

313/1

CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PAPER 1

JULY/AUGUST 2026

2½ Hours

MARKING SCHEME

1. (a) Historical books in the old testament

- i. Joshua
- ii. Judges
- iii. Ruth
- iv. 1 Samuel
- v. 2 Samuel
- vi. 1 kings
- vii. 2 kings
- viii. 1 chronicles
- ix. 2 chronicles
- x. Ezra
- xi. Nehemiah
- xii. Esther

6×1=6mks

(b) Why the bible is considered as the word of God

- i. The authors who wrote the bible were under the influence of/ inspired by the Holy spirit
- ii. It reveals Gods character /attribute/nature
- iii. God communicates to human beings through the bible / people get God's guidance from the bible.
- iv. God was involved directly in the writing of some parts of the Bible/Ten commandments.
- v. It contains prophecies / promises made by God to human beings.
- vi. The bible reveals the person of Jesus Christ who is the son of God to humankind.
- vii. The bible has power to transform peoples lives / source of moral values
- viii. It is a record of Gods work / action/ events
- ix. The bible has remained relevant for all generations

7×1=7mks

(c) Ways in which the bible is misused in Kenya Today.

- i. The bible is used to take oaths in courts / offices by individuals who may not be believers / are not eligible
- ii. Some people use the bible to threaten others/ administer curses
- iii. Some people use the bible as a tool of trade / enrich themselves.
- iv. It is kept in places associated with evil/brothels.
- v. It is being used in cults / witchcraft to mislead people
- vi. Some people do not read the bible for spiritual growth / do not obey it
- vii. Some people keep the bible for display / it is neglected
- viii. Some people use the bible like an ordinary textbook.
- ix. Some people, mishandle the bible by writing in it / tearing pages
- x. Some people use specific Bible verses to support / realize their selfish ends/manipulations

7×1=7mks

2. (a) How God prepared Moses for his future role as a leader of the Israelites.

- i. God saved Moses from death – Moses was born when Hebrew baby boys were being thrown in River Nile/killed but God saved him.
- ii. Moses was adopted from pharaoh's daughter at the palace- this was Gods design to ensure that Moses underwent education/acquired leadership skills.
- iii. Nursed by his mother – pharaoh daughter employed Moses mother as a nurse this gave the mother an opportunity to bring up/train Moses in Jewish traditions/ Moses knew he was an Israelites not an Egyptian.
- iv. Escape from Egypt – this was Gods plan to expose Moses to the routes in the wilderness which he would use later to lead the Israelites.
- v. Life in wilderness - the harsh desert life in the wilderness enabled Moses to acquire perseverance/patience/endurance/virtues he would use to lead the Israelites.
- vi. Shepherd life – Moses became a shepherd looking after the flock of his father in law, a responsibility that prepared him to lead the people.
- vii. Marriage/family life – becoming a family man was another way of training Moses for leadership. A husband/father is expected to be responsible.
- viii. During the call of Moses– God revealed himself to Moses / revealed His name / identified Himself as God of the ancestors of Moses.
- ix. Moses visit to Goshen – God enabled Moses to witness the problems of the Israelites in the land of Goshen/was aware of their suffering.
- x. Empowerment – God empowered Moses to perform miracles.
- xi. Spokesman – God gave Moses a Spokesman/Aaron who would speak on behalf of Moses to Pharaoh

- xii. God's assurance – God promised Moses protection / assured him that he would bring the people up to the mountain.

7×1=7mks

(b) The conditions that God gave to the Israelites during the renewal of the covenant (Exodus 34 : 11-28)

- i. The Israelites were not to make covenants with the inhabitants of the land of Canaan /Canaanites /Hittites / Perizites.
- ii. The Israelites were to tear down the alters / idols that the inhabitants of the land used.
- iii. They were not to intermarry with the inhabitants in the land of Canaan.
- iv. They were not to make any graven /molten gods/idols/images.
- v. The Israelites were to keep the feast of unleavened bread for seven days
- vi. They were to dedicate their first born sons / first born of animals to God.
- vii. When going into the presence of God / to worship God, they were to ensure they had something to offer to God / not to appear before God empty hands
- viii. They were to keep the Sabbath day holy / work to be done on six days/observe the law of sabbath
- ix. All the Israelites men were to appear before God three times a year.
- x. The sacrifice of the feast of Passover was not to be left until morning.

7×1=7mks

(c) Reasons why Christians should not commit murder.

- i. Christians should not commit murder because life is scared / should not be destroyed by any one / life belongs to God
- ii. Killing brings hatred /revenge/ ill feelings among people/ undermines peace/ harmony in the society.
- iii. It terminates the continuity of a family.
- iv. It brings poverty if the person killed is the bread winner.
- v. Murder / killing others cause fear / anxiety in the society / people become insecure.
- vi. It creates sadness / misery / sorrow to the relatives of the deceased.
- vii. Murder leads to life imprisonment.
- viii. Murder undermines the Christians virtue of love / against God's principle of forgiveness.
- ix. It is disobedience of God's law / attracts God's punishment.
- x. It undermines the victims' right to life / against human rights.

6×1=6mks

3. (a)The failures of King Saul

- i. He offered the burnt offerings instead of waiting for Samuel to do it
- ii. He lacked patience to wait for Samuel who was to offer burnt offering to God.
- iii. He disobeyed Gods command to destroy the Amalekites completely by sparing the life of King Agag
- iv. He spared the best of the animals instead of destroying them.
- v. He lost faith/trust in God/divination/necromancy/consulted a medium.
- vi. He wanted to kill David / was jealous of David.
- vii. He was deceitful to the servant of God.

6×1=6mks

(b) The achievements of David as King of Israel.

- i. David conquered and defeated the enemies of Israel
- ii. He expanded the geographical boundaries of Israel.
- iii. He captured Jerusalem from the Jebusites.
- iv. He made Jerusalem the capital city of Israel
- v. He made Jerusalem a religious center by bringing the ark of the covenant there
- vi. He made peace treaties with his neighbors/diplomacy.

- vii. He composed psalms which are used during worship.
- viii. He united the twelve tribes of Israel under one ruler.
- ix. He made preparations for the construction of the temple.

$7 \times 1 = 7 \text{mks}$

(c) Reasons why Christians build churches

- i. Churches are used for worshipping God.
- ii. They signify God's presence / house of God
- iii. They are used for meetings / a place of gathering
- iv. Religious functions take place there
- v. They are places where members receive religious instruction / preaching
- vi. As a sign of prestige / recognition / identification
- vii. To demonstrate their faith in the existence of God
- viii. To follow the traditions of the old testament teachings on the use of the temple as a house of God
- ix. It can be used as a place of refuge in times of danger / calamity

$7 \times 1 = 7 \text{mks}$

4. (a) Differences between true and false prophets

- i. True prophets were called by God whereas false prophets did not have divine call / raised themselves.
- ii. True prophets received messages from God while the false prophets, prophesied out of their own minds/ imaginations.
- iii. The prophecies of the true prophets were fulfilled while those of false prophets, were not fulfilled
- iv. True prophets faced opposition/rejection while false prophets were liked by the people.
- v. True prophets spoke with authority from God /were fearless while the false prophets depended on their own authority / self confidence
- vi. True prophets were not paid for their work whereas false prophets received pay for their services.
- vii. The true prophets preached about God's judgement for sin whereas false prophets preached peace where there was no peace/sooth Sayers.

- viii. True prophets called people to worship the true God while false prophets promoted idolatry.
- ix. True prophets called people to the covenant way of life /repentance while false prophets were silent/ tolerated the evils/led people astray.

7×1=7mks

(b)Reasons why prophet Amos was against the way the Israelites worshipped God during his time.

- i. The Israelites had neglected Yahweh their true God.
- ii. They worshipped God as well as Baal / practiced syncretism.
- iii. Their worship was insincere / had no inner faith.
- iv. They were impatient during the worship ceremonies / wanted to go back to their businesses
- v. They had many empty ceremonial festivals /feasts
- vi. They defiled the place of worship by drinking wine there.
- vii. The worshippers were not righteous / they had mistreated fellow Israelites which was against God's teaching.
- viii. They gave sacrifices /offerings as a show off / pride / not for love of God
- ix. They built high places for worship of idols.

7×1=7mks

(c) Challenges that the church leaders in Kenya encounter while carrying out their work.

- i. Church leaders lack adequate funds to carry out their duties.
- ii. Lack of unity / co-operation from the members of the church
- iii. Some lack adequate skills for carrying out their work.
- iv. They face opposition from false prophets / cults / devil worship
- v. Poor means of transport that makes it difficult to reach some areas.
- vi. Permissiveness / moral decadence in the society
- vii. There is insecurity in some parts of the country / religious intolerance
- viii. Harsh climatic conditions / hostile environment hinder effective evangelism.
- ix. Negative influence from mass media / pornography.
- x. Rivalry among the leaders themselves

- xi. Political interference in their work.
- xii. Some suffer rejection / separation from their families.
- xiii. Some fail to lead exemplary lives.

6×1=6mks

5. (a) The stages followed during the renewal of the covenant at the time of Nehemiah.

- i. The people gathered in the public square in Jerusalem.
- ii. The priest Ezra read the law to the people.
- iii. The people constructed makeshift tents / shelters to celebrate the feasts of the booths.
- iv. They performed repentance gestures of raising / lowering their hands
- v. There was national day of confession / fasting as they wore sack clothes
- vi. Ezra led people in prayer of confession
- vii. They sealed the covenant by signing an agreement under the leadership of Nehemiah and the priest.
- viii. The people promised not to go against the mosaic law.
- ix. The re-distribution of the people in Jerusalem and country side.

8×1=8mks

(b) Reasons why Nehemiah carried out religious reforms in Judah

- i. To preserve the identity of the Jews as people of God.
- ii. To separate the Jews from foreign influence.
- iii. To purify the temple that had been defiled by keeping a foreigner.
- iv. To reinstate the services of the Levites as priests in the temple.
- v. To restore the tithing system that had been forgotten for the upkeep of the Temple.
- vi. To ensure that the Sabbath day was free from business activities.

- vii. In order to cleanse the Jews who had intermarried with foreigners / exposed to idolatry.

6×1=6mks

(c) Lesson from the renewal of the covenant by Nehemiah

- i. Christians should ask for their sins to be forgiven.
- ii. They should lead righteous lives.
- iii. Christians should demonstrate humility.
- iv. Christians should always pray to God.
- v. They should avoid groups that can negatively influence their faith in God.
- vi. They should teach others the word of God.
- vii. They should set aside a day for worship.
- viii. They should respect the church as a place for prayer.

6×1=6mks

6. (a) The role of healers in traditional African communities.

- i. Healers identify the causes of various sicknesses / diseases/illnesses.
- ii. They offer herbal medicine to the patients for physical / psychological healing.
- iii. They assist in dispelling witchcraft / sorcery / magic.
- iv. They perform cleansing rituals for individuals.
- v. They give herbs to increase fertility in people / animals / land.
- vi. Healers avert effects of curses in the society.
- vii. They train other people to become healers/offer knowledge on herbal medicine / practical application.
- viii. They guide and counsel people on matters of health.

7×1=7mks

(b) The significance of rituals performed during initiation ceremonies in traditional African communities.

- i. Prayers are said for protection of initiates from evil spirits/ blessings from God
- ii. Singing and dancing is done for entertainment / educating the initiates.
- iii. Sacrifices are made to ask for protection / blessings from God.

- iv. Libations are poured to appease the ancestors / invoke their blessings upon the initiates.
- v. Initiates are smeared with mud to make the body numb for less pain / disguise the initiates.
- vi. Feasting is carried out to celebrate the courage of the initiates / express joy.
- vii. Gifts are given to congratulate the initiates.
- viii. Seclusion – the initiates are secluded in order to be educated / well fed / protect them from evil eyes.
- ix. Washing in a stream of water for cleansing / marking new beginnings.
- x. Wearing of protective charms to keep the initiates safe from evil.

$7 \times 1 = 7 \text{mks}$

c. Reasons why the government has outlawed the practice of female genital mutilation in Kenya.

- i. It may lead to early marriage / school drop out.
- ii. Female genital mutilation causes complications during child birth.
- iii. Female genital mutilation is a dehumanizing experience / lowers human dignity.
- iv. It causes psychological challenges / trauma / stress
- v. It denies women the human right of enjoying sex.
- vi. It is an outdated / not adding value
- vii. It may lead to death due to overbleeding
- viii. The practice may lead to infection / sexual transmitted infections/STD'S.

$6 \times 1 = 6 \text{mks}$