



Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2025

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE
In Islamic Studies (4IS1) Paper 01

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General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(a)	AO1 2 marks Award 1 mark for each point identified, up to a maximum of 2 marks. • He participated in household chores, helping his wives with daily tasks. • He expressed his love for his wives explicitly. • He was gentle and respectful to his wives. Accept any other appropriate response.	(2)

Question number	Answer	Mark
1(b)	AO1 3 marks Award 1 mark for initial point and a further 2 marks for development that shows understanding, up to a maximum of 3 marks. • Muhammad (pbuh) was praying in the cave in Hira when the angel Jibrail appeared (1), and told Muhammad (pbuh) to 'Recite' (1). Muhammad (pbuh) replied 'but I cannot read' (1) • Jibrail told Muhammad (pbuh) to 'Recite' three times (1) then embraced him (1) and quoted lines from the Qur'an which Muhammad (pbuh) recited (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(3)

Question number	Indicative content	
1(c)	A01 (3 marks)/A02 (3 marks) • The new mosques were a sign that the Muslim community were setting roots down in a place they were welcome (A01). This enabled the Muslim community to feel that they were now in a new home in which they could live their lives according to the will of Allah. (A02). • The mosques were central to giving an identity to the early Muslim community. It was a place where Muslims could gather together socially without fear of persecution. (A01). They were a sign that the long years of the Hijrah were ended and the mosque was a symbol of the new life that Allah and Muhammad (pbuh) had delivered to them (A02). • Mosques were centres of learning as well as places of prayer (A01) and by establishing the mosques the Prophet was able to teach his followers. This helped the community stay focused on the importance of maintaining the will of Allah in their lives, and also to listen to the words of the Prophet who guided the people (A02).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–2	• Limited use of facts, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a narrow range of concepts/themes which lack detail and are not developed. (A02)
Level 2	3–4	• Good use of facts, which are mostly accurate and relevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a range of concepts/themes, some of which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (A02)

Level 3	5–6	• Excellent use of facts, which are accurate and relevant. (AO1) • Understanding addresses a broad range of concepts/themes, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO2)
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Question number	Indicative content
1(d)	AO2 (6 marks)/AO3 (6 marks) • Many Muslims would agree that establishing Shari'ah was the Prophet's most important role as this enabled the early Muslim community to function as a society. Islam now had a set order of underlying Islamic principles that would guide each individual Muslim, and the community, to live lives within an Islamic structure (AO2). All Muslims now had clear guidance on how they should live in accordance with the will of Allah and by following these rules and no other, as referred to in the Hadith, they will enter into Jannah (AO3). • Many Muslims would agree as when the Prophet was the supreme judge of the early Muslim community he used the Qur'an and examples of his own life to establish the Shari'ah and so resolve disputes and provide guidance to all (AO2). His role in establishing the Shari'ah was crucial as, after he died, the companions continued to follow his example. They expounded on the Qur'an in order to resolve legal issues or provide moral guidance. They followed this, as illustrated in the Hadith (AO3). • Although the establishment of the Shari'ah could be seen to be the Prophet's most important role, some Muslims would disagree and say it was leading the early Islamic community to victory in battles. This allowed for the expansion of Islam and showed the world the Prophet and his message had been sent by Allah (AO2). Without victory in these battles the early Islamic community would not have flourished and so the Islamic faith would not have had the impact on the world that it did. It would not have been able to show

	the truth that Allah willed for all creation. Many will say this was the Prophet's most important role (AO3).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	• Limited understanding of concepts/themes, leading to an unbalanced argument. (AO2) • Limited use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • No application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be basic, with no analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 2	5–8	• Good understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a partially-balanced argument. (AO2) • Good use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Some application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be good, with mostly relevant analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 3	9–12	• Excellent understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a balanced argument. (AO2) • Excellent use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Thorough application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be excellent, with thorough analysis of issues. (AO3)

Question number	Answer	Mark
2(a)	AO1 2 marks Award 1 mark for each point identified, up to a maximum of 2 marks. • It is the word of Allah given to the Prophet. • It gives guidance on how Muslims should live good lives. • It presents the Prophet as the perfect role model. Accept any other appropriate response.	(2)

Question number	Answer	Mark
2(b)	AO1 3 marks Award 1 mark for initial point and a further 2 marks for development that shows understanding, up to a maximum of 3 marks. • The Mi'raj marks the night that Allah took the Prophet on a journey from Mecca to Jerusalem (1), and then to heaven (1) to which he ascended with the angel Jibrail (1). • Muhammad (pbuh) moved through the seven levels of heaven (1), meeting a different prophet at each level (1), after which he then spoke to Allah (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(3)

Question number	Indicative content	
2(c)	A01 (3 marks)/A02 (3 marks) • The Sunnah is the second primary source of Islam after the Qur'an (A01). It refers to the traditions and practices of Muhammad (pbuh) as a role model. The Sunnah is documented by the Hadith which highlight the teachings, deeds and sayings of the Prophet which, alongside the Qur'an, make up the primary sources of Islamic belief (A02). • The Sunnah played a crucial role in establishing Islam as a religion, providing a detailed approach on how to live as a faithful Muslim (A01). It provides the Muslim with exact instruction on how to live a life that is pleasing to Allah and gave Muslims a clear Islamic identity on which Islam was established. (A02). • Muslims believe that Muhammad (pbuh) was an exemplary role model for all. (A01). His teachings, from how many times a day to pray, what is good etiquette, how to behave in public, were all vital in the establishment of Muslim belief and practice (A02).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–2	• Limited use of facts, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a narrow range of concepts/themes which lack detail and are not developed. (A02)
Level 2	3–4	• Good use of facts, which are mostly accurate and relevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a range of concepts/themes, some of which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (A02)
Level 3	5–6	• Excellent use of facts, which are accurate and relevant. (A01)

		Understanding addresses a broad range of concepts/themes, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO2)
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Question number	Indicative content
2(d)	AO2 (6 marks)/AO3 (6 marks) - Some Muslims would agree that the Prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh) was the only reason that Islam was successfully established, as it centralised around the Prophet being the specially chosen messenger who brought the undiluted word of Allah to his people (AO2). This is further emphasised through the understanding that Muhammad (pbuh) was the last prophet and through him the final message of Allah was now revealed for all to see and follow, as stated in Surah 33:38 – 40 (AO3). - Some Muslims would agree because the importance of prophethood is that the messenger brings divine guidance from Allah to his people, which shows them how to live good lives pleasing to Allah (AO2). The prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh) thus played a crucial role in establishing Islam as a religion, as it was through his message and teachings that the Arabian peninsula was united. This was made possible through his prophethood when he was chosen by Allah, as outlined in Surah 33:38 – 40 (AO3). - Some Muslims would disagree and say there were numerous events, such as the appointment of prophets before Muhammad (pbuh) that helped establish Islam. They would say that the revelation of Allah was delivered by the Risalah (AO2). They would say that the message of Allah was given gradually to the world through the Risalah, which culminated in the prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh). The message of Allah was something that began with Adam and, although not fully understood during the time of each prophet, set the foundation for the successful establishment of Islam as a world religion (AO3).

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	• Limited understanding of concepts/themes, leading to an unbalanced argument. (AO2) • Limited use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • No application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be basic, with no analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 2	5–8	• Good understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a partially-balanced argument. (AO2) • Good use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Some application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be good, with mostly relevant analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 3	9–12	• Excellent understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a balanced argument. (AO2) • Excellent use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Thorough application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be excellent, with thorough analysis of issues. (AO3)

Question number	Answer	Mark
3(a)	AO1 2 marks Award one mark for each point identified, up to a maximum of two. • Al-Qadr shows that Allah is all knowing. • It shows that Allah is in control of everything. • Muslims will be judged on the choices they make. Accept any other appropriate response.	(2)

Question number	Answer	Mark
3(b)	AO1 3 marks Award 1 mark for providing a reason. Award a further two marks for development that shows development, up to a maximum of 3 marks. • Muslims believe that Allah as creator shows that Allah made everything (1), which shows his creativity (1), and that he should be worshipped as the creator of all things (1). • They believe that Allah as creator is good (1), as all of his creation is good (1), and he is merciful and just to all through his creation (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(3)

Question number	Indicative content	
3(c)	A01 (3 marks)/A02 (3 marks) • The importance of Dawud in Islam is that he was seen as a prophet and messenger of Allah (A01). It states in the Qur'an that Dawud is given the title of Khalifah, something otherwise only given to Adam which identifies Dawud as a special envoy of Allah (A02). • Dawud is one of the few prophets who also held kingship so is held in extremely high rank. (A01). This highlights the great wisdom and leadership of Dawud as someone who had to look after his people both spiritually and materially (A02). • The holy book, the Zabur, was revealed to Dawud just as Tawrat had been revealed to Musa (A01). The Zabur, like all texts of the past, are seen to be corrupted as time moved on, but Muslims still show it the highest respect where its teachings reflect those of the Qur'an, such as that the righteous will inherit the earth (Ps 37) (A02).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–2	• Limited use of facts, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a narrow range of concepts/themes which lack detail and are not developed. (A02)
Level 2	3–4	• Good use of facts, which are mostly accurate and relevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a range of concepts/themes, some of which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (A02)
Level 3	5–6	• Excellent use of facts, which are accurate and relevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a broad range of concepts/themes, which are detailed and fully developed. (A02)

Question number	Indicative content
3(d)	AO2 (6 marks)/AO3 (6 marks) • Many Muslims would agree as living with correct etiquette, attitudes and manners will help a Muslim achieve Jannah as they show the core values of a Muslim. To present oneself humbly to those one meets is seen as showing a character of high virtue (AO2). This means by acting this way a Muslim is showing both themselves and Islam in a good way and are following the guidance set out in Surah 49:11-13. To be a righteous Muslim, and pleasing to Allah then good etiquette, attitudes and manners must be displayed, and so achieve Jannah (AO3). • Many Muslims would agree with this as to ridicule others or backbite is a major sin in Islam as outlined in Surah 49:11-13. Displaying good etiquette, attitudes and manners is a way of developing the soul which then enables a Muslim to achieve Jannah (AO2). It requires practice and a lot of patience to develop good manners towards parents, neighbours and others, but becoming aware of the Qur'an's teachings on good manners, and acting on them, is the path to Jannah (AO3). • Although Muslims would see the importance of etiquette, attitudes and manners as important, they would say there are other ways to achieve Jannah. They would say, for example, that giving Zakat/Khums is highlighted as something which would determine the righteousness of a Muslim (AO2). By giving their wealth to support those less fortunate than others they are deliberately helping improve their lives and increase their faith in Allah through this support. It is this that then underpins a sense of justice and belonging for all in the Ummah. The act of giving in order to improve the lives of others is what lies at the heart of a true Muslim and inspires others to do likewise (AO3).

Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	• Limited understanding of concepts/themes, leading to an unbalanced argument. (AO2) • Limited use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • No application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be basic, with no analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 2	5–8	• Good understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a partially-balanced argument. (AO2) • Good use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Some application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be good, with mostly relevant analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 3	9–12	• Excellent understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a balanced argument. (AO2) • Excellent use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Thorough application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be excellent, with thorough analysis of issues. (AO3)

Question number	Answer	Mark
4(a)	AO1 2 marks Award one mark for each point identified, up to a maximum of 2 marks. • One role was to make people aware of the message of Allah. • To guide people in living good lives. • To challenge non-believers. Accept any other appropriate response.	(2)

Question number	Answer	Mark
4(b)	AO1 3 marks Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a further 2 marks for development that shows development, up to a maximum of 3 marks. • The Zabur teaches that it was given to the prophet Dawud by Allah (1), that highlighted Allah as protector of those with faith (1), as stated in Psalm 90 (1). • It is a book which teaches songs and poetry in praise of Allah (1), to remind believers of the reward in their faith journey (1), as stated in Psalm 40 (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(3)

Question number	Indicative content	
4(c)	A01 (3 marks)/A02 (3 marks) • Malaikah are Allah's messengers who obey all of his commands without question and set a good example for humans (A01). This reminds Muslims of the importance of humility before Allah. Just as the Malaikah submit to the will of Allah without question, so should humans by following the Qur'an and Sunnah (A02). • It was through the angel Jibrail that Allah gave the message of the Qur'an to humans (A01). Jibrail communicated the Qur'an to Muhammad (pbuh) until it was complete. It is for this reason that Jibrail is considered the most important malak by Muslims. He was the one who communicated Allah's message to all the prophets (A02). • Malaikah play key roles in the life and death of humans (A01). According to the Qur'an, at death, Izrael takes the soul of humans and returns it to Allah. This reminds Muslims of the importance of living a good life so that they will be able to enter Jannah (A02).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–2	• Limited use of facts, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a narrow range of concepts/themes which lack detail and are not developed. (A02)
Level 2	3–4	• Good use of facts, which are mostly accurate and relevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a range of concepts/themes, some of which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (A02)

Level 3	5–6	• Excellent use of facts, which are accurate and relevant. (AO1) • Understanding addresses a broad range of concepts/themes, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO2)
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Question number	Indicative content
4(d)	AO2 (6 marks)/AO3 (6 marks) • Many Muslims would agree that believing in the oneness of Allah is what makes a proper Muslim, as the first pillar of Islam is the Shahadah. This emphasises the importance of Tawhid (AO2). Tawhid means that Allah is the only God and therefore he must be the focal point of a Muslim's life. It reminds Muslims that being connected to the oneness of Allah, as expressed in the Tawhid, is the connection they need to live good lives and to achieve Jannah, as stated in Surah 112 "He is Allah, [who is] One, Allah the Eternal Refuge" (AO3). • Many Muslims would agree because establishing the truth of Tawhid is the goal and mission of all the prophets. It is because of the importance of Tawhid that Allah sent messengers and revealed books (AO2). This reminds Muslims of their purpose in life which is to connect with Allah and in doing so submit to the will of Allah by being a faithful Muslim. Shirk must be avoided or repented as this stains Tawhid and works against Allah. Tawhid reminds Muslims of the unequalled greatness of God, as stated in Surah 112 "He neither begets nor is born, nor is there to Him any equivalent" (AO3). • Belief in Tawhid is central to Muslim belief but some Muslims would disagree that it is the only belief you need to be a proper Muslim. They would say, for example, that the belief in the mercy of Allah is also important, as it is the mercy of Allah that guides his people (AO2). It is through belief in the mercy of Allah that the gift of the Qur'an was given to Muhammad

		(pbuh), who through the Sunnah and Hadith cleared a path of enlightenment for all Muslims to walk on and achieve Jannah (AO3).
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	• Limited understanding of concepts/themes, leading to an unbalanced argument. (AO2) • Limited use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • No application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be basic, with no analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 2	5–8	• Good understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a partially-balanced argument. (AO2) • Good use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Some application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be good, with mostly relevant analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 3	9–12	• Excellent understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a balanced argument. (AO2) • Excellent use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Thorough application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be excellent, with thorough analysis of issues. (AO3)

Question number	Answer	Mark
5(a)	AO1 1 mark Award one mark a correct point identified up to maximum of one mark. • During prayer Muslims are required to face Makkah. • Before they begin prayer they perform Wudu. • They perform a series of movements (rak'ahs). Accept any other appropriate response.	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
5(b)	AO1 3 marks Award 1 mark for providing a reason. Award a further 2 marks for development that shows development, up to a maximum of 3 marks. • Eid-ul-Adha is a worldwide celebration on the occasion of Hajj (1). The celebration begins with a special prayer (salat al-Eid) (1), and is traditionally followed by the sacrifice of a sheep or goat (1). • On this day Muslims will often visit the houses of family and friends (1). They exchange gifts with the greeting Eid Mubarak (1), and give to charity so the poor can also celebrate (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(3)

Question number	Indicative content	
5(c)	A01 (3 marks)/A02 (3 marks) • Laylat al-Qadr is important to Muslims today as it marks an important event in the Islamic calendar. (A01) It is also referred to as the 'Night of Power' and is the most sacred time for Muslims. On this night Muslims believe that angels descend to earth, and by praying for forgiveness their sins will be forgiven (A02). • It is seen as a special gift that Allah gave through Muhammad (pbuh) to the Ummah (A01). Its exact date isn't known but it occurs in one of the odd nights during the last ten days of Ramadan. This time then becomes an intense period of worship and reflection for Muslims, which reminds them of the importance of living a good Muslim life (A02). • It is a time when fasting gains special rewards and forgiveness for a Muslim (A01). By fasting on this special night Muslims gain great blessings for their effort. By giving up sleep for Allah and using this time to increase their prayer life a Muslim will receive blessings worth a thousand months (A02).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–2	• Limited use of facts, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a narrow range of concepts/themes which lack detail and are not developed. (A02)
Level 2	3–4	• Good use of facts, which are mostly accurate and relevant. (A01) • Understanding addresses a range of concepts/themes, some of which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (A02)
Level 3	5–6	• Excellent use of facts, which are accurate and relevant. (A01)

		Understanding addresses a broad range of concepts/themes, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO2)
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Question number	Indicative content
5(d)	A02 (6 marks)/A03 (6 marks) - Many Muslims would agree a Muslim cannot live a life pleasing to Allah without giving financial support to those in need as giving Zakah is an obligation in Islam. In Surah 9 it states it is an obligation imposed by Allah to help those in need (A02). By paying Zakah Muslims are submitting to Allah's will and helping their fellow Muslim as Allah commanded. It also reminds Muslims that wealth can be evil if misused and paying Zakah purifies the wealth that they keep. They do this by trying to lift people out of poverty and give them their dignity. There can be no more important task than this in living a life pleasing to Allah (A03). - Many Muslims would agree as paying Khums is a way of supporting those in poverty and who are in need of this special assistance. Khums requires that a fifth of a person's wealth is given to Allah and 50% of this is given to the religious leaders to support their work (A02). The paying of Khums is made to ensure that society looks after the most vulnerable such as orphans, the poor and the homeless. Just as Zakah is commanded by Allah, many believe that Khums is also commanded. It has the same intention which is to seek an end to poverty which is pleasing to Allah as it states in Surah 9 'It is an obligation by Allah. And Allah is knowing and wise' (A03). - Some Muslims would disagree and believe, for example, that a strong prayer life is more important. Following the daily cycle of prayer, with a special focus on Jummah prayer, are key parts of living a life pleasing to Allah as stated by the Prophet (A02). By improving their prayer life Allah will bless a Muslim

	for their reliance on him. For this reliance they will receive special blessings. To live in such a way and rely on Allah has to be the most important objective for all Muslims as this is submission to his will (AO3).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	• Limited understanding of concepts/themes, leading to an unbalanced argument. (AO2) • Limited use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • No application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be basic, with no analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 2	5–8	• Good understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a partially-balanced argument. (AO2) • Good use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Some application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be good, with mostly relevant analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 3	9–12	• Excellent understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a balanced argument. (AO2) • Excellent use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Thorough application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be excellent, with thorough analysis of issues. (AO3)

Question number	Answer	Mark
6(a)	AO1 1 mark Award 1 mark for each point identified, up to a maximum of 1 mark. • One purpose of marriage is to increase the Ummah. • They marry for love and support. • They marry to follow the example of the Prophet. Accept any other appropriate response.	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
6(b)	AO1 3 marks Award one mark for providing a reason. Award a further 2 marks for development that shows development, up to a maximum of 3 marks • Muslims believe that good community is created by good leadership (1). This ensures those placed in positions of leadership are leaders who are trusted in their communal roles (1), for example, imams who lead worship in the community (1). • Leaders demonstrate high Islamic values, (1) which provide guidance for all in the community, (1) and create a good community through this unity of belief (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(3)

Question number	Indicative content	
6(c)	A01 (3 marks)/A02 (3 marks) - Hajj is important for Muslims because it is one of the five pillars of Islam. (A01). It is an act of worship that all Muslims are required to perform if they possibly can. By going on Hajj Muslims are showing a devotion to Allah that he will recognise and the Muslim who goes on Hajj will receive special blessings (A02). - It is important because it is a special spiritual journey for Muslims. (A01). It is seen as something that purifies the pilgrim and reinforces their connection with Allah. Therefore, a Muslim after Hajj, can go back to their lives, but with a renewed focus that others witness through them and the way they live, which is pleasing to Allah (A02). - Going on Hajj highlights the pilgrim's commitment to Allah (A01). Hajj is not an easy thing to do. It can be physically challenging and expensive, but it reflects the sacrifice and submission to the will of Allah of Ibrahim and Isma'il. By going on Hajj Muslims are also following the example of the Prophet and in doing so they will die happy in the knowledge they have followed his example (A02).	
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–2	- Limited use of facts, some of which may be inaccurate or irrelevant. (AO1) - Understanding addresses a narrow range of concepts/themes which lack detail and are not developed. (AO2)
Level 2	3–4	- Good use of facts, which are mostly accurate and relevant. (AO1) - Understanding addresses a range of concepts/themes, some of which are not fully detailed and/or developed. (AO2)
Level 3	5–6	Excellent use of facts, which are accurate and relevant. (AO1)

		Understanding addresses a broad range of concepts/themes, which are detailed and fully developed. (AO2)
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Question number	Indicative content
6(d)	A02 (6 marks)/A03 (6 marks) - Many Muslims would agree that the most important Muslim beliefs are in the Shahadah, as it is from the Shahadah that the two key Islamic beliefs of the oneness of God and the Prophethood of Muhammad (pbuh) are found. From these beliefs come all other Islamic beliefs (A02). If you believe in the oneness of Allah and in his messenger Muhammad (pbuh), then you accept the Qur'an as the Word of Allah and the Sunnah of the Prophet. These beliefs highlight that Islam is the only religion that is recognised by Allah as fulfilling his will as described in Surah 3 (A03). - Many Muslims would agree, as in Islam there are no 'Rites of Passage' ceremonies to make a person a Muslim, this is where belief in the Shahadah is of crucial importance. By reciting the Shahadah in front of Muslim witnesses a person has converted to Islam (A02). This is fulfilling the will of Allah and the intention of the Prophet to bring the message of Islam to all peoples and the understanding that there is no deity but Allah, and he alone brings justice to creation as Allah teaches in Surah 3. All Islamic belief comes from this understanding (A03). - The Shahadah contains key beliefs in Islam, but Muslims would say that it is only one of the Five Pillars, which are all of importance. For example, there is the importance of belief in the value of Salat which is key to ensuring there is a faithful connection made with Allah (A02). Salat is what enables a Muslim to deal with all the

		challenges they face in life. It is the relationship with Allah, developed through Salat, that all Islamic belief is derived from as it is that movement into prayer that highlights the nature of a true believer in Islam and who can then influence those around them (AO3).
Level	Mark	Descriptor
	0	No rewardable material.
Level 1	1–4	• Limited understanding of concepts/themes, leading to an unbalanced argument. (AO2) • Limited use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • No application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be basic, with no analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 2	5–8	• Good understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a partially-balanced argument. (AO2) • Good use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Some application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be good, with mostly relevant analysis of issues. (AO3)
Level 3	9–12	• Excellent understanding of concepts/themes, leading to a balanced argument. (AO2) • Excellent use of the text provided to support argument. (AO2) • Thorough application of own/others' views to consider questions/issues. (AO3) • Interpretation of information will be excellent, with thorough analysis of issues. (AO3)

