# 6.11 Sunni and Shia Muslim Attitudes to Euthanasia: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8062 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

**Answer ALL questions.**

**1** Multiple choice for Theme B, Islam: Which one of the following best expresses the meaning of amanah in Islamic thought about life?

- ☐ A. A test that people take before entering paradise
- ☐ B. The belief that life is a trust from Allah and must be cared for
- ☐ C. The idea that suffering has no value
- ☐ D. A legal code specific to one Muslim community

**(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)**

**2** State briefly what amanah means in Muslim teaching about human life and medical decisions, in the Theme B euthanasia context.

**(Total for Question 2 is 1 mark)**

**3** Give two types of Islamic sources that Muslim scholars use when forming rulings on euthanasia, in the Theme B context.

**(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)**

**4** Identify one Quranic verse or hadith used in Muslim arguments about the sanctity of life, naming its book and verse or source, in the context of euthanasia debates within Sunni and Shia communities.

**(Total for Question 4 is 1 mark)**


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**5** Give three features of the idea of sanctity of life as taught in Islam, within the Theme B context of euthanasia debates.

**(Total for Question 5 is 3 marks)**

**6** State two legal or ethical distinctions some Shia scholars make that allow withdrawing futile treatment while still opposing active euthanasia, in the Theme B context.

**(Total for Question 6 is 2 marks)**


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# Mark scheme · 6.11 Sunni and Shia Muslim Attitudes to Euthanasia: 10-minute Pack

## Question 1

selects B, life as a trust from Allah, oe **B1**

**Answer: B**

## Question 2

amanah means life is a trust from Allah which humans must protect and care for, oe **B1**

**Answer: Amanah means life is a trust from Allah that humans must protect and care for.**

## Question 3

Qur'an verses, oe **B1**

hadith and the sayings/actions of the Prophet, or juristic reasoning by scholars, oe **B1**

**Answer: Any two: the Qur'an; hadith and scholarly juristic reasoning (fiqh).**

## Question 4

identifies Qur'an 5:32, oe **B1**

**Answer: Qur'an 5:32.**

## Question 5

life is created by Allah and belongs to Allah, oe **B1**

human life is amanah, a trust to be protected, oe **B1**

unlawful killing is strongly forbidden, with scriptural support such as Qur'an 5:32, oe **B1**

**Answer: Any three: life is created by Allah; life is an amanah to protect; unlawful killing is forbidden, as in Qur'an 5:32.**

## Question 6

distinction 1: between allowing natural death by withdrawing extraordinary or futile treatment and actively causing death, oe **B1**

distinction 2: between intention to kill and intention to remove burdensome treatment, oe **B1**

**Answer: Any two: allowing withdrawal of futile or extraordinary treatment is distinguished from actively causing death; intention to allow natural death is distinguished from intention to kill.**


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