

Exploring the Muslim Faith: A Reflective Guide

Learning objective: To describe and understand key aspects of Islam, including the Five Pillars, the importance of the Qur'an, and the significance of the mosque.

Use this writing scaffold to organise your knowledge about Islam. Ensure you use technical vocabulary accurately and provide thoughtful explanations for your points.

Islam is a world religion followed by millions of people, centred on the belief in one God, Allah, and the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad.

Word bank: furthermore · consequently · significantly · in addition to · reverence · community · devotion · obligatory · compassion · perspective

1. The Five Pillars: Identify the Five Pillars of Islam and explain why they are considered the foundation of a Muslim's daily life. Start by saying: The Five Pillars are essential because... (3 marks)

2. The Qur'an: Describe the significance of the Qur'an within the Muslim faith. How do Muslims show respect towards this holy book? Start by saying: The Qur'an is regarded as the word of God, therefore... (3 marks)

3. The Mosque: Compare and contrast the features of a mosque with other places of worship you have studied. Why is the mosque a vital centre for the community? Start by saying: A mosque serves as a place of worship, but it also... (3 marks)

4. Living Faith: Explain the importance of Zakat (charity) in Islam. How does this practice benefit the wider community? Start by saying: Zakat is a mandatory form of charity which encourages... (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Why might a Muslim choose to pray five times a day? Consider the impact this routine has on their personal perspective and spiritual discipline. (4 marks)

6. What might happen if a person misunderstood the significance of Ramadan? Explain the purpose of fasting from a believer's point of view. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are writing a diary entry from the perspective of a person visiting a mosque for the first time. Describe the atmosphere, the architectural patterns (such as geometric designs), and how the environment encourages reflection and peace.