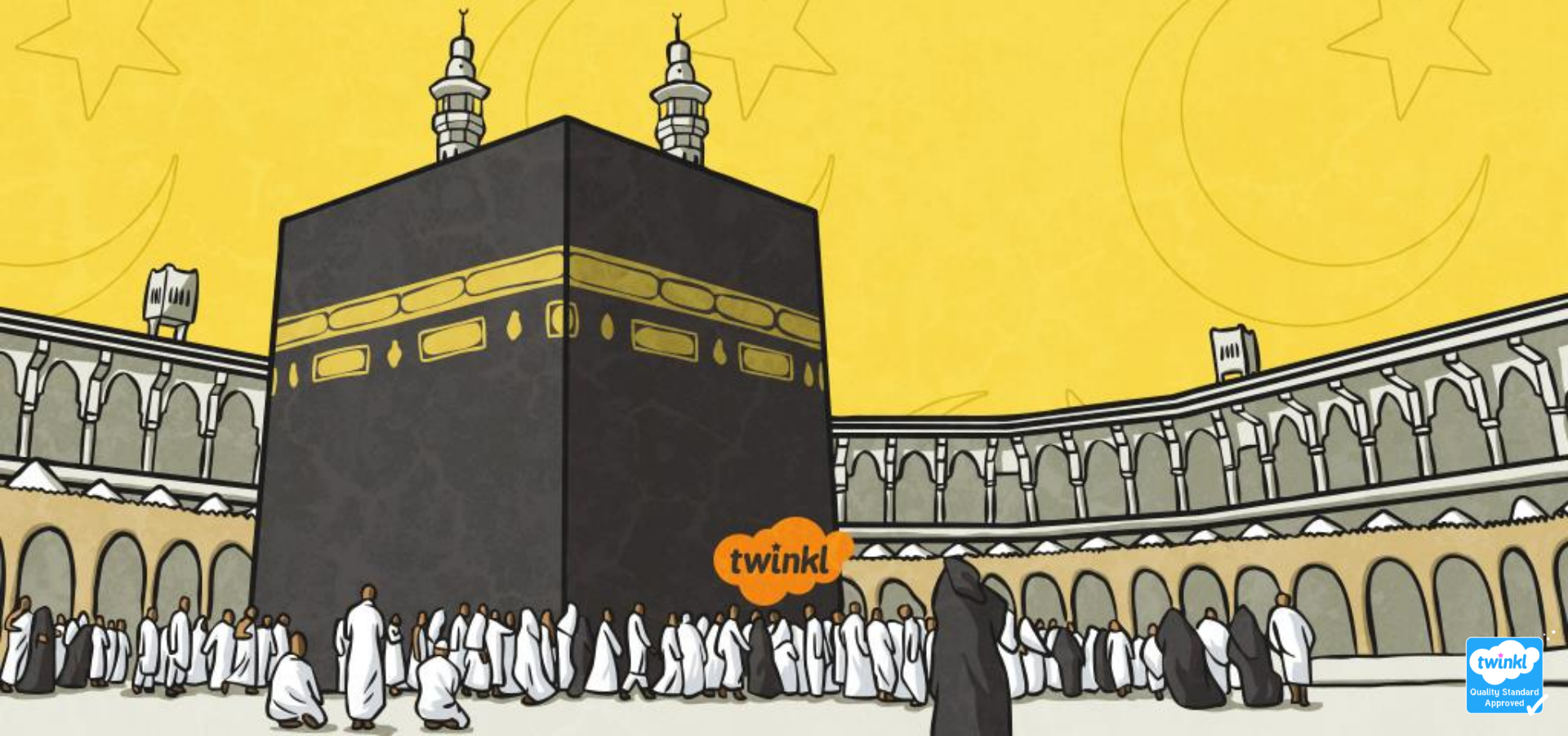


# Muslim Pilgrimages



# Aim

- I can explain the role of pilgrimage in Islam.

# Success Criteria

- I can explain what Muslims believe about pilgrimages.
- I can present the main events of the Hajj.

# Islam and Pilgrimages



There are three different types of Muslims – Sunni, Shia and Sufi.

Pilgrimage is important to all three. While there are pilgrimages that each group would make that are different, the Hajj is one that all would undertake. This is because it is the fifth pillar of Islam.

# Hajj



According to the Quran, elements of Hajj trace back to the time of Abraham, around 2000BC.

According to Islamic tradition, Abraham was ordered by God to leave his wife, Hagar, and his son, Ishmael, alone in the desert of ancient Mecca.

In search of water, Hagar desperately ran seven times between the two hills of Safa and Marwah but found none.



# Hajj



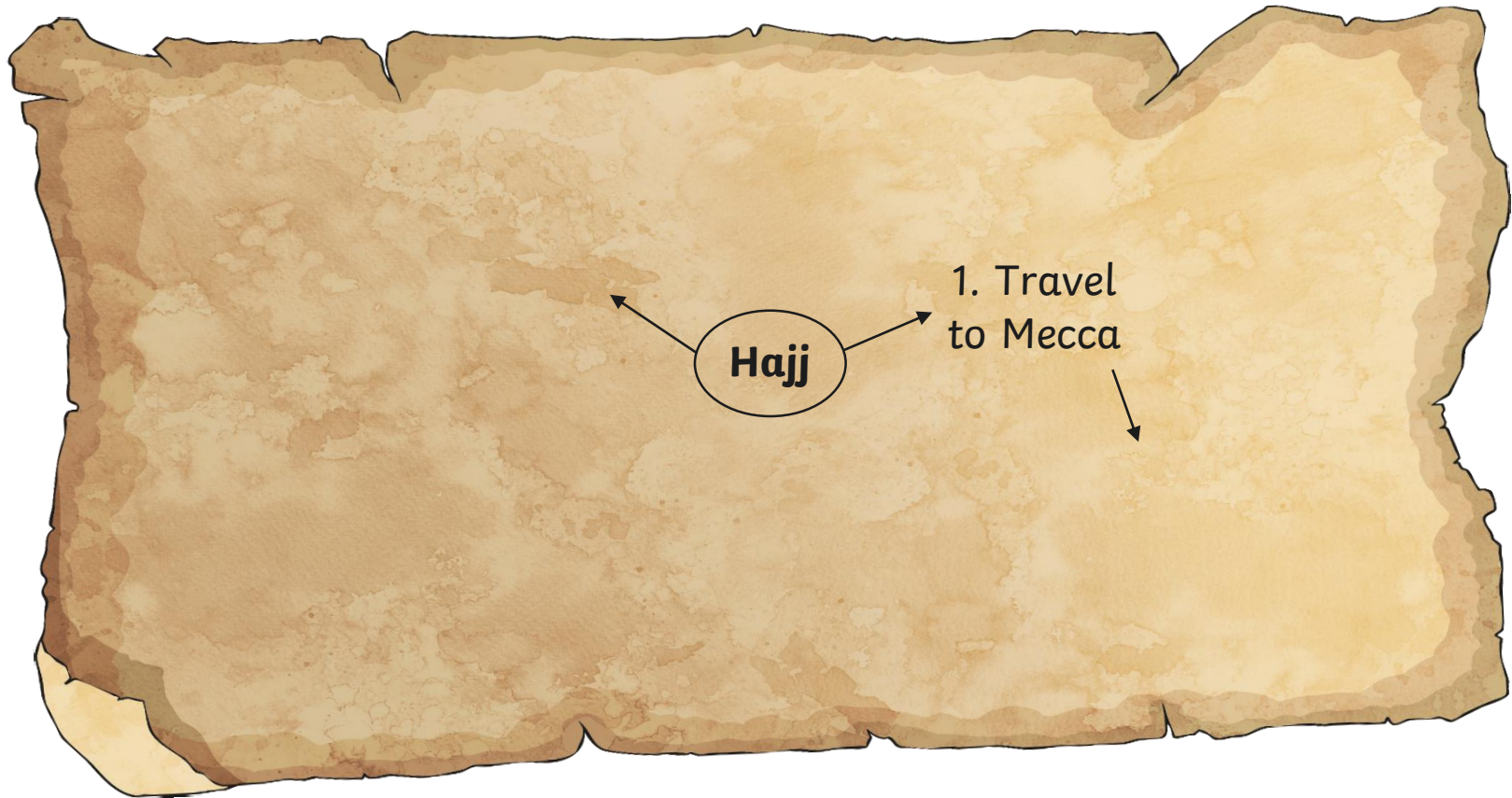
Returning in despair to Ishmael, she saw the baby scratching the ground with his leg and a water fountain sprang forth underneath his foot.

Later, Abraham was commanded to build the Ka'bah here (which he did with the help of Ishmael) and to invite people to perform pilgrimage there.

# Hajj



We will now look at some information about the Hajj. As we read, take notes. These notes will help you to create a flowchart of events later.

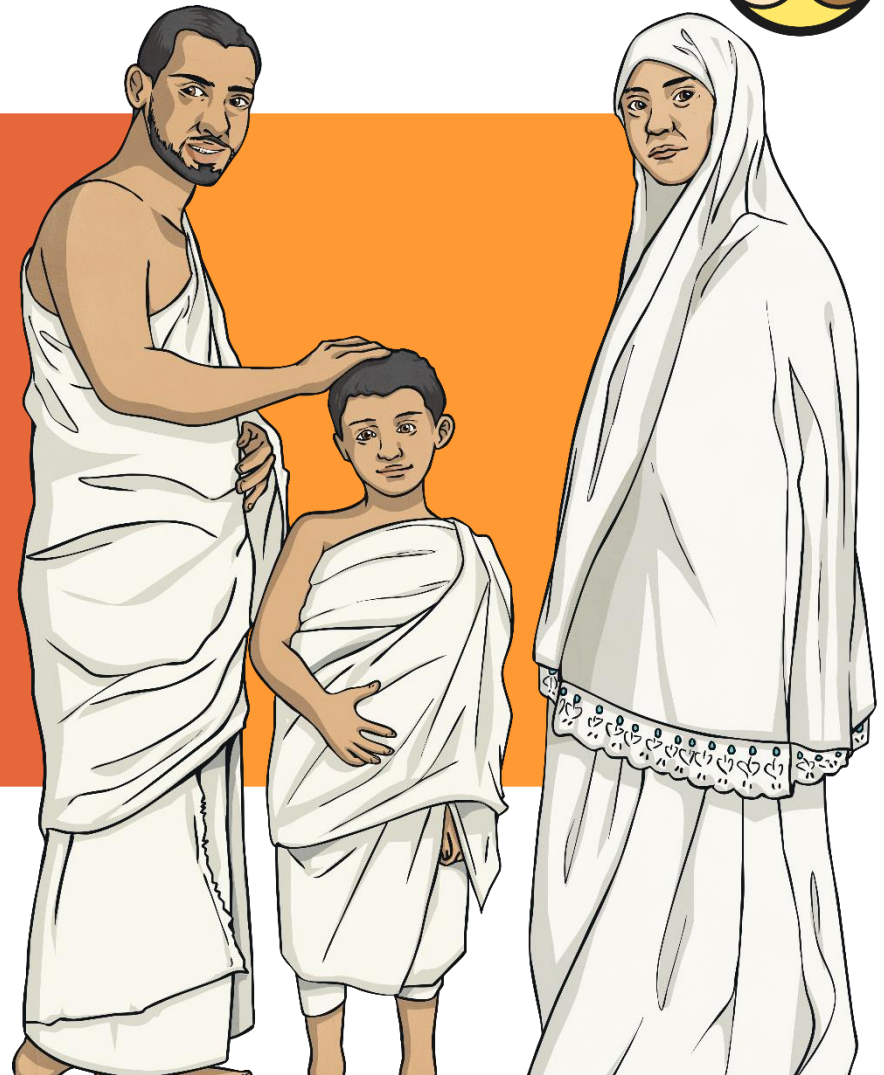


# Hajj

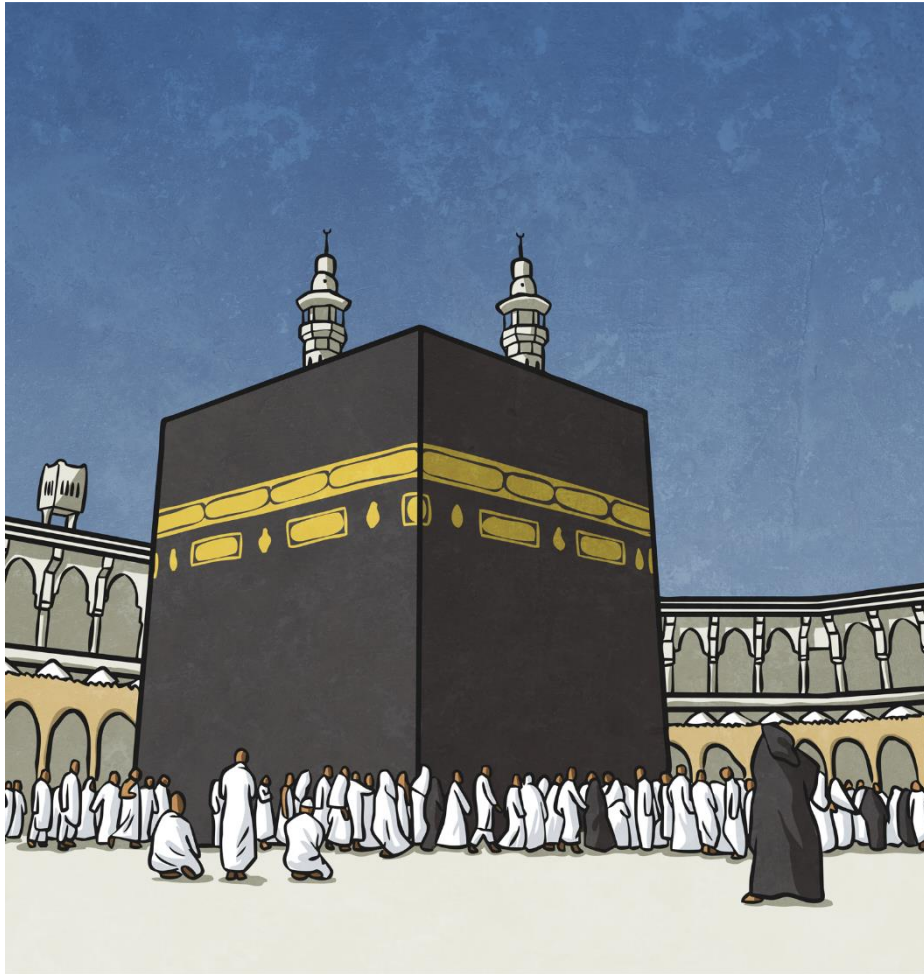


Muslims travel from across the world to Mecca. Most arrive by aeroplane from foreign countries.

Pilgrims wear the '**ihram**'. White cloth is worn, so all people are equal, whether rich or poor.



# Hajj



The pilgrims visit the Ka'bah in Mecca and walk around it seven times, **anticlockwise**.

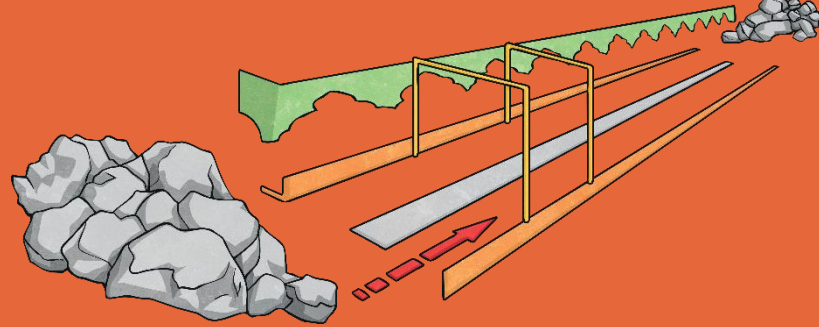
Muslims believe that the Ka'bah was built by the prophet Abraham and his son, Ishmail, **4000** years ago.

It is the first house built on earth to worship Allah and has been made larger over the years.

# Hajj

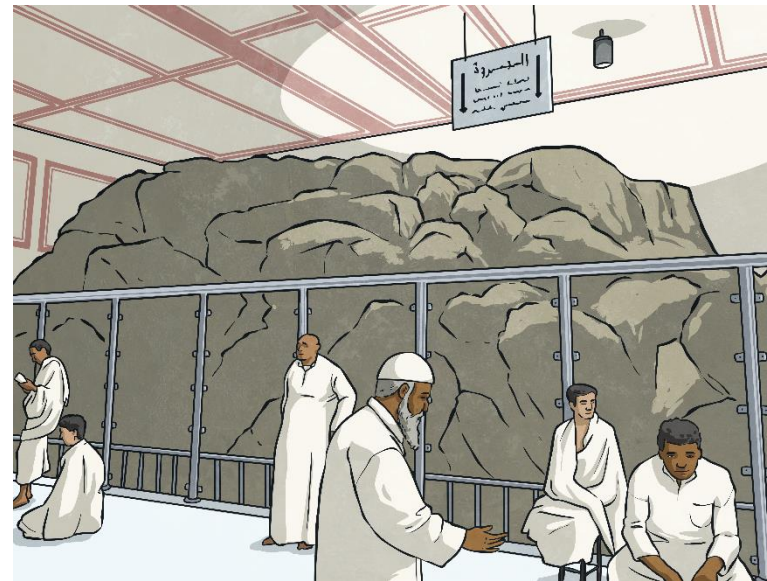


Safa and Marwah are two small hills, now located in the Masjid al-Haram in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, between which Muslims travel back and forth seven times during the Hajj pilgrimage.



This action helps the pilgrims to remember an important person in Muslim history. When Hagar and her son, Ishmail, were left in the desert without water, the story says that Ishmail dug his heels into the sand and a spring of water gushed forth.

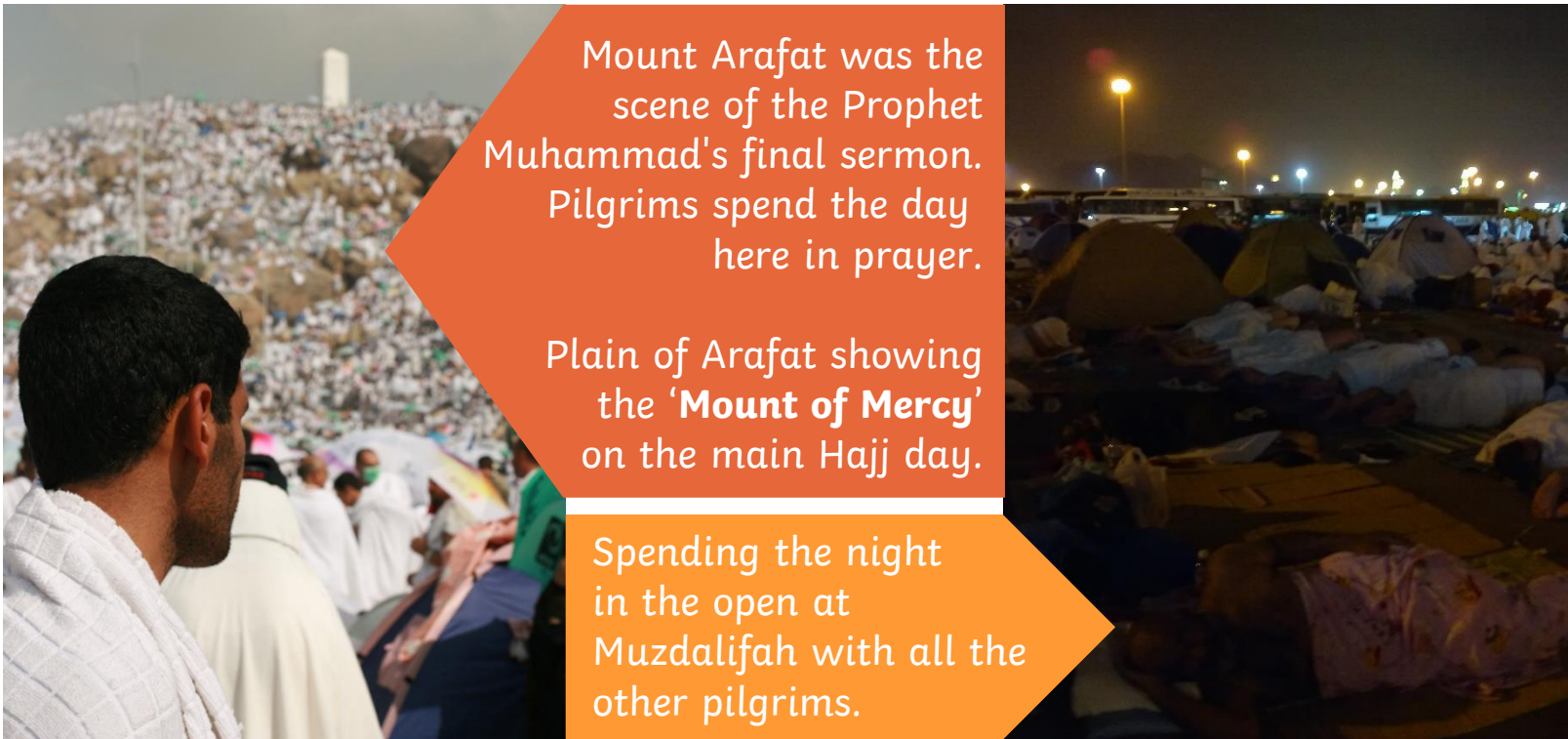
A well still remains here and pilgrims drink from it.



# Hajj



The pilgrims go to the plains of Mount Arafat to pray and spend a night in the plain of Muzdalifa. Pilgrims spend the night praying and sleeping on the ground with open sky, and gather pebbles for the next day's ritual of the stoning of the Devil.



Mount Arafat was the scene of the Prophet Muhammad's final sermon. Pilgrims spend the day here in prayer.

Plain of Arafat showing the '**Mount of Mercy**' on the main Hajj day.

Spending the night in the open at Muzdalifah with all the other pilgrims.

Photo courtesy of [aljazeeraenglish @flickr.com](#) - granted under creative commons licence

# Hajj



The Stoning of the Devil is where Muslim pilgrims throw seven pebbles at each of the three walls called *jamarāt*, in the city of Mina. It is believed that at this spot, the Devil appeared and Abraham threw stones to scare him off.

More than 100,000 tents provide accommodation to the pilgrims in Mina.



Photo courtesy of [aljazeeraenglish @flickr.com](#) - granted under creative commons licence

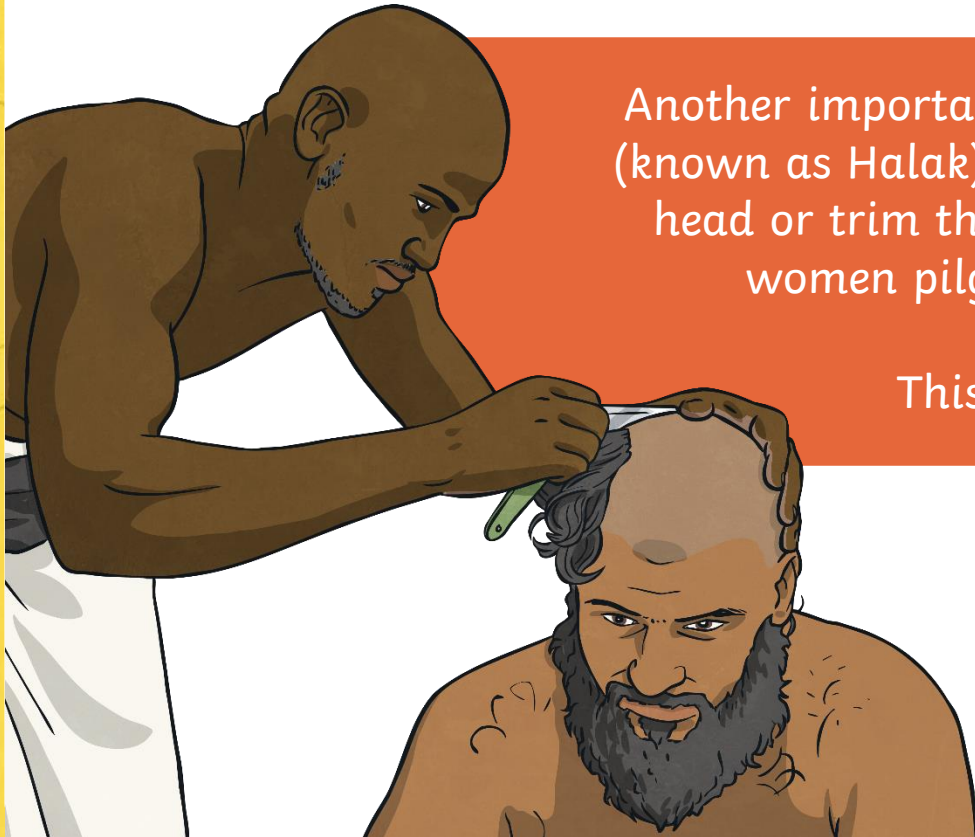
# Hajj



Animals are slaughtered to remember the story of Abraham and Ishmael. Traditionally, the pilgrims slaughtered the animal themselves but today many pilgrims buy a sacrifice voucher, which allows an animal to be slaughtered in their name.

Another important rite of Hajj is shaving heads (known as Halak). All male pilgrims shave their head or trim their hair on the day of Eid, and women pilgrims cut the tips of their hair.

This day is known as Eid-ul-Adha.



# Hajj



Finally, the pilgrims return to Mecca to the Ka'bah and circle it seven times again.



Once the pilgrims have completed all the rituals, they are given a new title. A man is now a 'Hajji' and a woman a 'Hajja'.

After a successful pilgrimage, pilgrims can prefix their names with the title 'Al-Hajji', and are held with respect in Muslim society.



Hajj brings together and unites the Muslims from different parts of the world, irrespective of their race, colour, and culture.

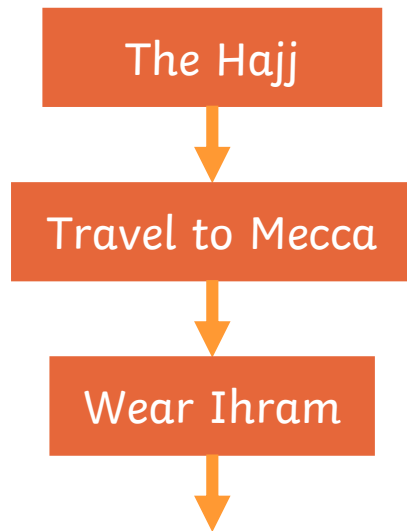
# Hajj Flowchart



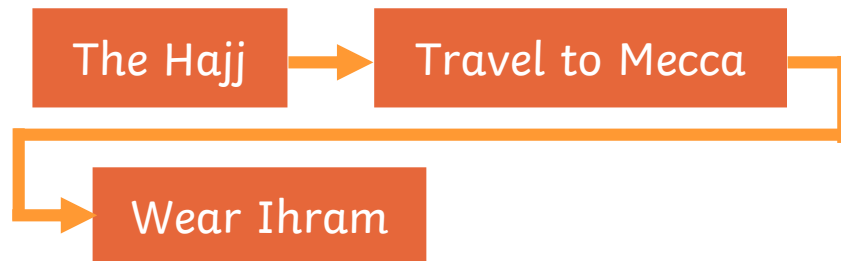
In your groups, use your notes to create a flowchart of events that take place during the Hajj.

There are different ways that you can create the flowchart:

1. Downwards:



2. Right to left (and the start on a new line):



Right to left and then left to right on a new line:



# Significance of the Hajj



What aspects of the Hajj pilgrimage does the video focus on?  
Why is the Hajj important to Muslims? How do you know?



# Aim



- I can explain the role of pilgrimage in Islam.

# Success Criteria

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- I can present the main events of the Hajj.

