

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: 2013

Instructions:

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

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1. Answer all items in (a) and (b). Each item carries one mark.

a) Provide short answers for items (i) - (x).

i. Moses said, “I am not eloquent, neither in the past nor since thou hast spoken to thy servant: but I am slow of speech and of tongue” (Exodus 4:10). Why did he say so?

Moses felt inadequate for the mission due to his perceived speech impediment and lack of confidence in speaking.

ii. “And the anger of the LORD was kindled against them, and he departed; and when the cloud removed from over the tent, behold, Miriam was leprous, as white as snow” (Num. 12:9-10). Why did Miriam become leprous?

Miriam became leprous because she spoke against Moses and questioned his leadership, demonstrating rebellion against God.

iii. Give me a present; since you have set me in the land of the Negeb, give me also springs of water” (Judges 1:15). Tell the event that occasioned this statement.

This statement was made by Achsah, Caleb's daughter, after Caleb gave her land in the Negev. She requested springs of water to make the land fruitful.

iv. “And if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve whether the gods of your fathers beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD,” said Joshua (Joshua 24:15). Give the response of the addressees.

The people responded by declaring their commitment to serve the Lord, rejecting other gods.

v. Give the total number of years spent by the descendants of Israel in slavery Egypt and in the wilderness altogether.

The descendants of Israel spent 430 years in Egypt and 40 years in the wilderness, totaling 470 years.

vi. Why was the grandson of Abraham Jacob given the name Israel?

Jacob was named Israel after wrestling with God, symbolizing his struggle and perseverance with divine and human beings.

vii. Covenant was an important aspect of God’s relationship with human beings. How was it confirmed?

The covenant was confirmed through signs like circumcision, sacrifices, and God’s promises, such as the rainbow after Noah’s flood.

viii. What do you understand by the term burnt offering?

A burnt offering is a sacrifice where an animal is completely burned on the altar as an act of worship, atonement, or dedication to God.

ix. Define the term Levite.

A Levite is a member of the tribe of Levi, chosen to serve as priests or assistants in temple worship and religious duties.

x. What do you understand by Urim and Thummim?

Urim and Thummim were objects used by the high priest to discern God's will in decision-making.

b) Match the items in List A with the responses in List B by writing the letter of the corresponding response beside the item number in List A.

i. This was a woman who lived 127 years. – J (Sarah)

ii. She complained for the complications of her pregnancy. – F (Rebekah)

iii. It is a name of a person and a town. – C (Abijah)

iv. He became a great man in a foreign land. – D (Joseph)

v. The name means, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land." – A (Gershom)

vi. This was the sister of Aaron. – H (Miriam)

vii. Father of Caleb one of the spies of the Promised Land. – G (Jephunneh)

viii. He was the last-born son of Jacob. – B (Benjamin)

ix. This was a priest of Shiloh. – K (Eli)

x. He was one of the sons of Samuel. – E (Abijah)

2. Answer the following questions with reference to the book of Genesis:

a) After Joseph was sold by his brothers he was taken by Potiphar in Egypt (Genesis 39:1-33).

i. What responsibilities were given to him by his master?

Joseph was made the overseer of Potiphar's household and was entrusted with managing all his possessions.

ii. Explain what happened until Joseph was imprisoned.

Joseph prospered in Potiphar's house due to God's favor but was falsely accused by Potiphar's wife of attempting to seduce her. As a result, he was imprisoned despite his innocence.

b) The chief baker said to Joseph, "I also had a dream: there were three cake baskets on my head, and in the uppermost basket there were all sorts of baked food for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating it out of the basket on my head" (Genesis 40:16-17).

i. Explain Joseph's interpretation of the dream.

Joseph interpreted that the three baskets represented three days. Within three days, Pharaoh would execute the baker, and birds would eat his flesh.

ii. Describe what happened to the chief baker thereafter.

As Joseph interpreted, the chief baker was hanged by Pharaoh three days later.

c) Explain the context of this statement, "Go up, and bury your father, as he made you swear" (Genesis 50:6).

This statement was made by Pharaoh to Joseph, granting him permission to fulfill Jacob's last wish to be buried in Canaan. Joseph had sworn to his father to ensure this was done, demonstrating the importance of honoring family and respecting last wishes.

3. When Gideon had to fight against the Midianites God told him to reduce the number of soldiers (Judges 7:2-25).

a) Why did God do so? (Give two reasons)

- i. God wanted to demonstrate that victory would come from Him, not through human strength.
- ii. He aimed to prevent the Israelites from boasting that their own power had saved them.

b) Describe five strategic procedures which were taken by Gideon to reduce the soldiers until he won the battle.

- i. Gideon first sent home all those who were fearful and afraid, reducing the number of soldiers significantly.
- ii. He conducted a test at the water, selecting only those who lapped water with their hands to their mouths.
- iii. He divided the remaining 300 soldiers into three companies for a surprise attack.
- iv. They used trumpets, empty jars, and torches to confuse and scare the Midianites.
- v. By God's guidance, Gideon attacked at night, capitalizing on fear and chaos among the enemy ranks.

c) Give three lessons which modern people can learn from the victory of Gideon against his enemies.

- i. Trust in God for guidance and strength, even when circumstances seem unfavorable.
- ii. God can achieve great things with small resources when His will is followed.
- iii. Courage and faith are essential for overcoming challenges.

4. Read the following text and answer the questions that follow:

Then Pharaoh said to him, "Get away from me; take heed to yourself; and never see my face again; for in the day you see my face you shall die." Moses said, "As you say! I will not see your face again" (Exodus 10:28-29).

a) Explain the context of the statement.

This statement was made during the ten plagues in Egypt. Pharaoh, frustrated by Moses' demands to let the Israelites go and the successive plagues, angrily dismissed Moses, threatening him with death if he returned. Moses responded, indicating that he would not return to Pharaoh, as the final plague (the death of the firstborn) was about to occur.

b) Explain the implied meaning of the words of the two speakers in the quotation. (4 marks)

- i. Pharaoh's words implied his refusal to listen to Moses further, symbolizing his hardened heart.
- ii. Moses' words signified the end of negotiations and the impending judgment of God upon Egypt.

c) Write four lessons which Christians and other Bible readers can obtain from the story of Pharaoh and the plagues.

- i. God is sovereign over all earthly powers, as shown through His judgments on Egypt.
- ii. Disobedience to God leads to severe consequences.
- iii. Persistent faith in God's promises, as demonstrated by Moses, brings deliverance.

iv. God is faithful in fulfilling His covenant with His people.

5. With reference to Genesis chapter 24:

a) Explain five stages on how Isaac got married to Rebekah.

- i. Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for Isaac from his homeland, ensuring she was from his relatives.
- ii. The servant prayed for God's guidance, asking for a sign at the well.
- iii. Rebekah fulfilled the sign by offering water to the servant and his camels.
- iv. The servant presented gifts to Rebekah and explained his mission to her family.
- v. Rebekah agreed to go with the servant, and she was married to Isaac upon arrival.

b) Use the story to instruct youths on five important issues to consider before taking a woman/man into marriage.

- i. Seek God's guidance through prayer before choosing a partner.
- ii. Consider family background and shared values in the choice of a spouse.
- iii. Look for signs of kindness and generosity, as Rebekah demonstrated.
- iv. Involve trusted family members or mentors in the decision-making process.
- v. Make the commitment willingly and with full understanding of its responsibilities.

6. According to Joshua chapter 8, the Israelites were attacking Ai after their failure in the first attempt as reported in Joshua chapter 7. In chronological order, describe the first attempt to attack the city of Ai; then explain three strategies which were used to conquer Ai.

First attempt:

The Israelites attacked Ai without consulting God and without realizing that Achan's sin had caused God's anger. They were defeated and humiliated by the people of Ai.

Three strategies to conquer Ai:

- i. Joshua set an ambush behind the city, dividing his forces strategically.
- ii. The main army pretended to retreat, drawing Ai's forces away from the city.
- iii. The ambush forces entered the unguarded city, setting it on fire and ensuring victory.

7. Answer the following questions according to the book of Samuel:

a) "Now the sons of Eli were worthless men; they had no regard for the LORD." (1 Samuel 2:12). Who were the sons of Eli and what did they do to be counted worthless?

The sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were considered worthless because they disrespected God's sacrifices, taking the best portions for themselves, and indulged in immoral acts.

b) Samuel served God as a judge, a priest and a prophet. With examples, justify this statement.

- i. As a judge, Samuel led Israel in military victories, such as defeating the Philistines at Mizpah.
- ii. As a priest, Samuel offered sacrifices to God on behalf of the people.

iii. As a prophet, Samuel conveyed God's messages, anointing Saul and David as kings of Israel.

c) Saul was the first King of Israel (1 Samuel 8:1-22). What was his character as noted by Samuel? Give six things Saul did to the Israelites to justify his character.

- i. Saul was impulsive, offering sacrifices without waiting for Samuel.
- ii. He disobeyed God by sparing King Agag and the best livestock in Amalek.
- iii. He was jealous, attempting to kill David multiple times.
- iv. He was insecure, consulting a medium for guidance instead of God.
- v. He imposed heavy taxes and forced labor on the Israelites.
- vi. He led Israel into unnecessary conflicts due to his lack of faith.

8. With reference to the book of Numbers 21:4-9:

a) Explain what occasioned the bronze serpent/snake and what the bronze serpent foretold.

The bronze serpent was created after the Israelites complained against God and Moses during their journey in the wilderness. God sent venomous snakes to punish them, and many died. When the people repented, God instructed Moses to make a bronze serpent and place it on a pole. Anyone who looked at it after being bitten was healed. This foretold Jesus Christ, who would be lifted on the cross to provide salvation to all who believe in Him.

b) In three points, tell how you can use the story in 8(a) to teach people about Jesus Christ as their savior.

- i. Just as the bronze serpent brought healing to the Israelites, Jesus brings spiritual healing and salvation.
- ii. Looking at the bronze serpent required faith, similar to the faith required in believing in Jesus.
- iii. The serpent symbolized God's provision for deliverance, as Jesus provides eternal deliverance from sin.