4.11 Jummah and Dua: Congregational and Personal Prayer: 30-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 30 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Give three social or spiritual benefits that Muslims might gain from attending Jummah at the mosque in a UK urban community.

(Total for Question 1 is 3 marks)

2 Give three ways Muslims might use Dua in everyday life, outside the mosque setting.

(Total for Question 2 is 3 marks)

3 Explain two reasons why Jummah prayer is important for Muslims, referring to both the communal and religious roles of the service in a mosque community.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

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4 Explain two ways that making Dua might affect a Muslim's personal behaviour or decisions in daily life.

(Total for Question 4 is 4 marks)

5 Evaluate the view that private Dua is more important than praying at the mosque. In your answer you should give reasoned arguments to support this statement, give reasoned arguments to support a different point of view, refer to religious arguments, reach a justified conclusion. You will be awarded up to 3 additional marks for the quality of your spelling, punctuation and grammar.

(Total for Question 5 is 15 marks)

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Mark scheme · 4.11 Jummah and Dua: Congregational and Personal Prayer: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

strengthened sense of belonging to the ummah and community, oe **B1**

opportunity to hear religious teaching and guidance in the khutbah, oe **B1**

practical mutual support such as advice, charity links or social networking, oe **B1**

Answer: Any three: belonging to the ummah; hearing the khutbah; practical mutual support and networking within the mosque community.

Question 2

making personal requests for guidance, help or healing, oe **B1**

expressing thanks to Allah for blessings and answered prayers, oe **B1**

seeking comfort or patience in times of difficulty, or asking forgiveness, oe **B1**

Answer: Any three: personal requests for help or guidance; giving thanks; seeking comfort, patience or forgiveness.

Question 3

reason 1: Jummah reinforces the sense of ummah, showing the importance of community and unity among Muslims, oe **B1**

development: gathering weekly strengthens social ties, mutual support and shared identity, helping Muslims to live out Islamic duties together, oe **B1**

reason 2: Jummah includes the khutbah which provides religious teaching and moral guidance to the community, oe **B1**

development: the sermon applies Quranic teaching and hadith to contemporary life, reminding people of obligations and encouraging good behaviour, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. it promotes the ummah and communal unity, offering social and spiritual support; the khutbah teaches and reminds the community of Islamic duties and moral guidance.

Question 4

point 1: Dua can encourage reliance on Allah and humility, influencing a person to seek Allah's guidance before making decisions, oe **B1**

development: this may lead to more thoughtful, morally considered choices and decreased impulsive behaviour, oe **B1**

point 2: regular use of Dua for forgiveness and reflection can prompt personal repentance and efforts to improve conduct, oe **B1**

development: a person may change habits, make amends or increase charitable acts as a result of prayers and reflection, oe **B1**

Answer: E.g. Dua encourages seeking Allah's guidance and humility that shapes decisions; Dua for forgiveness leads to repentance and improved behaviour.

Question 5

Level 4 A well-developed, balanced evaluation that analyses reasons for and against the view, includes clear religious argument and evidence, and reaches a justified conclusion. Arguments are well organised and show an understanding of differing Muslim perspectives. **10-12**

Level 3 A clear evaluation that gives arguments for and against the view with some use of religious argument and evidence. There is a conclusion, but it may be less developed. **7-9**

Level 2 Some valid points are made for and/or against the view, but analysis is limited and references to religious argument or evidence are weak or general. **4-6**

Level 1 A few basic relevant points are made, but the answer lacks development, balance and reference to religious ideas; the conclusion, if present, is simple. **1-3**

Level 0 No relevant material. **0**

Indicative content:

- Arguments supporting the view that Dua is more important: Dua is a personal, direct communication with Allah and can be offered anytime and anywhere, making it central to a believer's daily life.
- Dua allows specific, immediate petitions, gratitude and emotional honesty which may not be possible in the structured setting of congregational prayer.
- Some Muslims emphasise that the Prophet encouraged personal supplication, and verses such as Qur'an 2:186 show Allah is near and responds to those who call on Him.
- Arguments against the view, supporting the importance of mosque prayer: congregational prayer, especially Jummah, fulfils a communal obligation, strengthens the ummah and offers collective worship which has social and spiritual benefits.
- Formal salah is a Pillar of Islam and is commanded, providing discipline, regularity and a shared identity which private Dua alone cannot supply.
- Religious authorities often stress the complementary nature of salah and dua: salah provides the framework of worship while Dua personalises and deepens the relationship with Allah.
- Consideration of different Muslim perspectives: some Sunni traditions emphasise the communal obligation of Jummah for men, while other communities put stronger emphasis on individual spirituality including Dua; both views exist within Islam.
- Conclusion could weigh the spiritual immediacy of Dua against the communal, disciplinary and doctrinal importance of mosque prayer, and reach a balanced judgement that both are important in different ways.

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