

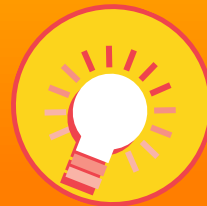
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Comprehension Workbook 5

Hadith

(stories)



Find out about the meaning of stories and articles

understand • key words • summarise • sequencing • AF2-3 • AF4-5 • AF6-7 • discuss • create

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Muslim faith

Matches the requirements of the Literacy Strategy and designed to integrate with the study of world religions. (This material is independent of any specific text book and can be used alongside any publisher's books including our Muslim Faith, Mosque, Muslim art and writing and Muslim holy days books.)

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Unit 5: Hadith

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Hadith

During his lifetime, Mohammed said and did a great many things related to Islam. According to Islamic tradition, some of these sayings came from God. These sayings from God were later written down in the Qur'an. However, many of the things Mohammed said and did were not from God, but did have to do with the correct way to live one's life, the correct way to worship or other important matters.

After Mohammed died, his followers wrote down their memories of the things Mohammed said and did during his life. These memories and sayings are called hadith. In the 8th and 9th centuries, the hadith were gathered together into collections. When Muslims have questions about Islam or the correct behaviour for a Muslim, they can look at the hadiths for advice. Here are some hadiths.

The Prophet said, "Faith and Belief is made up of more than sixty parts. Self-respect, modesty, bashfulness, and scruples are all part of faith."

The Prophet said, "The one who looks after a widow or a poor person is like a warrior who fights for Allah's cause, or like someone who prays all the night and fasts all day."

Abdullah bin Abbas said, "One day I was behind the Prophet and he said to me:

'Young man, I shall teach you some words of advice: Think of Allah, and Allah will protect you. Think of Allah, and you will find Him in front of you. If you seek help, seek help of Allah. Know that if good happens to you, it is only something that Allah had already written for you, and that if harm comes to you, it is only something Allah had already written for you. Allah's pens have been lifted and the pages of life are written.'"

Abu Hurairah said, "The Prophet Mohammed said to me, 'Each person must perform a charity every day the sun comes up: to another person well is a charity; to help a man with his horse, lifting him onto it or hoisting up his belongings onto it is a charity; a good word is a charity, every step you take to prayers is a charity and removing a harmful thing from the road is a charity.'"

Abu Hurairah said, "The Prophet Mohammed said, 'Do not envy one another; do not raise prices too high for one to another; do not hate one another; do not turn away from one another; and do not undercut one another, but be brothers. A Muslim is the brother of a Muslim: he neither oppresses him nor does he fail him, he neither lies to him nor does he hold him in contempt.'"

Abu Musa said, "The Prophet said to me, 'Faithful believers are like the bricks of a wall, enforcing each other.' While saying that the Prophet clasped his hands, by interlacing his fingers."



Understanding words

Before we can understand a story we have to know what all of the words mean. Let's try one...

a Write a sentence in which you found the word '**scruples**'.

b From that sentence, write what you think '**scruples**' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word '**scruples**'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to '**scruples**'.

e Write a sentence giving an example of a '**scruples**'.



Finding key words

Next, we need to find the key words that tell us what the story is about...

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list like the one below. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym). You don't have to use all the spaces, but you should not use more.

Key word	Synonym (similar word)
Example: hate	loath

3

Summarising

(the gist of the story)

To summarise means to rewrite the story in a shorter version using as many of our key words from Task 2 as needed.

1 Write a heading for your summary.

2 Now write the main idea in one sentence.
e.g. "This story tells us..."

3 Now add some detail to the main idea by writing more sentences after it.

**Finally,
can you rewrite your
summary to make it better?**

- 1. Look out for errors such as using the same word too often – use alternatives.**
- 2. Make sure you have summarised the author's purpose in your OWN words.**
- 3. Make sure your summary is in a logical order.**
- 4. Is your summary informative AND interesting to others?**

**There is
nothing wrong
with rewriting; even
the best authors
rewrite their
work.**

123
4

Sequencing

Sequencing means getting the events in the right order. Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense.



...to help a man with his horse, lifting him onto it or hoisting up his belongings onto it is a charity.

Each person must perform a charity every day the sun comes up.

Think of Allah, and Allah will protect you.

A Muslim is the brother of a Muslim.

Do not envy one another; do not raise prices too high for one to another...

If you seek help, seek the help of Allah.



Get to the facts

Answer these questions to see how much you know about the facts of the story.



Write a sentence to answer each of these questions:

- According to Abdullah bin Abbas, who did the Prophet Mohammed say Muslims should seek help from?
- What is the name of the book containing the sayings of the Prophet Mohammed that were given by God?
- What is the Arabic word for the memories of sayings of the Prophet Mohammed that were not given by God?
- According to Abu Musa, what did the Prophet Mohammed say faithful believers are like?
- According to Abu Hurairah, what is one example that Mohammed gave of performing a charity?



Whys and wherefores

Answer these questions to see how much you know about the meanings in the story and how it was written.

1 Why aren't the hadiths part of the Qur'an?

2 What do Muslims use the hadiths for?

3 Why is a person who looks after a widow or a poor person like a warrior?

4 How did Mohammed describe Muslims to Abu Hurairah?



Opinions matter

Answer these questions to give your views and to develop the story.



- 1 What did the Prophet Mohammed mean when he said 'the pages of life have been written' by God?
- 2 Are the things the Prophet Mohammed describes as charity difficult to do? Why do you think they are charity?
- 3 Why does Mohammed tell Muslims to seek help from God?
- 4 What does Mohammed mean when he says that if good happens to you, or if harm comes to you, it is only something that God has written?
- 5 Why are faithful believers like bricks in a wall?



Talking it through

It often helps if a group of people get together and discuss a problem.



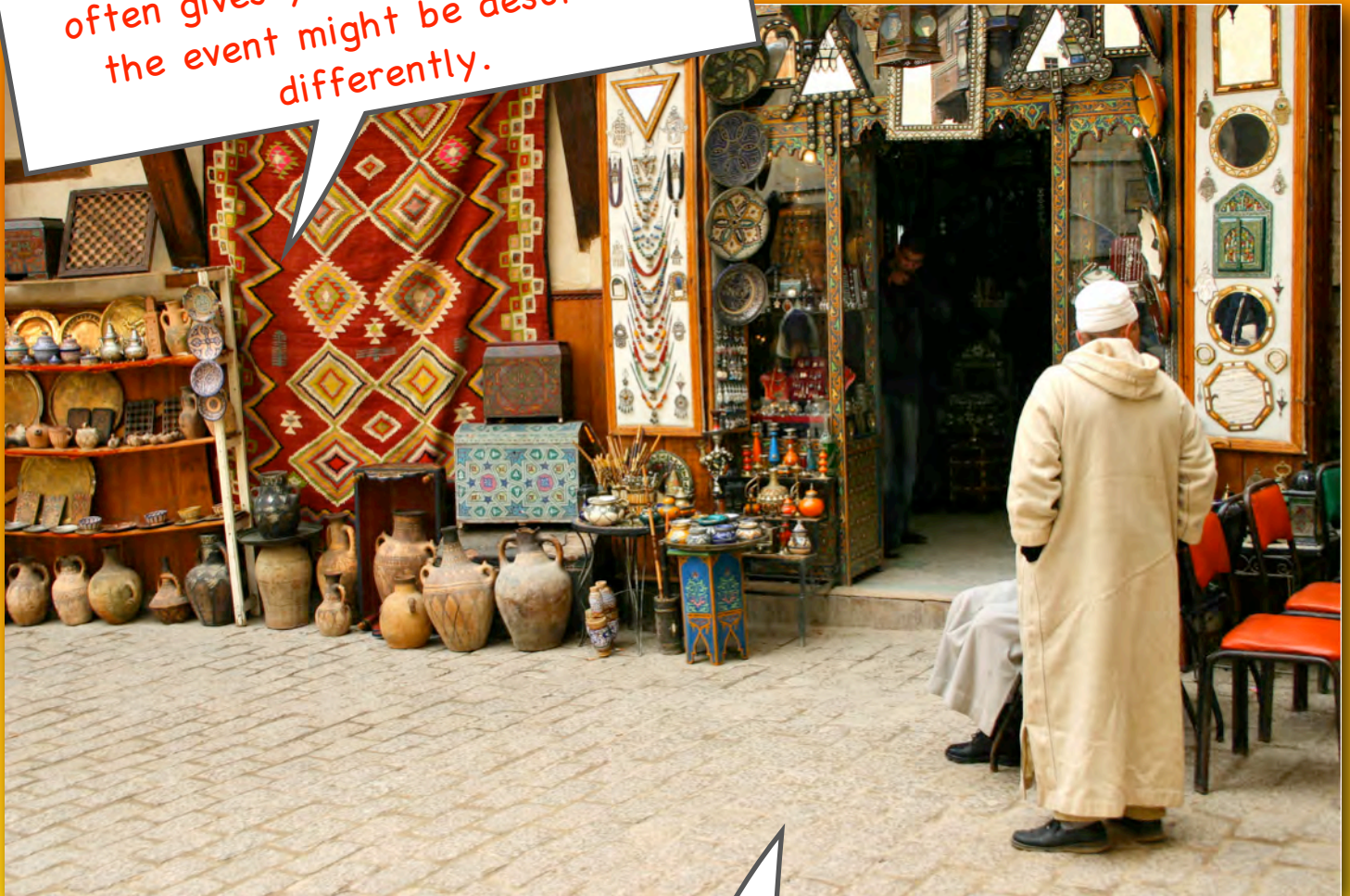
Discussion topic: Hadiths

One of the hadiths given here is about charity and the different ways people can act with charity in every day life. Discuss some of the other ways that people can show charity in their every day life.



Make a story...

When you read a description it often gives you ideas about how the event might be described differently.



Using Hadiths

You own a shop, and across the street is another shop selling the same things. You and the other owner are always trying to steal each others customers and are lowering you prices to undercut each other. One day, you decide that instead of fighting, the two shops should join together.

(Now write about how you would use one or more of the hadiths given here to convince the other shop owner to stop fighting with you and cooperate...)

Hadith

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