

UPPER WESTCHESTER MUSLIM SOCIETY

600 Bear Ridge Road · Pleasantville, NY 10570

Foundations of Islamic Business & Finance

Seminar One — Assessment

Full Name: _____

Date: _____

Write your full name exactly as it appears on your driver's license.

DUE: Friday, September 25, 2026, by 11:59 PM (Eastern)

Email your completed test to **Imam.ahmed@uwms.org** with the subject line “Seminar 1 Test – Your Full Name.”

Instructions

- Please read each question in its entirety before answering.
- Type your answers directly into this PDF, or print it and handwrite them clearly.
- If handwriting, scan or photograph every page and send them as one file.
- Answer briefly in the space provided.

1. Is there a difference between a 401(k), an IRA, and a Roth IRA in terms of paying taxes upon receiving the funds?

2. What is the name of the Islamic fund that should be specifically requested to oversee 401(k) and similar funds when agreeing to invest a portion of one's salary in one of these programs?

3. Are the following contracts permissible (halal) or prohibited (haram) in light of what you have studied? Briefly explain.

A) Short selling

B) Margin and leverage

4. Is artificial intelligence (AI) generally permissible to use? (Yes or No.) What is the Sharia-compliant classification of this action for the investor?

5. What should you avoid when using AI to invest your funds?

6. Is market price control by a single trader or a group of traders permissible or prohibited according to Sharia? Briefly explain why.

7. What are the five fundamental objectives of Sharia that it was revealed to preserve? List them only. (مقاصد الشريعة الإسلامية)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

8. Is it permissible to engage in usury (riba) by paying interest, even if one does not receive it? (Yes or No.) Why?

9. If the interest on a financial loan is appropriate and reasonable, is it permissible (halal) or prohibited (haram)? Are only high interest rates prohibited?

10. What are the two logical and legally sound guidelines for a Muslim to accumulate wealth without incurring any legal consequences?

May Allah grant you ease and success.