

A Celebration of Eid al-Fitr

Learning objective: To understand the significance and traditions of Eid al-Fitr within the Islamic faith.

Read the passage below carefully. Use your inference and retrieval skills to answer the questions that follow. For the final question, ensure you justify your opinion with a clear reason.

Eid al-Fitr, often called the 'Festival of Breaking the Fast', is a significant celebration for Muslims worldwide. It marks the joyous conclusion of Ramadan, a holy month dedicated to reflection and fasting from dawn until sunset. During Ramadan, Muslims focus on prayer, self-discipline, and acts of charity, known as Zakat, to support those in need. When the new moon is sighted, the month of Shawwal begins, signalling the arrival of Eid. The day starts with a special communal prayer, followed by visits to family and friends. Houses are filled with the scent of delicious traditional foods, and many people wear their finest clothes to mark the occasion. Children often receive 'Eidi', which may be gifts or small amounts of money, such as £5 or £10, to spend on treats. It is a time for forgiveness, strengthening community bonds, and expressing gratitude for the blessings received. For Ellie the elephant, who loves hearing stories of traditions, Eid is a beautiful example of how different cultures celebrate faith and generosity with shared joy.

Word bank: Ramadan · fasting · charity · gratitude · community · festivity

1. What specific event signals the official beginning of the month of Shawwal and the start of Eid? (2 marks)

2. According to the text, what is the purpose of Zakat during the month of Ramadan? (2 marks)

3. Why might the atmosphere of a home change significantly on the day of Eid compared to the days during Ramadan? (3 marks)

4. Explain why community and sharing are considered central themes of this festival. (3 marks)

5. Do you think the act of giving 'Eidi' is an important part of the celebration? Justify your answer. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing a family gathering for an Eid meal. Include decorative patterns on the walls and a variety of traditional dishes on the table.



Extension challenge: Compare and contrast the themes of Eid al-Fitr with a festival from another religion that you have studied. What might happen if a community decided to celebrate Eid without the tradition of charity? Write a short paragraph justifying the importance of generosity in social celebrations.