

***EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ESWATINI***

**EPC**

**EXAMINATION REPORT**

**FOR**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (631/02)**

**YEAR**

**2022**

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| <b>EPC Religious Education Examination Report Paper (631/02)</b> |
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**GENERAL COMMENTS**

The candidates who sat for 2022 EPC Religious education (631/02) were 27 706. The number of entries show a drastic decrease of candidature when comparing them with 2021 candidates who were 32 683.

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

- **Knowledge and understanding**
- **Analysis and interpretation**
- **Evaluation**

The overall candidate's performance for the year 2022 was on average. A majority of the candidates were able to score at least half of the total score in each section. This means that most candidates were able to access the questions. The highest was 55/60 while the lowest score was 0/60.

Another observation was that candidates struggled to interpret the demands of some questions. Among the domains, candidates tried to answer questions on knowledge and understanding. However, they had challenges in interpretation, analysis and evaluation questions e.g where candidates were expected to give character, the meaning of a parable, lesson learnt as well as supporting their opinion.

**Points to note:**

1. Answering in SiSwati was common
2. Incorrect spellings were witnessed
3. Grammatical errors
4. Candidates also struggled with the following:

- (i) Reading a short passage and coming up with an answer
- (ii) Extracting a lesson from each story
- (iii) Drawing up a character of a person and symbolism

**SUMMARY ON SPECIFIC DOMAINS****1 Knowledge and understanding (AO1)**

In all the three sections, candidates were able to score lots of marks. They were able to recall facts from each question. Nonetheless, they still had challenges in writing exact words taken from RSV Bible.

**2 Analysis and interpretation (AO2)**

In this section, candidates tried to answer according to the demand of each question. They were able to come up with lesson learnt but had challenges in giving out characterization and symbolism.

### 3 Evaluation (AO3)

The section requires a candidate to take a stand and support his or her opinion. Some did take a stand but minority struggled to support their opinion rather their reasons were not Biblically based or too general. For instance, no, pastors should not go and look for people who no longer come to church because pastor's wives gossip too much.

#### COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

NB: *Candidates were expected to Answer all questions, in the spaces provided.*

#### QUESTION 1

(a) (i) Where did Lot and his family live? [1]

**Expected responses:**

- Sodom

**Common wrong responses:**

- Zoar
- Gomorrah
- Jerusalem

(ii) Why did Lot's wife turn into a pillar of salt? [1]

**Expected responses:**

- She looked back
- She turned back

**Common wrong responses:**

- She disobeyed God's instruction
- She wanted to look at what was happening at Sodom and Gomorrah

(iii) What two things did Lot do when he saw the Angels? [2]

**Expected responses:**

- He rose to meet them
- He welcomed them
- He bowed down with his face to the ground

**Common wrong responses:**

- He called them to come into his house
- He washed their feet and gave them food
- He protected them from the evil people of Sodom and Gomorrah

(iv) Explain **two** reasons why God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah? [4]

**Expected responses:**

- They did not live Godly lives
- People lived wicked lives
- People practiced homosexuality

**Common wrong responses:**

- People were corrupt and violent
- The people were evil
- People were not listening to God's instructions

- (b) (i) "Will you intend to destroy the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city..." (Genesis 18:24)

What character of Abraham can we learn from his words?

[2]

**Expected responses:**

- He is compassionate/ loving. He asked for God's mercy on behalf of the people.
- He is brave. He did not fear God, but he talked to Him directly and told Him how he felt.
- He is wise. He did not want innocent people to suffer.
- He was considerate, he pleaded for the righteous ones.

**Common wrong responses:**

- He was righteous, he walked with God, he was blameless, selfish and obedient.

- (ii) Why did God spare Lot and his family from destruction?

[2]

**Expected responses:**

- They lived a pure life before God
- They were righteous in the eyes of God
- They were good people or morally upright in Sodom

**Common wrong responses:**

- Abraham pleaded with God that they should not be destroyed
- They protected the angels from evil people and further gave them food to eat
- They lived a good life
- They did not practice homosexuality

- (iii) What two lessons can be learnt from the story of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah?

[4]

**Expected responses:**

- God punishes/hates sin and that is why He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah
- Obedience is important. Lot and his family were spared because of their obedience to God
- It is important to follow God's instruction. That is why God punished Lot's wife for not following His instructions.

**Common wrong responses:**

- God hates sinners
- God has power over nature
- Everything is possible with God

(c) Do you think Lot can be blamed for his wife turning into a pillar of salt? Give reason for your answer.[4]

**Expected responses:**

- Yes. Lot can be blamed for his wife turning into a pillar of salt because as a leader he should have put his wife in front not behind him.
- No. Lot cannot be blamed for his wife turning into a pillar of salt because she heard the instruction that they should not look back.

**Common wrong responses:**

- No, Lot cannot be blamed because he was righteous
- Yes, Lot did not tell his wife to look back
- Lot gave his wife the instruction not to look back

**QUESTION 2**

**Read this story carefully and answer the questions below:**

*Anele, a nine-year-old orphan girl of Mampempeni, accidentally dropped her grandfather's valuable dish while washing dishes in the sink. Her six-year old brother Sizwe advised her not to report the issue to the elders, but to throw the broken pieces in the neighbours pit toilet.*

*Anele would not eat and play with other kids for two weeks. Her grandmother noticed this and asked what was wrong with her. She cried and told her granny the whole story of accidentally braking grandfather's dish and throwing it away into the neighbours pit toilet.*

*Anele's grandmother reported the matter to her grandfather who talked to Anele and finally forgave her. Anele was happy again and went the kitchen to give her granny a thank you hug.*

**(a) (i) Define forgiveness. [2]**

**Expected responses:**

- Means that you are no longer angry at someone for what they did to you that was wrong or hurtful.
- Forgetting the wrong that one has done to you.

**Common wrong responses:**

- It is when you forgive someone
- It is a state of being calmness
- When apologizing to someone
- It is an act of forgiving

**(ii) Suggest what Anele could have done after breaking the dish? [2]**

**Expected responses:**

- Report to the elders and ask for forgiveness

**Common wrong responses:**

- She threw the broken pieces into the neighbours pit toilet
- She cried and could not eat and play for two weeks
- Anele was not supposed to drop her father's valuable dish

(iii) What two things in the story showed that Anele was guilty? [2]

**Expected responses:**

- She could not eat
- She could not play

**Common wrong responses:**

- She threw the dish into her neighbour pit toilet
- Anele reported to her grandmother
- She was happy again, she hugged her granny

(iv) Explain why is it important to forgive those who wrong us. [4]

**Expected responses:**

- Helps us to live in peace with them and have inner peace
- To be like Jesus or God who forgives
- Helps us to avoid sin
- The Bible command us to forgive

**Common wrong responses:**

- So that when you have a problem, they will forgive you
- So that we can be blessed and have many days
- Forgive you shall enter the kingdom of God
- Jesus died for us

(v) List two Biblical teachings about forgiveness. [2]

**Expected responses:**

- Forgive seventy by seven times
- God forgive those who ask for forgiveness
- Forgive others who sin against you

**Common wrong responses:**

- To live in peace
- To live a long life
- To be blessed by God
- Forgive 70x70

(a) (i) What do we learn about grandfather's character in the story? [2]

**Expected responses:**

- Forgiving, he forgave Anele
- Loving and caring, he was able to speak to Anele
- Compassion, he understood Anele's mistake

**Common wrong responses:**

- He was righteous
- He was a forgiver
- He was a good man

(ii) What lesson can be learnt from the story? [2]

**Expected responses:**

- Truth can set us free
- Be careful of bad advisors
- God forgives you so that you can forgive others
- Report and ask to be forgiven when you have done something wrong

**Common wrong responses:**

- Anele reported to her grandfather and ask for forgiveness
- Love your neighbour as you love yourself

(b) Do you think Anele deserved her grandfather's forgiveness? Give a reason for your answer. [4]

**Expected responses:**

- Yes, Anele deserved her grandfather's forgiveness because the Bible commands us to forgive continuously
- Yes, she deserves her grandfather's forgiveness because it was not her intension to break the dish
- No, she does not deserve her grandfather's forgiveness because she did not report and asked for forgiveness about her wrong doing

**Common wrong responses:**

- Yes, she deserves her grandfather's forgiveness because they were relatives
- Yes, Anele deserves her grandfather's forgiveness because she reported her problem
- No, because she was happy again and gave her grandmother a hug

**QUESTION 3**

(a) (i) Define a parable. [2]

**Expected responses:**

- It is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning
- A simple story that Jesus used to teach a moral and spiritual lesson to His disciples.

**Common wrong responses:**

- It is a short story that Jesus tell to His disciples
- It is a moral story
- A parable is a wonderful thing happen that cannot be explain

(ii) In the parable of the lost sheep, how many sheep did the shepherd have? [1]

**Expected responses:**

- One hundred sheep

**Common wrong responses:**

- 99 sheep
- Hundred sheep
- 5 000 sheep
- 100 shepherd

(iii) In the parable of the lost sheep, how many sheep did the shepherd look for? [1]

**Expected responses:**

- One sheep

**Common wrong responses:**

- 100 sheep
- 2 sheep
- One shepherd

(iv) Mention two things the shepherd did after he had found the lost sheep. [2]

**Expected responses:**

- He carried the sheep on His shoulders
- He rejoiced
- He celebrated with his friends and neighbors'

**Common wrong responses:**

- Take it back to the kraal
- Put it on the neck
- He was happy, thank God and made a party

(v) Explain the meaning of the parable of the lost sheep. [2]

**Expected responses:**

- God is willing to reach out to all sinners to forgive them
- Jesus has come for the lost, He never give up until He finds them

**Common wrong responses:**

- There is joy in heaven when one sinner repents
- When you are lost you will be found

(b) (i) What do the following symbolize in the parable of the lost sheep mean? [2]

**Expected responses:**

- **Lost sheep:** Sinners, lost human being, people who fallen back to sin
- **Shepherd:** Jesus Christ, God, pastors, priest

**Common wrong responses:**

- Lost sheep: sin, animal that is lost, imvu lelahlekile
- Shepherd: Umelusi, disciples of Jesus

(ii) What do we learn about the character of the shepherd? [4]

**Expected responses:**

- Loving, when he found the sheep he put it on his shoulders
- Caring, he looked for the one lost sheep
- Grateful, he celebrated with his friends and neighbors'
- He was observant, he was able to see that one sheep was lost

**Common wrong responses:**

- Take care of your animals
- Faithful
- Righteous
- Obedient
- God loves His sheep so much
- He is careless, he lost a sheep

(iii) Explain lessons learnt from the parable of the lost sheep [4]

**Expected responses:**

- Repentance of one sinner has value
- It is important to worry about the lost (sinful)
- The heavens are happy when one sinner repents
- We are all equal in the eyes of God, even the sinners are important

**Common wrong responses:**

- Look for what is lost and find it
- What is lost is going to be found
- God never leaves the lost
- You must take good care of your livestock

(c) Do you think it is necessary for pastors to look for people who no-longer come to church? Give a reason for your answer. [4]

**Expected responses:**

- Yes. Pastors should look for Christians who no longer come to church because God is happy when a sinner repents.
- Yes. Pastors should look for people who no-longer come to church because the Bible says so.
- No. Pastors should not look for people who no-longer come to church because it is their choice.

**Common wrong responses:**

- Yes, because they do not do private worship at home
- Yes, because some go to other churches and they do not report back to their pastors
- No, people do not want because in churches they want lot of money
- No, because the pastor will gossip about their troubles in church