

## PART 5

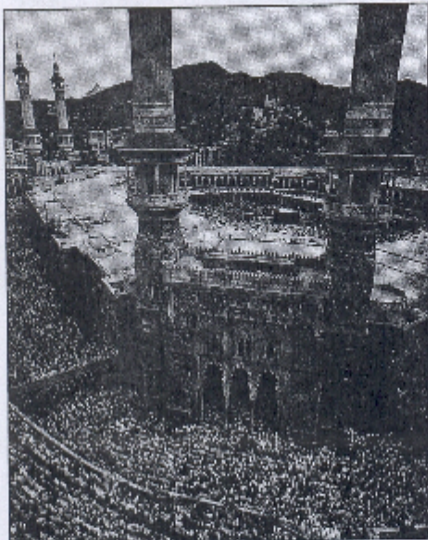
## Clause to Phrase Reduction; Agreement with Adjective Phrases and Clauses

### Setting the Context

**Prereading Questions** Islam is the “youngest” of the five major world religions. What do you know about Islam? Who founded it? When?

#### Islam

Beginning in Mecca about 610 c.e., Islam is the youngest of the great religions. It was founded by Muhammad, a respected and influential citizen of Mecca. Not feeling satisfied with success and security, Muhammad continued to search for answers to the many questions that bothered him. Finally, leaving friends and family, Muhammad sought the desert and its solitude. In the desert, an event occurred which changed his life and affected the history of the world. According to Islamic tradition, on a lonely night, the angel Gabriel appeared to Muhammad. Muhammad returned from the desert to proclaim the words of Allah, revealed to him by the angel. This event began the religion we now call Islam.



Millions of pilgrims at midday prayer at the mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.



A page from a 13th century Koran.

**Discussing Ideas.** Most religions have some form of meditation. Many great thinkers have gone to the desert or the mountains in order to be alone, to think, and to search for answers. What is the role of solitude in this search?

#### A. Appositives

Appositives are nouns or noun phrases that describe nouns. Nonrestrictive adjective clauses (clauses that use commas) can be shortened to appositives by eliminating the

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relative pronoun and the verb *be*. The order of the noun and the appositive can usually be reversed without affecting the meaning of the sentence. Appositives, like nonrestrictive clauses, are normally preceded—and may be followed—by commas.

	Examples
<b>Clause</b>	We recently met Dr. Carlson, <b>who is a professor of Islamic studies.</b>
<b>Appositive Phrases</b>	We recently met Dr. Carlson, <b>a professor of Islamic studies.</b> We recently met a professor of Islamic studies, <b>Dr. Carlson.</b>

**1** In the following sentences, change the adjective clauses to appositive phrases.

**Example:** The Koran, which is the sacred book of the Muslims, takes its name from the Arabic word meaning “recite.”

*The Koran, the sacred book of the Muslims, takes its name from the Arabic word meaning “recite.”*

1. The Koran is based on revelations to Muhammad, who was the founder of Islam.
2. The whole book, which is the length of the Christian New Testament, is memorized by many Muslims.
3. Those who memorize the Koran earn a special title, which is “Hafiz.”
4. The first chapter, which is *Sura 1*, is the most common prayer among Muslims.
5. The followers of Islam, who are perhaps 600 million worldwide, say prayers from the Koran five times each day.

**2** Summarize the information given in the preceding exercise by completing this sentence in your own words: *The Koran, . . .*

### B. Past Participial Phrases

Adjective clauses with verbs in the passive voice may be shortened to phrases that use the past participle. To form a phrase with a past participle, eliminate the relative pronoun and the verb *be* from an adjective clause.

	Examples
<b>Clause</b>	Dr. Carlson recently taught a course <b>that was called Islam and the Arts.</b>
<b>Phrase</b>	Dr. Carlson recently taught a course <b>called Islam and the Arts.</b>

**3** In the following sentences, change adjective clauses to phrases with past participles.

**Example:** Muslims follow a set of rules and traditions that is called the “Five Pillars of Islam.”

*Muslims follow a set of rules and traditions called the “Five Pillars of Islam.”*

1. The *shahada*, which is repeated each day, is the Muslim’s statement of faith.
2. The second pillar consists of prayers that are said five times a day while facing toward Mecca.
3. The third pillar is a donation of money that is determined by a Muslim’s income.

4. The fourth pillar is to fast during the ninth month of the Muslim calendar, which is known as Ramadan.
5. The last pillar of Islam is a pilgrimage to Mecca, which is made at least one time in a person's life if health and finances permit.

**C. Present Participial Phrases**

Some adjective clauses with verbs in the active voice may be shortened to phrases using present participles. The adjective clause must have *who*, *which*, or *that* in the subject position. To form a phrase, omit *who*, *which*, or *that* and use the present participle of the verb. The order of the noun and the phrase can often be reversed.

	Examples
<b>Clause</b>	Over 600 million people, <b>who represent</b> every race and continent, believe in Islam.
<b>Phrase</b>	Over 600 million people, <b>representing</b> every race and continent, believe in Islam.
<b>Clause</b>	Islam, <b>which began</b> in Arabia, spread quickly throughout the world.
<b>Phrases</b>	Islam, <b>beginning</b> in Arabia, spread quickly throughout the world. <b>Beginning</b> in Arabia, Islam spread quickly throughout the world.

- 4 In the following sentences, change the adjective clauses to phrases with present participles.

**Example:** Islam, which spread from Spain to Indonesia, brought new art forms to many parts of the world.

*Islam, spreading from Spain to Indonesia, brought new art forms to many parts of the world.*

**Or:** *Spreading from Spain to Indonesia, Islam brought new art forms to many parts of the world.*



Interior of mosque dome, Córdoba, Spain

1. Islam contributed to numerous art forms, which included weaving, painting, metalwork, literature, and architecture.
2. Islamic architects, who followed the plan of Muhammad's seventh-century house in Medina, designed magnificent mosques such as the Great Mosque in Córdoba, Spain, and the Royal Mosque in Isfahan, Iran.
3. A Muslim who travels in a foreign country will find the same design in all mosques.
4. Mosques may be large or small, but they have the same design, which consists of an open courtyard and enclosed prayer halls.
5. Artisans who work with ceramic, wood, and metal have created magnificent decorations, such as at the mosque in Medina.