ISLAM

Islam = the __________________

Muslim = the ________________ who follows that religion

The ______ and _______________ moon (or just the crescent) is the most common symbol of Islam.

The Arabic word “Islam” translates two ways: "______________" and " ________" – surrender to the will of God and the peace that comes with that surrender.

Islam was started by______________. He was born in 570 A.D. in __________ (Saudi Arabia). Makkah is also written Mecca. For Muslims, Muhammad is _____ a God, or God’s son. He is viewed as the greatest __________ of God.

The Qur’an (also written “Koran”) is the ____ ______ of Islam. According to Muslim belief, the Qur’an is the ______ of ____ and was revealed to Muhammad by the _______ Gabriel. All Muslims are ____________ to read the Qur’an, and it must be read in its original language – ________. But obviously, _____ all Muslims grow up speaking Arabic. So how are they supposed to read the Qur’an in Arabic? Many Qur’ans are ___lingual – two languages.

Many stories from the ____ and ____ Testaments are included in the Qur’an. Moses and Jesus are both accepted as Muslim ___________.

However, Muslims do not believe that Jesus was ______. They also do not believe that the Romans were allowed to kill Jesus. They believe that God saved Jesus from death and took him to heaven ________ he died on the cross.

The 'Five Pillars' of Islam

1. The declaration of faith: "There is no god but the one _____, and Muhammad is his ________________." (“Allah” is the Arabic word for “God.”)

2. Prayer: Pray at _____ specific times day.
   1 – before sunrise  2 – mid-day  3 – late afternoon  4 – sunset  5 – bedtime

BUT – there are two ____________ of Islam: Sunni (majority) and Shiite. Shiites pray 3 times a day instead of 5. They _____________ some prayer times. Many Iranians have stayed in the United States since the 1979 Iranian Revolution. So if you know a Muslim from Iran, you probably know a Shiite Muslim.

But all Muslims – Sunni and Shiite – face ____________ when they pray.

Why two branches of Islam? Shiite Muslims believe that after the Prophet Muhammad's death, leadership should have passed directly to a blood
to his son-in-law. Sunni Muslims believed the new leader should be elected – _______ from the best leaders. This all came up after ____________’s death in 632 C.E. (A.D.). Sunni and Shiite Muslims have been the two branches of Islam ever since.

3. Compassion: _______ to help the needy. Islam teaches that everything we have comes from God. That money is to be used for causes such as helping the _______ (with food, clothing, medical care), freeing people held in ____________ (remember, the Qur’an was written about 1400 years ago), and helping travelers who need help to return _______. (Qur’an 9:60)

4. Fasting:
Do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset during the holy month of _____________. Ramadan commemorates the giving of the ________ to Muhammad by the angel Gabriel. A meal is eaten before ___________ and another meal is eaten after ___________. Why make fasting so important?

• as a reminder to focus on things that are important for your _______ instead of just things that are important to your body
• as a reminder that some people _______ much of the time – simply because they are poor – and that we should help them out
• to practice ________-__________.

5. The Hajj: If at all possible, make the pilgrimage (Hajj) to ____________, Saudi Arabia, at least once during your lifetime. Muslims go on the Hajj to Mecca every year. The Ka’bah, the _________ site in Islam, is visited. The Qu’ran teaches that Adam (the first man) built the first Ka’bah and that _________ and his son Ishmail rebuilt the Ka’bah. Historians confirm that it has been a site of worship for ____________ of years – long before Muhammad was born.

Almost 2 __________ Muslims come to Makkah during the hajj each year.

The Hajj is not just going to Makkah. Pilgrims visit ______ sacred sites. Different rituals are performed at each site.

Reasons Muslims go on the Hajj:
- to feel ________ to God by walking where Mohammad, Abraham, and even Adam lived and walked
- to feel ________ with Muslims from around the world
- to ask ____________________ in a sacred place
- to fulfill the command of the Fifth Pillar of Islam

The Five Pillars summarize the _______ important beliefs shared by all Muslims.