

Qur'ānic Arabic CMS Final Exam Study Guide

سُورَةُ الْفَاتِحَةِ

1. What does the word رَبِّ imply about our relationship to Him?
 - a. We are His slaves. He owns us, and we must obey everything He commands us to do. The difference here is that we love being His slaves. This slave-master relationship begins with praise and thanks.

آيَةُ الْكُرْسِيِّ

2. What is a virtue of 'Āyatu l-Kursiyy?
 - a. The Prophet (SAAWS) said, "Whoever reads 'āyatu l-Kursiyy after every ṣalāh, only death is keeping him from entering Jannah." [an-Nasā' iyy, Ibnu Ḥibbān]

سُورَةُ الْعَصْرِ

3. What must one do to avoid the tremendous loss described in Sūratu l-'Aṣr, in order?
 - a. One must believe, first and foremost, but this is not enough.
 - b. One must also put that belief into action through righteous deeds, but this is not enough.
 - c. One must also urge others to the truth of this belief, but this is not enough.
 - d. When one urges others to the truth, there is going to be great difficulty, so one must have patience.

سُورَةُ الْهُمَرَةِ

4. What is the relationship between someone who insults others behind their back, someone who insults others to their face, and someone who gathers wealth to be immortal?
 - a. Oftentimes, to gather so much wealth by any means necessary, one turns to backbiting and slander to keep moving "forward."

سُورَةُ الْفِيلِ

5. What are two really important messages in Sūratu l-Fīl?
 - a. One message is to the disbelievers. They should be grateful to Allāh. If they do not, they will become His enemies, who He can easily destroy like He destroyed Abraha and his army. Allāh did so by sending birds, small creatures, with baked clay in their claws and beaks against a huge army with elephants, the largest land animals.
 - b. Another message is to the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, and to us as well. We should never forget that Allāh is on our side. Just like how Allāh, our Master, protected the Ka'bah when it had no other human to protect it, He will help us through whatever means, too. Therefore we should not fear challenges and keep working towards good, despite the odds appearing against us.

6. How does Sūratu Quraysh relate to the one before it, Sūratu l-Fīl?
 - a. They both highlight two types of gifts of Allāh: removing harm and giving benefit.
 - b. Sūratu l-Fīl speaks about Allāh removes harm as He did for the Makkans in the Year of the Elephant, and Sūratu Quraysh speaks about how Allāh provides food, safety, and benefit, as he did for Quraysh during their winter and summer journeys.

7. Why is the verb “tabba” used in this sūrah?
 - a. ‘Abū Lahab used to say this verb to insult ‘Islām: tabban li hādha d-dīn! This means, “May this religion be destroyed (little by little)!”
 - b. When the Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam, gathered his close family to tell them about ‘Islām, ‘Abū Lahab said, “tabban lak!” which means, “May you be destroyed (little by little)!”
8. What ended up happening to ‘Abū Lahab?
 - a. Although he and his wife were rich, popular, and good looking, ‘Abū Lahab developed a disease, which slowly destroyed his body. Even his own family did not want to come near him or touch him because they did not want to contract it.

9. What is the significance of Sūratu l-‘Ikhḷāṣ?
 - a. The Prophet Muḥammad, ṣalla l-lāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam, in more than one narration described this sūrah as being equal to one-third of the Qur’ān.
 - b. The companions used to love reciting this sūrah and had many names for it, including an-Najāh because it rescues from sadness, hardships, and the Fire.
10. What are the main parts of Sūratu l-‘Ikhḷāṣ?
 - a. The first ‘āyah shows Allāh’s Oneness.
 - b. The second ‘āyah shows Allāh’s mercy upon us.
 - c. The third and fourth ‘āyah show that Allāh is free from weakness.