

READING ESSENTIALS AND STUDY GUIDE 11-3

Muslim Ways of Life *For use with pages 387–394*

Key Terms

mosque: a Muslim house of worship (page 389)

bazaar: a marketplace (page 389)

minaret: tower on a mosque (page 394)

crier: a person who calls believers to prayer five times a day (page 394)

Drawing From Experience

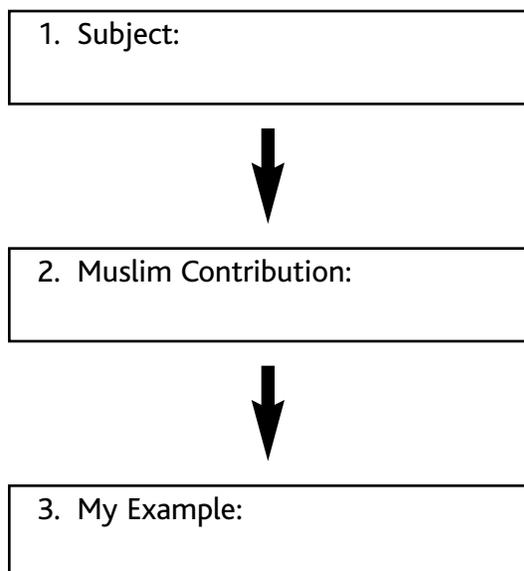
Have you ever wondered who came up with numbers, algebra, or chemistry? How does the study of math and science affect your life today?

In the last section, you learned how Islam spread and split into two groups and how Muslim empires were formed. In this section, you will learn about Muslim daily life and some of the many ideas Muslims gave to math, science, history, literature, and the arts.

Organizing Your Thoughts

Use the diagram below to help you take notes.

Choose an area in which Muslims gave something important to society. For example, you might name math, science, or art. List the contribution. Then give an example of how you use that today.



READING ESSENTIALS AND STUDY GUIDE 11-3 (continued)**Trade and Everyday Life** *(pages 388–390)*

Main Idea While Muslim traders enjoyed great success and cities grew, most Muslims lived in villages in the country.

Muslims were the best merchants in the Middle East and northern Africa until the late 1400s. Their caravans traveled from Baghdad to China. Their ships crossed the Indian Ocean to India and Southeast Asia. They carried spices, cloth, glass, and carpets. They brought rubies, silk, ivory, gold, and slaves on their return home.

The Success of Muslim Traders Muslims were successful in trade for many reasons. When Muslim empires grew, so did the Arabic language. Arabic became the language everyone used to trade. Muslim rulers also made trade easier by giving merchants coins.

Muslim merchants kept records of their business deals and the money they made. This developed into a new business—banking. Muslims respected traders for their skills and the wealth they made.

What Were Muslim Cities Like? Trade helped Muslim cities grow. Baghdad, Cairo, and Damascus were located on trade routes from the Mediterranean Sea to central Asia. Muslim cities were not only places of trade. They also became important places of government, learning, and the arts.

Muslim cities looked alike. The main buildings were palaces and mosques. **Mosques** are Muslim houses of worship. They are also used as schools and places for learning.

Another important part of every Muslim city was the **bazaar**, or marketplace. Sellers sold goods from Asia in stalls or shops. Buyers from all over bought goods to take home and sell.

Although cities were important, most Muslims lived in villages and farmed. Since there was not very much water, Muslim farmers had to bring water to their crops.

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They grew wheat, rice, beans, and melons in the fields. They raised almonds, blackberries, apricots, figs, and olives in their orchards. Some farmers also grew flowers for perfume.

At first, Muslim villagers owned small farms. Then rich landowners took over some of these farms and formed large estates. Farmers and slaves worked for these landowners.

Muslim Society The Muslim people were in social groups based on how much power and wealth they had. At the top were government leaders, landowners, and traders. Below them were artisans, farmers, and workers. The lowest group was enslaved people.

Many people owned slaves. Because Muslims could not be enslaved, traders brought slaves from non-Muslim areas. Many of these people were captured in war. They were servants or soldiers and could buy back their freedom.

Men and women had different jobs. Men ran government, society, and business. Women helped run families. They also could inherit wealth and own property. Many places had laws for women to cover their faces and wear long robes in public.

4. Name four things Muslims sent to India and Southeast Asia on ships.
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Muslim Achievements (pages 390–394)

Main Idea Muslims made valuable contributions in math, science, and the arts.

Most people spoke Arabic. This made trade easier. It also helped different people in the empires share knowledge. For example, in A.D. 830 the Abbasid caliph Mamun founded the House of Wisdom in Baghdad. Mamun had wise Christian, Jewish, and Muslim teachers working

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there. They shared ideas and rewrote Greek, Persian, and Indian writings in Arabic.

These wise men saved much of what was learned in the ancient world. Europeans in the West had lost this knowledge after the Western Roman Empire fell. Through Muslim scholars, western Europeans found out about Aristotle and other ancient Greek thinkers.

Mathematics and Science Muslims made important advances in mathematics. They taught these new ideas to Europeans. For example, Muslims invented algebra, a type of mathematics still taught in schools today. They borrowed the symbols 0 through 9 from Hindus in India. Europeans later used these numbers. Today, they are known as “Arabic numerals.”

Muslims also made progress in science. Muslim scientists who studied the heavens perfected the Greek astrolabe. Sailors used this tool to study the stars and then figure out their location at sea. Scientists used the astrolabe to measure the size and distance around the earth. This is how they discovered that the earth is round.

Other Muslim scientists invented chemistry. They did experiments with metals and kept records of their work. One of the best-known chemists was al-Razi, who lived from A.D. 865 to A.D. 925. Al-Razi made a new system for putting animals, minerals, and vegetables in groups. He also wrote books for doctors that helped them identify diseases.

Arab doctors were the first to discover that blood moves to and from the heart. The Persian doctor Ibn Sina showed how diseases spread from person to person. As they worked, Muslim doctors published their discoveries.

Muslim Writing The Quran is the most famous book in the Muslim world, but Muslims have other famous works, too. One of the most well known is *The Thousand and One Nights*, also called *The Arabian Nights*. It has stories from India, Persia, and Arabia. One of the stories tells about Aladdin and his magic lamp.

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The Persian poet Omar Khayyam wrote the *Rubaiyat* around 1100. Many consider it one of the finest poems ever written.

Muslims also wrote history. In 1375, Ibn Khaldun wrote that all civilizations rise, grow, and then fall. He also was one of the first to study the effect of the earth's surface and climate on people.

Art and Buildings Muslims developed their own type of art based on Islam. Muslims cannot show pictures of Muhammad in art. They believe people may worship Muhammad instead of Allah. So, flowers, leaves, and stars make up most of their art. Muslims use these designs to decorate walls, books, rugs, and buildings.

Muslims had beautiful buildings. Mosques filled Muslim cities like Baghdad, Damascus, Cairo, and Istanbul.

At the top of many mosques are domes. A mosque's most striking feature is its **minarets** or towers. From these towers, a **crier** calls believers to prayer five times a day.

Islamic rulers lived in large brick palaces. They often had courtyards at the center with porches, fountains, and pools. They surrounded the palaces with walls for safety. The most famous Muslim palace is the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. It was built in the 1300s.

Another famous building is the Taj Mahal in Agra, India. The Mogul ruler Shah Jahan built it as a tomb for his wife after she died in 1629. Made of marble and precious stones, the Taj Mahal is one of the world's most beautiful buildings.

Today, the Muslim empires are gone. However, Islam is still a major world religion. About one out of every six persons in the world is a Muslim.

5. Describe a palace. List at least three things you would see there.
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