

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
EXAMINATION**

114/1

DIVINITY 1

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

Time : 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Year : 2001

Instructions

1. This paper consists of sections **ten (10)** questions.
2. Answer **five (5)** questions. Question number **one (1)** is compulsory.
3. Each question carries **twenty (20)** marks.
4. Bibles and other unauthorised materials are **not** allowed in the examination room.
5. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your answer booklet(s).

maktaba.tetea.org



1. Comment on five (5) of the items (a)-(j):

(a) “Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward.” (Psalmic-like; use 1 Samuel/Hannah)

This passage highlights that children are a gift from God and not merely human achievement. Hannah’s prayer in 1 Samuel reflects this truth, as she acknowledged Samuel as a gift from the Lord. It teaches the value of gratitude and dedicating children to God.

(b) “For the LORD will heal Jacob; he will restore the fortunes of Israel.” (Isaiah 30:18)

Here, the message is about God’s restoration of His people after suffering. Healing Jacob symbolizes renewal of the nation’s relationship with God. The verse provides hope that after judgment, restoration is certain for those who return to Him.

(c) “Let every valley be filled, and every mountain and hill made low; let the crooked be made straight, and the rough ways smooth.” (Isaiah 40:4)

This imagery points to God preparing the way for His glory to be revealed. It symbolizes the removal of obstacles in spiritual life. It also reflects the equality and justice that God establishes when His kingdom is made manifest.

(d) “I have heard you in Ramah, lamentation in Gibeah; Rachel weeping for her children...” (Jeremiah 31:15)

This verse illustrates deep grief over loss, portraying Rachel as the mother of Israel mourning her descendants. It emphasizes the pain of exile and death but also carries a message of comfort, since God promises eventual restoration.

(e) “The LORD raises the needy from the dust; he lifts the poor from the ash heap.” (Psalms / echoed in Prophets)

This passage underlines God’s concern for the marginalized. It shows that God has power to reverse human circumstances, uplifting the poor and giving them dignity. It is a reminder of His justice and compassion.

2. List and explain five prophetic confrontations of Elijah, showing his role as messenger of God. (20 marks)

One confrontation was with King Ahab over Baal worship (1 Kings 17). Elijah declared drought, proving God's supremacy over Baal who was believed to control rain.

Another was Elijah's challenge to the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel (1 Kings 18). Fire from heaven consumed his sacrifice, showing God's power.

Elijah confronted Ahab after the murder of Naboth (1 Kings 21). He prophesied doom on Ahab's house, showing God's justice against injustice.

He also confronted King Ahaziah who sought help from Baal-zebub (2 Kings 1). Elijah condemned this as rejection of the true God and foretold the king's death.

Lastly, Elijah's encounter with despair in the wilderness (1 Kings 19) was also a confrontation with doubt. God revealed Himself not in wind or fire, but in a gentle whisper, showing His unique presence.

3. Trace five symbolic warnings given by Isaiah to the kingdom of Judah before the fall of Jerusalem. (20 marks)

Isaiah walked barefoot and naked for three years (Isaiah 20). This symbolized Judah's coming humiliation and captivity under foreign powers.

He described Judah as a vineyard (Isaiah 5). The vineyard, instead of producing good grapes, produced bad fruit, symbolizing disobedience that would lead to destruction.

Isaiah gave the sign of Immanuel (Isaiah 7). This symbol showed God's presence with His people but also warned of the dangers of unbelief and reliance on foreign alliances.

He used the image of a stump (Isaiah 6:13). Though Israel would be cut down, a holy seed would remain, symbolizing judgment followed by hope.

Isaiah's naming of his children also carried symbolic warnings. For example, Maher-shalal-hash-baz meant "quick to plunder," symbolizing the imminent invasion by Assyria.

4. How did the theme of covenant appear in the books of Samuel and Kings? Use examples. (20 marks)

The covenant theme appears in God's promise to David in 2 Samuel 7. God established a lasting dynasty for David, showing covenant faithfulness.

In Samuel, covenant loyalty is highlighted in Israel's demand for a king. Samuel reminded them that rejecting God as king was covenant unfaithfulness.

The covenant also appears in Solomon's dedication of the Temple (1 Kings 8). Solomon emphasized that God's presence depended on obedience to the covenant.

The kings' rule was judged based on covenant faithfulness. Those who led the nation into idolatry broke the covenant and faced God's judgment.

The prophets consistently recalled Israel and Judah to covenant obligations, stressing obedience, justice, and worship of God alone.

5. Discuss the holiness of God in Isaiah chapters 1-6. (20 marks)

Isaiah chapter 1 reveals God's holiness through His rejection of empty sacrifices. Holiness demands sincerity, not mere rituals.

Chapter 2 shows God's holiness as He alone is exalted above idols and nations. This calls people to humility before Him.

Chapter 3 highlights God's holiness in judgment against the proud and unjust leaders of Judah. His holiness demands justice.

In chapter 5, the song of the vineyard demonstrates holiness by showing God's grief over sin and His resolve to punish disobedience.

Chapter 6 gives the clearest picture, where Isaiah saw God on His throne, holy and exalted. The seraphim cried "Holy, holy, holy," emphasizing God's absolute purity and majesty.

6. With reference to Hosea:

(a) What social injustices are exposed in Hosea? (10 marks)

Hosea condemned oppression of the poor, showing that leaders exploited the weak instead of protecting them.

He exposed dishonesty in trade, where merchants used false balances to cheat others.

He highlighted corruption among priests who neglected their role of guiding the people and instead sought personal gain.

Hosea also criticized political leaders who sought alliances with foreign powers, betraying trust in God.

Finally, he condemned widespread immorality, which corrupted social life and broke covenant standards.

(b) How does Hosea use marriage imagery to convey Israel's spiritual adultery? (10 marks)

Hosea married Gomer, a woman of unfaithfulness, symbolizing Israel's relationship with God. This act illustrated how Israel betrayed God by worshiping idols.

The unfaithfulness of Gomer mirrored Israel's turning to Baal for prosperity instead of relying on God.

The pain Hosea experienced represented God's sorrow over Israel's disobedience.

Despite betrayal, Hosea pursued reconciliation with his wife. This symbolized God's willingness to forgive Israel.

The marriage imagery therefore communicated both Israel's sin and God's unending covenant love.

7. According to 2 Kings:

(a) Describe the circumstances and result of the healing of Naaman. (10 marks)

Naaman, the Syrian commander, had leprosy. A servant girl from Israel told him of the prophet Elisha who could heal him.

He went with gifts to Elisha, but Elisha did not meet him personally. Instead, he sent a message instructing Naaman to wash seven times in the Jordan River.

At first Naaman was angry, thinking the rivers of Syria were better. But his servants persuaded him to obey.

When he humbled himself and bathed in the Jordan, his skin was restored like that of a child.

The result was not only physical healing but also spiritual transformation, as Naaman acknowledged the God of Israel.

(b) What does this story teach about faith and humility? (10 marks)

The story teaches that faith requires obedience even when instructions seem simple or foolish. Naaman was healed only after following God's command.

It shows that humility is necessary to receive God's blessings. Naaman had to lay aside pride and submit to God's way.

It teaches that God's power is not tied to human expectations or status but to trust in His word.

The story also demonstrates that salvation is available to all, including foreigners who believe.

Finally, it shows that faith must be accompanied by humility for true transformation.

8. Summarize the prophecy of Zechariah 9 about the coming of the King. (20 marks)

Zechariah prophesied the coming of a humble king who would ride on a donkey. This king symbolized peace, unlike warriors on horses.

He promised to bring salvation not only to Israel but to all nations. His reign would extend from sea to sea.

The prophecy emphasized the end of war. Bows and chariots would be broken, showing that the kingdom would be built on peace.

It also spoke of God's covenant, reminding the people that the king's rule was tied to divine promises.

This vision pointed to a messianic hope, where God's people would experience deliverance and everlasting peace.

9. Explain the vision of Ezekiel's valley of dry bones. What is its message? (20 marks)

Ezekiel saw a valley full of dry bones, symbolizing Israel's hopelessness during exile. The bones represented the nation's lifeless condition.

God commanded Ezekiel to prophesy, and the bones came together, receiving sinews and flesh. This symbolized restoration and renewal.

When breath entered the bodies, they became a vast army. This showed that God's Spirit could give life to what seemed dead.

The message was that Israel would rise again from exile and be restored as God's people.

It also demonstrated the power of God's word and Spirit to bring life where there is despair.

10. Explain how Jeremiah contrasts false and authentic worship in his prophecies. (20 marks)

Jeremiah criticized false worship that relied on rituals while neglecting obedience. People offered sacrifices but lived unjustly, which God rejected.

He condemned idolatry, where people made offerings to foreign gods, calling it spiritual adultery.

Jeremiah emphasized that authentic worship involved obedience to God's law and faithfulness to the covenant.

He taught that true worship was centered on sincerity of heart, not empty religious actions.

Ultimately, Jeremiah revealed that authentic worship acknowledged God alone and sought justice, mercy, and righteousness.