**9. SELECTED ASPECTS OF AFRICAN RELIGIOUS HERITAGE**

***(a) The African concept of God, Spirits and Ancestors.***

*1. (a) Roles of ancestors in Traditional African Society*

* *Provided protection from diseases and calamities*
* *They blessed the living with livestock, rain and good health*
* *Solved problems of the living by instructing them through dreams on what to do*
* *Punished offenders and were the guardians of morality*
* *They warned the living of impending danger*
* *Mediators between the living and God*
* *Helped people to become specialist*
* *Ancestors provided people with a sense of identity*
* *Thy are guardians of religious and cultural practices of the community*
* *They received the souls of dead family members into the spiritual world(Any 7x1=7mks)*

 *(b) Occasions why sacrifices were offered in Traditional African Society*

* *Sacrifices were offered during planting time*
* *Harvest time*
* *When an epidemic broke out in the community*
* *During the birth and naming of children*
* *When drought and famine occurred*
* *During initiation*
* *During marriage*
* *During funeral or burial /rituals*
* *When purification ceremonies were conducted*
* *In time of wars, raids as the community asked for protection and victory (Any 7x1=7mks)*

*(c) Aspects of Traditional religion which have been integrated into the Christian faith are;-*

* *The use of vernacular have been adopted in worship in Christian churches*
* *Traditional music instruments are used in Churches as Christians worship God through songs and dance*
* *Christian churches perform cleansing rituals*
* *Some churches are built using the Traditional African architectural designs*
* *African tunes and melodies have been adopted in Christian songs*
* *Some aspects of African marriage ceremony area accepted Christian church e.g. dowry , traditional marriage songs*

*2. - Unveiling hidden information or mysteries*

 *- Explaining difficult situations.*

 *- Foretelling coming occurrences.*

 *- Interpreting dreams.*

 *- Advising medicine men.*

 *- Combating witchcraft and witches.*

 *- Interpreting the language of the spirits and occurrences like droughts and earthquakes.*

 *- They reveal the hidden information.*

 *- They can also play the role of palmists.*

 *- They act as mediators between God, spirits and the people.*

*3. How people in the traditional African community prevented calamities from befalling them.*

 *- Maintaining good relations with God and the spirit world.*

 *- Strict observance of customs and taboos.*

 *- Educating all children to abide by social norms.*

 *- Punishing wrongdoers.*

 *- Rewarding the morally upright.*

 *- Appeasing God with sacrifices.*

 *- Banishing evil people from the society.*

 *- Reconciling warring groups.*

 *- Compensating the victims of evil.*

 *- Treating each other well.*

*4. (a) 6 roles of diviners in Traditional African society*

1. *Predicted future occurrence*
2. *They warned against calamities*
3. *They advised people on various issues*
4. *They interceded on behalf of the community in time of trouble*
5. *He presided over religious ceremonies in the community*
6. *They interpreted messages from the spirits world*
7. *He comforted the sick, and the depressed in the community (needy)*
8. *He identifies evil spirits causing trouble*
9. *He was consulted in case of bareness or impotence*

*(b) 4 reasons which made traditional African communities to offer sacrifices*

1. *To thank God for the good he has done for them e.g. giving rain, children, harvests and health*
2. *To ask for Gods forgiveness and mercy incase they had wronged him*
3. *To ask for help from God during difficult times e.g. during drought, famine, war and floods*
4. *During the making of the covenant e.g. peace covenant, solving clan dispute so that God can be a witness*
5. *For appeasing the spirit of ancestors*

*(c) 6 ways the Traditional Africans used to maintain their relationship with the ancestors*

1. *Building shrines for the ancestors*
2. *Pouring libations to them.*
3. *Naming their children after them*
4. *Protection of their culture and ancestral land*
5. *Obeying their wishes and wills revealed to them through dreams*
6. *Appeasing them through sacrifices and offerings*
7. *Inviting them to take part in celebrating of rituals*
8. *Men approaching ancestors for their minor needs*
9. *Approaching shrines with respect*

*5 a) 7 roles of the Ancestors to the living in Traditional African Communities*

1. *They are guardians/head of their families as seen when are invited to ceremonies*
2. *Encourage, bless and strengthen people during the rite of passage.*
3. *They welcome those who die in the spiritual world.*
4. *They guard the customs and traditions of families and communities against family and community*
5. *They convey people wishes to god and vise versa*
6. *They protect the community against harmful spirits.*
7. *They advice the living members on both religious and sound matters through dreams, etc.*
8. *They warn members of the impending danger.*

*b) 7 teachings about God from the Traditional African myths of creation.*

1. *Self existence /self originating self sufficient.*
2. *The sole creator*
3. *All powerful/omnipotent.*
4. *He is good/gives everything good to man.*
5. *Requires obedience from mom.*
6. *He is a protector*
7. *He is eternal/ever living/immortal*
8. *He punishes evil elders/just God.*
9. *God is a spirit /not represented by image /idols.*
10. *He is the provider of everything/meets man’s need*
11. *He is supreme.*

*6. a) 6 causes of death in the Traditional African Community*

1. *Breaking taboos*
2. *Being cursed by elders*
3. *Breaking an oath*
4. *Disrespecting ancestors and spirits*
5. *Failure to sacrifice to God as required*
6. *Witchcraft*
7. *Old age*

 *b) Africans demonstrated their belief that death was not the end of life*

1. *Burying the dead with property*
2. *Pouring libation to the dead*
3. *Ancestral veneration*
4. *Talking to the dead during funeral*
5. *Inheriting the dead man’s wife and bearing children for him*
6. *Belief in rebirth or reincamation of the dead*
7. *Seeking advice from the dead*
8. *Seeking communication from God through the ancestors*

*7. (a) God punished people in African Traditional Society by:*

*i) Through famine and drought*

*ii) Through floods and earth quakes*

*iii) Locust invasion*

*iv) Diseases like leprosy*

*v) Defeat in wars*

*vi) Animal diseases like rinderpest*

 *(b) seven traditional African practices which demonstrated their belief in God*

*i) Praying to God*

*ii) Offering sacrifices*

*iii) Singing and dancing to God*

*iv)Building shrines for God*

*v)Pronouncing blessings and curses in the name of God.*

*vi) Taking oaths in the name of God*

*vii) Teaching morals and taboos.*

*viii) Telling stories of creation*

*ix) Consulting prophets about Gods will*

*(c) five African understanding of evil*

*i) Africans believe God did not create evil*

*ii) Dead ancestors offended by the living could cause evil*

*iii) Some communities attribute evil to evil spirits*

*iv) That magicians cause evil*

*v) Lack of respect to the elders*

*vi) Breaking of oaths*

*vii) Breaking of taboos*

*8. 7ways I which Traditional African Communities demonstrated their respect towards ancestors were:*

* *By praying through the ancestors to God*
* *By pouring of libation*
* *By respecting the ancestors*
* *By obeying the will/wishes of the ancestors*
* *By naming children after the ancestors*
* *By building shrines for the ancestors*
* *By teaching children about the ancestors*
* *By making sacrifices to the ancestors*
* *By protecting land inherited by the ancestors*
* *By involving their names*
* *By thanking them after achievements*

*9. a) Ways through which Africans venerated their ancestors*

1. *Pouring of liberations*
2. *Consulting them through divines/ medicine men*
3. *By invoking their names in prayers*
4. *By naming the children after them*
5. *Inviting them during family ceremonies & rituals*
6. *Conducting respective burials for them*
7. *By observing the community’s traditions & customs*
8. *Offering sacrifices to them*
9. *Obeying their will*

*b) How a Christian can show patriotism during the recent post election chaos*

1. *Preaching unity/ peace*
2. *Praying for peace to prevail*
3. *Giving material supports to the IDP’s*
4. *Offering guidance & counseling services to the affected persons*
5. *By serving as intermediaries in the political conflicts*
6. *By not participating in destruction of life and property*
7. *Condemning those who take part in fuelling chaos*
8. *By reporting those who participate in the chaos*

**(b) African moral and cultural values**

1. *Ways of acquiring partners for marriage in Traditional African Communities.*

*- In some communities the choice is made by the parents and this may be done even before the*

 *children are born.*

 *- In some occasions, the boys choose for themselves an attractive girl in either function.*

 *- The parents of the boy identify a girl or for their son through an intermediary.*

 *- A senior or first wife of the polygamist may choose a wife for her husband.*

 *- Widow inheritance is another common marriage practice in African Traditional communities.*

 *- In some Traditional African Communities girls are given out to chiefs and kings by their*

 *subjects.*

*- There are cases where a debtor gives his wife to a creditor in order to repay a debt.*

*2. African cultural practices that have been integrated in a Christian worship today.*

 *- Use of vernacular in worship.*

 *- Use of traditional musical instrument such as drums and kayambas.*

 *- Use of body movements in worship such as dancing, clapping and jumping.*

 *- Shaking of hands and hugging.*

 *- Having a communal worship.*

 *- Spontaneous prayer.*

 *- Performing cleansing rituals.*

 *- Adopting African names at baptism.*

 *- Building churches using traditional African architectural styles.*

 *- Using traditional tunes and melodies in songs.*

*3. Challenges faced by modern families*

1. *Childlessness which leads to divorce, separation, polygamy or extra- marital affairs*
2. *Divorce*
3. *Unfaithfulness*
4. *Wealth or lack of it*
5. *Number and sex of children, too few, too many, male or female might make couple to quarrel & fight*
6. *Extended families especially in- laws*
7. *Widow hood as a result of death*
8. *Alcoholism & drug abuse*
9. *Role conflicts due to gender equality/ domestic violence*
10. *Absenteeism/ abandoning of family due to careers or migration to towns*
11. *Separation/ careers*
12. *HIV/ AIDS/ STD’s*
13. *Financial problems/ poverty*
14. *Difficult children/ lack of parental guidance*
15. *Generation gap hence misunderstanding between parents and children*
16. *Unemployment/ under employment/ retrenchment*
17. *Lack of communication*
18. *Religious differences*
19. *Intermarriages and hence cultural differences*

*4. a) The role of priests in traditional African societies*

1. *They offered sacrifices on behalf of the community*
2. *They counsel people on proper ways of living*
3. *They preside over cleansing rituals*
4. *They warn the community of the dangers ahead*
5. *They mediate between people and God*
6. *They reconcile various warning parties*
7. *The cared for the sacred places*
8. *They offer blessings to members*
9. *They intercede for the people needs*
10. *They guard the communities customs & traditions*

*b) Traditional African practices that lowers the dignity of women today*

1. *The practice of female circumcision*
2. *Polygamy*
3. *Early marriages for girls*
4. *Wife inheritance*
5. *Taboos on diet*
6. *Wife beating*
7. *Ownership of land/ property*

*c) What led to the increased social evils in the society today;*

1. *Unemployment/ poverty/ idleness*
2. *Breakdown of traditional moral values*
3. *Leniency in the law – courts*
4. *Drug abuse*
5. *Lack of role models*
6. *Negative mass media influence*
7. *Education system that does not emphasize on morality*
8. *Wide gap between the rich and the poor*
9. *Poor distribution of resources*

*5. (a) Role of kinship ties*

* *Gives a feeling of a strong bond towards each other.*
* *It enables people to help and share with others.*
* *It assists people to live peacefully in harmony with one another.*
* *It determines how members relate to one another*
* *It provided security to all concerned.*
* *It regulates marital customs rules and regulations.*
* *It gives an individual a deep sense of belonging.*

*(b) Factors contributing to harmony and mutual responsibilities in A.T.S.*

* *Political ties – power is allocated to ones status measuring individuals families fit in this wider political set up.*
* *Division of labour – Work is divided according to age and gender.*
* *Communal worship – during times of a crisis or happiness.*
* *Leisure activities are integrated with other activities after work.*
* *Rites of passage where the whole community is involved.*
* *Sharing of resources – E.g. among relatives or collectively by members of a given family.*
* *Social norms where people know what is right or wrong*

*(c) How Christians can contribute to conflict resolution.*

* *Upholding the rule of law.*
* *Encouraging/participating in dialogue.*
* *Being role models of peace.*
* *Offer guidance and counseling.*
* *Proper upbringing of children.*
* *Offer prayers.*
* *Funding the cause of conflicts with aim of resolving them.*
* *Encouraging reconciliation*
* *Preaching against tribalism and other social evil.*
* *Choosing honest leaders.*
* *Teaching people the importance of peace.*

*6. a) Changes taking place in property ownership in traditional African Communities*

1. *Women/ children can now own property*
2. *Wealth is no longer determined by number of wives/ children*
3. *Introduction of money economy has reduced value of land*
4. *Role of elders in sharing property has been eroded*
5. *Land is individually owned through issuance of title deed*
6. *People write wills to show/ decide who should inherit their property*
7. *Property can be owned outside ones ancestral home*
8. *Land can be sold/ auctioned*

*b) Traditional African practices which show that life is sacred*

1. *Greetings which expresses a state of life & prolonged prosperous life*
2. *Taking care of the physical body through feeding, protecting it, nurturing and taking medication when sick*
3. *Establishing a good relationship with God and the ancestors through worship prayers and veneration*
4. *Seeking God’s protection all the times especially in times of crisis*
5. *Taking of ancestral land which links the living and the dead*
6. *Taking care of both domestic and wild animals by providing food and protecting nature*
7. *Protecting human life including the unborn*
8. *Respecting sexual intercourse for married couples only*
9. *Obeying the rules and taboos that govern the well being of the community*

*c) Challenges facing the rite of initiation today*

1. *Female circumcision is now discouraged by the government*
2. *Elaborate ceremonies have been stopped in some communities- do not serve any purpose*
3. *The education of the young does not necessary depend on the sponsor (teachers, parents impart knowledge)*
4. *Seclusion period has drastically reduced (weeks not months) since the initiates have to go back to school*
5. *It is no longer a preparation ground for marriage- concerned are too young*

*7. 6 ways in which observance of blood kinship is important in Traditional African Communities.*

1. *It instills virtue like respect humility hospitality.*
2. *It regulates behaviour towards each other.*
3. *It defines types of punishment.*
4. *Regulates marital relationships.*
5. *It instills team spirit and collective responsibility*
6. *It gives a sense of belonging*
7. *It defines the role played by each members in community.*
8. *It promotes communal work.*

*8. a) 8 moral values acquired during marriage in T.A.S*

1. *Friendship i.e. couples end up being friends as they share their family duties*
2. *Love- couples end up being emotional to each other as they also establish love to other family members*
3. *Responsibility – married members take up new duties in a community which calls for their accountability*
4. *Respect- married couples are respected because of their status*
5. *Co-operation- they learn to work with other members in the society*
6. *Hard work- they are expected to be dedicated in their work*
7. *Patience- they should exercise patience in case of differences in marriages*
8. *Honesty- they should handle family resources in a trustworthy way*
9. *Self control- they should refrain from quarrels and fights*
10. *Mutual concern and care- they are required to work for the well being of their partners and other family members*
11. *Obedience- they should follow rules and regulations of the community*
12. *Generosity- they are expected to assist members of the community when called upon*
13. *Humility- they should humble themselves to their seniors and in laws*
14. *Courage- they should face challenges of marriage with a lot of determination to succeed*

*b) Precautions under taken by Africans to ensure that marriage was permanent*

1. *Dowry was paid to seal the marriage*
2. *Members of the community were involved in all stages of the marriage*
3. *Parents from both sides consulted frequently to ensure that minor problems in marriages are solved in good time before they blow out of proportion*
4. *People were allowed to engage in marriage at a mature age especially after initiation*
5. *Unfaithfulness was heavily punished*
6. *There were go betweens who were always handy when problems crop up in marriages*
7. *Women were taught by through grand mothers before marriage to be subordinate*

*c) Reasons that explain why polygamy is still practiced in our society today*

1. *Parents are assured of security in their old age because of their children*
2. *Parents are assured of continuity of their lineage when they die*
3. *It enables parents to have many children*
4. *It acts as a source of wealth to the family when children get employed*
5. *In case of death the gap created is easily filled by other partners in marriage*
6. *The problem of childlessness is easily contained as other partners can solve the problem*
7. *The problem of orphanage is curtailed as the remaining parents take charge of the children*

*9. a) 6 reasons why unmarried people were undermined in African traditional society.*

* *Marriage was compulsory for everyone.*
* *Unmarried was regarded as a child and not a grown up.*
* *Lacked experience in sex, responsibilities and family matters.*
* *Such a person was considered impotent.*
* *Once he died, his place was forgotten.*
* *Seen as a fight against community expansion.*
* *It is parents who were highly valued.*

*b) Importance of dowry in Modern Society.*

* *It ensures lasting marriage relationships.*
* *It is an appreciation by the bridegroom to the bride’s family for the care.*
* *It strengths the relationship between families.*
* *It compensates the loss of a member.*
* *It seals the covenant between the bridegroom and the bride.*
* *The unites the two families together in celebrations.*
* *It shows the seriousness of the man in the marriage.*

*c) Factors affecting traditional African heritage today.*

* *Foreign religion e.g Christianity Islamic and Hinduism.*
* *Foreign cultures and values.*
* *Western education.*
* *Money economy.*
* *New forms of employment*
* *Improved infrastructure.*
* *Modern science and technology.*
* *New forms of government systems and policies.*
* *Rural – Urban Migration.*
* *Mass Media*
* *Modern Medicine.*

*10. Seven moral values that couples acquire in marriage*

1. *Married couples learn to respect one another*
2. *Married couples learn to be faithful to one another*
3. *They learn to be hospital*
4. *They learn to be hardworking*
5. *They love one another*
6. *They learn to be responsible*
7. *They learn to tolerate one another*
8. *They learn to be patient to one another*
9. *Kindness*

*11. (a) The features of African traditional family*

* *Family is headed by the husband of grandfather*
* *It includes the extended family aunts, uncles, nephews, niece e.t.c*
* *Includes the ancestors and the yet o be born*
* *It was polygamous*
* *Family lived in a community*
* *Family members roles was well defined (division of labour)*
* *It was a religious unit*

*(b) Ways in which marriage contribute to social relationship in :-*

* *Creates anew relationship between woman and man*
* *Family relationships extends to include in-laws*
* *Wedding ceremony enhances interaction between the in-laws*
* *Meals shared encourages socialization*
* *Songs and dances during weddings encourages people to open up*
* *Customs on how to relate with one another & with in-laws determine boundaries in social interaction*

*(c) 6 challenges to bride wealth*

* *Western influence discourages wealth*
* *It is commercialized*
* *Co-habilitation*
* *Poverty makes it difficult to pay bride wealth*
* *Modernity*

*12. (a) Five ways in which one could become a diviner in the Traditional African*

 *communities are:-*

* *Through apprecenticeship/learning the art of diviner*
* *Through inheritance*
* *Through visions*
* *Through dreams*
* *One could be possessed by spirits*

 *(b) Factors that have contributed to harmony and mutual responsibility in the Traditional*

 *African Communities are:*

* *Marriage, two families were involved in the negotiations*
* *There was sharing of food*
* *Observations of norms /rules/regulations/laws*
* *Communal labour/ work was encouraged*
* *The presence of children that cement marriage*
* *Certain values/virtues e.g. honesty, hard work were instilled in the individuals*
* *Common belief in one God/religious beliefs and practices*
* *Social activities/people come together during initiation /marriage/harvest festivals*
* *Land was owned communally*
* *There was belief in common ancestor*
* *There was celebration of leisure activities*
* *Observing rites of passages*
* *Presence of strong kinship ties*
* *People shared political /economic organization*
* *There existed proper system of defence*
* *The widows /orphans /women/strangers were taken care of*
* *Education of children was based on societal values e.g. hard work*

*13. a) The old people prepare for death in the traditional African communities*

* *Bless their children*
* *Share out his property*
* *Choose is preferred place of burial*
* *Picks a success of among his children*
* *Enumerates what he wants to be after his death*
* *Pays /declares his debts*
* *Beseeches the ancestors to accept him*
* *Bids farewell to family/relatives*
* *Reconciles with the parties he had differed with*
* *A fellowship meal is prepared so that he eats with other members*

*b) 4 factors that contributed to harmony and mutual responsibility in the traditional*

 *African communities*

* *division of labour-laziness w as condemned*
* *communal ownership of land*
* *religious belief and practices*
* *kinship ties defines relationship with one another*
* *observance of social norms regulates human relationships*
* *communal sharing of material possessions*
* *rites of passage bring people together to celebrate life and show solidarity*
* *leisure activities bring people together*
* *political organizations reflects the need for harmony and mutual responsibility*

 *c) Six changes that have taken place in the African traditional concept of*

 *bride-wealth*

* *it has been individualized /it is no longer shared*
* *it has been commercialized /no longer taken as a token of appreciation*
* *its no longer fixed but subject to inflation and bargaining*
* *it is sometimes fixed according too status, education and position of the girl*
* *its paid in cash money not in form of animals in some cases*
* *girls are viewed as an investment sold*
* *it dehumanizes the girl*
* *it has become a manifestation of geed and exploitation*

*14. a) Five ways initiation rites inculcated moral values in Traditional African Community*

* *The initiates were taught self control on matters of sex and therefore were expected to maintain acceptable standards*
* *They were expected to behave maturely by enduring pain and hardships during initiation and throughout their life*
* *They were trained to be humble and obedient. They are to show respect to their seniours*
* *They were trained to be responsible parents and bread winners*

*b) Five socio- cultural changes that have taken place in Traditional African Community*

* *Mode of dressing has changed*
* *Some rites of passage have been dropped*
* *New forms of worship have been introduced i.e. Christian and Islam*
* *The ancestors are no longer considered part of the family*
* *People practice family planning and are individualistic*
* *Land is now owned individually rather than communally*
* *The aged have been left on their own*
* *Political systems and forms of government have changed*
* *There is intermingling of communities due to migration and selling of land*

*c) Five ways the Kenyan Government is providing African culture*

* *Creating permits to vernacular radio stations*
* *Establishing of traditional courts*
* *Organizing of drama and music festival for schools*
* *Encouraging traditional rites of passage e.g. male circumcision*
* *Integration – of African heritage in schools curriculum*
* *Creation of museums at national and provincial levels*
* *Establishing the ministry of culture and social services*

*15. (a) The elements of change in African traditional understanding of the old age*

 *i)Many old people live in special homes*

*ii) Some old people end up in streets as beggars*

*iii) Young people ignore the contribution of old people in their lives*

*iv) People today prepare for old age in various ways e.g. pension schemes*

*v) There are organizations which organize funds for the destitute old.*

*(b) Changes that have taken place in the traditional African attitude to orphans are;*

*i) So many orphans’ today hat people find it difficult to care for them.*

*ii) Many orphans are mistreated and neglected*

*iii) Orphans are taken to orphanages*

*iv) Government gives bursary for the education of the orphans*

*v) Many orphans today are a victim of child labour.*