

9.2 ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (IRE)

In the year 2015, **48,239** candidates sat for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) Islamic Religious Education (IRE) as compared to **46,867** candidates who sat in 2014. The table below shows the statistics for the paper for the last four years.

Table 27: The National Raw Mark for the KCPE (IRE) for the last four years

Year	Candidature	Mean	Standard Deviation	Maximum Mark
2012	42,673	18.01	5.50	30
2013	44,549	16.57	5.85	30
2014	46,867	17.67	5.74	30
2015	48239	17.55	5.81	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 2015 as compared to year 2014.
- (ii) There was a slight drop in the performance of candidates in the year 2015 as attested by the mean of **17.55** when compared to that of **17.67** in the year 2014.

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 27 and 28 below.

Table 28: Areas of Syllabus Coverage in 2015

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 29: Skills Tested in the year 2015

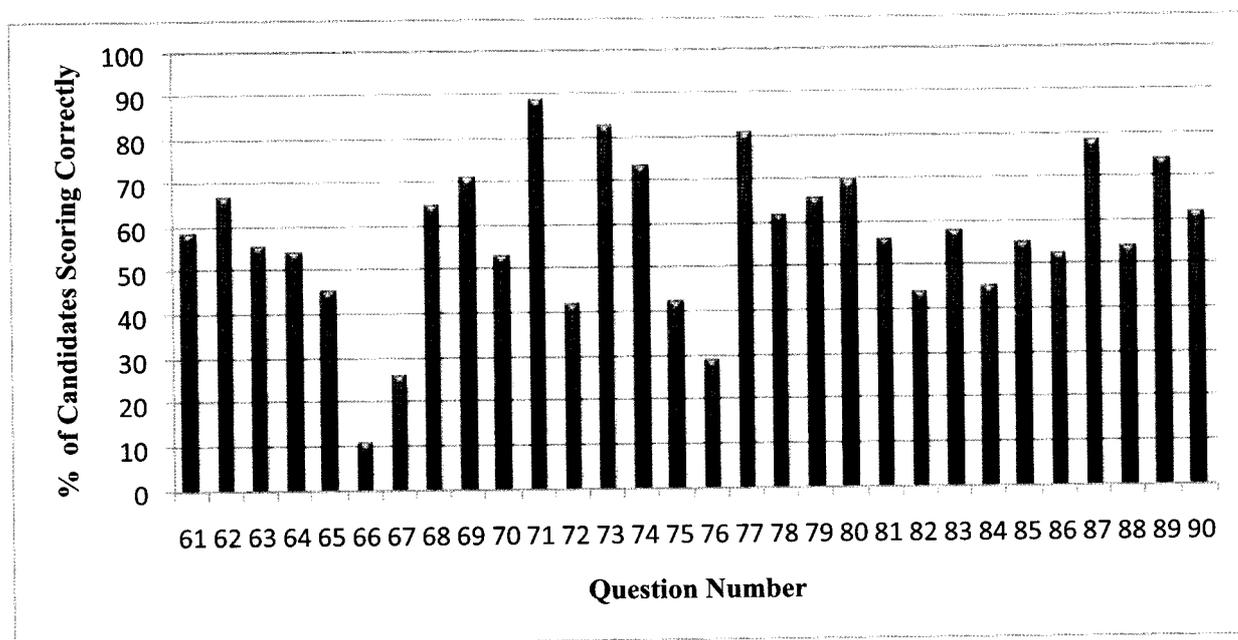
Skills	Number of Items
Knowledge	03
Comprehension	04
Application	08
Analysis	08
Synthesis	04
Evaluation	03
Total	30

9.2.2 ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES' PERFORMANCE

This report is based on a total of **48,239** candidates who sat the Islamic Religious Education examination in 2015. There were **20,093** girls and **28,146** boys. The girls scored a mean of **17.03** and a standard deviation of **5.88**, while the boys scored a mean of **17.92** and a standard deviation of **5.74**

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 **three** 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 2015 KCPE (IRE) examination.

Table 30: Relatively Poorly Performed Question in the 2015 KCPE (IRE) Examination

Question Number	66	67	76
% of candidates choosing correct responses	10.77	25.75	28.66

Question 66

“Those dearest to Allah are the ones who.....” Which one of the following statements completes the quoted Hadith of the Prophet (P.b.u.h)?

- A. are respectful towards their parents
- B. are kind to animals
- C. pay their employees on time
- D. treat their children kindly.

Response Patterns

Option	A	B	C	D*
% choosing the option	58.76	15.79	12.11	10.77
Mean mark in other questions	17.67	17.30	16.47	18.72

This was a comprehension question from the topic of Hadith. The question expected the candidates to be familiar with this selected Hadith from the KICD IRE syllabus (standard five).

The correct response to this question was option **D**. The correct option was chosen by **10.77%** of the candidates. These were the brightest candidates as is attested by their mean of **18.72** out of 30 in the other questions. Majority of the candidates went for option **A** which was wrong; these candidates just guessed, because it is ideal that Allah loves those who respect their parents.

Question 67

According to Hadith, the reason why a Muslim should always be the first one to greet others is because it

- A. creates closeness to Allah
- B. is a way of establishing friendship
- C. creates Muslim brotherhood
- D. is a way of showing concern.

Response Patterns

Option	A*	B	C	D
% choosing the option	25.75	8.20	50.39	13.14
Mean mark in other questions	17.64	14.73	18.17	16.91

This was a comprehension question from the topic of Hadith. The correct option was **A**, and was chosen by **25.75%** of the total candidates. These were bright candidates as it attested by their mean of **17.64** out of 30 in the rest of the items. Majority of the candidates chose option **C** which was not the correct answer, this is because ideally greetings promotes Muslim brotherhood but the question is referring to a specific Hadith from the KICD IRE syllabus (standard three). This clearly shows that the candidates were not familiar with this Hadith.

Question 76

One of the following boxes contains the revealed books in their order of revelation. Which one is it?

A. Zabur
Injil
Taurat
Quran

B. Zabur
Taurat
Injil
Quran

C. Taurat
Injil
Zabur
Quran

D. Taurat
Zabur
Injil
Quran

Response Patterns

Option	A	B	C	D*
% choosing the option	11.89	45.64	11.29	28.66
Mean mark in other questions	13.89	18.37	14.37	19.09

This was an analysis question from the topic of Pillars of Iman. The correct option was **D**, and was chosen by **28.66%** of the total candidates. These were the brightest candidates as it attested by their mean of **19.09** out of 30 in the rest of the items. Many of the candidates chose option **B** which was not the correct answer but slightly closer to the correct answer.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- (i) There was a slight drop in the performance of IRE in the year 2015 as compared to year 2014.
- (ii) Candidates seem to be having problems in the topic of Hadith because the general performance in the two questions of Hadith was poor, this could be attributed to the fact that teachers do not teach this topic exhaustively. Learners need to be exposed to all the selected Hadith in the KICD syllabus.