



RS.IP1 The Five Pillars and the Ten Obligatory Acts

AQA 8062 • Calculators not allowed • about 40 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Answer ALL questions. Show all your working.

- 1** This question checks key vocabulary used in Muslim teaching about the Five Pillars and the Ten Obligatory Acts.
- (a) State what is meant by the Five Pillars of Islam. (1)
 - (b) State what is meant by the Ten Obligatory Acts. (1)
 - (c) State what is meant by Shahadah. (1)
 - (d) State what is meant by Furu al-Din. (1)
 - (e) Give one obligatory act that appears in both the Five Pillars and the Ten Obligatory Acts. (1)

(Total for Question 1 is 5 marks)

- 2** Explain two reasons why the Five Pillars are important for Sunni Muslims. Refer to a hadith in your answer.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

3 Give three of the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi'a Islam.

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

4 Explain two contrasting features of Sunni and Shi'a practice of the core obligatory acts of Islam. Refer to a source of wisdom and authority in your answer.

(Total for Question 4 is 5 marks)

5 Explain two ways the Five Pillars give structure to a Muslim's daily and yearly life.

(Total for Question 5 is 4 marks)

6 Explain the importance of the Five Pillars for Muslims today.

(Total for Question 6 is 6 marks)

7 Give three of the Five Pillars of Sunni Islam.

(Total for Question 7 is 3 marks)

8 Explain two effects of the Ten Obligatory Acts on the daily life of a Shi'a Muslim believer.

(Total for Question 8 is 4 marks)

Mark scheme · RS.IP1 The Five Pillars and the Ten Obligatory Acts

Question 1

- (a) **B1** the five duties/acts of worship at the heart of Sunni Muslim practice: Shahadah, Salah, Sawm, Hajj and Zakah, oe
- (a) **Answer: The five duties of worship central to Sunni Muslim practice: Shahadah, Salah, Sawm, Hajj and Zakah.**
- (b) **B1** the ten practices Shi'a Muslims regard as the most important duties of faith, oe
- (b) **Answer: The ten practices regarded by Shi'a Muslims as the most important duties of faith.**
- (c) **B1** the declaration of faith, testifying that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is His messenger, oe
- (c) **Answer: The declaration of faith: there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is His messenger.**
- (d) **B1** literally 'branches of religion'; the term used in Shi'a Islam for the practical duties of faith, including the Ten Obligatory Acts, oe
- (d) **Answer: The 'branches of religion': the term used in Shi'a Islam for the practical duties of faith.**
- (e) **B1** e.g. Salah/prayer (accept Sawm/fasting, Hajj/pilgrimage, or Zakat/almmsgiving)
- (e) **Answer: E.g. Salah (prayer).**

Question 2

- **B1** point 1: they form the core framework of Muslim practice and obedience to Allah, oe
- **B1** development: a hadith recorded in Sahih al-Bukhari (Book of Faith) describes the Prophet Muhammad teaching that Islam is 'built on five': testifying that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is His messenger, praying, giving zakah, going on Hajj and fasting Ramadan, oe
- **B1** point 2: performing the same five duties unites Sunni Muslims worldwide, giving a shared identity and sense of belonging to the ummah, oe
- **B1** development: because every Sunni Muslim, whatever their country or culture, follows the same five pillars, they create common ground and mutual recognition across the worldwide Muslim community, oe
- **Answer: E.g. the pillars form the core framework of obedience to Allah (hadith of the five pillars, Sahih al-Bukhari, Book of Faith); they unite Sunni Muslims worldwide around a shared practice.**

Question 3

- **B1** Salat (prayer), oe
- **B1** Sawm (fasting), oe
- **B1** Hajj (pilgrimage), oe (accept also: Zakat, Khums, Jihad, Amr bil Ma'ruf, Nahi anil Munkar, Tawalla, Tabarra)
- **Answer: Any three: Salat; Sawm; Hajj; Zakat; Khums; Jihad; Amr bil Ma'ruf; Nahi anil Munkar; Tawalla; Tabarra.**

Question 4

- **B1** belief/practice 1: Sunni Muslims organise their obligatory worship around the Five Pillars: Shahadah, Salah, Sawm, Hajj and Zakah, oe
- **B1** development: this framework is set out in the hadith recorded in Sahih al-Bukhari describing Islam as 'built on five', oe
- **B1** belief/practice 2: Shi'a Muslims organise theirs around the Ten Obligatory Acts (Furu al-Din), which include the same core duties of prayer, fasting, pilgrimage and zakah, but add khums, jihad and four further duties concerned with commanding good, forbidding evil and loyalty, oe
- **B1** development: khums, a payment of one fifth of certain surplus wealth, and jihad are given the separate status of obligatory acts for Shi'a Muslims in a way they are not within the Sunni Five Pillars, oe
- **B1** reference to a source of wisdom and authority made accurately, oe
- **Answer: Contrast: Sunni Five Pillars (Shahadah, Salah, Sawm, Hajj, Zakah) vs Shi'a Ten Obligatory Acts (same core duties plus khums, jihad and four further duties).**

Question 5

- **B1** point 1: Salah structures each day around five set prayer times, oe
- **B1** development: this keeps remembrance of Allah part of a Muslim's routine throughout the day, whatever else they are doing, oe
- **B1** point 2: Sawm and Hajj structure the yearly and lifetime calendar around Ramadan and pilgrimage to Makkah, oe
- **B1** development: this gives the whole ummah shared points across the year, and potentially across a lifetime, for spiritual focus and renewal, oe
- **Answer: E.g. salah structures each day around five prayer times; sawm and Hajj structure the yearly/lifetime calendar.**

Question 6

- **Level 3** (5-6): A detailed, well-organised answer that explains several reasons for the Five Pillars' importance, supported by accurate reference to Islamic teaching and/or the Qur'an or hadith, with clear links made between the reasons given.
- **Level 2** (3-4): An answer that explains some reasons for the Five Pillars' importance, with some relevant supporting detail, though links between points may be limited.
- **Level 1** (1-2): One or two isolated relevant points are made about the Five Pillars, with little supporting detail or explanation.
- **Level 0** (0): No relevant content.
- **Indicative content:**
 - They provide a clear, practical framework of worship that structures daily life (salah), yearly life (sawm, zakah) and, where possible, once in a lifetime (Hajj).
 - They reinforce Muslim identity and belonging to the worldwide ummah, since Sunni Muslims everywhere practise the same five duties.
 - Performing them is an act of obedience to Allah, since Sunni Muslims believe fulfilling all five pillars is a religious obligation.
 - Zakah in particular builds compassion and social responsibility towards the wider community.
 - They are described in the hadith recorded in Sahih al-Bukhari as the foundation of Islam, giving them significant authority within the tradition.
 - Some Muslims argue the pillars need to be lived out with sensitivity to modern circumstances, e.g. balancing prayer times or fasting with work and school; but for most they remain the framework that defines what it is to live as a practising Muslim.

Question 7

- **B1** Shahadah, oe
- **B1** Salah, oe
- **B1** Sawm, oe (accept Hajj, Zakah)
- **Answer: Any three: Shahadah; Salah; Sawm; Hajj; Zakah.**

Question 8

- **B1** point 1: following the obligation of Salat structures a Shi'a Muslim's day around remembrance of Allah, oe
- **B1** development: keeping to set prayer times encourages regular reflection and discipline throughout the working day, oe
- **B1** point 2: the obligations of Amr bil Ma'ruf and Nahi anil Munkar (commanding good and forbidding evil) can encourage a Shi'a Muslim to actively promote good behaviour and speak out against wrongdoing they see in daily life, oe
- **B1** development: this can affect how a Shi'a Muslim behaves at work, at school or within their family, encouraging them to model and gently correct behaviour, oe
- **Answer: E.g. Salat structures the day around remembrance of Allah; Amr bil Ma'ruf/Nahi anil Munkar encourages actively promoting good and speaking out against wrongdoing.**