
CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORM 4

MID-TERM 2 EXAMINATION 2026

MARKING SCHEME

QUESTION 1

(a) Seven reasons why the Bible is considered the word of God (7 marks)

- The authors were inspired by the Holy Spirit.
- It contains predictions/prophecies that have been fulfilled.
- It reveals God's nature, character, and will to human beings.
- It contains the words of God spoken directly ("Thus says the Lord").
- It has a unified message despite having many different human authors.
- It has the power to transform people's lives and morals.
- Jesus Himself referenced the scriptures as the authoritative word of God.

(b) Translation of the Bible from original languages to local Kenyan languages (7 marks)

- The Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew, and the New Testament in Greek.
- The first major translation was into Greek (the Septuagint) for Jews living in the diaspora.
- It was later translated into Latin (the Vulgate) by St. Jerome for the early Western church.
- During the Reformation, scholars translated it into European vernacular languages like German and English.
- Christian missionaries arriving in Kenya studied local languages to facilitate effective evangelism.
- Missionaries (like Krapf) translated portions of scripture into Swahili, Gikuyu, Dholuo, and other local tongues.
- The Bible Society of Kenya took over the work to ensure accurate, modern translations into remaining indigenous languages.

(c) Six reasons why Christians read the Bible (6 marks)

- To seek spiritual guidance, nourishment, and growth.
- To understand God's will and commandments for daily living.
- To strengthen their faith during times of trial, suffering, or temptation.
- To source materials for preaching, teaching, and evangelism.
- To connect with God during personal or communal prayer and worship.
- To learn from the historical successes and mistakes of early believers.

QUESTION 2

(a) How the Sinai Covenant was sealed (Exodus 24:4-8) (8 marks)

- Moses built an altar at the foot of Mount Sinai and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel.
- Young Israelite men were sent to offer burnt offerings and sacrifice young bulls as fellowship offerings to the Lord.
- Moses took half of the blood from the sacrificed animals and put it into large bowls.
- He poured the remaining half of the blood directly on the altar.
- Moses took the Book of the Covenant and read it aloud to all the assembled Israelites.
- The people responded in unison, promising: 'We will do everything the Lord has said; we will obey.'
- Moses then took the blood from the bowls and sprinkled it directly over the people.
- He declared: 'This is the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.'

(b) Seven ways the Israelites broke the covenant during the wilderness wanderings (7 marks)

- They constructed and worshiped a golden calf while Moses was up on the mountain.
- They constantly murmured and complained against God and Moses regarding food and water shortages.
- They expressed a lack of faith, wishing they had died in Egypt or remained slaves.
- They refused to enter Canaan out of fear when the ten spies brought back a negative report.
- They engaged in sexual immorality and idolatry with Moabite women at Baal-Peor.
- They rebelled against the ordained leadership of Moses and Aaron (e.g., Korah, Dathan, and Abiram).
- They broke the Sabbath laws by attempting to gather manna on the holy day of rest.

(c) Five lessons Christians learn from the breaking of the covenant (5 marks)

- God is holy and demands absolute loyalty and obedience from His people.
- Sin separates human beings from God and leads to severe consequences/punishment.
- Human nature is weak, requiring constant spiritual vigilance and prayer.
- God is merciful, slow to anger, and always ready to forgive those who repent.
- Leaders have a heavy responsibility to guide people away from idolatry and sin.

QUESTION 3

(a) Seven duties of prophets in the Old Testament (7 marks)

- To act as God's messengers and spokespersons to the community.
- To interpret the present and reveal future events according to God's plan.

- To condemn social injustices, oppression, corruption, and moral decay.
- To warn people of impending divine judgment if they failed to repent.
- To guide kings and political leaders in making godly decisions.
- To offer hope and reassurance of restoration during periods of exile or suffering.
- To defend true monotheistic worship and confront false prophets and idolatry.

(b) Social injustices condemned by Prophet Amos in Israel (7 marks)

- Oppression and exploitation of the poor, vulnerable, and needy by the wealthy class.
- Widespread corruption and bribery within law courts, denying justice to the innocent.
- Dishonesty in trade, including using rigged scales and selling low-quality or tainted grain.
- Robbery, violence, and hoarding of stolen wealth within their luxurious palaces.
- enslavement of fellow Israelites over minor debts (selling the righteous for silver).
- Pervasive sexual immorality, including temple prostitution and incestuous relationships.
- Indifference to the spiritual decline and suffering of the nation while living in luxury.

(c) How the church in Kenya today helps needy members of society (6 marks)

- Providing food, clothing, and temporary shelter during droughts, floods, or emergencies.
- Sponsoring education through bursaries, building schools, and financing vocational training.
- Offering affordable healthcare services by establishing and funding mission hospitals.
- Establishing rehabilitation centers for individuals struggling with substance abuse.
- Running orphanages, homes for the elderly, and centers for persons with disabilities.
- Empowering communities through financial micro-loans and agricultural development projects.

QUESTION 4

(a) Teachings of Jesus on the growth of the Kingdom from the Parable of the Sower (8 marks)

- The word of God is the seed sown into human hearts; its growth depends on the environment.
- Some hearts are like the path—hardened, allowing Satan to instantly steal the word away.
- Some hearts are rocky—they accept the word joyfully but lack deep roots, causing them to fall away during trials.
- Some hearts are thorny—growth is choked out by the worries of life, wealth, and worldly pleasures.
- Some hearts are good soil—they hear, understand, retain the word, and grow to bear rich fruit.

- The growth of the Kingdom requires active, faithful hearing and persistent obedience.
- Opposition and temptations will always challenge the expansion of God's Kingdom.
- Despite failures and losses, the ultimate harvest of the Kingdom is certain and abundant.

(b) Seven reasons why Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist (7 marks)

- To fulfill all righteousness and align with God's divine plan.
- To identify fully with human sinful nature, though He was sinless.
- To publicly launch and inaugurate His public ministry.
- To validate and endorse John the Baptist's prophetic message and ministry.
- To manifest the Holy Trinity (the Father's voice, the Son, and the Holy Spirit as a dove).
- To show that He was the expected Messiah, publicly declared by God.
- To set a perfect example of humility and obedience for His future followers.

(c) Five lessons Christians learn from the baptism of Jesus (5 marks)

- Believers must undergo baptism as an outward sign of inner repentance and new life.
- Christians should practice humility, regardless of their social or spiritual status.
- God openly affirms, blesses, and equips those who walk in obedience.
- The Holy Spirit is essential for empowering believers to complete their ministries.
- Christians are called to identify with and serve all members of society, including the marginalized.

QUESTION 5

(a) Healing of the Centurion's servant in Luke 7:1-10 (8 marks)

- A Roman centurion's highly valued servant fell critically ill and was at the point of death.
- Hearing about Jesus, the centurion sent Jewish elders to beg Jesus to come and heal his servant.
- The elders praised the centurion, stating he deserved help because he loved Israel and built their synagogue.
- Jesus went with them, but as He approached the house, the centurion sent friends with a message.
- The message stated: 'Lord, don't trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof.'
- The centurion explained that as a man under authority with soldiers under him, he understood command; Jesus only needed to speak a word.
- When Jesus heard this, He was amazed by the man's profound faith.
- Jesus turned to the crowd and declared: 'I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.'
- When the messengers returned to the house, they found the servant completely healed.

(b) Six reasons why some people refused to believe in the miracles of Jesus (6 marks)

- Spiritual blindness, stubbornness, and hardened hearts.
- Prejudice against Jesus' humble background and origins in Nazareth.
- Fears by the Pharisees and scribes of losing their religious authority and influence over the masses.
- Accusations that Jesus was performing miracles using the power of Beelzebub (Satan).
- Jesus' willingness to heal on the Sabbath, which violated their strict legalistic interpretations.
- They demanded spectacular astronomical signs rather than acts of compassion and healing.

(c) Six qualities of a true follower of Jesus from the Sermon on the Plain (6 marks)

- Practicing unconditional love, even toward enemies.
- Showing mercy, compassion, and forgiveness without keeping grudges.
- Generosity—giving freely to those in need without expecting anything in return.
- Avoiding judgment or condemnation of others; focusing on one's own faults.
- Enduring persecution, hatred, and insults joyfully for the sake of the Son of Man.
- Obedience—putting the words and teachings of Jesus into practical daily action.

QUESTION 6

(a) The unity of believers expressed through 'the Vine and the Branches' (8 marks)

- God is portrayed as the vine-dresser/gardener who tends the spiritual vineyard.
- Jesus Christ is the true vine, serving as the central source of life and nutrition.
- All believers are the branches, completely dependent on the vine for survival.
- Unity means remaining intimately connected and abiding in Christ's love and teachings.
- Any branch that fails to remain joined to the vine withers, dies, and is thrown into the fire.
- A branch cannot produce fruit by itself; it must derive life directly from the vine.
- When believers remain united in Christ, they produce abundant fruits of the Holy Spirit.
- The gardener prunes fruitful branches so they can become even more productive, showcasing shared purpose.

(b) Causes of disunity in the early church (7 marks)

- Disputes regarding the distribution of food to Hellenistic (Greek-speaking) widows versus Hebrew widows.
- Conflicts over whether Gentile converts had to be circumcised and follow Mosaic laws.
- Factionalism and personality cults, where members claimed allegiance to specific leaders (Paul, Apollos, Cephas).
- Abuse of spiritual gifts, where some boasted that their gifts (like speaking in tongues) made them superior.

- Misbehavior and selfishness during the Lord's Supper, where the rich ate sumptuously while the poor starved.
- Infiltration by false teachers who introduced conflicting theological doctrines.
- Social discrimination based on economic status, wealth, or cultural background.

(c) Five ways the Holy Spirit manifests Himself in the life of a Christian today (5 marks)

- Through the display of spiritual fruits like love, joy, peace, patience, and self-control.
- By empowering individuals with gifts such as preaching, prophecy, healing, and wisdom.
- Experiencing deep conviction of sin, guiding the believer toward repentance.
- Receiving divine comfort, peace, and strength during times of intense grief or trials.
- Experiencing boldness, clarity, and passion when evangelizing and sharing faith with others.

