

Ramadan Insight Passage Answer Key

1. Two origins/facts:
 - Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar.
 - It is believed that the Qur'an was first revealed during this month.
2. Fasting from dawn until sunset is practiced to develop self-discipline, feel empathy for those who lack, and purify the heart and mind.
3. Family and community play a role because meals like iftar and suhoor bring people together, strengthening social bonds and shared spiritual experience.
4. Example (charity): Ramadan encourages increased acts of charity, helping neighbors and those in need, thereby building the quality of generosity and caring.
5. Student's short response will vary: Should refer to universal values like kindness, reflection, community, or purpose, showing how the meaning of Ramadan can apply broadly.

Teacher's Guide

Differentiation

- Support: Provide sentence starters for each question (e.g., "One origin of Ramadan is ...").
- Challenge: Ask students to research one additional tradition of Ramadan not mentioned and write a brief paragraph comparing it to what's in the passage.
- ELL/Younger learners: Break up the passage into smaller chunks and discuss each chunk in pairs before answering questions.

Engagement Ideas

- Create a "Reflection Circle" where students share their answers to question 5 aloud.
- Use a map to show how Ramadan is observed in different parts of the world and discuss cultural variations.