

# The Path of Faith: Islamic Beliefs and Practices

*Learning objective: To understand the core pillars of Islam and the significance of the Qur'an and the mosque within the Muslim community.*

Max the monkey has been busy gathering facts about Islam for his maths-inspired logic puzzles. Below are a series of statements about Islamic practices. Decide whether each statement is 'True' or 'False'. If you choose 'False', you must justify your answer using your knowledge of the Five Pillars of Islam.

*Word bank: Qur'an · Salah · Zakat · Sawm · Hajj · Shahadah · Mosque · Makkah*

**1. True or False: Muslims pray five times a day, facing towards the city of Makkah. Justify your answer. (2 marks)**

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**2. True or False: Zakat is the practice of fasting from dawn until sunset during the month of Ramadan. Justify your answer. (2 marks)**

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**3. True or False: The Qur'an is considered the literal word of Allah, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. Justify your answer. (2 marks)**

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**4. True or False: A mosque is a place of worship where Muslims often remove their shoes before entering to maintain cleanliness. Justify your answer. (2 marks)**

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**5. Compare and contrast the practice of Sawm (fasting) with the practice of Zakat (charity). How do both actions demonstrate commitment to the Muslim faith? (3 marks)**

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**6. Explain why the Hajj pilgrimage is considered a life-changing experience for a Muslim. What might happen if a person is physically or financially unable to complete it? (3 marks)**

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**Draw: Illustrate the interior of a mosque, focusing on the geometric patterns Zara the zebra loves so much, and include the Mihrab (the niche in the wall) that indicates the direction of prayer.**



*Extension challenge: Imagine you are writing a journal entry from the perspective of a pilgrim arriving in Makkah for the Hajj. Describe the sights, sounds, and feelings of unity you experience. Use at least four words from the word bank in your narrative.*