

**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 : 2009

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

(a) "Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.'" (Matthew 16:24)

This statement means that discipleship requires **radical self-denial** and a **willingness to suffer** (the 'cross') for Christ and the gospel. It signifies giving up one's selfish desires, ambitions, and even life for the sake of following Jesus and living according to his will. The cross, in that context, was an instrument of execution, emphasizing the seriousness of the commitment.

(b) "For with God nothing will be impossible." (Luke 1:37)

This is a declaration of God's **omnipotence** (all-powerfulness). It means that God has the ability to accomplish anything he purposes, regardless of how contrary it may seem to human experience or natural laws. It was spoken to Mary as assurance that she would conceive the Son of God.

(c) "The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed." (Luke 17:20)

This means the **Kingdom of God** is primarily a **spiritual reality** and an **inward presence** (e.g., in the hearts of believers and in the ministry of Jesus), rather than an outward political or physical event marked by specific, observable, spectacular signs that people could track or predict.

(d) "You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews." (John 4:22)

Jesus is drawing a contrast between the Samaritan worship (which was mixed and not based on the complete revelation of God) and the **Jewish worship**, which was grounded in God's specific revelation (Scripture and the Temple). The latter was the historical path through which **salvation** (culminating in Jesus himself) would come to the world, establishing the proper foundation for knowing and worshipping God.

(e) "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12)

This is the **New Commandment**, emphasizing that Christian love must be **self-sacrificial** and **active**, mirroring the unconditional and sacrificial love that Jesus demonstrated towards his disciples (and ultimately, on the cross). It sets a higher standard for community and fellowship.

(f) "I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)

This indicates that entry into the Kingdom requires an **internal, moral righteousness** that is deeper than the **external, legalistic obedience** and superficial piety practiced by many of the religious leaders. Jesus calls for obedience that flows from a changed heart and focuses on the spirit of the law, not just the letter.

(g) "Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'" (Matthew 9:13)

Jesus is quoting the prophet Hosea to stress that God prioritizes **compassionate action** and **genuine human kindness (mercy)** over rigid adherence to religious rituals and ceremonial duties (**sacrifice**), especially when the two conflict. True religion involves helping people over following ritualistic rules.

(h) "But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion." (Luke 10:33)

This statement, part of the Parable of the Good Samaritan, highlights the meaning of true **neighborliness** and **active compassion**. It contrasts the indifference of the religious leaders (Priest and Levite) with the spontaneous, selfless, and costly care shown by the Samaritan, who was an ethnic and religious outsider. It teaches that one's "neighbor" is anyone in need, regardless of background.

2. Importance of Jesus' Teaching on Prayer and Analysis of the Lord's Prayer

Jesus' teaching on prayer is foundational for Christian spiritual life. He emphasized sincerity, humility, and trust in God rather than public display or empty repetition. The **Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9–13)** serves as a model that balances reverence for God and dependence on Him for daily needs. It begins by acknowledging God's holiness and sovereignty ("Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name"), aligns the believer with God's will ("Your kingdom come, Your will be done"), and requests provision ("Give us this day our daily bread"), forgiveness ("Forgive us our debts"), and protection from evil

("Deliver us from the evil one"). This prayer teaches submission, repentance, gratitude, and trust in God's care, showing how believers should approach God as both King and Father.

3. Use of the Titles "Son of God" and "Son of Man" by Jesus

Jesus used the title **"Son of God"** to affirm His divine identity and special relationship with the Father. It emphasized His authority, divine origin, and role in salvation. For example, when He was baptized, a voice from heaven declared, "This is my beloved Son." Meanwhile, **"Son of Man"** was Jesus' favorite self-designation, rooted in Daniel 7:13, which points to a heavenly figure given authority and glory. This title also highlights His humanity and role as the representative of humankind. By using both titles, Jesus showed that He is both fully divine and fully human, fulfilling the Messianic prophecies and bridging the gap between God and man.

4. Events and Significance of the Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

The triumphal entry occurred as Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey (Matthew 21:1–11), fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9. Crowds welcomed Him with palm branches and shouted "Hosanna," acknowledging Him as the promised King. This event marked a public declaration of His Messianic identity. It was significant because it fulfilled Old Testament prophecy and showed that Jesus was a peaceful King, not a political conqueror. It also set the stage for the events of Holy Week, including His arrest, crucifixion, and resurrection.

5. Lessons from Jesus' Cleansing of the Temple

Jesus cleansed the temple by driving out those who were buying and selling within its courts (Matthew 21:12–13). He declared that the temple should be "a house of prayer," not "a den of thieves." This act teaches that worship must be pure, and that God's house should not be corrupted by greed or exploitation. Christians learn the importance of spiritual integrity, reverence in worship, and justice. It also shows Jesus' authority over religious institutions and His opposition to hypocrisy and commercialism in sacred spaces.

6. Circumstances Leading to Jesus' Trial Before the Sanhedrin

Jesus' growing popularity and His teachings, which challenged the authority and traditions of the religious leaders, led to increasing hostility from the Pharisees and chief priests. His cleansing of the temple and His claim to be the Son of God especially enraged them. They arrested Him at night with the help of Judas Iscariot and brought Him before the Sanhedrin (Jewish council), accusing Him of blasphemy. This reveals the leaders' hypocrisy and fear of losing power, and it shows that their trial was unjust and motivated by envy rather than truth or justice.

7. Events and Significance of the Resurrection of Jesus

The resurrection took place on the third day after Jesus' crucifixion (Matthew 28, Luke 24). Women followers, including Mary Magdalene, found the tomb empty and were told by angels that Jesus had risen. He later appeared to His disciples, confirming that He was alive. The resurrection is the cornerstone of Christian faith because it proves Jesus' victory over death, validates His divine nature, and guarantees believers' hope in eternal life. It also fulfills prophecy and affirms the truth of Jesus' teachings and mission.

8. Role of John the Baptist as Forerunner of Jesus Christ

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus by preaching repentance and baptizing people in the Jordan River (Luke 3:2–6). He fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3, “A voice of one crying in the wilderness.” He called people to turn from sin and warned of coming judgment. Most importantly, he identified Jesus as the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29), pointing people to Him. His role was to spiritually prepare Israel for the coming of the Messiah by calling them to humility and readiness to receive Christ.

ALTERNATIVE B

(The Apostolic Age)

9. Meaning of the Statements Used in the Apostolic Age

(a) “For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.” (Galatians 5:13)

Paul teaches that Christian freedom is not a license to sin or live selfishly. Believers are freed from the Law and sin through Christ, but this freedom must be used responsibly.

Instead of indulging in sinful desires (“the flesh”), Christians are called to serve one another in love. True Christian liberty is expressed through humility and care for others.

(b) “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10)

This verse highlights the purpose of salvation. Believers are not saved by good works, but they are saved for good works. God has intentionally created and saved each person to live a life that glorifies Him. As God’s “workmanship,” Christians are designed to live in obedience and righteousness, fulfilling a divine purpose prepared even before their conversion.

(c) “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” (Philippians 4:6)

Paul encourages believers to respond to life's worries with prayer rather than anxiety. Instead of being overwhelmed by fear, Christians should bring their needs to God with a thankful heart, trusting in His provision. This verse teaches reliance on God, maintaining peace through prayer, and cultivating gratitude even in difficult times.

(d) “Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved...” (1 Corinthians 15:1-2)

Paul stresses the central role of the gospel in the believer’s life. He reminds the Corinthian church that salvation is not a one-time event but a continual process that depends on remaining faithful to the gospel. This verse emphasizes the necessity of holding firmly to the message of Christ's death and resurrection for ongoing salvation.

(e) “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.” (Ephesians 1:7)

Paul proclaims the depth of God’s grace shown in Jesus’ sacrificial death. Through the shedding of His blood, believers receive redemption—freedom from sin and spiritual bondage—and the forgiveness of sins. This act is not based on human merit, but on the abundant grace of God, revealing His love and mercy.

(f) “To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.” (Ephesians 3:8)

Paul expresses humility about his calling, acknowledging that even though he once persecuted the church, God chose him to preach the gospel to the Gentiles. “Unsearchable riches of Christ” refers to the boundless blessings found in a relationship with Jesus, salvation, peace, eternal life. It highlights God’s grace in using unlikely people for His divine mission.

(g) “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42)

This verse describes the early Christian community after Pentecost. The believers lived in close spiritual and social unity, regularly engaging in teaching, communion, shared meals, and communal prayer. It serves as a model for the Church today, showing that fellowship and shared spiritual disciplines are essential for Christian growth and unity.

(h) “Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Paul encourages Christians to remain faithful and diligent in serving God. Even in the face of hardship or discouragement, they should remain “steadfast” and committed, knowing that their efforts in God’s work will have eternal value. This verse reassures believers that their obedience and service are meaningful and rewarded by God.

10. Importance of Paul’s Letter to the Romans in Christian Theology

Paul’s letter to the Romans is one of the most important theological documents in the New Testament. It presents a systematic explanation of the gospel, focusing on themes such as sin, salvation, justification by faith, grace, and the role of the Law. Romans clarifies that all people, Jews and Gentiles, are sinners in need of salvation and that righteousness comes through faith in Jesus Christ. The letter also explores God’s plan for Israel, Christian ethics, and life in the Spirit. Its theological depth has shaped Christian

doctrine, especially the Protestant Reformation, and continues to be a foundational text for understanding the Christian faith.

11. Events of Paul's Third Missionary Journey and Challenges in Ephesus

During his third missionary journey (Acts 18:23–21:17), Paul visited several cities, but his extended stay in **Ephesus** was significant. There, he preached for about two years, and many people converted to Christianity. However, this threatened the local idol-making business, especially the worship of the goddess Artemis. As a result, a major riot broke out, led by a silversmith named Demetrius. Paul also faced opposition from some Jewish leaders and was constantly under threat. Despite these challenges, his work in Ephesus laid the foundation for a strong Christian community and contributed to the spread of the gospel in Asia Minor.

12. Main Teachings of Paul's Letter to the Colossians

Paul wrote to the Colossians to address false teachings that were infiltrating the church. The main themes of the letter include the supremacy and sufficiency of Christ, who is described as the image of the invisible God and the head of the Church. Paul warns against being deceived by human philosophies, legalism, and mystical practices. He emphasizes that believers are made complete in Christ and should live transformed lives marked by love, humility, and holiness. The letter encourages the Colossians to seek heavenly things and to remain rooted in the truth of the gospel.

13. Circumstances that Led to the Appointment of the First Deacons

The appointment of the first deacons is described in **Acts 6:1–7**. As the early church grew, a conflict arose between the Greek-speaking and Hebrew-speaking Jews regarding the distribution of food to widows. The apostles were overwhelmed with responsibilities and realized the need to delegate some tasks. To address the issue, they appointed seven men, including Stephen and Philip, to manage the daily distribution and care for the needy. This allowed the apostles to focus on prayer and preaching. The appointment of deacons demonstrated the importance of servant leadership and administrative structure in the church.

14. Key Messages of Paul's Letter to the Thessalonians on the Second Coming

In 1 and 2 Thessalonians, Paul addresses concerns about the second coming of Jesus Christ (the Parousia). He reassures believers that Jesus will return as promised and encourages them to remain faithful and watchful. Paul clarifies that the dead in Christ will rise first, followed by the living believers, and together they will be with the Lord forever.

He also warns against false predictions and idleness, reminding the church to stay morally upright and spiritually alert. The letters emphasize hope, comfort, and the importance of readiness for Christ's return.

15. Role of Barnabas and Silas in the Spread of the Gospel

Barnabas and Silas were key companions of Paul in his missionary work. Barnabas initially introduced Paul to the apostles and joined him on the first missionary journey, encouraging and teaching new converts. His name means "son of encouragement," and he was known for his generosity and support for young believers.

Silas accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey after a disagreement with Barnabas. Together, they preached in places like Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea, often facing persecution. Both men played vital roles in strengthening early churches, spreading the gospel, and supporting Paul in his mission.

16. Role of Early Christian Communities and How They Lived and Worshipped

Early Christian communities were marked by **unity, fellowship, and devotion**. Believers shared possessions, supported the poor, and lived in mutual love (Acts 2:42–47). They met in homes for prayer, teaching, breaking of bread (communion), and singing hymns.

Their lives were centered around the apostles' teachings and living out Jesus' commandments. Worship was simple but powerful, often including Scripture readings, prayer, and communal meals.

These communities were distinct from the surrounding culture in their moral standards and sacrificial love. Their lifestyle served as a testimony of Christ's transformative power and attracted many to the faith.