

9.0 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

9.1 CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Christian Religious Education examination is Section A part II of the Social Studies paper sat at the completion of 8 years of primary education. The paper has a total of 30 questions.

In the year 2014, 832,420 candidates registered for the examination. The mean of 2014 dropped from 21.38 to 20.86. The standard deviation increased from 4.78 in 2013 to 4.86 in 2014.

9.1.1 SYLLABUS COVERAGE AND THE SKILLS TESTED

The areas covered in the syllabus together with the skills tested in the examination are shown in table 21 and 22 below.

Table 21: Areas of Syllabus Coverage in 2014

Areas Tested in the Syllabus	Number of Items	Percentage
Old Testament	09	30.00%
New Testament	12	40.00%
African Religious Heritage	03	10.00%
Contemporary Christian Living	06	20.00%
Total	30	100.00%

Table 22: Skills Tested in the year 2014

Skills	Number of Items
Knowledge	06
Comprehension	07
Application	06
Analysis	02
Synthesis	02
Evaluation	07

The following observations can be derived from tables 21 and 22 above.

- The syllabus was adequately tested
- All the six skills were tested in the paper.
- Teachers need to encourage the candidates to apply the information learnt to attempt questions requiring high order cognitive skills of learning.

9.1.2 GENERAL PERFORMANCE

The table below shows the mark statistics for the last four years (2011 to 2014)

Table 23: Candidates General Performance in CRE over the last four years

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014
Marked out of	30	30	30	30
National Mean	18.20	22.99	21.38	20.86
Standard Deviation	4.55	5.19	4.78	4.86

From the table it is noted that there was a drop in the performance of the subject as shown by the mean of **21.38** in 2013 as compared to **20.86** in 2014.

9.1.3 ANALYSIS OF PERFORMANCE IN SELECTED ITEMS

The following is an analysis of the performance of the candidates based on a total population of 832,420 with a male population of **415,022** and female population of **417,398** who sat the examination. The girls had a mean mark of 20.79 and a standard deviation of 4.73 while the boys had a mean mark of 20.94 and a standard deviation of 4.98.

Figure 11

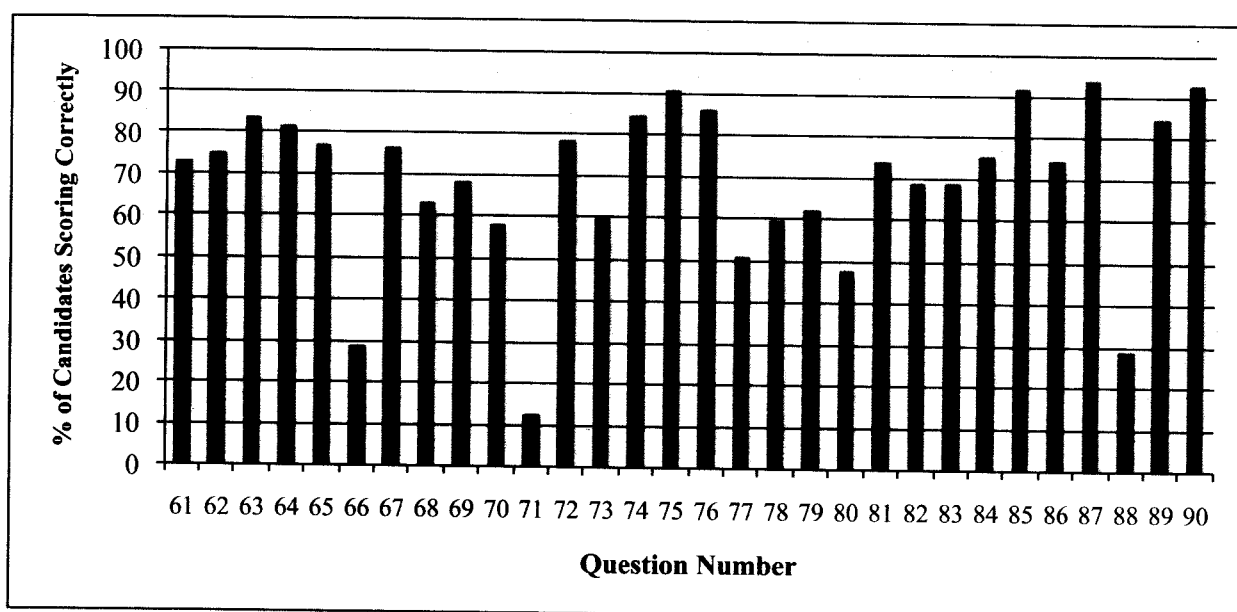


Figure 8 above shows the relative difficulty of each of the 30 items in the year 2014 CRE examination. The analysis is derived from the approximate percentage of candidates scoring correctly in each item in the paper.

Any item where the candidate scoring correctly is 30% or lower is perceived to have been poorly performed. In 2014 there were questions that were poorly performed, candidates scoring below 30%. This report will therefore look at the questions that were poorly performed i.e. had 30% and below scoring correctly.

Table 24: Questions which recorded a facility index of 30% and below

Question Number	66	71	88
% Answering the item correctly	28.59	12.17	28.66

The discussion will focus on analysis of the items given above based on the ideas, skills and thinking processes that candidate may have gone through so as to arrive at the correct responses. It also focuses the misconceptions that may have led the candidates to the wrong choices. The asterisk (*) in the response pattern denotes the correct response.

Question 66

Naboth refused to give his land to king Ahab because

- A. He wanted to give it to his relatives.
- B. He wanted to sell it for more money.
- C. He wanted to remain close to the palace
- D. The king wanted it by force.

Response Pattern

OPTION	A*	B	C	D
% choosing the option	28.59	11.13	19.57	39.24
Mean mark in other questions	22.94	18.50	18.95	21.04

The question came from the Old Testament part of the syllabus. There is some evidence of guessing as per the spread of the candidates in all the options. Many candidates chose option D. This indicates lack of adequate knowledge in this area because the answer is based on Jezebel whom wanted it by force.

Teachers should teach the Bible exhaustively to enable the candidates to differentiate almost similar events.

Question 71

Which one of the following events took place in the life of Jesus when he was eight days old?

- A. Baptism.
- B. Naming
- C. Dedication.
- D. Presentation

Response Pattern

OPTION	A	B*	C	D
% choosing the option	11.90	12.17	53.78	20.72
Mean mark in other questions	16.85	21.70	21.70	20.61

The question came from the New Testament section of the syllabus on the Early life of Jesus. It was an evaluation question and as such quite simple but to the point. It clearly shows that only the brightest candidates in the group with a mean mark of **21.70** in other questions got it correct. There seems to be evidence of lack of knowledge in this area or guessing as shown in the percentage of those selecting option C and D. Teachers as mentioned earlier should encourage candidates to keenly revise on areas that have been covered earlier in the syllabus.

Question 88

Margaret a standard six pupil has been given work by her mother. Her friend carol visits and asks her to escort her to the shop. As a Christian what should Margaret do?

- A. Ask carol to do the work.
- B. Do the work as fast as she can.
- C. Tell carol to come another time.
- D. Escort Carol to the shop.

Response Pattern

OPTION	A	B*	C	D
% choosing the option	3.63	28.66	63.42	2.88
Mean mark in other questions	16.56	21.53	20.98	17.85

The question came from work section of the syllabus. It was an analysis question. It is noted that all the options were correct but only the **main** reason was considered as the key evidence from the options and the responses made indicate a kind of mix up on the part of the candidates. Only the brightest in the group with a mean mark of **21.53** in other questions got it correct. Teachers need to handle questions of this kind with the keenness they deserve.

9.1.4 GENERAL COMMENTS

- (i) There was a drop in the performance of the paper as indicated in the statistics provided.
- (ii) Questions of the Bible seem to be pausing challenges to the candidates.
- (iii) Reading of the Bible to acquire the knowledge is mandatory. This is evident in all the questions that were poorly performed.