

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

**114/2**

**DIVINITY 2**

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

**Time : 3 Hours**

**ANSWERS**

**Year : 2007**

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**Instructions**

1. This paper consists of Alternative **A** and **B**. Candidates must confine themselves to either Alternative A or B.
2. Answer **five (5)** questions. Question number **one (1)** for Alternative A and question number **nine (9)** for Alternative B are 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).

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ALTERNATIVE A  
(The Four Gospels)

**1. Briefly comment on the meaning of each of the following statements as used by Jesus.**

**(a) "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!" (Luke 12:49)**

Jesus speaks of bringing transformation and judgment to the world. The “fire” symbolizes purification and the refining power of God’s word. It highlights the urgency and seriousness of His mission. It also calls for commitment and readiness among His followers to embrace God’s kingdom.

**(b) "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored?" (Matthew 5:13)**

Jesus emphasizes the moral and spiritual influence of His disciples. Salt preserves, flavors, and purifies, which mirrors the role of Christians in society. Losing this “saltiness” indicates failing to live out God’s principles. Believers are reminded to maintain integrity, witness, and holiness. It also encourages active engagement in spreading God’s truth.

**(c) "Unless you are born again, you cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3)**

Jesus highlights the necessity of spiritual rebirth through the Holy Spirit. Physical birth alone is insufficient for salvation. It stresses faith, repentance, and renewal of the heart. Believers are called to enter God’s kingdom with humility and dependence on divine grace. This teaching underscores the transformative work of God in human life.

**(d) "For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?" (Mark 8:36)**

Jesus warns against prioritizing worldly gain over spiritual well-being. Material wealth cannot compensate for eternal loss. It challenges believers to focus on eternal values and righteousness. It also calls for discernment in life choices, emphasizing God-centered living.

**(e) "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live." (John 11:25)**

Jesus affirms victory over death through faith in Him. Eternal life is offered to all believers, transcending physical death. It brings hope and consolation to the grieving. This teaching reinforces trust in God’s power to renew and redeem human life.

**(f) "The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes; so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:8)**

Jesus illustrates the mysterious work of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual birth cannot be fully explained or controlled by humans. Believers experience transformation in ways guided by God. It encourages trust in divine timing and sovereignty. It also calls for receptiveness to God's unseen influence.

**(g) "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." (Matthew 19:24)**

Jesus warns about the spiritual danger of attachment to wealth. Materialism can obstruct devotion and humility. Entering God's kingdom requires surrender and dependence on God. This teaching calls for generosity, stewardship, and prioritizing spiritual riches over earthly possessions.

**(h) "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser." (John 15:1)**

Jesus emphasizes the necessity of abiding in Him for spiritual fruitfulness. God nurtures and prunes believers to ensure growth and obedience. Separation from Christ results in spiritual barrenness. This teaching highlights dependence, intimacy with Jesus, and the importance of God's guidance in the Christian life.

## **2. Discuss the importance of Jesus' miracles as a sign of the Kingdom of God.**

Jesus' miracles demonstrated God's power over nature, sickness, and evil, showing that the Kingdom of God had come. They revealed His compassion for humanity and concern for human suffering. Miracles validated His authority and mission as the Messiah. They inspired faith and drew people to listen to His teachings, reinforcing the presence and reality of God's reign on earth.

## **3. Describe the events that led to the death of John the Baptist and explain the relationship he had with Jesus.**

John criticized King Herod for marrying Herodias unlawfully, inciting Herodias' anger (Matthew 14:3–5). At her request, Herod beheaded John during a feast. John had baptized Jesus and recognized Him as the Messiah (John 1:29–34). He served as a forerunner, preparing people for Jesus' ministry. His death marked the resistance of authorities to God's message.

## **4. Explain the meaning of the term "Son of Man" as used in the Gospels and discuss its significance.**

The term emphasizes both Jesus' humanity and divine mission. It connects Him to Old Testament prophecy (Daniel 7:13–14). It signifies His role in suffering, death, resurrection, and final judgment.

The title communicates authority to teach, forgive sins, and establish God's kingdom. It reminds believers of His identification with humanity while exercising divine power.

**5. Explain the importance of the feeding of the five thousand and what it reveals about Jesus's character and mission.**

This miracle demonstrates Jesus' compassion for physical and spiritual needs (John 6:1–14). It shows His ability to provide abundantly and perform the impossible. The event symbolizes spiritual nourishment and the inclusivity of His mission. It encourages faith and dependence on God, revealing Jesus as the source of life and sustenance.

**6. Discuss the teachings of Jesus on forgiveness, giving examples from the Gospels.**

Jesus teaches forgiveness as a central Christian principle (Matthew 18:21–22). He emphasizes reconciliation, even with persistent offenders. The parable of the Unforgiving Servant illustrates God's mercy and the expectation of extending it to others. Jesus models forgiveness through His words on the cross, teaching love over retaliation. Believers are called to cultivate a forgiving heart.

**7. Describe the events of the Last Supper and explain its significance for Christian practice.**

Jesus shared the Passover meal with His disciples (Luke 22:14–20). He instituted the Eucharist, symbolizing His body and blood. This act represents covenant renewal, remembrance of His sacrifice, and spiritual nourishment. The Last Supper emphasizes obedience, service, and unity among believers. It remains central to Christian worship and sacramental life.

**8. Explain the major ethical teachings of Jesus as found in the Gospels.**

Jesus emphasized love of God and neighbor as the greatest commandments (Matthew 22:37–40). He taught humility, mercy, and peacemaking. Ethical living involves integrity, justice, and forgiveness. The Beatitudes highlight attitudes that define God's kingdom, guiding believers to righteous conduct in daily life.

**ALTERNATIVE B**

(The Apostolic Age)

**9. Briefly comment on the meaning of each of the following statements as used in the Apostolic Age.**

**(a) "For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." (1 Corinthians 2:2)**

Paul stresses the centrality of the cross in Christian faith. Human wisdom is secondary to the power of God revealed in Christ. Believers are called to focus on salvation and transformation. The statement encourages humility and dependence on God rather than worldly knowledge.

**(b) "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands." (Acts 17:24)**

Paul teaches that God is transcendent, not confined to human structures. Worship should focus on God's omnipresence. Believers are reminded to honor God through faith and obedience rather than ritual. This challenges idol worship and emphasizes the spiritual nature of devotion.

**(c) "But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it." (2 Timothy 4:17)**

Paul acknowledges divine support in ministry. God empowers His servants to fulfill His mission despite challenges. The spread of the gospel to Gentiles shows inclusivity. Believers are reassured that God strengthens them for tasks in His plan.

**(d) "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." (Hebrews 12:1)**

Believers are encouraged to remain steadfast in faith. The example of previous faithful people inspires perseverance. Christians must remove obstacles, including sin, to progress spiritually. The verse emphasizes discipline, endurance, and focus on eternal reward.

**(e) "The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed." (1 Peter 5:1)**

Peter instructs church leaders to shepherd faithfully. Leadership involves humility, guidance, and shared experience. Elders are reminded of both suffering and glory in service. Believers are called to respect and support spiritual leadership.

**(f) "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you..." (Acts 1:8)**

The Holy Spirit empowers believers for witness and ministry. Spiritual power equips Christians to overcome fear and opposition. It enables effective preaching and miraculous works. The verse underscores dependence on God's Spirit rather than human strength.

**(g) "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:7)**

Paul reflects on faithful perseverance in ministry. Believers are called to remain committed despite challenges. Spiritual discipline and courage are necessary for fulfilling God's calling. The statement inspires dedication and steadfastness in the Christian journey.

**(h) "For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Timothy 2:5)**

Christ is the sole mediator, connecting humanity to God. Salvation is available through Him alone. Believers are encouraged to trust Christ's role in reconciliation. The verse highlights the uniqueness and centrality of Jesus in the Christian faith.

**10. Discuss the teachings of Paul on the law and grace, particularly in his letter to the Galatians.**

Paul contrasts reliance on the Mosaic Law with justification by faith (Galatians 2:16). He teaches that salvation is a gift of grace through Jesus Christ. The law serves to guide moral living but cannot save. Believers are called to freedom in Christ, living by the Spirit. Paul emphasizes unity, equality, and ethical behavior motivated by faith rather than legalism.

**11. Describe the events of Paul's second missionary journey, highlighting his ministry in Athens and Corinth.**

Paul revisited churches in Asia Minor and traveled to Macedonia (Acts 16–18). In Athens, he addressed philosophers at the Areopagus, presenting Christ as the true God. In Corinth, he established a strong Christian community, preaching, teaching, and performing miracles. His work demonstrates cultural engagement and adaptability in evangelism. It laid foundations for church growth among Gentiles.

**12. Explain the purpose and main themes of Paul's letter to the Philippians.**

Paul encourages joy, humility, and unity among believers (Philippians 2:1–11). He emphasizes Christ's example of selflessness and obedience. The letter addresses perseverance in suffering and reliance on God's strength. It reinforces faith, hope, and contentment in all circumstances. Paul also expresses gratitude and provides pastoral guidance for community life.

**13. Discuss the factors that contributed to the rapid growth of the early church.**

Faithful witness of apostles and believers, often through miracles and preaching, attracted converts. Community support, shared resources, and ethical living created an appealing model. Persecution inadvertently spread believers to new regions (Acts 8:1–4). Guidance of the Holy Spirit empowered ministry, teaching, and leadership.

**14. How did the early Christians use the book of Psalms and the Old Testament prophets in their worship and evangelism?**

Psalms and prophecies were read and sung in worship (Acts 13:15–16). They confirmed Jesus as the Messiah and explained God’s plan. Scripture provided moral guidance, encouragement, and evidence of fulfillment of prophecy. Believers used it to teach, evangelize, and inspire faith in both Jews and Gentiles.

**15. Describe the circumstances that led to Paul's imprisonment in Rome and the significance of his ministry during that time.**

Paul was arrested due to accusations from Jewish leaders and political authorities (Acts 28:16–31). He continued teaching, writing letters, and guiding churches from prison. His ministry demonstrates faithfulness and perseverance despite constraints. Letters from this period, like Philippians and Ephesians, provide theological insight and encouragement for the church.

**16. Discuss the role of the Holy Spirit in the mission and growth of the early church as described in the book of Acts.**

The Holy Spirit empowered apostles to preach boldly (Acts 2:4). It guided decision-making and provided spiritual gifts for ministry. Miracles, conversions, and communal unity were manifestations of the Spirit. Believers relied on the Spirit for courage, wisdom, and direction, ensuring effective expansion of the church and fulfillment of Christ’s mission.