

# Learning Grids

For GCSE AQA A Religious Studies

*Component 1: Islam*

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# Contents

<b>Thank You for Choosing ZigZag Education .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Teacher Feedback Opportunity .....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Terms and Conditions of Use.....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Teacher’s Introduction .....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Topics.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Six Articles of Faith of Sunni Islam and Five Roots of Shi’a Usul ad-Din.....	1
1.2 Tawhid .....	4
1.3 The Nature of God .....	6
1.4 Angels .....	10
1.5 Predestination and Human Freedom .....	13
1.6 Life After Death .....	16
1.7 Risalah (Prophethood).....	20
1.8 The Qur’an .....	24
1.9 Other Holy Texts .....	28
1.10 Imamate .....	31
2.1 The Five Pillars of Sunni Islam and the Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi’a Islam .....	34
2.2 Shahada .....	36
2.3 Salah .....	37
2.4 Sawm .....	39
2.5 Zakah .....	42
2.6 Hajj.....	46
2.7 Jihad .....	51
2.8 Festivals .....	55

# Teacher's Introduction

These learning grids are a tool designed to help you deliver the GCSE AQA A Component 1: Islam. The concept is that your students are assigned a topic to learn about (e.g. by giving them a set of pages to read from the course companion), possibly for homework, and then asked to complete the relevant learning grids. These activities may be particularly useful for your weaker learners, who may benefit from both the requirement to find the information and the act of writing the answers down.

## Remember!

Always check the exam board website for new information, including changes to the specification and sample assessment material.

The grids cover the specification content comprehensively and are designed to ask questions which your students should be able to answer correctly when they have studied the relevant topics. Each section begins with basic questions. Some grids then progress to a final, longer exam-style question that challenges a student's understanding of the topic and encourages them to draw on other applicable knowledge through the use of a writing frame. These are a mix of longer 12-mark questions and shorter 4 and 5-mark questions, depending on the nature of the topic. The answers to these questions are not an exhaustive list and other alternatives should be accepted.

Completed grids are provided so that your students' answers can be marked or checked. It may also be useful to hand them out to students during their revision to assist them with answers they cannot find.

Advantages of using these learning grids are:

- Students will find this method of studying of great value, particularly if they find it difficult to absorb information in class.
- Completed grids contain a sample answer that may be useful for revision.
- They are an easy-to-set yet valuable homework.
- They are a useful catch-up tool to help students who have missed a lesson.
- They can be used as a basis for cover lessons that require minimal preparation and no interaction from the cover teacher.
- They are an independent learning resource.

Some views expressed in this resource are the author's own interpretation of a certain idea or concept and may not reflect the opinions of others.

You may want to photocopy the sheets onto A3 paper, particularly for students with reading or writing difficulties.



## Word + PDF

Note that there is the option to pay an additional 30% to get this resource in PDF format or an additional 50% to get this resource in Word format. The latter allows you to edit the resource to adapt it for your students, and also to put it on your intranet or VLE so students can fill in the grids electronically.

*For all formats the licence terms are that the purchasing institution can make unlimited copies on a single site, for students and teachers officially registered at that site.*

**This edition supports students using the AQA GCSE Religious Studies A textbook, by Marianne Fleming, Peter Smith and David Warden (Oxford University Press, 2016, ISBN 978-0-19-837033-8) and the AQA GCSE Religious Studies Specification A textbook by Lesley Parry, Jan Hayes and Sheila Butler (Hodder Education, 2016, ISBN 978-1-4718-6685-2).**

**ZigZag Education is not affiliated with Oxford University Press, Hodder Education or AQA.**

**For students using the AQA GCSE Religious Studies A textbook, by Marianne Fleming, Peter Smith and David Warden (Oxford University Press, 2016, ISBN 978-0-19-837033-8), extra research may be required.**

## Free Updates!

Register your email address to receive any future free updates\* made to this resource or other RS resources your school has purchased, and details of any promotions for your subject.

\* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

**Go to [zzed.uk/freeupdates](http://zzed.uk/freeupdates)**

## **Selected Question and Answer Pages**

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For demonstration only, the sample answer pages immediately follow their corresponding question pages

## 1.2 Tawhid



Hodder: pp. 235–236, 238–240,  
254–255

Question	Answers
What do Muslims understand the term 'Tawhid' to mean?	
Does this idea mean Islam is a polytheistic religion, or a monotheistic religion?	
Give and explain one Qur'anic verse which talks about the Oneness of God.	<i>Verse:</i>
	<i>Explanation:</i>
How does the concept of Tawhid impact Muslim attitudes towards representations of God?	
In which important Islamic prayer is Tawhid asserted?	
What is the sin of 'Shirk'?	
Explain the difference between lesser and greater Shirk?	

## 1.2 Tawhid



Hodder: pp. 235–236, 238–240,  
254–255

Question	Answers
What do Muslims understand the term 'Tawhid' to mean?	<i>The term 'Tawhid' within Islam refers to the belief in the nature of God as being One God.</i>
Does this idea mean Islam is a polytheistic religion, or a monotheistic religion?	<i>Belief in 'Tawhid' means that Islam is a monotheistic religion, as they believe there is only one God.</i>
Give and explain one Qur'anic verse which talks about the Oneness of God.	<b>Verse:</b> Surah 112: 'Say, He is Allah, the One. Allah, the Absolute. He begets not, nor was he begotten. And there is nothing comparable to Him.'
	<b>Explain:</b> This is an important Qur'anic verse about the Oneness of God. It sets forward the view of Allah as being indisputably One God, and that there is none other like him. It declares him to be the Creator of all.
How does the concept of Tawhid impact Muslim attitudes towards representations of God?	<i>Allah is one, and there is nothing like him, therefore any attempt of comparison will be lesser than his greatness. Therefore, any images of Him are considered haram (forbidden). They may also lead to wrongly directed worship – worshipping an image rather than God. This is why there are no depictions of Allah, and why Mosques are commonly decorated with calligraphy.</i>
In which important Islamic prayer is Tawhid asserted?	<i>Tawhid is expressed as a central sentiment in the Shahada – 'The Lord Our is his messenger'.</i>
What is the sin of 'Shirk'?	<i>The sin of Shirk is to declare or believe that God is not one. It is a very gr die upon committing Shirk, then they will not be forgiven.</i>
Explain the difference between lesser and greater Shirk?	<i>Lesser Shirk is to declare verbally that Allah is one (for example, within ti true. Greater Shirk is to openly declare that God is not one.</i>



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## 1.5 Predestination and Human Freedom



OUP: pp. 16, 17

Hodder: pp. 107, 108

Question	Answers
What does al-Qadr mean?	
What do Sunnis believe about predestination?	
What do Sunnis believe about free will?	
What do Shi'as believe about predestination?	
What do Shi'as believe about free will?	
How do Muslims believe our actions impact upon the Day of Judgement?	

## 1.5 Predestination and Human Freedom



OUP: pp. 16, 17  
Hodder: pp. 107, 108

Question	Answers
What does al-Qadr mean?	<i>Al-Qadr is the Arabic term meaning the Supreme Will of God. It is one of the six articles of faith in Sunni Islam. It means that all which takes place is because Allah has willed it so.</i>
What do Sunnis believe about predestination?	<i>Sunnis believe that due to the Supreme Will Of God, He has power over all creation and therefore has power over what happens within creation. This includes human beings.</i>
What do Sunnis believe about free will?	<i>Sunnis believe that human beings still have the responsibility to make moral decisions. While a human may make a choice, God has already decided what that choice will be and therefore it is predestined.</i>
What do Shi'as believe about predestination?	<i>Shi'as believe that Allah knows all that is going to happen before it does, as he is not confined to a linear timescale. They believe, however, that Allah simply knows what choice you will make and the responsibility for making a moral choice is firmly with mankind who have free will.</i>
What do Shi'as believe about free will?	<i>Shi'as believe that all humans have free will, and with it the responsibility to themselves, others and God to make moral choices.</i>
How do Muslims believe our actions impact upon the Day of Judgement?	<i>Muslims, both Sunni and Shi'a, believe that our good and bad acts have an impact on the Day of Judgement to decide whether or not we as humans are destined for Paradise or Hell.</i>



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Question (Ashura)	Answers
What is Ashura?	
What do Shi'a Muslims remember at Ashura?	
What do Sunnis remember at Ashura? Give two examples.	
When is it celebrated?	
How is it celebrated by Sunni Muslims?	
Give an example of how Shi'a Muslims used to physically remember the suffering of Husayn.	
Give two examples of how Shi'as celebrate in modern times.	

Question (Ashura)	Answers
What is Ashura?	<i>Ashura is a more sombre Muslim festival. There is both a Shi'a and a Sunni observance of this festival.</i>
What do Shi'a Muslims remember at Ashura?	<i>For Shi'a Muslims, the festival of Ashura remembers the Martyrdom of Husayn, the grandson of the Prophet, who died in the battle of Karbala in 680 CE. It is considered a day of mourning.</i>
What do Sunnis remember at Ashura? Give two examples.	<p><i>For Sunnis, the festival of Ashura commemorates two different events.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Some Sunnis observe this as remembrance of the day the Prophet Nuh left the Ark following the flood as told in the Qur'an.</i></li> <li><i>Some Sunnis remember this as the day the Israelites were freed from slavery in Egypt, much like what is celebrated by Jews at the festival of Passover/Pesach.</i></li> </ul>
When is it celebrated?	<i>Ashura is celebrated on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Muharram.</i>
How is it celebrated by Sunni Muslims?	<i>The festival of Ashura for Sunni Muslims is observed by a fast, however this is not viewed to be a compulsory fast. They may also give to charity on this day.</i>
Give an example of how Shi'a Muslims used to physically remember the suffering of Husayn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Shi'a Muslims used to (and some still do) whip and beat themselves with whips and chains, remembering the suffering of Husayn. Some also cut their heads. This is still a practice within countries such as Lebanon, and especially in Karbala, the site of the battle in Iraq, although it is less common nowadays.</i></li> </ul>
Give two examples of how Shi'as celebrate in modern times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>There is a large gathering of many Muslims at Marble Arch in London where they beat their chests with their fists as a reminder of the suffering of Husayn.</i></li> <li><i>Some Muslims wear chains to symbolise the suffering of Husayn.</i></li> <li><i>There are commonly plays or enactments of the battle of Karbala, in which they reenact the events.</i></li> <li><i>Many still wear black in mourning.</i></li> <li><i>In Iraq, where the tomb of Husayn is believed to be located, many go to the tomb to pay respects.</i></li> <li><i>Some donate blood as a method of remembering his suffering.</i></li> </ul>



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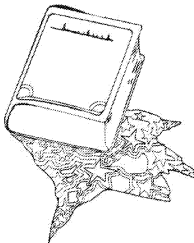
## **Additional Selected Question Pages**

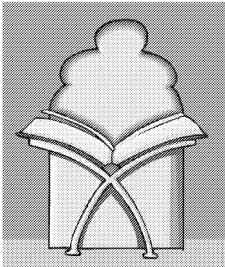
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## 1.8 The Qur'an



OUP: pp. 26, 27  
Hodder: pp. 97, 98, 99

Question	Answers
What do Muslims consider the Qur'an to be? Give three facts.	
Why is the Qur'an written in Arabic?	
What does the word 'Qur'an' mean and what does this indicate about how it was revealed to Muhammad? 	<i>Meaning:</i>

Question	Answers
How many chapters are in the Qur'an?	
What is the Arabic term for the chapters of the Qur'an?	
Give two examples of the type of content the Qur'an addresses?	
Why is the Qur'an considered to be the highest authority?	
<p data-bbox="129 805 528 874">How should physical copies of the Qur'an be kept?</p> 	
<p data-bbox="129 1129 763 1198">Apart from the Qur'an, name two other sources scholars use to understand the law of God.</p>	

Question	Answers
Why does the Qur'an have authority over these other sources?	
What is the meaning of the word 'Shari'ah'?	
In what state is the Qur'an considered to not be irrefutable?	
What is the beauty of the language of the Qur'an considered to be able to do?	

Question		Answers
<b>Exam-style Question</b>		<p>Use the sentence starters below to complete an answer to this question.</p> <p><b>The Qur'an is considered the ultimate authority in Islam. Evaluate this statement. (12 marks)</b></p>
The Qur'an is...		
It is considered to be...		
It was revealed to...		
The Qur'an is considered to be completely...		
It contains guidance for Muslims on...		
Therefore, it is an...		
There are other authorities in Islam such as...		
However, these authorities...		
Furthermore, for such authorities as the Sunnah...		
There are also other Holy Texts within Islam, such as		
However, many Islamic scholars believe...		
As a result...		
To conclude...		