1.3 Introduction: Judaism, Christianity and Islam

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 30 marks**

KEY WORDS Judaism • Christianity • Islam • covenant • Tawhid • Five Pillars • Eucharist • Shabbat

Objective

Introduce three religions that trace themselves to Abraham: **Judaism**, **Christianity** and **Islam**: their beliefs about God, their sacred texts, and their main practices.

You must be able to:

- state the central beliefs of Judaism, Christianity and Islam
- name the sacred texts of each
- describe key practices: Shabbat, the Eucharist, the Five Pillars
- compare their ideas of God and revelation
- explain diversity within each

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1 Key knowledge and worked examples

	Judaism	Christianity	Islam
God	one God, who made a **covenant** with Abraham and with Israel at Sinai	one God as Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit	one God, Allah; **Tawhid** (oneness)
key figures	Abraham, Moses	Jesus, believed to be the Son of God, who died and rose again	the Prophet Muhammad (c. 570–632 CE), the final prophet
texts	the Torah and the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh); the Talmud	the Bible: Old and New Testaments	the **Qur'an**; the Hadith
practice	**Shabbat** from Friday evening to Saturday evening; Passover	prayer, baptism, the **Eucharist** (Holy Communion)	the **Five Pillars**
branches	Orthodox, Conservative, Reform	Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant	Sunni (the majority), Shi'a

The Five Pillars of Islam

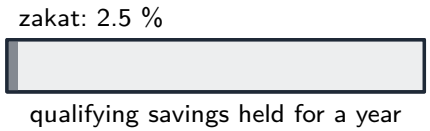
1. **Shahada**: declaration of faith. 2. **Salah**: prayer five times a day. 3. **Zakat**: giving 2.5 % of qualifying wealth held for a year above a minimum (*nisab*) to those in need. 4. **Sawm**: fasting from dawn to sunset in Ramadan. 5. **Hajj**: pilgrimage to Mecca once in a lifetime if able.

Worked example. A Muslim has qualifying savings of 48,000 (above the nisab) held for a year. Zakat $= 48\,000 \times 0.025 = 1{,}200$.

2 Practice

2.1 State the meaning of **Tawhid**, and why it matters in Islam. [2]

2.2 A Muslim holds qualifying savings of 36,000 for a year, above the nisab. Calculate the zakat due, and explain **one** purpose of zakat. [3]



2.3 Explain the meaning of **Shabbat** for many Jews, and **two** ways it is kept. [4]

2.4 Compare how Judaism, Christianity and Islam understand **revelation**: how God makes himself known. [6]

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3 Exam-style questions

3.1 *(Paper 1 style.)* Outline the **Five Pillars of Islam**. [7]

3.2 *(Paper 1 style.)* Explain the meaning of the **Eucharist** for Christians, and why denominations understand it differently. [8]

Solutions

Marking: **M1** a correct method, **A1** the correct answer, **B1** an independent mark.

Each answer shows the steps, then the **result**.

2.1

Tawhid: the absolute oneness of God; it is the central belief: nothing can be equal to God, so worshipping anything else (shirk) is the greatest sin

2.2

$36\,000 \times 0.025 = \mathbf{900}$; it purifies wealth and reminds the giver that wealth belongs to God; it supports the poor and builds a fair community

2.3

Shabbat recalls God resting on the seventh day of creation and the covenant; a day of rest, family and worship; ways kept, e.g. lighting candles on Friday evening, a family meal with blessings (kiddush), synagogue services, no work; Orthodox and Reform Jews keep it in different ways (maximum 4)

2.4

Judaism: God revealed the Torah to Moses at Sinai; covenant; Christianity: God revealed himself most fully in Jesus, the Word made flesh; the Bible as inspired scripture; Islam: the Qur'an is God's word revealed to Muhammad through the angel Jibril; the final revelation; comparison: all three believe God speaks through prophets and scripture, but differ on Jesus and on the final revelation

3.1

shahada: the declaration of faith; salah: prayer five times a day, facing Mecca; zakat: giving 2.5 % of qualifying wealth; sawm: fasting from dawn to sunset in Ramadan; hajj: pilgrimage to Mecca once if able; a purpose of the Pillars, e.g. structure the life of submission to God; accurate terms used

3.2

the Eucharist recalls Jesus' last supper with bread and wine; "do this in remembrance of me"; Catholic view: the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ (transubstantiation); Orthodox: a mystery of real presence; many Protestants: a memorial or spiritual presence; reasons for difference: interpretation of scripture; church history, e.g. the Reformation; clear conclusion on unity and diversity

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