

Written Exam

(Please write your answers on a separate sheet of paper or Word document. You ARE allowed to consult the class slides for your answers. Please email your exam answers to imam@mccgp.org. The due date for this exam is no later than a day before you schedule your oral exam with me. *Bil-Tawfiq!*)

EPISTEMOLOGY

- 1] What are the three types of rational judgments?
- 2] What are the five legal judgements on sayings and actions in Islamic law?

THEOLOGY

- 3] What are the 13 attributes of Allah that everyone must know? List them out.
- 4] How does one escape 'blind-conformism' (*taqlid*) in matters of belief?
- 5] Put into your own words the basic rational proof for Allah's existence. You may refer to the stories in the slides and notes, but put the argument in your own words.

PROPHETOLOGY

- 6] What is the difference between a Prophet (*Nabi*) and a Messenger (*Rasul*)?
- 7] What does it mean when we say that 'Prophethood is bestowed (*wahbi*), not acquired (*kasbi*)'?
- 8] Identify from the following list which things are necessary, possible, or impossible for the Prophets.

A. Lying	A.
B. Eating food	B.
C. Conveying the Law revealed to them	C.
D. Having leprosy	D.
E. Doubting in Allah	E.
F. Being handsome	F.
G. Being infallible	G.
H. Being sick	H.

- 9] What is the basic proof, in your own words, for Truthfulness for the Prophets?
- 10] What do we mean when we say 'The Prophets are infallible'?

TRANSMITTED BELIEFS

- 11] What is the role of the mind when it comes to transmitted beliefs?
- 12] What are the core transmitted beliefs that we must hold as Muslims?

TRANSMISSION OF ISLAM

- 13] Is it required for an ordinary Muslim to follow a single school of Islamic law? Explain your answer in detail.
- 14] In your own words, describe the difference between *taqlid* in beliefs (*aqida*) and *taqlid* in law.
- 15] How would you respond to someone who says, 'I don't need to follow "qualified scholarship"—I can just go straight to the Quran and Sunna myself and figure things out'?

PURIFICATION

16] Provide one example of water that is 'pure but not purifying.'

17] Can one use tea for wudu'? If not, why not?

18] Place an X next to the examples that DO NOT break wudu', and a check mark (☑) next to the examples that DO break wudu'. (*note*: this is based upon the legal school of Imam Abu Hanifa)

A] Passing gas	
B] Vomiting less than a mouthful	
C] Touching an impurity such as baby urine	
D] Sleeping in the passenger seat of a car	
E] Laughing out loud	
F] Touching one's privates	
G] Developing a large purplish bruise	
H] Getting a cut that causes blood to flow	
I] Laughing out loud during prayer	

19] What are the **bare minimum** steps of Wudu' as outline in the Quran?

20] List two situations that would allow one to perform Tayammum instead of wudu'.

21] Place an X next to the footwear types one CANNOT wipe during wudu', and a check mark (☑) next to the footwear types one CAN wipe during wudu'.

A] Thin business socks	
B] Leather socks	
C] Leather socks worn while resident for 28 hours	
D] Thick wool socks with a hole larger than the three smallest toes	
E] Synthetic waterproof socks	
F] Leather socks with 2-3 small holes on the bottom	
G] Tennis socks that go below the ankle	

22] Place an H next to what is called 'heavy impurity' and a L next to what is called 'light impurity'.

A] Human urine	
B] Droppings of birds one cannot eat (e.g., eagle and hawk)	
C] Sperm/sexual fluid	
D] Goat urine	
E] Beer	
F] Feces	
G] Spilled blood	

23] How would one properly purify a garment soiled in blood?

24] What is the minimum and maximum duration of a menstruation cycle?

22] List three things that are forbidden for a woman during her menstruation.

23] What is the minimum period of purity (*tuhr*) between two menstrual cycles?

24] When does a menstrual cycle end?

25] If a woman experiences irregular bleeding, what must she do?

26] What is the maximum period of postnatal bleeding? What is its minimum?

PRAYER

27] List three conditions of the prayer.

28] What are the three main times when one should NOT pray?

29] Complete the following statements:

- Intentionally leaving a *wajib* element of prayer is_____.
- If a person leaves a *wajib* element on purpose, they must_____.
- If a person leaves a *wajib* element out of forgetfulness, they must_____.

30] What is the standard of 'excessive movement' that would invalidate one's prayer? What is an exception to this?

31] Layla is praying and her neck gets exposed for a couple of seconds until she adjusts her clothing. Is her prayer valid, or must she start over?

32] What is the least distance of travel for one to be considered a traveler who must shorten their prayer?

33] Zayd is standing in Zuhr prayer but he is confused: is he in his third or fourth rak'a? What should he do?

34] Caroline overslept and missed Fajr. She left quickly for work and later needed to pray Zuhr but got stuck in traffic and reached her home at 4:20—ten minutes before 'Asr comes in. What should she do?

ZAKAT

35] What are the four conditions for the obligation of Zakat?

FASTING

36] List the types of fasts that require an intention the night before and the fasts that do not require an intention the night before. (Seven in total)

37] List three things that break the fast and require a makeup but not an expiation (*kaffara*).

38] List the three things that break the fast and require a makeup and an expiation (*kaffara*).

39] How would a sick person determine if they are allowed to skip fasting in Ramadan?

40] What does a woman do if her menstrual cycle starts or ends during the daytime in Ramadan?

41] What does a woman do if her menstrual cycle starts or ends during the nighttime in Ramadan?

HAJJ

42] We learned that it is not Fard 'Ayn to learn how to perform the rites of Hajj until it becomes obligatory on someone. When does Hajj become obligatory on someone according to the school of Imam Abu Hanifa?

FAMILY LAW

43] For whom is marriage obligatory?

44] For whom is marriage unlawful (*haram*)?

45] List at least three rights shared between the husband and the wife.

46] List at least three rights the husband has over his wife.

47] List at least three rights the wife has over her husband.

48] Can a woman stipulate in her marriage contract that the man cannot marry a second wife? Explain your answer.

- 49] List two examples of marital discord coming from the husband and two examples of marital discord coming from the wife.
- 50] List the three conditions for a divorce pronouncement (*talaq*) to be considered a 'Sunna divorce' (i.e., one that is done according to the Sunna guidelines).
- 51] If a husband, in anger, pronounces three divorces in one sitting, are they counted as one or counted as three?
- 52] If you get conflicting orders from your mother and your father, what should you do?
- 53] Among our family, with whom is it obligatory to maintain ties, and with whom is it not obligatory?

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 54] List three or four of the main conditions for a valid sale in Islamic law.
- 55] List three or four examples of forbidden sales in Islamic law.
- 56] What is *gharar*? Provide three common examples of *gharar* sales.

HALAL AND HARAM

- 57] The legal principle is that 'The default concerning things is permissibility.' What are the two exceptions to this principle?
- 58] What is the majority position among scholars concerning music? If someone takes the minority view, what does it apply to specifically?
- 59] When is lowering the gaze obligatory?
- 60] List the five most widespread prohibitions of the tongue.
- 61] List the five conditions of a valid animal slaughter.
- 62] Can Muslims eat meat from McDonalds on the basis that it is the 'meat of the People of the Book'? Explain your answer and some of the differences about this issue.

HEART MATTERS

- 63] What is meant by 'heart matters,' and why are they included in Fard 'Ayn knowledge?
- 64] What are the main ways we distinguish a major sin from a minor sin?
- 65] List the five most common (in your opinion) diseases of the heart.
- 66] What are the three conditions of repentance (*tawba*) if the sin is between the person and Allah? What is the added condition if the sin is between the person and someone else?

ASSORTED OBLIGATIONS

- 67] What is the definition of disbelief (*kufr*)?
- 68] List out three common examples of beliefs, statements, or actions that are *kufr*.
- 69] What is the proper definition of worship (*'ibada*) that helps us distinguish between worship and what might resemble worship?
- 70] What does 'salvific exclusivity' mean and why is it important to understand and affirm?
- 71] What are the only two Islamically valid positions one can take regarding evolution?