



General Certificate of Secondary Education
2025

Centre Number

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Candidate Number

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Religious Studies

Paper 8
Islam



[GRE81]

GRE81

FRIDAY 13 JUNE, AFTERNOON

TIME

1 hour 30 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number in the spaces provided at the top of this page.

You must answer the questions in the spaces provided.

Do not write outside the boxed area on each page or on blank pages.

Complete in black ink only. **Do not write with a gel pen.**

Answer **all** the questions in **Section A** and **two** from **three** questions in **Section B** in the spaces provided in this booklet.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **Section B** Questions **5(c)**, **6(c)** and **7(c)**, where **two** questions only are required to be completed.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.



Section A

Answer **all** questions.

1 Sacred writings

(a) (i) What does the word Qur'an mean?

_____ [1]

(ii) Give **two** reasons why the Qur'an is important to Muslims.

1. _____ [1]

2. _____ [1]

(iii) What is the Sunnah?

_____ [1]

(iv) What is Sharia?

_____ [1]



3 Prayer and fasting



Source: © Getty Images

(a) Describe the Pillar of Salah (prayer) in Islam.

[5]



Section B

Answer **two** questions from this section.

Write on the pages provided at the end of the examination paper.

5 The formative history of Islam

- (a) Describe the life and career of Muhammad. [5]
- (b) Explain the role of prophets in Islam. [5]
- (c) “The world would be a better place if more people followed the teaching of the prophets.”

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. You should refer to Islam in your answer. [10]

6 Rites of passage

- (a) Describe the funeral and mourning rites of Muslims. [5]
- (b) Explain Muslim teaching about life after death. [5]
- (c) “Belief in the resurrection gives hope to Muslims.”

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. You should refer to Islam in your answer. [10]

7 Beliefs and practices

- (a) Describe the work of an Imam. [5]
- (b) Explain the meaning and purpose of public worship for Muslims. [5]
- (c) “Religious leaders do not always set a good example for believers to follow.”

Do you agree or disagree? Give reasons for your answer showing that you have considered different points of view. You should refer to Islam in your answer. [10]





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For Examiner's use only	
Question Number	Marks
Section A	
1	
2	
3	
4	
Section B	
5	
6	
7	
Total Marks	

Examiner Number

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