

Discursive Writing Resource

Question: Why is patience difficult but important?

1. Student Scaffold: Discursive Writing

Question

Why is patience difficult but important?

Introduction

General statement:

Patience is an important quality in Islam and everyday life.

Issue:

However, patience can be difficult because people often want quick results, easy answers or immediate comfort.

Thesis:

Although patience can be challenging, it is important because it helps Muslims control their emotions, trust Allah and make better choices.

Body Paragraph 1: Why Patience is Difficult

Point:

Patience is difficult because _____.

Evidence from reading:

In Reading _____, I learned that _____.

Explanation:

This shows that patience can be hard because _____.

Discursive sentence:

However, this difficulty may also help people grow because _____.

Body Paragraph 2: Why Patience is Important in Islam

Point:

Patience is important in Islam because _____.

Evidence from reading:

In Reading _____, the Qur'an or hadith teaches that _____.

Explanation:

This suggests that patience helps Muslims _____.

Discursive sentence:

Therefore, patience is not only about waiting; it is also about _____.

Body Paragraph 3: Patience in Everyday Life

Point:

Patience is useful in everyday life because _____.

Evidence from reading:

In Reading _____, I learned that _____.

Explanation:

This shows that patience can help with _____.

Discursive sentence:

On the other hand, patience does not mean doing nothing. It means _____.

Overall Judgement

After considering these ideas, patience is difficult because _____.

However, it is important because _____.

Overall, patience is valuable because _____.

Conclusion

Patience is not always easy, but it is an important part of faith and character. It helps Muslims face challenges, control their behaviour and trust Allah's wisdom.

2. Islamic Evidence Bank

Source	Evidence	How Students Can Use It
Qur'an 2:153	“O believers! Seek comfort in patience and prayer. Allah is truly with those who are patient.”	Use this to show that patience is important in Islam and connected to prayer.
Sahih al-Bukhari 6470	“No one is given a gift better and more comprehensive than patience.”	Use this to show that patience is a valuable quality.
Sahih Muslim 2999	If something good happens to a believer, they are grateful; if difficulty happens, they are patient, and there is good in that.	Use this to show that patience helps Muslims respond well to hardship.

3. Readings for Students

Students should read at least **three readings** and use ideas from them to compose their own discursive response.

Reading 1: Patience in the Qur'an

Patience is called **sabr** in Arabic. It means staying calm, strong and obedient to Allah during difficulty. Patience does not mean that a person has no feelings. A patient person may still feel sad, tired or frustrated, but they try not to let those feelings lead them to wrong actions.

The Qur'an teaches:

“O believers! Seek comfort in patience and prayer. Allah is truly with those who are patient.”
Surah al-Baqarah 2:153

This verse teaches that patience is connected to prayer. When Muslims face difficulty, they are encouraged to turn to Allah, ask for help and keep doing what is right.

Patience can be difficult because people often want problems to disappear quickly. A student may want to understand a lesson straight away. A child may want their parent to answer immediately. A person may want a hardship to end as soon as possible. However, life does not always move according to what people want.

From an Islamic perspective, patience helps a Muslim remember that Allah knows what people do not know. Sometimes, waiting teaches strength. Sometimes, a delay protects a person from harm. Sometimes, a difficulty helps a person become wiser, kinder or more grateful.

Therefore, patience is not weakness. It is a form of strength. It helps Muslims stay connected to Allah during both easy and difficult times.

Questions

1. What does **sabr** mean?

2. Why can patience be difficult?

3. What does Qur'an 2:153 teach Muslims to do during difficulty?

4. How can patience make a person stronger?

5. Which idea from this reading could you use in your discursive response?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult because people want problems to disappear quickly, but it is important because it helps Muslims seek help from Allah and keep doing what is right.

Reading 2: Patience in the Teachings of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ taught that patience is one of the greatest qualities a Muslim can have. In an authentic hadith, the Prophet ﷺ taught:

“No one is given a gift better and more comprehensive than patience.”

Sahih al-Bukhari 6470

This means patience is not a small quality. It is a powerful gift that helps people deal with life. A person who has patience can respond calmly instead of becoming angry. They can continue trying instead of giving up. They can trust Allah instead of losing hope.

Another authentic hadith teaches that the situation of a believer is amazing. If something good happens, the believer is grateful. If something difficult happens, the believer is patient, and this is also good for them.

However, patience is not always easy. When a person is hurt, disappointed, tired or treated unfairly, it can be hard to remain calm. Sometimes people want to complain, argue or rush into a decision. This is why patience requires effort and self-control.

In Islam, patience does not mean accepting wrong behaviour without action. A Muslim can be patient while still trying to solve a problem. For example, if someone is being treated unfairly, they can speak respectfully, ask for help and try to fix the situation without becoming rude or harmful.

Therefore, patience is important because it helps Muslims act with wisdom, not just emotion.

Questions

1. Why is patience described as a great gift?

2. What can patience help a person do?

3. Why is patience difficult when someone is upset?

4. Does patience mean doing nothing? Explain.

5. What can this reading teach us about controlling emotions?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when emotions are strong, but it is important because it helps Muslims respond with wisdom and self-control.

Reading 3: Patience in Everyday Life

Patience is not only needed during major hardships. It is also needed in everyday life. Children need patience when learning something new, waiting for their turn, helping younger siblings, completing chores, or trying again after making a mistake.

For example, learning Qur'an, spelling, maths or writing can take time. A student may not understand everything immediately. If they become frustrated and give up, they may stop improving. However, if they practise patiently, they can slowly become better.

Patience is also important in family life. At home, people may disagree, feel tired or become annoyed. A patient person tries to pause before speaking. This can prevent hurtful words. It can also help families solve problems more peacefully.

Still, patience can be difficult because people often prefer quick comfort. Waiting, practising and staying calm all require effort. It is easier to react quickly than to think carefully. This is why patience is connected to self-control.

In a discursive response, it is important to consider both sides. Patience is difficult because it asks people to control their emotions and wait for results. However, it is important because it helps people learn, improve relationships and make better choices.

From an Islamic perspective, patience becomes even more meaningful because it is not only about personal success. It is also a way of pleasing Allah and building good character.

Questions

1. Where might children need patience in everyday life?

2. Why does learning require patience?

3. How can patience help families?

4. Why is reacting quickly sometimes a problem?

5. What everyday example could you use in your own paragraph?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult because it requires self-control, but it is important because it helps people learn, improve relationships and make better choices.

Reading 4: Patience When Learning Qur'an

Yusuf wanted to memorise a short surah quickly. He listened carefully, repeated the first ayah, and tried to recite it without looking. However, he kept forgetting one word. Each time he made a mistake, he felt more frustrated.

“I should know this by now,” he thought.

His mother reminded him that learning Qur'an is not a race. She told him that every careful repetition matters. Yusuf slowed down. Instead of trying to memorise the whole surah at once, he worked on one ayah at a time. He repeated it softly, checked his pronunciation, and made dua for Allah to help him.

By the end of the week, Yusuf had not memorised as much as he first wanted. However, he had learnt something important: patience helps a person improve properly. If he rushed, he might memorise incorrectly. If he gave up, he would not improve at all.

Patience was difficult because Yusuf wanted quick success. However, it was important because it helped him learn with care, respect and consistency.

Questions

1. Why was Yusuf frustrated?

2. How did patience help him learn Qur'an better?

3. Why is rushing not always helpful?

4. What could Yusuf write in a discursive paragraph about learning?

5. What is one balanced sentence you could write from this reading?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when learning takes longer than expected, but it is important because careful effort can lead to better results.

Reading 5: Patience with a Younger Sibling

Amina was trying to complete her writing task. She had finally thought of a good sentence when her little brother came into the room and asked her to help him find his toy car.

“At the worst time!” she thought.

At first, Amina wanted to snap at him. She felt annoyed because she had already been interrupted twice that morning. But then she paused. She remembered that younger children often need help and do not always understand when others are busy.

Amina took a deep breath and said, “I can help you for two minutes, then I need to finish my work.”

She helped him look under the couch, found the toy, and returned to her desk. It took longer than she wanted, but she felt calm afterwards because she had not spoken harshly.

Patience did not mean ignoring her own work. It meant responding kindly while still setting a limit.

Questions

1. Why was patience difficult for Amina?

2. Did patience mean she stopped doing her own work completely?

3. How did she show both kindness and responsibility?

4. How could this example be used in a discursive response?

5. What does this reading teach about speaking kindly?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when people interrupt us, but it is important because it helps us speak kindly and avoid regret.

Reading 6: Patience During Home Schooling

During home schooling, Bilal found fractions difficult. He understood addition and subtraction, but fractions felt confusing. One morning, he looked at the worksheet and sighed.

“I’m just not good at this,” he said.

His father reminded him that struggling with a topic does not mean someone is unable to learn it. It may simply mean the topic needs more time. They used pieces of paper to fold halves, quarters and eighths. Slowly, Bilal began to see how fractions worked.

The first day was still hard. The second day was a little easier. By the third day, Bilal could answer some questions by himself.

This experience taught him that patience is often uncomfortable at the start. It can feel slow and even embarrassing. However, patience gives the brain time to understand. Without patience, Bilal may have stopped before he had the chance to improve.

Questions

1. Why did Bilal feel discouraged?

2. What helped him understand fractions?

3. Why is patience important when learning something hard?

4. What is one sentence you could use in your discursive writing?

5. How does this reading connect to home schooling?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when learning feels confusing, but it is important because improvement often happens slowly.

Reading 7: Patience When Waiting for Eid

The last few days of Ramadan felt very exciting. Mariam wanted Eid to arrive quickly. She thought about visiting family, wearing nice clothes and eating special food. Each day felt long.

When the community waited for the moon sighting announcement, Mariam kept asking, “Is it Eid tomorrow yet?”

Her grandmother smiled and said, “Waiting can teach the heart.”

Mariam did not fully understand at first. Later, she realised that waiting made Eid feel more special. It also reminded her that Muslims do not choose Eid only by excitement. They follow the Islamic calendar and wait for the new month to be confirmed.

Patience was difficult because Mariam was excited. However, it was important because it helped her respect the worship of Ramadan, the moon sighting process and the timing set by Allah.

Questions

1. Why was Mariam impatient?

2. What did waiting teach her?

3. How does this reading connect to moon sighting?

4. How can excitement make patience difficult?

5. What does this reading teach about respecting Islamic time?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when people are excited, but it is important because it teaches respect for Allah's timing.

Reading 8: Patience When Plans Change

Omar's family planned to visit his cousins on Saturday. He had been looking forward to it all week. On Saturday morning, it began raining heavily, and the trip was cancelled.

Omar felt disappointed. He had imagined the whole day and did not want to stay home. For a few minutes, he complained. Then his father reminded him that Muslims can feel disappointed, but they should try not to let disappointment control their behaviour.

Omar decided to make the best of the day. He helped prepare lunch, read a book and played a board game with his siblings. The day was not what he expected, but it was still good.

Patience did not remove Omar's disappointment. Instead, it helped him respond to disappointment in a better way.

Questions

1. Why was Omar upset?

2. Did patience mean he was never disappointed?

3. What did patience help him do?

4. What does this reading show about changing plans?

5. How can disappointment test patience?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when plans change, but it is important because it helps people respond calmly instead of angrily.

Reading 9: Patience When Someone Is Unfair

Hassan was playing a game with his cousins. One cousin blamed him for losing, even though it was not his fault. Hassan felt his face become hot. He wanted to shout back.

Instead, he stayed quiet for a moment. He knew that if he shouted, the argument would become worse. After a short pause, he said, "I don't think that was fair, but we can talk about it calmly."

His cousin did not apologise straight away, but the argument did not grow. Later, when everyone had calmed down, they spoke about it properly.

This shows that patience does not mean accepting unfairness silently forever. Hassan still explained his view. However, he chose a better time and a better way.

Patience was difficult because he felt hurt. It was important because it helped him avoid making the problem bigger.

Questions

1. Why did Hassan want to shout?

2. How did patience help the situation?

3. Did patience mean he ignored the problem?

4. What does this teach about controlling anger?

5. How can someone be patient and still speak up respectfully?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when someone is unfair, but it is important because it helps people respond with wisdom.

Reading 10: Patience with Chores

Sara had to clean her room before she could read her new book. She looked at the clothes, papers and toys on the floor and felt annoyed.

“It will take forever,” she said.

Her mother suggested that Sara divide the job into smaller steps: first clothes, then books, then rubbish, then the desk. Sara still did not enjoy the chore, but it became easier when she focused on one step at a time.

After she finished, her room felt peaceful. She realised that patience is not only needed for big problems. It is also needed for ordinary responsibilities.

Patience was difficult because the chore felt boring. However, it was important because it helped Sara complete her responsibility properly.

Questions

1. Why did Sara dislike the chore?

2. How did breaking the job into steps help?

3. Why do ordinary responsibilities require patience?

4. What could this reading add to a discursive response?

5. How can patience help with boring tasks?

Useful discursive idea:

Patience is difficult when tasks are boring, but it is important because it helps people complete their responsibilities.

4. Reading-to-Discursive Point Guide

Discursive Point	Best Readings to Use	Useful Idea
Patience is difficult because people want quick results.	Readings 1, 4, 6	Learning and improvement take time.
Patience is difficult when emotions are strong.	Readings 5, 8, 9	Anger, excitement and disappointment make patience harder.
Patience is important in Islam.	Readings 1, 2, 7	Patience connects to faith, prayer and trust in Allah.
Patience helps with learning.	Readings 4, 6	Careful practice leads to improvement.
Patience helps family relationships.	Readings 5, 8, 10	It helps people speak kindly and complete responsibilities.
Patience does not mean doing nothing.	Readings 2, 5, 9	A person can be patient while still acting wisely.
Patience helps people respond calmly.	Readings 8, 9	It prevents problems from becoming worse.
Overall judgement	All readings	Patience is hard, but it builds faith, character and self-control.

5. Planning Notes

My Main Ideas

The main reason patience is difficult:

The main reason patience is important:

One Qur'an or hadith evidence I can use:

One everyday example I can use:

My overall judgement:

Although patience is difficult because _____, it is important because _____.

7. Sentence Starter Bank

Introducing an Idea

- One reason patience is difficult is...
- Patience can be challenging because...
- Some people may find patience hard when...
- From an Islamic perspective, patience is important because...

Using Evidence

- In Reading ____, I learned that...
- This connects to the Qur'an because...
- The hadith teaches that...
- This example shows that...

Explaining Both Sides

- However, patience is still important because...
- On the other hand, patience does not mean...
- Although patience can be difficult, it can help people...
- This suggests that patience is not weakness, but...

Making a Judgement

- Overall, patience is valuable because...
 - After considering these ideas, patience appears important because...
 - Therefore, patience helps Muslims...
 - Patience may be difficult, but it is necessary because...
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8. Final Writing Task

Write a discursive response to the question:

Why is patience difficult but important?

Your response should:

- explain why patience can be difficult
 - explain why patience is important in Islam
 - use at least **one Qur'an or hadith reference**
 - use at least **one real-life example** from the readings
 - include an overall judgement
 - use respectful and balanced language
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9. Paragraph Scaffold

Introduction

Patience is _____.
However, patience can be difficult because _____.
Although patience can be challenging, it is important because _____.

Body Paragraph 1

One reason patience is difficult is _____.
In Reading ____, _____.
This shows that _____.
However, this difficulty can help people grow because _____.

Body Paragraph 2

Patience is important in Islam because _____.
The Qur'an / hadith teaches that _____.
This suggests that _____.
Therefore, patience is not only about waiting; it is also about _____.

Body Paragraph 3

Patience is useful in everyday life because _____.

In Reading ____, _____.

This example shows that _____.

On the other hand, patience does not mean doing nothing. It means ____.

Overall Judgement

Overall, patience is difficult because _____.

However, it is important because _____.

For Muslims, patience is valuable because _____.
