

## Sura Rahman

1. **This sura is named after one of Allah's (swt) 99 beautiful names – Ar Rahman. What does this name teach us about Allah (swt)?**

Allah's (swt) mercy and compassion is unqualified, boundless and infinite. He is also The Most Loving and The Forgiver which shows how much Allah (swt) cares about each and every one of us and the whole of His creation. We can always go to Him for help with our problems, even if we have done something wrong. He is the greatest!

2. **How many times is the ayat فَبِأَيِّ آلَاءِ رَبِّكُمَا تُكَذِّبَانِ repeated in this sura? What is the translation of the ayat? And who is this verse addressing?**

This ayat, which translates as "So which of your Lord's favours do you two deny?" is repeated 31 times in this sura. It is addressing both human beings and jinn  
Note: the dual form in Arabic is used for the possessive pronoun (rubbukuma) and predicate

3. **According to this sura, what has Allah (swt) created humankind from? Give the ayat number.**

Dried clay – ayat #14

**According to this sura, what has Allah (swt) created Jinn from? Give the ayat number.**

Smokeless fire – ayat #15

4. **Of all the things Allah (swt) has blessed humankind with, which blessing does He highlight in ayat #4 and why?**

Speech. "Just as human beings are distinguished by their ability to know revelation, so too are they distinguished from all other creatures by the faculty of speech through which they both articulate and comprehend (Aj). Vv. 2-4 can also be taken as an allusion to God's honouring human beings by making the Quran, His very Word, something they are capable of learning and reciting..." (The Study Quran by Seyyed Hossein Nasr)

**List 10 other blessings Allah (swt) has given you.**

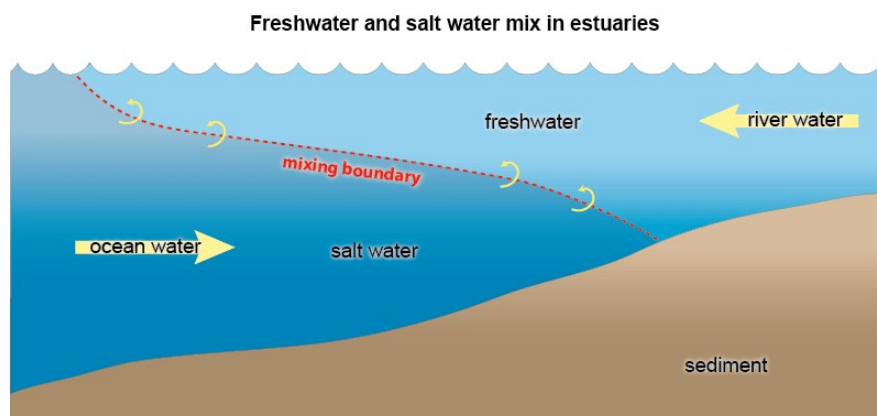
There are many correct answers to this question as Allah (swt) has given us so much – here are just some! Sight, smell, ability to hear, family, health, food, a home, sunshine, water siblings, money to buy things, legs and the ability to walk/run, ability to run, parents, friends, brain to learn, rain, flowers, animals, individual talents such as being artistic or athletic, etc.

5. In ayat #6 of this sura, Allah (swt) tells us that everything from the trees to the stars worship and obey Him. Can you draw the trees and stars you see around you?



6. In this sura, Allah (swt) refers to “two seas” in ayats #19-20 which some scholars have interpreted as referring to ‘salt water’ and ‘freshwater’. Very briefly explain the science of the phenomenon described in these ayats.

At certain geographical points, salt water and freshwater meet but do not mingle/completely dilute each other. It is referred to as ‘brackish water’ and often occurs in estuaries – where rivers meet the sea. Because freshwater is less salty and less dense than water from the ocean, it often floats on top of the heavier salt water.



The reference to salt and freshwater is also made in what other ayats of the Holy Quran?

- Sura Furqaan (Sura #25): Ayat #53
- Sura Faatir (Sura #35): Ayat #12

7. Ayat #10 of this sura tells us Allah (swt) has put creatures on this Earth. List as many creatures as you can think of!

There are too many creatures (about 8.7 million species!) to name but here are just some of Allah’s (swt) creations: humans, jinn, angels, lion, elephant, cheetah, rhino, hippo, tiger, giraffe, zebra, leopard, chimpanzee, gorilla, orangutan, ostrich, buffalo, penguin, seal,

walrus, monkey, panda, snake, crocodile, kangaroo, koala, shark, dolphin, octopus, whale, seahorse, platypus, lynx, bear, racoon, otter, snail, ladybug/ladybird, spider, ant, bees, ducks, goose, wolf, moose, manatee, polar bear, camel, owl, blackbird, pigeon, crow, hummingbird, woodpecker, llama, jaguar, sloth, deer, monkey, turtle, starfish, flamingo, lobster, crab, butterfly. Did you think of any that I didn't? 😊

- 8. Scholars tell us that ayats 26-27 are the midpoint of the sura because the the ayats before it talk about this world and the ayats after it talk about the Hereafter. In your own words, what are these two important ayats telling us?**

The whole of the earth and everything on it, so all of creation, will eventually pass away and no longer exist. Only Allah (swt) – The Creator – will remain.

- 9. Explain ayat #29 using the following prompts:**

- a. **“Those in the Heavens”** = Angels
- b. **Define the word ‘entreat’** = ask someone sincerely and with intense conviction
- c. **What do scholars tell us Allah (swt) is ‘busy’ doing** = “Allah (swt) is constantly attending to requests made by those in the heavens and on earth” (The Study Quran by Seyyed Hossein Nasr)

**Now use the above information to summarise this ayat in your own words.**

Angels and humans and jinn are always praying to Allah (swt) for things such as help or forgiveness, etc. and Allah (swt) is always answering those prayers. So, if you ask Allah (swt) with sincerity, He will answer.

Note: “...those in the heavens are seen as supplicating on behalf of those on earth, while those on earth supplicate on behalf of themselves (Q).” (The Study Quran by Seyyed Hossein Nasr)

- 10. The description of Jannah in the latter part of this sura includes a mention of which two specific foods? Give the ayat number where they are mentioned.**

Ayat #68 – date and pomegranate