

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF TANZANIA
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION

111

GENERAL STUDIES

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

Time : 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Thursday 02 May 2002 a.m

Instructions

1. This paper consists of sections A, B, C and D.
2. Answer **FOUR (4)** questions, choosing **ONE (1)** question from each section.
3. All questions carry equal marks.
4. Communication devices and any unauthorised materials are **not** allowed in the examination room.
5. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your answer booklet(s).

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SECTION A

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

1. Read the following passage and answer the questions which follow.

Significantly, the burden of Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAPs) does not fall equally on the shoulders of men and women. They are affected differently by SAPs because of the roles assigned to them by society and the corresponding constraints which those roles place on them.

While men's primary responsibility is usually the generation of income, women often combine numerous roles. As mothers, household managers, community carers and producers, women will be affected by SAPs in a multitude of ways, but their capacity to adapt and cope with these effects will be constrained by the lower social, economic and legal status which they often experience in society.

Much of the work carried out by women has no recognised market value. It is unpaid and invisible in the economic statistics which are used by policy-makers to plan, implement and evaluate SAPs.

Statistics which seem to indicate an increase in a country's economic efficiency, may in reality be overlooking a transfer of costs from paid economy to the unpaid "invisible" economy. Reducing health expenditure, for example, may result in women spending more of their time caring for sick relatives and friends.

The situation soon becomes unsustainable, as the pressures of a longer and harder working day for women take their toll, resulting in a deterioration in their general health and wellbeing. Given that women's paid and unpaid work is vital to a healthy economy, the burden with which SAPs place on women is not only inequitable, but a recipe for economic disaster.

The IMF and the World Bank can be compared to farmers who plant and harvest crops without monitoring the level or quality of nutrients in the soil. The nutrients are invisible, but make a vital contribution to a successful harvest. Unless they are accounted for in the farmers' agricultural plan, they will be depleted or inefficiently used and the harvest will eventually fail.

(a) What is the appropriate title for the passage you have read?

The appropriate title for the passage is “The Impact of Structural Adjustment Programmes on Women.” This is because the passage mainly explains how SAPs affect women more heavily than men due to their unpaid and unrecognized roles in society. It also shows the invisible burden women carry that is often left out in economic statistics.

(b) List down two types of work carried out by women which have no recognised market value.

One type of work carried out by women that has no recognised market value is household management. This includes cooking, cleaning, taking care of children, and maintaining the home environment. Although this work is essential for the well-being of families, it is unpaid and not considered in official statistics.

Another type of work is community care and support. Women often care for the sick, elderly, and disabled relatives, as well as volunteering in community projects. Despite being vital for social welfare, these tasks are invisible in economic calculations and are given no market value.

(c) Why is the ability of women to cope with SAPs very low?

The ability of women to cope with SAPs is very low because they face multiple responsibilities that are both paid and unpaid. Unlike men who focus mainly on income generation, women combine this with household duties and caregiving roles, which stretch their time and energy.

Women are also constrained by low social, economic, and legal status. Many lack access to resources such as land, credit, and education, which makes it harder for them to adapt to the economic shocks brought by SAPs.

Additionally, the extra burden of caring for relatives when health services are cut under SAPs increases their unpaid workload. This weakens their ability to benefit from or adjust to the reforms.

(d) Identify the “invisible nutrients” which the author refers to in the last paragraph.

The “invisible nutrients” referred to in the last paragraph are women’s unpaid contributions to household and community welfare. These include the care, support, and domestic services they provide, which are essential for family survival and national development but are not officially counted in economic planning.

Just as crops cannot grow without nutrients, societies cannot develop without the invisible input of women's unpaid work. Their role is hidden but critical to sustaining households and supporting the effects of economic policies.

(e) With reference to the passage why are the statistics of a country's economic efficiency misleading?

The statistics of a country's economic efficiency are misleading because they exclude women's unpaid work. By focusing only on paid employment and market activities, the statistics fail to account for the invisible economy that sustains families and communities.

They also misrepresent the actual economic burden, since much of women's work is essential but not reflected in figures like GDP. For example, when health services are cut, women take on more unpaid care duties, but this shift is invisible in economic statistics.

As a result, the figures present a false picture of growth and efficiency while ignoring the hidden sacrifices and workloads of women.

2. English has to continue to be used as a medium of instruction in post-primary education due to limitations of Kiswahili. Discuss.

English has to continue as a medium of instruction in post-primary education because it is an international language that connects Tanzania with the wider global community. Since most scientific, technological, and academic resources are produced in English, maintaining it helps students access modern knowledge and research.

Kiswahili, although a strong national language, has limitations in specialized vocabularies, especially in fields like medicine, engineering, and computer science. English already has established terminologies in these areas, which makes it more effective for teaching at higher levels.

English also provides Tanzanian students with greater opportunities in the job market. Many multinational companies and organizations use English as the working language, so fluency helps students compete globally.

Furthermore, English ensures continuity in higher education. Since universities in Tanzania and abroad largely use English, retaining it in secondary education prepares students for advanced studies without facing language transition difficulties.

However, Kiswahili still plays a vital role in promoting cultural identity and national unity. Yet due to its vocabulary limitations and lack of wide international use, English remains more practical for post-primary education.

3. Analyse the significance of Literature in the society.

Literature is significant because it serves as a mirror of society. It reflects social issues, cultural practices, and values, which helps people understand themselves and their communities better. Through stories, poems, and plays, literature expresses the realities of people's lives.

It is also a powerful tool for education. Literature develops language skills, critical thinking, and creativity. Students who read and analyze literary works gain knowledge of different cultures and learn how to express themselves effectively.

Another significance of literature is its role in preserving culture and traditions. Folktales, proverbs, and historical writings ensure that cultural heritage is passed from one generation to another, strengthening identity.

Literature promotes moral values by presenting lessons through characters and events. Readers are able to learn from the experiences of others, which helps in shaping attitudes and behavior positively.

Additionally, literature entertains and relieves stress. Through novels, plays, and poetry, people find relaxation, joy, and emotional release, which are important for mental wellbeing.

4. Modern states cannot survive without mass communication media. Justify.

Modern states cannot survive without mass communication media because communication is the foundation of governance. Governments rely on media to pass information, policies, and laws to the public, ensuring citizens are informed and engaged.

Mass communication media are also vital for democracy. They provide a platform for political debate, public opinion, and accountability. Without media, leaders would have no way to interact effectively with the population.

In terms of economic development, media promotes business, trade, and investment through advertisements and information exchange. Modern economies depend on communication channels to function efficiently.

Media also plays a crucial role in education and awareness. Through radio, television, newspapers, and online platforms, citizens learn about health, environment, technology, and global issues that shape their lives.

Furthermore, mass communication media unite people during times of crisis. Disasters, pandemics, and emergencies require quick dissemination of information, which is only possible through modern media channels.

5. For a long time religion has been a trigger to national development. Discuss.

Religion has contributed to national development through the promotion of morality and discipline. By teaching ethical values, religions reduce crime and anti-social behavior, creating a stable environment for development.

Religious institutions have also contributed to education. Missionaries built schools, colleges, and universities that continue to provide quality education, thus developing human capital.

In healthcare, religion has played a role by establishing hospitals, dispensaries, and community health services. These institutions improve public health, which is necessary for a productive population.

Religion has also encouraged social unity and peace. By promoting forgiveness, love, and mutual respect, religion helps reduce conflicts that can hinder national progress.

Additionally, religion has influenced leadership by encouraging honesty, accountability, and servant-hood, qualities that enhance good governance and development.

6. Account for the current problems which undermine efforts towards building a national culture.

One problem is globalization, which introduces foreign cultures that influence local traditions. The adoption of Western lifestyles, fashion, and media sometimes overshadows Tanzanian values, weakening national culture.

Tribalism also undermines national culture. People often prioritize ethnic identities over national unity, which creates division and prevents the growth of a shared cultural identity.

Another problem is poor promotion of local languages and traditions. While Kiswahili has been successful, many traditional practices, dances, and rituals are fading due to lack of preservation efforts.

Urbanization contributes to cultural erosion. As people move to towns, they adopt modern lifestyles and neglect rural traditions, making it difficult to maintain national identity.

Additionally, political and economic instability also affect national culture. When people struggle with poverty or conflict, they focus on survival rather than preserving and promoting cultural heritage.

7. Identify socio-cultural values that are gender biased and how they can be eliminated.

One gender-biased value is the belief that men are natural leaders while women should remain in subordinate roles. This limits women from leadership positions. To eliminate it, awareness campaigns and education promoting gender equality should be strengthened.

Another bias is that domestic work is only for women. This leads to unequal workload distribution in families. It can be eliminated by encouraging men to share household responsibilities equally.

There is also the belief that boys deserve education more than girls. This results in higher dropout rates for girls. The solution is enforcing equal access to education for both genders through laws and community sensitization.

Inheritance customs in some communities also favor men over women, denying women property rights. This bias can be eliminated by reforming laws and ensuring women have equal rights to inheritance and land ownership.

Lastly, cultural practices such as early marriages target girls more than boys. Eliminating this requires strict enforcement of child protection laws and community education on the value of girls' education.

8. Examine the main branches of Philosophy.

One branch is metaphysics, which studies the nature of reality, existence, and the universe. It asks questions about being, time, space, and the meaning of life.

Epistemology is another branch, concerned with knowledge and belief. It explores how humans acquire knowledge, what can be known, and the difference between opinion and truth.

Ethics is a key branch that deals with morality. It examines what is right or wrong, good or bad, and guides human conduct in personal and social life.

Logic is another important branch that focuses on reasoning. It provides rules and principles for correct thinking, helping people form valid arguments and avoid fallacies.

Aesthetics is also a branch of philosophy, dealing with beauty, art, and taste. It studies how people perceive beauty and the role of art in human life.

9. “Child labour is a bad conduct in the modern world.” With examples from Tanzania account for child labour exercise and suggest different measures to end this problem.

Child labour in Tanzania occurs when children are forced to work in agriculture, mining, and domestic services instead of attending school. In rural areas, children are often used in farms to plant and harvest crops, which denies them access to education.

In mining areas like Geita and Shinyanga, many children are employed in small-scale gold mines. They are exposed to dangerous chemicals and heavy work, which affects their health and development.

Another example is domestic work, where young girls are employed as housemaids in towns. They face exploitation, abuse, and poor working conditions, which destroy their future opportunities.

To end child labour, the government must enforce strict laws that protect children from exploitation. Employers who use child labour should face heavy penalties.

Education should be made affordable and accessible to all children. Free school meals, scholarships, and safe learning environments will encourage children to stay in school rather than work.

10. Show the contribution of Non-Governmental Organizations towards poverty alleviation efforts in Tanzania.

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) contribute by providing microfinance services that enable poor families to start small businesses. Through loans and savings groups, NGOs help people improve their income levels.

They also promote education by building schools, sponsoring children, and providing learning materials. Education is a long-term solution to poverty since it equips people with skills for employment.

In healthcare, NGOs establish clinics, provide medical supplies, and run health awareness campaigns. This improves the wellbeing of communities, allowing people to be more productive.

NGOs also support agriculture by providing training on modern farming methods, improved seeds, and tools. This increases food production and reduces hunger.

Additionally, NGOs advocate for the rights of marginalized groups, ensuring that women, children, and the disabled get access to opportunities that can lift them out of poverty.

11. Show the impact of rural-urban migration problem among the youths in Tanzania today and suggest possible solutions.

Rural-urban migration has led to unemployment among youths in cities. Since the urban areas cannot absorb all job seekers, many remain jobless, leading to poverty and crime.

It has also caused the growth of informal settlements such as slums. Youths migrating without resources end up living in poor housing conditions with little access to clean water and sanitation.

The migration also weakens rural development, as energetic youths leave villages, reducing agricultural productivity and leaving the elderly behind.

To solve this problem, the government should invest in rural development by creating industries and improving infrastructure. This will reduce the need for youths to move to towns.

Vocational training and entrepreneurship programs should also be introduced to help youths create jobs in both rural and urban areas.

12. The current economic crisis in Tanzania is said to be the result of both domestic and international factors. Identify those factors and suggest different options to eradicate them.

One domestic factor is corruption, which drains national resources and discourages investment. Mismanagement of funds leads to poor public services and slows economic growth.

Another domestic factor is overdependence on agriculture. Since farming relies heavily on rainfall, droughts and climate changes often cause food shortages and low export earnings.

Internationally, fluctuations in global markets affect Tanzania's exports such as coffee, cotton, and cashew nuts. Falling prices reduce foreign income and worsen the crisis.

Another international factor is heavy foreign debt, which forces the country to spend more on repayments rather than development projects.

To eradicate the crisis, Tanzania should diversify its economy by promoting industries, tourism, and technology. Strengthening anti-corruption institutions and improving governance will also ensure resources are used effectively.

13. "Industries are vital economic activities in paving the way towards socio-economic development." With examples justify this statement and identify the drawbacks towards industrial prosperity in Tanzania.

Industries create employment opportunities for thousands of Tanzanians. For example, textile industries employ workers in production and marketing, reducing unemployment rates.

They also add value to raw materials. Cotton, for instance, is processed into clothes, which earn higher profits than selling raw cotton. This contributes to economic growth.

Industries also promote technology transfer and innovation. Industrial activities introduce new machines, skills, and knowledge that improve productivity.

Additionally, industries generate government revenue through taxes. This income is used to fund education, health, and infrastructure development.

However, industrial prosperity in Tanzania faces challenges such as unreliable electricity supply, poor infrastructure, and lack of capital investment. Corruption and bureaucracy also discourage investors from expanding industries.

14. Critically examine the merits of recycling domestic and industrial wastes.

Recycling reduces environmental pollution by preventing waste from being dumped into rivers, streets, and open lands. This keeps the environment clean and safe for living.

It conserves natural resources by reusing materials such as metals, plastics, and paper. Instead of cutting more trees or mining more minerals, recycled products reduce pressure on natural resources.

Recycling also creates job opportunities. Many people earn a living by collecting, sorting, and processing waste materials for resale.

Another merit is energy saving. Manufacturing from recycled materials often consumes less energy compared to using raw resources, which helps conserve energy.

Finally, recycling promotes sustainable development. By managing waste responsibly, the current generation meets its needs without destroying resources for future generations.

15. Account for and suggest the possible solutions for the increased desertification in many sub-Saharan African countries.

Desertification is caused by deforestation, where trees are cut for firewood and land clearing, leaving soil exposed to erosion. This leads to land degradation.

Overgrazing also contributes, as livestock feed excessively on vegetation, leaving land bare and vulnerable to desert-like conditions.

Climate change is another cause, since prolonged droughts reduce rainfall and dry up fertile soils. This makes farming difficult in many areas.

To solve this, afforestation and reforestation programs should be implemented. Planting trees restores vegetation cover and prevents soil erosion.

Governments should also encourage sustainable farming methods such as crop rotation, irrigation, and controlled grazing. These practices preserve soil fertility and reduce desertification.

16. Hazards like floods, drought and famine are catastrophes which face Tanzania. Discuss the preventive measures against them.

Floods can be prevented by building strong drainage systems in towns and avoiding settlement in flood-prone areas. Tree planting along riverbanks also reduces flooding by controlling water flow.

Drought can be managed through irrigation schemes that ensure continuous farming even when rains fail. Farmers should also adopt drought-resistant crops to sustain food production.

To prevent famine, the government should establish food storage facilities where surplus harvests can be kept for use during shortage seasons.

Early warning systems should be introduced to alert people about coming disasters. This helps communities prepare in advance and reduce losses.

International cooperation and disaster relief programs should also be strengthened to provide quick support during emergencies, reducing the impact of these hazards.