

9.3 ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (IRE)

In the year 2019, **58,930** candidates sat for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) Islamic Religious Education (IRE) as compared to **55,954** candidates who sat in 2018. The table below shows the statistics for the paper for the last four years.

Table 33: The National Raw Mark for the KCPE (IRE) for the last four years

Year	Candidature	Mean	Standard Deviation	Maximum Mark
2016	50,278	19.00	5.46	30
2017	52,569	18.68	5.98	30
2018	55,954	20.26	5.79	30
2019	58,930	16.75	5.58	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 2019.
- ii) There was a drop in the performance of candidates in the year 2019 as attested by the mean of **16.75** when compared to that of **20.26** in the year 2018.

9.3.1 SYLLABUS COVERAGE AND THE SKILLS TESTED

The areas covered in the syllabus together with the skills tested in the examination are shown in table 34 and 35 below.

Table 34: Areas of Syllabus Coverage in 2019

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 35: Skills Tested in the year 2019

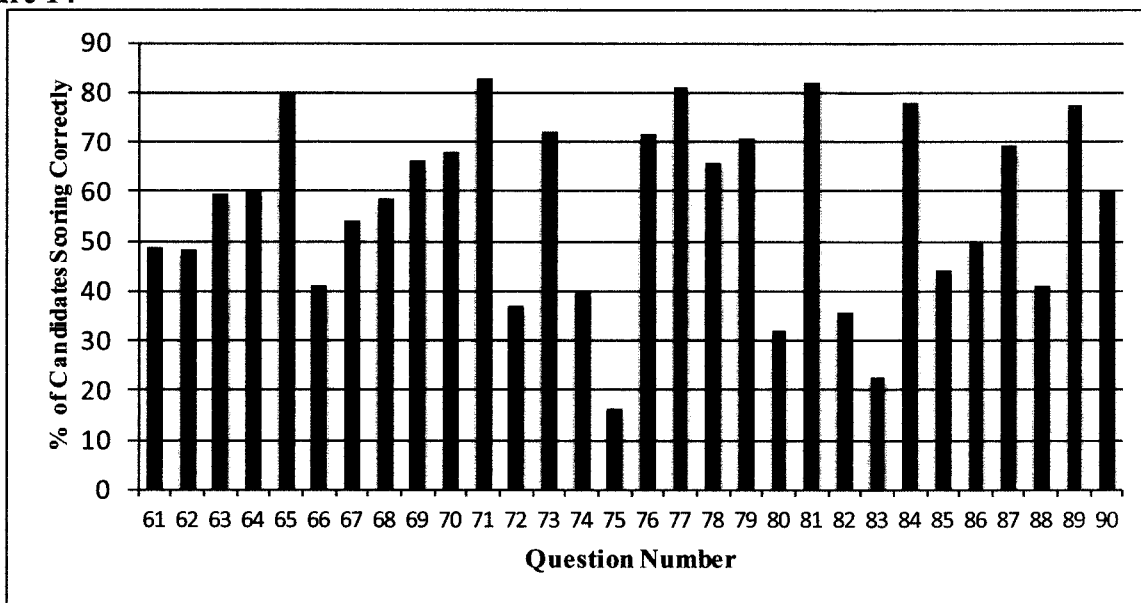
Skills	Number of Items
Knowledge	03
Comprehension	04
Application	08
Analysis	08
Synthesis	04
Evaluation	03
Total	30

9.3.2 ANALYSIS OF THE CANDIDATES' PERFORMANCE

This report is based on a total of **58,930** candidates who sat the Islamic Religious Education examination in 2019. There were **25,897** girls and **33,033** boys. The girls scored a mean of **16.46** and a standard deviation of **5.57**, while the boys scored a mean of **16.98** and a standard deviation of **5.57**

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 two poorly performed question. Any question where the total number of candidates scoring correctly are **30%** or below is considered to be poorly performed.

Figure 14



9.3.3 ANALYSIS OF POORLY PERFORMED QUESTIONS

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

Table 36: Poorly Performed Question in the 2019 KCPE (IRE) Examination

Question Number	75	83
% of candidates choosing correct responses	15.96	22.64

Question 75

According to the *Hadith* on generosity, Muslims are encouraged to spend generously because Allah will

- A. love them
- B. enrich them
- C. spend on them
- D. reward them.

Response Patterns

Option	A	B	C*	D
% choosing the option	28.78	8.91	15.96	44.98
Mean mark in other questions	14.22	16.70	19.83	17.32

This was a knowledge question from the topic of Moral Teachings. The question expected the candidates to interpret the hadith on generosity as stated in the KICD IRE syllabus, page 235, specific objective (c) (Standard Six).

The correct response to this question was option C. The correct option was chosen by **15.96%** of the candidates. These candidates had a mean of **19.83** out of 30 in the other questions. Majority of the candidates (**44.98%**) went for option D which was wrong; these were average candidates as is attested by their mean of **17.32** in the other questions. This shows that the learners were not taught this sub topic because majority of them did not know the hadith on generosity.

Question 83

Below are events that took place during the early life of the Prophet (P.b.u.h);

- (i) death of his mother Amina
- (ii) taken by Halima saadiya
- (iii) marriage to Bibi Khadija
- (iv) journey to Sham with AbuTalib

Arrange the above events in the **correct** order in which they occurred

- A. (i), (iv), (ii), (iii)
- B. (i), (ii), (iv), (iii)
- C. (ii), (iv), (i), (iii)
- D. (ii), (i), (iv), (iii).

Response Patterns

Option	A	B	C	D*
% choosing the option	12.31	57.47	6.22	22.64
Mean mark in other questions	16.70	16.70	12.05	19.84

This was an analysis question from the topic of Historical and Cultural Heritage. The question expected the candidates to know the sequence of the events in the life of the Prophet (P.b.u.h) The correct response to this question was option **D**. The correct option was chosen by **22.64%** of the candidates. These candidates had a mean of **19.84** out of 30 in the other questions. Majority of the candidates (**57.47%**) went for option **B** which was wrong; these were average candidates as is attested by their mean of **16.70** in the other questions. This shows that the learners were not taught properly because majority of them could not arrange the events in the correct sequence.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- (i) There was a drop in the performance of IRE in the year 2019 as compared to the year 2018.
- (ii) Candidates seem to have challenges in answering questions that require higher order thinking skills.