



EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT CHIEF DIRECTORATE

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2018 NSC CHIEF MARKER'S REPORT

SUBJECT:	RELIGION STUDIES
PAPER:	1
DURATION OF PAPER:	2HOURS
DATES OF MARKING:	01 DECEMBER 2018

SECTION 1: (General overview of Learner Performance in the question paper as a whole)

The following are the results of 100 scripts which have been randomly sampled.
Question 1 : $1823/50 \times 100 = 36.46\%$
Question 2 : $1072/50 \times 100 = 21.44\%$
Question 3 : $535/50 \times 100 = 10.70\%$
Question 4: $1558/50 \times 100 = 31.16\%$
Question 5: $1512/50 \times 100 = 30.24\%$

SECTION 2: Comment on candidates' performance in individual questions

(It is expected that a comment will be provided for each question).

QUESTION 1
(a) General comment on the performance of learners in the specific question. Was the question well answered or poorly answered?
The candidates have not performed well in question, fifty eight (58) candidates obtained between 6 marks to 19 marks .This indicates that 58 out of hundred scripts have performed poorly. 31 scripts range between 20 – 29 marks. This is also a very poor performance. The 8 scripts range between 30 – 39 marks. Only one script which has obtained 42 marks. This is a bleak condition.
(b) Why the question was poorly answered? Also provide specific examples, indicate common errors committed by learners in this question, and any misconceptions.
It is evident that the majority of candidates are not able to respond to the questions that are contained or covered in section A .In 1.2 majority of candidates responded well in the first part of the question but they failed to give an appropriate explanation. This means that the candidates got fifty percent from each sub-question of 1.2 .There are two possible explanations in this case, either the do not understand the questions or misinterpret the instruction.
(c) Provide suggestions for improvement in relation to Teaching and Learning
The firs suggestion is that the candidates need to be exposed to section A questions in every informal task given at school level. They need to be advised on how to interpret questions in section A. They need again to be grilled on the understanding of the concepts, religious teachings and the curriculum must be completed in time so that both the teachers and learners may have sufficient time for a very meaningful revision.
(d) Describe any other specific observations relating to responses of learners and comments that are useful to teachers, subject advisors, teacher development etc.
In section A 1.4 type of question must be reviewed from time to time. If the learners' response is false they have to give a valid explanation.1.2 The learners must be able to explain why the word does not fit .They must be taught on how to indicate that in a question, like this one on 1.4 learners or candidates are not expected to dwell more on what the Roman catholic church is but are expected to state why it does not fit not to explain. Lastly, the questions used must always include questions that are in the fashion of section A style.

QUESTION 2

A General comment on the performance of learners in the specific question .Was the question well answered or poorly answered?

According to random sampling 22 candidates ranged between 4 marks and 19 these candidates performed very poorly .11 candidates ranged between 20 marks and 28 marks. At least these candidates performed better 14 candidates ranged between 30 marks to 48 marks. At least these candidates performed well in this question.

(b) The candidates did their best. The challenge for them was in 2.1.2, 2.2 and 2.3.They could not differentiate between religious teaching and religious believes.

(c)Provide suggestions for improvement in relation to teaching and learning.

The emphasis in the teaching process should be on religious teachings, beliefs, dogma, doctrine and ideology. The emphasis should also be on inter-religious organisations ;

- Their background
- Their mission, work and responsibilities both locally and internationally examples are 2.1.1 and 2.1.2."The word globally must be understood so that learners don't see the words like this as nightmares when they are in the examination room. But in all, most candidates responded positively on 2.4 and 2.5

Question 3

(a) General comment on the performance of learners in the specific question. Was the question well answered or poorly answered?

In the question 17 candidates performed very poorly their marks rage between 0 -18.This is very problematic. 5 Candidates marks' are ranged between 20-28.These are moderate responses.6 candidates' marks range between 30-48, so at least such performance is expected so that's why we say we need to improve so that we can see more achievement.

Religion and media needs special attention. When teaching takes place in the classroom, context must be in the fore front .We are part of the global village, there for teaching must be as such. The candidates scored marks in 3.5 ;3.5.1;3.5.2;-3.5.3, but they were not doing very convincingly in 3.5.4 and 3.5.5.It is on this bases that contextualisation must be implemented appropriately

(c)Provide suggestions for improvement in relation to teaching and learning

- Define the word media.
- The relevant examples must be given in the process of teaching. But the textbook must be used as a reference and learners must be taught to think out of the box, as stated above in section A that S.A is part of the global village.
- This means that learners must be encouraged to read newspaper, magazines and so on.
- The learners must be current at what is happening around the globe.

QUESTION 4

(a) General comment on the performance of learners in the specific question .Was the question well answered or poorly answered?

Much had been said that teaching must be both contextualised and globalised. The learners need to know that human rights are embedded in texts of different religions and were endorsed in 1948 by the production of the declaration of the human rights By UN.

QUESTION 5

General performance was well but the main challenge was on 5.1.2; sannyasin and 5.1.4; dharma. In 5.4 most candidates could just compare the concepts 'with religion and ideology. They could not explain ideology clearly. There was no glaring challenge for the majority of candidate who choose this question.