘**seal of the prophets**’ — most Muslims believe he was the **last prophet** that there will be. He is believed to have been a **wise leader**, who **settled disputes** and **brought different communities together**. He **performed several miracles**.
- As Muhammad was Allah’s last prophet, **Muslims pay particular attention to his words and actions**. They use them to work out **how to live their lives**, as they see him as a **role model**.

THE QUR’AN IS THE WORD OF ALLAH - Qur’an is sometimes spelt ‘Koran’ in English.



1) Muslims think the Qur’an is the **most important holy book**. They believe it’s a **complete and accurate record of Allah’s exact words to Muhammad**, as Qur’an 53:10-11 describes: “**he revealed to His Servant what he revealed. The heart did not lie [about] what it saw.**” The Qur’an allows humans to **know Allah**.

2) In the Qur’an, Allah tells Muslims what they **need to know** and how to **lead their lives to please him**. Muslims try to live according to its guidance. This helps them be **rewarded by Allah and get to Paradise**.



3) Many Muslims learn the Qur'an by heart. The Qur'an was revealed in **Arabic** — if it's written in another language the meaning might change, so **Muslims learn Arabic to ensure they're reading the true Qur'an.**

4) There's often **dispute over how to interpret the Qur'an** though, e.g. in relation to jihad. It can be **difficult to apply its teachings to modern life**, because so much has changed since it was revealed.

THE QUR'AN IS DIVIDED INTO 114 SURAHS

1) The Qur'an is organised into **114 surahs (chapters)**, each made up of **ayahs (verses)**. The surahs are in order of length — longest first, shortest last (except surah 1, a short statement of Muslims' basic beliefs).

2) Because the Qur'an is so important, Muslims **treat it with great respect**. The Qur'an is often ornately decorated, inside and out. Many Muslims:

- * keep their Qur'an **wrapped** up to keep it clean
- * **wash** their hands before touching it
- * keep it on a **higher shelf** than all other books
- * place it on a **special stand** when they read it

3) The Qur'an is **read during private and public prayers**, so **Muslims get to know it well.**



THERE ARE OTHER HOLY BOOKS (KUTUB) IN ISLAM - Allah also revealed holy books to other prophets. Angels were messengers for Allah.

As well as the Qur'an, Muslims see the **Sahifah, the Tawrat, the Zabur and the Injil as holy books**. But they believe they've been **changed over time through editing**, and only the Qur'an exists in its original form.

1) The first holy book is thought to have been **given to Ibrahim**. Known as the **Sahifah (scrolls)**, it is now lost. The Qur'an mentions it several times, for example in Qur'an 87:18-19.

2) The **Tawrat (Torah)** is the book given to **Musa**. It's the main Jewish holy book. The Qur'an says it contains the **"judgement of Allah" (Qur'an 5:43)** so it's valued by Muslims. It includes the **Ten Commandments**, basic rules for a religious life. **"We sent down the Torah, in which was guidance and light" (Qur'an 5:44).**

3) The **Zabur (Psalms)** was given to **Dawud**: **"...to David We gave the book [of Psalms]" (Qur'an 4:163)**. It's thought to be linked to the Psalms of David in the Christian Bible and the Jewish Tenakh, but many Muslims believe the **original has been corrupted**, perhaps beyond recognition.

4) Muslims believe Allah gave the **Injil to Isa**. **Qur'an 57:27** says "We sent ... Our messengers and followed [them] with **Jesus ... and gave him the Gospel**". They think the **Injil prophesies the coming of Muhammad**. Many Muslims believe the Christian New Testament contains the same ideas as those given to Isa, but not his exact words. Others think the Injil was another book entirely.

5) Muslims also pay a lot of attention to the guidance and example they get from the following:



HADITH - The hadith are **reports of Muhammad's words and actions, recorded by his followers**. They're **not in the Qur'an** — they **weren't revealed by Allah**. Each one's been assessed as to how authentic it is. There are different collections of them, e.g. Sahih al-Bukhari, **Sahih Muslim** and Sunan Abi Dawud.

SUNNAH - The sunnah **sets out Muhammad's way of life, as recorded in the hadith**.

6) The hadith and the sunnah give valuable advice in addition to the Qur'an, especially on **issues concerning daily life** — but some Muslims believe it's best just to use the Qur'an, as the hadith might be unreliable.

7) **Shi'a** Muslims also follow the hadith (sayings) of the imams, especially those of Ali.

MALAIKAH: ANGELS - ALLAH'S MESSENGERS "They exalt [Him] night and day [and] do not slacken" (Qur'an 21:20).

1) The **purpose** of angels is to **follow Allah's orders and communicate with humans, often via the prophets**. In heaven, they **praise him and guard his throne**. They **welcome humans into paradise**.

2) They're thought to be **genderless, made of light** and to **have wings**. They're **immortal** and **don't have free will**, as their role is to **obey Allah** — they're therefore **incapable of sin**. Allah created them **before humans**.



3) Some angels **record people's good and bad deeds for the Day of Judgement**. Qur'an 43:80 says "Our messengers are with them recording". **Guardian angels protect people from danger and evil**. Some think they're the same thing and recording angels act as guardians too.

4) Belief in angels is an **article of faith for Sunnis**, so it's important. The thought of a guardian angel can be **comforting** for Muslims. Having an angel recording their deeds can **influence Muslims to do good things**.



5) **Jibril (Gabriel)** is an important angel. He **revealed Allah's words (the Qur'an) to Muhammad**. He also revealed messages to other prophets, so he's known as the **angel of revelation**. He told **Maryam (Mary)** she was pregnant with **Isa (Jesus)** — see Qur'an 19:16-22. "**Gabriel ... has brought the Qur'an down upon your heart, [O Muhammad], by permission of Allah**" (Qur'an 2:97).

6) **Mika'il (Michael)** is important too — **he's named in Qur'an 2:98**. He asks Allah to **forgive people's sins**.

7) **Isra'il (Azrael)** is the angel of death (Qur'an 32:11). He **takes souls from people's bodies when they die**.

LIFE AFTER DEATH

AL-QADR MEANS PREDESTINATION

1) Al-Qadr is the idea that **Allah has decided everything that will happen**. This idea appears in teachings such as Sahih al-Bukhari 78:685, in which Muhammad said vowing to do something "does not bring about ... anything [Allah] has not decreed" — humans can't choose to do something Allah hasn't chosen for them.

2) This might seem to be contradicted by the idea of the Day of Judgement when Allah will judge people on the basis of their actions. That **suggests people have free will and can choose how they act — there'd be no point judging them on their actions if what they did had already been decided by Allah**.

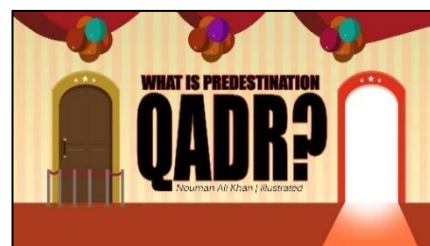


3) However, many Muslims believe in a mix of these two ideas:

* **Sunnis** tend to believe Allah knows everything that's going to happen — he's above normal laws of time, so knows what humans will choose before they've chosen it. It's believed **humans choose their actions, but Allah has made it impossible that they'll choose anything other than what he's decided**. Some think once someone's chosen to act, the act becomes 'theirs' so they can be judged for it.

* **Shi'as** focus a bit more on **free will**. They often believe Allah has ultimate control and the power to change things in the world if he wants, but that people's lives are usually determined by their choices. **Like Sunnis, they tend to believe Allah knows what's going to happen as he is outside 'human' time — but for Shi'as, what happens is what people choose for themselves**.

4) To some Muslims, the idea of al-Qadr is **comforting** — if something bad has happened, it's **reassuring to feel it's part of Allah's plan**. Some people like to feel that they're guided to do Allah's will by al-Qadr.



YAWM AD-DIN IS THE DAY OF JUDGEMENT

1) On Yawm ad-Din, **Allah decides how people will spend the afterlife, based on their behaviour during their lives**. It's then too late to beg forgiveness for any wrongdoing.

2) Allah will **judge everyone** — not just Muslims. On Yawm ad-Din, the **dead will be resurrected to join those still living**. Everyone will receive a record of their good and bad deeds, on which they'll be judged: "**We will call forth every people with their record [of deeds]**" (Qur'an 17:71).



3) The idea of judgement is important as it **encourages Muslims to live their lives in a good way**. It can be **comforting to think bad people will be punished**. Other Muslims think it's best to concentrate on this life — they think people **should do good things anyway, not just because they're focusing on their afterlife**.

4) Intentions are also important — **intending to do something good counts, but intending to do something bad but not doing it doesn't count against you** (Sahih Muslim 1:233).

AKHIRAH MEANS THE AFTERLIFE

- 1) Belief in the afterlife is a key part of Islam. The afterlife is **where people go after the Day of Judgement**: "...for one whose scales are heavy [with good deeds], He will be in a pleasant life. ...for one whose scales are light, His refuge will be an abyss" (Qur'an 101:6-9).
- 2) The reward for good people will be entry into **jannah (paradise)** — this is a place of peace, happiness and beauty. The Qur'an refers to Paradise as "Gardens of Pleasure" (Qur'an 31:8).
- 3) For those who have done bad deeds, the punishment is **jahannam (hell)**. The Qur'an describes jahannam as a place of scorching fire and boiling water. Here, those who have ignored Allah's teaching and failed to act righteously will be punished. Allah is merciful though, so they may eventually be sent to paradise.
- 4) The Qur'an sometimes mentions a **'barrier' between this world and the next called barzakh**, where people's souls stay from the time they die until Yawm ad-Din. Many Muslims focus more on jannah and jahannam than barzakh. "...behind them is a barrier until the Day they are resurrected" (Qur'an 23:100).



REMEMBER: YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO COMPARE MUSLIM BELIEFS ABOUT THE AFTERLIFE WITH THOSE OF CHRISTIANITY...

CHRISTIANS BELIEVE IN HEAVEN AND HELL

- * Life after death is the idea that, although your body may die and decay, your soul can live on.
- * Christianity teaches that the soul lives on after death - **immortality of the soul** - and that the body will be **resurrected** (brought back to life) for **Judgement Day**, just as **Jesus was resurrected after his crucifixion**.
- * Christians believe that God will judge you, and you'll go to either **Heaven or Hell**:



Heaven is often portrayed as a place of great beauty and serenity, a **paradise** where you'll spend eternity with God — as long as you believe in **Jesus** and have followed his **teachings**, you can be saved by **God's grace**. The **soul** can go to heaven even though the body ('earthly tent') is gone.

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die..." **John 11:25 NIV**

"For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands." **2 Corinthians 5:1 NIV**

Hell, on the other hand, is often portrayed as a place of **torment** and **pain** — the final destination of **nonbelievers** and those who have led **bad** lives.

"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." **Matthew 25:46 NIV**

* However, not all Christians believe that Heaven and Hell are real places — many Christians see Heaven and Hell as **states of mind**. In Heaven you'll be happy, and know God — in Hell you'll be unable to know God's love. **Pope John Paul II** said that **Hell was a metaphor** for how people who've rejected God will feel.

* **Roman Catholics** believe that going to Hell means that **any connection they have to God will be severed** forever: "This state of definitive self-exclusion from communion with God... is called 'hell'" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1033).

* Some believe **God wouldn't punish people for eternity**. A few believe that those who God finds unacceptable will be annihilated. In a report called 'The Mystery of Salvation', senior members of the Church of England said that for those people "the only end is total non-being". Others think a loving God wouldn't allow anyone to go to Hell.

PURGATORY

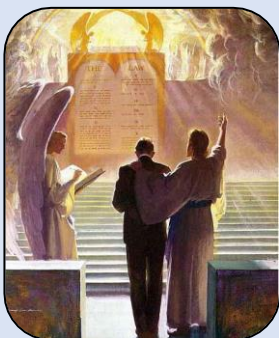
Roman Catholics believe in a place, or state of existence, called Purgatory. Here sins are punished and the person must "undergo purification" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1030) before the soul can move on to Heaven. **Protestants** believe this isn't in the Bible, so they reject it.



CHRISTIANS BELIEVE RESURRECTION HAPPENS AT THE LAST JUDGEMENT

* Many Christians believe that **Jesus will return to Earth in the Second Coming (Parousia)**, and everyone who has died will be **resurrected**: "in Christ all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22).

* Some believe that **all of humanity will then be judged at the Last Judgement**. Those that God finds acceptable will enter Heaven — the rest will go to Hell, as in the **Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25:31-46)**.



- "Christ... ascended into Heaven, and there sitteth, until he return to judge all Men at the last day." **39 Articles IV**

- "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due to us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad" (**2 Corinthians 5:10**).

* **Roman Catholics** believe in a personal day of judgement straight after a person dies — their actions will be judged and they'll go to Heaven or Hell straight away, then they'll be judged again at the Last Judgement, and will re-enter Heaven or Hell in their resurrected forms.

* Others don't believe in a personal judgement — the soul must wait to be judged at the Last Judgement.

WHICH BELIEFS ARE THE SAME AS THESE IN ISLAM AND WHICH ARE DIFFERENT? CREATE A TABLE OR LISTS.

TEST 1: MUSLM BELIEFS

1. What does Allah mean? (1)
2. Why do Muslims believe this? Give a SOWAA. (1)
3. What is the Muslim belief in one God called? (1)
4. Saying Allah is the only god is the first part of what? (2)
5. What is Shirk? (2)
6. In Qur'an 4:116 it states, "Allah does not forgive association with Him, but He forgives what is less than that..." What does 'association with Him' mean? (1)
7. Why do Muslims believe a key characteristic of Allah is his merciful nature, and what does this mean for humans? (2)
8. What does omnipotent mean, and how is this shown to be a characteristic of Allah? (3)
9. What does benevolent mean, and how does Allah show it? (2)
10. Muslims believe Allah will judge people's behaviour in a fair way. What characteristic does this reveal? (1)
11. What word is used to describe that Allah is present and involved in the world, and what part of the body describes how he's close to every human and knows them? (2)
12. What does transcendent mean? (2)
13. What does Risalah mean? (1)
14. 'Belief in the prophets is an article of faith for both Sunnis and Shi'as.' True or false? (1)
15. What are Allah's messages about and how are they usually communicated? (2)
16. How do Muslims see all the prophets? Why? (2)
17. How do Muslims believe the prophets proved they were really prophets? (1)
18. What four things was Adam the first of, and how was he created? (5)

19. What is Ibrahim's name in English? State one thing Muslims can learn from him. (2)
20. Ibrahim's son Isma'il is known as Abul Arab. What does this mean? (1)
21. What is Moses' name in Arabic, and why is he important? (2)
22. As well as his bravery, what else can Muslims learn from Dawud (David)? (2)
23. Who is Isa, and why was he sent by Allah? (2)
24. What do Muslims disagree with Christians over when it comes to Isa? (1)
25. While Muhammad was meditating, who did Allah send to him with a message? (1)
26. What three key bits of information did these messages contain? (3)
27. What was this message from Allah written down as, and why is it so important? (3)
28. Why is Muhammad so important to Muslims? (3)
29. Why do Muslims think the Qur'an is the most important holy book? (2)
30. Why do Muslims learn Arabic? (2)
31. Why can there be disputes over how to interpret the Qur'an? Give an example. (2)
32. State two ways Muslims show that they respect the Qur'an. (2)
33. Why do Muslims see their other holy books as not being as important as The Qur'an? (1)
34. What is the first holy book called and who is it thought to have been given to? (2)
35. The Tawrat (Torah) is the book given to who, and why is it valued by Muslims? (2)
36. What was Dawud given? (1)
37. Muslims believe Allah gave the Injil to who, and what does it mean in English? (2)
38. What is the hadith? (1)
39. What is the sunnah (1)
40. What are Malaikah? (1)
41. Name a purpose of angels? (1)
42. Why are angels incapable of sin? (1)
43. What do some angels do in preparation for the Day of Judgement? (1)
44. How can the thought of a guardian angel, or an angel recording their deeds, impact on a Muslim's life? (1)
45. Why is Jibril (Gabriel) an important angel? (2)
46. What does Mika'il (Michael) do? (1)
47. What is the name of the angel that takes souls from people's bodies when they die? (1)
48. What does al-Qadr mean? (1)
49. What do Sunnis believe about this? (2)
50. What do Shi'as think about al-Qadr? (2)
51. What is Yawm ad-Din? (1)
52. How does Allah decide how people will spend the afterlife and what does this encourage? (2)
53. What does akhirah mean? (1)
54. What will the reward for good people be? (1)
55. What will happen to those who have done bad deeds? (1)
56. What is barzakh? (2)

SECTION 2: CRIME & PUNISHMENT

JUSTICE IS IMPORTANT FOR MANY PEOPLE

1) Justice is the idea of **each person getting what they deserve and maintaining what's right**. It includes punishing the guilty and protecting the innocent. For victims of crime, justice might mean seeing the offender pay for what they did through punishment, and being made to realise the impact of their actions.



2) Justice is important to non-religious people like **Atheists and Humanists** because:



- * We need laws so that people know what **sort of behaviour to expect from each other**. If there were no rules there **would be chaos**.
- * If there were no laws about business deals and work, **modern day society could not operate**.
- * We need laws to **protect the weak from the strong**. Imagine what life would be like if there were no laws on stealing, murder and rape.
- * In an advanced civilisation such as the UK's, we need laws to keep everything **organised**.



WHY MAY SOME PEOPLE STILL ARGUE THAT WE DON'T NEED LAWS?

- * Laws **restrict human freedom** and individuals should be free to do as they wish.
- * Some countries have experimented with **getting rid of traffic laws** in towns and have found there are fewer accidents.

WHY DOES THERE NEED TO BE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE LAW AND JUSTICE?

- * If a law is unjust, people will feel that it is **right to break the law** and will campaign against the causing trouble in society.
- * If some laws are unjust, then they are **not fulfilling their purpose** of making sure that people are rewarded for their work, the weak are protected, etc.
- * If the laws do not create a just society, people will think the legal system is not working and may start a **civil war**.



3) Religious people believe that **God/Allah is just**:

- * Islam teaches Muslims to **work for justice**, and to **treat others justly and equally**: **“Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression” (Qur’an 16:90)**. It is an **important part of shari’ah (Islamic law)**.
- * Muslims believe that they should always strive for justice to take place: **“O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm in justice, witnesses for Allah, even if it be against yourselves or parents and relatives” (Qur’an 4:135)**.
- * Many also believe that those who **fight for justice will be rewarded in the afterlife**, but those who **don't will be sent to jahannam (hell)**.

PEOPLE SHOULD DO GOOD AND AVOID EVIL



1) Islam teaches people to **live good lives**. This includes following religious teachings, e.g. by helping other people. The good things that people do will please God/Allah. Religious people believe they should **avoid sin and evil**, as their **actions will be judged when they die**.

2) Many believe that there are two types of evil: **Moral evil** is when suffering occurs because of **human actions**, e.g. murder and rape. **Natural evil** is suffering **caused by the world**, e.g. floods and earthquakes.

3) **Both crime and punishment are connected to suffering**. Religious people are normally against most crimes because **of the suffering they cause**. In some sacred texts, **suffering is described as a punishment for the sins people have committed or as a test from God**.

- Islam teaches that Allah is merciful and those who have done good things will be **rewarded**, but he will make people who do bad things **suffer** for them: **“He admits whom He wills into His mercy; but the wrongdoers - He has prepared for them a painful punishment” (Qur’an 76:31)**.
- If people intend to do something good, that will help them on the **Day of Judgement**, but if they intend to do something bad, it won't count against them.
- Many Muslims believe that the **devil, Iblis, tries to make humans turn to evil**.



4) **Non-religious people** reject the idea that God causes suffering. They might feel religion isn't worth the suffering it can sometimes cause, e.g. as an excuse for terrorism, or through persecution of believers.



The **Muslim Chaplains Association** offers religious guidance in prisons in the UK. It aims to **reform prisoners** and stop them from committing crimes after they are released, e.g. by helping them to reintegrate into society again. It also tries to **keep ex-offenders connected to chaplaincies** in their local community so they continue to receive **support after prison**.

Mosaic is a charity that pairs young people approaching the end of their prison sentence with a **mentor**. As they adjust to life outside of prison, the mentor will help them with things like **finding a job** and somewhere to **live** — with the aim that this should **prevent them from returning to a life of crime**.



FORGIVENESS - Forgiveness is important: seeking God/Allah’s forgiveness, and forgiving others.

FORGIVENESS CAN REUNITE PEOPLE AND PREVENT REOFFENDING

1) Forgiveness means **stopping being angry with someone** who’s done something wrong. It is very important for many religious believers. They believe **God is merciful towards people who genuinely seek his mercy** and that they should **reflect God’s forgiving nature** in their own behaviour.

2) Many believe it’s important to forgive criminals so they can be **reconciled with the community**. If they leave prison isolated from others, with no job and little prospects, **reoffending might seem like the only option**. **Forgiveness allows both victims and perpetrators to move on**. However, most religious people believe that criminals should **still be punished** for what they’ve done.

3) **Forgiveness can be shown in many ways**. Lesser offences **no longer stay on people’s records** permanently, and there are **schemes that give ex-offenders skills and a job** when they’re released.

4) **Restorative justice** is where an **offender** might meet people who’ve suffered because of the crime they committed. Actually meeting the people they’ve hurt can help offenders to realise the extent of the damage they’ve done, try to make up for their actions and discourage them from reoffending. It helps the **victim** to work towards forgiving the offender.



ISLAM TEACHES THAT ALLAH IS FORGIVING

1) Muslims can seek retribution for injuries, but they’re encouraged to forgive instead. **Whenever the Qur’an describes punishment, it talks about forgiveness too**.

2) Muslims believe that they must be **merciful so that Allah will do the same to them on Yawm ad-Din** (the Day of Judgement): “But if you pardon and overlook and forgive - then indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Merciful” (Qur’an 64:14).



3) They believe that wrongdoing should be forgiven **if the offender is sorry and tries to make amends**.

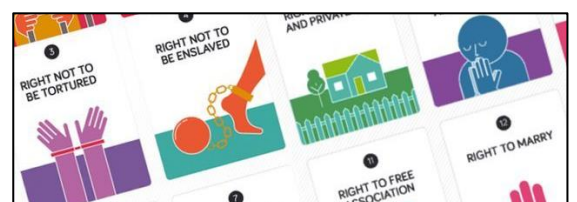
4) The **Prophet Muhammad was forgiving**, as told in the Hadith — Muslims believe in following his example.

5) But some crimes are seen as so awful that **forgiveness isn’t an option, e.g. shirk**.

PUNISHMENT & TREATMENT OF CRIMINALS - Punishment can be used to ‘get back’ at someone for committing a crime, or to prevent crime in the future.

CRIMINALS HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE TREATED FAIRLY

1) **The European Convention on Human Rights** gives the accused the right to have a fair trial. A trial is considered fair when it is **carried out publicly in an unbiased court, and the accused has the opportunity to present their version of events**. In the UK, the person is considered ‘innocent until proven guilty’.



2) Being **tried before a jury** (a panel made up of members of the public) is not compulsory in the UK under the Human Rights Act, but many consider it to be one of the main ways to ensure a trial is fair.

3) If found guilty, the **sentence given varies** depending on the severity of the crime — these include **prison and community service**. Believers are often in favour of community service — it allows the offender to repay their debt to society yet still lead a normal life, which should help to ensure they don't reoffend.

4) In some countries **corporal punishment and torture** are forms of punishment:



- **Corporal punishment** is when physical pain is delivered by e.g. beating or flogging the offender. It's not used in Europe.
- **Torture** is illegal in the UK under the European Convention on Human Rights, but it is used as a punishment in some countries. Torture is often carried out to extract information or confessions from suspected criminals

- Many religious people would say that **torture goes against the sanctity of life argument** — life comes from God and is sacred.
- People who use **Situation Ethics (doing the most loving thing)** and **Utilitarianism (the greatest good for the greatest number)** may decide **torture is justified** in some cases if the information it provides could **save many lives**.

PUNISHMENT CAN HAVE VARIOUS AIMS

TYPE OF PUNISHMENT	ADVANTAGES OF THE PUNISHMENT	PROBLEMS WITH THE PUNISHMENT
Deterrence = Punishment should put people off committing crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * If people know thieves have their hand cut off, then they will not steal. * If people know murderers will be executed, they will not murder. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Punishments have to be very severe. * Criminals do not think they will be caught and so are not deterred by the punishment.
Retribution = Criminals should pay for their crime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * It makes criminals suffer for what they have done wrong. * It actually punishes the criminal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * It makes you as bad as the criminal because you are doing the same thing. * It may not respect human rights.
Protection = It protects society by imprisoning criminals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The punishment removes the offender from society. * It makes the public feel safer, especially from dangerous criminals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The offender may not change when released. * There is no proof that it works.
Reform = Criminals should be taught not to commit crimes again.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The only way to stop crime is to turn criminals into honest law-abiding citizens. * It gives criminals education and qualifications so that they can find a proper job. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * It might not work for dangerous criminals. * Offenders may 'pretend' to be reformed.



ISLAMIC LAW IS DIFFERENT TO UK LAW - There are many different views on punishments, but most Muslims believe in **treating people fairly**.



1) Some Muslim countries have legal systems that are similar to many Western countries, but some use shari'ah. **Shari'ah courts** are different to UK courts. Juries aren't used — instead, the **judge** decides if the accused is guilty. **Solicitors often aren't present** — the **accused represents themselves** in court.

- 2) The Qur'an says that the **punishment should fit the crime**: "...an eye for an eye..." (Qur'an 5:45). But Qur'an 2:178 explains that the offender can sometimes **compensate** the victim financially.
- 3) Many Muslims believe in **reformation**, and punishment should give criminals the opportunity to see the error of their ways: "**Allah wants to make clear to you [the lawful from the unlawful] and guide you to the [good] practices of those before you and to accept your repentance**" (Qur'an 4:26).
- 4) The Qur'an teaches that **prisoners** should be **treated fairly**: "And they give food in spite of love for it to the needy, the orphan, and the captive" (Qur'an 76:8).



5) However, some argue that **treating prisoners harshly can be more effective in reforming them**. **Some Muslims are against community service** as they believe it's too easy and doesn't stop reoffending.

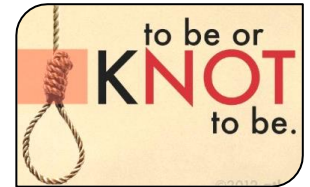
6) **Shari'ah allows corporal punishment**. The Qur'an mentions punishments such as whipping that are carried out publicly — the aim of this is to **deter the criminal**, but some believe this form of punishment can **reform offenders** too, and **offers retribution**. However, some Muslims believe corporal punishments are **too severe**, and **don't respect the offender's human rights**.

7) Most Muslims don't agree with **torture**, but some might allow it if it could prevent greater suffering.

THE DEATH PENALTY - killing someone as punishment for a crime. It's also called capital punishment.

1) **Capital punishment** has been abolished in many countries, including most of Europe and South America. Elsewhere, it only tends to be used for very serious crimes, e.g. murder, espionage (spying) and treason.

2) **Religious and non-religious** people might make some of these arguments for and against the death penalty:



For the Death Penalty

- The risk of death might act as a **better deterrent** to violent criminals than a prison sentence.
- If you execute a murderer, it's **impossible** for them to **kill again**. Imprisoned murderers have been known to **order** killings from jail, or to **reoffend** when released on parole. In cases like these, the **suffering** of the criminal could potentially **protect** many people.
- **Utilitarianism** (or the **principle of utility**) is the idea that the **best** course of action creates the best **balance** of **good** and **bad** results, e.g. it could be used to argue that killing criminals, although bad for them, would be good for the **majority** of society.

Against the Death Penalty

- Killing as punishment is **just as bad** as murder — many **religious people** and **Humanists** are against **any** form of killing.
- It doesn't give the offender the chance to **reform**.
- There have been cases where someone has been proved **innocent after** having been executed.
- Life is **special** and should be **preserved** — many religious people believe in the **sanctity of life**.
- Many religious believers think **God alone** can decide when to **end** someone's **life**.

3) Some people might use **situation ethics** to decide on a case-by-case basis if the death penalty should be applied. This could lead to people being for the death penalty in some cases, but against it in others, depending on, e.g. the severity of the crime and the background to the case.



ISLAMIC LAW ALLOWS THE DEATH PENALTY

1) The Qur'an outlines crimes punishable by death, but encourages victims' families to take compensation.

2) **Muhammad** said that death could be a punishment in three cases: "the married adulterer, a life for life, and the deserter of his Din (Islam)" (Sahih Muslim 16:4152). This is reflected in **shari'ah law**.

3) However, some Muslims believe that **Allah, not humans, should decide when life ends** — they don't agree with capital punishment.

TEST 2: CRIME & PUNISHMENT

1. Why is justice important to Atheists and Humanists? State two reasons. (2)
2. Why may some people still argue that we don't need laws? (1)
3. Give one reason why there needs to be a connection between the law and justice. (1)
4. Why does Islam teach Muslims to work for justice, and to treat others justly and equally? (4)
5. What are the two types of evil? (2)
6. Why are most religious people normally against most crimes? (1)
7. In some sacred texts, what is suffering described as? (2)
8. Who is Iblis and what does he try to do? (2)

9. What do non-religious people think about the idea that God causes suffering? (2)
10. What is a hate crime? (1)
11. What does The Qur'an condemn? (2)
12. Why is murder often seen as the worst crime? (1)
13. What do crimes such as theft and hate disregard? (2)
14. State three causes of crime. (3)
15. Give an example of opposition to unjust law. (1)
16. When may Muslims think it's acceptable to break a law? (2)
17. Muslims believe that on Yawn ad-Din (the Day of Judgement), those who've committed crimes might not be sent where? (1)
18. What does a life of crime not allow? (1)
19. What does Qur'an 5:32 say about murder? (1)
20. Muslims hope that key elements of their religion help to reduce the likelihood of crime. Give an example. (1)
21. What are looked into thoroughly in shari'ah courts? Why? (2)
22. Name the two Muslim charities that work to try to reduce crime by helping prisoners and ex-offenders. (2)
23. Why is forgiveness very important for many religious believers? (1)
24. Why do many believe it's important to forgive criminals? (3)
25. 'Most religious people believe that criminals should not still be punished for what they've done.' True or false? (1)
26. Name one way that forgiveness can be shown to criminals. (1)
27. What is restorative justice, and why can it be effective? (2)
28. Muslims can seek retribution for injuries, but they're encouraged to do what instead? Where does it say this? (2)
29. Why do Muslims believe that they must be merciful? (2)
30. Give an example of a crime that is seen as so awful that forgiveness isn't an option. (1)
31. The European Convention on Human Rights gives the accused the right to what? (1)
32. Why are Muslims often in favour of community service? (2)
33. What is corporal punishment, and is it used in Europe? (2)
34. Why is torture illegal in the UK? (1)
35. Why do many religious people not agree with torture? (1)
36. Name two ethical theories that help some people decide that torture is justified in some cases if the information it provides could save many lives. (2)
37. Name the type of punishment that teaches criminals not to commit crimes again. (1)
38. Which type of punishment has the issue of punishments needing to be very severe? (1)
39. Which punishment has the advantage of removing the offender from society? (1)
40. Name the type of punishment that 'makes you as bad as the criminal because you are doing the same thing.' (1)
41. How are Shari'ah Courts different to UK courts? (2)
42. What does The Qur'an say about the punishment? (2)
43. Many Muslims believe in what type of punishment? Why? (2)
44. What does The Qur'an teach about prisoners? (1)
45. Why are some Muslims against community service? (1)
46. Why does Shari'ah allows corporal punishment? (1)
47. Why are some Muslims against corporal punishments? (2)
48. 'Most Muslims don't agree with torture, but some might allow it if it could prevent greater suffering.' True or false? (1)
49. What is the Death Penalty also called? (1)
50. Give one reason why someone may agree with Capital Punishment? (1)
51. State one reason why someone may disagree with the Death Penalty. (1)
52. Some people might use situation ethics to decide what? (1)
53. The Qur'an outlines crimes punishable by death, but encourages victims' families to take what instead? (1)
54. Muhammad said that death could be a punishment in three cases, what are they? (3)
55. Why don't some Muslims agree with capital punishment? (1)

SECTION 3: LIVING THE MUSLIM LIFE

WORSHIP AND DUTIES

To be faithful Muslims, **Sunni Muslims** need to follow the **Five Pillars**, and **Shi'as** the **Ten Obligatory Acts**.

SUNNI MUSLIMS: FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

1. **Shahadah** — declaration of faith: “There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his messenger.”

Muslims should say this several times a day. It's said at birth and death, as well as in the call to prayer (adhan) and prayers. People can convert to Islam by saying it. The exact words aren't in the Qur'an, but come from passages such as **Qur'an 3:18: “Allah witnesses that there is no deity except Him”**. It's essential to **Shi'a** Muslims too, though it's not one of their Ten Obligatory Acts. They add “Ali is the helper of Allah”, as Ali is significant to their faith.

2. **Salah** — prayer five times a day

The second most important duty in Islam. Muslims should pray five times a day — at sunrise, around noon, late afternoon, after sunset, and late evening.

3. **Zakah** — charitable giving

Each person decides where to donate their money. Zakah encourages **generosity and compassion**.

4. **Sawm** — obligation to fast during Ramadan

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar. Muslims are obliged to fast during it. This teaches **self-discipline**, which **brings Muslims closer to Allah**.

5. **Hajj** — pilgrimage to Makkah

Every Muslim should do hajj at least once. It's only obligatory if you can afford it and you're healthy enough to do it.



10

SHI'A MUSLIMS: TEN OBLIGATORY ACTS

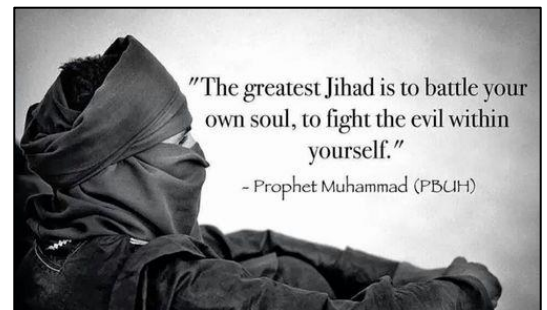
Four — salah, sawm, zakah and hajj — are the same as the **Five Pillars**. The rest are:

5. **Khums** — **kind of tax** Shi'as pay each year on any 'profit' (excess money) they earn, at a rate of 20%. It goes towards supporting Islamic education and anyone descended from Muhammad who's in need.

6. **Jihad** — 'struggle' The word means 'struggle' or 'striving'. There are two types of jihad — the '**greater**' jihad is Muslims' personal struggle to live a good life, and the '**lesser**' jihad is Muslims' struggle to defend Islam against its critics.

7 & 8. **Amr-bil-Marooif and Nahi Anil Munkar** These come as a pair. The phrase means “enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong” (Qur'an 9:71) — it asks Muslims to encourage good deeds and avoid bad ones.

9 & 10. **Tawalla and Tabarra** These also come as a pair. They mean 'love' and 'aloofness' — Muslims should love those who follow Allah and they shouldn't associate themselves with anyone who's an 'enemy' of Allah or Muhammad.



Sunnis may also see these acts as important, but they don't follow those in italics. **Twelver Shi'as** follow these ten acts. **Other Shi'as** follow different sets of acts.

SALAH IS VERY IMPORTANT

1) **Salah, the five daily prayers**, should ideally take place in a mosque, but they can be done anywhere. **Sunnis** only combine the prayers if they have a very good reason that prevents them praying at five separate times, e.g. if they're travelling. **Shi'as** combine some prayers, so they tend to pray three times a day rather than five — but they still say all the same prayers.



2) Each **prayer cycle** (rak'ah) includes saying 'Allahu akbar' ('God is great') multiple times, as well as reciting the first surah of the Qur'an (known as the Fatiha) and other verses from the Qur'an.

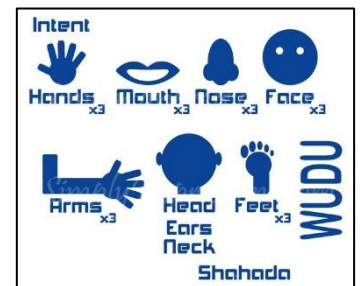
3) **Most men** are obliged to go to **Friday prayers** (Jummah) at the **mosque**.

Requirements vary, but a certain number of people should be present. The Friday prayers are led by an **imam**, who also gives two sermons.

4) Salah keeps Muslims in **close contact with Allah** and encourages **moral and spiritual discipline**. This **keeps them from committing shirk and increases taqwa (reverence for Allah)**. It's an expression of solidarity — doing the same as other Muslims, which is a reminder that **everyone's equal**. "...prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing, and the remembrance of Allah is greater" (Qur'an 29:45).

THERE ARE RITUALS TO FOLLOW WITH SALAH

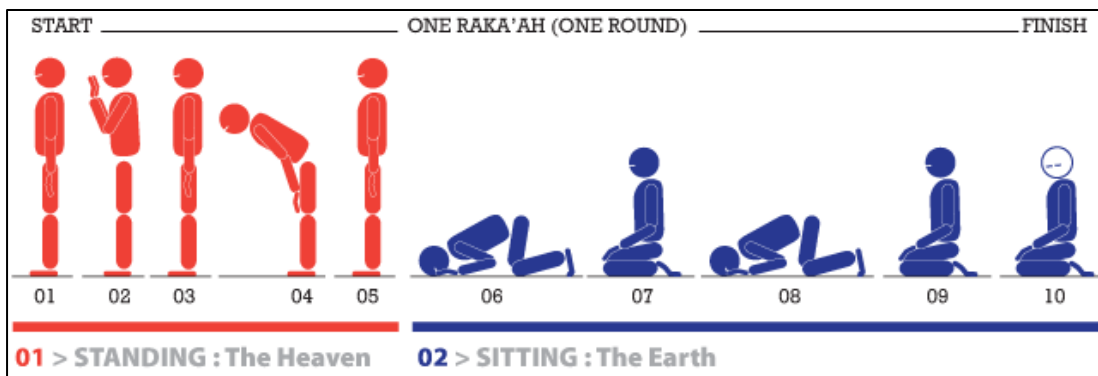
1) **Wudu (washing before prayer)** is important — Muslims must be pure and clean when approaching Allah, both physically and spiritually. Muslims wash their face, arms, feet and part of the hair before prayers. A **prayer mat** is often used when not praying in a mosque, in order to ensure cleanliness.



2) Muslims should **face Makkah in Saudi Arabia** when praying. The direction of Makkah is called the **qiblah**.



3) The **rak'ah is a set prayer ritual**. It may be repeated several times at each prayer session. Each rak'ah involves standing, then kneeling, then putting your forehead to the ground as a **sign of submission to Allah**. If several Muslims are praying in one place, then the rak'ah is done together at the same time.



4) **Shi'a prayers** are a bit different. Shi'as **touch their foreheads to a clay or wooden tablet** during the rak'ah — they believe putting their forehead on something natural is what Muhammad advised. The tablet is often made of clay from Karbala, where Husayn was killed, to remind Shi'as of his sacrifice.

5) When at the **mosque, women and men pray separately** — so people **concentrate on Allah** rather than on the opposite sex. This has changed in some mosques though, where mixed prayer is allowed.

6) Many Muslims perform **salah in the home** rather than at the mosque, particularly women. It's seen as an important **way for children to learn about Islam**. Some Muslim families may have a room just for salah.



REMEMBER: YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO COMPARE MUSLIM SALAH WITH CHRISTIAN WORSHIP...

CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS HAVE DIFFERENT FORMS OF WORSHIP

For Christians, Sunday is the 'Lord's Day', when they celebrate the Sabbath (the holy day of rest). Most churches have their main service on a Sunday morning. Worship often includes, prayers, readings from the Bible, a sermon and the Eucharist - the different denominations place varying amounts of importance on each, creating differences in worship.

SOME WORSHIP IS LITURGICAL (Liturgical = services follow a set pattern written out by the church).

- * Anglican Sunday morning services usually include the Eucharist, and Roman Catholic Sunday morning services always do (Catholics call the Eucharist 'Mass').
- * For Catholics, the Roman 'Missal' sets out the contents of the service. Anglican worship is guided by the 'Common Worship' book, based on The Book of Common Prayer from 1662.
- * The main Orthodox Sunday service is the 'Divine Liturgy', which centres on the Eucharist - it's usually based on the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom.

Anglican and Catholic Eucharist services share many similarities:

- * Confession of sin and request for God's mercy is said by everyone.
- * There are readings (including one Gospel reading) and a sermon - this part is known as the 'liturgy of the Word'. The Nicene or Apostles Creed is then recited.
- * The priest says prayers over bread and wine - this is called the 'liturgy of the Eucharist'.
- * Then the congregation says the Lord's Prayer and 'shares the peace' by shaking hands.
- * They receive the bread and wine. Catholics call this the 'rite of Communion'.

Orthodox services contain similar elements to Anglican and Catholic ones:

- * Sermon, Bible readings, the Nicene Creed and blessing of bread and wine.
 - * They include the 'Litany', where the priest says prayers and the congregation responds with 'Lord have mercy'. Worshippers sing or chant for most of the service.
 - * Services are often longer than most Anglican and Catholic services, and people stand for the majority of the time.
- * For many, public worship helps them to feel involved in a wider Christian community. It can also help them to feel closer to Jesus as they believe he is there in the church with them: "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20)
- * Following traditions also helps Christians to feel connected to other worshippers throughout history.



...AND OTHER WORSHIP IS NON-LITURGICAL

- * The worship of the Society of Friends (Quakers) is non-liturgical and it is usually unstructured. Worshippers sit together in silence, but they are free to pray or speak out loud.
- * Worship in Evangelical churches, (e.g. Pentecostals) is often spontaneous. Worshippers believe they are inspired by the Spirit - this is called 'charismatic worship'. It might inspire them to pray, clap, dance or shout. Sometimes they 'speak in tongues' - praying in an unrecognisable language.
- * Some Christians prefer the freedom of worshipping God in a less structured way. Others view non-liturgical worship as unsuitable for the level of respect that religious services require.
- * Those Christians for whom the sacraments are less important (most Protestants but especially Non-conformists and Pentecostals) prefer non-liturgical worship because:
 - a more free-form of worship helps people to participate in worship
 - it helps to reflect people's moods from joy to sadness so that the worship comes from people's own feelings
 - it allows worship to include forms people identify with such as rock and Gospel music
 - it helps to connect worship to the world of today.



CHRISTIANS ALSO ENGAGE IN PRIVATE WORSHIP

- * Many Christians **worship informally at home** (not just on Sundays). This can be anything from saying grace before a meal, to singing worship songs with family, to reading the Bible or praying.
- * Lots of Christians worship both publicly and privately – **private worship** can help them keep God in mind throughout their everyday lives. Some also find greater freedom in private worship – they decide how they worship God and so feel a better connection with God.



Why is Christian worship important for Christians today?

Because they think that worship:

- * Is an expression of their faith in God
- * Is one way they can show their respect, devotion and thanks to God
- * Allows them to seek and receive forgiveness from God for the things they have done wrong
- * Is an opportunity for connection with God in a way that supports and helps them to grow spiritually and understand God's purpose for them as an individual
- * Reminds Christians of the beliefs and traditions they share with other Christians locally and throughout the world.

WHICH BELIEFS ARE THE SAME AS THESE IN CHRISTIANITY AND WHICH ARE DIFFERENT? CREATE A TABLE OR LISTS.

ZAKAH IS CHARITABLE GIVING

Some Shi'as pay khums in addition to zakah.

- 1) Zakah involves **redistributing wealth**. Muslims think wealth's given by Allah, so should be used to serve him.
- 2) The amount is usually **2.5% of a person's wealth each year**. Muslims can decide how much to give and who they want to donate it to. It's often used to **help Muslims who are less well off, or given to charities or mosques**.
- 3) Zakah is beneficial because it makes the **distribution of wealth fairer** and **helps those in need**. It encourages Muslims to think of others who may not be as well off as them. It's a sign of concern for others and **encourages generosity**. "Zakah...[is] for bringing hearts together" (Qur'an 9:60). This verse also lists who zakah is for, including the "poor and... needy".



SAWM IS FASTING DURING RAMADAN

"O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting ... that you may become righteous..." Qur'an 2:183



- 1) Muslims must fast **between sunrise and sunset** during the **month of Ramadan**. The Muslim calendar is lunar (determined by the moon) so Ramadan isn't always at the same time of the solar (sun) year.
- 2) Muslims **eat just before sunrise** (suhur) and **just after sunset** (iftar). The fast is often broken slowly with dates, before a bigger meal later. Iftar (the meal with which you open your fast) is often eaten with family or friends, or sometimes at the mosque.
There are **exceptions to the obligation to fast** — the Qur'an recognises it might not be possible or healthy for everyone to fast.

- * Children don't have to fast until they're **about 12 years old**. **Old people** (there's no specific age) don't have to fast either.
- * People can be **excused for medical reasons**. **Women** who are pregnant, breastfeeding or menstruating can also be excused. It's fine to take medicine which has to be regular, e.g. antibiotics. **If you're on a journey**, you can be excused too.

* If you've missed a few days of the fast, Qur'an 2:184 says that you should make up for it, either by fasting for the same number of days later on, or by giving food to someone who might need it.



3) Sawm doesn't just involve **not eating or drinking**, but also **abstaining from other things such as listening to music, sex and smoking**. Muslims should also try particularly hard to avoid bad thoughts or actions.



4) Ramadan is a time of both **physical and moral self-discipline**, and a time of **obedience to Allah**. It's supposed to help Muslims understand hunger, and so makes them more willing to **help others**.

5) It's also a time to **show publicly that Allah matters more than any physical needs**.

Laylat al-Qadr (the Night of Destiny or Power) falls during Ramadan. Muslims believe Muhammad received at least part of the Qur'an during this night. So Ramadan is also a time of **thanksgiving for the Qur'an** — **during Ramadan it's read from beginning to end at the mosque**. Laylat al-Qadr is the holiest night of the year — the Qur'an says it's "better than a thousand months" (Qur'an 97:3) and many Muslims spend the whole night at the mosque to celebrate it, praying and listening to readings of the Qur'an. It's important because many Muslims believe **Allah will forgive their sins on this night**.



THE HAJJ IS THE PILGRIMAGE TO MAKKAH

"...proclaim to the people the Hajj..." (Qur'an 22:27). Around 2 million Muslims go each year.

1) Muslims must make the pilgrimage at **least once in their lifetime**, as long as **they can afford it and they're healthy** enough to cope with the journey. It has to happen in the **Muslim month of Dhu'l-Hijja to count**.

2) **Adam, Ibrahim and Isma'il** are all associated with **Makkah** and **Muhammad** lived there, so it's a **holy place**.



3) All pilgrims wear **simple white clothing (ihram)** so they're **equal** before Allah.

4) The **Ka'aba** is in Makkah — it's a **giant stone cube covered with black cloth**. Some Muslims think **Ibrahim and Isma'il built it as a place of worship** — **Qur'an 2:127 suggests they did**. Others think **Adam built it**. It's the **holiest place in Islam**. Muslims must do **seven circuits anticlockwise of the Ka'aba**, touching the stone if possible — this ritual is called the tawaf.

5) Next, a pilgrim must make **seven journeys between the hills of Safa and Marwa** (where Hajar, Ibrahim's wife and servant, searched for water for their son Isma'il). This part of the pilgrimage is called the sa'y. **Pilgrims then draw water from the Zamzam Well**, which Allah made for Hajar.

6) Then pilgrims go to **Mount Arafat to stand and pray for Allah's forgiveness**. This is where Muslims believe **Adam was forgiven after being thrown out of Eden** and also where the **Day of Judgement** will take place.



7) The pilgrims **spend the night at Muzdalifa**, a valley between Arafat and Mina, where they **collect pebbles**.



8) The pebbles are then **thrown at three pillars in Mina**, to **symbolise driving the devil away** — Ibrahim is believed to have once thrown stones at Shaytan (the devil). This happens on Id ul-Adha.

9) The title '**hajji**' is given to those who **complete the hajj**. Many find the hajj **helps their faith and increases unity between Muslims**. Some hadith say it **cleanses the hajji of all sins**, e.g. Sahih al-Bukhari 26:596: "he will return (after Hajj free from all sins) as if he were born anew".

JIHAD

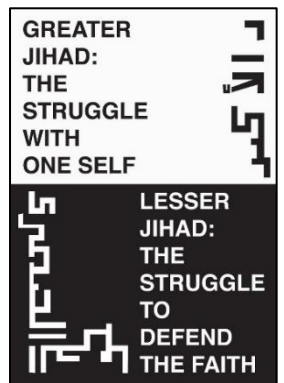
Jihad means 'striving' or 'struggle' and is often misunderstood by non-Muslims. It's **one of the Ten Obligatory Acts for Shi'as but it's part of Sunni Islam too**. Most Muslims believe there are two kinds:

THE GREATER JIHAD

- 1) This is every Muslim's struggle to obey Allah, follow his teachings and become a better Muslim.
- 2) It's the greater struggle because it's individual and personal. Qur'an 35:18 says "no bearer of burdens will bear the burden of another" (burdens mean sins), so you and you alone will be held responsible for your behaviour. If you're not a good Muslim, it's harder to help make the world better (lesser jihad).

THE LESSER JIHAD

- 1) This is the struggle to make the world a better place. Part of this means struggling against wrongs such as poverty and injustice.
- 2) Part of it is the struggle to defend Islam against threats. It can be in peaceful ways, such as helping others be good Muslims.



- 3) The Qur'an and Islamic law say that actual fighting should only be in self-defence and not against people who aren't fighting (non-combatants): "Permission [to fight] has been given to those who are being fought" (Qur'an 22:39). Qur'an 4:75 says Muslims should fight on behalf of people being oppressed.

When Islam began, Muslims fought to survive as people of other religions persecuted them. The Qur'an reflects this struggle, which is why it refers to defending Islam against its enemies.

- 4) Islamic terrorists claim the Qur'an supports violence to defend Islam against oppression, e.g. Qur'an 2:193 says "...if they cease, then there is to be no aggression except against the oppressors". The vast majority of

Muslims condemn this and think that Islamic terrorists aren't true Muslims.

And that's the last of the duties...

You might see some of the Arabic words spelt slightly differently, e.g. zakat rather than zakah or Eid al-Adha rather than Id ul-Adha. Make sure you always stick to one spelling in the exam.



FESTIVALS

ID UL-ADHA IS IMPORTANT TO SUNNIS AND SHI'AS



- 1) Id ul-Adha is a festival celebrating complete obedience to Allah, as it commemorates the time when Ibrahim nearly sacrificed his own son, Isma'il. It's a very important festival and it forms part of the hajj.
- 2) Ibrahim dreamt that Allah told him to sacrifice Isma'il. He told Isma'il about it and Isma'il agreed it had to be done: "...my son, indeed I have seen in a dream that I [must] sacrifice you ..." He said, 'O my father, do as you are commanded.' Qur'an 37:102. But at the last minute, Allah told Ibrahim to sacrifice a ram in place of Isma'il, so Isma'il survived. It was a test of Ibrahim's loyalty to Allah.

- 3) Muslims should attend mosque on Id ul-Adha — the service includes communal prayers and a sermon focused on the importance of obedience to Allah and the lessons to be learnt from Ibrahim and Isma'il.

- 4) Id ul-Adha is a time of communal joy and festivity lasting up to four days. Muslims dress up in their best clothes and spend time with family and friends. Presents are often exchanged. An animal is often sacrificed — the family keeps a third, a third goes to relatives or neighbours and a third to the poor.



ID UL-FITR MARKS THE END OF RAMADAN - Id ul-Fitr is important to Sunnis and Shi'as.

1) Id ul-Fitr is at the **end of Ramadan**. It's a **day of thanksgiving to Allah for giving Muslims the strength to fast for a month**. It's a joyful festival which also celebrates the fact that Muslims have **completed the fourth pillar of Islam by observing sawm**, and therefore have **become closer to Allah**.



2) Muslims pay a **special zakah for Id ul-Fitr**. About £5, it helps Muslims who are **less well-off to celebrate**.

3) The festival involves a **service** at the mosque or outdoors, and a **meal to break the fast**. It's a time of celebration, when **family and friends meet up** and **presents are exchanged**. Thousands attend celebrations of Id ul-Adha and Id ul-Fitr in the UK — many find it **important for community cohesion** between Muslims and with those of other faiths.

ID UL-GHADEER IS IMPORTANT FOR SHI'A MUSLIMS - Sunnis don't celebrate Id ul-Ghadeer.

1) Id ul-Ghadeer **commemorates a speech**, recorded in hadith, which **Muhammad made after his final hajj**. **Shi'as believe he said Ali should be the next Muslim leader after his death** — he used a word for 'master'. **Sunnis think Muhammad was just saying Ali should be respected**, as the word also means 'trusted friend'.

2) After the speech, it's believed **Qur'an 5:3 was revealed: "This day I have perfected for you your religion"**.

3) **Shi'as venerate Ali and celebrate the festival as the day he was chosen as leader**. Shi'as fast, have a ritual bath and say prayers, including the Du'a Nudba. They reaffirm their commitment to Islam with a vow.



ASHURA COMMEMORATES THE DEATH OF HUSAYN

1) Ashura is mostly a **Shi'a festival**, but it was originally a compulsory day of fasting for all Muslims. When Muhammad said Muslims should observe sawm during Ramadan, **fasting on Ashura became voluntary**.

2) **Sunnis now tend to think of it as a day of atonement**. Many Sunnis **fast, but it's not compulsory**. It's believed that **fasting may absolve people of their minor sins** in the previous year.

3) It's significant for **Shi'as as the day Husayn, Ali's son and Muhammad's grandson, was killed in a battle**. The ten days up to and including Ashura (Ashura is the tenth day) are a **period of mourning**.

4) On Ashura, **Shi'as wear black as a sign of mourning**. There are often **public processions** and 'passion plays', in which the story of Husayn is performed. Poems or stories about Husayn are often read out.



5) Some **Shi'as hurt themselves** to commemorate Husayn's suffering. This is banned in some countries.

6) For **Shi'as, Ashura is a reminder of the suffering the Shi'a community has experienced** — Shi'as have been persecuted as a minority. The processions are sometimes used as **protests against injustice**.

TEST 3: LIVING THE MUSLIM LIFE

1. To be faithful Muslims, what do Sunni Muslims need to follow? (1)
2. What is the declaration of faith called? (1)
3. What is Salah? (1)
4. What is Zakah, and what does it encourage? (2)
5. What is the obligation to fast during Ramadan called, and what does this teach? (2)
6. What is Hajj? (1)
7. To be faithful Muslims, what do Shi'as need to follow? Which four articles of faith do Shi'as share with Sunni Muslims? (5)

8. What is Khums? (1)
9. What are the two types of jihad? (4)
10. What are Amr-bil-Marooif and Nahi Anil Munkar? (2)
11. What do Tawalla and Tabarra mean? (2)
12. What's the difference between Sunnis and Shi'as Salah? (2)

13. Name one aspect a prayer cycle (rak'ah) includes. (1)
14. When are most men obliged to go to prayers (Jumma) at the mosque? (1)
15. What's the purpose of Salah? (2)
16. What does Salah keep Muslims from committing and increase? (2)
17. What is Wudu and why is it important? (2)
18. What direction should Muslims face when they pray? (1)
19. What is the rak'ah? (1)
20. How are Shi'a prayers different? (1)
21. When at the mosque, why do women and men pray separately? (1)
22. Why is Zakah beneficial and what does it encourage? (3)
23. When must Muslims fast? (2)
24. Name one of the exceptions to the obligation to fast. (1)
25. As well as not eating or drinking, what else must Muslims give up during Sawm? Name one. (1)
26. What is Ramadan a time of? (3)
27. Why is Ramadan also a time of thanksgiving? (1)
28. Why is Laylat al-Qadr (the Night of Destiny or Power) important? (1)
29. How often must Muslims make the hajj/pilgrimage? (1)
30. Give one reason why Makkah is a holy place? (1)
31. Why do all pilgrims wear simple white clothing (ihram)? (1)
32. State three facts about the Ka'aba. (3)
33. Name two more aspects that is involved in hajj. (2)

34. What do many Muslims find the hajj does? (2)
35. What does jihad literally mean? (1)
36. Why is the greater jihad the greater struggle? (1)
37. Give an example of how the lesser jihad can make the world a better place. (1)
38. What does the Qur'an and Islamic law say about actual fighting regarding the lesser jihad? (2)

39. Why does the Qur'an refer to defending Islam against its enemies? (1)

40. What part of the Qur'an do Islamic terrorists claim supports violence to defend Islam against oppression? (1)

41. What do the vast majority of Muslims think about Islamic terrorists? (1)
42. 'Id ul-Adha is important to Sunnis and Shi'as'. True or false? (1)
43. What is Id ul-Adha? (2)
44. What was the point of Allah asking Ibrahim to sacrifice his son if he stopped it from happening? (1)
45. State two things that happens on Id ul-Adha. (2)

46. What does Id ul-Fitr mark and who is it important to? (2)
47. What does Id ul-Fitr celebrate? (2)
48. Name one thing Id ul-Fitr involves. (1)
49. Why is Id ul-Adha and Id ul-Fitr in the UK important for community cohesion? (1)

50. What does Id ul-Ghadeer commemorate? (1)
51. Why has it caused conflict between Shi'as and Sunnis? (2)

52. Sunnis tend to think of the festival of Ashura as a day of what, and what might they do? (1)

53. Why is the festival of Ashura significant for Shi'as? (2)
54. Why do some Shi'as hurt themselves on this day? (1)
55. Ashura is a reminder of the suffering the Shi'a community has experienced. Why have they suffered? (1)

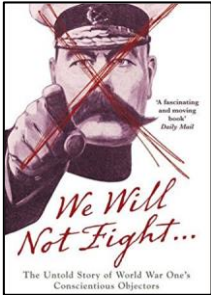
SECTION 4: PEACE & CONFLICT

WORLD PEACE - Peace is the absence of conflict and violence

- 1) Peace means that everyone in the world lives in **harmony**, and there is **no conflict**.
- 2) Many organisations, such as the **United Nations (UN)**, work to find peaceful solutions to disputes and to end all wars, all over the world.
- 3) Islam encourages believers to **work towards achieving peace in the world**.



PACIFISM



- A pacifist is someone who has strongly held beliefs that **war and physical violence are wrong**. Pacifists believe that all **disputes should be settled peacefully**.
- There were pacifists in Britain who **refused to fight in the world wars**. These '**conscientious objectors**' went to prison rather than go against their beliefs — they were prisoners of conscience. They suffered humiliation in prison, and after they'd been released.
- There are **different degrees of pacifism** — some people are against violence under any circumstances, whereas others may disagree with violence, but understand that sometimes violence is the least horrible option.



VIOLENCE HAS MANY DIFFERENT FORMS

- 1) **Crime is a source** of a lot of **violence**, e.g. assault or murder.
- 2) Violence can occur during **protests** — a protest is when a group of people join together to campaign for a cause they support. While many protests occur peacefully, some protests become violent if protesters don't feel their views are being heard.



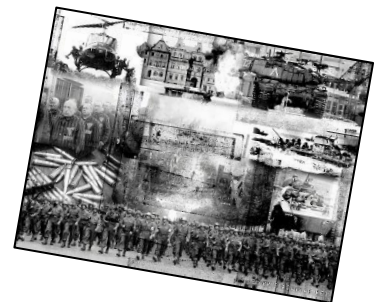
3) **Terrorism** is when a person or group deliberately seeks to cause fear and inflict suffering on other people through violence, sometimes for political reasons. The attack on the **World Trade Center** by the terrorist organisation **al-Qaeda in New York in September 2001** was the worst terrorist attack in history.

- 4) **War** is when two or more groups or countries fight one another. It's usually decided by governments.
- 5) War and terrorism have caused **many deaths**. Lots of religious people believe in the **sanctity of life argument**, that life is given by God and is sacred, so war and terrorism are in direct conflict with this.

WARS CAN HAVE MANY CAUSES

Most wars have causes that are a combination of lots of different factors:

- 1) **RELIGION** — this has been the cause of many conflicts in the past and the present.
- 2) **SELF-DEFENCE** — wars started to combat a threat from another country or to stop them from attacking first, e.g. a pre-emptive strike.
- 3) **TRIBALISM** — this tends to trigger wars where a group of people fight for their own independent state.
- 4) **HONOUR** — wars fought to defend the honour and dignity of a country, or to save face.
- 5) **GREED/ECONOMICS** — acts of aggression (attacking without provocation) are condemned by the UN, so purely economic wars driven by greed (e.g. raids and invasions to gain territory or goods) are few and far between. Economic factors still have an impact though — poverty and economic imbalances can make wars more likely.
- 6) **RETALIATION** — a war might be started in revenge for something, e.g. World War One started after Franz Ferdinand, Archduke of Austria, was assassinated.



Some wars are seen as necessary and 'just'. Others are sometimes seen as being fought for God.

MANY PEOPLE THINK THERE CAN BE 'JUST WARS'



- 1) Although most people see peace as being ideal, many recognise that sometimes a war has to be fought. **Just War theory** is a **philosophical theory, developed from ideas of Christian philosophers — such as St Thomas Aquinas in the 13th century**. The ideas have now been adopted by people of many different beliefs. The theory explains the **conditions that must be met for a war to be classed as necessary**:

- There must be a **good reason** for the war, e.g. self-defence or to help innocent people under threat.
- **All other options** have been attempted to avoid war.
- It must be **started by a proper authority** — such as an elected government or president.
- A war must have a **reasonable chance of success**. Fighting an unwinnable war is considered a waste of lives.
- Any **harm caused by fighting the war** mustn't be as bad as the harm it's trying to prevent.



There are also **conditions for fighting a war justly**. These are:

- **Discrimination**: war should discriminate between combatants and civilians — it's not seen as 'just' to deliberately target civilians.
- **Proportionality**: the military advantage gained by an attack must outweigh any harm to civilians.

2) Religious and non-religious people might turn to **Situation Ethics** to decide if a war is 'just'. They'd look at all the factors surrounding the case, and choose what they think would most likely bring about peace.

ISLAM TEACHES PEOPLE TO BE PEACEFUL



1) Islam promotes living a peaceful existence — the **Qur'an** teaches that people should be kind to others, even if they don't treat them well. Muslims believe Allah sees everything and will judge people:

“And the servants of the Most Merciful are those who walk upon the earth easily, and when the ignorant address them [harshly], they say [words of] peace” (Qur'an 25:63).

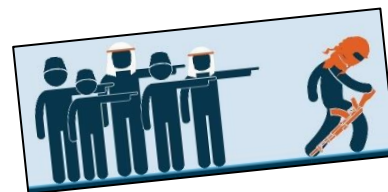
“If you should raise your hand against me to kill me - I shall not raise my hand against you to kill you. Indeed, I fear Allah, Lord of the worlds” (Qur'an 5:28).

2) Muslims believe they should play their part to **bring about peace**. They can do this through **prayer, campaigns** or by **working with people from other religions to create peace in the community**.

3) The **majority of Muslims disagree with pacifism**, as **war is sometimes justified in the Qur'an**: **“Fight in the way of Allah those who fight you but do not transgress. Indeed. Allah does not like transgressors” (Qur'an 2:190)**. It means they can **fight in self-defence**, but should **only do what's absolutely necessary**.

4) **Some are against all war and violence** as they believe peaceful action is always best, and is key to Islam.

5) **The Arab Spring in 2011** saw many Muslims in countries such as Egypt demanding more political power for ordinary people. Many demonstrations were carried out peacefully, with a focus on passive resistance. **Islam teaches people to protest against injustice, but not in violent ways.**



IN ISLAM, A JUST WAR IS KNOWN AS MILITARY JIHAD



1) **Jihad means 'striving' or 'struggle'**, and the concept is often misunderstood. There are two types of jihad — **greater and lesser jihad**. **Lesser jihad is the 'struggle' to improve the world**, and **war is an example of it**, but it must be fought **only as a last resort**. The Qur'an teaches that people can fight: **“Allah will punish them by your hands and will disgrace them and give you victory over them...” (Qur'an 9:14).**

2) The part of jihad involving military action is known as **Harb al-Maqadis (holy war)**. It's a war considered to be justified by God to protect Muslims and their religion. Some believe the Qur'an says that war is an acceptable option to defend Islam: **“Those who believe fight in the cause of Allah” (Qur'an 4:76).**

3) **Sunni and Shi'a Muslims have similar views on jihad** nowadays. Both consider it a key part of their religion as it's covered in the **Qur'an** — in **Shi'a Islam** it's also formally recorded as **one of the Ten Obligatory Acts**. In the past, **Twelver Shi'a Muslims** believed that jihad could only be declared when the last Imam came out of hiding, but jihad for defensive purposes was still allowed.

4) Military jihad has **very strict rules** — these are the conditions in Islam for a just war. There are **many similarities with Just War theory**:

- It is justified to bring about **freedom** from tyranny, restore **peace**, combat **oppression**, or **right injustice**.
- Jihad must be in the **name of Allah**, and **according to his will**. It must be declared by a **religious leader**.
- If an **Islamic country has been assaulted**, then war is justified.
- In the past, jihad was used to spread Islam and gain more land. However, now **many Muslims believe jihad must not be used to colonise, suppress or impose Islam on non-believers.**

**KEEP
CALM
&
FOLLOW
THE RULES**

- The hadith **Muwatta Malik 21:10** also sets out some **conditions for battle**: “Do not kill women or children or an aged, infirm person. Do not cut down fruit-bearing trees. Do not destroy an inhabited place”.
 - If the opposition wants to end the war, then Muslims must accept it: “And if they incline to peace, then incline to it [also]...” (Qur’an 8:61).
- 5) Some believe that if they do fight for Allah, they’ll be rewarded in the afterlife “**And he who fights in the cause of Allah and is killed or achieves victory — We will bestow upon him a great reward**” (Qur’an 4:74).
- 6) Some Muslims believe that **just wars can no longer exist** because of, e.g. the use of WMDs.
- 7) The term ‘jihad’ is sometimes used by **Islamic terrorists** to justify their acts of terror. However, nearly all Muslims are strongly against this — they **don’t consider the terrorists to be real Muslims**.



WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION CAUSE A HUGE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE

1) Some wars have used weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). These are weapons that **can destroy large areas of land and/or lots of people all at once**, e.g. chemical, biological and nuclear weapons. They’re **indiscriminate** — they harm soldiers and civilians alike.

2) **Chemical and biological weapons** are **banned by international law** — using them is considered a war crime. There are many arguments for and against possessing **nuclear weapons**:

FOR:



- Nuclear weapons serve as a **deterrent to ensure peace** — a country might not attack another if that country has nuclear weapons. Many countries give this as the reason for keeping nuclear weapons. In the 1900s, several conflicts were settled or sidestepped because nuclear weapons posed too big a risk.
- Some have a **utilitarian perspective** — the best course of action is the one that brings about the best balance of positive and negative results. The **USA bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan in WW2** as they thought that using nuclear weapons would **save the most lives overall**, and end the war faster.
- Nuclear weapons could be used by a country in order to **defend itself** if under attack.

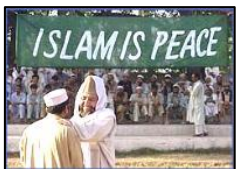
AGAINST:

- Nuclear weapons are **costly**. Many people argue that **funds could be better spent**, e.g. on healthcare.
- Many religions believe in the **sanctity of life** — life was given to humans by God and should be respected. Widespread suffering caused by nuclear weapons completely goes against this.
- Believers who agree with **Just War theory** might argue that the **indiscriminate nature** of nuclear weapons (they would kill innocent people) could never be classed as just.
- Earth is God’s creation — using nuclear weapons would **destroy what God trusted humans to take care of**.



- * Some **atheists** are in favour of WMDs to deter an opponent and to potentially use — they **don’t believe their actions will be judged**. Others are strongly anti-WMDs as they believe **people only live one life on Earth**.
- * **Humanists** have opposed the use of WMDs due to the **huge number of people that would suffer**.

MANY RELIGIOUS BELIEVERS ARE AGAINST WMDS



- Many Muslims are against WMDs as they **don’t follow the conditions of lesser jihad** — **innocent people would get hurt or killed**: “...whoever kills a soul... it is as if he had slain mankind entirely” (Qur’an 5:32).
- Pakistan (a Muslim country) has nuclear weapons, but **other Muslim countries have come out against possessing WMDs**.

PEACEMAKING - FINDING PEACE AND RESOLVING CONFLICTS IS IMPORTANT TO MUSLIMS.

JUSTICE, FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION ARE KEY TO PEACEMAKING

- 1) **Justice** is the idea of **each person getting what they deserve**, and **maintaining what’s right**. Believers think that **God is just** — he treats and judges people fairly as he **created everyone equally**. Justice leads to a **fairer society** — if people feel they’re treated equally, there’s **more chance of peace**.
- 2) **Forgiveness** is when a person stops feeling hurt by something another person has done to them. Another of **God’s characteristics is that he is merciful** — he forgives people for the things they’ve done wrong. As God is merciful towards them, believers feel that **they should forgive other people, and that forgiveness is the only way true peace can be achieved**.
- 3) **Reconciliation** is **bringing people together** that previously were in conflict to make peace.



MUSLIMS TRY TO FORGIVE AND RECONCILE AS MUHAMMAD DID

1) Muslims believe strongly in justice and that they should treat all people fairly and equally. They consider **maintaining justice to be part of their role as 'khalifah' — vice-regents of Allah's creation.**

2) Islam teaches that **Allah and the Prophet Muhammad are forgiving.**



3) Muslims are encouraged to **work to restore peace.** They believe it's important to **reconcile fractured relationships** — this is something that the **Prophet Muhammad did: "And not equal are the good deed and the bad. Repel [evil] by that [deed] which is better; and thereupon the one whom between you and him is enmity [will become] as though he was a devoted friend"** (Qur'an 41:34).

RELIGIOUS BELIEVERS CAN WORK FOR PEACE DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY

1) Many religious believers feel they **must act to create peace.** Some might be directly involved in peacemaking by **working for organisations** which offer relief to war-torn areas.

2) Some **religious charities campaign for help for groups in conflict to rebuild their relationship.**

3) Religious people can also help to **create peace indirectly**, e.g. by **donating money to charitable causes** and by holding **protests and demonstrations against conflicts.** Some may work to ensure that people have **equal human rights**, which could help to avoid conflict.



MUSLIMS CAN GIVE MONEY TO SUPPORT PEACEMAKING



1) Muslims believe it's important to try to create a peaceful world. They believe that this is **part of their role as khalifah.**

2) Individuals can help to **make the world more equal through zakah** — 2.5% of their yearly savings should be given to the needy, no matter how rich or poor they are. **Zakah could be donated to a number of different charities which are involved in peacemaking and supporting victims of war.**

The **Muslim Peace Fellowship** is a group of Muslims who want to promote peace, justice and non-violence:

- It strives to do good through Islam— the group **promotes peace through faith**, and works to bring about changes that **make society fair and compassionate** to everyone.
- They do this by raising awareness through **events, prayer and working with other faiths.**



Islamic Relief UK is a group inspired by their faith to try to help as many people as possible:

- They **help people affected by war** — in **Syria** they've given people essentials such as food and healthcare. They also help people in neighbouring countries who've fled their homes because of the conflict.

TEST 4: PEACE & CONFLICT

1. What is Peace? (1)
2. Name an organisation that works to find peaceful solutions to disputes and to end all wars, all over the world? (1)
3. What is a pacifist? (1)
4. What were pacifists in Britain who refused to fight in the world wars called? Why? (2)
5. What does 'there are different degrees of pacifism' mean? (2)
6. Why may some protests become violent? (1)
7. What is terrorism? (1)
8. What was the worst terrorist attack in history? (1)
9. What is war? (1)
10. Why are war and terrorism in direct conflict with the sanctity of life argument? (1)
11. Give three causes of war. (3)
12. Name one fact about the Just War theory. (1)
13. State two conditions that must be met for a war to be classed as necessary. (2)

14. What are the conditions for fighting a war justly? (2)
15. Why might religious and non-religious people turn to Situation Ethics to decide if a war is 'just'? (1)
16. Give an example of where the Qur'an teaches that people should be kind to others, even if they don't treat them well. (1)
17. How can Muslims play their part to bring about peace? Give one way. (1)
18. Why do the majority of Muslims disagree with pacifism? (1)
19. Why are some Muslims against all war and violence? (1)
20. Give an example of when many demonstrations were carried out peacefully by Muslims, with a focus on passive resistance. (1)
21. In Islam, what is a Just War known as? (1)
22. What is the part of jihad involving military action known as? (1)
23. Why is it a war considered to be justified by God? (1)
24. Some believe the Qur'an says that war is an acceptable option to defend Islam. Give an example (1)
25. In the past, Twelver Shi'a Muslims believed that jihad could only be declared when what happened? (1)
26. Military jihad has very strict rules. Name two. (2)
27. Some believe what will happen if they do fight for Allah (1)
28. Why do some Muslims believe that just wars can no longer exist? (1)
29. Why are WMDs so bad? (1)
30. Which weapons are banned by international law? (2)
31. Give two reasons why some people may be for nuclear weapons. (2)
32. Name an example where nuclear bombs were used and why. (2)
33. State two reasons why some people are against nuclear weapons. (2)
34. Why are some atheists in favour of WMDs? Why is this? (1)
35. Why are some atheists not in favour of WMDs? (1)
36. Why have Humanists opposed the use of WMDs? (1)
37. Why are many Muslims are against WMDs? (1)
38. Which Muslim country does have nuclear weapons. (1)
39. What is justice? (1)
40. How can justice lead to a fairer society? (1)
41. What is forgiveness? (1)
42. What is reconciliation? (1)
43. What do Muslims consider maintaining justice to be part of their role as? (1)
44. Who's example should Muslims follow when it comes to forgiveness? (2)
45. Many religious believers feel they must act to create peace. Name a way they may do this. (1)
46. How can zakah be used to support peacemaking? (1)
47. How does The Muslim Peace Fellowship work to promote peace? Give one way. (1)
48. How does Islamic Relief UK help as many people as possible? (1)

POTENTIAL EXAM QUESTIONS

These questions are similar to the questions you'll have in the exam so you can get used to what you're meant to do and how much you should write. If you're not sure about any of the answers, have another read of the sections and then try again.

REVISION SUMMARY - SECTIONS 1 & 3

These questions are worth 3 marks. You need to make three brief points in your answer:

- 1) Outline three of the Shi'a beliefs included in the 'Usul ad-Din.
- 2) Outline three characteristics of Allah.
- 3) Outline three of the Five Pillars followed by Sunni Muslims.
- 4) Outline three features of the rituals that are part of salah.
- 5) Outline three reasons someone might be exempt from the obligation to fast during Ramadan.
- 6) Outline three aspects of the hajj.
- 7) Outline three beliefs about jihad.
- 8) Outline three features of Id ul-Ghadeer.

These are 4 marks questions. To get full marks, you need to develop the points you make:

- 9) Explain two ways in which Muhammad is important for Muslims.
- 10) Explain two Muslim beliefs about angels.
- 11) Explain two ways of giving to charity in Islam.
- 12) Explain two reasons why Ashura is important for Shi'a Muslims.
- 13) Describe two differences between Muslim and Christian teachings about the afterlife.

Your points need to be nice and clear in the longer answer questions. This means you need to make sure your writing is well organised.

These questions are worth 5 marks, so you need to develop and explain your answer. You also need to **include an example from Muslim teachings** in your answer:

- 14) Explain two Muslim beliefs about the Qur'an.
- 15) Explain two Muslim teachings about judgement.
- 16) Explain two reasons why Laylat al-Qadr is important for Muslims.
- 17) Explain two reasons why performing hajj is important for Muslims.

And the big one — this is a 15 marks question (3 marks are for SPaG and specialist terminology). Use the bullet point list below to help you plan your answer — the list gives you the things you need to include. Remember, you'll need to make sure you've covered arguments for and against the statement:

- 18) 'The most important thing a Muslim can do is pray five times a day.' Evaluate this statement.

Give arguments that support the statement and arguments that disagree with the statement.

You must include:

- examples from Islamic teachings
- different Muslim points of view
- a conclusion.

REVISION SUMMARY - SECTION 2

For these 3 marks questions, keep it short and snappy with 3 brief points:

- 1) Outline three aims of punishment.
- 2) Outline three examples of causes of crime.
- 3) Outline three arguments against capital punishment.
- 4) Outline three conditions that make a trial fair.
- 5) Outline three ways that an offender might be punished.
- 6) Outline three ways that forgiveness can be shown.

These 4 marks questions require you to develop your points for full marks:

- 7) Explain two Muslim beliefs about evil and suffering.
- 8) Explain two ways that Muslims can help to prevent crime.
- 9) Explain two Muslim attitudes to crime.

Make sure your longer answers are well organised and clearly written so the examiner can easily see your points.

And the questions continue — this time for 5 marks. You should include an **example from a source of wisdom and authority**:

- 10) Explain two reasons why justice is important to Muslims.
- 11) Explain two Islamic beliefs about why people should live good lives.
- 12) Explain two Islamic beliefs about the treatment of people accused of crimes.
- 13) Explain two reasons why many Muslims feel that punishment is important.

Saving the best for last — the 12 marks question. The question will have bullet points that you need to include, so you can use these to make a plan. Jot down arguments for and against the statement so you don't forget any when you actually start writing your answer:

- 14) 'The death penalty is never a suitable punishment.' Evaluate this statement.
Give arguments that support the statement and arguments that disagree with the statement.
- examples of teachings from Islam
 - non-religious arguments
 - appropriate ethical arguments
 - a conclusion.

SECTION 4 - REVISION SUMMARY

For these 3 marks questions, keep it short and snappy with 3 brief points:

- 1) Outline three causes of conflict.
- 2) Outline three conditions of Just War theory.
- 3) Outline three concepts that are important in peacemaking.
- 4) Outline three ways that charities work for peace and help victims of conflict.
- 5) Outline three reasons why holy wars have been fought in the past.

4 marks now — make 2 points, but this time develop them for full marks:

- 6) Explain two ways in which Muslims can work for peace.
- 7) Explain two reasons why justice is important for Muslims.
- 8) Explain two Islamic teachings about forgiveness.
- 9) Explain two Islamic attitudes to pacifism.

Next up, some 5 marks questions. You should include an **example from a source of wisdom and authority**.

Make sure your writing is well structured and accurate in the longer questions — your points have to be clear to the examiner:

- 10) Explain two Islamic teachings about conflict.
- 11) Explain two Muslim beliefs about holy war.
- 12) Explain two reasons why peace is important to Muslims.

Hang on to your hat — it's the 12 marks question. The question will come with a list of things to include, so use it when you start planning your answer. Write a list of arguments for and against the statement and make sure you've included them all:

- 13) 'Nuclear weapons deter countries from attacking each other and ensure peace.' Evaluate this statement.

Give arguments that support the statement and arguments that disagree with the statement.

You must include:

- examples of Islamic teachings
- different Muslim opinions
- appropriate ethical arguments
- a conclusion.

**SAMPLE EXAM
PAPER AND
MARKSCHEME**