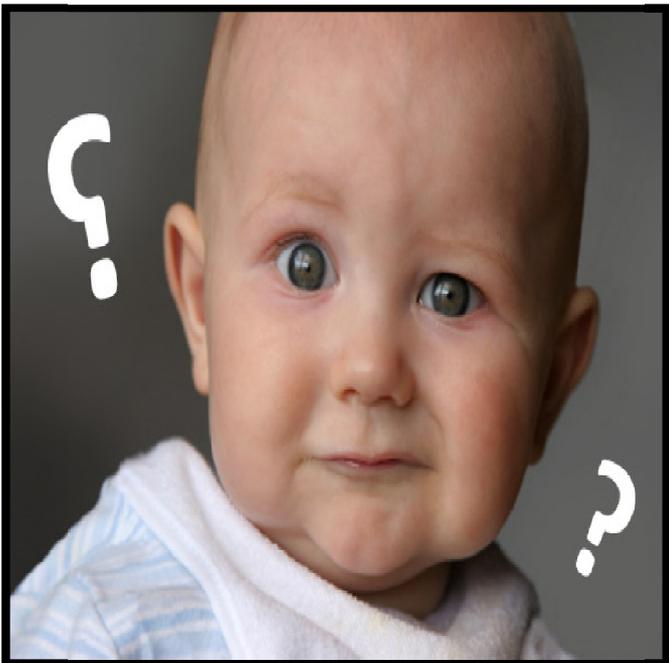
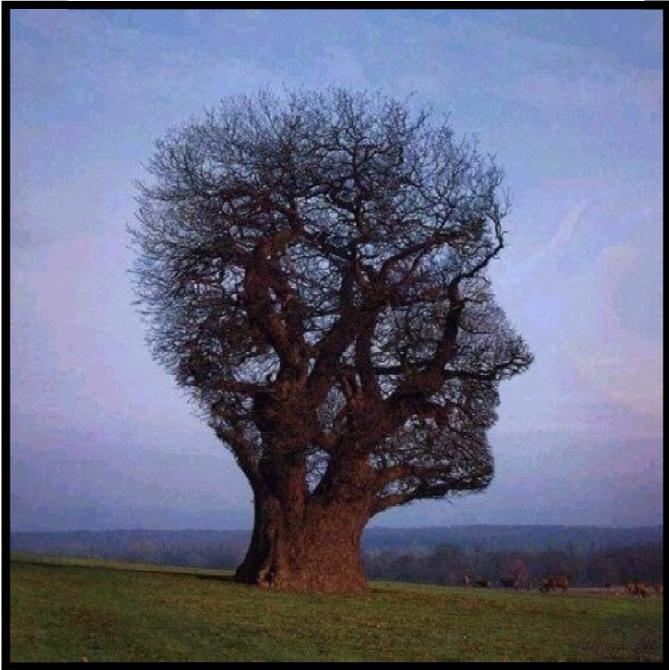
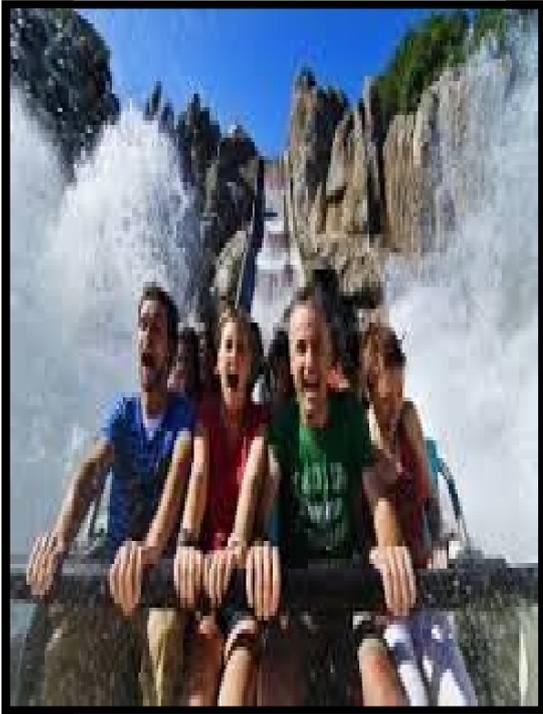


## Oldest Koran Fragments found in Birmingham University

### Student Materials





## Class Survey

	(name)	(name)
Name 2 things which you are frightened of?	1. 2.	1. 2.
What is the most interesting book you have ever read?		
What do you like to do when you are bored?		
Where is the most relaxing place you have ever been?		
What exciting things have happened to you this week?	1. 2.	1. 2.
What things get you annoyed?	1. 2.	1. 2.
What is the most frightening experience you have ever had?		
Name 2 things you are interested in?	1. 2.	1. 2.
Name 2 people you think are annoying?	1. 2.	1. 2.
What subject do you find the most boring?		


### Vocabulary Building Table

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-ed	-ing

### Vocabulary Building Table

-ed	-ing

-ed	-ing

## Vocabulary List

Amused	Amusing	Frustrated	Frustrating
Astonished	Astonishing	Inspired	Inspiring
Challenged	Challenging	Overwhelmed	Overwhelming
Convinced	Convincing	Relieved	Relieving
Disgusted	Disgusting	Satisfied	Satisfying
Embarrassed	Embarrassing	Shocked	Shocking
Exhausted	Exhausting	Thrilled	Thrilling
Fascinated	Fascinating	Worried	Worrying

## Reading - 'Oldest' Koran fragments found in Birmingham University

### Student A

What may be the world's oldest fragments of the Koran have been found by the University of Birmingham.

Radiocarbon dating found the manuscript to be at least 1,370 years old, making it among the earliest in existence.

The pages of the Muslim holy text had remained unrecognised in the university library for almost a century.

The British Library's expert on such manuscripts, Dr Muhammad Isa Waley, said, "this is an exciting discovery and Muslims the world over would be thrilled."

He added that this is probably the most interesting piece in the library now and we are so pleased to have found it; however, we are mystified about how it remained undiscovered for so long.

When a PhD researcher looked more closely at these pages it was decided to carry out a radiocarbon dating test and the results were "startling".

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### Student B

The university's director of special collections, Susan Worrall, said researchers were amazed when they discovered its true age.

"Finding out we had one of the oldest fragments of the Koran in the whole world has been fantastically amazing."

These tests provide a range of dates, showing that, with a probability of more than 95%, the parchment was from between 568 and 645.

"The person who actually wrote it could well have known the Prophet Muhammad. He would have seen him probably, he would maybe have heard him preach. He may have known him personally - and that really is quite a thought to conjure with," he says.

Prof Thomas says that some of the passages of the Koran were written down on parchment, stone, palm leaves and the shoulder blades of camels - and a final version, collected in book form, was completed in about 650. The detail and quality is fascinating and I felt. captivated just by looking at it.