

True or False Islam Pretest

Name(s):

Class:

Date:

Identify the following as True or False. Respond honestly. Your test score will not be graded. The pretest should help you discover how to further your understanding of one of the world's fastest growing religions.

1. _____ Islam is a polytheistic religion based on ancient Sumerian beliefs.
2. _____ "Allah" is the Arabic word for "God."
3. _____ The teachings of Islam are based upon the prophecy of a man named Muhammad who lived on the Arabian Peninsula in the early 19th century.
4. _____ Muhammad is worshipped as partially divine.
5. _____ People who practice Islam are called either Muslims or Muhammadians.
6. _____ The Ka'aba temple in the city of Mecca, Saudi Arabia, holds a black stone (meteorite).
7. _____ Muhammad's teachings initially appealed most to the merchants living in the city of Mecca who wanted the new religion to make Mecca a prosperous trading capital.
8. _____ Islam means "submission" when translated into English.
9. _____ The word *Qur'an* means "recitation" in English.
10. _____ Islam's holy book, the *Qur'an*, was written in Arabic and has never been translated into any other language.
11. _____ Islamic mosques are decorated with mosaics of the prophet Muhammad receiving inspiration from Allah.

12. _____ The religion of Islam is historically connected to the religions of Judaism and Christianity; tracing its revelation back to the same one God.
13. _____ The *hejira* refers to Muhammad's emigration from the city of Mecca to the city of Medina.
14. _____ There are three sacred duties of Islam called "The Three Pillars."
15. _____ The term "*jihad*" refers exclusively to "holy war."
16. _____ The largest population of Muslims today live in Iran.
17. _____ Sunni and Shi'a Muslims are the only two divisions (or sects) of Islam.
18. _____ The English words *alcove*, *elixir*, *zenith*, *almanac*, *algebra*, and *zero* all came from Arabic words.
19. _____ The official day of rest and celebration for Muslims is Friday.
20. _____ The central holiday in the Islamic calendar is "Ramadan" and it is usually celebrated at the same time that Christians celebrate Christmas.