

EXAM SCORE

50% Surah memorization

25% Class discussion

25% Tafseer of Surahs

25% CORRECT pronunciation while reciting the Surahs

Surah memorization:

Suratul Quraish

Suratil Fil

Class discussion:

Class discussion #1:

Shaitan dislikes hearing the recitation of the Qur'an and he being our greatest enemy takes it upon himself to disturb us relentlessly, as soon as we sit down to recite.

So Allah tells us in HIS Qur'an "So when **you recite the Qur'an, [first] seek refuge in Allah from Satan**, the one who is expelled from His mercy]. [16:98]

Therefore, we should make it a tradition before saying Bismillah, to say "Auzo Billahi Minnash Shaitaan Irrajeem". And think about its meaning and make dua to Allah to help us recite for his love and pleasure, alone. Then start with Bismillahir Rahmaanir Raheem and recite on.

Class discussion #2:

Sometimes we think that reciting the Qur'an is hard, but it is actually easy, if we attempt it with *sincerity* and *effort*. This is true, because Allah says in HIS Qur'an, "**Wa Laqad Yassarnal Qur'ana Liz zikri**" translated "And *We have indeed made the Qur'an easy to understand and remember*" [54:17]

Therefore, if Allah says it is easy, it has to be easy. ☺

Every time we think of studying the Qur'an we should say this ayah as a way of reminding ourselves and as a dua to Allah. We could tell HIM that since HE says in this ayah that it is easy HE should make it easy for us. Ameen

Tafseer of Surahs:

1) Al Quraish:

Revealed in Makkah

The Quraish were the people of Makkah

The people of Makkah had two annual trade caravans - to the Yemen in winter and to Syria in summer. They depended on these for income and import of goods to Makkah. And in this Surah Allah says that HE protected them during these important travels so they should worship HIM.

When HE says worship HIM, he calls HIMSELF “ Rabba hazal baith” which means that HE is the lord of the “house”. The house HE is talking about is the Ka’bah in Makkah

In the end of the Surah HE reminds them that HE saved them from hunger and protected them. Showing them that they should be grateful and worship HIM.

1) *Al Fil:*

Revealed in Makkah

The meaning if the word Fil, which is pronounced “feel” is “elephant”

In the animated movie we watched we saw how the King called ABRAHA out of jealousy of the honor given to the Ka’bah came with his huge elephants to destroy the Ka’bah.

Allah commanded the elephants not to attack so they stood like statues!

Then Allah sent small birds carrying small stones. We saw in the movie how the birds filled the sky because there were so many of them.

The stones and **Allah’s command** destroyed the entire army of Abraha.

Using HIS smallest creation Allah destroyed the army which had huge elephants which could have flattened the Ka’bah.

This is a consequence of Ibrahim Alaihi Salaam’s dua.

Lord, make this a city of peace and sustain its inhabitants with the fruits (of the earth). (2:126)

Ibrahim Alaihi Salaam and his son Isma’il Alaihi Salaam built the box shaped room which is the Ka’bah. When they were done they asked Allah to accept this deed from them and then they made this dua, to make this area be a place of peace and provide for the people in this area.

Another dua they asked was to send a prophet to this area.

This dua was so powerful that Allah answered it even 1400 years later since this place has always been protected and peaceful, and its people have been taken care of even though it is the middle of the desert.

Another amazing thing about Ibrahim AS dua is that the year that the elephants came, called the “year of the elephant” was the year that prophet SAW was born. So Allah protected the Ka’bah and sent the prophet (SAW) in the same year. Subhana Allah!

CORRECT pronunciation:

We spoke about the letters that are similar in Arabic and are pronounced differently and the common mistakes in pronunciation.

ص ث س

In English these letters are all pronounced “s” or “sa” but in Arabic these letters have different pronunciations, which change the words, they are in.

ظ ز

In English these letters are all pronounced “z” or “za” but in Arabic these letters have different pronunciations, which change the words, they are in.

ق ك

In English these letters are all pronounced “q” and “k” but in Arabic these Qaaf is stronger than just “q” and kaf is very thin.

ض د

In English these letters are all pronounced “d” or “da” but in Arabic these letters have different pronunciations, which change the words, they are in.

Errors in pronunciation will change the words and change the meanings of sentences and make you change the things that ALLAH subhanahu wa ta’ala says in the Qur’an!!!

Remember that the 25% is for pronouncing correctly while reciting the memorized surah, but for those of you who have great difficulty in reading Arabic I will ask you to pronounce these letters (like we did in class) in addition, to see if I can give you some bonus points. ☺

May Allah help you benefit from this knowledge, and help you succeed in the exam on the 12th and in the akhira through this knowledge! Ameen ☺