CANDIDATES’ ITEM RESPONSE ANALYSIS REPORT FOR THE CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION (CSEE) 2019

014 BIBLE KNOWLEDGE
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD ........................................................................................................................................ iv

1.0 INTRODUCTION .................................................................................................................. 1

2.0 ITEM RESPONSE ANALYSIS FOR EACH QUESTION .................................................. 2

2.1 SECTION A: Multiple Choice and Matching Items ......................................................... 2

2.1.1 Question 1: Multiple Choice Items .............................................................................. 2

2.1.2 Question 2: Matching Items ......................................................................................... 14

2.2 SECTION B: Short Answer Items .................................................................................... 16

2.2.1 Question 3: The Life of Abraham ................................................................................. 16

2.2.2 Question 4: Paul’s Missionary Journeys .................................................................... 21

2.2.3 Question 5: Jesus’ Ministry ......................................................................................... 27

2.2.4 Question 6: Jesus’ Ministry ......................................................................................... 31

2.2.5 Question 7: General Introduction: Jewish Institutions and Sects/Parties. ................ 35

2.2.6 Question 8: Jesus in Jerusalem .................................................................................... 38

2.2.7 Question 9: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus .................................................... 41

2.2.8 Question 10: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus .................................................. 45

2.3 SECTION C: Essay Type of Questions ............................................................................. 48

2.3.1 Question 11: The Fall of Man and its Outcome ......................................................... 48

2.3.2 Question 12: Israel under the Leadership of Joshua ................................................ 54

2.3.3 Question 13: Witnessing in Jerusalem ...................................................................... 58

3.0 ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES’ PERFORMANCE IN EACH TOPIC ......................... 62

4.0 CONCLUSION ....................................................................................................................... 62

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS .......................................................................................................... 63

Appendix ......................................................................................................................................... 64
FOREWORD

The Candidates’ Item Response Analysis Report for the Certificate of Secondary Education Examination (CSEE) 2019 provides feedback to the public on the performance of candidates in Bible Knowledge subject. It intends to show what the candidates have or have not achieved in their four years of ordinary level secondary education.

This report is intended to give an understanding of some of the reasons which contributed to the performance of the candidates and highlights some of the factors that made candidates to have a high or low performance in the examination. The factors for high performance include the ability of the candidates to identify, write according to the requirements of the questions and express themselves well in English language as well as having adequate knowledge of biblical facts, concepts, themes, events, stories, and important persons. On the contrary, the factors for low performance include the failure of candidates to identify, understand and adhere to the requirements of the questions as well as being unable to express themselves in English language. They also had inadequate knowledge of the Biblical facts, concepts, themes, events, stories and important persons. It is hoped that the feedback provided will enable the educational stakeholders to take proper measures in order to improve the candidates’ performance in future examinations administered by the Council.

Finally, the National Examinations Council of Tanzania would like to thank all those who participated in the preparation of this report.

Dr. Charles E. Msonde
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
1.0 INTRODUCTION

The 2019 Bible Knowledge Certificate of Secondary Education Examination (CSEE) 2019 was held on Thursday, 14th November 2019. There was a total of 14,481 registered candidates, of which 14,300 (98.89%) sat for the examination. Among these, 12,435 (87.94%) passed and 1,706 (12.06%) failed. This performance is higher by 2.29 per cent when compared to the 2018 performance which had 14,009 candidates of which, 11,858 (84.65%) passed and 2,151 (15.35%) failed.

The examination tested the candidates’ competences as stipulated in the Bible Knowledge Syllabus issued in 2012. The examination paper consisted of sections A, B and C with a total of thirteen (13) questions. The candidates were required to attempt all questions in Section A, five (5) questions from Section B, including questions 3 and 4 which were compulsory and two (2) questions from Section C. Section A carried twenty-five (25) marks, Section B forty-five (45) marks and Section C thirty (30) marks.

The performance of the candidates in this report is regarded as good, average and weak if the percentages of the candidates’ scores range from 65 to 100, 30 to 64 and 0 to 29 per cent. The scores are represented in the figures by green, yellow and red colours respectively.

This report provides the analysis of each question by giving an overview of what the candidates were required to do, the general performance and the likely reasons for their performance. Sample extracts of candidates’ correct and incorrect responses are presented in order to illustrate how the candidates responded to each item. This is followed by the analysis of candidates’ performance per topic, conclusion and recommendations. A summary of the candidates’ performance per topic has been appended.
2.0 ITEM RESPONSE ANALYSIS FOR EACH QUESTION

Candidates were required to attempt nine (9) questions out of thirteen (13) questions. The total number of candidates was 14,300.

2.1 SECTION A: Multiple Choice and Matching Items

This section comprises two (2) questions, which were compulsory. Question 1 comprised twenty (20) multiple choice items from various topics and Question 2 had five matching items from the topic of *Paul’s Missionary Journeys*.

2.1.1 Question 1: Multiple Choice Items

This question was set from various topics from the Old Testament and the Acts of the Apostles. The candidates were required to choose the correct answers for items (i) to (xx) and write its letter in the booklet(s) provided.

This question was compulsory and it was attempted by 14,298 (99.99%) candidates and their performance was good as 49.70 per cent scored from 13 to 20 marks, 43.03 scored from 6 to 12 marks and 7.27 per cent scored from 0 to 5 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 1.

![Figure 1: The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 1](image)

The analysis shows that 92.73 per cent of the candidates performed well. These candidates chose the correct answers in 6 to 20 items and scored from average to high marks. These candidates had sufficient knowledge of Biblical facts, concepts, themes, events, stories, places and important persons. They also had adequate knowledge on the topics from which the
items were set. On the contrary, 7.27 per cent scored below average (ranging from 0 to 5 marks) because they made choices which exhibited their lack of knowledge on the topics from which the items were set. The following is the analysis of candidates’ responses to item (i) to (xx):

In item (i) the candidates were given a statement: *Paul was strict and displeased while Barnabas was sympathetic and persistent with John Mark, who had not stayed with them to the end of their mission (Acts 15:36-41).* Then they were asked: *What does Barnabas teach you as members in your societies?*

A  We need and depend on one another despite our weaknesses.
B  We should accept only good people.
C  We should pay evil for evil against those who err against us.
D  We should not be too harsh but somehow judgmental.
E  We should preach the gospel to all the people equally.

The candidates who chose the correct answer A, “We need and depend on one another despite our weaknesses” had sufficient knowledge of the topic of *Paul’s Missionary Journeys*. Those who failed to score in this item had inadequate knowledge about the events in Paul’s second missionary journey and did not understand the requirements of the question. Most of the candidates were attracted by distracter E, “We should preach the gospel to all the people equally.” This shows that the candidates did not know that Paul disagreed with Barnabas on taking John Mark with them as they were going to revisit the newly evangelised areas. They did not know that disagreement led into separation which formed two pairs of missionaries: Barnabas and John Mark who went to Cyprus; and Paul and Silas to Syria and Cilicia for the sake of strengthening the churches. Therefore, they were unable to show the lesson from Barnabas’ attitude.

In item (ii) the candidates were given a statement: *The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania strictly prohibits the unlawful acquisition (gaining) of material things.* Then they were asked: *With reference to the Decalogue (Exodus 20:15), how is this prohibition relevant?*

A  Do not take someone’s property without permission.
B  Do not use someone’s property for evil purposes.
C  Do not accept someone’s property.
D  Do not become a false witness against your neighbour.
E  Do not use your authority to obtain illegal properties.
A considerable number of candidates chose the correct answer A, “Do not take someone’s property without permission.” This shows that the candidates understood the requirements of the item. However, those who provided wrong choices such as B, C, D and E did not know the interpretation of the commandment, “You shall not steal” or did not know the Ten Commandments of God in general.

In item (iii) the candidates were asked: According to Paul’s speech to the church elders at Ephesus (Acts 20:33-35), what notable thing can you recommend from his life and ministry to inspire Tanzanians in implementing the motto “Hapa kazi tu”?  
A  Paul was devoted in preaching the gospel with all efforts.  
B  Paul planted more churches than any other apostle.  
C  Paul worked with his own hands to support his life, ministry and the needy.  
D  Paul relied on the churches to support his life and ministry and the needy.  
E  Paul acquired many companions so as to support his life ministry and the needy.

The correct choice was C, “Paul worked with his own hand to support his life, ministry and the needy.” Most of those who provided incorrect choices were confused with distracter A, “Paul was devoted in preaching the gospel with all effort”, which does not reflect the slogan “Hapa kazi tu.” This shows that the candidates failed to relate the motto, “Hapa kazi tu.” with Paul’s Speech to the Church elders in Ephesus.

In item (iv) the candidates were asked: Which one is a correct set of methods used by Pharaoh to reduce the number of the Hebrews in Egypt?  
A  Killing Hebrews and casting male babies away from their mothers.  
B  Making the lives of Hebrew male babies difficult and killing them.  
C  Providing poor services to Hebrews and casting their male babies into the river.  
D  Stop helping Hebrew mothers from giving birth and leave them to die.  
E  Striking male Hebrews and taking their daughters as wives for Egyptians.

Many candidates chose the correct alternative C, “Providing poor services to Hebrews and casting their male babies into the river” indicating that
they were familiar with the topic of *The Hebrews in Egypt*. Other candidates failed to score in this item. Most of them were attracted by A, “Killing Hebrews and casting male babies away from their mothers.” This shows that the candidates did not know the hardships experienced by the Hebrews in Egypt and had insufficient knowledge on the topic of *The Hebrews in Egypt*.

In item (v) the candidates were asked: *Which excuse did Moses put forth against God’s calling (Exodus 3:11-4:17)*?

A  He was too young to stand before the elders.
B  He was ignorant on leadership.
C  He was not confident about his security.
D  He was unable to speak well.
E  He was afraid of conflicts with the Egyptians.

The correct response for this item was D, “*He was unable to speak well.*” Most of the candidates opted for the correct choice indicating that they had adequate knowledge about the call of Moses. Conversely, there were few candidates who provided wrong answers. Those who chose option A, did not know that Moses was grown up, that is, 40 years when he fled from Egypt to Midian (Exodus 2:11, compare Acts 7:23) and that he was called after many years’ stay in Midian where he married Zipporah who bore him the son Gershom (Exodus 2:22-23). So, he was not too young. Those who chose B, did not know that Moses was trained as a leader in Pharaoh’s palace and began showing leadership traits right away (Exodus 2:11-14). Choices C and E were also incorrect because none of them was said by Moses as part of his excuses. This shows that the candidates had inadequate knowledge about the call of Moses.

In item (vi) the candidates were asked: *What did the Israelites do which was of the highest value of appreciation as a reminder for what God did (the Lord’s saving act) when Pharaoh refused to let them go?*

A  Consecration of the firstborn of Israel.
B  Possession of Egyptians' firstborn.
C  Offering of the firstborn of animals.
D  Rescue of the firstborn of Israel.
E  Circumcision of the firstborn of Israel.
Most of the candidates chose the correct answer A, “Consecration of the firstborn of Israel” as they were familiar with the response of the Israelites towards God who commanded the Israelites to consecrate to Him the firstborn (Exodus 13:1) for the deliverance from Egyptian bondage. However, some of the candidates provided wrong choices, such as B, C, D and E, which implies that they did not know that the act of the highest value of appreciation as a reminder for what God did (the Lord’s saving act) when Pharaoh refused to let them go was the consecration of the firstborn and the offering required for the consecration of the firstborns of Israel. This indicates that the candidates had inadequate knowledge of Biblical facts and events.

In item (vii) the candidates were asked: What did God promise to Abraham?
A To make him rich, be loved by people and people to help him.
B To give him land and offspring, make him a great nation and bless him.
C To make him a father of faith, a great nation and give him a son.
D To give him a son, a family and make him a king.
E To make him a great, wonderer and hero.

The correct answer was B, “To give him land and offspring, make him a great nation and bless him,” which most of the candidates chose, implying that they were familiar with the topic The Life of Abraham. However, there were some candidates who provided wrong answers, A, C, D and E, showing that they did not know what God promised Abraham (Genesis 12:1-4).

In item (viii) the candidates were given a statement: In the book of The Acts of the Apostles, there are qualifications set to those who were to be chosen as deacons. Then they were asked: What do we learn from this election process?
A We must have some guiding qualifications in the selection of leaders.
B We must choose more powerful leaders to help us in our lives.
C We must look for spiritual leaders only in order to get good ones.
D We must vote for leaders in order to get good ones.
E We must choose leaders who have ability to pray.
The appropriate lesson learnt from the process of election of deacons was choice A, “We must have some qualifications in the selection of leaders.” Most of the candidates made the right choice, implying that they had adequate knowledge about the election of the seven deacons in Acts 6. On the contrary, some of the candidates provided wrong choices such as B, C, D and E, indicating the candidates’ failure to make a thorough evaluation of the choices given in relation to the requirements of the question.

In item (ix) the candidates were asked: With reference to the Ten Commandments as shown in Exodus 20:1-17, how can God's laws reveal sin and give the standard of righteousness in the society today?

A By reading, studying and putting the word of God into practical sense.
B By listening to people who are well trained in the word of God.
C By reading and explaining the biblical message to others.
D By going to churches and share the word of God through listening to the sermon.
E By attending seminars and singing songs that encourage ethical conduct.

Many candidates made the correct choice A, “By reading, studying and putting the word of God into practical sense.” Conversely, there were few candidates who made wrong choices B, C, D and E, which implies that they had insufficient knowledge and skills in making application of the word of God in their day to day life.

In item (x) the candidates were asked: What justifies that Moses disobeyed the Lord at the waters of Meribah?

A Striking the rock instead of commanding it.
B Commanding the rock instead of striking it.
C Striking the rock twice instead of striking once.
D Striking the rock once instead of striking twice.
E Striking the rock with hands instead of the rod.

The correct answer was A, “Striking the rock instead of commanding it,” which few candidates were able to choose. These candidates had adequate knowledge of the topic of the Israelites’ Journey through the Desert.” On the contrary, the majority candidates wrote C, while others chose B, D and
E which, according to Numbers 20:11, are incorrect because God told Moses to tell the rock not to strike it.

Item (xi) was: *What would happen to the children of Israel if Joshua's order to the twelve tribes of Israel to take up stones and pass on before the ark would not take place?*

A  The Israelites would be defeated in war.
B  God would punish the twelve tribes of Israel.
C  Joshua would be very angry.
D  The children of Israel would not remember what happened.
E  The Ark of the Covenant would be destroyed.

Few candidates chose the correct answer D, “*The children of Israel would not remember what happened.*” A considerable number of candidates provided the correct response indicating that they had adequate knowledge of the events when the Israelites were crossing the Jordan (Joshua 3:1-4:24). Majority of the candidates were attracted by distracter B, “God would punish the twelve tribes of Israel” while others chose E, “The ark of the covenant would be destroyed.” This indicates that the candidates had inadequate knowledge about the topic of *Israel under the Leadership of Joshua* and, specifically, the events at the Jordan and God’s order to put a memorial monument to remind the new generations that “Israel passed over this Jordan on dry ground…” (Joshua 4:22-24).

In item (xii) the candidates were asked: *What was the important work which Joshua did after he had defeated the powerful enemies of Israel?*

A  Leading the Israelites back to Egypt.
B  Dividing the Israelites into twelve tribes.
C  Leading the enemies of Israel to another land.
D  Leading the Israelites to conquer more land.
E  Dividing the conquered land among the twelve tribes.

The candidates who had sufficient knowledge on the important work which Joshua did after defeating the powerful enemies of Israel chose the correct choice E, “*Dividing the conquered land among the twelve tribes.*” These candidates showed familiarity with the topic of *Israel under the Leadership of Joshua*. However, those who were not conversant with the topic wrote A, B, C and D.
In item (xiii) the candidates were asked: Which of the duties of the pastors of today would you consider to relate to that of the Levites as revealed in Joshua 8:33-35?

A  Preaching and teaching people with spiritual problems.
B  Preaching and teaching the gospel of prosperity from God.
C  Preaching and teaching people the word of God.
D  Preaching and teaching the gospel of miracles of God.
E  Preaching and teaching about God's anointing oil.

This item tested the candidates’ ability to apply classroom knowledge to real life experiences. They had to relate the duties of the pastors today and that of the Levites as revealed in Joshua 8:33-35. Most of the candidates provided the correct answer C, “Preaching and teaching the word of God,” implying that they were familiar with the topic of Israelites under the Leadership of Joshua. The candidates who chose A, B, D and E based their responses on the current popular preachers but not in relation to Joshua. This implies that the candidates were not familiar with the subject matter.

Item (xiv) was: Lydia said, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay” (Acts 16:15). What is the interpretation of the verse?

A  The act of kindness as a result of knowing Paul.
B  The act of generosity as a result of faith in Jesus Christ.
C  The act of generosity as a result of friendship with Paul.
D  The act of kindness as a result of Paul unwillingness to stay.
E  The act of pretending that she was very generous to guests.

This item tested the candidates’ ability to apply biblical teachings in solving their daily problems and draw from them ideas on how to be good citizens. Most of the candidates provided the correct answer B, “The act of generosity as a result of faith in Jesus Christ” which suggests that they had sufficient knowledge on the topic of Paul’s Missionary Journeys and understood the requirements of the question. On the other hand, few candidates chose the incorrect responses due to the fact that they did not achieve the required competence on making interpretation of Biblical texts.
In item (xv) the candidates were given a quotation: "...May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain God's gift with your money, you have no part or share in this for your heart is not right before God" (Acts 8:20-21). Then they were asked: Which two groups of people were involved in this dialogue?

A  An apostle and a magician.
B  A magician and a disciple.
C  An apostle and a disciple.
D  A magician and a believer.
E  A believer and an apostle.

This item tested the candidates’ ability to demonstrate the knowledge of Biblical stories, quotations, persons and occasion of the statements. Most of the candidates provided the correct choice A, “An apostle and a magician.” This shows that the candidates were familiar with the event of the encounter between Apostle Peter and Simon the Magician, who had been converted to Christianity, but seeing that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, the Magician wanted to buy the power of the Holy Spirit so that he might also lay hands on people for healing. Few candidates provided wrong choices because they were not familiar with Biblical events and important persons discussed in the Acts of the Apostles.

Item (xvi): Acts 8:1-3 narrates how the disciples were persecuted because of the Gospel and some were scattered to different places for preaching the word of God. What should disciples do if persecution comes in today's context?

A  Escape from preaching the word of God.
B  Go on preaching the Gospel without fear.
C  Stop those who persecute others.
D  Revenge against the persecutors.
E  Complain in favour of government’s protection.

The item tested the candidates’ ability to apply the biblical teachings in solving their daily problems and draw from them ideas on how to be good citizens. The majority of the candidates chose the correct answer B, “Go on preaching the gospel without fear” as they were able to contextualise
persecution in the time of the disciples in relation to the situation today. On the contrary, few candidates provided wrong choices as they failed to make application of the Biblical text.

In item (xvii) the candidates were asked: After wrestling with a man for the whole night, Jacob was given a new name. What was the meaning of the name given?

A  The one who has striven with angels and God and still prevailed.
B  The one who has striven with angels and soldiers and still prevailed.
C  The one who has striven with soldiers and God and still prevailed.
D  The one who has striven with God and men and still prevailed.
E  The one who has striven with angels and men and still prevailed.

In this item the candidates were supposed to demonstrate the knowledge of Biblical stories, persons and occasion of the statements, and ability to bring some interpretation. They were supposed to identify the new name of Jacob, that is, Israel and its meaning. Those who had sufficient knowledge of the life of Jacob, especially the event of wrestling with an angel (Genesis 32:22-32) identified the correct answer D, “The one who has striven with God and men and still prevailed.” On the contrary, there were few candidates who provided wrong answers indicating that they had inadequate knowledge of Biblical facts, concepts, events and important persons.

Item (xviii): From the beginning, the “Word of God” has been the foundation of everything. Which evidence do we have from God himself in the first story of creation (Genesis 1:1-2:4b)?

A  He created man and woman by using His word.
B  He created trees of life by using His word.
C  He created the Garden of Eden by using His word.
D  He created the four rivers in the garden by using His word.
E  He created all living creatures by using His word except man.

A good number of candidates provided the correct response E, “He created all living creatures by using His word except man.” This implies that they were familiar with the subject matter. On the other hand, there were few candidates who provided wrong choices and most of the candidates who provided wrong answers, wrote A, “He created man and
woman by using His word.” This suggests that the candidates had inadequate knowledge on creation stories.

In item (xix) the candidates were given a quotation: “Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit…” (Acts 2:38). Then they were asked: How did the audience respond to this message of Peter on Pentecost day?

A They ran away from Jerusalem.
B They stoned him and all the believers.
C They were forced to repent and be baptised.
D They rejected Peter’s message and abused him.
E They repented and were baptized.

Those who knew the Pentecost event were able to choose the correct answer E (They repented and were baptized). The candidates were conversant with Peter’s speech which led to the conversion and baptism of 3,000 people. However, there were few candidates who failed to identify the right choice and most of them wrote B, “They stoned him and all the believers.” This indicates that the candidates had inadequate knowledge about the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, especially the event of Pentecost.

Item (xx): God made a covenant with Noah in Genesis 8:21 not to curse the ground ever again so it became productive; still farmers today suffer from less productivity of the soil. What do you see as being the possible reason for the less productivity of the soil today?

A Abuse of fertilizer, growing weeds, foreign seeds and rodents.
B Abuse of fertilizer, growing weeds, good seeds and pesticides.
C Abuse of fertilizer, growing weeds, abuse of herbicides and pesticides.
D Abuse of fertilizer, growing seeds, early harvest and lack of market.
E Abuse of fertilizer, growing seeds, strong winds and composite manure.

The item tested the candidates’ ability to use the knowledge gained from the Bible to protect and preserve the environment. Few candidates provided the correct answer C, (Abuse of fertilizers, growing weeds, abuse of herbicides and pesticides), which shows that they were able to apply
classroom knowledge to real life experiences, especially about farming and use of fertilizer according to their context. On the contrary, most of the candidates failed to provide the correct answer. Those who chose A, did not know that “rodents” have nothing to do with the fertility of soil. The candidates who chose B did not know that “good seeds” are part and parcel of good production. Moreover, those who chose D did not know that “lack of market” cannot hinder soil productivity. Furthermore, choice E is incorrect because “composite manure” is best in the productivity of soil.

In general, the performance of the candidates in this question was good because the percentage of candidates who scored average marks and above was 92.71 per cent. These responded correctly in 6 to 20 items. They demonstrated the competence in the topics from which the items were set and understood the requirements of each item. Extract 1.1 is a sample of correct responses for question 1.

Extract 1.1: A sample of correct answers in question 1

In Extract 1:1, the candidate provided correct answers to all twenty items, showing that he/she had adequate knowledge of the topics from which the items were set.

The candidates who performed poorly provided incorrect answers to all the items, which might be due to language barrier and lack of knowledge of the Biblical texts. Extract 1.2 is a sample of incorrect answers in question 1.

Extract 1.2: A sample of incorrect responses in question 1.
In Extract 1.2, the candidate failed to provide correct answers for all twenty items in question 1, indicating lack of knowledge.

### 2.1.2 Question 2: Matching Items

This question was a compulsory one and it was set from the topic of *Paul’s Missionary Journeys*. The candidates were required to match the descriptions of persons in List A with their corresponding names in List B by writing the letter of the corresponding name beside the item number in the answer booklet provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List A</th>
<th>List B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(i) A prominent member of the Jerusalem church (Acts 15:22, 32) and a Roman citizen (Acts 16:38) who was sent by the church with Paul.</td>
<td>A      Timothy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) A resident of Philippi who was converted by Paul in Europe. She was a worshiper of God and her household was baptised (Acts 16:14-15).</td>
<td>B      Paul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) A good man and full of the Holy Spirit and faith and he was sent by the Jerusalem church to Antioch church (Acts 11:22-26).</td>
<td>C      Barnabas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv) A great apostle to the Gentiles. His Hebrew name is always used in Acts until his clash with Bar-Jesus at Paphos (Acts 13:6-10).</td>
<td>D      Silas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v) A man trained by the Apostle Paul and remained in Ephesus to solve problems of those who refused to see their own condition in the light of God (Acts 16:1-5).</td>
<td>E      Lydia</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>F      Titus</td>
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<td>G      Pricilla</td>
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The expected responses were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List A</th>
<th>(i)</th>
<th>(ii)</th>
<th>(iii)</th>
<th>(iv)</th>
<th>(v)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List B</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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This question was attempted by 99.96 per cent of the candidates, and the performance was good as 19.65 per cent scored from 4 to 5 marks, 50.14 per cent scored from 2 to 3 marks and 30.21 (10%) scored from 0 to 1 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 2.
The analysis shows that 69.79 per cent of the candidates performed well. These candidates matched correctly two to five items and scored from average to high marks. Although the general performance of candidates in this question was good, 50.14 per cent of them scored average marks ranging from 2 to 3 marks. These were able to match correctly two to three items only. This implies that the candidates had insufficient knowledge of the topic from which the items were taken.

Further analysis shows that 19.65 per cent scored high marks ranging from 4 to 5. Among those who scored high marks, 11.78 per cent matched all items correctly and scored 5 marks. These candidates had adequate knowledge of the topic of *Paul's Missionary Journeys* and, especially, the names of the important persons therein. Extract 2.1 is a sample of good responses in question 2.

**Extract 2.1:** A sample of correct responses in question 1.

In Extract 2.1, the candidate matched all five items correctly, indicating that he/she had adequate knowledge on the subject matter.

On the contrary, 30.21 per cent of the candidates failed to match the items correctly, scoring less than 2 marks. Among these, 8.44 per cent scored 0. This indicates that the candidates lacked knowledge of the topic of *Paul’s*
Missionary Journeys. Extract 2.2 is sample of responses of the candidate who matched incorrectly all the item.

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Extract 2.2: A sample of incorrect responses in question 2.

In Extract 2.2, the candidate was unable to match all the five items indicating that he/she was not knowledgeable about the topic and the names of the persons found in the topic of Paul’s Missionary Journeys.

2.2 SECTION B: Short Answer Items

This section comprised nine (9) questions. The candidates were required to answer five (5) questions including question 3 and 4 which were compulsory. Each question carried nine (9) marks making a total of 45 marks.

2.2.1 Question 3: The Life of Abraham

Question 3 was compulsory. The candidates were given the statement: “With Abraham we were made heirs of God by blood covenant through circumcision, with the covenant at Sinai we have been bound to being a unified nation with the law of God (Exodus 19:1-25, 20:24).” Then they were required to provide short answers for the following parts: (a) What is the significance of observing constitutional laws in Tanzania? Give two points. (b) In three points, show how people break national laws in your society. (c) Briefly describe three functions of the Judiciary in Tanzania. This question tested the candidates’ ability to apply Biblical instructions and teaching in their daily lives.

The question was attempted by 99.28 per cent of the candidates, and their performance was good as 70.45 per cent scored 6 to 9 marks, 21.84 per cent scored from 3 to 5.5 marks and 7.71 per cent scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. This performance is summarised in Figure 3.
The general performance of the candidates in this question was good as 92.29 per cent of the candidates who attempted it scored from average to high marks (ranging from 3 to 9 marks). The analysis shows that 70.45 per cent scored high marks. Among these, 5.06 per cent scored full 9 marks. These candidates provided correct responses to all three items. Moreover, 21.84 per cent of the candidates scored average marks because even if they knew the topic and understood the task of the question, they gave partial responses and scored from 3 to 5.5 marks out of 9 marks. On the contrary, 7.71 per cent of the candidates scored average marks ranging from 0 to 2.5 marks. Moreover, 2.53 per cent of the candidates scored 0 as they gave wrong answers to all the items. Their responses showed lack of knowledge of the topic of *The Life of Abraham*. The following is the analysis of the responses of the candidates on items (a) to (c):

Item (a) required the candidates to give two points on the significance of observing constitutional laws in Tanzania. The majority of the candidates provided relevant responses implying that they had adequate Biblical knowledge and application of the facts and themes. The correct responses given were *observing the constitutional laws helps the nation to be well governed* and *observing the constitutional laws brings order in the society*.

On the contrary, there were few candidates who failed to provide the significance of observing constitutional laws in Tanzania. For example, some of the candidates provided the meaning of the word “law” instead of giving the significance of the laws. For example, one of them wrote, “the
rules which all people in a country or a society must obey.” Another candidate wrote, (i) “It process and human to force people girl to go circumcision.” (ii) “They have leader call stop to circumcision people especially girls.” This implies that the candidates did not understand the requirements of the question.

In item (b), the candidates were asked to show how people break national laws in the society. Most of the candidates who attempted this item provided correct responses, indicating that the candidates understood the requirements of the question and had the competence because they made application of the text given. They wrote that *people break national laws by abusing power in leadership (corruption), failing to observe the rule of law, and by illegal business such as drug trafficking and money laundering.*

On the other hand, few candidates failed to show how people break national laws in the society. For example, some of them provided the causes for breaking national laws instead of indicating how people break national laws. Other candidates wrote irrelevant responses such as “people is poverty, have education and people is have ignorase.” This suggests that the candidates had inadequate knowledge of the subject matter due to poor language skills.

Item (c) required the candidates to describe three functions of the judiciary in Tanzania. The majority of the candidates provided incorrect responses to this item. The correct responses given by the candidates include: *to interpret the laws governing the United Republic of Tanzania, to provide education to the citizens about their rights and obligations and hearing cases and deciding upon them.*

Further analysis of candidates’ responses shows that some of them wrote the functions of the parliament and the executive instead of writing the functions of the judiciary. For example, one of the candidates wrote, “to make laws, to make the speaker.” Another candidate wrote, “to make new laws, to make budget of the country.” This implies that the candidates had inadequate knowledge about the functions of the judiciary in Tanzania.

In general, the performance of the candidates in this question was good. Their responses exhibited that they understood the requirements of the
question and had adequate knowledge of the topic of *The Life of Abraham.*

Extracts 3.1 is a sample of correct responses in question 3.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>a. Significance of observing constitutional laws in Tanzania:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i. Observing constitutional laws in Tanzania helps promote peace and harmony within our country; it is because by observing laws there is usually no need of the use of coercive approaches in handling different matters of the country.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii. Observing constitutional laws in Tanzania helps promote national development; this is because people are usually just, faithful, and honest in all social, political, and economic activities; by being just it ensures both increase in material productivity and social welfare.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><strong>b. How people break laws/national laws in my society:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i. By engaging in corruption, people break laws by taking part in unlawful acquisitions and access to services that are entitled to all citizens by the use of money or property bribery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ii. By threatening the national peace through revolution against the state government; by doing so people break the law that “Each citizen is required to take part in ensuring the maintenance of peace and order. This is done by the anti-government troops of people.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>iii. By taking part in criminal activities such as theft, robbery, and stealing; by doing so people break the law since criminal acts are regarded as very serious and offensive practices in the nation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Extract 3.1: A sample of correct responses in question 3.

In Extract 3.1, the candidate provided relevant answers for question 3, indicating that he/she understood the question and knew the topic of *The Life of Abraham*.

As depicted in the analysis of candidates’ performance in this question, 2.53 per cent of the candidates scored 0 because they gave wrong answers to all the items. Extract 3.2, is a sample of incorrect answers in question 3.

Extract 3.2: A sample of incorrect responses in question 3.
In Extract 3.2 the candidate provided incorrect responses to all parts. This shows that the candidate did not understand the requirements of the question and lacked knowledge on the subject matter.

2.2.2 Question 4: Paul’s Missionary Journeys

Question 4 was also compulsory. It was preceded by the scenario: *In Acts 16:16-21, Luke narrates the story of an innocent girl being possessed by the evil spirit. Paul healed her in the name of Jesus because of her faith in God.* Then, with reference to the event represented by this scenario; the candidates were required to provide short answers for (a) *How effective is the Church in addressing the problems of girls in your society?* (b) *What can you do to help the less privileged girls in your society?* (c) *Evaluate the measures taken by the government against those who abuse women.*

This question was attempted by 99.92 per cent of the candidates who sat for the Bible Knowledge examination and their performance was good as 23.66 per cent of the candidates scored from 6 to 9 marks, 51.02 per cent scored from 3 to 5.5 marks and 25.32 per cent scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 4.

![Figure 4: The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 4](image)

The analysis shows that the general performance of the candidates who attempted this question was good because 74.68 per cent of the candidates scored from 3 to 9 marks. Among them 51.02 per cent scored average marks that is 3 to 5.5 marks. Most of them provided unfinished responses
(with no details) while others repeated the points. The following is the analysis of the candidates’ responses to parts (a) to (c):

Part (a) required the candidates to explain how effective the Church is, in addressing the problems of girls in the society. Most of the candidates provided relevant points explaining how effective the Church is, in helping girls. This indicates that the candidates had adequate knowledge of the topic of Paul’s Missionary Journeys and ability to apply classroom knowledge to real life experiences. They were able to use what was taught in the classroom to evaluate the effectiveness of the church in today’s context.

The correct response given by candidates include: *The Church has done a lot to help girls to discover their dignity through the establishment of schools both formal and non-formal, health centers, nursing schools and developing them as social workers and teachers of religion. However, the efforts by the church have not reached the level of combating the problems the girls. The girls are still tied up by norms and customs which encourage early marriage, physical violence, child labour and lack of education.*

Despite the good performance in this question, there were some candidates who provided their comments without details while others made a comparison between the Church and the Society instead of evaluating how effective the Church is in helping girls. Others wrote irrelevant points which implied that they did not understand the requirements of the question. For example, one of the candidates wrote, “This is due don’t follow the rule of the church it can cause to have the problem that facing people.” Another one wrote, “Effective is the church in addressing the problems of girls because of sin of another people.” This indicates that the candidates had inadequate knowledge and did not comprehend the requirements of the question.

In part (b), the candidates were required to explain what they could do to help the less privileged girls in the society. Most of the candidates delivered relevant points as required by the question indicating that they were familiar with the topic and understood the requirements of the question. They correctly wrote: *by identifying the cause or source of their suffering, providing them with entrepreneurship skills like tailoring,*
gardening and business and by imparting education so that they may be resourceful in their respective societies.

Few candidates only listed the less privileged groups in their societies like the albinos, lame, deaf, dumb and blind people instead of telling what they would do to help the less privileged girls. This shows that the candidates failed to understand the demands of the question, which suggests that they had inadequate knowledge of the topic.

Part (c) required the candidates to evaluate the measures taken by the government against those who abuse women. Few candidates provided relevant and evaluative points. The correct response include: *The government does the best to identify the doers of the offenses and brings them before the law for prosecution (trial). After this it offers maximum penalty. However, despite the commendable efforts by the government, the abuse of women still continues. The government should, therefore, broaden the spectrum of its efforts like looking into cultural factors that contribute to the prevalence of the abuse.*

The majority were unable to evaluate the measures taken by the government against those who abuse women. Instead of evaluating the measures taken by the government against those who abuse women, some of them discussed the functions of the parliament, executive and judiciary. Other candidates gave advice to the government on what to do in order to stop the abuse of women instead of evaluating the measures which the government has already taken. One of the candidates wrote, “Government should make laws for the people who abuse women, should educate women on how to help others who get disaster and report to the elders in the society.” This indicates that the candidates did not understand the requirements of the question.

Nevertheless, the general performance of the candidates in this question was good as most of the candidates who attempted it scored average to high marks. Most of them demonstrated their ability to identify and to adhere to the tasks of the question, and had adequate knowledge of the topic of *Paul’s Missionary Journeys*. Extract 4.1 is a sample of correct responses in question 4.
In Acts 16:16-18, Paul is seen to heal a girl who was possessed by an evil spirit. The evil spirit enabled her to prophesize, thus she was exploited by her masters. With reference to the event, the following are points showing how the Church is effective in solving problems of girls in society:

The Church has been able to build schools especially for girls to study. Due to sex preference in society, girls are underrepresented, hence not taken to schools as boys. To solve this problem, the Church has built schools in different regions. For Catholic schools, girls in Moeya and Dares Saloon.

The Church has been able to provide employment to girls. The Church is providing employment such as tailoring and teaching to these girls who are capable but underemployed.

The Church is against the bad traditions against girls such as FGM. The Church protests vigorously against the bad traditions through Seminars and seminars held in different parts of the world. For example, the Church provides health services to girls who are raped and circumcised to save their lives. The hospitals built by the Church treat girls with different problems thus reduce the death rate of girls.
4. To help the less privileged girls in my society, I will do the following:

- I will start tuition programs for those girls who are not taken to school. Because I am privileged to get education, I will share my knowledge with other girls so as to build a better future generation. The tuition programs will be held without costs.

- I will start different programs so as to assist the government in revoluting against bad traditions such as FGM and early marriage. As a girl, I will fight for the rights of my fellow girls by starting an educational program in the society known as "A Girl is a Mother of the Nation so let's protect her!"

- I will donate some of my scarce resources such as books, clothes to these girls who don't have enough clothes and basic needs. Street children girls need help because they lack proper dresses hence get sick frequently or raped. This is as a responsible Tanzanian I will help my fellow girls in my society.

5. The current and past government have taken very strict measures against those who abuse women. The following are the measures that are taken by the government:
Extract 4.1: A sample of relevant responses in question 4.

In Extract 4.1, the candidate provided relevant responses in question 4. The responses show that the candidate was familiar with the topic and understood the requirements of the question.

The candidates who performed poorly by scoring 0 provided incorrect answers to all parts of the question. Some of them did not understand the requirements of the question due to language barrier. Others failed due to lack of knowledge of the topic of *Paul’s Missionary Journeys*. Extract 4.2 is sample of incorrect responses.

In Extract 4.2, the candidate wrote responses which showed that he/she did not understand the requirements of the question.

2.2.3 Question 5: Jesus’ Ministry

In this question the candidates were given the statement; *In his teaching, Jesus gave the parable of the mustard seed which a man sowed in the garden and grew into a big tree on which birds made nests (Luke 13:18-19)*. Then they were required to provide short answers to the following: (a) *Explain what the terms "seed" and "garden" stand for in the parable.* (b) *What does Jesus expect of people by telling them such a parable?* (c) *Why should people use parables to teach modern people?*

The question was optional and it was attempted by 77.20 per cent of the candidates who sat for the Bible knowledge examination. Their performance was good as 48.12 per cent of the candidates scored from 6 to 9 marks, 35.70 scored from 3 to 5.5 marks and 16.18 scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 5.
The analysis shows that the general performance of the candidates in this question was good as 83.82 per cent of the candidates scored from 3 to 9 marks. Among these, 48.12 per cent scored high marks. Their responses were exhaustive and in good English language. Those who performed averagely provided partial responses which deserved 2.7 to 5 marks. The remaining 16.18 per cent scored low marks as they provided responses irrelevant responses. The following is the analysis of the candidates’ responses to parts (a) to (c):

In part (a) the candidates were required to explain what the term “seed” and “garden” stand for in the parable stated. Most of the candidates provided the correct responses, showing that they were familiar with the parable of the Mustard Seed. The candidates were able to express their points clearly. The correct answers given by candidates were: *The “seed” represents the word of God and the “garden” represents the hearts of the people.*

On the contrary, some candidates failed to define the term seed and the garden with reference to the parable. For example, some of the candidates defined seed as grains to be planted and the garden as the place where someone can plant seeds. There were varieties of incorrect answers. For example, one of the candidates wrote, “Because the garden men can snake to see the big tree when can put eat the fruits.” In this response the candidate seems to refer the parable to the Garden of Eden, which was not
the case. This implies that the candidates lacked knowledge and understanding on Jesus’ parables.

In part (b) the candidates were required to explain what Jesus expected of the people by telling them such a parable. An average number of the candidates provided the required responses, which shows that the candidates were familiar with the topic of Jesus’ Ministry and were able to express their points clearly. The correct answers provided were such as: *Jesus expects the people to receive the word of God or to become his disciples. Jesus expects the people who have received the word of God to bear fruits, that is, to grow spiritually. Jesus expects those who have received the word to live the life that attracts other people.*

The other candidates failed to explain what Jesus expected of people who listened to him. For example, some of them wrote that Jesus expected people to enter into the kingdom of God while others wrote that Jesus expected people to love each other. One of the candidates wrote, “Jesus expected of the people planted fruits in our garden so that to be a rich.” This candidate wrote what he/she knew about gardening but not about the parables of Jesus. This implies that the candidate had inadequate knowledge of the topic and had failed to understand the requirements of the question.

In part (c) the candidates were required to explain the reason as to why people should use parables to teach modern people. There were few candidates who provided correct responses to this item. The reasons written were such as: *to attract the attention of the people. To easily recall what is taught in parables and live by it. To provoke people to think, interpret and find the way forward by making them to choose the right direction and to persuade people to make the right decision of accepting God.*

Most of the candidates who attempted this question defined what a parable is instead of telling as to why parables should be used to teach people. One candidate wrote, “The people use parables to teach modern who responding the family. They will people to death, they will be to contract them.” This indicates that the candidates did not know Jesus’ parables and the purpose of Jesus to use parables in teaching.
All in all, the performance in this question was good because most of the candidates scored from 3 to 9 marks. They understood the requirements of the question and demonstrated their ability to interpret the parables of Jesus. Extract 5.1 is a sample of correct responses given by a candidate in question 5.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>05</th>
<th>Seed: Is the word of God that is planted in the hearts of people. Garden: Are different hearts of people who hear the word of God.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>By telling such parable Jesus expect us to bear his word and bear fruits from his blood so that we can reach the eternal life.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>People use parable so as to make people understand faster. People should use parables so as to convey the attention of people.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Extract 5.1: A sample of correct answers in question 5.

In extract 5.1, the candidate provided the correct meaning of seed and garden, explained what Jesus expected of the people and explained as to why we should use parables in teaching.

Conversely, the candidates who performed poorly in this question failed to define the terms “seed” and “garden.” They also failed to explain the expectations of Jesus by telling the parable. They were unable to show the importance of applying the method of teaching in parables to the modern people. Extract 5.2 is a sample of incorrect responses in question 5.
5. “Seed’ - Is the thing which make people to co
ntrol and make people to allow the same place
which control in the society.

Garden - Is the place which Jesus said with
Adam and even which make people to susted
in the garden of eden and make adam and eve
to control the garden of eden.

b) I think expect of people by telling a parable because
this parable it very important in to the people it
enach people to have aware to god and make co
ntrol to the people and allow to support people
to have good way through garden.

c) Because the adam and eve was not follow
the rule of gods which was give them to people
use this parables to teach modern people because
people that were not follow rules of gods.

Extract 5.2: A sample of incorrect answer to question 5.

In Extract 5.2, the candidate provided the incorrect meaning of seed and
garden, failed to state what Jesus expected of the people and as to why we
should use parables in teachings.

2.2.4 Question 6: Jesus’ Ministry

This question began with the statement, Six days later after Peter’s
confession, Jesus took Peter, James and John to the high mountain where
he was transfigured and there appeared two heavenly beings as recorded
in Matthew 17:1-13; followed by items (a) What other events took place on
His transfiguration? (b) Who were the "two heavenly beings" and what did
each symbolise? (c) As a Bible reader, how would you use this information
to justify to a non-believer who Jesus really is?

The question was optional and it was attempted by 49.44 per cent of the
candidates. Their performance was good as 24.20 per cent scored from 6 to
9 marks, 43.56 per cent scored from 3 to 5.5 marks and 32.23 scored from
0 to 2.5 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 6.
Figure 6: The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 6

The analysis shows that the general performance of the candidates in this question was good as 67.8 per cent of the candidates scored from 3 to 9 marks. Of these, 24.2 per cent scored high marks because most of them gave correct answers to almost all items. However, 43.6 per cent scored average marks because their responses were not exhaustive. Most of those who scored low marks (about 19.73 per cent) scored 1.5 marks and below. The following is the analysis of the candidates’ responses for parts (a) to (c):

In (a), the candidates were required to explain other events which took place when Jesus was transfigured. A considerable number of candidates correctly wrote: *His face shone like a sun, his garments became white like light/sun, bright cloud overshadowed them, and the voice from the cloud/heaven was heard*, showing that they had adequate knowledge about Jesus’ transfiguration.

On the contrary, some candidates had difficulty in expressing the events. For example, one of the candidates wrote, “other events took place on his transfiguration Peter who took Jesus to comming the Matthew who to relation to comeiteng there destroyed.” Another candidate wrote, “They have been in are explaining the biblical message others.” This implies that the candidates had inadequate knowledge about the subject matter and did not comprehend the requirements of the question due to lack of English language reading and writing skills.
In (b) the candidates were required to identify the two heavenly beings and explain what each of them symbolised. Many candidates identified the two heavenly beings as Moses and Elijah, and that Moses symbolised the Law and Elijah symbolised the prophetic era.

However, there were candidates who failed to identify the two heavenly beings and what each represented, indicating that they did not know anything about the transfiguration of Jesus. For example, one of the candidates wrote, “two heavenly beings are Angle Gabriel and Mikael. They come to gurded the child of Gods.” Another candidate identified the heavenly beings as Abraham and Jacob. This implies that the candidates were not familiar with the subject matter.

In (c) the candidates were required to show how they would use the information from the text to justify to non-believers who Jesus really is. There were few candidates who answered correctly by showing how they would use the information to justify to non-believers, who Jesus is. They wrote that the opening of heaven, transfiguration, and appearance of Moses and Elijah justified that Jesus is the Son of God or the Messiah.

The majority of the candidates failed to justify who Jesus was in relation to the event and the text. Some of them provided the story of Jesus during his agony at Gethsemane that he prayed so as to escape the cup of suffering instead of justifying who Jesus was in accordance with the events in Matthew 17:1-13. Other candidates provided responses not related with the requirements of the question. For example, one candidate wrote, “They have to should in in our acquired many companions to support for the ministry.” This indicates that the candidate did not understand the requirements of the question and lacked knowledge on the topic of Jesus’ Ministry in general and the event of Jesus’ transfiguration in particular.

On the whole, the performance of candidates in this question was good. The candidates answered most of the items correctly. The reasons for the good performance include candidates’ familiarity with the topic of Jesus’ Ministry and their ability to understand the requirements of the questions. Extract 6.1 shows a sample of a correct response.
In Extract 6.1, the candidate described correctly the other events which accompanied Jesus’ transfiguration, identified the two heavenly beings and what each of them symbolised. The candidate used the information of transfiguration correctly to justify who Jesus was.

As indicated in the analysis of the responses of candidates in this question, 32.2 per cent of the candidates scored less than 3 marks. Among these, 9.22 per cent scored 0 as they failed to present relevant answers. Their responses indicated that they did not understand the requirements of the question and lacked adequate knowledge of the subject matter. Extract 6.2 is a sample of incorrect responses.

In Extract 6.2, the candidate provided incorrect responses to all the items indicating that he/she lacked knowledge on the transfiguration of Jesus.

2.2.5 Question 7: General Introduction: Jewish Institutions and Sects/Parties.

Given the statement: Among groups that existed during Jesus’ ministry were the Jews and Samaritans, the candidates were required to provide short answers to the following: (a) Who were the Samaritans? (b) What was the relationship between Jews and Samaritans? (c) In what ways does the relationship between Jews and Samaritans relate to church groups of today?

The question was optional and was attempted by 49.85 per cent of the candidates who sat for the Bible Knowledge examination. Their performance was average as 13.90 per cent scored from 6 to 9 marks, 20.51 per cent scored from 3 to 5.5 marks and 65.59 per cent scored from 0 to 2.5 marks, as shown in Figure 7.
In this question, 40.08 per cent of candidates scored 0 as they gave incorrect responses to all the items by writing things not related to the question. They wrote responses which indicated that they did not know the topic of *General Introduction: Jewish Institutions and Sects/Parties*.

In part (a), the candidates who scored high marks correctly wrote, *the Samaritans were the offspring of the intermarriages between the Israelites and the Assyrian conquerors, who had settled in the land of the Northern Kingdom.* However, most of the candidates failed to score marks in this question as they gave irrelevant responses. For example, one of them wrote, “Samaritans the one who has striven with a man for the whole relate to the church groups of today.” Another candidate wrote, “The Samaritans is the Jesus to the Jerusalem.”

In part (b), there were very few candidates who scored high marks. These were able to show the relationship between Jews and Samaritans that *the Jews considered Samaritans as impure, causing great hostility between the two groups. The Jews saw the Samaritans as idol worshipers who were to be avoided. Both the parties taught that it was wrong to have any interaction between them, and neither entered the other’s territories nor spoke to each other.* Most of the candidates failed in this part because they had failed in part (a). For example, some of them wrote that the Samaritans and Jews had a good relationship, which shows that he/she did not know about the two parties.
In part (c), like (a) and (b), the candidates who answered correctly were few. They wrote that there are some Christians who consider their fellow Christians as not saved and insist in staying away from them. They consider their fellow Christians as sinners because they are led by ministers who are “not saved.” Sometimes ministers in one church are not in good relationship among themselves. However, a good number of candidates wrote different things. One of them wrote, “By having joint mass, that people meet and pray this way relate with church groups of relationship between Jews and Samaritans.” Extract 7.1 shows a sample of incorrect responses to question 7.

Extract 7.1: A sample of incorrect responses in question 7.

In Extract 7.1, the candidate failed to provide relevant information about the Samaritans and their relationship with the Jews and to relate them to the Church groups today.

In general, the performance of candidates in this question was poor because only 34.41 per cent of the candidates described who the Samaritans were and scored average to high marks. Among these, 13.90 per cent scored high
marks as they provided relevant information about the Samaritans and their relationship with the Jews and were able to relate the relationship between Jews and Samaritans to the Church groups today. These candidates were familiar with the subject matter and they had understood the requirements of the question. Extract 7.2 shows a sample of correct responses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7.2</th>
<th>a) Samaritans were the descendants of Israelites and the Assyrian conquerors. They were long term enemies of the Israelites. They worshipped on Mt. Gerizim for it was their model of the temple.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b) The relationship between Jews and Samaritans that they were long term enemies who hated each other especially after the Samaritans disguised themselves and went to the temple of Jerusalem and kept bones in the sanctuary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c) The relationship between Jews and Samaritans relate to Church groups of today because church groups of today have no unity, peace and harmony and also church groups of today both believe to be greater than the other religious group while all worship one God.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In Extract 7.2, the candidate provided correct information about the Samaritans and their relationship with the Jews and related the Jewish-Samaritans’ relationship to the Church groups today.

2.2.6 Question 8: Jesus in Jerusalem

The question was set from Luke 21:1-4, the story about the value of the widow’s offering. The candidates were required to provide short answers for the following items: (a) Describe the story and the comment given by Jesus regarding the offering of the widow. (b) What was the reason given by Jesus for his comment on the offering of the widow? (c) If you were given an opportunity to teach the Church basing on this text, what would be your major emphasis?

The question was optional and it was attempted by 53.29 per cent of the candidates who sat for Bible Knowledge examination. Their performance was good as 72.02 per cent scored from 6 to 9 marks, 13.03 per cent scored
from 3 to 5.5 marks and 14.95 per cent scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 8.

![Figure 8: The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 8.](image)

The candidates with high performance in this question scored from 6 to 9 marks, depending on the strength of their responses. Those who scored 9 marks described the story and the comment given by Jesus regarding the offering of the widow. They wrote that Jesus was in the temple and saw the rich putting their gifts in the treasury; He also saw a poor widow put in only two copper coins. Jesus commented that the widow’s offering was of great value compared to all other rich people who put in their contributions. They also gave the correct reason given by Jesus for his comment concerning the offering of the widow. Their responses were that the poor widow had put in more than all of them because, while others put out of their abundance, the poor widow put all what she had. These candidates also explained what would be their major emphasis if they were given an opportunity to teach the Church basing on the text (Luke 21:1-4). They wrote that their major emphasis would be to offer to God valuable gifts willingly and faithfully. Christians should strive to do like the poor widow in order to support the Church and the needy without being anxious about their future because God knows all our needs and our future is in
God’s hand. We should put our trust in God who provides for us. Extract 8.1 is a sample of correct responses to question 8.

| 8 | The story about the value of a widow’s offering is as follows: It happened one day as Jesus was in the temple, having seen many people offering expensive treasures, wealthy things, and many of high value, he also saw one widow who only offered two coins and there after Jesus had something to say to people. He said that only offering of a widow was great in heaven since she offered all what she had rather than others who offered a lot out of their great treasury.

|  | (b) Jesus’ comment on widow’s offering was due to the fact that all other people were offering out of their great treasury great offering while a certain big portion still was left but as for the widow, she offered all what she had (only two coins) out of her treasury.

|  | (c) The teaching I would confer to the church regarding the widow’s offering is that;

|  | - When giving offering to God, people should offer themselves with all their hearts and not only a small portion out of their

|  | (d) big remaining one. The offering made should be pleasant to God’s sight so as to be accepted.

|  | - But also from this context, Christians should learn that no any poor person who has no something to give.

|  | - The rich people should not only give offering in the church but also help the needy in our society.

Extract 8.1: A sample of a correct response in question 8.

In Extract 8.1, the candidate explained the story about the value of the widow’s offering and its application to the Church today correctly.

The candidates with average marks in this question scored from 3 to 5.5 marks. Many of these candidates mixed correct and incorrect points in their answers. Some of these candidates also demonstrated poor command of English language.

On the contrary, the candidates with low marks scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. Those who scored 0 failed to respond as required due to lack of knowledge
on the topic and poor competence in English language, which hindered them from understanding the requirements of the questions. As a result, some of them left the questions unanswered. Others tried to answer the questions using their own words not based on the story of the widow. For example, some of them described the story of a woman married to seven brothers instead of describing the story about the value of the widow’s offering and its application to the Church today. Others described the story of a woman who was bleeding for twelve years but was healed after touching the garment of Jesus. This indicates that the candidates had inadequate knowledge about Biblical events and important persons. Extract 8.2 is sample of incorrect response.

| 8 | a) It is about a widow who offered herself to confront an unjust judge who claims to know no possession of God in his life, through her offering she later came to be given her right after extending pleading. Jesus comments that such acceptances and offering as she confronted the judge made her later success. |
| 8 | b) It is because of the widow’s courage to face the unjust judge. |
| 8 | c) I would emphasize on gender equality. |
| 8 | d) I would provide criteria against rule dominance. |

Extract 8.2: A sample of incorrect responses in question 8.

In Extract 8.2, the candidate wrote about the story of the poor widow and the wicked judge instead of discussing the value of the widow’s offering.

2.2.7 Question 9: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus

The question was set from the Gospel according to Mathew Chapters 27:29-28:3 in which Jesus encountered mockery, torture and death but finally rose from the dead. The candidates were required to provide short answers for three items. (a) How do we mock Jesus in everyday life situation? (b) Joseph was a disciple of Jesus from Arimathea. He was generous and charitable to Jesus. He paid him due respect by taking Jesus’
body for burial. What do you understand by "works of charity"? (c) Imagine you were one of the eye witnesses of Jesus’ empty tomb, can you tell your friend what it means by the "empty tomb"?

The question was optional and it was attempted by 32.86 per cent of the candidates and their performance was good as 58.95 per cent scored from 6 to 9 marks, 24.47 per cent scored from 3 to 5.5 marks and 16.58 per cent scored from 0 to 2.5 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 9.

![Figure 9: The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 9](image)

The analysis shows that the candidates who scored high marks were able to explain how Jesus is mocked in everyday life. They said that we mock Jesus by doing what is against what He taught us through His life and teachings. We mock Him when we sin against God and our neighbours e.g., stealing people’s property, mistreating people and not attending to the material and psychological needs of those who are oppressed. These candidates explained the meaning of the "works of charity" correctly as they wrote, the works of charity means any voluntary activity one does to express an attitude of love in service to those in need like the generosity which was shown by Joseph of Arimathea to Jesus. The candidates also explained about the "empty tomb" as was required, that the "empty tomb" refers to a grave in which the body of Jesus had been laid. The tomb became empty after Jesus rose from the dead. Extract 9.1 is a sample of correct responses in question 9.
In Extract 9.1, the candidate was able to explain how people mock Jesus today. He/she also provided the correct meaning of “works of charity” and the “empty tomb” indicating that he/she understood the requirements of the question and was familiar with the topic of The Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

Further analysis shows that the candidates with average marks in this question scored from 3 to 5.5 marks. Many candidates in this category answered item (a) and (c). Most of them failed to answer item (b) which indicates that they were not familiar with the “works of charity.”

Moreover, the candidates who scored low marks gave responses which deserved 2.5 marks and below. Among these candidates, 10.26 per cent scored 0 as they failed to respond in accordance with the requirements of the question. In item (a), for example, instead of explaining how Jesus is mocked today, some of the candidates explained how people worship and honour God today. Furthermore, there was a candidate who wrote, “To
study the people due to God and to movement other part and to educated due to miracle and parable.” The candidates’ responses have no relationship with the question, indicating that they did not understand the requirements of the question.

In item (b), instead of explaining the “works of charity” as any voluntary activity one does to express an attitude of love to the needy, one of the candidates wrote, “He is fine, Jesus is Powerfull from God.” This candidate was not familiar with the “works of charity.”

In (c) the candidates gave responses which indicated that they did not know what an “empty tomb” is. One of the candidates wrote, “Empty tomb is the process whereby Jesus to talking your everyday to the speak for Jesus.” Another one wrote, “Empty tomb means that those people who did not follow the commandment of God.” There were also candidates who mistook the term “tomb” for the word “womb” in the sense of a stomach. For example, some of them defined the empty tomb as a tomb without food or an empty stomach. Other candidates defined an empty tomb as hunger. This depicts that the candidates lacked knowledge of Biblical content, concepts and themes and had poor language skills. Extract 9.2 is a sample of incorrect responses.


In Extract 9.2, the candidate provided irrelevant points on how people mock Jesus today, and provided incorrect meaning of works of charity and the empty tomb.
2.2.8 Question 10: The Death and Resurrection of Jesus

With reference to the Gospel according to Matthew Chapter 27, the candidates were required to paraphrase how: (a) Judas Iscariot, (b) Pilate and (c) Centurion approved Jesus’ innocence. The question had three parts (a) to (c) and the candidates were required to paraphrase how they approved Jesus’ innocence.

The question was optional and was opted for by 29.77 per cent of the candidates who sat for the Bible Knowledge examination. Among these, 45.10 per cent score from 0 to 2 marks, 23.14 per cent scored from 3 to 5 marks and 31.79 per cent scored from 6 to 9 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 10.

![Figure 10: The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 10](image)

The analysis shows that the performance of the candidates in this question was average as 54.90 per cent scored average marks and above while 45.10 per cent scored below average marks. The candidates with high performance were able to paraphrase how Judas Iscariot, Pilate and the Centurion approved Jesus’ innocence. This indicates that the candidates understood the requirements of the question and were familiar with the topic of The Death and Resurrection of Jesus.

The candidates who performed averagely scored from 3 to 5 marks as they provided partial responses to most of the items. This indicates that the candidates had insufficient knowledge about the subject matter.
Conversely, those who scored low marks ranging from 0-2 marks provided weak responses which depicted candidates’ failure to identify and adhere to the demands of the question. The following is the analysis of candidates’ responses to each item:

Item (a) Judas Iscariot

Most of the candidates provided relevant answers showing that they had adequate knowledge of Biblical events and important persons. The candidates correctly wrote that *Judas Iscariot approved Jesus’ innocence by saying that he had sinned in betraying innocent blood.*

There were few candidates who only explained who Judas Iscariot was but failed to show how he approved Jesus’ innocence. Some candidates wrote about Judah the son of Jacob of the Old Testament, showing that the candidates had inadequate knowledge of Biblical events and context.

Item (b) Pilate

Few candidates provided relevant points to show Pilate approving Jesus’ innocence. The correct answer provided by the candidates was: *Pilate approved Jesus’ innocence by rejecting to pass a sentence for Jesus’ crucifixion; he washed his hands before the crowd saying that Jesus was innocent.*

Other candidates only explained about Pilate as a leader without showing how he approved Jesus’ innocence which suggests that the candidates had inadequate knowledge about Pilate and his role during the prosecution of Jesus.

Item (c) Centurion

Few candidates managed to provide relevant points to demonstrate Jesus’ innocence, indicating that they knew the story about the Centurion and understood the requirements of the question. The response given by candidates was: *The centurion acknowledged Jesus’ innocence after the notable events such as darkness, splitting of the curtain in the temple and an earthquake. He approved that Jesus was truly the son of God.*
In general, the performance for the candidates was average as only 54.90 per cent of the candidates scored average marks and above. Extract 10.1 is a sample of correct responses.

**Extract 10.1:** A sample of correct responses in question 10.

In Extract 10.1, the candidate paraphrased correctly how Judas Iscariot, Pilate and the Centurion approved Jesus’ innocence.

On the contrary, majority of the candidates failed to show how Judas Iscariot, Pilate and the Centurion approved that Jesus was innocent. Some of them, for example, wrote about the centurion who asked Jesus to heal his servant. This implies that the candidates did not know the context of the question. Extract 10.2 is a sample of incorrect responses.
In Extract 10.2, the candidate failed to paraphrase how Judas Iscariot, Pilate and the Centurion approved Jesus’ innocence.

2.3 SECTION C: Essay Type of Questions

This section comprised three (3) essay type of questions. The candidates were required to attempt two (2) questions. Each question carried fifteen (15) marks.

2.3.1 Question 11: The Fall of Man and its Outcome

In this question, the candidates were given the statement, *During the time of Noah, God was sorry and regretted that He had made man on earth and it grieved His heart; so He punished them (Genesis 6: 6)*. Then they were required to give four points showing the significance of the punishment to the people of Noah’s time and the lessons we learn from it today.

The question was attempted by 92.90 per cent of the candidates who sat for the Bible Knowledge examination and their performance was good as 27.6 per cent scored 5-9.5 marks, 57.75 scored from 10 to 15 marks, 56.5 per cent scored from 5 to 9.5 marks and 15.9 per cent scored from 0 to 4.5 marks. This performance is illustrated in Figure 11.
The analysis shows that the performance of the candidates in this question was good as 84.1 per cent scored from average to high marks. The candidates with high performance scored from 10 to 15 marks. Those who scored 15 marks showed the significance of the punishment to the people of Noah’s time and the lessons we learn from it today. These candidates wrote the correct responses as follows: (i) The punishment was to show that the wickedness of man will never go unpunished. Today, every person is accountable for his/her own actions. (ii) The punishment was purposely for purifying and renewing His creation. God’s punishment did not mean that He did a mistake in His creation of man rather He wanted to mark a new beginning in His creation by wiping out those who did not see the need to repent so that they would not pollute the generation of the few who seemed to be righteous in their ways. (iii) The punishment was to show mercy to those who were faithful to Him. God shows His mercy to the obedient and His wrath to wicked people. (iv) Punishment shows that God is sovereign and just. Human development should not make him forget his position as a human being and viewing oneself as being in the same position as God. This depicts that the candidates were familiar with the topic and understood the requirements of the question. Extract 11.1 is a sample of correct responses.
During the time of Noah, God was sorry and regretted that he had made man on earth and this grieved his heart. In return of this, God decided to punish the people of the world by waters of floods that lasted for 150 days. The family of Noah was saved since he was righteous before God among the people that existed by the time. The following are among the significance of the punishment to Noah's time:

It avoided sins and wickedness of men by the flood of Noah. Among God's reason to punish this fierce during Noah's time is that men were so wicked and sinful. Therefore through the punishment provided by God to men all the sinful men were washed away and hence this avoided sins and men's wickedness by the flood.

It led to the destruction of the sinful generation from the face of the earth (God's creation) through the punishment of floods during Noah's time all the sinful generation that destroyed God's creation was destroyed this helped in cleansing the creation of God as those who were left are those who seemed righteous before God as Noah's family. Hence the punishment of God played an important role in cleaning God's creation. Through the punishment, God's mercy spilled over his creation. After the killing of people by the waters of floods, God increased his mercy to his creation and promised not to
11. Kill men ever, by the water of death. Hence it is through the punishment of people like Noah’s that God put a sign to a rainbow that he would never kill men by waters of flood. Hence his mercy spilled over his creation.

Another significance of that, It provides man with a correct path about the effects of Sin. Through the punishment given to people during Noah’s time, it shows man the bitterness of Sin and Wickedness and hence avoids Sin and realizes Sin prevailing in (God’s) creation. Through this punishment, Man identifies that there is a great repayer for those who meet Sin and thus avoid Sin.

The lessons learnt include

God is our merciful father. This is through his mercy he showed to man after the floods of 150 days water on the earth as he promised to not ever kill men by the waters of floods as he had regretted as to why he did so. Therefore we should always seek proof on the mercy God is providing to his creation.

The other lesson is that The return after Sinning against God is bitter. As human beings, we should always obey with God’s Scriptures and do away with sins as the severance of bitter and sour such as death.

But also, God is always faithful to those who believe in him. This was revealed by God’s action of leaving Noah and his family free from the punishment of the waters of flood as he was righteous. Thus we should always believe in God and walk through his ways to enhance his love to us of his creation.

But also, Believing in God is the Master Key to Success. This is revealed by the way Noah believed in God and become faithful to him. This opened a way of privileges to Noah and his household as he was able to succeed away from the flood water.

Conclusively, The return of Sin is always bad as the people of Noah’s time faced it the most. Thus, as Christians, we should always try to walk in the way of good deeds and righteousness on the God’s Scriptures to avoid God’s anger upon us.
In Extract 11.1, the candidate provided relevant points showing the significance of the punishment to people of Noah’s time and the lessons we learn from it.

The candidates with average marks scored from 5 to 9.5 marks. Their responses showed that, although the candidates were familiar with the topic of *The Fall of Man and Its Outcome*, they did not write exhaustively. They provided correct but incomplete responses indicating that they had insufficient knowledge about the story of Noah.

Conversely, 15.9 per cent of the candidates scored from 0 to 4.5 marks. Among these, 1.8 per cent scored 0. These candidates failed to show the significance of the punishment to people of Noah’s time and the lessons we learn from it. They provided irrelevant responses, which depicts that the candidates lacked knowledge of the topic. For example, one candidate wrote, “(i) punishing with language (ii) the donges of land, (iii) to give some one proud.” Other candidates wrote the reasons for God to punish the people instead of the significance of the punishment. For example, one of them wrote, “the significance of the punishment is because of the increase of population, a lot of sins, the rudness of people by not follow the commandment of God.” Extract 11.2 is a sample of incorrect responses.

In Extract 11.2, the candidate narrated the story of Noah in the sense of Jonah who was sent by God to Nineveh instead of showing the significance of the punishment to the people of Noah’s time and the lessons we learn from it today.
2.3.2 Question 12: Israel under the Leadership of Joshua

In this question, the candidates were given the statement, Before his death, Joshua called all the Israelites, the elders, heads, judges, and officers at Shechem to bid them his farewell (Joshua 23:1-16). Then they were required to give four motives behind Joshua’s summon of all the Israelites, the elders, heads, judges and officers at Shechem to bid them his farewell (Joshua 23:1-16).

This question was attempted by 61.31 per cent of the candidates who sat for the Bible Knowledge examination. Their performance was good as 41.35 per cent scored from 10 to 15 marks, 37.50 per cent scored from 5 to 9 marks and 21.15 per cent scored from 0 to 4 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 12.

![Figure 12: The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 12](image)

The analysis shows that the candidates with high performance in this question scored from 10 to 15 marks depending on the strength of their responses. Those who scored 15 marks were able to explain the motive for Joshua to call all the Israelites, the elders, heads, judges, and officers at Shechem to bid them his farewell according to Joshua 23:1-16. They gave relevant responses which include (i) the fact that the Israelites came to Shechem as a testimony to God’s gracious deeds. The speech at Shechem was meant to remind them to honour God who brought them safely to Canaan. (ii) At Shechem Joshua wanted the Israelites to have a clear and strong stand regarding whom they were to serve. The speech was therefore
an instruction regarding service to the Lord whom they had promised to serve. (iii) The speech was meant to instruct the Israelites to proclaim these wondrous deeds to the generation to come in word and deed. (iv) The speech was also covenantal in the manner that the Israelites were required to make a solemn promise to remain faithful to God. These responses demonstrate that the candidates were familiar with the topic and understood the requirements of the question. Extract 12.1 is a sample of a correct response.
Extract 12.1: A sample of a correct response.

In Extract 12.1, the candidate identified the motives behind the Shechem assembly where Joshua called all the Israelites, the elders, heads, judges and officers.

The candidates with average performance scored from 5 to 9 marks. Most of them showed to have understood the requirements of the question and knew the topic, but they delivered incomplete responses. Some of them highlighted the points without sufficient explanations. There were candidates who mixed the correct and incorrect responses. Others experienced difficulties in expressing their answers correctly due to lack of English language proficiency.

On the contrary, among the candidates who scored low marks, 5.37 per cent scored 0. These candidates provided irrelevant motives behind the Shechem assembly depicting that they did not understand the requirement of the question or they lacked knowledge of the event of the Shechem assembly. There were candidates who wrote about God’s commission to Joshua instead of the motives for the Shechem assembly. One of the candidates wrote, “Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid for the Lord is with you wherever you go.” Extract 12.2 is a sample of incorrect responses.
In Extract 12.2, the candidate could not identify the motives behind the Shechem assembly, where Joshua called all the Israelites, the elders, heads, judges and officers. Instead, the candidate wrote about working and being strangers of God which are not among the requirements of the question.
2.3.3 Question 13: Witnessing in Jerusalem

The candidates were given the statement; *In Acts 3:11-26, we read about Peter's speech after healing the crippled man at the Beautiful gate.* Then they were asked, *Imagine you are asked to arrange Peter's speech in four points, how would you arrange it?*

This question was attempted by 37.03 per cent of the candidates who sat for the Bible Knowledge examination. Among these, 20.70 per cent scored from 10 to 15 marks, 37.19 per cent scored from 5 to 9 marks and 42.12 per cent scored from 0 to 4 marks. Their performance is summarised in Figure 13.

![Scores](image)

**Figure 13:** The percentage of candidates’ performance in question 13

The analysis shows that the performance of the candidates was average because only 57.88 per cent scored from 5 to 15 marks and 42.12 per cent scored below average marks.

The candidates with high marks in this question scored from 10 to 15 marks. Those who scored 15 marks arranged Peter’s Speech in Acts 3:11-26 as it was required. The speech was arranged as follows: (i) *Peter told the people that the crippled man was healed by faith in Jesus.* (ii) *Peter explained that the suffering of Christ was a fulfillment of what God foretold by the mouth of prophets.* (iii) *Peter called the Israelites to repent and live a sinless life so that God would continue to bless them.* (iv) *Peter said that the Israelites were the sons of the covenant through Abraham to whom He promised*
blessing. (v) Peter concluded that God raised his servant (Christ) and sent him to them first, to bless them and turn them from wickedness.

These responses indicate that the candidates understood the requirements of the question and were familiar with the topic of Witnessing in Jerusalem. Extract 13.1 is a sample of correct responses.
In Extract 13.1, the candidate arranged the speech of Peter after healing the crippled man at the Beautiful gate as was required.
The candidates with average marks scored from 5 to 9 marks as they gave partial information pertaining to the speech of Peter. Some of them scored averagely because they brought together two different contexts of speech; confusing Peter’s Speech after healing the crippled man with Peter’s Speech on Pentecost Day.

On the other hand, the candidates with weak performance scored from 0 to 4 marks. Among these, 9.84 per cent scored 0 as they completely lacked knowledge about the event. There were candidates who explained about the situation of the crippled man instead of the speech given by Peter. Others provided ideas not related to the question. For example, one of them wrote about faith and love among the people, peace and security, respect of elders and other people. Another candidate wrote the story of Cornelius and the vision of Peter in Acts Chapter 10 instead of the speech of Peter after healing the crippled man at the Beautiful gate in Acts 3:11-26. Extract 13.2 shows a sample of incorrect responses.

| 13a | Blessing those who are poor! This was because  
|     | blessing poor in order to get survival and  
|     | and help other people like God help them  
|     | Blessing those who are poor partly! This was  
|     | because in order to achieve the Kingdom of  
|     | God and forget their sin that is why they  
|     | are blessed!  
|     | Blessing those who they are hungry! This was  
|     | blessed in order God to provide them  
|     | their daily food and get power for  
|     | worship God.  
|     | Blessing those who a |


In Extract 13.2, the responses are incorrect because the candidate wrote about Jesus’ beatitudes instead of writing about Peter’s speech after healing the crippled man at the Beautiful gate.
3.0 ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES’ PERFORMANCE IN EACH TOPIC

Bible Knowledge (014) examination consisted of thirteen (13) questions in sections A, B and C. The candidates were required to answer nine (9) questions, including question 1 and 2 in Section A, question 3 and 4 in Section B which were compulsory.

The highest performance was noted in the general question (Question 1) from the topics of Creation, The Fall of Man and its Outcome, The Life of Abraham, The Sons of Isaac, The Hebrews in Egypt, Israelites’ Journey through the Desert, Israel under the Leadership of Joshua, The Community in Jerusalem, Witnessing in Jerusalem and Paul’s Missionary Journeys, in which 92.73 per cent of the candidates did well. This was followed by the topic of The Life of Abraham (92.29%) which consisted of one question (Question 3) and Jesus in Jerusalem (85.05%) which comprised one question (Question 8). Other topics were The Fall of Man and its Outcome (84.10%) which comprised one question (Question 11) and Israel under the Leadership of Joshua (78.85%) which consisted of one question (Question 12). This was followed by Jesus’ Ministry (75.80%) which consisted of two questions (Question 5 and 6), Paul’s Missionary Journeys (72.24%) which consisted of two questions (Question 2 and 4) and The Death and Resurrection of Jesus (69.16%) which comprised two questions (Question 9 and 10). The topics with average performance were that of Witnessing in Jerusalem (57.88%) with one question (Question 13) and General Introduction: Jewish Institutions and Parties/Sects (34.41%) with one question (Question 7). This analysis is summarised in the Appendix.

By comparison, the general performance of the candidates shows that in CSEE 2018, the average of candidates who scored above 30 per cent was 84.65 per cent whereas in CSEE 2019 it was 87.94 per cent. This means that the performance of the candidates in CSEE 2019 is higher by 3.29 per cent.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The general performance of the candidates in Bible Knowledge subject in the CSEE 2019 was good as 87.94 per cent of them scored from average to high marks. The candidates performed well because they could identify the
requirements of the questions, they were able to follow instructions, and had adequate competence in biblical facts, concepts, themes, events, stories, and redundant persons. Most of them were able to express themselves clearly in English language with appropriate Biblical words.

However, there were candidates who failed to score high marks in some questions/topics because they did not understand the requirements of the questions and had inadequate competence in the use of English language. They also lacked knowledge on the topics from which the questions were set. Not only mat, but also the candidates encountered problems in answering question 7 from the topic of General Introduction: Jewish Institutions and Parties/Sects, question 10 from the topic of The Death and Resurrection of Jesus and question 13 from topic of Witnessing in Jerusalem. Attention is needed to remedy the performance in these topics.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Basing on the observations made through candidates’ item response analysis, it is recommended that:

(a) Students should be guided to put more effort in reading the Bible and other recommended Biblical materials in teaching and learning in order to have a broader understanding of Biblical facts, concepts, themes, events, stories, places and important persons.

(b) Since English language is a contributing factor to students’ performance, students should practise the use of English language through writing, speaking, and reading so as to improve the English language skills.

(c) More emphasis should be given to the teaching/learning strategies outlined in the syllabus for better students’ acquisition of knowledge in the given topics.

(d) Teachers and other educational stake holders, such as parents, guardians, clergy and theologians in various Christian communities should take necessary measures in order to improve the candidates’ performance in this subject.
### Appendix

Summary of Analysis of the Candidates’ Performance in Each Topic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S/N</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Type of Question</th>
<th>Question Number</th>
<th>Total Number of Questions in a Topic</th>
<th>Percentage of Candidates Who Scored 30% or Above</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
<th>Average Percentage of Candidates Who Scored 30% or Above</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>The Life of Abraham</td>
<td>Short Answers</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>92.29</td>
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<td>85.05</td>
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<td>84.10</td>
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<td></td>
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