



GRADE 6
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEST 2010

INFORMATION

Catholic Institute of Education

May 2010

Table of Contents

GRADE 6 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEST	1
CHECKLIST and TIMELINE 2010	2
TEST INFORMATION	3
DATE OF TEST	3
CANDIDACY	3
SPECIAL PROVISIONS	3
ABSENT STUDENTS	3
TEST FORMAT	4
MARKING	4
PREPARATION FOR THE TEST	4
PROTOCOLS	5
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TESTING DATA	5
SECURITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY	5
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING THE TEST	6
BEFORE THE TEST DAY	6
TEST PROCEDURE AND TIME ALLOCATION	6
PACKAGING TEST FOR RETURN AND MARKING	7
TEST RESULTS	8
GROUPING OF RELIGIONS GUIDE	8
NUMBER OF STUDENTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT FORM.....	9



GRADE 6 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEST 2010

- This test is offered to Catholic schools throughout South Africa. It aims to encourage Religious Education in the schools, to signal the importance of assessment in Religious Education and to give participating schools an indication of their learners' state of religious knowledge.
- The test will consist of 50 multiple choice questions. 40 of these will be based on the first 32 Grade 6 lessons in *Lifebound*, while the remaining 10 will test general religious knowledge.
- The test will be available in English and Afrikaans following national language policy regarding medium of instruction. Second language English speakers will be kept in mind in the framing of questions. Schools will indicate their language preference on the '*Number of Students and Confidentiality Agreement*' form in this pack.
- The test will be available in large print format for visually impaired learners. Schools will indicate the number needed on the '*Number of Students and Confidentiality Agreement*' form in this pack.
- Results will be reported to individual schools. A report concerning schools in their area will be sent to regional offices and an overall report will be available on the CIE website. However, the results of individual schools will remain confidential. Information about test results is in this booklet.
- Test packages will be posted to all schools, and schools will return student answer sheets directly to the CIE in Johannesburg.

For further enquiries contact Paul Faller at CIE National on
(011) 433 1888 or paulf@cie.org.za

CHECKLIST and TIMELINE 2010

DATE	EVENT
Mon 17 May	Gr 6 RE Test Information pack for downloading at www.cie.org.za and posted to all Catholic primary schools
Mon 17 May - Fri 23 July	' <i>Number of Students and Confidentiality Agreement</i> ' form to be completed and faxed to CIE on (011) 680 9628.
Mon 23 Aug	Grade 6 Religious Education Test Package 2010 mailed to schools.
Mon 6 Sept	If you have not received the Test Package by this date please call Sonto Mthembu on 011 433 1888 (ext 107)
Mon 13 Sept	Teachers ensure that students have the necessary equipment to participate in the test i.e. 2B or B pencil and eraser.
Tues - Thurs 14-16 Sept	GRADE 6 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEST
16-17 Sept	PLEASE RETURN TEST ANSWER SHEETS to RE Department, CIE, P O Box 2083 Southdale 2135 with the completed Return Advice form in the pre-addressed return envelope included in the test package. It is advisable to send the package with a tracking number.
Thurs 30 Sept	Deadline for answer sheets to arrive at CIE National Office
Early Term 4	School participation certificate, results, result summaries and a memorandum of answers sent to schools
Monday 1 Nov	Last day for completing 'Feedback and Evaluation Survey'
Term 4	Test Report to arrive at participating schools.

TEST INFORMATION

DATE OF TEST

One of the following days, depending on what is feasible for the school.

Tuesday 14 September 2010

Wednesday 15 September 2010

Thursday 16 September 2010

CANDIDACY

- **All students** enrolled in Grade 6 in a participating school are required to participate in the test.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS

- Students with special needs undertake the test with the **same level of assistance** that they normally receive in the classroom. This may include a 'reader' or 'scribe'.
- Teachers may give **additional time** to
 - students who have a 'reader' or a 'scribe'
 - students with learning or physical difficulties who do not have a 'reader' or 'scribe' but need more time
 - **visually impaired students** using the larger format print
- Visually impaired students can be supplied with the Test and Answer sheet in a larger format. The school needs to indicate the number of students who require this provision on the relevant section of the 'Number of Students and Confidentiality' form.

ABSENT STUDENTS

Students who are absent on the day of the test may sit the test on the day of their return, within the week of the test only. Please note that each returning student must sit the test on the day of their return in the first session of the school day.

Test security should be maintained until the Monday of the week following the test. This means that there should be no discussion or explanation of the test questions with students. This is to maintain the security of the test until any absent students have completed it.

TEST FORMAT

- 3 practice questions, 50 multiple choice questions. (50 marks)

(The test will be made available in Afrikaans to accommodate those schools who have that language as medium of instruction in Grade 6.)

MARKING

- The test will be marked by CIE National staff using a template.
- Schools will receive notification of results early in Term 4.

PREPARATION FOR THE TEST

- Ensure that students practise completing their names and student information on the sample answer sheet in the information pack for participating schools. It will also be available on the CIE website.

Students are required to enter the following information on the answer sheet:

First Name & Surname	Years in a Catholic school
Date of birth	School EMIS code *
Gender	Religion **
Language Background	

** The school's EMIS code will be enclosed in the test package and is to be written on the board by the teacher for students to copy onto their test booklet and answer sheet.*

*** The students will need to know and record their religion – please refer to the 'Grouping of Religions' guide on page 10.*

- Spend time discussing and practising test techniques:
 - e.g. Read questions carefully.
 - Attempt all questions, if possible.
 - Answer the questions you are sure of first.
 - Use process of elimination for others.
 - Choose the most complete answer.
 - Check all answers once the test is completed.
- Revise test language with students. Discuss the meaning of words that often appear in test directions.
- A sample 10-question test will be available on the CIE website or on request for practice purposes, especially for learners not familiar with the multiple-choice test format.

PROTOCOLS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TESTING DATA

- Principals are asked to complete the 'Number of Students and Confidentiality Agreement' form during Week 2 of Term 3 (19-23 July 2010) and fax it to CIE National by Monday 26 July. Completing the form at this time will reflect more accurate numbers of students than earlier in the year.
- The results relating to particular children will be revealed to the Principal of the school. He/she will communicate them to the Grade 6 teachers, to the learners and to their parents/guardians.
- Test results will not be used publicly to denigrate students, schools, teachers or principals.
- Evaluating school effectiveness in the area of Religious Education requires a range of measures, including qualitative judgement. Religious Education testing data is only one aspect of assessment and evaluation of the school's Religious Education Program. No simple conclusions can be drawn between individual student achievement data and school effectiveness.

SECURITY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Receiving the Test package

Principals are responsible for the security and confidentiality of the test materials from the receipt of the materials up to and including their safe collection and dispatch.

The test package will be posted to schools from CIE National Office. The packages will be labelled for the Principal's attention.

The Principal is to ensure that whoever receives the test materials signs legibly for them and delivers the parcel to the Principal. Upon receipt of the parcel, Principals are asked to:

- immediately open the Test package (Principal or delegated person) and ensure quantities of test papers and answer sheets are correct.
- **phone Sonto Mthembu on 011 433 1888 immediately if more test papers or answer sheets are required or anything is missing from the test package.**

- ensure that all teachers administering the test are provided with a copy of 'Instructions for Administering the Test' and are familiar with the test procedures including provision for special needs students.
- ensure all teachers administering the test have the school's EMIS number.
- RE-SEAL the package and store it securely ensuring that the test is not shown to anyone until the test date. Principals are asked not to read the Test until the Test Day.
- ensure that there is no discussion or explanation of the test questions with students until the Monday after the test day. This is to maintain the security of the test until absent students who return to school in the test week have completed it.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING THE TEST

BEFORE THE TEST DAY

- Ensure the classroom is adequately prepared. Any information around the classroom that relates to Religious Education is required to be covered or removed.
- Ensure all students have the necessary equipment to participate in the test: pencil, eraser, sharpener, blank paper for students who want it.
- Ensure that students understand test conditions:
 - Students must work independently. However, students with special needs undertake the test with the same level of assistance they receive in the classroom.
 - Teachers may read a word or question to a child if the child cannot read it, but the teacher or 'reader' must only **read** and not prompt the child in any way.
 - Toilet breaks are not desirable.

TEST PROCEDURE AND TIME ALLOCATION

1. Keep a class list noting all students who sit the test, including any students absent on the day who sit the test later. The class list is NOT to be sent with the answer sheets; however it should be kept at the school for checking purposes.
2. Indicate to students the test booklet and the answer sheet, clearly pointing out where answers are recorded.

3. Students complete details on answer sheet including school's EMIS number and also put their name and class and religious affiliation on the test booklet. (See the RELIGIONS GUIDE on Page 8 of this Information Pack. Students will choose one of these categories as their religious affiliation.) (5 minutes)
4. Students read and answer practice questions. Teacher to check that students are clear on how to read and answer these practice questions. (5 minutes)
5. Clarify any further queries from students. (2 minutes)
6. Test participation time – answering of questions. (1 hour)
7. During the test, check that all students are completing answers on the answer sheet and **NOT** in the booklet.
8. Once the test is concluded, collect answer sheets and booklets separately. Test booklets remain in the school and are sent home with the results. They should be stored away until results are received.
9. Check that students have completed the information **on the front of the answer sheet** clearly and correctly. This is most important for the printing of test results.

PACKAGING TEST FOR RETURN AND MARKING

AFTER THE TEST

- Complete the 'Return Advice Sheet' supplied in the Test Package and place it on top of the school's completed answer sheets. Please ensure that the number of answer sheets is correct. If more than one envelope is used please photocopy the completed form and enclose a copy of the form with each envelope. Package answer sheets carefully as they need to be scanned.
- Answer sheets are sent to CIE using the pre-addressed envelope included in the test package (not a reply paid service). This should be done as soon as possible after the test and by Monday 20 September at the latest.
- Store test booklets for sending to parents with results when they are received.
- Answer sheets must arrive at CIE by Thursday 30 September.

Test Results

REPORTS TO SCHOOLS

Schools will be sent the following reports in hard copy:

- 1 School Certificate to display in the school
- 2 Summary of results
 - 2.1 Results summary (showing a comparison of overall school performance with national performance)
 - 2.2 Question analysis (showing how participants in the school fared by question)
 - 2.3 Students' results in alphabetical order
 - 2.4 Students' results in order of achievement

RELIGIONS GUIDE

RELIGION
Catholic
Orthodox
Zion Christian
Pentecostal
Methodist
Anglican
Dutch Reformed
Other Christian
African Traditionalist
Buddhist
Hindu
Muslim
Jewish
Baha'i
No Religion
Not Listed above



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GRADE 6 TEST 2010
NUMBER OF STUDENTS AND CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT**

SCHOOL DETAILS

Name of School (please print):

EMIS Number:

Language Medium: (Please tick one) ENGLISH AFRIKAANS

NUMBER OF STUDENTS:

Total number of Year 6 Students

Number of visually impaired students
(who will require the test in larger format)

CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

I have read and will abide by the Protocols of the Catholic Institute of Education Grade 6 Religious Education Test (Information Booklet) to be administered on 14-16 September 2010.

Principal's Name Signature Date

Grade 6 Teacher's Name Signature Date

Grade 6 Teacher's Name Signature Date

Grade 6 Teacher's Name Signature Date

Grade 6 Teacher's Name Signature Date

Please return to Sonto Mthembu by Friday, 23 July 2010
Fax: (011) 680 9628

