

Eid Al-Adha

What Is Eid Al-Adha?

Eid Al-Adha is a very important Muslim festival which happens every year. As all festivals in Islam follow the lunar calendar and therefore depend on the phases of the moon, the precise date of Eid Al-Adha changes every year. In the coming years, it will occur in June or July but it can happen in any month. There are two Eids in the Islamic calendar: Eid Al-Fitr and Eid Al-Adha. Eid Al-Adha is also known as the 'greater Eid' or the 'Feast of the Sacrifice'. This is because of the loyalty, obedience and devotion shown by one man towards Allah.

The Story of Sacrifice

The story behind Eid Al-Adha can be found in the Qur'an, the Islamic holy book. Prophet Ibrahim (Peace Be Upon Him) had a son called Prophet Isma'il (PBUH) whom he cherished very dearly. One night, Allah spoke to Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) in a dream. In this dream, Allah instructed Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) to **sacrifice** his only son to show obedience to Allah.

Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) loved Prophet Isma'il (PBUH) very much but had also devoted his life to Allah. He knew that he had to be obedient and do as Allah asked.

Reluctantly, Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) agreed to sacrifice his son. The devil tried to tempt Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) away from his task but the prophet showed his strength and ignored him.

As Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) prepared to sacrifice his son, Allah stopped him. He asked Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) to sacrifice a ram instead.

Allah was pleased with Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) because he had shown that he was obedient and trusted in Allah.

Celebrating Eid Al-Adha

It is traditional for Muslim families to celebrate Eid Al-Adha by wearing new clothes and going to the mosque.



Muslims celebrate Eid Al-Adha in many ways:

- At the mosque, Muslims praise Allah and give him thanks for the blessings they have received.
- People often wear new clothes.
- Muslims will prepare and share meals with family and friends and sometimes sacrifice a lamb or a goat. They will give the meat to family, friends and those less fortunate than themselves. In the UK, many families give money to charities who carry this out on their behalf, ensuring that more people, at home and abroad, have food at Eid Al-Adha.
- Muslims also send cards and give gifts to friends and family.
- Women and girls may decorate their hands with detailed mehndi patterns.

Celebrating Eid Al-Adha

Glossary

Hajj: A pilgrimage to Mecca where Muslims praise and worship Allah.

sacrifice: To give a living thing as a gift or to give something up to show respect to a god.

Did You Know...?

The other Eid that is celebrated by Muslims is Eid Al-Fitr. It is a Muslim festival that marks the end of Ramadan: the holy month of fasting. It is known as 'The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast'. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for the strength given to them throughout Ramadan. Eid Al-Fitr officially begins when the New Moon is first seen in the sky and lasts for up to four days.

Disclaimer: Due to the nature of this festival and the story from the Qur'an that it celebrates, the topic of sacrifice is mentioned in this reading comprehension. Sensitive, age appropriate language has been used but it is important to know that some Muslim children or other children familiar with the story which is also featured in other religions, may use the word 'killing' to describe the events and teachers should be aware of this. Sensitive and/or upsetting topics may emotionally impact your students due to past experiences. You should consider whether this content is appropriate and ensure adequate support is available for anyone affected.

Questions

1. Who celebrates Eid Al-Adha? Tick one.

- ☐ Sikhs
- ☐ Hindus
- ☐ Muslims
- ☐ Christians

2. Look at the section titled **The Story of Sacrifice**.

Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- ☐ Allah spoke to Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) in a dream and told him to sacrifice his son.
- ☐ Allah was pleased with Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) as he had proved that he was obedient.
- ☐ Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) prepared to sacrifice his son.
- ☐ Allah stopped Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) from sacrificing his son and asked him to sacrifice a ram instead.

3. What was the name of Prophet Ibrahim's (PBUH) son?

4. Fill in the missing words.

Eid Al-Adha is a very _____ Muslim festival which
happens every _____.

5. Look at the section called **Celebrating Eid Al-Adha**.

Find and copy one word that means to kill a living thing as a gift to Allah.

6. Explain why you think the author has chosen the word **detailed** to describe the mehndi patterns.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about Eid Al-Adha in 30 words or fewer.

8. Which part of an Eid Al-Adha celebration would you most like to experience?

Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Who celebrates Eid Al-Adha? Tick one.

- ☐ Sikhs
☐ Hindus
☒ **Muslims**
☐ Christians

2. Look at the section titled **The Story of Sacrifice**.

Number the events from 1-4 to show the order that they happened in.

- 1** Allah spoke to Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) in a dream and told him to sacrifice his son.
4 Allah was pleased with Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) as he had proved that he was obedient.
2 Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) prepared to sacrifice his son.
3 Allah stopped Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) from sacrificing his son and asked him to sacrifice a ram instead.

3. What was the name of Prophet Ibrahim's (PBUH) son?

Prophet Isma'il (PBUH)

4. Fill in the missing words.

Eid Al-Adha is a very **important** Muslim festival which happens every **year**.

5. Look at the section called **Celebrating Eid Al-Adha**.

Find and copy one word that means to kill a living thing as a gift to Allah.

sacrifice

6. Explain why you think the author has chosen the word **detailed** to describe the mehndi patterns.

Pupils' own responses, such as: To show that the patterns are complicated and not simple.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about Eid Al-Adha in 30 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses such as: Eid Al-Adha celebrates Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) being obedient. People celebrate by going to the mosque, painting mehndi patterns, giving gifts and sharing a meal ensuring that people aren't hungry.

8. Which part of an Eid Al-Adha celebration would you most like to experience?

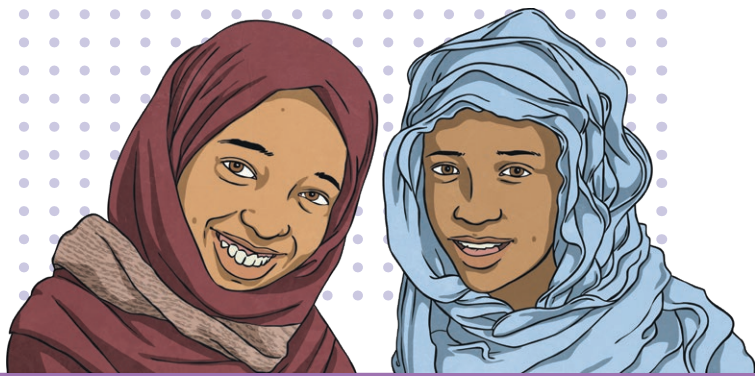
Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I would like to decorate my hands with mehndi patterns as I think they look intricate and interesting.

What Is Eid Al-Adha?

Eid Al-Adha is a very important Muslim festival which happens annually. It begins on the 10th day of Dhul-Hijjah, the last month of the Islamic calendar. As all festivals in Islam follow the lunar calendar and therefore depend on the phases of the moon, the precise date of Eid Al-Adha changes every year.

In the coming years, it will occur in June or July but it can happen in any season. There are two Eids in the Islamic calendar: Eid Al-Fitr and Eid Al-Adha.



Eid Al-Adha is also known as the 'greater Eid' or the 'Feast of the Sacrifice'. This is because of the loyalty, obedience and devotion shown by one man, Prophet Ibrahim (Peace Be Upon Him) towards Allah.

With a heavy heart, Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) agreed to sacrifice his son. The devil tried to tempt Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) away from his task but the prophet showed his strength and ignored him.

As Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) prepared to sacrifice his son, Allah stopped him. He asked Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) to sacrifice a ram, a male sheep, instead. Allah was pleased with Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) because he had shown that he was obedient and trusted in Allah.

Eid Al-Adha

The Story of Sacrifice

The story behind Eid Al-Adha can be found in the Qur'an, the Islamic holy book. Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) had a son called Prophet Isma'il (PBUH) whom he cherished very dearly.

One night, Allah spoke to Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) in a dream. In this dream, Allah instructed Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) to **sacrifice** his only son to show loyalty and obedience to Allah.

Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) loved Prophet Isma'il (PBUH) very much but had also devoted his life to Allah. He knew that he had to be obedient and do as Allah asked.



Celebrating Eid Al-Adha

Muslims celebrate Eid Al-Adha in many ways:

- It is traditional for Muslim families to celebrate Eid Al-Adha by going to the mosque. At the mosque, Muslims praise Allah and give him thanks for the blessings they have received.
- People often wear new clothes.
- Often, Muslims will prepare and share meals with family and friends and sometimes sacrifice a lamb or a goat. They will give the meat to family, friends and those less fortunate than themselves.
- In the UK and other western countries, many families give money to charities who carry this act out on their behalf, ensuring that more people, at home and abroad, have food at Eid Al-Adha.
- Muslims also send cards and give gifts to friends and family.
- Women and girls may decorate their hands with mehndi patterns. Mehndi is made from crushed henna leaves mixed with oil and other liquids such as lemon juice, water or tea.

Did You Know...?

The other Eid that is celebrated by Muslims is Eid Al-Fitr. It is a Muslim festival that marks the end of Ramadan: the holy month of fasting. Around 2.1 billion Muslims across the globe will celebrate Eid Al-Fitr. It is known as The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for giving them strength. As with Ramadan, Eid Al-Fitr officially begins when a New Moon is sighted in the sky. If a New Moon (crescent) is not sighted, Ramadan continues for another day.

Glossary

Hajj: A pilgrimage to Mecca where Muslims praise and worship Allah.

sacrifice: To give a living thing as a gift or to give something up to show respect to a god.



Disclaimer: Due to the nature of this festival and the story from the Qur'an that it celebrates, the topic of sacrifice is mentioned in this reading comprehension. Sensitive, age appropriate language has been used but it is important to know that some Muslim children or other children familiar with the story which is also featured in other religions, may use the word 'killing' to describe the events and teachers should be aware of this. Sensitive and/or upsetting topics may emotionally impact your students due to past experiences. You should consider whether this content is appropriate and ensure adequate support is available for anyone affected.

Questions

1. Which religion celebrates Eid Al-Adha? Tick one.

- ☐ Sikhi
☐ Islam
☐ Hinduism
☐ Christianity

2. Draw **four** lines to match the word to its definition.

Allah	to give something up to show respect to a god
obedience	the last month of the Islamic calendar
sacrifice	doing what you are asked to do
Dhū al- ijjah	the name for God in Islam

3. What is another name for Eid Al-Adha?

4. Fill in the missing words.

The story _____ Eid Al-Adha can be _____ in the Qur'an, the Islamic holy book.

5. Look at the section called **What Is Eid-Al-Adha?**

Find and copy one word that tells us that Eid Al-Adha happens every year.

6. Retell **The Story of Sacrifice** in 35 words or fewer.

7. Why do you think the author has used the word **cherished** to explain how Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) felt about his son? Explain your answer.

8. Explain how charities might benefit at Eid Al-Adha.

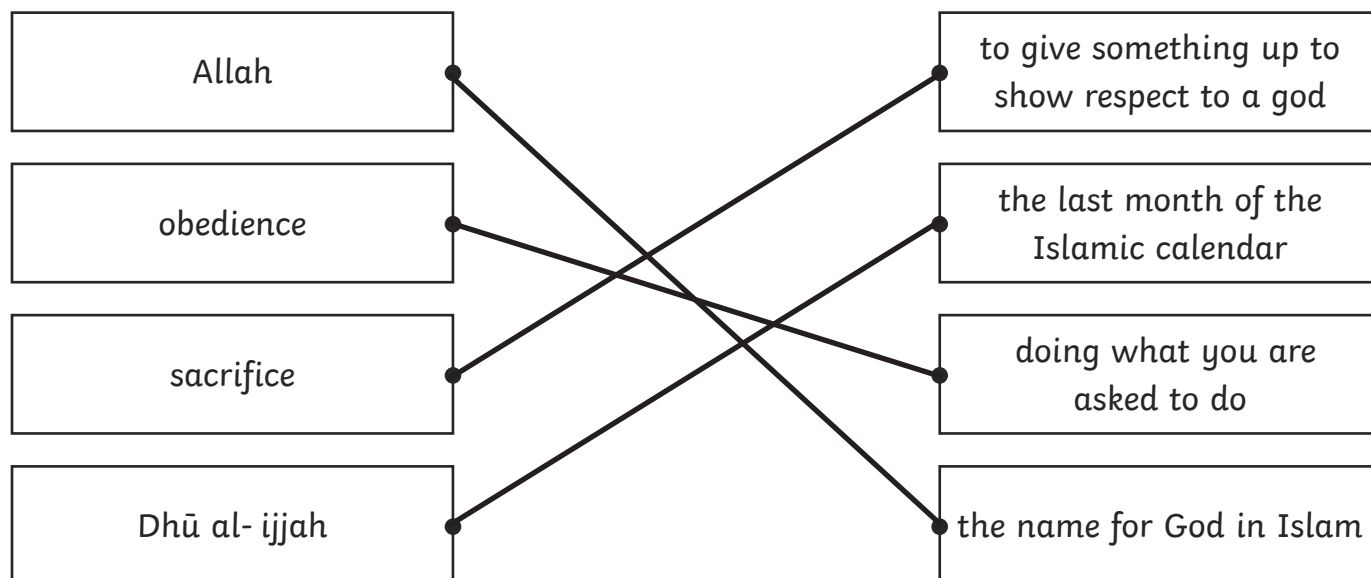
9. Predict what you might see if you went to an Eid Al-Adha celebration.

Answers

1. Which religion celebrates Eid Al-Adha? Tick one.

- ☐ Sikhi
☒ **Islam**
☐ Hinduism
☐ Christianity

2. Draw **four** lines to match the word to its definition.



3. What is another name for Eid Al-Adha?

Accept either: the greater Eid or the Feast of the Sacrifice.

4. Fill in the missing words.

The story **behind** Eid Al-Adha can be **found** in the Qur'an, the Islamic holy book.

5. Look at the section called **What Is Eid-Al-Adha?**

Find and copy one word that tells us that Eid Al-Adha happens every year.

annually

6. Retell the Story of Sacrifice in 35 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Allah told Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH), in a dream, to sacrifice his son. Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) loved Allah so prepared to do this. Allah told Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) to sacrifice a ram instead as he showed obedience.

7. Why do you think the author has used the word **cherished** to explain how Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) feels about his son. Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: This word shows that Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) really loved and cared for his son.

8. Explain how charities might benefit at Eid Al-Adha.

Pupils' own responses, such as: People give money to charities at Eid Al-Adha to pay for food so the charities will be able to feed more people in need.

9. Predict what you might see if you went to an Eid Al-Adha celebration.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I might see people wearing new clothes, going to the mosque to give thanks and exchanging presents and gifts. People might share a meal and give either food or money to those less fortunate than themselves.

Eid Al-Adha

What Is Eid Al-Adha?

Eid-Al-Adha is a very important Muslim festival which happens annually. It begins on the 10th day of Dhul-Hijjah, the last month of the Islamic calendar. Due to the fact that festivals in Islam follow the lunar calendar and therefore depend on the phases of the moon, the precise date of Eid Al-Adha changes every year.

In the coming years, Eid-Al-Adha will occur in June or July but it can happen in any season. There are two Eids in the Islamic calendar: Eid Al-Fitr and Eid Al-Adha. Eid Al-Adha lasts for between two and four days, depending on where it is being celebrated. Eid Al-Adha is also known as the 'greater Eid' or the 'Feast of the Sacrifice'. This is because of the obedience and devotion shown by one man, Prophet Ibrahim (Peace Be Upon Him) towards Allah.

The Story of Sacrifice

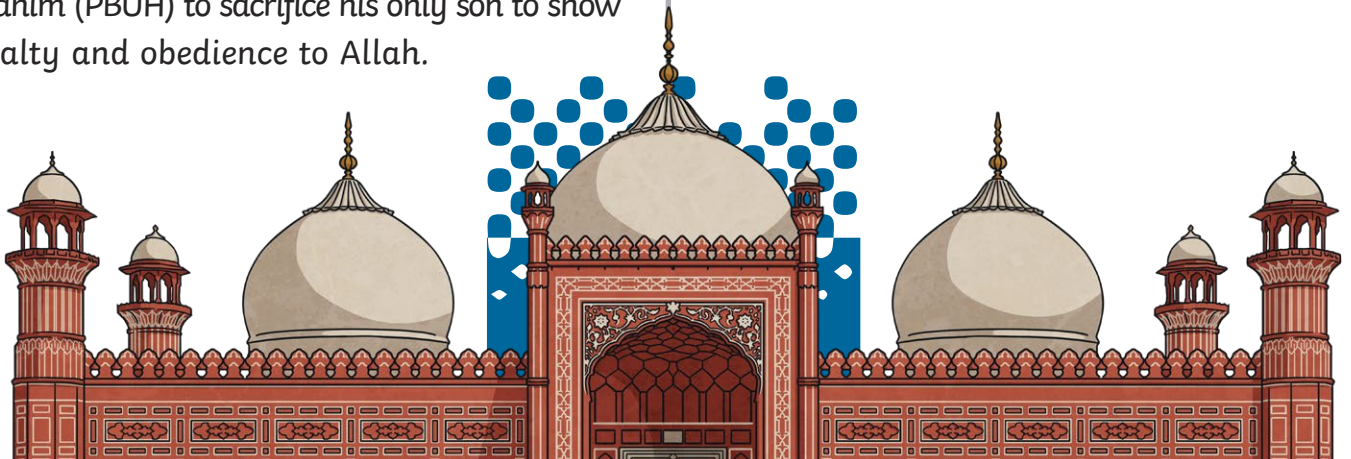
The story behind Eid Al-Adha can be found in the Qur'an, the Islamic holy text. Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) had a son called Prophet Isma'il (PBUH) whom he loved and cherished very dearly. One night, Allah spoke to Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) in a dream. In this dream, Allah instructed Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) to sacrifice his only son to show loyalty and obedience to Allah.

Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) loved and cared for Prophet Isma'il (PBUH) very much but he had also devoted his life to Allah. As a consequence of this, he knew that he had to be obedient and do as Allah had requested.

Reluctantly, Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) agreed to sacrifice his son. The devil tried to tempt Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) away from his task but the prophet showed his strength and ignored him.

As Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) prepared to sacrifice his son, Allah stopped him. He asked Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) to sacrifice a ram, a male sheep, instead.

Allah was pleased with Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) because he had shown that he was obedient and trusted in Allah.



Celebrating Eid Al-Adha

Muslims celebrate Eid Al-Adha in many ways:

- Muslims attend the mosque at Eid Al-Adha. While there, Muslims praise Allah and give him thanks for the blessings they have received.
- People often wear new clothes at Eid Al-Adha as a sign of celebration.
- Often, Muslims will prepare and share meals with family and friends and sometimes sacrifice a lamb or a goat. They will give the meat to family, friends and those less fortunate than themselves. In the UK and other western countries, it is obligatory to give money to charities who carry this act out on their behalf, ensuring that more people, at home and abroad, have plentiful food at Eid Al-Adha.



- Eid Al-Adha is also a time when Muslims send cards and give gifts to friends and family.
- During the festival, women and girls may decorate their hands with detailed and intricate mehndi patterns. Mehndi is made from crushed henna leaves mixed with oil and other liquids such as lemon juice, water or tea.

Did You Know...?

The other Eid that is celebrated by Muslims is Eid Al-Fitr. It is a festival that marks the end of Ramadan: the holy month of fasting. Around 2.1 billion Muslims across the globe will celebrate Eid Al-Fitr. It is known as The Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. Muslims celebrate the end of fasting and thank Allah for giving them strength. As with Ramadan, Eid Al-Fitr officially begins when a New Moon is sighted in the sky. If a New Moon (crescent) is not sighted, Ramadan continues for another day.

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Questions

1. How often does Eid Al-Adha happen? Tick one.

- ☐ every two years
☐ every month
☐ every week
☐ every year

2. Draw **four** lines and match each word or phrase to its definition.

intricate	to give something up to show respect to a god
loyalty	another name given to Eid Al-Adha
sacrifice	being dedicated or supportive to someone
the greater Eid	detailed or complicated

3. What is the name of the other Eid celebration in the Islamic calendar?

4. Fill in the missing words.

_____ Ibrahim (PBUH) loved and cared for Isma'il (PBUH) very much but he had also _____ his life to Allah.

5. Look at the section called **The Story of Sacrifice**.

Find and copy one adverb that shows that Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) did not want to sacrifice his son.

6. How do you think a Muslim might feel when they are preparing to go on Hajj?

7. Explain how Muslim families celebrate Eid Al-Adha in 40 words or fewer.

8. Why do you think that the author uses the word **plentiful** to describe how Muslims might give food to those less fortunate than themselves at Eid Al-Adha? Explain your answer.

9. "Eid Al-Adha always happens in the summer."
Is this correct? Explain your answer.

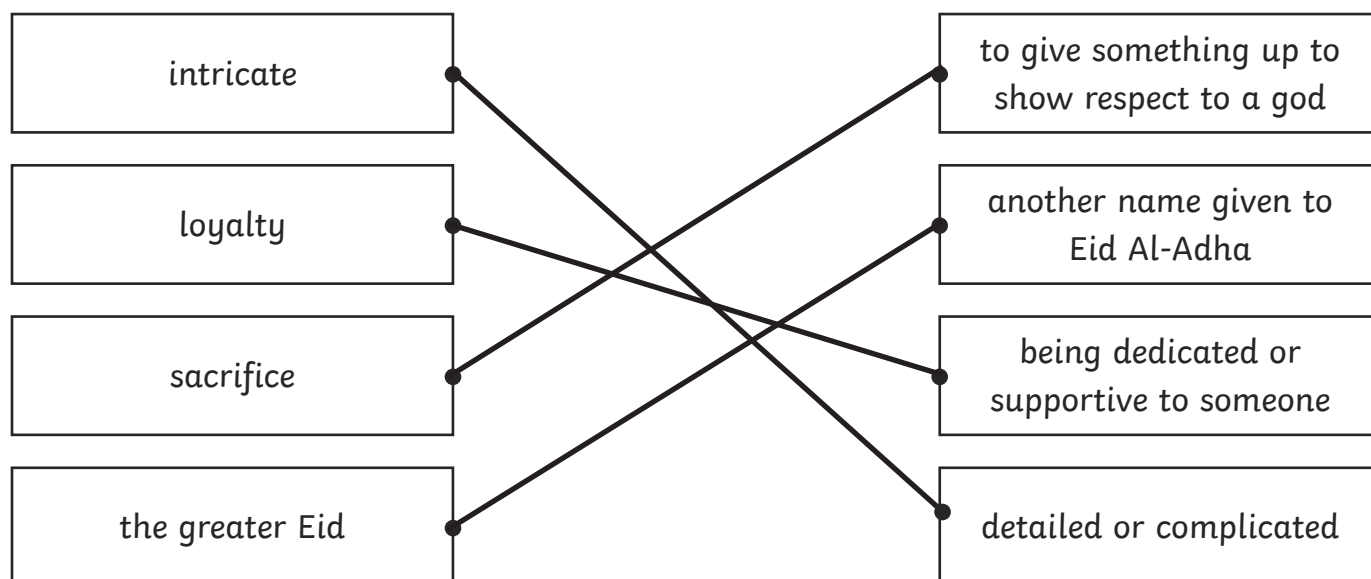
10. Which part of Eid Al-Adha would you like to research in more detail? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. How often does Eid Al-Adha happen? Tick one.

- ☐ every two years
- ☐ every month
- ☐ every week
- ☒ **every year**

2. Draw **four** lines and match each word or phrase to its definition.



3. What is the name of the other Eid celebration in the Islamic calendar?

Eid Al-Fitr

4. Fill in the missing words.

Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) loved and cared for Isma'il (PBUH) very much but he had also **devoted** his life to Allah.

5. Look at the section called **The Story of Sacrifice**.

Find and copy one adverb that shows that Prophet Ibrahim (PBUH) did not want to sacrifice his son.

reluctantly

6. How do you think a Muslim might feel when they are preparing to go on Hajj?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think they might feel excited and nervous as it is something that they are expected to do at least once in a lifetime.

7. Explain how Muslim families celebrate Eid Al-Adha in 40 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: People wear new clothes and go to the mosque to give thanks. They also exchange presents and gifts. People might share a meal and give either food or money to those less fortunate than themselves. Women might decorate their hands with mehndi patterns.

8. Why do you think that the author uses the word **plentiful** to describe how Muslims might give food to those less fortunate than themselves at Eid Al-Adha? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses such as: The author used the word plentiful to show that Muslims who are less fortunate should have lots of food so that they can celebrate Eid Al-Adha.

9. "Eid Al-Adha always happens in the summer."

Is this correct? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: This is incorrect. This year and in the next few years, Eid Al-Adha will be in the summer. The exact date changes every year because of the lunar calendar so it can happen on any date in any season.

10. Which part of Eid Al-Adha would you like to research in more detail? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses such as: I would like to find out more about how charities work with the donations they are given at Eid Al-Adha.