

9.2 ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (IRE)

In the year 2014, 46,867 candidates sat for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) Islamic Religious Education (IRE) as compared to 44,549 candidates who sat in 2013. The table below shows the statistics for the paper for the last four years.

Table 25: The National Raw Mark for the KCPE (IRE) for the last four years

Year	Candidature	Mean	Standard Deviation	Maximum Mark
2011	39,291	20.59	5.56	30
2012	42,673	18.01	5.50	30
2013	44,549	16.57	5.85	30
2014	46,867	17.67	5.74	30

The following observations can be made from the table above:

- (i) There was an increase in the number of candidates taking Islamic Religious Education at KCPE level in 2014 as compared to year 2013.
- (ii) There was an improvement in the performance of candidates in the year 2014 as attested by the mean of 17.67 when compared to that of 16.57 in the year 2013.

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 24 and 25 below.

Table 26: Areas of Syllabus Coverage in 2014

Areas Tested in the Syllabus	Number of Items
Quran	05
Hadith	02
Devotional Acts	05
Pillars of Iman	04
Muamalat	03
Akhlaq	03
History of Islam	04
Festivals and ceremonies	02
Al- Ilm	02
Total	30

Table 27: Skills Tested in the year 2014

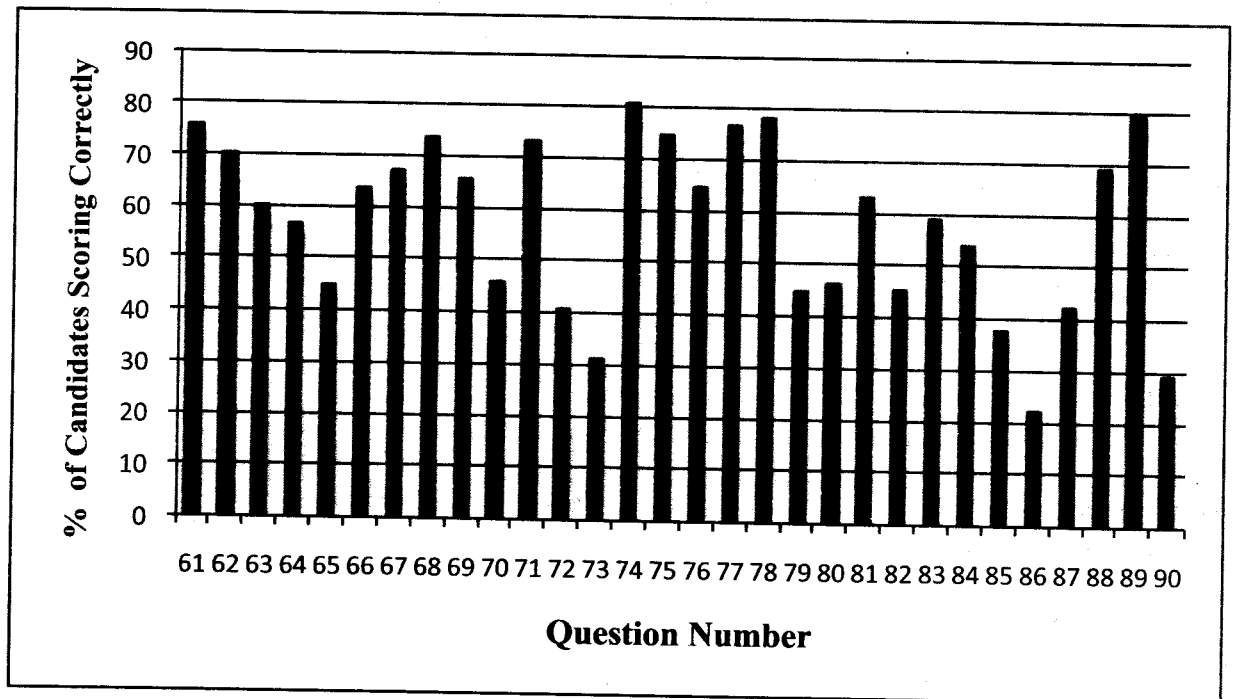
Skills	Number of Items
Knowledge	03
Comprehension	04
Application	08
Analysis	08
Synthesis	04
Evaluation	0
Total	30

9.2.2 ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES' PERFORMANCE

This report is based on a total of **46,867** candidates who sat the Islamic Religious Education examination in 2014. There were **19,218** girls and **27,649** boys. The girls scored a mean of **17.12** and a standard deviation of **5.78**, while the boys scored a mean of **18.07** and a standard deviation of **5.69**.

The report will give the relative difficulty of each of the thirty (30) items shown in the figure below. It will also discuss analysis of candidates' responses in the two relatively poorly performed questions. Any question where the total number of candidates scoring correctly are 30% or below is considered to be poorly performed.

Figure 12



9.2.3 ANALYSIS OF RELATIVELY POORLY PERFORMED QUESTIONS

The table below shows candidates' performance in the two relatively poorly performed questions in the year 2013 KCPE (IRE) examination.

Table 28: Relatively Poorly Performed Question in the 2014 KCPE (IRE) Examination

Question Number	86	90
% of candidates choosing correct responses	22.31	28.83

Question 86

The reason why Prophet Muhammad (P.b.u.h) was taken by Halima Saadiya during his childhood was

- A. Because his mother had died
- B. Because she was his relative
- C. So that he could gain noble qualities
- D. So that he could experience life in the countryside.

Response Patterns

Option	A	B	C*	D
% choosing the option	55.42	8.35	22.31	11.88
Mean mark in other questions	17.10	13.70	20.86	17.69

This was a comprehension question from the topic of History. The question expected the candidates to be familiar with the history of the early life of Prophet Muhammad (P.b.u.h)

The correct response to this question was option C. The correct option was chosen by **22.31%** of the candidates. These were the brightest candidates as is attested by their mean of **20.86** out of 30 in the other questions. Majority of the candidates went for option A which was wrong; these candidates just guessed.

Question 90

The main duty of mankind as a vicegerent of Allah is to

- A. Reproduce children
- B. Spread Allah's religion
- C. Safeguard Allah's creation
- D. Create wealth on earth

Response Patterns

Option	A	B	C*	D
% choosing the option	4.87	56.09	28.88	7.63
Mean mark in other questions	13.41	18.06	18.99	13.18

This was an evaluation question from the topic of Al-Ilm. The correct option was C, and was chosen by **22.88%** of the total candidates. These were the brightest candidates as it attested by their mean of **18.99** out of 30 in the rest of the items. Majority of the candidates chose option B which was not the correct the answer, candidates were required to select the **main duty** which is option C. Option B is a duty but not the main one.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

- (i) Performance in IRE improved in the year 2014 as compared to year 2013
- (ii) Candidates seem to be having problems with evaluation questions as seen in the response pattern of poorly performed questions.
- (iii) Teachers need to expose candidates to questions of the above nature.