The Cleansing of the Heart

1) Why is Halima referred to as ‘Muhammad’s foster mother’?
   a) Halima raised Muhammad as if he were her own son.
   b) Muhammad had no father.
   c) Halima felt bad for Muhammad because he was very poor.
   d) Muhammad could not remember where he came from.

2) After Muhammad is shown to weigh more than 1,000 people, the reader can conclude
   a) Muhammad was strong and responsible enough to be Allah’s last messenger on Earth.
   b) Muhammad was growing too fast.
   c) Muhammad could not be Allah’s messenger on Earth.
   d) The angels had still not found what they were looking for.

3) Which word best describes how Muhammad most likely feels at the end of the story?
   a) Worried
   b) Happy
   c) Honored
   d) Scared

Read this sentence from the passage:
“Then the angel took a black speck from Muhammad’s heart and threw it far away”

4) What can you infer the black speck removed from Muhammad’s heart represents?
   a) Sand from the desert
   b) Allah’s powers
   c) Dirt from the fields
   d) The devil’s evil powers

5) ‘The Cleansing of the Heart’ was most likely written to explain how
   a) Muhammad could not do Allah’s work on Earth.
   b) Allah made Muhammad pure and ready to spread His messages.
   c) Angels go about finding and choosing someone special.
   d) Allah was born a perfect man and needed no help.

Extra, Extra: What is the ‘Cleansing of the Heart’ similar to a tradition in another civilization we have studied? Explain how it is similar.
Two Stories, Two Cultures

Directions: Stories are told to help explain religion and beliefs of every culture. You are required to read two separate stories and reflect on them. Please complete worksheet and hand in for a grade.

These two stories are told to different children based on their religion. What are these two stories trying to explain? Why might they be important? Please write your thoughts below as you progress through the activity.

David and Goliath

Cleansing of the Heart

David and Goliath

Key Terms and Vocabulary
Saul: King of Israel
Philistines: enemies of the Israelites

Choose one word that best describes how Goliath most likely feels before fighting David. Give evidence from the story to support your answer.

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