



RS.IP8 Jummah and Dua: Congregational and Personal Prayer

AQA 8062 • Calculators not allowed • about 50 minutes

Total Marks

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Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Answer ALL questions. Show all your working.

- 1** This question checks key vocabulary used in Islamic practice about Friday congregational prayer, Jummah, as observed in UK mosques.

- ☐ A: The midday prayer performed individually at home
- ☐ B: The Friday congregational prayer held at a mosque replacing the midday prayer
- ☐ C: A voluntary night vigil observed during Ramadan
- ☐ D: A ritual of washing before any prayer

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

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- 2** Give two brief definitions, in the context of Muslim practice in Britain today: a) Define Jummah; b) Define Dua.

(a) Define Jummah, the Friday congregational prayer as practised in a mosque community. (1)

(b) Define Dua, informal personal prayer in Islam, and how it differs from ritual salah. (1)

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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- 3** Outline three features of Jummah prayer as it takes place at a mosque in the UK, including roles, timing and who attends.

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

- 4 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 4 is 4 marks)

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

(Total for Question 5 is 3 marks)

- 6 Explain two contrasting Muslim beliefs about the value of formal ritual salah compared with informal Dua. Refer to the Qur'an or a hadith in your answer.

(Total for Question 6 is 5 marks)

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

(Total for Question 7 is 3 marks)

- 8** State two features of Dua, and for each briefly explain its purpose for a Muslim praying privately at home or while travelling.

(Total for Question 8 is 2 marks)

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

(Total for Question 9 is 4 marks)

- 10** Give three occasions when a Muslim might make Dua together with others or individually.

(Total for Question 10 is 3 marks)

- 11** Explain two reasons why attending Jummah at the mosque might be especially important for young Muslims growing up in a UK city.

(Total for Question 11 is 6 marks)

- 12** 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 12 is 15 marks)

Mark scheme · RS.IP8 Jummah and Dua: Congregational and Personal Prayer

Question 1

- **B1** identifies Jummah as the Friday congregational prayer at the mosque replacing the midday prayer, oe
- **Answer: B**

Question 2

- (a) **B1** a weekly congregational prayer held on Friday at the mosque that replaces the regular midday (Zuhr) prayer for those attending, oe
- (a) **Answer: A weekly congregational prayer on Friday at the mosque that replaces the regular midday prayer for those who attend.**
- (b) **B1** an informal personal supplication to Allah, said in a person's own words at any time, distinct from the formal ritual salah, oe
- (b) **Answer: An informal personal supplication to Allah in a person's own words at any time, distinct from formal ritual salah.**

Question 3

- **B1** the imam delivers a khutbah, a sermon, before the congregational prayer, oe
- **B1** Muslim men are obliged to attend Jummah where possible, while women may attend according to belief and custom, oe
- **B1** the congregation performs a shortened group prayer in place of the usual Zuhr prayer, often at a set time on Friday, oe
- **Answer: Any three: the imam delivers a khutbah; men are generally obliged to attend while women may attend depending on custom; a congregational prayer replaces the usual Zuhr prayer on Friday.**

Question 4

- **B1** 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
- **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 5

- **B1** 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
- **Answer: Any three: belonging to the ummah; hearing the khutbah; practical mutual support and networking within the mosque community.**

Question 6

- **B1** belief 1: some Muslims hold that formal salah is more important because it is one of the Five Pillars and a commanded, structured duty, oe
- **B1** development: salah's fixed times and actions discipline the believer and ensure regular remembrance of Allah, oe
- **B1** belief 2: other Muslims emphasise the importance of Dua because it is a personal, spontaneous conversation with Allah that can be made at any time, oe
- **B1** development: Dua allows immediate personal petition, gratitude and emotional expression outside ritual, strengthening personal relationship with Allah, oe
- **B1** reference: a correct reference to a Qur'anic verse or hadith supporting one view, for example Qur'an 2:186 about Allah responding to supplication, or a hadith on the power of dua, oe
- **Answer: E.g. formal salah required as a Pillar gives discipline and communal worship; Dua valued as spontaneous, personal petition. Supported by Qur'an 2:186 or relevant hadith about answering supplication.**

Question 7

- **B1** 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
- **Answer: Any three: personal requests for help or guidance; giving thanks; seeking comfort, patience or forgiveness.**

Question 8

- **B1** feature 1: Dua can be made in the person's own words, oe
- **B1** for 1: this allows personal, specific requests and emotional honesty in prayer, oe
- **Answer: E.g. feature: Dua may be made in one's own words, allowing a personal and specific petition to Allah; feature: it can be offered at any time, allowing immediate response to need.**

Question 9

- **B1** 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
- **Answer: E.g. Dua encourages seeking Allah's guidance and humility that shapes decisions; Dua for forgiveness leads to repentance and improved behaviour.**

Question 10

- **B1** during times of personal need or illness, oe
- **B1** during Ramadan, especially Laylat al-Qadr or before breaking fast, oe
- **B1** at important life events such as before an exam, a journey, marriage or at a funeral, oe
- **Answer: Any three: during illness or need; during Ramadan or on Laylat al-Qadr; before exams, journeys, weddings, funerals, etc.**

Question 11

- **B1** reason 1: attending Jummah helps young Muslims form a positive Muslim identity and a sense of belonging to the wider ummah, oe
- **B1** development: meeting peers and elders at the mosque provides role models, support and a sense of cultural continuity, oe
- **B1** reason 2: Jummah exposes young people to religious teaching in the khutbah that addresses contemporary challenges they face, oe
- **B1** development: this guidance can shape ethical choices and strengthen resilience against negative influences, oe
- **B1** reason 3: practical community links from Jummah, such as youth clubs or charity activities, promote social skills and civic engagement, oe
- **B1** development: participation can build confidence and encourage responsible behaviour in wider society, oe
- **Answer: E.g. Jummah builds Muslim identity and belonging with role models; the khutbah offers guidance for contemporary life; community links provide social skills and opportunities for engagement.**

Question 12

- **Level 4** (10-12): 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.
- **Level 3** (7-9): 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.
- **Level 2** (4-6): 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.
- **Level 1** (1-3): A few basic relevant points are made, but the answer lacks development, balance and reference to religious ideas; the conclusion, if present, is simple.
- **Level 0** (0): No relevant material.
- **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.