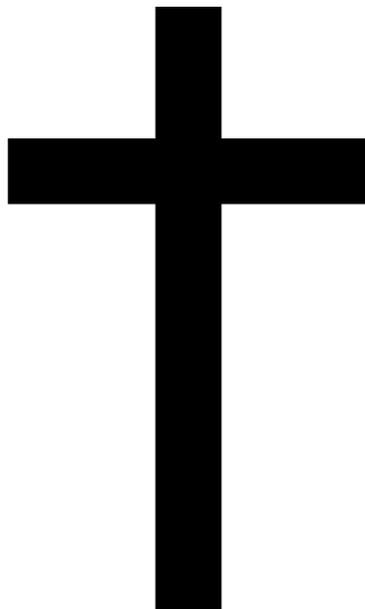
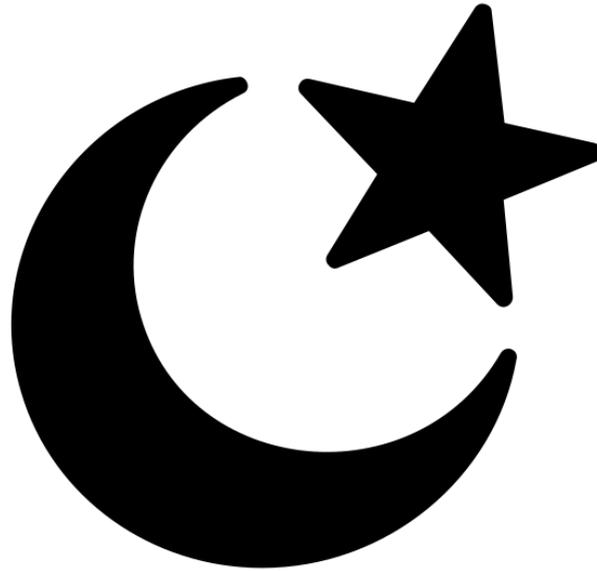

YEAR NINE – 2022 – ARK ALEXANDRA ACADEMY
RELIGIOUS STUDIES REVISION GUIDE



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide **is not** a 'quick fix' for your revision. As such, you should make sure that you are revising using other methods in addition to this guide.

This guide **is** a good place to keep track of what you have revised and what you have not revised. It is also a good summary of **key information** and **key terms** that you will need to know. We have also provided some **religious teachings** for each topic that you will need for the extended writing questions. There are plenty of **practice questions** that you can complete. We encourage you to practice as many as possible and to self-mark using the exam advice at the back of the guide.

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KNOWLEDGE CHECK LIST

CHRISTIANITY

BELIEFS

Topic	Revised Once	Revised Twice
The Nature of God		
God as Omnipotent, Loving and Just		
The Oneness of God and the Trinity		
Different Christian Beliefs about Creation		
The Resurrection and Ascension		
Resurrection and Life After Death		
The Afterlife and Judgement		
Heaven and Hell		
Sin and Salvation		
The Role of Christ in Salvation		

PRACTICES

Topic	Revised Once	Revised Twice
Worship		
Prayer		
Baptism		
Christian Festivals		
The Place of Mission and Evangelism		
Church Growth		
The Importance of the Worldwide Church		
Christian Persecution		

ISLAM

BELIEFS

Topic	Revised Once	Revised Twice
The Oneness of God and the Supremacy of God's Will		
The Nature of God		
Angels		
Prophethood and Adam		
Ibrahim		
Muhammad and the Imamate		
The Holy Books in Islam		

PRACTICES

Topic	Revised Once	Revised Twice
The Five Pillars, The Ten Obligatory Acts and the Shahadah		
Salah - 'What'		
Salah - 'Where, When, Why'		
Zakah		
Hajj - Origins		
Hajj - Practice		
Jihad		
Id-ul-Fitr & Id-ul-Adha		
Festival of Ashura		

CHRISTIANITY: BELIEFS

THE NATURE OF GOD

Key Information

- Christianity is a **monotheistic** religion.
 - o God is **Creator**. He created the universe.
 - o God is **Sustainer**. He continues to keep the universe existing.
 - o People can have a **relationship** with God through Jesus and prayer.
 - o God is **non-gendered**.
 - o God is worthy of **worship**.
- There are three main **denominations** of Christianity in the UK.
 - o Roman Catholicism
 - o Protestantism
 - o Orthodoxy

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Monotheism	The belief in only one God.
Denomination	A distinct group within the Christian Religion, with its own organisation and traditions.
Holy	Something separate from everything else and deserving of worship.
Catholic	A denomination based in Rome and led by the Pope.
Orthodox	A denomination mainly based in Eastern Europe.
Protestant	A denomination that emerged from Christians who disagreed with Catholicism. They have a greater focus on the authority of the Bible.
God	The Supreme Being.

Religious Teachings

'We believe in one God' – The Nicene Creed

'God is Spirit' – John 4:24

Practice Questions

1. Name two denominations of Christianity. (2)
2. Explain two beliefs about God in Christianity. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

GOD AS OMNIPOTENT, LOVING AND JUST

Key Information

- Christians believe that God has the following attributes:
 - o Omnipotent
 - o Omniscient
 - o Omnibenevolent
 - o Just
 - o Immanent
 - o Transcendent

- Sometimes two things about God seem to contradict one another. Christians refer to these instances as 'divine mysteries'.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Omnipotent	All-Powerful. Can do anything.
Omniscient	All-Knowing. Knows everything.
Omnibenevolent	All-loving. Loves everyone.
Just	Bringing about what is right and fair. Rewarding the good and punishing the bad.
Immanent	Inside the universe.
Transcendent	Above and beyond the universe.

Religious Teachings

'Nothing is impossible with God' – Luke 1:37

'God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life' – John 3:16

Practice Questions

1. Name two attributes of God. (2)
2. Explain two Christian beliefs about God's attributes. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE ONENESS OF GOD AND THE TRINITY

Key information

- Christians believe that God exists as three persons in one unity, or Godhead.
 - o God the Father
 - o God the Son
 - o God the Holy Spirit
- Each person of the Trinity is fully God, though each person is distinct from the others. This is a divine mystery.
 - o One way of thinking about this is using the example of H²O.
 - H²O can either be steam, water or ice. Each of these are different and distinct. Though in each case they are H²O.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Trinity	The idea that God exists as three persons in one unity.
God the Father	God the creator, sustainer and the impersonal God.
God the Son	Jesus. God incarnate. Fully God and fully man.
God the Holy Spirit	God in the world as comforter and inspirer.
Person	A distinct aspect of God.
Unity/Godhead	God understood as one in three.

Religious Teachings

'We believe in one God... the Father Almighty... the Son... the Holy Spirit' – The Nicene Creed.

'In the beginning was the word' - John 1:1

'The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters' – Genesis 1:2

Practice Questions

1. Name two persons of the Trinity. (2)
2. Explain the Christian belief in the Trinity. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

DIFFERENT CHRISTIAN BELIEFS ABOUT CREATION

Key Information

- Christians believe that the universe was created by God.
 - o Most Christians believe that God created the universe from nothing (*ex nihilo*).
- Christians believe that all three persons of the Trinity were involved in the creation.
- Christians are either literalist or liberalist in their understanding of the Creation story.
 - o Literalist Christians believe that the universe was created exactly as it is recounted in the Book of Genesis.
 - o Liberalist Christians believe that the universe was created by God, but that elements of the Creation story are metaphorical.
- The Genesis 1 creation story describes God creating the world over six 'days'.
(Sometimes translated as 'periods of time').
 - o 1 – Light
 - o 2 – Sea and Sky
 - o 3 – Land and Plants
 - o 4 – Birds and Fish
 - o 5 – Mammals
 - o 6 – Human Beings
 - o 7 – Rest

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Creation	The act by which God brought the universe into being.
Logos (The Word)	The name given to Jesus in the opening of John's Gospel. Christians believe that Jesus was present at the creation of the world.
Ex Nihilo	Latin. From Nothing. The name for the belief that God created the universe from nothing.

Religious Teachings

'In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, let there be light', and there was light.' – Genesis 1:1-3

'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made' – John 1:1-3

Practice Questions

1. Name two Christian beliefs about Creation.
2. Explain two ways in which belief in creation by God influences Christians today. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE INCARNATION AND JESUS, THE SON OF GOD

Key Information

- The belief that Jesus was God in human form is called 'incarnation'.
 - o This is supported by the biblical story that angels appeared to Mary and Joseph to explain that he was God's son.
 - o Christians believe that Mary became pregnant without having sex. This is known as an immaculate conception.
- This supports the claim that God exists as three persons, or as the trinity.
 - o Christians point to Jesus' divinity (being God) as an explanation for why he can perform miracles and how he can rise from the dead.
 - o Many Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah, a spiritual leader instead of a political one.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Incarnation	Becoming flesh, taking a human form.
Resurrection	1. Rising from the dead; 2. Jesus rising from the dead-on Easter day. An event recorded in all the Gospels and the central belief of Christianity.
Blasphemy	A religious offence which includes claiming to be God.

Religious Teachings

"This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit" – Matthew 1:18

"The Word flesh became flesh and made his dwelling among us" – John 1:14

"When Jesus was baptised, a voice from Heaven said 'You are my Son'" – Mark 1:11

Practice Questions

1. Give two reasons why Christians might believe that Jesus is the son of God. (2)
2. Explain two Christian beliefs about Jesus' incarnation. Refer to sacred writings in your answer. (5)

THE CRUCIFIXION

Key Information

- The method of execution used to end Jesus' life was crucifixion. Hanging from a cross until dead.
 - o He was sentenced to death by the Roman governor Pontius Pilate.
- Jesus made a point of forgiving those who killed him, and even promised to meet one of the criminals executed with him in heaven.
- Jesus was then buried in a cave with a rock rolled in front of the door.
 - o The cave was donated by Joseph of Arimathea.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Crucifixion	1. Roman method of execution by which criminals were fixed to a cross. 2. The death of Jesus on Good Friday.

Religious Teachings

"Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last" – Luke 23:46

"Surely this man was the Son of God" – Mark 15:39

Practice Questions

1. Give two beliefs about Jesus' crucifixion. (2)
2. Explain two beliefs about Jesus' crucifixion. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE RESURRECTION AND ASCENSION

Key Information

- Christians believe that after Jesus was crucified and buried, he resurrected from the dead.
 - Christians believe that Jesus resurrected on Easter Sunday.
 - Jesus was missing from his tomb when the women went to check on his body.
 - Jesus appeared to several groups of people after this.
 - There would be no Christian religion without the Resurrection.
 - The Resurrection (with a capital) refers to Jesus' resurrection.
 - The resurrection of the dead (without a capital) refers to the Christian belief in life after death.
- The belief in the Resurrection gives Christians hope for life after death and also demonstrates the victory of good over evil.
- The Ascension is the belief that Jesus went up to heaven forty days after his resurrection.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Resurrection	1. Rising from the dead. 2. Jesus rising from the dead-on Easter Day. An event recorded in all four Gospels and the central belief of Christianity.
Ascension	The event where Jesus went 'up' to heaven.
Heaven	A state of eternal happiness with God.

Religious Teachings

'And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead... For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.'

– 1 Corinthians 15:14, 20, 22

'While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven.' Luke 24:51

'On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.' – Nicene Creed

Practice Questions

1. Give two reasons why the disciples believed that Jesus was alive after his resurrection. (2)
2. Explain two ways that the belief in the Resurrection influences Christians today. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

RESURRECTION AND LIFE AFTER DEATH

Key Information

- Christians believe that Jesus' resurrection means that they too will have a life after death.
- There are different views about what the resurrection of the dead will be.
 - o Some Christians believe in a bodily resurrection of the dead.
 - o Other Christians believe that only the soul is resurrected.
 - o Some Christians believe that a person is resurrected soon after death.
 - o Other Christians believe that all people will be resurrected at some point in the future when Jesus returns to judge the world.
- The belief in the resurrection gives Christians comfort that God loves them and they need not fear death.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Resurrection of the Dead	The Christian belief that human beings will be resurrected like Jesus.
Bodily Resurrection	The belief that resurrection will be physical, like Jesus'.
Spiritual Resurrection	The belief that resurrection will be spiritual, that souls will come back but not bodies. Could take place in 'heaven'.
Perishable	Something which can die.

Religious Teaching

'So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; it is sown in dishonour, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. – 1 Corinthians 15:42-44

'I believe in... the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting' – The Nicene Creed

Practice Questions

1. Give two Christian beliefs about life after death. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which a belief in the resurrection influences Christians today. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE AFTERLIFE AND JUDGEMENT

Key Information

- Most Christians believe in an afterlife that is dependent on belief in God.
- The afterlife either begins at the moment of death, or after the day of judgement.
- Christians will be judged on both their actions and their faith.
 - o This means that Christians must behave in a way that pleases God to have a good afterlife.
- Christians believe that the Bible gives instructions on how to live following God's commands.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Afterlife	Life after death.
Day of Judgement	A time when the world will end and every soul will be judged by God and either rewarded or punished.
Good	Actions that are in accordance with God's commands.
Evil	Actions that are not in accordance with God's commands.

Religious Teachings

'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' – John 14:6

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' – Matthew 25:31-36, 40.

Practice Questions

1. Name two Christian beliefs about life after death. (2)
2. Explain two Christian beliefs about Judgement. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

HEAVEN AND HELL

Key Information

- Most Christians believe that Judgement will lead either to eternal reward or eternal punishment.
 - Some Christians believe that Heaven is a place of eternal happiness and reward.
 - Some Christians believe that Hell is a place of eternal misery and punishment.
 - Not all Christians believe that Heaven and Hell are physical places. Some believe that they exist outside the universe.
 - Roman Catholic Christians also believe in Purgatory. This is a 'middle place' where souls can be prepared for Heaven.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Heaven	A state of eternal happiness in the presence of God; the place of eternal peace ruled over by God.
Hell	The place of eternal suffering or the state of being without God.
Purgatory	The intermediate state where souls are cleansed in order to enter heaven.
Satan	Name for the Devil – the power and source of evil.

Religious Teachings

'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name...' - The Lord's Prayer

Practice Questions

1. Give two Christian beliefs about life after death. (2)
2. Explain two Christian beliefs about what happens after death. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

SIN AND SALVATION

Key Information

- 'Sin' is a word for any thought or action which goes against God's wishes.
 - o Original Sin is the tendency towards sin which is present in all humans. This is caused by Adam and Eve's actions in Genesis.
- Salvation is being saved from the consequences of Sin.
 - o Salvation can be achieved either through doing good works or through grace.
 - Some Christians believe that doing good in the world can cause God to give them salvation.
 - Other Christians believe that salvation is achieved through Grace, meaning that God gives salvation to all people.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Sin	1. Any action or thought that separates human from God. 2. Behaviour which is against God's laws and wishes or against principles of morality.
Original Sin	An Augustinian Christian doctrine that says that everyone is born with an inbuilt desire to do bad things and disobey God.
Salvation	Saving the soul, deliverance from sin and admission to heaven.
Grace	God's love given without having been earned.

Religious Teachings

'In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead' – James 2:17

'For it is by grace you have been saved...' – Ephesians 2:8

Practice Question

1. Give two Christian beliefs about sin. (2)
2. Explain two Christian teachings about the means of salvation. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE ROLE OF CHRIST IN SALVATION

Key Information

- Christians believe that salvation is only made possible through the life and death of Jesus.
- Jesus' resurrection is the proof that God accepted Jesus' death as atonement for the sins of humanity.
 - o This means that Original Sin is countered through Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Forgiveness	Showing grace and mercy and pardoning someone for what they have done wrong.
Atonement	Restoring the relationship between people and God through life, death and resurrection.
Mass	Ceremony, also called Eucharist, in which the sacrifice of Jesus is celebrated using bread and wine.

Religious Teachings

'For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.' – Romans 6:23

'For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead also comes through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.' – 1 Corinthians 15:21

Practice Questions

1. Give two reasons why the death and resurrection of Jesus is important to Christians. (2)
2. Explain two Christian Teachings about Salvation. Refer to religious teachings in your answer (5)

CHRISTIANITY: PRACTICES

WORSHIP

Key Information

- Christians believe that Worship is owed to God.
 - Worship is any act that shows praise, honour or devotion to something.
 - There are many forms that Worship can take.
 - Liturgical
 - Non-liturgical
 - Informal
 - Public
 - Private
 - You will need to be able to define all of the above and give examples.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Worship	Acts of religious praise, honour or devotion.
Liturgical Worship	A church service that follows a set structure or ritual. (e.g. Mass)
Non-liturgical Worship	A service that does not follow a set text or ritual. (e.g. Non-conformist Church services: Baptism/Methodist)
Informal Worship	A type of non-liturgical worship sometimes 'spontaneous' or 'charismatic' in nature.
Private Worship	When a believer praises or honours God on his or her own.

Religious Teaching

'And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'" – Luke 22:19

Practice Questions

1. Give two ways in which Christians worship. (2)
2. Explain two reasons why Christians worship. Refer to religious teachings in your response. (5)

PRAYER

Key Information

- Prayer is communication with God.
 - o Prayer is usually for one of the following reasons.
 - A – Adoration
 - C – Confession
 - A – Asking for Self
 - T – Thanksgiving
 - P – Petition
 - M – Meditation
- Christians use both set prayers and informal prayers depending on the situation in which they find themselves.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Prayer	Communicating with God, either silently or through words of praise, thanksgiving, confession or by asking for help and guidance.
Set Prayer	Prayers that have been written down and said more than once by more than one person, (e.g. The Lord's Prayer)
Informal Prayer	Prayer that is made up by an individual using his or her own words.
Nonconformist	An English Protestant who does not conform to the doctrines or practices of the established Church of England.
Lord's Prayer	The prayer taught by Jesus to his disciples.

Religious Teachings

'Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts., which we are about to receive from your bounty. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.' – Catholic Grace before meals

'Our Father in heave, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us your sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen. – The Lord's Prayer

Practice Questions

1. Give two reasons why Christians pray.
2. Explain two different approaches to prayer for Christians. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

BAPTISM

Key Information

- A sacrament is a holy ritual that allows for a gift of God's grace to be received by human beings. There is always a visible external element, a non-visible internal element and an associated prayer.
- Baptism is the ritual through which people join the Christian church. The use of water is symbolic of the 'washing' away of sin.
 - o Infant baptism is for babies and young children.
 - o Believers' baptism is for people who are old enough to choose to be baptised.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Sacrament	Rites and rituals through which the believer receives a special gift of grace; for Catholics, Anglicans and many Protestants, sacraments are 'outward signs' of 'inward grace'.
Baptism	The ritual through which people become members of the Church; baptism involves the use of water as a symbol of the washing away of sin.
Believers' Baptism	Initiation into the Church, by immersion in water, of people old enough to understand the ceremony/rite and willing to live a Christian life.
Infant Baptism	The ritual through which babies and young children become members of the Church, where promises are taken on their behalf by adults; the infant is freed from sin and introduced to the saving love of God and the support Christian community.

Religious Teaching

'Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' – Matthew 28:19

Practice Questions

1. Name two types of baptism. (2)
2. Explain two contrasting ways in which Christians practice baptism. Refer to religious teachings in your response. (5)

HOLY COMMUNION

Key Information

- Holy Communion is a sacrament that remembers Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection.
 - It recalls the last supper of Jesus, using bread and wine is used.
 - Some Christians believe in transubstantiation – the belief that the bread and wine literally become the body and blood of Christ.
 - Some Christians believe in consubstantiation – the belief that the bread and wine only metaphorically/spiritually become the body and blood of Christ.
 - In whatever way Christians understand Holy Communion, they believe that it brings them closer to God.
 - This is true as individuals, a religious community and as the whole Church.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Holy Communion / The Eucharist / Mass / The Lord's Supper / The Breaking of Bread / The Divine Liturgy	A service of thanksgiving in which the sacrificial death and resurrection of Jesus are celebrated using bread and wine.
Eucharist	From a Greek word meaning 'thanksgiving'.

Religious Teachings

"He gave you thanks, he broke it [the bread], gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat: this is my body which is given to you in remembrance of me." – Part of the Roman Catholic Liturgy of the Eucharist.

"For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes" – 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Practice Questions

1. Give to features of Holy Communion. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which Holy Communion impacts the lives of believers. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

PILGRIMAGE

Key Information

- Going on pilgrimage is a act of worship which allows a believer to journey to a spiritual location. It is both a physical journey and a spiritual journey.
- While on pilgrimage a believer has many opportunities to pray and worship, both formally and informally.
 - o The two pilgrimage sites you must know for you exam are:
 - Lourdes
 - Mary is said to have appeared to a young girl called Bernadette.
 - Mary told Bernadette to dig in the ground and a spring appeared.
 - The water here is claimed to have healing properties. The Roman Catholic Church has recorded 69 instances of people being miraculously healed here.
 - Pilgrims will often bathe in the waters and pray for the healing and forgiveness of others.
 - Iona
 - St Columba founded a monastery here in the 6th Century CE.
 - The location is now a religious centre where pilgrims may stay.
 - The location is very quiet and peaceful and allows pilgrims to pray, reflect and meditate on the wonder of God's creation.
 - There are also activities run in the centre around developing personal faith.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Pilgrimage	A journey by a believer to a holy site for religious reasons; pilgrimage is itself an act of worship and devotion.

Religious Teachings

“As I raised my head to look at the grotto, I saw a Lady dressed in white, wearing a white dress, a blue girdle and a yellow rose on each foot, the same colour as the chain of her rosary; the beads of the rosary were white.” – Bernadette describing her first vision of the Virgin Mary

Practice Questions

1. Give two places of Christian pilgrimage. (2)
2. Explain two contrasting examples of Christian pilgrimage. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

CHRISTIAN FESTIVALS

Key Information

- A festival is a day or period of time in which religious people celebrate.
 - o Christian festivals help believers to remember major events in the religion. Particularly the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.
- Christmas celebrates the incarnation of Jesus.
 - o The festival begins on the 25th of December and continues for 12 days. The festival ends with Epiphany (commemorating the visit of the wise men)
- Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.
 - o Celebrations begin during 'Holy Week' (the week prior to Easter Sunday) and finish with the feast of Pentecost. The date of Easter moves each year.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Festival	A day or period of celebration for religious reasons.
Christmas	The day commemorating the Incarnation, the birth of Jesus (25 th of December in most Churches); also, the season of 12 days ending with the Epiphany (when Christians remember the visit of the wise men).
Easter	The religious season celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead; it starts on Easter Day and finishes with the feast of Pentecost.

Religious Teachings

'Father, you make this holy night radiant with the splendour of Jesus Christ our light. We welcome him as Lord, the true light of the world. Bring us to eternal joy in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.'
– Opening prayer of the Catholic Midnight Mass at Christmas

'Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.' – Traditional hymn sung by Orthodox Christians at the Easter Divine Liturgy

Practice Questions

1. Give two ways in which Christians celebrate the festival of Easter. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which Christians celebrate religious festivals. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

FOOD BANKS

Key Information

- One way in which the Church helps others in the community is by running food banks.
 - These provide food to those who cannot afford it.
- Two examples of Christian food banks are:
 - The Trussell Trust
 - The group run over four hundred food banks across the UK.
 - They work with doctors and social workers to identify those who need support and give them vouchers that can be exchanged for food.
 - The overall aim is to bring both religious and non-religious people together to alleviate the effects of poverty and hunger.
 - The Oasis Project
 - This is a community hub and crisis centre run by the Plymouth Methodist Mission Circuit.
 - It includes:
 - A food bank;
 - Training opportunities;
 - A job centre;
 - An internet café;
 - A meeting place.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Church	The holy people of God, also called the Body of Christ, among whom Christ is present and active.
church	A building in which Christians worship.

Religious Teachings

“And God placed all things under his (Jesus’) feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the Church, which is his body.” – Ephesians 1:22-23

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.” – Matthew 25:35-36 (Parable of the Goats and the Sheep)

Practice Questions

1. Give two meanings of the word ‘church’. (2)

2. Explain two Christian projects that help the wider community. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

STREET PASTORS

Key Information

- Another way in which the Church helps local communities is by running a program of street pastors.
 - These are volunteers who are trained to patrol streets in urban areas to:
 - Challenge knife crime and gang culture;
 - Respond to drunkenness, anti social behaviour and fear of crime;
 - Listen to peoples' problems and give them advice;
 - Work with police and local councillors.
 - One example of their work is handing out blankets and flip-flops to people who have too much drink and are struggling to get home.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Agape	A word used in the Bible that describes selfless, sacrificial and unconditional love; also God's love for humanity.

Religious Teachings

"Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." – James 2:17

Practice Questions

1. Give two ways in which street pastors try to help their local communities. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which street pastors try to help their local communities. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE PLACE OF MISSION AND EVANGELISM

Key Information

- Mission is the vocation or calling to spread the Gospel message. This is because the Church has a mission to tell non-Christians that Jesus is the Son of God.
- The process of spreading the Christian faith is called evangelism. This can be done by telling other people or by providing an example of how Christians behave.
 - o Christians believe that Jesus' last instruction to his disciples was to go and spread the Christian religion. This is called The Great Commission.
- One major example of evangelism in Britain is the Alpha. This takes the form of a series of informal meetings where people can learn more about the Christian faith without needing to 'be' Christian.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Mission	The vocation or calling of a religious organization or individual to go out into the world and spread their faith.
The Great Commission	Jesus' instruction to his followers that they should spread his teachings to all the nations of the world.
Missionary	A person sent on a religious mission, especially to promote Christianity in a foreign country through preaching or charitable work.
Evangelism	Spreading the Christian Gospel by public preaching or personal witness.
Alpha	An introduction course for those interested in learning about Christianity.

Religious Teachings

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" – Matthew 28:19-20

"Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" – James 2:17

Practice Questions

1. Give two ways in which the Church tries to fulfil its mission. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which Evangelism is important to Christians. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

CHURCH GROWTH

Key Information

- Around one third of the world's population claim to be Christian (this includes people who do not regularly attend Church.)
 - o Christianity is still growing as a religion globally, though it may not seem that way from our perspective in the UK.
 - o According to some groups approximately 80,000 people become Christian each day.
- Christ for All Nations is an example of a organisations that promotes evangelism on a global scale.
 - o The group was founded by Reinhard Bonnke.
 - o Some of their largest rallies have drawn groups as large as 1.6 million people.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Convert	Someone who has decided to become committed to a religion and change his or her religious faith.

Religious Teachings

See 'The place of Mission and Evangelism'.

Practice Questions

1. Give two ways in which the Church gets its message to people. (2)
2. Explain two ways that evangelism works on a global scale. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH

Key Information

- Christians around the globe believe that they have a responsibility to restore people's relationship, not only with God, but also with one another.
 - o This can range from the small scale (friends falling out with one another) to the large scale (nations waring with one another).

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Reconciliation	A sacrament in the catholic Church; also, the restoring of harmony after relationships have broken down.
Persecution	Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race, or political or religious beliefs.
Corrymeela Community	A community that seeks to promote harmony and reconciliation between people from different faiths and political leanings.

Religious Teachings

“For if, while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life” – Romans 5:10

“All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.” – 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

Practice Questions

1. Give two example of how the Church has helped to work towards reconciliation. (2)
2. Explain two different understandings of reconciliation in Christianity. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION

Key Information

- Christians have faced persecution since the beginning of the religion. In some places around the globe this is still the case.
 - o Persecution is sometimes seen to have positive effects. An early Christian thinker, Tertullian, wrote that ‘the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church’. He meant that the persecution of some people can show others how to follow Christ.
 - o Most often though Christians want to help those who are being persecuted through prayer, financial support, public campaigning or practical aid.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Martyr	Someone who dies for what they believe in. This often inspires others to follow in their footsteps.

Religious Teachings

“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for there is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven” – Matthew 5:10-12

“If one part [of the Church] suffers, every part suffers with it” – 1 Corinthians 12:26

“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good” – Romans 12:21

Practice Questions

1. Give two ways in which Christians support those in countries where it is forbidden to follow Jesus. (2)
2. Explain two different understandings of persecution in Christianity. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO WORLD POVERTY

Key Information

- Almost all Christians believe that they should follow Jesus' example and aim to help those suffering from poverty.
 - This helps people but also demonstrates Jesus' love to the world.
- Some examples of Christian charities are:
 - Christian Aid
 - Provides both short-term and long-term aid to people suffering from poverty.
 - Campaigns alongside the Fairtrade Foundation, Trade Justice and Stop Climate Chaos.
 - Tearfund
 - Works with over 90,000 churches worldwide to alleviate the effects of poverty.
 - Provides both short-term and long-term aid.
 - Supported by donations from churches.
 - CAFOD
 - Works with local organisations to try and build up communities to end poverty.
 - Lobbies the UK government and global organisations to help the poor.
 - Is supported by donations from Roman Catholic churches.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Tithe	One tenth of annual produce of earnings.
Poverty	Being without money, food or other basic needs of life (being poor).

Religious Teachings

"But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth" – Deuteronomy 8:18

"It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God" – Mark 10:25

Practice Questions

1. Give two Christian charities that help the poor. (2)

2. Explain two ways in which Christian charities help the poor. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

ISLAM: BELIEFS

THE ONENESS OF GOD AND THE SUPREMACY OF GOD'S WILL

Key Information

- Muslims only believe in one God. This means that Islam is a monotheistic religion.
 - o The belief in one God is called Tawhid.
- Muslims believe that God's will is supreme, that things only happen if God wants them to happen.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Muslim	One who has submitted to the Will of God and has accepted Islam
Islam	The name of the religion followed by Muslims; to surrender to the will of God; peace.
Allah	The Arabic name for God.
Tawhid	The Oneness and unity of God.
Monotheistic	A religion that believes there is only one God.
Supremacy	Supreme power or authority; a quality of the Islamic God.

Religious Teachings

"Say, 'he is God the One, God the eternal. He begot no one nor was He begotten. No one is comparable to Him'" – Qur'an 112:1-4

"Misfortunes can only happen with God's permission" – Qur'an 64:11

Practice Questions

1. Give two Islamic beliefs about God. (2)
2. Explain two Islamic beliefs about God. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

KEY BELIEFS OF SUNNI ISLAM AND SHI'A ISLAM

Key Information

- The central beliefs of Sunni Islam are the six articles of faith.
 - Tawhid – The belief in one God.
 - Angels – The belief in angels.
 - The Holy Books – The belief that the Qur'an and other holy books are the word of God.
 - The Prophets – Belief in, and respect for, the prophets, particularly Muhammad.
 - The Day of Judgement – Belief in the final judgement at the end of time.
 - Supremacy – Belief that nothing happens unless God wants it to happen.
- The central beliefs of Shi'a Islam are the five roots of 'Usul ad-Din.
 - Tawhid - The belief in one God.
 - The Prophets – Belief in, and respect for, the prophets, particularly Muhammad.
 - Adalat (The Justice of God) – That God will hold all people to account for their actions in a just way.
 - The Imamate – Respect for the twelve Imams.
 - Resurrection – The belief that at the end of time Muslims will be resurrected and Judged by God.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Qur'an	The Holy Book revealed to Muhammad by the angel Jibril; God's final revelation to humankind.
Sunnah	The teachings and deeds of Muhammad
Sunni	Muslims who believe in the successorship to Muhammad of Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali.
Shi'a (Shi'i)	Muslims who believe in the Imamate, the successorship of Ali.

Practice Questions

1. Give two differences between Sunni and Shi'a Islam. (2)
2. Explain two contrasting Islamic beliefs about God's nature. (4)

THE NATURE OF GOD

Key Information

- In Islam there are 99 names for God. These names help Muslims to understand what God is like, and what qualities he has.
 - o Some of the most important qualities are listed below in the key terms table.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Immanent	The idea that God is present in and involved with life on earth and in the universe.
Transcendent	The idea that God is beyond and outside life on earth and the universe.
Omnipotent	Almighty, having unlimited power.
Beneficent	Benevolent, all loving, all good.
Merciful	The quality of God that shows compassion or forgiveness to humans, even though he has the power to punish them.
Fairness	The idea that God treats people fairly and impartially without favour or discrimination.
Justice (Adalat)	The idea that God is just and fair and judges human actions, rewarding the good and punishing the bad.

Religious Teachings

“The Most Excellent Names belong to God: use them to call on Him” – Qur’an 7:180

“This is God your Lord, there is no God but him, the Creator of all things, so worship Him; He is in charge of everything. No vision can take Him in, but He takes in all vision. He is the All Subtle, the All Aware.” – Qur’an 6:102-103

“He is with you wherever you are” – Qur’an 57:4

Practice Questions

1. Give two qualities of the Islamic God. (2)
2. Explain how God can be both immanent and transcendent. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

ANGELS

Key Information

- Angels are spiritual beings who serve God.
 - o They have different roles and jobs including revealing God’s word; taking care of people; recording a person’s actions and taking souls to God.
- Two of the most important angels in Islam are Jibril and Mika’il.
 - o Jibril revealed the Qur’an to Muhammad (pbuh).
 - o Mika’il is the angel of mercy who sends rain, thunder and lightening to earth. He also rewards to good and punishes the bad.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Angels	Spiritual beings believed to act as messengers of God.
Day of Judgement	A time when the world will end and every soul will be judged by God, and either rewarded or punished.
Book of Deeds	The book in which angels record the actions of each person. Presented to Allah on the Day of Judgement.
Jibril	The Arabic name for the angel Gabriel, the archangel who brought God’s message to the Prophets.
Mika’il	The Arabic name for Michael, the archangel of mercy who rewards good deeds and provides nourishment to people.

Religious Teachings

“Praise be to God, Creator of the heavens and earth, who made angels messengers with two, three, four [pairs of] wings” – Qur’an 35:1

“Each person has angels before him and behind, watching over him by God’s command” – Qur’an 13:11

Practice Questions

1. Give two different roles that angels have in Islam. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which Angels are important for Muslims. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

PREDESTINATION

Key Information

- Most Muslims believe God has predestined everything that will happen in the universe.
 - o Most Muslims believe that this means that God knows what choices they will make, though people still have free will.
 - This means that people will be punished or rewarded for their choices after life.
 - o Some Muslims believe that this means they cannot be responsible for their own actions.
- Sunni Muslims tends to believe that God decides precisely what happens in the universe.
- Shi'a Muslims tend to believe that God is aware of what will happen but does not decide himself what happens.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Predestination	The idea that God knows or determines everything that will happen in the universe.

Religious Teachings

“Only what God has decreed will happen to us. He is our Master: let the believers put their trust in God.” – Qur’an 9:51

“God does not change the condition of a people [for the worse] unless they change what is in themselves” – Qur’an 13:11

Practice Questions

1. Give two Islamic views on predestination. (2)
2. Explain two Islamic views on predestination. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

LIFE AFTER DEATH

Key Information

- Muslims believe in everlasting life after death. This is called Akhirah.
 - o Depending on how you have behaved you will either go to heaven, or hell. (Jannah or Jahannam)
- Three stages follow death:
 - o Barzakh – wating in the grave.
 - o The Day of Judgement – when the world is destroyed, and everyone is resurrected ready to be judged.
 - o Heaven and Hell – People are either sent to Jannah or Jahannam.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Akhirah	Everlasting life after death.
Resurrection	Rising from the dead or returning to life.
Heaven	The state of eternal happiness in the presence of God; also called paradise.
Hell	The state of total separation from God.

Religious Teachings

“On coaches of well-woven cloth, they will sit facing each other; everlasting youths will go round among them with glasses, flagons, and cups of a pure drink that causes no headache or intoxication; any fruit they choose; the meat of any bird they like; and beautiful eyed maidens like hidden pearls: a reward for what they used to do.” – Qur’an 56: 15-24

“They will dwell amid scorching wind and scalding water in the shadow of black smoke, neither cool nor refreshing” – Qur’an 56:42-44

Practice Questions

1. Give two Islamic beliefs about the afterlife. (2)
2. Explain two features of the Islamic afterlife. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

PROPHETHOOD AND ADAM

Key Information

- Muslims believe that certain people are chosen by God to be prophets (messengers of God's word).
 - o This is supported by the Islamic belief in Risalah.
- Muslims believe that Adam is was the first prophet.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Prophet	A person who proclaims the message of God.
Risalah	The belief that prophets are an important channel of communication between God and humans.
Prophethood	When God makes someone a prophet to communicate his message to people.
Iblis	A spiritual being, created from fire, who was thrown out of paradise for refusing to bow to Adam.

Religious Teachings

“Every community is sent a messenger, and when their messenger comes, they will be judged justly; they will not be wronged” – Qur’an 10:47

“He first created man from clay... then moulded him; He breathed from His Spirit into him; He gave you hearing, sight and minds.” – Qur’an 32:7&9

“He taught Adam all the names [of things], then He showed them to the angels and said, ‘Tell me the names of these if you truly [think you can]’. They said, ‘May You be glorified! We have knowledge only of what You have taught us. You are the All Knowing and All Wise” – Qur’an 2:31-32

Practice Questions

1. Give two reasons why prophets are important in Islam. (2)
2. Explain the purpose of prophets in Islam. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

IBRAHIM

Key Information

- Ibrahim is an important prophet in Islam.
 - Ibrahim is considered to be a good role model for Muslims because he:
 - Refused to worship idols and instead preached that there is only one God.
 - Rebuilt the Ka'aba.
 - Was willing to sacrifice his son to God.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Ka'aba	The black, cube-shaped building in the centre of the Grand Mosque in Makkah; the holiest place in Islam.
Id-ul-Adha	A Muslim festival that celebrates the prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son for God.
Hajj	The annual pilgrimage to Makkah that every Muslim should try to make at least once in their life.

Religious Teachings

"Who could be better in religion than those who direct themselves wholly to God, do good, and follow the religion of Abraham, who was true in faith? God took Abraham as a friend" – Qur'an 4:125

Practice Questions

1. Give two reasons why Ibrahim is important for Muslims. (2)
2. Explain why the Ka'aba is important for Muslims. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

MUHAMMAD AND THE IMAMATE

Key Information

- Muslims believe that Muhammad is the last and most important prophet in Islam. This is because he received God's final revelation, recorded in the Qur'an.
- Shi'a Muslims believe in the importance of the Imamate, the leadership of the Imams. Shi'a Muslims believe that because the Imams have been appointed by God they are able to interpret the Qur'an without the possibility of error.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Caliph	A person considered to be a political and religious successor to the prophet Muhammad, and a leader of the Sunni Muslim community.
Imam	1. A person who leads communal prayer. 2. In Shi'a Islam, the title given to Ali and his successors.
Imamate	The divine appointment of the Imams.
Seal of the Prophets	A title given to Muhammad. It refers to the fact that no further prophets would come after him.

Religious Teachings

"Muhammad is not the father of any one of you men; he is God's Messenger and the seal of the Prophets: God knows everything" – Qur'an 33:40

Practice Questions

1. Give two reasons why the Imamate is important to Shi'a Muslims. (2)
2. Explain two reasons that Muhammad is important in Islam. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE HOLY BOOKS IN ISLAM

Key Information

- Muslims believe that the Qur'an is the most important holy book as it is the unchanged word of God. It is the highest authority on all matters relating to Islam.
- There are other holy books in Islam, though these are either corrupted or lost entirely.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Qur'an	The word of God revealed to Muhammad via the angel Jibril over a period of around twenty-two years.
Torah (Tawrat)	The five books revealed to Moses (Musa) by God. Now somewhat corrupted.
Psalms (Zabur)	A holy book revealed by God to David (Dawud). Now somewhat corrupted.
Gospel (Injil)	A Holy book revealed by God to Jesus (Isa). Now very corrupted.
Scrolls of Abraham	A holy book revealed by God to Abraham (Ibrahim). Now completely lost.

Religious Teachings

"This is the Scripture in which there is no doubt, containing guidance for those who are mindful of God" – Qur'an 2:2

"We sent Jesus, son of Mary, in their footsteps, to confirm the Torah that had been sent before him: We gave him the Gospel with guidance, light, and confirmation of the Torah already revealed – a guide and lesson for those who take heed of God" – Qur'an 5:46

Practice Questions

1. Name two holy books in Islam. (2)
2. Explain two reasons why the Qur'an is important to Muslims. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

ISLAM PRACTICES

THE FIVE PILLARS, THE TEN OBLIGATORY ACTS AND THE SHAHADAH

Key Information

- The Five Pillars are seen as the core duties for Muslims. All other Muslim practices are built on them.
 - Shahadah – Declaration of Faith
 - Salah – Prayer
 - Zakah – Almsgiving
 - Sawm – Fasting
 - Hajj – Pilgrimage to Makkah
- The Ten Obligatory Acts combine the five pillars with additional duties for Twelver Shi'a Muslims. (The Shahadah is included implicitly, though it does not make up one of the ten)
 - Khums – 20% tax (half goes to charitable causes, half to religious leaders).
 - Jihad – The struggle to maintain the faith and defend Islam.
 - Amr-bil-Maruf – Encouraging people to do what is good.
 - Nahi Anil Munkar – Discouraging people from doing what is wrong.
 - Tawallah – Showing love for God and the people who follow him.
 - Tabarra – Not associating with the enemies of God.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
The Five Pillars	The five most important duties for all Muslims: to believe, to pray, to give alms, to fast and go on pilgrimage.
The Ten Obligatory Acts	Ten important duties for Shi'a Muslims, which include the five pillars.
Shahadah	The Muslim declaration of faith.

Religious Teachings

“There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is the Prophet of Allah” – The Shahadah

*“There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is the Prophet of Allah and Ali is the friend of God”
– The Shi'a Shahadah*

Practice Questions

1. Name two of the Ten Obligatory Acts. (2)
2. Explain two reasons why The Five Pillars are important to Muslims. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

SALAH – ‘WHAT, WHEN?’

Key Information

- Salah is the duty of Muslims to pray.
 - o Sunni Muslims pray five times a day.
 - o Shi’a Muslims pray three times a day.
- Muslims perform Wudu (ritual washing) before praying to make sure that they are spiritually clean.
- Muslims face in the direction of Makkah (Qibla) when praying.
- Muslims can either pray at home or at the Mosque.
- When Muslims pray in the Mosque, men and women do so separately.
- Prayers in the Mosque are led by an imam.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Salah	Prayer with and in Worship of God, performed under conditions set by the prophet Muhammad.
Wudu	Ritual washing before prayer.
Mihrab	A niche in the wall that indicates the direction of Makkah.
Qibla	The direction of the Ka’aba.
Qibla Wall	The wall in the Mosque that contains the Mihrab.
Fajr	Prayer before sunrise.
Zuhr	Prayer just after midday.
Asr	Prayer in the afternoon.
Maghrib	Prayer just after sunset.
Isha	Prayer at night.

Religious Teachings

“You who believe, when you are about to pray, wash your faces and you hands up to the elbows, wipe your heads, wash your feet up to the ankles and, if required, wash you body as a whole.” – Qur’an 5:6

Practice Questions

1. Give two actions performed during Wudu. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which a Muslim upholds the duty of Salah. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

SALAH – ‘HOW?’

Key Information

- Islamic Prayers are made up of a series of rak’ah. These are some of the basic actions:
 - o Standing and reciting the first Surah of the Qur’an.
 - o Bowing and reciting in Arabic “Glory be to my Lord who is the very greatest” three times.
 - o Standing and making a recitation to praise God.
 - o Prostration while reciting “How perfect is my Lord the most high”.
 - o Reciting “God is the greatest while sitting and prostrating.
- On Fridays at midday a special prayer is held at Mosques known as the Jummah prayer. Islamic men are expected to attend this.
- Prayer is something that unites Muslims all over the world and contributes to the Ummah (global Islamic community).

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Rak’ah	A sequence of movements and recitations.
Recitation	Repeating a passage of text from memory.
Prostration	Kneeling with the forehead, nose, hands, knees and toes touching the floor as a sign of submission to God.
Jummah Prayer	A weekly communal prayer performed after midday on Friday, which includes a sermon.
Adhan	The call to prayer.

Religious Teachings

“So woe to those who pray but are heedless of their prayer” – Qur’an 107:4-5

“Believers! When the call to prayer is made on the day of congregation, hurry towards the reminder of God and leave off your trading.” – Qur’an 62:9

Practice Questions

1. Give two things that happen at Jummah Prayer. (2)
2. Explain two contrasting ways in which prayer is practiced in Islam. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

SAWM: FASTING DURING RAMADAN

Key Information

- Ramadan is the most important month in the Islamic calendar as it is when the Qur'an started being revealed to Muhammad.
- During this month all Muslims fast, study the Qur'an, give to charity and live to please God.
 - o The Night of power is a particularly important night and often Muslims try to stay awake all night praying and studying the Qur'an.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Ramadan	The ninth month of the Muslim calendar, during which Muslims have to fast from dusk to sunset.
Fasting	Not eating or drinking for a certain length of time, usually for a religious reason.
The Night of Power	1. The night when the first revelation of the Qur'an was made to Muhammad. 2. The festival that marks the start of God's revelation to Muhammad.

Religious Teachings

"It was in the month of Ramadan that the Qur'an was revealed as guidance for mankind... so any one of you who is present that month should fast, and anyone who is ill or on a journey should make up for the lost days by fasting on other days later." – Qur'an 2:18

Practice Questions

1. Give two things that Muslims do on the Night of Power. (2)
2. Explain two Muslim beliefs about Ramadan. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

ZAKAH

Key Information

- Zakah is the duty to give 2.5% of savings as alms each year.
 - o Muslims believe that performing Zakah allows for the purification of the soul and the removal of selfishness and greed.
- Khums is an additional financial duty for Shi'a Muslims.
- Sadaqah is a term used to refer to charitable actions or payments that are not required as part of a religious duty.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Zakah	Purification of wealth by giving 2.5% of savings each year to the poor.
Sadaqah	Good actions or voluntary payments that are made for charitable reasons.
Khums	A 20% tax paid by Shi'a Muslims on their excess income.

Religious Teachings

"They ask you [Prophet] what they should give. Say 'Whatever you give should be for parents, close relatives, orphans, the needy, and travellers. God is well aware of whatever good you do.'" – Qur'an 2:215

"Alms are meant only for the poor, the needy, those who administer them, those whose hearts need winning over, to free slaves and help those in debt, for God's cause and for travellers in need." – Qur'an 9:60

Practice Questions

1. Give two differences between Zakah and Khums. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which Zakah differs from charity. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

HAJJ – ORIGINS

Key Information

- Hajj is an annual pilgrimage that takes place in the city of Makkah in Saudi Arabia. Every Muslim is expected to take part in Hajj at least once during their life, if they are able.
- The actions of the Prophet Ibrahim and his family are remembered during Hajj. In particular the rebuilding of the Ka'aba. Though also:
 - o Hajira's running between the hills of Safa and Marwah looking for water.
 - o Ishmael's foot hitting the ground and the discovery of the well of Zamzam.
 - o Ibrahim's casting of stones at the devil.
- Hajj is very significant as it:
 - o Brings a person closer to God.
 - o Shows self-discipline and a dedication to God.
 - o Emphasises equality and unity.
 - o Fulfills a religious obligation.
 - o Produced inner peace.
 - o Reminds Muslims of the good examples set by the prophets.
 - o Leads to a person's sins being forgiven.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Pilgrimage	A journey by a believer to a holy site for religious reasons; an act of worship and devotion.
Hajj	The Annual pilgrimage to Makkah that every Muslim should try to make at least once in their life.
Ka'aba	The black, cube shaped building in the centre of the Grand Mosque in Makkah; the holiest place in Islam.
Ihram	A state of sacred purity. Wearing white and avoiding certain impure actions.
Circumambulation	Walking around the Ka'aba in a circle.

Religious Teachings

"Pilgrimage to the House is a duty owed to God by people who are able to undertake it" – Qur'an 3:97

Practice Question

1. Give two reasons why Hajj is significant. (2)

HAJJ – PRACTICE

Key Information

- It takes five days to complete Hajj. During this time pilgrims travel from Makkah to Mina, Arafat, Muzdalifah and back to Makkah.
- The actions performed on Hajj reflect the actions of Ibrahim and his family.
- The six most important parts of the Hajj are:
 - Entering a state of Ihram.
 - Circumambulation of the Ka’aba.
 - Walking between the hills of Safa and Marwah.
 - Standing at Arafat.
 - Throwing pebbles at the Jamarat in Mina.
 - Sacrificing an animal as part of Id-ul-Adha.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Hajji	Someone who has completed the Hajj. (Male).
Hajah	Someone who has completed the Hajj. (Female).

Religious Teachings

“Safa and Marwa are among the rites of God, so for those who make major or minor pilgrimage to the House it is no offence to circulate between the two.” – Qur’an 2:158

Practice Questions

1. Give two important part of Hajj. (2)
2. Explain two reasons why Hajj is important. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

JIHAD

Key Information

- Jihad is the name given to the struggle against evil. Muslims should aim to improve themselves and the societies in which they live.
 - Greater Jihad refers to the inward struggle against evil. It can take the form of:
 - Observing the five pillars.
 - Studying the Qur'an.
 - Putting God before all other things.
 - Avoiding temptations such as drugs and alcohol.
 - Avoiding negative character traits such as greed and jealousy.
 - Helping and caring for those in need.
 - Lesser Jihad refers to the outward struggle to protect Islam from threat. Sometimes this called for fighting. Fighting for a religious cause is sometimes called Holy War. In Islam Holy War must be:
 - Approved by a fair religious leader.
 - Fought in self-defence in response to a threat.
 - Not used to gain territory or wealth.
 - Not used to convert people to Islam.
 - Fought only after all peaceful methods to resolve the situation have been tried first.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Jihad	A struggle against evil; this may be an inward, personal struggle or an outward, collective struggle.
Greater Jihad	The personal inward struggle of all Muslims to live in line with the teachings of their faith.
Lesser Jihad	The outward struggle to defend one's faith, family and country from threat.
Holy War	Fighting for a religious cause or god, probably controlled by a religious leader.

Religious Teachings

"This is My path, leading straight, so follow it, and do not follow other ways: they will lead you away from it – 'This is what He commands you to do, so that you may refrain from wrongdoing'" – Qur'an 6:153

“But those who have believed, migrated, and striven for God’s cause, it is they who can look forward to God’s mercy: God is most forgiving and merciful.” – Qur’an 2:218

Practice Questions

1. Give two types of Jihad. (2)
2. Explain two ways in which a belief in Jihad influences Muslims today. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

ID-UL-FITR & ID-UL-ADHA

Key Information

- Id-ul-Fitr is a Muslim festival which celebrates the end of Ramadan.
 - Special prayers are said.
 - Muslims decorate their homes, wear new clothes, eat special foods (such as Baklava) and exchange cards and presents.
 - Muslims may remember their dead family members.
 - The festival celebrates the end of a month of fasting.
- Id-ul-Adha is a Muslim festival which celebrates Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son and marks the end of Hajj.
 - Special prayers are said.
 - Muslims will visit friends and family, making an effort to ensure that everyone is involved.
 - Some Muslims will buy an animal from a slaughterhouse and share the meat around, though others will just donate money to the poor.
 - The festival helps Muslims to connect with those on Hajj, even if they are not present themselves.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Id-ul-Fitr	A Muslim festival that celebrates the end of Ramadan.
Id-ul-Adha	A Muslim festival that celebrates the prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son to God.

Practice Questions

1. Give two Islamic festivals. (2)
2. Explain two contrasting ways in which Muslims celebrate Id-ul-Adha. Refer to religious teachings in your answer. (5)

THE FESTIVAL OF ASHURA

Key Information

- The Day of Ashura (Day of Remembrance) is an important festival for Shi'a Muslims.
 - o On this day they remember the death of Husayn at the battle of Karbala.
 - This is done by taking part in mourning rituals or processions.
- Sunni Muslims also observe Ashura, though they know it as the Day of Atonement and remember the Israelites being freed from slavery in Egypt.

Key Terms

Key Term	Definition
Day of Ashura	A festival that is important for Shi'a Muslims in particular, who remember the battle of Karbala and the death of Husayn on this day.

Practice Question

Give two ways in which Shi'a Muslims observe Ashura. (2)