

"Only Allah SWT knows!" game: **M1-F1 Creation of Universe**

Instructions:

Before the class

- Print out the X copies of the eight "Reflection Cards" (Page 2) on card stock paper where X is the number of students in your class divided by 8. Cut and keep them ready together with the material required as contained in cards 5 to 8
- Print "Student Reflection" sheet (page 3), one each for each student in the class

In the class

- Give each student a "Student Reflection" sheet
- Instructions to the students:
 - Each "Reflection Card" has a number and their "Student Reflection" sheet is also numbered.
 - The "Reflection Cards" have questions and a card will be placed face down before each student. When the teacher says "start" pick up the card.
 - Each student will have a minute to read the question and write the first answer that comes to mind before the teacher will say "pass". The student will pass their card on to the student on their right (point out how the cards will circulate)
 - Each student should go through the cards in such a way that their 8 questions are answered.

The teacher will observe that the students are amazed or confused at the total inability to answer any question.

The realization then that only Allah SWT is capable of creating everything in the universe.

Talk about how important it is to recognize and appreciate our Creator!

Discuss the story of Abil Awja and his debate with Imam Sadiq (AS). Some details are on page 4 but the aspect pertinent here is

"If you were created, then how would you be?"

Discuss the concept of designing your own body from scratch with no aspect being the same as what it is today.

REFLECTION CARDS

<p>1. How many cells do you have in your body?</p>	<p>2. How many leaves are there on all the trees on earth?</p>
<p>3. How many thoughts have passed in your brain the whole of last year?</p>	<p>4. Who was your great great grandfather's uncle's best friend?</p>
<p>5. How many air molecules are there in this?" (Attach a small empty sealed plastic bag at one end the of this card)</p>	<p>6. How many grains of threads have been used to make this fabric?"(attach a small piece of cloth in one corner of this card)</p>
<p>7. How many eyes does this insect have?" (Attach picture of a grasshopper on this card)</p>	<p>8. How many sand particles are there on earth? Can you count the sand grains in this plastic bag? (attach a tiny bag filled with sand, sealed well, on the card).</p>

STUDENT REFLECTION

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	

Imam Jafar as-Sadiq AS - Debate With Abil Awja

Abil Awja first of all had a narrow-minded nature; secondly the company of Hasan Basri had further spoilt his belief, therefore doubts and conjectures used to fill his mind all the time. In addition to being an atheist, this fellow was also brash and foul-tongued. One day he came to Imam Ja'far as-Sadiq (a.s) and said, "I don't understand how long the Hajj pilgrims would continue to trample the land of Mecca and how long would they continue to worship these stones and rocks? How long would they continue to run around it like runaway camels? Are these not actions of ignorant and stupid people? As you are the Imam of the Muslims and the son of the founder of Islam, give me a satisfactory reply."

Imam (a.s) said, "O man! You have not reflected on the actual matter. The Ka'ba is the protected sanctuary through which the Almighty Allah tests His slaves, because this House is associated with Him. Therefore it is emphasized to respect and visit it. It is appointed as the place of worship for prophets and the direction of prayers of religious people. This house is the channel of His mercy and the medium of salvation. He created this house two thousand years before the creation of the world. The dignity of our slavehood is only that we follow each and every command of Allah and let the purpose for which the Ka'ba is created, be fulfilled."

Awja said, "I am sorry to say that you have associated this house to such a personality whose existence, I refuse to believe. How can one believe in the existence of something, which is unseen? And till one does not believe, there is no question of obeying His commands."

Imam (a.s) said, "You do not use your intellect. He is present and seeing everywhere and at every moment; and is nearer to you than your jugular vein. He listens to what we say and sees us and He knows the secrets of our hearts."

He said, "First prove His existence....."

[The full text of this debate can be found in <http://www.al-islam.org/akhlaq-al-aimma-morals-manners-holy-imams-maulana-sayyid-zafar-hasan-amrohi/knowledge-ahl-ul-bayt#debate-abil-awja>

This part can be used in a class discussion]

Imam Sadiq (as) debate with Ibn Abil Awja

Ibn Abi al-'Awja' came in to Imam al-Sadiq, peace be on him, and he asked him:

-O Ibn Abi al-'Awja', are you created or not?

-I am not created.

-If you were created, then how would you be?

So Ibn Abi al-'Awja' became perplexed and gave no answer. (Al-Tabrasi, al-Ihtijajj. Bihar al-Anwar.)

<http://anecdotesofahlulbayt.blogspot.ca/2014/06/ibn-abi-al-awja-came-in-to-imam-al.html>