

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

014/1

BIBLE KNOWLEDGE 1

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

Time: 2 ½ Hours

ANSWERS

Year: 2011

Instructions:

1. this paper consists eight questions.
2. Answer five questions.
3. Each question carries twenty marks.

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1. The presence of many Hebrews in Egypt posed a threat to a new Pharaoh. List down and explain the three methods he used to try to decrease their number and give three lessons you can draw from Pharaoh's plans against Hebrews.

(i) Enslavement of the Hebrews

Pharaoh subjected the Hebrews to forced labor, making them build supply cities, Pithom and Raamses, under harsh conditions. This was intended to weaken them and limit their growth.

Reference: Exodus 1:11

(ii) Ordering the killing of Hebrew baby boys at birth

Pharaoh commanded the midwives to kill all Hebrew baby boys at birth while sparing the girls. This aimed to reduce the male population and prevent rebellion.

Reference: Exodus 1:15-16

(iii) Throwing newborn Hebrew boys into the Nile

When the midwives disobeyed his initial command, Pharaoh ordered every Hebrew baby boy to be thrown into the Nile River to ensure their deaths.

Reference: Exodus 1:22

Lessons:

(i) Oppression can strengthen the resolve of the oppressed. Despite Pharaoh's efforts, the Hebrews grew stronger and more numerous.

(ii) God is faithful and protects His people, as seen in how Moses was saved and later used to deliver Israel.

(iii) Evil plans against God's people cannot thwart His purposes.

2. Rahab said, "True, men came to me, but I did not know where they came from; and when the gate was to be closed, at dark, the men went out; where the men went I do not know; pursue them quickly, for you will overtake them." (Joshua 2:4-6).

(a) Narrate the background story of those words.

(i) Rahab, a prostitute in Jericho, hid two Israelite spies sent by Joshua to gather information about the city.

(ii) When the king of Jericho learned about the spies, he sent men to Rahab's house to capture them.

(iii) Rahab misled the king's men by saying the spies had already left, while in reality, she had hidden them on her roof under stalks of flax.

(iv) She then told the spies about the fear of the people of Jericho and asked them to spare her family during the invasion.

Reference: Joshua 2:1-6

(b) Explain three good teachings Christians can learn from Rahab.

(i) Faith in God: Rahab believed in the God of Israel and trusted that He would deliver the city to the Israelites.

(ii) Courage: Rahab risked her life to protect the spies, demonstrating bravery in standing for what she believed in.

(iii) Compassion: Rahab sought protection not only for herself but also for her family, showing love and care for her loved ones.

3. Moses sent some people to spy out the Land of Canaan (Numbers 13:1-33).

(a) Give two criteria used to choose the spies.

(i) Each spy was to be a leader from one of the twelve tribes of Israel.

(ii) They were to be men capable of accurately assessing the land and its inhabitants.

Reference: Numbers 13:2

(b) Mention and explain three things they were to spy on.

(i) The strength and number of the people in the land: To determine if the land's inhabitants were strong or weak.

(ii) The quality of the land: To assess if it was fertile or barren.

(iii) The fortifications of the cities: To evaluate if the cities were strongholds or camps.

Reference: Numbers 13:18-20

(c) Write down the report which the spies brought causing the Israelites to murmur.

(i) The ten spies reported that the land flowed with milk and honey but was inhabited by powerful people and fortified cities.

(ii) They claimed the descendants of Anak lived there, making it impossible to conquer.

Reference: Numbers 13:27-29

(d) Explain the events which happened after the people murmured in Numbers 14 (Give six points).

(i) The people wept and grumbled against Moses and Aaron.

(ii) They expressed a desire to return to Egypt.

(iii) Joshua and Caleb encouraged the people to trust in God's promise.

(iv) The congregation threatened to stone Joshua and Caleb.

(v) God appeared at the Tent of Meeting, expressing His anger at their lack of faith.

(vi) God decreed that the current generation would wander in the wilderness for forty years and would not enter the Promised Land.

Reference: Numbers 14:1-35

(e) Provide two lessons you get from the event.

(i) Faith in God's promises is essential to overcoming challenges.

(ii) Complaining and lack of trust in God lead to consequences and missed blessings.

4. With reference to the Book of the Judges:

(a) Name five major judges and indicate the years each judged Israel.

- (i) Othniel - 40 years
- (ii) Deborah - 40 years
- (iii) Gideon - 40 years
- (iv) Jephthah - 6 years
- (v) Samson - 20 years

(b) Mention and explain five roles of the judges in Israel.

- (i) Deliverers: Judges rescued Israel from oppression by their enemies.
- (ii) Leaders: They led Israel in times of crisis, ensuring order and stability.
- (iii) Military commanders: Judges organized and led armies to defeat enemy forces.
- (iv) Mediators: They interceded between God and the people when Israel sinned.
- (v) Teachers: Judges reminded Israel of God's laws and encouraged obedience.

5. According to the creation stories in Genesis:

(a) What are the differences between mankind and the rest of the animal kingdom? (Give five points)

- (i) Mankind is created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), while animals are not.
- (ii) Mankind was given dominion over the animals (Genesis 1:28), meaning humans are caretakers of creation.
- (iii) Mankind has the ability to reason, make decisions, and engage in moral behavior, unlike animals.
- (iv) Mankind has a soul and a unique relationship with God through worship and prayer.
- (v) Mankind was given specific responsibilities, such as tending and caring for the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15).

(b) Show how man has failed to do what God expected of him through his difference from other animals of God. (Give five points)

- (i) Disobedience to God's commands, such as Adam and Eve eating the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3:6).
- (ii) Misuse of dominion, as seen in the exploitation of animals and destruction of the environment.
- (iii) Acts of violence and murder, as in the story of Cain killing Abel (Genesis 4:8).
- (iv) Replacing worship of God with idolatry and materialism, contrary to God's intention.
- (v) Failure to reflect God's character through sin, including dishonesty, greed, and immorality.

6. Moses is understood to have been a hero of leadership in the Old Testament. However, he did not reach the Promised Land.

(a) Explain the event which caused him not to reach the Promised Land.

- (i) When the Israelites complained about a lack of water at Meribah, God instructed Moses to speak to the rock to bring forth water (Numbers 20:8).
- (ii) Instead, Moses struck the rock twice in anger (Numbers 20:11).
- (iii) By doing this, Moses failed to honor God's holiness before the people (Numbers 20:12).
- (iv) God declared that because of this disobedience, Moses would not lead the Israelites into the Promised Land (Numbers 20:12).
- (v) Moses only viewed the Promised Land from Mount Nebo before he died (Deuteronomy 34:1-5).

(b) Suggest three measures to be taken against leaders who do not act according to the rules or regulations.

- (i) Removal from positions of authority to uphold accountability.
- (ii) Counseling and rehabilitation to address underlying issues and improve behavior.
- (iii) Establishing monitoring systems to ensure adherence to rules and prevent misuse of power.

7. "If you are not careful to do all the words of this law which are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awful name, the LORD your God, then the LORD will bring all on you and on your offspring extraordinary afflictions, afflictions severe and lasting, and sicknesses grievous and lasting..." (Deuteronomy 28:59).

Interpret this text and give five examples of affliction people suffer in the world nowadays.

The text emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commandments. It warns of severe consequences, including prolonged suffering and afflictions, for those who disobey. The afflictions are meant to demonstrate the seriousness of violating God's covenant and to encourage repentance.

Examples of afflictions today include:

- (i) Widespread diseases such as pandemics, including COVID-19 and HIV/AIDS.
- (ii) Natural disasters like earthquakes, floods, and famines, which disrupt lives and livelihoods.
- (iii) Poverty and economic hardships that leave many struggling to meet basic needs.
- (iv) Wars and conflicts, leading to death, displacement, and suffering.
- (v) Emotional and mental health struggles, such as depression and anxiety, resulting from societal pressures and personal challenges.

8. In 1 Samuel 4-7 there is a story about the great defeat of the Israelites by the Philistines, the capture of the ark of God, and the afflictions of the Philistines due to the ark.

(a) Account for the great defeat, capture of the ark, and the afflictions.

- (i) The Israelites brought the ark of God into the battlefield, hoping it would guarantee victory (1 Samuel 4:3-4).
- (ii) They were defeated because they treated the ark as a superstitious object rather than relying on God Himself (1 Samuel 4:10).

- (iii) The ark was captured by the Philistines, and the sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were killed (1 Samuel 4:11).
 - (iv) The Philistines placed the ark in the temple of their god Dagon, but Dagon fell and was broken, demonstrating God's power (1 Samuel 5:3-4).
 - (v) The Philistines were afflicted with tumors and plagues as a result of keeping the ark (1 Samuel 5:6-12).
- (b) Give two lessons you can learn from the story.
- (i) God cannot be manipulated or used as a means to an end; He requires true faith and obedience.
 - (ii) Reverence for God and His presence is crucial, as disrespect can lead to severe consequences.