

STUDENT'S ID NO: _____ SIGNATURE: _____



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

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DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP

COLLEGES OF EDUCATION

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS FOR LEVEL 300, 2022/2023

B.ED. PROGRAMME

COURSE CODE: **TEJS 337**

COURSE TITLE: **INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN TRADITIONAL RELIGION**

Instruction: Answer all questions in Section A and any three questions in Section B.

Time: 2 hours

SECTION A

[25 Marks]

Answer all the questions in this section.

1. Apart from the Guardian-Spirits, what are the other two types of spirits believed by African traditionalists?

- a. Ghost spirit and ancestors
- b. Born to die spirit and evil spirit
- c. Ghost spirit and born to die spirit
- d. Born to die spirit and ancestors

STUDENT'S ID NO: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

2. African Traditional Religion is the name given to the indigenous beliefs and practices of the people of Africa by the....
 - a. Arabs.
 - b. Berbers.
 - c. Greeks, Carthaginians and Phoenicians.
 - d. Europeans
3. The religion is called traditional because....
 - a. it is indigenous to the people of Africa.
 - b. It emerged from Africa.
 - c. It did not come from outside.
 - d. All the above
4. One of these is not true about prayer
 - a. Prayer is both magical and religious act.
 - b. In prayer, one supplicates bringing out the depth of his/her religiosity.
 - c. Prayer comes in many forms.
 - d. Prayer is not magical but a religious act.
5. In African societies....
 - a. Religion is an integral part of the lives of the people.
 - b. Religion is not an integral part of the lives of the people.
 - c. Religion is not part of morality
 - d. Membership is by baptism
6. The term used to describe things, actions or sayings which society see as unacceptable and therefore reject them is
 - a. Totemism.
 - b. Taboos
 - c. Myths
 - d. Legends
7. One main problem one would come across when studying ATR is that.....
 - a. Its holy book is in many languages
 - b. It is non-scriptural.
 - c. It is not studied in Ghanaian schools.
 - d. The color of the African people
8. Which aspect of the life of the African that we cannot find the scriptures of ATR?
 - a. Social institution
 - b. Political institution.
 - c. Marriage
 - d. Agricultural institution

STUDENT'S ID NO: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

9. Which of these is not a source for studying ATR?
- Songs
 - Proverbs
 - Belief in God
 - Totemism
10. Which of these is not a source of morality in ATR?
- Dirge
 - Songs
 - Holy book
 - Proverbs
11. Historically, one of the ways through which Africans expressed their belief in God is
- Through belief in the totems
 - Through reflection on the nature of man
 - Through reflection on the universe
 - Through the belief in the universe
12. One of the factors that made the Africans become lovers of religion is...
- After effects of evidence of God's existence.
 - Commitment to prayer
 - Respect for religious authorities
 - The awareness of his limitations and weaknesses
13. African traditional religion is preserved also through oral traditions such as
- Belief in the end time
 - Incarnation
 - Recitals
 - Traditional Songs
14. African traditional religion evolved slowly through many centuries as people respond to situations of life and also
- Moved from place to place
 - Pursued common agenda
 - Reflected upon their experiences.
 - United in their communal spirit
15. African traditional religion was chiefly founded on
- Peoples' belief in God
 - Peoples' economic strategies
 - Peoples' ideas and experiences about God and life.
 - Peoples' religious practices

STUDENT'S ID NO: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

16. Religious ideas and practices sprang up simultaneously in different parts of the continent of Africa because...
 - a. The people related one another
 - b. The people shared similar cultural heritage
 - c. The people were determined to be religious
 - d. There was communal bonding among the people
17. African traditional religion is found in all aspects of the life of the people. This is because
 - a. The people are notoriously religious
 - b. The peoples' culture and their religion were married
 - c. The peoples' culture is unblemished
 - d. The religion is closed to the peoples' culture
18. One common misconception people hold about African traditional religion is that.....
 - a. The religion has fetish elements
 - b. The religion has no founder
 - c. The religion is seen as colloquial
 - d. The religion is without attraction
19. African traditional religion draws its potency and authority from its oral materials such as
 - a. Proverbs, Chieftaincy, and festivals
 - b. Proverbs, festivals, and dancing
 - c. Proverbs, tales, and counsel
 - d. Proverbs, traditional songs, and myths
20. Essentially, in African traditional religion the scriptures (the oral traditions) also serve as
 - a. The life and sustenance of the religion
 - b. The respect and dignity of the religion
 - c. The value of the religion
 - d. The weakness and strength of the religion
21. Identify some of the oral traditions that serve as a source of information in African traditional religion
 - a. Proverbs, traditional songs, dance, totem, pilgrimage
 - b. Myth, fun-making, songs, trade, child-bearing
 - c. Myths, proverbs, traditional songs, storytelling, riddles
 - d. Traditional songs, fun-making, libation, riddles

STUDENT'S ID NO: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

22. What does the *Gye Nyame* symbol (which means *except God*) signify in Akan indigenous religion?
- God as the creator of the universe
 - God's omnipresence
 - The omnipotence of God
 - The truth of God
23. A common misconception people hold about African traditional religion is that
- It is a religion of idol worship
 - It is a religion of medium
 - It is the religion of the illiterates
 - It is the religion of the poor
24. Why is naming a child after someone is of great essence in African traditional religion in Ghana?
- So that the child will be wealthy
 - So that the child will grow up like the person
 - So that the child will live long like the person
 - So that the child will possess the moral character of the person
25. One of the following is a relevance for the study of African traditional religion in basic schools in Ghana.
- Learners and teachers are able to uphold moral values
 - Learners and teachers are exposed to cultural variables
 - Learners and teachers are free to express their views on religious norms
 - Learners and teachers are made aware of culture intolerance

STUDENT'S ID NO: _____ SIGNATURE: _____

SECTION B

[75 Marks]

Answer any three questions in this section.

1. Describe the making of libation as a core element of worship in African traditional religion. (5 marks)
b. Identify and briefly explain with examples attaches, each of the four structures in making libation in African traditional religion in Ghana. (20 marks)

2. a. Define myth in African Traditional Religion (5 Marks)
b. Explain any four types of myths believed in ATR (20 Marks)

3. a. In five points, examine challenges facing the use of primary sources in studying African Traditional Religion (20 Marks)
b. Mention any five types of ATR prayers (5 Marks)

4. a. Critically state five possible barriers to the teaching and learning of African traditional religion in basic schools in Ghana. (5 marks)
b. Discuss any five relevance of the inclusion of the study of African traditional religion in basic school RME curriculum. (20 marks)

5. Discuss five roles of traditional rulers and chief priests in maintaining and enforcing taboos in Ghanaian communities, focusing on how these custodians ensure compliance, measures taken in cases of taboo violations, the continuity of taboos and their relevance in modern times? (25 marks)