

Chapter 1

Major Themes of Holy Quran

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Surah Al-Alaq (96:1-5)

Sura 96.1-5

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ

خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ

اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ

عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ

1. Read! in the name of your Lord, who created, 2. Created man out of a clot of congealed blood: 3. Proclaim! And your Lord is most bountiful, 4. He who taught by the pen, 5. Taught man what he did not know.

A PART:

This surah is a Makki Surah and falls under the category of Allah's relationship with the created world. The word Alaq means clot of congealed blood and this passage contains five verses. This Surah was revealed to Prophet (saw) by Angel jibreel (as) in the cave of Hira where he used to go for meditation. It was the beginning of revelations which continued on for meditation. It was the beginning of the revelations which continued on for next 23 years. The main themes of this surah are God as a teacher, as a creator, the first revelations and importance of knowledge. Allah created man and gave him soul. Man was insignificant before it was made into a being. Allah is generous and gave man an exalted rank among other animals because they have more knowledge. Humans are known as Asraf ul makhluqat (best of the creatures). Allah gave us intellectual, spiritual, and moral abilities that are based on knowledge. The pen is also a tool that is used as a weapon to spread knowledge. It is important as can be seen because Allah says: **"Noon, by the pen and what they write" (Al Qalam 68:1)**. The first revelation was also the starting of the Islam, the granting of the Prophethood and brought light from the darkness. It also ended the period of Ignorance.

B PART:

Muslims should be grateful that Allah created them as Humans and not something else. We have a higher rank and we should be thankful for that. We also have more knowledge. Muslims should constantly seek knowledge as commanded in the Quran. A supplication states, **"O my Lord, increase my knowledge."** Human beings are nothing without knowledge. We should not only seek worldly knowledge but also knowledge about our religion. As people with and without knowledge are not equal, the Quran says,

“Are they equal, those who know and those who don't know.” (Az-Zumar). Allah is the ultimate teacher and Muslims should feel honoured that He chose to teach us like He chose Adam (AS) above Angels. The pen is also used to gain knowledge and Muslims should use it to write and draw. Many people like illustrators also make a livelihood through this manner.

Mark Scheme:

(a) The main themes are: God as Creator; God as the Most Generous; the first revelation; importance of knowledge. Candidates will develop these themes in their own way, e.g., God as Creator is shown in this sura through the way humans were created from a clot; He gives creation what they need, in this case, knowledge of God; importance of the first revelation is that it was the beginning of Islam and prophethood, and there's an emphasis on seeking knowledge to learn about faith and God.

(b) Importance of this sura is that it allows humans to understand how God created them, and how He bestows knowledge upon them. Seeking knowledge is encouraged and so humankind should try their best to learn throughout their lives, especially religious knowledge so they can get to know their Lord. Each subject, RE, science, etc. has a value to it and can help humans get closer to God. It also helps Muslims understand how prophethood and Islam started and they should reflect upon what God has sent down for them to help them live their lives. So they should be grateful to God.



Surah Al-Fussilat (41:37)

Sura 41.37

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ اللَّيْلُ وَالنَّهَارُ وَالشَّمْسُ وَالْقَمَرُ لَا تَسْجُدُوا لِلشَّمْسِ وَلَا لِلْقَمَرِ وَاسْجُدُوا لِلَّهِ الَّذِي خَلَقَهُنَّ إِن كُنتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ

37. Among His signs are the night and the day, and the sun and the moon. Adore not the sun and the moon, but adore Allah, who created them, if it is Him you wish to serve.

A PART:

This passage is from surah Fussilat. It is a Makki Surah and falls under the category of Allah in himself. This passage consists of only 1 verse and the main themes are God as creator, his signs and oneness in worship and lordship. This surah was revealed to prevent people from worshipping other creatures and heavenly bodies of Allah.

Tawheed is highlighted and displayed that Allah is the only controller and creator of everything. This surah mentions some of the signs and phenomena of nature that reflect the existence of God, His unity, Majesty, lordship and authority. The day and the night, the sun and the moon are just some of the many signs of Allah, they do not have power or authority of their own. This surah also negates paganism. The Quran says, **“Verily, in the creation of heaven and Earth and the alteration of day and night are the signs for those who understand” (Surah Imran 3:193)** Allah is the sole cause for everything and he commands to worship him alone even though we have the free will to choose. Allah created the human beings as “Ashraf al Makhlooqat” yet they and all objects are powerless without him.

B PART:

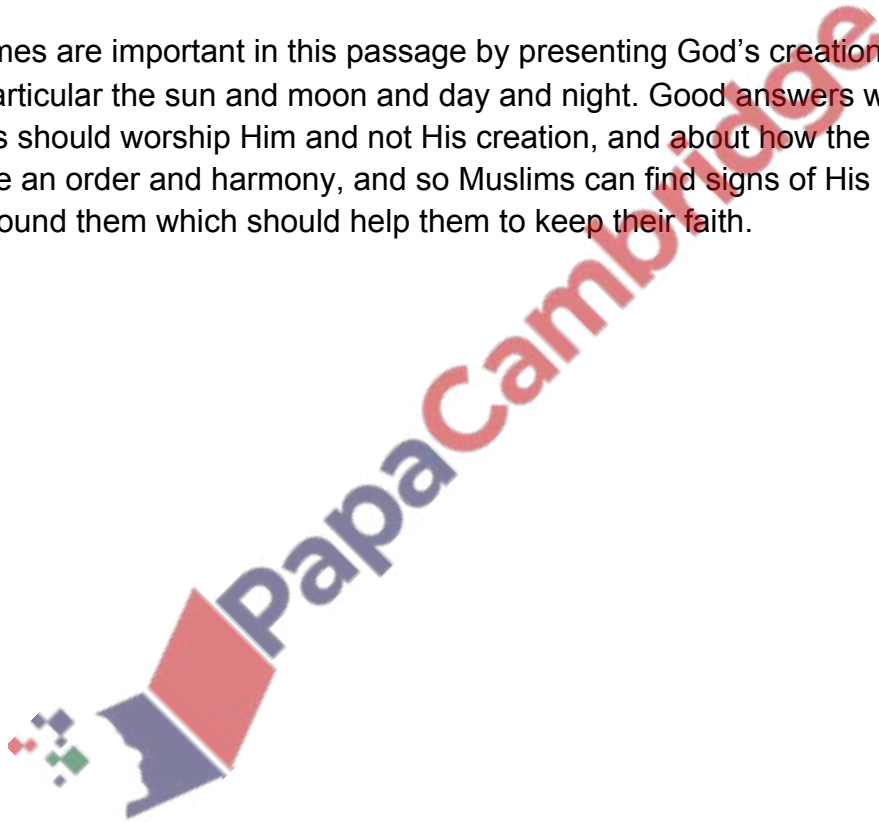
The sun and the moon, the day and night, are made for the benefit of mankind. The stages of day and night, the weeks, the months and the year are known from the moments of the sun and the moon. This surah is the initiation to ponder and observe the environment and reflect on these signs just like how Ibrahim (AS) did in his search for the true creator. Doing so, increases the communication bond with Allah and helps have a stronger connection with Him. While observing the day and night and changing of the stars. Allah is omnipotent, meaning he has unlimited power, as the master of everything, hence we should praise and glorify Allah by saying SubhanAllah. Muslims should be grateful to be able to understand this. Allah is powerful and omnipotent. Every planet runs in perfect orbit because Allah has made it so. This leaves Muslims in Allah's awe. Today we should not look for power and money. Along with that we should stop committing shirk, comparing his creations to him. Allah says, **“O Adam! I have made**

everything for you and you for me” This indicates that everything has a purpose. This passage shows our free will and gives us the choice to worship Allah or His creations.

Mark Scheme:

(a) This passage is about God as creator and his power to create and control everything. Good answers will talk about God creating and controlling things in nature, things that benefit mankind. The passage is also about the existence of God and signs in creation. So it is Him alone that should be obeyed.

(b) The themes are important in this passage by presenting God’s creation of things in nature, in particular the sun and moon and day and night. Good answers will talk about why humans should worship Him and not His creation, and about how the things He creates have an order and harmony, and so Muslims can find signs of His existence in the world around them which should help them to keep their faith.



Surah Al-Baqarah (2: 21-22)

Sura 2.21-22

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمُ الْأَرْضَ فِرَاشًا وَالسَّمَاءَ بِنَاءً وَأَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَخْرَجَ بِهِ مِنَ الثَّمَرَاتِ رِزْقًا لَكُمْ فَلَا تَجْعَلُوا لِلَّهِ

أَنْدَادًا وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

21. O people! Adore your Guardian-Lord, who created you and those who came before you, so that you may have the chance to learn righteousness; 22. Who has made the earth your couch, and the heavens your canopy; and sent down rain from the heavens; and by it brought forth fruits for your sustenance; then do not set up rivals to Allah, when you know.

A PART:

The name of the Surah is Baqarah meaning 'Cow'. This is a Madni Surah and falls under the category of Allah's relationship with the created world. The Surah consists of 2 verses from Surah Baqarah. The theme of this passage is Tqwa translated as righteousness and piety. Taqwa is attained by fear of Allah and his remembrance. Since Allah is the Master, the Cherisher and the Sustainer of All Mankind, hence He is the only one worthy of Worship and adoration. The verse exhorts people to submit to Allah alone as he is the Creator of Mankind and everything that supports life, Allah says, "Your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him." (Al-Isra 17:23) Allah bestowed man with many blessings, the earth is made a perfect dwelling place for him and the sky is made a roof. Allah sends rain that helps to grow all kinds of fruits and vegetation, and thus provides sustenance to man and beast. Man should not hold any one equal to Allah, or associate partner to Him. He should devote himself to worship of Allah and His remembrance

B PART:

The theme of this passage contains important lessons for Muslims. Through this Surah we get to know that Allah is the Cherisher and Sustainer of all mankind, therefore man must worship Allah and cultivate righteousness and piety and refrain from sins. Allah endowed man with many blessings. He made earth a resting place for them and the sky is made as a canopy. And Allah sends down rain which cause vegetables and fruits to grow, they provide sustenance for people. We should thank Allah for the bounties He has bestowed on us. "So eat of the sustenance which Allah has provided for you lawful and good, and be grateful for the favours of Allah if it is He whom you serve." (An-Nahl 16:114) This passage explains the purpose of their creation which is to serve mankind and benefit him. It is Man's duty to worship Allah without associating partner with Him.

Mark Scheme:

- (a) This passage talks about tawhid and emphasises that God is the Creator of everything. Candidates could talk about what God has created for the benefit of mankind (guidance, fertile earth, shade and water from sky), so they should be grateful to God, and use the environment with respect. It also suggests that mankind should not commit the greatest sin of associating partners/rivals with God, for He is the only Creator and Sustainer.
- (b) This passage represents the themes of God and His creation, and His oneness, through the natural world. Candidates could talk about the words used to show how the natural world is a comfort for mankind, and so they should look after it. They could reflect upon the natural world and the benefits it holds for them. Humans should acknowledge who their sustenance has come from as He is the only creator of everything. Candidates could also talk about ways in which Muslims can be grateful to God.



Surah Al-Maida (5:110)

Sura 5.110

إِذْ قَالَ اللَّهُ يَا عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ ادْكُرْ نِعْمَتِي عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَتِكَ إِذْ أَيَّدتُّكَ بِرُوحِ الْقُدُسِ تُكَلِّمُ النَّاسَ فِي الْمَهْدِ وَكَهْلًا
وَإِذْ عَلَّمْتُكَ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَالتَّوْرَةَ وَالْإِنْجِيلَ وَإِذْ تَخْلُقُ مِنَ الطِّينِ كَهَيْئَةِ الطَّيْرِ بِإِذْنِي فَتَنفُخُ فِيهَا فَتَكُونُ طَيْرًا
بِإِذْنِي وَتُبْرِئُ الْأَكْمَةَ وَالْأَبْرَصَ بِإِذْنِي وَإِذْ تُخْرِجُ الْمَوْتَىٰ بِإِذْنِي وَإِذْ كَفَفْتُ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ عَنْكَ إِذْ جِئْتَهُم بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ
فَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْهُمْ إِنْ هَذَا إِلَّا سِحْرٌ مُّبِينٌ

Then will Allah say: 'Jesus son of Mary! Recount my favour to you and to your mother. Behold! I strengthened you with the holy spirit, so that you spoke to the people in childhood and in maturity. Behold! I taught you the Book and Wisdom, the Law and the Gospel. And behold! You make out of clay, as it were, the figure of a bird, by my leave, and you breathe into it and it becomes a bird by my leave, and you heal those born blind, and the lepers, by my leave. And behold! You bring forth the dead by my leave. And behold! I restrained the Children of Israel from you when you showed them the clear signs, and the unbelievers among them said: 'This is nothing but evident magic.'

A PART:

The given passage has one verse of Surah Maida. Surah Maida is a Madni Surah. It falls in the category of Allah's relationship with His Messenger. The meaning of Maida is table spread with food. This Surah teaches us about favors of God towards his Prophets, blessings upon humankind and His power. A day of judgement has been described in this passage that Allah will recount His blessings upon Isa (AS) and his mother. Isa (AS) was a sign and proof of Allah's Power over all things. Isa AS spoke to people, when he was still an infant and testified to his mother's chastity, protecting her from Bani Ismail. He was given prophethood and the Book, and Allah taught him the wisdom, the law and the Gospel. Allah supported him with miracles and wisdom. He could make a figure of a bird out of clay that could fly. He could also heal the blind, and the lepers, and bring the dead back to life with the permission and power of Allah. Isa AS people rejected him and accused him of being a magician. They tried to kill him by crucifixion, but Allah protected him and raised him to heaven. Allah SWT says, "**Behold, Allah said, "O Jesus! I will take you and raise you to Myself and clear you (of the falsehoods) of those who blaspheme."(Al-Imran 3:55)**

B PART:

Allah granted his Prophets with miracles to help them with the situation of the society as Isa AS could speak in infancy. This shows Allah's Power and Might and that he can do whatever he wishes for. E.g people have landed on the moon, are able to invent advanced technologies and robots, and diseases like corona and malaria all spread due to Allah Will and Order. Allah revealed books to Prophets in order for the betterment of

the society so that they can lead their lives in the light of truth. Allah protects His prophets, the children of Israel rejected Jesus and accused him of magic and tried to crucify him, but Allah protected him from the evil eye and raised him in heaven, **"We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the apostle of Allah... but only conjecture to follow of a surety they killed him or not."**(Al-Nisa 4:157). Hence, Muslims should pray to Allah in times of difficulties such as the corona pandemic and should hope for good and be grateful to Allah as everything happens for a reason. This will also develop closeness to Allah. Muslim must have complete faith in Allah, **"Say He is Allah, the One and Only."**(Surah Ikhlas 112). We Muslims must be grateful that we live in time where being a Muslim isn't as hard as it was in the time of Prophet's. They were persecuted and were threatened to be executed.

Mark Scheme:

(a) The main themes are, God and His prophets; that humans need God; that God gives signs to humankind. Candidates will develop these themes in their own way, e.g., saying that God gives guidance to His prophets to help them, in this case Jesus got the holy spirit, the Book and the wisdom, the Law and the Gospel; humans can do great things but only with God's permission, 'by my leave'; God gives humankind signs through prophets of His existence, which separates those who believe and those who don't.

(b) These teachings reaffirm for Muslims the prophethood of Jesus and the power of God. Humans are capable of great feats but it is God who gives permission for these; moon landings, space travel etc. Muslims should use these as signs of God's grace and believe in His power to control everything and allow things to happen. They should therefore remember Him often, by praying, supplicating or doing good deeds, etc. to ensure they are counted as believers.

Surah Ikhlas (112)

Sura 112

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ

لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ

وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

1. Say: He is Allah, the one and only; 2. Allah, the eternal, absolute; 3. He does not beget, nor is He begotten; 4. And there is none like Him.

Part A:

The passage above is Surah Ikhlas. The meaning of the surah is purity and sincerity and is 112th surah of the Quran. It falls in the category of Allah's relationship with his Messenger and is an Early Makki Surah. This Surah was revealed to answer the questions asked by Quraysh about the God of Prophet SAW and the message he was preaching. Abdullah ibn Masood RA reported that Quraysh said to Prophet SAW, **"Tell us about the ancestry of your Lord."** Thereupon this surah was sent down. The main theme in this surah is that it outlines most fundamental and significant aspect of Islam, Tawhid and the Oneness of Allah. The word Ahad cannot be used for anyone in affirmation except Allah, The Mighty and Majestic because He is Perfect. He is the Only one to be worshipped, **"It is You we worship and You we ask for help, (Fatihah 1:5).** Allah is Samad, He is independent of all and everything is dependent on Him for their survival. He has the knowledge about everything and everything is in His control. He is most wise and is Perfect in His wisdom. Allah is Eternal and Absolute, He is free of time and space, He has always been there will always be there, without any beginning or end. Quran says, **"He is the First and Last."(Al-Hameed 57:3).** This Surah also negates about Allah having any family, children or spouse. Allah is Unique and Matchless and cannot be compared to any of His creations, Allah is beyond human imagination. This surah also negates all aspects of shirk associated with Allah. It is one of the Surahs of Protection and is recited with Surah Falaq and Nas.

Part B:

Theme of this passage purifies the Muslim's belief in tawheed and that is why this Surah is known as 'al-Ikhlās' the purity of faith. This Surah teaches us many lessons, the most important is it represents the clear idea of tawheed, so Allah asked Prophet (SAW) to recite this Surah whenever anyone questioned him about his God. The word 'Qul' in this Surah is not only used for Prophet (SAW) but shows that it is a responsibility

of every Muslim must spread the message of Oneness of Allah to other people. Oneness of Allah is the main theme, which is represented in four ways in this Surah. It is repeatedly mentioned in the Quran: **'and your God is One God' (al-Baqarah 2:163)** Muslim learns from this Surah that Allah is One & Only, who is the Master, Creator & Sustainer of this world and there is no one who can share His power and control. There is no one like Allah (SAW). He is unique & matchless and no one shares his Divinity. He cannot be compared to anyone so He is beyond our imagination. Therefore, A Muslim should only worship Allah alone We should not ascribe partners to Him. Muslims must not replace God with other rich celebrities and fictional role models. He is free from having children & family. This Surah clearly refutes the claim of Jews & Christians that Allah has a son. Allah says: **'Allah has not taken any son, nor has there ever been with Him any deity.'** (al-Muminun 23:91). The word Samad teaches us that Allah can help us in every matter. No one other than Allah has the ability to harm or protect us. Hadith of the Prophet (SAW), **'If the whole world were to gather together in order to help you, they would not be able to help you except if God had written so. And if the whole world were to gather together in order to harm you, they would not harm you except if God had written so.'** (Tirmidhi). Nothing is impossible for Him. This Surah is recited in Salah to reaffirm our faith in Allah. This Surah is one the four Quls that are recited for protection. This Surah is so important that the Prophet (SAW) declared it equivalent to one third of the Quran as reported by Bukhari. Muslims learn that believing in Tawheed affects the conduct of a Muslim as a whole as he becomes more aware of Allah's presence and knowledge. They also learn that shirk is a major crime in sight of Allah & will never be forgiven so we must avoid it. This Surah strengthens Muslim belief in Allah.

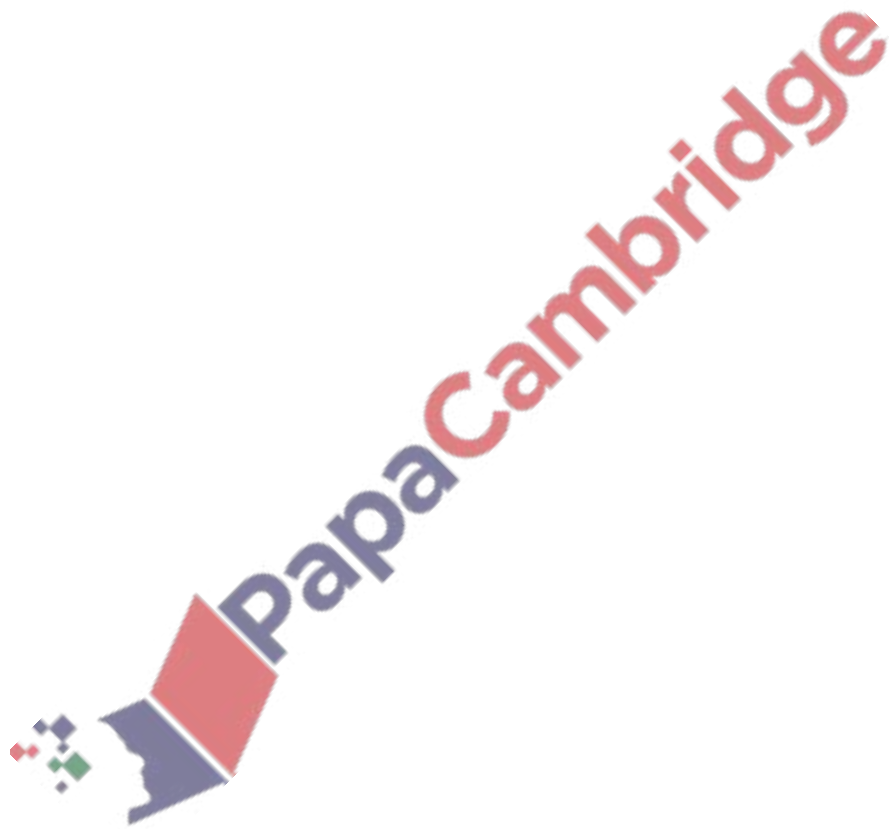
Mark Scheme:

(a) This surah was revealed when the Quraysh asked the Prophet about his God's ancestry. The content of the sura clearly established God's Oneness, and that He had no beginning or end, unlike the idols that were worshipped by the pagans at the time. It also negated the idea of the trinity which the Christians believed in, as well as negating that God had any physical or human characteristics. As the Prophet was preaching his message, many people would ask about his God, and this sura would be recited as an answer, giving a short and comprehensive insight into Islam's belief in God.

(b) This sura is important as it is used to show the central theme of Islam, tawhid, in a concise way. Candidates should talk about how the words used in this passage tell Muslims about God's uniqueness. There are other passages in the Qur'an that mention these same themes but this one is considered to be the most significant due to the

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importance the Prophet gave to it (being one third of the Qur'an). Therefore Muslims recite it abundantly.



Surah Baqarah (2:225)

Sura 2.255

اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ لَا تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَّةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَشْفَعُ عِنْدَهُ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ يَعْلَمُ مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ وَلَا يُحِيطُونَ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنْ عِلْمِهِ إِلَّا بِمَا شَاءَ وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَلَا يَئُودُهُ حِفْظُهُمَا وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ

Allah. There is no god but He, the living, the self-subsisting, eternal. No slumber can seize Him nor sleep. His are all things in the heavens and on earth. Who is there can intercede in His presence except as He permits? He knows what is before or after or behind them. Nor shall they compass any of His knowledge except as He wills. His Throne extends over the heavens and the earth, and He feels no fatigue in guarding and preserving them for He is the Most High, the Supreme.

Part A:

The meaning of Surah Al Baqarah is cow. It is a Madni Surah and falls in the category of Allah in Himself. The surah contains 286 verses. This verse highlights Tawheed (oneness of Allah). Allah says in the Quran, The verse also mentions many attributes of Allah, His eternal glory, Majesty and His sovereignty. The verse explains that Allah is Ever living and Eternal, does not depend on others, is not limited to time and space and is the Master, Owner of heaven, the earth and everything there in. **To Him is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth.”(Surah Anam 6:101-103)** It also explains that Allah's Knowledge is perfect, knows past, present, and the future, no one can intercede fellow creature without His permission, He knows what is before and after them, His seat, Power, knowledge, and authority extends over the heaven and the earth and finally He does not get tired to look after them.

Part B:

The importance is that it tells Allah is One, the Only, the Creator, the Sustainer; the Eternal and the Ever living. **“Say He is Allah the one and only. The Eternal, the Absolute.” (Surah Ikhlas 112:1)** He was always there and will always be there. He is independent while others are dependent on Him. He is the Master, Owner of the earth, the heaven and everything in between them. We must worship Allah alone without associating partners with Allah. No one can intercede for a fellow creature without the permission of Allah. On the day of judgment Allah will ask His Servants to intercede for their followers. We must know going to shrines and visiting saints is a great sin. Allah is all knowing, nothing is hidden from him. His Knowledge is perfect and is not limited with time and space. We should keep in mind that Allah is watching us all the time, He is aware of the secrets of our hearts, so Our thoughts and action must be pure and Positive. We should do good deeds and avoid bad deeds. Allah is all powerful, His power, authority and knowledge extends over the earth and Heaven. We must believe

that everything is in Allah's control like Day and night, Sun and Moon, Seasons. Allah's life is perfect, He does not need rest or sleep. The moral of the surah is Ayatul kursi is the best verse of the Quran. The Prophet (SAW) used to recite it after every prayer Before he went to bed. As he said, **"Ayatul kursi should be recited before going to bed as Allah appointed a guardian for the person to guard him and Satan will not be able to approach him till dawn."** (sahih Bukhari).

Mark Scheme:

(a) The main themes are: God in Himself and Tawhid, One God; that He is unlike creation; that His knowledge is infinite; that the Throne represents His power. Candidates will develop these themes in their own way, e.g.

- saying that He looks after all the Heavens and earth and no-one is needed to look after Him
- He doesn't sleep nor get tired in what He does
- humans only know what He allows them
- His throne is understood as His majesty, uniqueness, knowledge and having total power. It emphasises how He is the only one who can make decisions about His creation, yet He is transcendent – completely independent from His creation

(b) The importance of these themes is that these verses allow Muslims to learn and understand something about God in a way relevant to them. The theme of God's self-subsistence shows how certain attributes that affect humans do not affect Him, e.g. sleep which shows Muslims how superior He is.

He has the knowledge and power over all things hence Muslims do not disobey Him or sin even when alone.

It was said by the Prophet (pbuh) to be one of the best passages of the Qur'an, so Muslims might recite it daily for protection.

Surah Zilzal (99)

9 Sura 99

إِذَا زُلْزِلَتِ الْأَرْضُ زُلْزَالَهَا

وَأَخْرَجَتِ الْأَرْضُ أَثْقَالَهَا

وَقَالَ الْإِنْسَانُ مَا لَهَا

يَوْمَئِذٍ تُحَدِّثُ أَخْبَارَهَا

بِأَنَّ رَبَّكَ أَوْحَىٰ لَهَا

يَوْمَئِذٍ يَصْدُرُ النَّاسُ أَشْتَاتًا لِّيُرَوْا أَعْمَالَهُمْ

فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ

وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ شَرًّا يَرَهُ

1. When the earth is shaken to her utmost convulsion, 2. And the earth throws up her burdens, 3. And man cries out: 'What is the matter with her?', 4. On that day will she declare her tidings: 5. For that your Lord will have given her inspiration. 6. On that day will men proceed in companies sorted out, to be shown their deeds. 7. Then shall anyone who has done an atom's weight of good see it! 8. And anyone who has done an atom's weight of evil shall see it.

Part A:

- Makkan Surah according to some scholars & according to some its an early Madinan Surah. This passage talks about God's power & control over all things He has created and the Last Day.
- It elaborates a scene from Day of Judgement & the condition of the Earth & people on that Day.
- That day the earth will undergo drastic changes by the command of Allah.
- Entire earth will be shaken violently & it will expel everything within it, including the generations of people buried within it.
- Human beings will be in a state of loss and confusion.
- The earth will testify to everything that each man did at a particular place and time by the command of Allah.
- The Prophet (SAW) once said, **"That Day it will report its news." Then he said to his companions, "Do you know what its news is? It will witness what every man and woman did on its surface. It will say, 'He did such and such on a particular day,' and that is its news". (at-Tirmidhi)**

- Humankind will be sorted out into groups according to their belief and deeds in the former life. There will be those who will be miserable & those who will be happy.
- Finally all mankind will appear in the Divine court of justice.
- All their actions, however big or small, will be shown to them. This presentation will be so complete and detailed that not an atom's weight of any good or evil be overlooked.
- The Prophet (SAW) once said, **"Beware of the sins that are belittled. For verily, they are gathered in a man until they destroy him."** (Ahmad)
- This Surah tells about the justice and mercy of Allah on that Day.
- **Allah says: "Every soul will be paid in full the (fruit of) its deed and Allah knows best all they do." (az-Zumar 39:70)**
- Rewarded will be in Paradise & punished will be in Hell fire.

OR

The meaning of Surah Az Zilzal is Earthquake. It is a Makki Surah, Early Madni according to some scholars, and falls in the category of Allah's relationship with the created world. The surah contains 7 verses. The main theme of this surah is Allah's Power and Control, Day of judgment, condition of earth and people. Human beings will be in a state of loss and confusion. Humankind will be sorted out into groups and all their actions, however big or small, will be shown to them. The earth will speak out and tell about each man's good or bad deeds. Presentation of the deeds will be completed. With the justice and Mercy of Allah, people will either be rewarded Paradise or will be punished in Hell fire. Allah says, **"Every soul will be paid in full the (fruit of) its deed and Allah knows best all they do." (Az-Zumar 39:70)**

Part B:

- Theme of this passage reinforces the belief in the Last Day which is also one of the most important articles of faith.
- There will be a terrible earthquake and life on this world will come to an end and the present state of the earth will be completely destroyed.
- This Surah teaches many lessons – most important - it reminds us that life in this world is temporary and it has to come to an end one day. Muslims should be prepared for that Day and not get distracted by worldly things like money, power etc.
- Teaches the Muslim to have fear of accountability & reminds to stay on the right path.

- The man will be resurrected & will be presented before Allah for final judgement. **Allah says: "The Day the Horn is blown and you will come forth in crowds." (an-Naba 78:18)**
- They will be shown a complete record of everything they did in their lives and not a single deed will be left out.
- **Allah says, "They will say, "Ah! Woe to us! What a book this is! It leaves out nothing small or great but takes account thereof!" They will find all they did, placed before them." (Kahf 18:49)**
- Absolute justice of Allah will take place and the smallest good deed will be rewarded, Muslims are encouraged to do good at all times, e.g. praying, being honest and helping others. The tiniest evil won't go unnoticed and people will be punished for their evil deeds. Same theme is repeated in Surah Qariah, **"Then as for those whose scales are heavy (with good deeds), He will be in a pleasant life. But as for he whose scales are light, His refuge will be an abyss." (Qariah 101: 6-9)**
- Belief in accountability keeps Muslims conscious of their actions and they stay away from evil things like lying, cheating, gossiping, not fasting etc.
- This Surah is a reminder for a Muslim to fulfill his duty towards Allah & his fellow beings.

OR

The importance of this surah is: belief in the day of judgement is one of the articles of faith. A terrible Earthquake will take place and the earth will come to an end. This surah teaches many lessons like reminding life is temporary in this world so we should be preparing for the last day and not get distracted by worldly things like money and power etc. This surah teaches fear of accountability, Stay on the right path. The man will be resurrected and presented before Allah. Allah says: **"The Day that the trumpet shall be sounded and you shall come forth in crowds." (An-Naba 78:18)** Complete record will be shown to man, not a single deed will be left out. Absolute Justice will take place. Smallest good deeds will be rewarded. Muslims are encouraged to do good like Praying, being Honest and helping others. Other lessons are to prepare man for accountability and the life after death. As Man will be answerable for all his deeds he must refrain from evil and give up sinful deeds and he must fulfil his duty to Allah and duty to his fellow beings.

Mark Scheme:

(a) This passage is about God's power over all things and the Last Day. Answers to this sura could include God's control of all things He's created. They could also elaborate by saying that human beings will be at a state of loss and confusion. Humankind will be sorted out into groups and all their actions, however big or small, will be shown to them. The earth is treated like a person who will speak out.

(b) These teachings tell humans that everyone will be judged on the Last Day. Candidates could also talk about how humankind will be shown all their deeds so should be careful about how they live their lives, e.g. it reminds them about their accountability. They could also talk about the Earth's relationship with humans and how humankind needs to look after the Earth. Better answers will be able to reflect on these teachings using examples. These are not the only points candidates can mention, and personalising the passages to their own or Muslims' lives, or giving thoughtful answers with examples, could take them higher up the levels.



Surah An-Nas (114)

Sura 114

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ، مَلِكِ النَّاسِ، إِلَهِ النَّاسِ،

مِن شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ

الَّذِي يُوسِّسُ فِي صُدُورِ النَّاسِ

مِنَ الْجِنَّةِ وَالنَّاسِ

1. Say: I seek refuge with the Lord of mankind, 2. The King of mankind, 3. The God of Mankind, 4. From the mischief of the whisperer who withdraws, 5. Who whispers into the hearts of mankind, 6. Among jinns and among mankind.

Part A:

- Early Makkah Surah
- relationship between Allah and human beings.
- Last Surah of Quran
- revealed along with Surah Falaq - cure Prophet when magic was cast on him
- One of the Surahs of protection.
- Explains Tawheed and three Attributes of Allah (Lordship, Sovereignty & Divinity)
- All things are created by Him, possessed by Him, and submissive to Him, therefore Allah commands anyone who wants refuge from the various evils of the world, from jinn and men to seek in it the Lord who has these Attributes. As stated in Surah Falaq **"I seek refuge with the lord of the rising day". (113:1)**
- Only He can help in times of need.
- Satan entices people to commit sins as he makes evil attractive to men. Only Allah can grant protection from the evil whispers of Satan as He is the creator and controller of everything. According to a Hadith, the Prophet said, **"With everyone of you there is a devil." The Companions asked, "Is there a devil even with you?" The Prophet said, "Yes, but Allah has granted me protection against him." (Muslim)**
- This Surah explains that these whispers from Satan are blown into the heart of the Son of Adam when he becomes headless and absentminded but when he remembers Allah, Satan withdraws.
- Describes the sources of evil - Man must seek refuge with Allah from evil coming from the hearts of men (who are visible to naked eye) as well as evil coming from Satan and jinns (who are invisible to the naked eye).

Part B:

- Explains the position of Allah - He is the Lord, the Master of all Mankind & He provides man with everything
- Teaches the Muslim - Allah has the power to undo all evil forces created by Satan.
- Surah Falaq & Surah Naas -- common name Mu'awwidhatayn - share the same theme - revealed in the same circumstances.
- The Prophet (SAW) was ordered to recite these when magic was cast on him - recite these Surahs before going to bed. He would read them and blow over his hands and then rub his hands over his body.
- From this surah Muslims get to know the kind of evils or mischief they have to be aware of.
- He learns - if he seeks protection with Allah from such evils, Allah will protect him and no evil, visible or invisible, can harm him. As Quran says, **“Do you not know that to Allah belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth and that You have not besides Allah any protector or any helper?” (al-Baqarah 2:107)**
- Teaches a Muslim to seek refuge from the evil forces that are within himself. These forces whisper temptations and distrust in the heart of man over and over again as man cannot be tempted in one attempt.
- Same theme - in Surah Muminun -Allah commands: **“And say, O My Lord! I seek refuge with You from the suggestions of the Evil Ones.” (al-Muminun 23:97)**
- Surah Al-Nas is a shield for him against all visible and hidden evils.

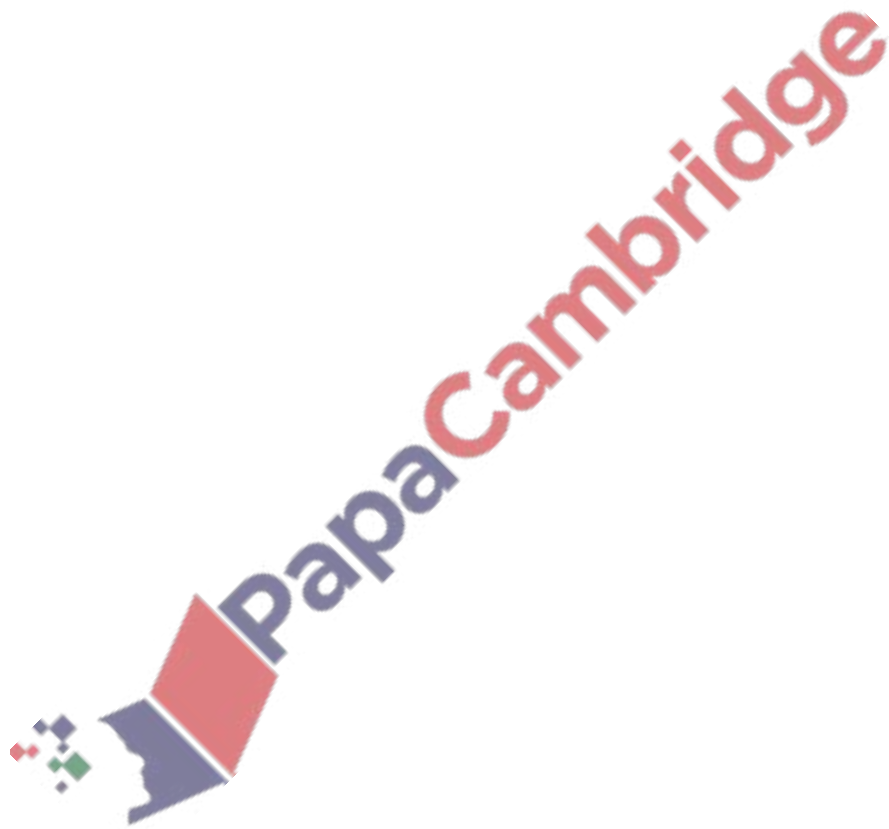
Mark Scheme:

(a)The main themes are: God as refuge; God as Lord; God as Protector. Candidates will develop these themes in their own way, e.g., saying that only He can help in times of need, in this case from jinn and men. Seek help only from Him; He created everything so controls everything, even mischief makers. It's a warning of those who whisper evil/bad ideas to humans, and then disappear and leave them on their own; God is a protector from these things; it is one of the suras of protection.

(b)Through these verses Muslims get to know the kind of evils/mischief they have to be wary of. This means they should be aware of what's happening to them so they can recognise the signs of mischief. Praying and doing good deeds strengthens reliance on

Compiled by Y9-7 & Y9-11

God. Reciting this sura with the other 'qul's' is a source of protection. God is the King so it is Him who people should seek refuge with.



Surah Ad-Duha (93)

Sura 93

وَالضُّحَىٰ

وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا سَجَىٰ

مَا وَدَّعَكَ رَبُّكَ وَمَا قَلَىٰ

وَلَلْآخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ لَّكَ مِنَ الْأُولَىٰ

وَلَسَوْفَ يُعْطِيكَ رَبُّكَ فَتَرْضَىٰ

أَلَمْ يَجِدْكَ يَتِيمًا فَآوَىٰ

وَوَجَدَكَ ضَالًّا فَهَدَىٰ

وَوَجَدَكَ عَائِلًا فَأَغْنَىٰ

فَأَمَّا الْيَتِيمَ فَلَا تَقْهَرْ

وَأَمَّا السَّائِلَ فَلَا تَنْهَرْ

وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ

1. By the glorious morning light, 2. And by the night when it is still, 3. Your Lord has not forsaken you, nor is he displeased. 4. And truly the Hereafter will be better for you than the present. 5. And soon your Lord will give you so that you will be pleased. 6. Did He not find you an orphan and give you shelter? 7. And He found you wandering, and He gave you guidance. 8. And He found you in need, and made you independent. 9. Therefore, do not treat the orphan with harshness, 10. Nor drive the beggar away; 11. But tell about the bounty of your Lord!

Part A:

This passage is taken from Surah Ad-Duha. It has 11 verses and the surah number is 93. It falls in the category of Allah's Relationship with His Messengers. Surah Ad-Duha is an early Makki surah. The meaning of Duha is 'The Glorious Morning Light'. When the Quran was first revealed to the Prophet (SAW), Angel Jibrael (AS) was delayed from coming to him for a number of days on one occasion. Therefore, the Messenger of Allah (SAW) was affected. The idolators of Makkah ridiculed him saying: **"His Lord has abandoned him and hates him."** So in response to the idolator's mockery Allah revealed: **"Your Lord, O Muhammad, has neither forsaken you, nor hates you."** This Surah mentions some major favours of Allah upon the Prophet (SAW). Allah recommended good conduct to show gratitude to these favours. This Surah says that

God is always there to help those in need. If there is a hardship, it does not last long. There's superiority in life after death. In this Surah, Allah consoles the Prophet (SAW). He tells him that Allah has not left you alone as the disbelievers claim. This surah brought a message of hope to the Prophet (SAW). Allah helped the Prophet (SAW) as He always helps all His Prophets. Allah did not abandon His Prophets at any stage. He provided shelter to the Prophet (SAW) when he was an orphan; Allah gave him guidance when he searched for it. Allah says: **"And thus We have sent you a Ruh from our command...We guide whosoever of our servants, We will" (42:52)**; Allah made him rich when he was in need. It says in this Surah that Allah's bounties will never be stopped for the Prophet (SAW) and that he will get much greater bounties in the hereafter. Allah then reassured the Prophet (SAW) that he will be granted what pleases him, in both worlds. The Prophet (SAW) was then instructed to help those in need and also to be grateful to Allah, Surah Ad-Duha teaches Muslims to be helpful to others as well as to be grateful to Allah for His blessings on us.

Part B:

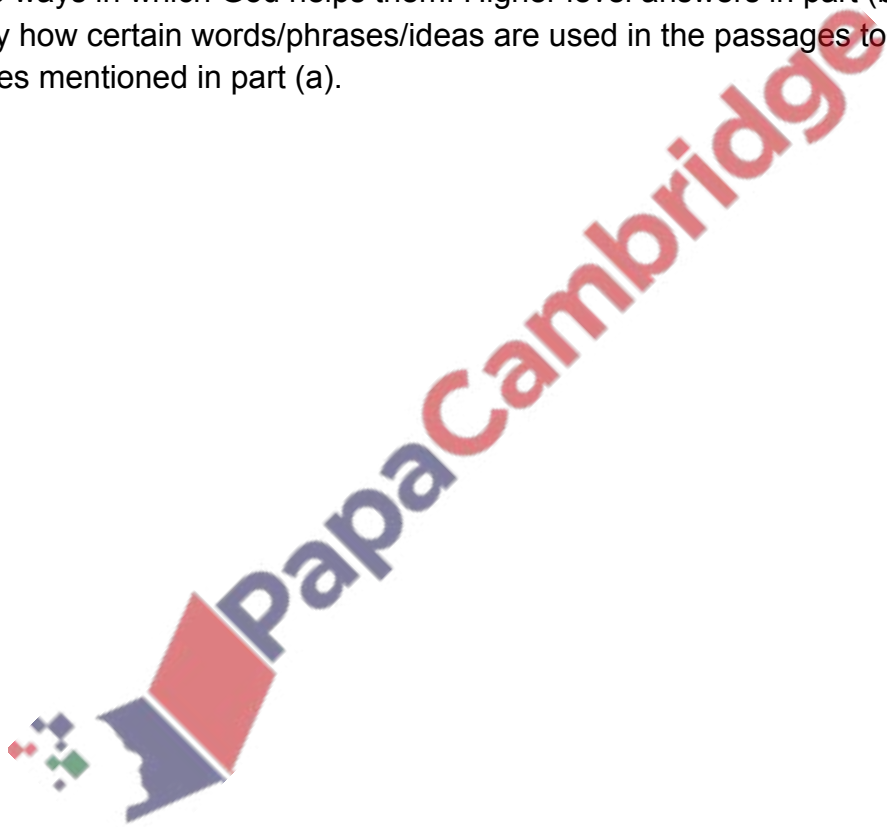
These teachings tell Muslims that, Prophet (SAW) was helped by Allah when his enemies taunted him as there was a gap in the revelations sent. The interval was necessary, or the continuous revelations would have strained his nerves. These teachings tell Muslims that they should be assured of Allah's help in difficult times like when Allah consoled the Prophet (SAW) when the Quraysh mocked him. Muslims should also have a strong belief that Allah will not forsake them in difficult times. They should learn to be patient at difficult times. Allah says: **"So verily, after every difficulty there is a relief." (94:5)**. Muslims should believe that the blessings of the Hereafter are better than the temporary entertainment of this world. Muslims must acknowledge the blessings that they have and be grateful to Allah through prayers and worship and by helping those in need. Because when a believer helps another in need by sacrificing his property then Allah will return in and it will be twice as much. Muslims should learn to look after orphans and most helpless individuals. Allah says: **"And feed with food the needy wretch, the orphans and the prisoners, for love of Him." (76:8)**

Mark Scheme:

- (a) This is a consolation to the Prophet. God shows how He helps His prophets. He is there for those in need. It tells humankind to be grateful to God for what they have been given. The above answers are not the only answers that could be presented. Candidates should be allowed to develop/show other relevant themes

of the passage. They could also give comparisons with themes of other passages. The highest level should be kept for well written answers offering a variety of themes.

- (b)** God gave blessings to the Prophet Muhammad, despite people saying that he had been forgotten by God. Muslims should then also look at their lives to see their blessings and not think they have been given nothing. They should be grateful to God through prayers and worship and they should make people aware of the ways in which God helps them. Higher level answers in part (b) will be able to say how certain words/phrases/ideas are used in the passages to convey the themes mentioned in part (a).



Surah Al- Kawthur (108)

Sura 108

إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ

فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَنْحِرْ

إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ

1. To you have We granted abundance. 2. So pray to your Lord and sacrifice. 3. For he who hates you, he will be cut off.

Part A:

The meaning of Surah Al Kawther is The Abundance. It is a Makki Surah and falls in the category of Allah's relationship with his messengers. The surah contains 3 verses making it the shortest surah of the Quran. The background of the surah is that when the prophet (SAW)'s son Abdullah from Khadijah (RA) died the polytheists celebrated it by calling him Abtar (meaning cut off, abandoned). In tribal societies a son is considered as the descendent of his father, not the daughters. Enemies considered it the end of the prophet (SAW)'s family. In fact, when Abu Lahab got to know the news, he announced to Quraysh, **"Muhammad has become childless this night, or he is cut off from the root"** The Prophet (SAW) was sad and so this surah was revealed for the catharsis of the prophet (SAW). The first verse describes the favours of Allah in this world and hereafter. The favours of Allah in this world are, Allah made him the last Prophet, the revelation of Quran, many followers who hold respect, love and obedience of Prophet (SAW) till the end of time and finally the descendants from Fatima (RA). On the other hand, the favours of Allah in hereafter are Al-Kawther, a river for cool and pleasant Water in paradise which is sweeter than honey. As on the day of judgement people will be extremely thirsty and only the followers of Prophet SAW will be given water of Al-Kawther through the hands of Prophet (SAW). The second verse describes the commands of Allah like Allah asked his Prophet (SAW) to thank Him by offering Prayer and Sacrifice which Prophet (SAW) did throughout his life. The Last verse talks about Allah's consolation for the Prophet (SAW). He says that the enemies of the Prophet (SAW) will be: destroyed, humiliated and cut-off from all good things of this world and hereafter. They will also be punished severely in hell fire.

Part B:

The importance of this surah is that Allah reassured the Prophet (SAW) for his steadfastness and promised him blessings in the afterlife. This surah gives hope to people in times of need. Allah intervenes when one is in difficulty, so Muslims should

look to Him for help and support and be grateful for what He has given them, remembering that real rewards are in the afterlife. Justice should be left to Allah. We should realize the worldly blessings that we have like our home, our family, our school, friends and relatives etc. Quran and Islam are from the teachings of our beloved Prophet (SAW). We should follow the spirit of sacrifice and Thank Allah at the time of Salah by leaving TV and games and we must sacrifice our beloved things for Allah. Allah also commands us to offer sacrifice, as it has a deep spiritual meaning, it is a symbol of self Sacrifice. Allah says, **“Say: Verily, my salah, my sacrifice, my living and dying are for Allah, the Lord of all that exists. He has no partner. And of this I have been commanded, and I am the first of the Muslims ” (Al - An’aam 6:162 - 163)** We should be patient and obey Allah. Enemies will be punished, wealthy or powerful, and the followers of the Prophet (SAW) will be rewarded, weak or poor.

Mark Scheme:

(a) The main themes are: God’s messengers and His relationship with the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in particular. Candidates will develop these themes in their own way, e.g.,

- God’s support and consolation to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)
- Even in times of difficulties, the Prophet (pbuh) and Muslims are required to worship and show obedience to God.
- God remains near to His prophets. It was also revealed to give hope to the Prophet (pbuh).
- It foretold the destruction of his opponents as well as success of his mission

(b) The teachings give an insight into how the relationship between God and the Prophet (pbuh) has lessons for Muslims. Muslims today are that future generation of followers that was given to the Prophet (pbuh), and so this sura gives hope to people in times of need. Future hope is also given with the promise of the Kawthar in Paradise – candidates may refer to this future hope as being Fatima. God always intervenes in times of difficulty so Muslims should always remember to look to Him for help and support, and not feel disheartened in times of difficulty, e.g. during illness or oppression. Muslims should remain steadfast despite the difficulties or mockeries that they face. Even prophets were tested and faced hardships but remained steadfast so Muslims should not despair of God’s mercy when facing hardships.