

EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ESOWATINI

EPC

EXAMINATION REPORT

FOR

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 631/02

2019

GENERAL COMMENTS

There were 27 145 candidates who sat for 2019 Eswatini Primary Certificate (EPC) examination for Religious Education. This shows a decrease of candidates compared to 29 031 for 2018 EPC exam.

Candidates performance for the 2019 was good hence the highest candidate was able to score 93% while the lowest score was 00%.

The question paper had three sections which carries 20 marks each. Candidates were expected to answer all questions. Each question consisted of structured questions which covered the three assessment domains:

- Knowledge with understanding
- Analysis and interpretation
- Evaluation

The candidates performed well in the knowledge and understanding questions. On the other hand they had challenges in analysis interpretation and evaluation questions. However, there is a great improvement in the evaluation questions comparing to the previous academic years.

Question 2 of the paper was more assessable to most candidates compared to other questions.

AREAS TO NOTE:

1. Incorrect spelling responses;
 - Angles for Angels
 - Abruhum for Abraham
 - Weaked for wicked

GRAMMATICL ERRORS

1. Candidates had challenges with command words like:
Explain, describe, give advice, what lesson, how

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

NB: *Candidates were expected to Answer all questions, using short sentences and phrases in the spaces provided.*

QUESTION 1

This question was well done by most candidates. They had content on the story of Sodom and Gomorrah.

1. (a) (i) **Name two people who told by God about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah before it happened.**

Expected responses;

- Lot and Abraham

Common Wrong Responses

- Noah, Peter, Abel, Moses

- (ii) **Mentioned any two bad practices done by people at Gomorrah and Sodom.**

Expected Responses

- Wicked
- Evil
- Ungodly life
- Homosexuality

Common Wrong Responses

- Killing each other
- Man marrying another man worshipping other gods
- They were taking drugs/ using drugs
- Home sex
- Sexual transmitted diseases

(iii) Describe how God saved Lot and his family from the destruction of Gomorrah and Sodom.

Expected responses

- Abraham pleaded with God not to destroy righteous people in the cities
- God sent two angels
- Angels warn Lot and his family about the coming destruction
- Angels told Lot to take his family and belongings and move out of the cities
- In the morning, Lot was slow but Angels helped him to move out quickly
- Angels told Lot to move to the mountains
- After they had left, fire fell from heaven and destroyed everything in the two cities

Common Wrong Responses

- God saved Lot and his family because they worshiped God
- They listened to His instructions
- God told Lot and his family to live Gomorrah and Sodom so that he can punish the people who were corrupt
- God sent two Angels to the city of Sodom
- The two Angels came in the evening and they found Lot nearby the gate
- They told Lot and his family to live the cities
- God said to Abraham if I would find many people living a righteous life I would forgive them
- God found Lot and his family and saved them

(b) (i) What is learnt about Lot's character from the story of Sodom and Gomorrah?

Expected Responses

- He was humble, he wash the feet of the Angels
- He was hospitable, he gave shelter to the strangers
- He was obedient, he listened to Angels instructions
- Protective, he protected Angels from being Sodomised
- Unprotected, he gave his children to the sodomites

Common Wrong Responses

- We learn that we must do things which God instruct us to do and follow his commandment
- God likes people who listen to Him
- God loves His people and took care of them
- God is righteous

(ii) Why God spared Lot and his family?

Expected Responses

- Abraham had prayed for Lot's protection
- Lot was a good man
- He was obedient to the Angels
- He was righteous amongst his generation

Common Wrong Responses

- It is because Lot was the son of God.
- God looked at what was happening in Gomorrah and Sodom that it is not right to spare Lot

(c) Lot's wife looked back at Gomorrah. Give reasons why this action might have been wrong.

Expected Responses

Right

- She heard the cries of the people and was touched
- She thought about the her relatives
- She felt pity about what was happening

Wrong

- She had been warned not to turn back
- She broke the instruction of God not to look back

Common Wrong Responses

- It is because his wife listened to the big voice from his neighbour crying badly
- Lot's wife turned into a pinch of salt
- Lot's wife was part of the homosexuality that was practiced in Sodom and Gomorrah
- Lot's wife looked back because she had salt in her pocket, that is why even today we have salt

QUESTION 2

2. (a) A man owed a certain king huge amount of money. When he failed to pay the king wanted to put him in jail. He asked him giving sometime promising to pay all the money in full. The king forgave him his debt. When he got home he called his neighbour who owed him some small amount of money and forced him to pay or be sent to jail. His neighbour could not pay so he sent him to jail.

- (i) **Who had a bigger debt between the man who owed the king and his neighbour?**

Expected Responses

- The man who owed the king

Common Wrong Responses

- Neighbour
- king

- (ii) **Who showed love between the king and the man who owed the king in the story?**

Expected Responses

- The king

Common Wrong Responses

- The man
- The neighbour

- (iii) **Which action of the man who owed the king showed that he was not merciful?**

Expected Responses

- Taking his neighbour to jail
- Forcing his neighbour to pay

Common Wrong Responses

- He did not pay the money of the king
- He asked the king to give him sometime promising to pay the money in full

(iv) Which action of the king showed that he was forgiving?

Expected Responses

- He cancelled the debt of the one who owed him
- The king forgave the man his debt

Common Wrong Responses

- Taking his neighbour to jail
- Forcing his neighbour to pay

(b) (i) Who does the king represent in the story?

Expected Responses

- God/Jesus

Common Wrong Responses

- Righteous people
- The king represent good Samaritan
- Forgiveness
- Pastors

(ii) What lessons does the story teach?

Expected Responses

- We should forgive as we were also forgiven
- We should be merciful to others
- We should treat others as God
- Do to others as you would like done to you
- We should forgive 70x7

Common Wrong Responses

- The story teach us that if your neighbour fail not pay, put him in jail
- The owed the king when his neighbour failed to pay him money to Christian
- If you have been forgiven you should not forgive others
- You must not borrow money

(iii) As a Christian what advice would you give the man who owed the king when his neighbour failed to pay his money back?

Expected Responses

- To remember how he was also forgiven
- To give his neighbour more time to pay the debt
- Cancel his debt just as his was cancelled

Common Wrong Responses

- As a Christian I would advise him to do something that was done to him (isongeso, 50/50)
- Get a piece job to pay your debts
- Go to a shylock to get the money
- Tell the police to arrest the person who owes you

(c) Is forgiveness easy? Give reasons for your answer.

Expected Responses

- Yes

God commands it so if you are a Christian its easy

It helps people to live peacefully

- No

Some people do not ask for it

People may take advantage of you knowing you will forgive them

Common Wrong Responses

- Not easy to forgive is for Christian only
- It's not easy to forgive because even God couldn't forgive Adam and Eve
- God did not forgive Satan yet he was a senior angel

QUESTION 3

3. (a) (i) **What was the blind man of Jericho doing when Jesus passed by?**

Expected Responses

- Begging
- Sitting by the road side begging

Common Wrong Responses

- He shout at Jesus
- He was walking on the water
- Crying
- Shouting for help
- praying

(ii) **What did he say to Jesus?**

Expected Responses

- Jesus Son of David have mercy on me

Common Wrong Responses

- The son of David please help me
- Jesus "make see like you"
- Ntodana ka davide ngihawukele in Siswati
- Son of Joseph help me

(iii) **What was the reaction of the crowds that were with Jesus?**

Expected Responses

- They rebuked him saying he should keep quiet
- They shouted at him saying he should keep quiet

Common Wrong Responses

- By shouting so that Jesus not take care of the blind man of Jericho
- They were surprised
- They pushed him away
- They stopped him from shouting out
- They were jealous

(iv) Describe what happened when Jesus called the blind man to him.

Expected Responses

- Jesus said the blind man should be brought to him
- He throw his mantle and came to Jesus
- He asked him what He wanted him to do
- The blind man said he wanted to see
- Jesus told him to see, saying your faith has healed him
- Immediately he could see
- He followed Jesus

Common Wrong Responses

- The people stop the blind to go to Jesus to get help
- They opened the way for him
- Jesus took mud and saliva and paste it in the blind man's eyes
- Jesus told him to go and wash his eyes in the river
- Jesus asked him, "what do you see" the man said "I see trees moving"

(b) (i) What lessons can be learnt from the healing miracle of the blind man of Jericho?

Expected Responses

- Ignoring people's opinions when you want God to meet your need
- Jesus is willing to help those in need

Common Wrong Responses

- Respect God
- When God tell me o do I will do it
- Nothing is possible with God
- Jesus is the king of kings
- God is power

(ii) Give two lessons that can be learnt from the healing miracle of the blind man of Jericho.

Expected Responses

- Always have faith in God
- Faith is important for miracles to happen
- Persistence is important in asking

Common Wrong Responses

- God has power over nature
- God is everywhere
- Jesus is the son of God

(c) Does God still expect people to have faith for miracles to happen? Give reasons for your answer.

Expected Responses

- Yes God does not change, He still expects people to have faith even today
God works with miracles even today in order for people to understand him
- No
Miracles happen even before you ask sometimes

Common Wrong Responses

- It is because Jesus do miracles to show that God has power over everything
- Miracle is something wonderful happen which we cannot explain
- Today pastors are strong and have powers
- There is a lot of magic happening

QUESTIONS ANALYSIS

QUESTION 1

1. (a) (i) Most candidates attempted this question even though some of the responses were incorrect;

For example: Noah, Peter, Paul, Abram, Abel

- (ii) Learners talked about 'angles' instead of Angels

- Some told the story of the destruction of Gomorrah and Sodom instead of describing how God saved Lot from the destruction.

- (b) (i) They describe the character of God than Lot.

- He has power over nature
- He is all powerful

- (iii) Explain only one reason why God spare Lot and his family.

This question was also not well explained.

- (c) Candidates could not clearly take a stand but only gave supporting statements

- they have also had difficulties in making the difference between God and Jesus.
- Some candidates responses were as if they did not read the passage, hence they wrote their responses
- Candidates had a challenges in writing lessons they learnt

QUESTION 2

This question was generally well done by most candidates

- (a) (i) Most candidates made a good attempt on answering this question

- (b) Candidates supported both sides well

- **Yes**

Forgiveness is easy since Jesus Christ made an example in forgiving our sins

No

Forgiveness is not easy because you continue seeing the person who wronged and you cannot erase the bad thing he did.

- Candidates had difficulties in giving advices to real life situation

Answer: My advice is that every person does not always have money

QUESTION 3

2. (a) (i) He was asking for asking for donations

Sitting on a tree

- (ii) Candidates highlighted that he was asked to keep quiet, only few said the blind man was rebuked/ shouted

- (iii) Jesus please help me see

Please open my eyes

- (b) (ii) Candidates had a problem in writing lessons in relation to the story of the blind man of Jericho. Their common responses were

- Jesus is a healer
- Jesus has power over nature

- (c) Most challenging question for candidates.