**Candidate’s Name: ………………………………………………………… Assessment Number: …………………………………………**

**School Name: ……………………………………………………………………. School Code: …………………………………………………………**

**Candidate’s Signature: ………………………………..…………….Date: …………………………………………………….…………….**

**COMPETENCE BASED EDUCATION**

**KENYA JUNIOR SCHOOL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT**

**THE KENYA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL**

**709: HINDU RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**JUNE 2025**

**Time: 1 Hour 30 Minutes**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. Write your name and assessment number correctly.
2. Write the name and code of your school in the spaces as indicated above.
3. Write the date of the assessment.
4. This paper consists of two sections: A and B.
5. Section A comprises Multiple choice Questions.
6. Section B comprises structured questions and essay questions.
7. Answer ALL the questions in Section A on the separate ANSWER SHEET provided.
8. Answer ALL the questions in Section B in the spaces provided on this question paper.
9. Do NOT remove any page from this question paper.
10. Answer the questions in English.

**For official use only**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **SECTION B** | **Task 1** | | **Task 2** | | | **Task 3** | | | | **Task 4** | | | | |
| **Question** | 28 | 30 | 23 | 25 | 26 | 32 | 21 | 24 | 29 | 22 | 27 | 31 | 33 | 34 |
| **Candidate’s Score per Question** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Maximum Score** | 9 | | 21 | | | 25 | | | | 25 | | | | |
| **Candidate’s Score per Task** |  | |  | | |  | | | |  | | | | |

This paper consists of 10 printed pages. Candidates should check the question paper to ascertain that all the pages are printed as indicated and that no questions are missing.

© 2025 The Competence Based Curriculum **Turn Over**

1. You have been given this question paper and a separate answer sheet. Answer all the questions in Section A on the separate answer sheet provided.
2. When you have chosen your answer, mark it on the **ANSWER SHEET**, not on this question paper.

**HOW TO USE THE ANSWER SHEET**

1. Use an ordinary HB pencil.
2. Confirm that the answer sheet you have been provided with has the following:

**YOUR ASSESSMENT NUMBER** **YOUR NAME**

**NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL** **NAME OF THE SUBJECT**

1. Keep the answer sheet clean, and dry and DO NOT fold it.
2. For each of the questions 1 – 20, four answers are given. The answers are lettered A, B, C and D. In each case, only ONE of the four answers is correct. Choose the correct answer.
3. On the answer sheet, the correct answer is to be shown by drawing a dark line inside the box in which the letter you have chosen is written.

**Example**

In the Question Booklet:

17. The sacred sound or spiritual symbol in Hinduism is:

A. Amen

B. Om

C. Shalom

D. AmeenThe correct answer is ‘B’.

On the answer sheet, in the set of boxes given for number 17, draw a dark line inside the box with the letter D printed in it as indicated below.

**17. [A] [~~B~~] [C] [D]**

1. Your dark line MUST be inside the box.
2. For each question, ONLY ONE box is to be marked in each set of four boxes.

**SECTION A (20 marks)**

Answer ALL the questions in this section.

1. In Hinduism, the universal power or God that is everywhere is called: A. Atman B. Karma C. Brahman D. Samsara
2. The individual soul within each living being is called: A. Dharma B. Moksha C. Atman D. Maya
3. The Hindu belief that your actions in this life affect your future lives is called: A. Samsara B. Karma C. Moksha D. Dharma
4. The idea of doing what is right and fulfilling your duty is known as: A. Karma B. Dharma C. Atman D. Brahman
5. The main aim for Hindus is to be free from the cycle of birth and death. This freedom is called: A. Samsara B. Artha C. Moksha D. Kama
6. The oldest sacred books of Hinduism are the: A. Ramayana B. Mahabharata C. Puranas D. Vedas
7. The Bhagavad Gita is a famous scripture that is part of which larger story? A. Ramayana B. Vedas C. Mahabharata D. Upanishads
8. Which of the following is known as the creator god in the Hindu Trimurti? A. Lord Vishnu B. Lord Shiva C. Lord Brahma D. Lord Ganesha
9. Lord Vishnu is the god who: A. Creates the universe. B. Destroys evil. C. Preserves and protects the universe. D. Gives knowledge.
10. Lord Shiva is often associated with: A. Giving wealth. B. Bringing good fortune. C. Destruction and change. D. Creating music.
11. The goddess who is the consort of Lord Brahma and is the deity of knowledge and learning is: A. Goddess Lakshmi B. Goddess Durga C. Goddess Saraswati D. Goddess Kali
12. Which goddess is worshipped for wealth and prosperity? A. Goddess Saraswati B. Goddess Durga C. Goddess Lakshmi D. Goddess Parvati
13. The Hindu festival known as the 'Festival of Lights' is: A. Holi B. Navratri C. Diwali D. Janmashtami
14. The festival where people play with colours is called: A. Diwali B. Holi C. Dussehra D. Shivaratri
15. The practice of honouring a deity with offerings and prayers, often done at home or in a temple, is called: A. Yoga B. Meditation C. Arati D. Puja
16. Visiting a Hindu temple (Mandir) is important for Hindus to: A. Play games. B. Socialize with friends. C. Connect with the divine and community. D. Sell goods.
17. The Hindu symbol 'Om' represents: A. A sacred sound and the essence of the ultimate reality. B. The cycle of life and death. C. Good luck and prosperity. D. The power of the goddess.
18. A positive value that means being truthful and honest is: A. Ahimsa B. Satya C. Karuna D. Shaucha
19. Which value means being kind and caring towards others? A. Dharma B. Karma C. Karuna D. Puja
20. Maintaining cleanliness of body and mind is an ethical principle called: A. Satya B. Ahimsa C. Shaucha D. Dharma

**SECTION B (80 marks)**

Answer ALL questions in this section.

1. Hindu scriptures contain many important stories and teachings.

a) Name four main characters from the epic Ramayana. (4 marks)

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b) Explain two reasons why stories from the Hindu epics are important for children to learn. (4 marks)

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c) Give three reasons why Hindus respect their sacred books. (3 marks)

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1. Identify five names of different Hindu deities (gods or goddesses). (5 marks)

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1. The Trimurti represents the three main functions of the universe.

a) Identify the three deities that make up the Trimurti. (3 marks)

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b) Outline three roles or functions performed by Lord Vishnu. (3 marks)

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1. Puja is a way Hindus connect with the divine.

a) Identify two items that are commonly used during Puja. (2 marks)

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b) Give three reasons why Hindus perform Puja. (3 marks)

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1. Ethical values guide Hindus on how to live. Outline two ways a learner can practice Satya (truthfulness) in school. (2 marks)

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1. Festivals are special times for Hindus. State three things that Hindus do to celebrate the festival of Diwali. (3 marks)

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1. Learners discussed important Hindu values. Outline five values that help build good relationships within a family. (5 marks)

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1. Highlight five different types of food offerings that may be made to deities during worship or festivals.

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7 **Turn Over**

1. The concept of Karma teaches about actions and their results.

a) Identify four kinds of actions that are considered good Karma. (4 marks)

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b) Explain three reasons why understanding Karma helps Hindus to be responsible for their actions. (6 marks)

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1. Members of the HRE club discussed the importance of community in Hindu life. Outline four ways Hindus support each other in the community. (4 marks)

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1. The concept of Dharma guides our duties. Discuss two duties that a child has towards their parents according to Hindu teachings. (4 marks)

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1. Grade 7 learners discussed the significance of major Hindu festivals.

(a) Highlight four events or stories associated with the festival of Holi. (4 marks)

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(b) Explain how each of the following festivals is significant for Hindus:

(i) Janmashtami (Lord Krishna's birth) (2 marks)

(ii) Dussehra (Vijayadashami) (2 marks)

(iii) Navratri (Worship of Goddess Durga) (2 marks)

1. Hindus show respect for all forms of life. State three ways Hindus show respect for plants or nature. (3 marks)

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1. A Grade 7 teacher used a picture showing a Hindu temple (Mandir). Use it to answer questions a and b.



a) (i) Identify the place of worship shown in the diagram. (1 mark) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ii) Name one activity that takes place inside a Hindu temple. (1 mark) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b) Explain three reasons why visiting a temple is important for Hindus. (6 marks)

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**MARKING SCHEME**

SECTION A (20 marks)

C. Brahman

C. Atman

B. Karma

B. Dharma

C. Moksha

D. Vedas

C. Mahabharata

C. Lord Brahma

C. Preserves and protects the universe.

C. Destruction and change.

C. Goddess Saraswati

C. Goddess Lakshmi

C. Diwali

B. Holi

D. Puja

C. Connect with the divine and community.

A. A sacred sound and the essence of the ultimate reality.

B. Satya

C. Karuna

C. Shaucha

SECTION B (80 marks)

21. Hindu scriptures contain many important stories and teachings.

a) Name four main characters from the epic Ramayana. (4 marks)

\* Rama

\* Sita

\* Lakshmana

\* Hanuman

b) Explain two reasons why stories from the Hindu epics are important for children to learn. (4 marks)

\* They teach important moral values and ethical principles through engaging narratives.

\* They introduce children to the rich cultural heritage, traditions, and beliefs of Hinduism.

c) Give three reasons why Hindus respect their sacred books. (3 marks)

\* They are believed to contain divine knowledge and wisdom revealed by sages and seers.

\* They provide guidance on how to live a righteous and meaningful life according to Dharma.

\* They connect Hindus to their spiritual roots and offer insights into the nature of God and the universe.

22. Identify five names of different Hindu deities (gods or goddesses). (5 marks)

\* Lord Shiva

\* Goddess Parvati

\* Lord Ganesha

\* Goddess Lakshmi

\* Lord Krishna

23. The Trimurti represents the three main functions of the universe.

a) Identify the three deities that make up the Trimurti. (3 marks)

\* Lord Brahma

\* Lord Vishnu

\* Lord Shiva

b) Outline three roles or functions performed by Lord Vishnu. (3 marks)

\* Preserver and protector of the universe.

\* Maintains balance and order in the cosmos.

\* Appears in various incarnations (avatars) to restore Dharma.

24. Puja is a way Hindus connect with the divine.

a) Identify two items that are commonly used during Puja. (2 marks)

\* Flowers

\* Incense

\* Diya (oil lamp)

\* Fruits

\* Water

b) Give three reasons why Hindus perform Puja. (3 marks)

\* To express devotion and love for the deities.

\* To seek blessings, guidance, and protection.

\* To purify the mind and create a spiritual atmosphere.

25. Ethical values guide Hindus on how to live. Outline two ways a learner can practice Satya (truthfulness) in school. (2 marks)

\* By being honest in their interactions with teachers and fellow learners.

\* By not cheating during tests or copying homework.

26. Festivals are special times for Hindus. State three things that Hindus do to celebrate the festival of Diwali. (3 marks)

\* Light diyas (oil lamps) and decorate their homes with lights.

\* Exchange gifts and sweets with family and friends.

\* Perform Lakshmi Puja to seek blessings for wealth and prosperity.

27. Learners discussed important Hindu values. Outline five values that help build good relationships within a family. (5 marks)

\* Respect for elders.

\* Love and affection for all family members.

\* Open and honest communication.

\* Sharing and caring for each other's needs.

\* Patience and understanding.

28. Highlight five different types of food offerings that may be made to deities during worship or festivals. (5 marks)

\* Fruits

\* Sweets (e.g., ladoo, halwa)

\* Cooked rice

\* Vegetables

\* Milk or milk products

29. The concept of Karma teaches about actions and their results.

a) Identify four kinds of actions that are considered good Karma. (4 marks)

\* Helping the needy.

\* Being truthful and honest.

\* Showing kindness and compassion.

\* Respecting elders and teachers.

b) Explain three reasons why understanding Karma helps Hindus to be responsible for their actions. (6 marks)

\* It teaches that every action, whether good or bad, has consequences that will affect their future.

\* It encourages individuals to act ethically and morally, knowing that their choices shape their destiny.

\* It provides a framework for understanding suffering and happiness as results of past actions, promoting self-reflection and accountability.

30. Members of the HRE club discussed the importance of community in Hindu life. Outline four ways Hindus support each other in the community. (4 marks)

\* Participating in religious festivals and ceremonies together.

\* Offering help and support during times of need (e.g., illness, bereavement).

\* Organizing community events and gatherings.

\* Sharing resources and knowledge.

31. The concept of Dharma guides our duties. Discuss two duties that a child has towards their parents according to Hindu teachings. (4 marks)

\* To respect and obey their parents.

\* To care for their parents in their old age or during times of need.

32. Grade 7 learners discussed the significance of major Hindu festivals.

(a) Highlight four events or stories associated with the festival of Holi. (4 marks)

\* The burning of Holika, symbolizing the victory of good over evil.

\* The story of Radha and Krishna playing with colours.

\* The celebration of the arrival of spring and the harvest season.

\* A time for forgiveness and strengthening relationships.

(b) Explain how each of the following festivals is significant for Hindus:

(i) Janmashtami (Lord Krishna's birth) (2 marks)

\* It celebrates the birth of Lord Krishna, an important deity revered for his wisdom, love, and teachings in the Bhagavad Gita.

(ii) Dussehra (Vijayadashami) (2 marks)

\* It marks the victory of Lord Rama over the demon king Ravana, symbolizing the triumph of good over evil.

(iii) Navratri (Worship of Goddess Durga) (2 marks)

\* It is a nine-night festival dedicated to the worship of Goddess Durga in her various forms, celebrating the power of the divine feminine and the victory over negative forces.

33. Hindus show respect for all forms of life. State three ways Hindus show respect for plants or nature. (3 marks)

\* Some plants like Tulsi are considered sacred and are worshipped.

\* Avoiding unnecessary harm or destruction of trees and natural environments.

\* Offering prayers and gratitude to nature for its sustenance.

34. A Grade 7 teacher used a picture showing a Hindu temple (Mandir). Use it to answer questions a and b.

a) (i) Identify the place of worship shown in the diagram. (1 mark)

\* Hindu temple / Mandir

(ii) Name one activity that takes place inside a Hindu temple. (1 mark)

\* Worship (Puja)

\* Prayers

\* Singing hymns (Bhajans)

\* Listening to religious discourses

\* Receiving blessings

b) Explain three reasons why visiting a temple is important for Hindus. (6 marks)

\* It provides a sacred space to connect with the divine and experience spiritual energy.

\* It offers an opportunity to participate in communal worship and strengthen community bonds.

\* It allows devotees to seek blessings from the deities and receive guidance from priests or religious leaders.