

Practice	Significance/Importance	Contrasts	Quotes
<p>Five Pillars of Sunni Islam</p> <p>1. Shahadah: Declaration of Faith “There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger.”</p> <p>2. Salah: Prayer</p> <p>3. Zakah: Charitable Giving</p> <p>4. Sawm: Fasting during Ramadan</p> <p>5. Hajj: Pilgrimage to Makkah</p>	<p>They support the key beliefs of Islam as pillars support a building. They are seen as the key to living a good Muslim life, give Muslims a sense of group identity as a community who share faith and actions. Enable Muslims to show loyalty and obedience to Allah.</p>	<p>You should be able to contrast them with the Ten Obligatory Acts and also to explain the differences between Sunni and Shi’a practices in relation to Salah, Zakah, Sawm and Hajj.</p>	
<p>Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi’a Islam Include numbers 2-5 of the Five Pillars plus:</p> <p>Khums: 20% tax on profits</p> <p>Jihad: The struggle to maintain faith and to defend Islam</p> <p>Amr-bil-Maruf: encouraging people to do what is good</p> <p>Nahi Anil Mumkar: Discouraging people from doing what is wrong</p> <p>Tawallah: Being loving towards the friends of Allah</p> <p>Tabarra: avoiding association with the enemies of Allah</p>	<p>Given to the Shi’a Muslims by the Twelve Imams, who are seen as the leaders chosen by Allah to lead Islam after Muhammad’s death.</p> <p>The acts help Muslims to know how to behave on a daily basis, enabling them to please Allah and to feel closer to him.</p> <p>They give guidance to Shi’a Muslims about how to overcome challenges in their lives.</p> <p>They are a core element of Muslim identity, which makes them feel connected to other Shi’a Muslims.</p>	<p>You should be able to contrast them with the Five Pillars and also to explain the differences between Sunni and Shi’a practices in relation to Salah, Zakah, Sawm and Hajj.</p>	
<p>Shahadah: declaration of faith and its place in Muslim practice.</p> <p>This is a statement of the most important belief in Islam: “There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger.” Muslims will repeat it at numerous occasions during their lives including the daily prayers. It should also be the first thing said to a baby at</p>	<p>The Shahadah states the absolute core belief of Muslims and without it one cannot be a Muslim. It should be the very first and very last thing that a Muslim hears in their life, showing that belief in God and Muhammad is the most important element of Islam.</p>	<p>In Shi’a Islam, an extra phrase is added to the Shahadah: “...and Allah is the friend of God.” This reflects the belief that Ali, son-in-law and cousin of Muhammad, is seen as the true successor of Muhammad.</p>	<p><i>“There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger.”</i></p>

<p>birth and it is the only thing anyone must say in order to convert to Islam.</p>	<p>It supports the other five pillars – without this belief, they are meaningless actions.</p>		
<p>Salah its significance: Muslims pray five times a day (before sunrise, after midday, afternoon, after sunset, night), in a clean place, facing the direction of Makkah. They must carry out ablutions (ritual washing), known as Wudu, before praying. Hands, heads, feet and face are all washed. The prayer involves recitations including the first chapter of the Qur’an and ‘Glory be to my Lord who is the very greatest’ as well as movements known as rak’ahs which include standing, bowing and kneeling with head to the floor (prostration). Salah can take place at home, in the mosque or elsewhere. The Friday midday prayer is the most important of the week and is known as the Jummah prayer. All male Muslims should go to Mosque and the prayer will be followed by a sermon from the Imam. Women may go to the Mosque but don’t have to.</p>	<p>It is important as it is one of the Five Pillars and one of the Ten Obligatory Acts and therefore follows the will of Allah. It creates a greater awareness of Allah and motivates Muslims to do Allah’s will. The frequency of it means that Muslims are continually reminded of what Allah wants from them. Fully bowing down before Allah demonstrates ultimate respect and veneration. Washing before prayer demonstrates both physical and spiritual cleanliness – being fully prepared for prayer.</p>	<p>A Sunni Muslim will pray on five separate occasions each day whereas a Shi’a Muslim will combine two pairs of these prayers and pray three times each day. A Sunni Muslim will bow their head right down to the floor whereas a Shi’a Muslim will rest their forehead on a clay tablet.</p>	<p><i>“When you are about to pray, wash your faces and your hands up to the elbows, wipe your heads, wash your feet up to the ankles and, if required, wash your whole body.” Qur’an</i></p> <p><i>“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</i></p>
<p>Sawm: Muslims should fast between sunrise and sunset every day during the month of Ramadan. This includes going</p>	<p>It is important as it is one of the Five Pillars and one of the Ten Obligatory Acts and therefore follows the will of Allah.</p>		<p><i>“What will explain to you what the night of glory is? The night of glory is better than a thousand months.” Qur’an</i></p>

<p>without food or drink and also avoiding smoking, sex, bad habits etc. Exceptions (who don't have to fast) include pregnant women, children, those who are ill, people who are travelling. These people may not be strong or healthy enough. People travelling will make up missed fast days another time.</p> <p>The reason that this happens in the month of Ramadan is that this was the month when Allah first revealed the Qur'an to Muhammad. The first occasion that this happened is known as the Night of Power.</p>	<p>The purpose is to focus on God with a pure soul, demonstrating self-discipline and sacrificing physical needs for God.</p> <p>Prayers said on the Night of Power are seen as having the power of a thousand months' worth of worship. You need to know the bold quote (Qur'an 96:1-5) which explains what was said to Muhammad on the night of power.</p>		<p><i>"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." Qur'an</i></p> <p><i>"Read! In the name of your Lord who created: He created man from a clinging form (a blood clot). Read! Your Lord is the most Bountiful One who taught by means of the pen, who taught man what he didn't know." Qur'an 96: 1-5</i></p>
<p>Zakah: the role and significance of giving alms including origins, how and why it is given, benefits of receipt, Khums in Shi'a Islam.</p>	<p>It is important as it is one of the Five Pillars and one of the Ten Obligatory Acts and therefore follows the will of Allah.</p>		
<p>Hajj: the role and significance of the pilgrimage to Makkah including origins, how hajj is performed, the actions pilgrims perform at sites including the Ka'aba at Makkah, Mina, Arafat, Muzdalifah and their significance</p>	<p>It is important as it is one of the Five Pillars and one of the Ten Obligatory Acts and therefore follows the will of Allah.</p>		
<p>Jihad: different understandings of jihad: the meaning and significance of greater and lesser jihad; origins, influence and conditions for the declaration of lesser jihad.</p>			
<p>Festivals and commemorations and their importance for Muslims in Great Britain today, including the origins and</p>			

meanings of Id-ul-Adha, Id-ul-Fitr, Ashura			