

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

111

GENERAL STUDIES

(For Both School and Private Candidate)

Time: 3 Hours

ANSWERS

2006 February, 06th Monday

Instructions

1. This paper consists of sections A, B, C and D.
2. Answer **four** questions, choosing **one question** from each section,
3. Each question carries **twenty (20)** marks.
4. All writings must be in **blue** or **black** ink.
5. Communication devices and any unauthorized materials are **not** allowed in the assessment room.
6. Write your **Examination Number** at the top right hand corner of every page.

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1. (a) Suggest the suitable heading for the passage.

A suitable heading for the passage is "Challenges and Impacts of Technology Transfer in Developing Countries."

(b) Why does the author say that the transfer of technology is a broad notion?

The author refers to the transfer of technology as a broad notion because it involves more than just importing advanced equipment and know-how. It also includes adopting new work ethics, managerial and marketing skills, and creating the necessary infrastructure to use the technology effectively. Furthermore, it requires skilled personnel, access to global markets, and addressing the economic dependencies created by such transfers.

(c) Identify the consequences of transfer of technology to the developing countries as given in the passage.

The consequences include:

- High costs of purchasing patents, licenses, and foreign expertise.
- Dependence on Western corporations for spare parts and raw materials.
- Economic exploitation, as transnational corporations charge high profits.
- Importing technology that may not suit the specific needs of the developing country.
- Limited capacity for independent progress due to repeated reliance on external sources.

(d) In your own words, suggest at least four ways in which the developing countries can get rid of technology transfer.

Developing countries can reduce dependence on technology transfer by:

- Investing in local research and development to create homegrown solutions.
- Enhancing technical and vocational training to develop skilled personnel.
- Encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship through government incentives.
- Forming regional partnerships to share resources and technology within developing countries.

(e) The author says that the developing countries cannot proceed along the road to progress independently by accepting the terms made by the Transnational Corporations. Give reasons.

This statement highlights that dependence on transnational corporations limits independent growth because:

- These corporations prioritize profit over the specific needs of developing countries.
- They create economic dependencies by controlling patents and licenses.
- Developing countries end up spending a large share of their foreign currency on recurring purchases.
- Imported technology often fails to address the unique challenges of local economies.

2. Account for the factors which hinder effective communication.

Effective communication is hindered by the following factors:

- i. Language barriers: Differences in languages or dialects between communicators lead to misunderstandings.
- ii. Cultural differences: Diverse cultural norms and values may cause misinterpretation of messages.
- iii. Inadequate technology: Lack of access to communication tools, such as phones or the internet, hampers communication in rural areas.
- iv. Poor listening skills: Failure to listen attentively reduces the effectiveness of message delivery.
- v. Noise and distractions: Environmental disturbances interfere with the clarity of communication.
- vi. Emotional factors: Stress, anger, or bias affect the ability to convey and receive messages effectively.

Addressing these issues requires education, technology investment, and cultural awareness.

3. The standard of English language in post-primary schools in Tanzania has declined due to lack of clear language policy. Argue for or against this view.

For the view:

- Lack of a clear policy creates confusion between Kiswahili and English as mediums of instruction.
- Teachers often lack adequate English proficiency to teach effectively.
- Limited resources, such as English textbooks and teaching aids, exacerbate the problem.

Against the view:

- The decline may result from inadequate teacher training rather than policy issues.
- English is widely taught in schools, but students face challenges in applying it.
- Socio-economic factors, such as poverty and poor school infrastructure, contribute to the decline.

In conclusion, while the absence of a clear language policy impacts English standards, other systemic challenges also play a significant role.

4. General Studies as a discipline has a role to play in our youths today. Discuss.

General Studies equips youth with knowledge and skills to address societal challenges. Its roles include:

- i. Promoting critical thinking: It encourages youth to analyze social, economic, and political issues.

- ii. Enhancing civic responsibility: The discipline educates youth on their rights and responsibilities as citizens.
- iii. Preparing for employment: General Studies covers diverse topics, such as communication and ethics, essential in the workplace.
- iv. Fostering national unity: It emphasizes values like patriotism and tolerance, promoting social cohesion.
- v. Addressing global challenges: Youth learn about environmental sustainability, human rights, and globalization.
- vi. Encouraging lifelong learning: General Studies fosters curiosity and adaptability in a rapidly changing world.

In conclusion, the discipline is essential for shaping informed, responsible, and versatile citizens.

5. Examine the major factors constraining gender equity and gender balance in Tanzania.

Gender equity and balance in Tanzania are constrained by several factors:

- i. Cultural norms and traditions: Deeply rooted cultural beliefs often promote male dominance and limit opportunities for women. For instance, traditional practices like early marriages hinder girls' education.
- ii. Limited access to education: Many girls face barriers to education due to poverty, societal expectations, or inadequate infrastructure, particularly in rural areas.
- iii. Economic disparities: Women often earn less than men for similar work and have limited access to financial resources, affecting their economic independence.
- iv. Gender-based violence: Violence against women, including domestic abuse and sexual harassment, restricts their ability to participate in society equally.
- v. Political underrepresentation: Women are underrepresented in decision-making roles, both in politics and the workplace. For instance, few women hold parliamentary seats in Tanzania.
- vi. Inadequate legal enforcement: While Tanzania has laws promoting gender equality, their implementation is often weak, allowing discriminatory practices to persist.

In conclusion, addressing these challenges requires education reforms, economic empowerment, legal enforcement, and cultural transformation.

6. To what extent can religions be an agent of social change?

Religions can significantly influence social change by promoting moral values, education, and unity. Their impact includes:

- i. Advocating for equality: Religious teachings often emphasize justice and equality, challenging discrimination and promoting inclusion.
- ii. Encouraging education: Faith-based organizations establish schools and provide scholarships, enhancing literacy and skills development.
- iii. Promoting peace: Religious institutions mediate conflicts, fostering reconciliation and social harmony.
- iv. Addressing social issues: Churches, mosques, and other religious bodies raise awareness about issues like poverty, health, and corruption.
- v. Supporting vulnerable groups: Religious organizations provide aid to marginalized communities, improving their living standards.
- vi. Fostering moral development: Religious teachings shape ethical behavior, encouraging individuals to contribute positively to society.

However, religion may also resist change by upholding traditional values. Its potential as an agent of change depends on progressive leadership and alignment with modern societal needs.

7. (a) What is culture?

Culture refers to the shared beliefs, customs, practices, values, and artifacts that define a group or society. It encompasses elements like language, religion, art, traditions, and norms, shaping individuals' identities and behaviors. Culture is dynamic, evolving through interactions, innovations, and external influences.

(b) Examine the effects of Western culture to the Tanzanian society.

Western culture has had both positive and negative effects on Tanzanian society:

Positive effects:

- i. Modern education: Western influence introduced formal education systems, enhancing literacy and skill development.
- ii. Technological advancement: Western technologies have improved communication, transportation, and healthcare in Tanzania.
- iii. Human rights awareness: Western values promote gender equality, democracy, and freedom of expression.

Negative effects:

- i. Erosion of traditions: Westernization has led to the decline of traditional customs and practices.
- ii. Materialism: Western consumer culture fosters materialistic values, overshadowing communal lifestyles.
- iii. Language dominance: The prevalence of English undermines the use of Kiswahili and indigenous languages.

In conclusion, while Western culture has contributed to development, preserving Tanzanian traditions is essential for cultural identity.

(c) Mention the steps which were taken by the government of Tanzania to rectify the impact of Western culture soon after independence.

The Tanzanian government implemented several measures to counteract the negative effects of Western culture:

- i. Promoting Kiswahili: Kiswahili was adopted as the national language to foster unity and preserve cultural identity.
- ii. Ujamaa policy: Under Julius Nyerere, the government emphasized traditional values like collectivism and self-reliance through Ujamaa villages.
- iii. Establishing cultural institutions: The government created institutions like the National Arts Council to promote Tanzanian arts and traditions.
- iv. Reviving traditional practices: Initiatives encouraged the practice of local dances, music, and crafts to preserve heritage.
- v. Education reforms: The curriculum included Tanzanian history and culture to instill a sense of identity among students.
- vi. Media regulation: The government monitored foreign media content to limit Western influence and promote local productions.

In conclusion, these measures helped balance modernization with the preservation of Tanzanian culture.

8. In what ways can local and foreign television networks, video shows, magazines, and cinema destroy the culture of African societies?

Local and foreign media can negatively impact African cultures in the following ways:

- i. Promoting Western lifestyles: Foreign media often glorify Western lifestyles, leading to the abandonment of traditional African values and practices. For instance, Tanzanian youth may prioritize Western fashion and music over local traditions.

- ii. Undermining indigenous languages: The dominance of English and other foreign languages in media erodes the use of African languages, threatening cultural identity.
- iii. Eroding moral values: Media content that portrays violence, explicit material, or materialism may influence individuals, especially youth, to adopt behaviors that contradict African societal norms.
- iv. Replacing traditional arts: Foreign films and music overshadow local art forms like traditional dances and storytelling, leading to their decline.
- v. Promoting individualism: Media often emphasize individual success over communal living, conflicting with African communal values.
- vi. Encouraging consumerism: Advertisements in media promote a culture of consumerism, leading to the adoption of unsustainable lifestyles.

In conclusion, while media provides exposure to global ideas, measures should be taken to preserve African traditions and promote local content.

9. Poverty is said to be a great burden to developing countries. Suggest ways which can be employed by developing countries to alleviate poverty.

Developing countries can alleviate poverty through the following strategies:

- i. Promoting education: Providing universal access to quality education equips individuals with skills to secure better employment and improve livelihoods.
- ii. Encouraging entrepreneurship: Governments can support small businesses through training, microloans, and tax incentives to generate income and jobs.
- iii. Investing in agriculture: Modernizing agriculture through technology and infrastructure boosts productivity and reduces rural poverty.
- iv. Expanding healthcare services: Improving healthcare access ensures a healthy workforce, reducing the economic burden of diseases.
- v. Infrastructure development: Building roads, electricity, and internet connectivity enhances access to markets, services, and opportunities.
- vi. Strengthening social safety nets: Providing welfare programs for the vulnerable reduces income inequality and supports basic needs.

In conclusion, alleviating poverty requires comprehensive efforts involving education, economic empowerment, and healthcare improvements.

10. How does the Parliamentary system of government differ from the Presidential system of government?

The Parliamentary and Presidential systems of government differ as follows:

- i. Leadership selection: In the Parliamentary system, the head of government (prime minister) is elected by the legislature, while in the Presidential system, the president is directly elected by the people.
- ii. Separation of powers: The Presidential system separates the executive and legislative branches, while the Parliamentary system integrates them, as the prime minister is part of the legislature.
- iii. Term limits: Presidents usually serve fixed terms, while prime ministers remain in office as long as they have legislative support.
- iv. Accountability: In the Parliamentary system, the prime minister can be removed through a vote of no confidence. In the Presidential system, impeachment is the only process for removal.
- v. Decision-making speed: The Parliamentary system allows faster decision-making due to coordination between branches, while the Presidential system may experience delays due to checks and balances.
- vi. Example: Tanzania has a Presidential system, while the United Kingdom follows a Parliamentary system.

In conclusion, both systems have unique features that shape governance structures and political dynamics.

11. Explain briefly the qualities of good governance.

Good governance ensures effective, accountable, and inclusive administration. Its qualities include:

- i. Participation: Citizens are actively involved in decision-making processes.
- ii. Transparency: Government operations are open, allowing public scrutiny.
- iii. Accountability: Leaders are responsible for their actions and decisions.
- iv. Rule of law: Laws are applied fairly, protecting citizens' rights.
- v. Equity: Resources and opportunities are distributed fairly, ensuring inclusivity.
- vi. Efficiency: Policies and services are implemented effectively to meet citizens' needs.

In conclusion, good governance fosters trust, development, and societal well-being.

12. Assess the problems that hinder development of regional economic integrations in Africa.

Regional economic integrations in Africa face the following problems:

- i. Political instability: Conflicts and governance issues disrupt cooperation among member states.

- ii. Diverse economies: Economic disparities among nations create imbalances in resource sharing and benefits.
 - iii. Poor infrastructure: Limited connectivity through roads, railways, and communication hampers trade and integration efforts.
 - iv. Protectionist policies: Member states prioritize national interests by imposing tariffs and trade barriers.
 - v. Lack of political will: Inconsistent commitment from leaders undermines regional agreements.
 - vi. Weak institutions: Inadequate capacity and resources hinder the effectiveness of regional organizations.
- In conclusion, overcoming these challenges requires political stability, infrastructure investments, and stronger institutional frameworks.

13.. Examine the socio-economic limitations related to transfer of technology from developed countries to least developed countries like Tanzania.

The transfer of technology to Tanzania faces several socio-economic limitations:

- i. High costs: Purchasing foreign technology, licenses, and patents is expensive, straining national budgets. For example, Tanzania often spends significant foreign currency on imported machinery.
- ii. Inappropriate technology: Imported technology may not align with local conditions, making it less effective. For instance, industrial equipment designed for temperate climates may fail in tropical regions.
- iii. Dependence on foreign expertise: Limited local technical skills necessitate reliance on foreign experts, increasing costs and reducing self-reliance.
- iv. Intellectual property barriers: Strict patent laws restrict the modification or adaptation of imported technologies to local needs.
- v. Lack of infrastructure: Inadequate power, transportation, and communication systems hinder the effective use of advanced technologies.
- vi. Brain drain: Skilled Tanzanians migrate to developed countries for better opportunities, reducing the capacity to utilize and develop imported technologies.

In conclusion, addressing these limitations requires investments in education, infrastructure, and policies promoting local innovation.

14. Despite the efforts made, the industrialization process in Third World Countries has been very slow. Discuss.

The slow pace of industrialization in Third World countries like Tanzania is attributed to the following factors:

- i. Limited capital: Insufficient funding hinders the establishment and expansion of industries, slowing growth.
- ii. Poor infrastructure: Inadequate transport, electricity, and water supply disrupt industrial operations.
- iii. Skills shortage: A lack of technical expertise reduces efficiency and innovation in industrial sectors.
- iv. Over-reliance on imports: Dependence on imported raw materials and machinery increases production costs and limits competitiveness.
- v. Weak policy frameworks: Inconsistent or inadequate industrial policies discourage investment and innovation.
- vi. Market limitations: Small domestic markets and weak integration into global markets restrict industrial growth.

In conclusion, overcoming these challenges requires targeted investments, policy reforms, and enhanced regional cooperation to accelerate industrialization.

15. “Environmental degradation is more often a man-made hazard.” Discuss.

Environmental degradation refers to the deterioration of the natural environment due to human activities. This statement is supported by the following:

- i. Deforestation: Clearing forests for agriculture, logging, and settlements reduces biodiversity and disrupts ecosystems.
- ii. Pollution: Industrial activities release harmful chemicals into air, water, and soil, causing pollution and health risks.
- iii. Over-extraction of resources: Mining and overfishing deplete natural resources, threatening sustainability.
- iv. Urbanization: Unplanned urban growth leads to habitat destruction and increased waste generation.
- v. Climate change: Greenhouse gas emissions from human activities contribute to global warming and extreme weather events.
- vi. Agricultural practices: Overuse of pesticides and fertilizers pollutes water sources and degrades soil quality.

In conclusion, human activities are the primary drivers of environmental degradation, emphasizing the need for sustainable practices and policies.

16. How has environmental pollution affected the society in Tanzania?

Environmental pollution has significant impacts on Tanzanian society:

- i. Health issues: Air and water pollution increase the prevalence of diseases like respiratory infections and cholera.
- ii. Reduced agricultural productivity: Soil degradation from pollution affects crop yields, threatening food security.
- iii. Loss of biodiversity: Pollution disrupts ecosystems, endangering wildlife and plants.
- iv. Economic losses: Pollution damages fisheries, tourism, and other industries dependent on natural resources.
- v. Water scarcity: Contaminated water sources reduce access to safe drinking water, affecting livelihoods.
- vi. Climate change: Pollution contributes to climate change, exacerbating droughts and floods in Tanzania.

In conclusion, addressing environmental pollution is crucial to safeguard health, livelihoods, and sustainability in Tanzania.