

The First Term Test of English

A/ Comprehension

Read the text and do the activities that follow.

The Islamic Civilization is today and was in the past a mixture of a wide variety of cultures, made up of polities and countries from North Africa to the western periphery of the Pacific Ocean, and from Central Asia to sub-Saharan Africa.

The vast Islamic Empire was created in the 7th and 8th centuries CE, reaching a unity through a series of conquests with its neighbors for the sake of spreading the new religion. That initial unity disintegrated in the 9th and 10th centuries, but was reborn and revitalized again and again for more than a thousand years. Throughout the period, Islamic states rose and fell in constant transformation, absorbing and embracing other cultures and peoples, building great cities and establishing and maintaining a vast trade network. At the same time, the empire introduced great advances in philosophy, science, law, medicine, art, architecture, engineering, and technology.

A central element in the rise of the Islamic Empire is the Islamic religion. Varying widely in practice and politics, each of the branches and sects of the Islamic religion today adopts monotheism. In some respects, the Islamic religion could be viewed as a reform movement arising from monotheistic Judaism and Christianity. The Islamic empire reflects that rich mixture.

Adapted from: <http://www.thought.com/islamic-civilization-timeline-and-definition>

1) Read the text and put the following ideas in the order they appear in the text. (02pts)

- a- The Islamic Empire broke away and reunited several times. ▶.....
- b- The Islamic Civilization comprises several states from different spheres of the world. ▶.....
- c- The Islamic Empire encompasses a variety of religious beliefs from other faiths. ▶.....
- d- Islamic territories welcomed the conquerors and their cultures. ▶.....

2) Answer the following questions according to the text. (03pts)

- a- What are the geographical boundaries of the Islamic Civilization?  
✎ .....
- b- How did Islam expand?  
✎ .....
- c- Is Islam the only monotheist religion?  
✎ .....

3) In which paragraph is it mentioned that the Islamic Civilization made tremendous achievements in several fields? (0,5pt) ✎ .....

4) Find in the text who or what the underlined words refer to. (01pt)

- a- its (§2) ▶.....
- b- the period (§2) ▶.....

5) Choose the most appropriate title for the text: (0,5pt)

- a- The Rise of the Islamic Civilization
- b- The Spread of the Islamic Religion
- c- The Fall of the Islamic Empire

6) Circle the letter that corresponds to the right answer. (0,5pts)

The text is:    a- argumentative                      b- descriptive                      c- narrative

B/ Text Exploration

1) Find in the text words or phrases that are opposite in meaning to the following: (01,5pts)

- a- uniformity (§1) ≠ ..... b- periods of a hundred years (§2) ≠ .....  
 c- fall (§3) ≠ .....

2) Complete the chart. (01,5pts)

<i>Verb</i>	<i>Noun</i>	<i>Adjective</i>
.....	achievement	.....
.....	.....	established
To unify	.....	.....

3) Join each pair of sentences using the given link word in brackets. Make changes where necessary. (03pts)

a- A) The Islamic Empire had territories in distant places. B) The Islamic Empire reached its unity. (although)

✂ .....  
 ✂ .....

b- A) The European intellectuals borrowed Muslims' scientific discoveries centuries later. B) The Muslims made huge scientific discoveries. (after)

✂ .....  
 ✂ .....

c- A) Some Muslim countries were colonized for centuries. B) Some Muslim countries preserved their Islamic identity. (in spite of)

✂ .....  
 ✂ .....

4) Classify the following words according to the pronunciation of their final "ed". (01,5pts)

disintegrated - viewed - introduced - civilized - established - expanded

/t/	/d/	/id/

5) Re-order the following sentences to get a coherent paragraph. (02pts)

- a- where he formally established the Muslim community,  
 b- The traditional beginning of the Islamic civilization is associated with the Prophet Muhammad.  
 c- In 622, Muhammed moved his community from Mecca to Medina  
 d- In 610, Prophet Muhammad received his first revelations from God via the angel Gabriel.

Order: ✂ .....

6) Fill in the gaps with words from the list so that the text makes sense (02pts)

astronomy - Golden Age - influence - Arabic - Islamic - scientific - ideas - Other

*Contributions of Islamic culture to medieval Europe*

During the high medieval period, the ..... world was at its cultural peak, supplying information and ..... to Europe, via Al-Andalus, Sicily and the Crusader kingdoms in the Levant. These included Latin translations of the Greek Classics and of Arabic texts in ....., mathematics, science, and medicine. Translation of ..... philosophical texts into Latin "led to the transformation of almost all philosophical disciplines in the medieval Latin world", with a particularly strong .....of Muslim philosophers being felt in natural philosophy, psychology and metaphysics. .... contributions included technological and ..... innovations via the Silk Road, including Chinese inventions such as paper and gunpowder.

The Islamic world also influenced other aspects of medieval European culture, partly by original innovations made during the Islamic ....., including various fields such as the arts, agriculture, alchemy, music, pottery, etc.

*Goods luck!*