

9.2 HINDU RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (HRE)

In the year 2019 24 candidates sat for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) Hindu Religious Education (HRE). The table below shows the statistics for the paper in the last four years.

Table 29: The National Raw Statistics for the KCPE (HRE) for the last four years

| Year | Candidature | Mean | Standard Deviation | Maximum Mark |
|------|-------------|-------|--------------------|--------------|
| 2016 | 45 | 14.84 | 4.19 | 30 |
| 2017 | 32 | 16.00 | 4.19 | 30 |
| 2018 | 38 | 20.45 | 5.61 | 30 |
| 2019 | 24 | 19.88 | 5.57 | 30 |

From the above table, the following observations can be made:

- There was a decline in candidature in 2019 when compared to the year 2018.
- The performance of candidates in the year 2019 dropped as attested by the mean of 19.88 when compared to that of 20.45 in the year 2018.

9.2.1 SYLLABUS COVERAGE AND THE SKILLS TESTED

The areas covered in the syllabus together with the skills tested in the examination are shown in table 30 and 31 below.

Table 30: Areas of Syllabus Coverage in 2019

| Areas Tested in the Syllabus | Number of Items |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Attributes of Paramatma | 02 |
| Manifestations of Paramatma | 03 |
| Scriptures | 03 |
| Principles of Dharma | 06 |
| Rites and Rituals | 04 |
| Utsav | 03 |
| Yoga | 03 |
| Sadachar | 04 |
| Hindu Heritage | 02 |
| Total | 30 |

Table 31: Skills Tested in the year 2019

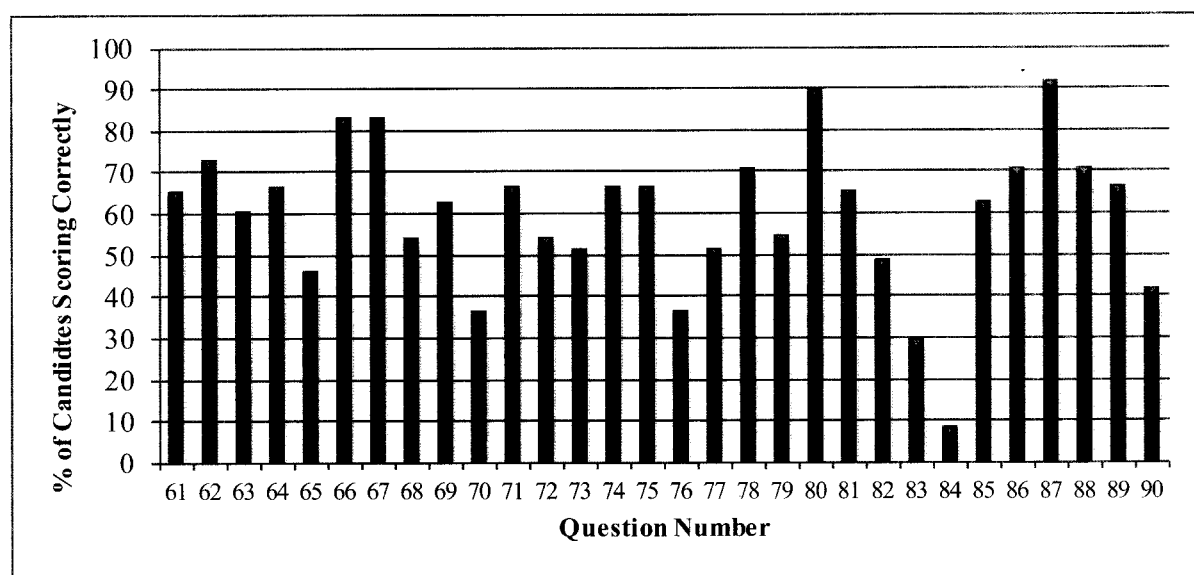
| Skills | Number of Items |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Knowledge | 03 |
| Comprehension | 03 |
| Application | 09 |
| Analysis | 09 |
| Synthesis | 03 |
| Evaluation | 03 |
| Total | 30 |

9.2.2 ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES' PERFORMANCE

This report is based on a total of **24** candidates who sat the Hindu Religious Education examination in 2019. The total candidates had a mean of **19.88** and standard deviation of **5.57**. There were **15** girls whose mean was **21.00** and a standard deviation of **4.97** and **9** boys whose mean was **18.00** and a standard deviation of **6.28**.

The report gives the relative difficulty of each of the **thirty (30)** questions in the figure below. It also discusses an analysis of the candidates' response patterns in the poorly performed questions. Any question where the total number of candidates scoring correctly is 40% and above. Below 40% is considered to be poorly performed.

Figure 13



9.2.3 ANALYSIS OF RELATIVELY POORLY PERFORMED QUESTIONS

The table below shows candidates' performance in the poorly performed question in the year 2019 KCPE (HRE) examination.

Table 32: Poorly Performed Questions in the 2019 KCPE (HRE) Examination

| Question Number | 70 | 76 | 83 | 84 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|------|
| % of candidates choosing correct responses | 36.36 | 36.36 | 29.17 | 8.83 |

70. Which one of the following statements about *Atma* is correct? It

- A. activates the body
- B. enjoys Karmas
- C. experiences suffering
- D. fulfills its desires.

Response Patterns

| Option | A* | B | C | D |
|------------------------------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| % choosing the option | 36.36 | 6.06 | 18.18 | 9.09 |
| mean mark in other questions | 22.00 | 6.50 | 21.17 | 18.67 |

This was a knowledge question. The correct option A was picked by 38.36 % of the candidates. These were the bright candidates as is attested by their mean of 22.87. Teachers to expound more on the principles of Dharma.

76. Hindu festivals are celebrated with light because it is a symbol of

- A. love
- B. wisdom
- C. peace
- D. unity.

Response Patterns

| Option | A | B* | C | D |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| % choosing the option | 9.09 | 36.36 | 12.12 | 42.42 |
| mean mark in other questions | 22.33 | 20.78 | 5.00 | 20.36 |

The question required the learners to have basic knowledge on Utsavs. This is a ceremony that is performed regularly and the learners need to relate as well as understand the meanings of all rituals performed.

83. The **main** reason why meditation is important to a yoga practitioner is because

It

- A. improves health
- B. gives peace
- C. increases concentration
- D. helps self-examination

Response Patterns

| Option | A | B | C | D* |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| % choosing the option | 29.17 | 37.50 | 29.17 | 4.10 |
| mean mark in other questions | 18.57 | 18.67 | 22.14 | 24.00 |

This is an evaluation question which came from Yoga part of the syllabus. The candidate is supposed to know the reasons why Yoga is performed. However, in this case the candidates could not take their time and critically analyze the choices given hence majority went for option B. The teachers should ensure continuous revision of the topics covered earlier since they are all critical when it comes to answering of questions.

84. "You have to sacrifice your personal comfort for saving Sanatan Dharma" These words were said to Samarth Ramdas in a vision by

- A. Lord Shiva
- B. Lord Vishnu
- C. Lord Krishna
- D. Lord Ram.

Response Patterns

| Option | A | B | C | D* |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| % choosing the option | 33.33 | 37.50 | 20.83 | 8.33 |
| mean mark in other questions | 19.38 | 19.33 | 19.80 | 24.50 |

This is a knowledge question that required in-depth mastery of the content. The percentage choosing option B is high and this is a clear indication of lack of content therefore making them to employ guesswork. The teachers need to put more emphasis in such areas to encourage the retention of knowledge.

9.2.5 GENERAL COMMENT

- i) There was a drastic decrease in candidature in the year 2019 compared to the previous years.
- ii) Lack of HRE teachers in the schools offering the subject has affected the performance leading to a slight drop in the mean.
- iii) There is need to train HRE teachers to encourage more schools and pupils to give priority to the subject.