

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

2008 February, 11st 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 a suitable title for the passage you have read.

A suitable title for the passage is "Empowerment and Democratization in African Development."

(b) According to the author, how is power distributed in a people's empowered society?

In a people's empowered society, power is distributed democratically through civil society organizations and local governments. Empowerment enables communities to participate in decision-making, implementation, and monitoring processes, making governments accountable to the people.

(c) What are the two major changes which have taken place during the empowerment period?

The two major changes during the empowerment period are:

- The transformation of traditional civil society organizations, such as trade unions and cooperatives, into more participatory and effective bodies.
- The formation of new types of civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to address community needs.

(d) What forms of civil society organizations are important in enhancing people's empowerment?

Important forms of civil society organizations include:

- Trade unions: Advocate for workers' rights and fair labor practices.
- Cooperatives: Support economic empowerment through collective initiatives.
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs): Address social issues and promote sustainable development.
- Local governments: Provide platforms for citizen participation and resource management.

(e) In your opinion, why is empowerment an indispensable ingredient in development strategies?

Empowerment is indispensable in development strategies because it ensures inclusivity, accountability, and sustainability. By involving communities in decision-making, empowerment fosters ownership of projects, improves resource allocation, and builds capacity for long-term development.

2. Language has always been and will continue being a major tool for economic development of any society. Comment on this statement.

Language is a crucial tool for economic development as it facilitates communication, education, and trade. Its significance includes:

i. Enhancing communication: Language allows individuals to share ideas, negotiate, and collaborate effectively. For example, Kiswahili serves as a unifying language in Tanzania, enabling smooth communication across diverse ethnic groups.

ii. Promoting education: A common language is essential for delivering quality education. For instance, English as a global language provides access to international knowledge and resources.

iii. Facilitating trade: Language enables transactions and contracts in both local and international markets. For example, proficiency in languages like English and French boosts Tanzania's participation in regional trade agreements.

iv. Supporting tourism: Language skills attract tourists by ensuring effective communication. For instance, Tanzanian tour guides fluent in multiple languages attract visitors from different countries.

v. Fostering cultural exchange: Language promotes understanding and collaboration across cultures, essential for globalization.

In conclusion, language remains a vital tool for economic growth, influencing education, trade, and cultural interactions.

3. Show the strategies which can be employed to avoid communication impairment in Third World countries like Tanzania.

Communication impairment in Third World countries can be addressed through the following strategies:

i. Promoting multilingual education: Teaching multiple languages, including local and international ones, ensures inclusivity and global communication.

ii. Expanding ICT infrastructure: Investing in internet connectivity and mobile networks bridges communication gaps, especially in rural areas.

iii. Enhancing media accessibility: Developing community radio and television stations in local languages improves information dissemination.

iv. Conducting public awareness campaigns: Educating citizens on effective communication methods reduces barriers.

v. Standardizing language use: Promoting the use of Kiswahili as a national language enhances unity and reduces linguistic diversity challenges.

vi. Encouraging the use of translation services: Providing translators for official communications ensures inclusivity in diverse communities.

In conclusion, combining technological investments and education reforms can minimize communication impairments and foster development.

4. Parents and some education stakeholders feel that English rather than Kiswahili should be used as a medium of instruction at primary school level. How far is this statement valid?

The debate on the medium of instruction in Tanzanian schools involves the following considerations:

- i. Global opportunities: English as a medium of instruction provides students with skills to participate in international markets and academia. For instance, fluency in English is essential for accessing global job markets.
- ii. Academic resources: Most educational materials, including textbooks and online content, are in English, making it a practical choice for learning.
- iii. Challenges of Kiswahili: While Kiswahili is widely spoken, its limited academic vocabulary restricts its use in higher education.

However, the statement also faces limitations:

- i. Inclusivity: Using Kiswahili ensures that primary education is accessible to all Tanzanians, especially rural communities where English proficiency is low.
- ii. Cultural preservation: Teaching in Kiswahili promotes national identity and cultural heritage.
- iii. Transition challenges: Students often struggle when transitioning from Kiswahili to English in secondary education.

In conclusion, while English provides global opportunities, a balanced approach that integrates Kiswahili in primary education and strengthens English instruction is necessary for inclusive development.

5. Assess the importance of studying philosophy in Tanzania schools.

Philosophy, the study of fundamental questions about existence, knowledge, and ethics, is vital in Tanzanian schools for the following reasons:

- i. Developing critical thinking: Philosophy encourages students to analyze situations logically and think independently. For instance, students learn to evaluate societal issues like corruption and propose rational solutions.
- ii. Promoting ethical values: Philosophy teaches morality and ethical reasoning, shaping responsible citizens. For example, philosophical teachings on justice and fairness promote integrity in leadership.
- iii. Fostering creativity: Philosophy stimulates intellectual curiosity and innovation. For instance, by questioning conventional practices, students can develop new approaches to solve local problems.

iv. Enhancing decision-making: By teaching students how to weigh evidence and arguments, philosophy improves their decision-making abilities. For example, students learn to make informed career and life choices.

v. Strengthening cultural understanding: Philosophy explores diverse beliefs and traditions, fostering tolerance and unity. For instance, studying African philosophy deepens students' appreciation of their cultural heritage.

vi. Preparing for leadership: Philosophy nurtures leadership qualities by emphasizing critical thinking, ethical conduct, and problem-solving. For example, leaders who understand philosophical concepts can govern more effectively.

In conclusion, studying philosophy equips Tanzanian students with critical, ethical, and creative skills essential for personal and national development.

6. Examine the disadvantages of non-secularism to a developing nation.

Non-secularism refers to the integration of religion into state affairs. While it may reflect cultural identity, it has several disadvantages for developing nations:

i. Religious bias: Non-secularism may favor one religion, marginalizing others and creating social divisions. For example, policies based on religious doctrines can exclude minority groups from governance.

ii. Conflict and instability: Mixing religion with politics often leads to tensions and violence. For instance, religious favoritism in governance may spark protests and civil unrest.

iii. Hindrance to development: Decisions influenced by religious beliefs may overlook scientific or evidence-based solutions. For example, opposing family planning on religious grounds can exacerbate overpopulation.

iv. Erosion of democracy: Non-secularism undermines equality by giving undue influence to religious leaders. For instance, religious interference in politics can suppress diverse viewpoints.

v. Restriction of individual freedoms: Non-secular states may impose religious practices on all citizens, infringing on personal liberties.

vi. Economic consequences: Religious conflicts and instability deter foreign investments and hinder economic growth.

In conclusion, non-secularism poses significant challenges to unity, development, and individual freedoms in developing nations, emphasizing the need for secular governance.

7. Like society, culture is in perpetual motion. Examine the notable motives for cultural dynamism.

Cultural dynamism refers to the continuous evolution of culture influenced by internal and external factors. The notable motives include:

i. Technological advancements: Innovations like mobile phones and social media transform communication and lifestyles. For instance, Tanzanians now use digital platforms for business and education.

ii. Globalization: Interactions with other cultures through trade, travel, and media introduce new practices. For example, global fashion trends influence Tanzanian youth.

iii. Urbanization: Migration to cities fosters cultural blending, leading to new social norms and values. For instance, urban lifestyles differ from traditional rural practices.

iv. Education: Exposure to diverse ideas through education broadens perspectives and encourages cultural adaptation. For example, students adopting global best practices in agriculture benefit local communities.

v. Economic development: Economic changes, such as industrialization, shape cultural practices. For example, formal employment influences family structures and roles.

vi. Environmental changes: Adapting to environmental challenges, like climate change, affects cultural practices. For instance, shifting agricultural patterns impact food traditions.

In conclusion, culture evolves due to technological, economic, and social changes, reflecting society's adaptability and resilience.

8. Highlight the major characteristics of liberalism.

Liberalism is a political and economic ideology that emphasizes individual freedoms, equality, and minimal government interference. Its major characteristics include:

i. Individual rights: Liberalism prioritizes the protection of personal freedoms, such as speech, religion, and property ownership.

ii. Equality: It advocates for equal opportunities and treatment regardless of race, gender, or social status.

iii. Rule of law: Liberalism emphasizes adherence to laws and justice systems to ensure fairness and accountability.

iv. Limited government: It supports a government that intervenes minimally in economic and personal matters, focusing on protecting citizens' rights.

v. Free markets: Liberalism promotes economic freedom, allowing individuals to own property and businesses and engage in trade.

vi. Democracy: It upholds democratic principles, such as free elections and citizen participation in governance.

In conclusion, liberalism values individual autonomy, justice, and minimal state intervention, making it a cornerstone of modern democracies.

9. Why is women empowerment a necessary component in the socio-economic development of our society?

Women empowerment refers to enabling women to participate fully in all aspects of societal development, ensuring their rights and opportunities are equal to those of men. Its necessity in socio-economic development is based on the following reasons:

i. Promoting economic growth: Empowering women increases their participation in the labor force, leading to higher productivity. For example, women entrepreneurs in Tanzania contribute significantly to the informal and formal sectors.

ii. Reducing poverty: When women have access to education and employment, they contribute to household income, reducing poverty. For instance, microfinance programs targeting women have uplifted families in rural Tanzania.

iii. Enhancing education: Empowered women prioritize their children's education, fostering a well-educated future generation. For example, educated mothers are more likely to send their children to school, breaking the cycle of poverty.

iv. Improving health outcomes: Empowered women make informed decisions about family planning and healthcare. For instance, initiatives promoting maternal health have reduced infant and maternal mortality rates in Tanzania.

v. Advancing gender equality: Women empowerment challenges cultural norms that perpetuate discrimination, fostering a more inclusive society. For example, campaigns advocating for women's rights in Tanzania have increased female representation in leadership.

vi. Strengthening governance: Women's participation in decision-making ensures diverse perspectives in governance, leading to better policies. For instance, women leaders in Tanzania have championed community-driven development projects.

In conclusion, women empowerment is essential for economic growth, poverty reduction, and sustainable development, benefiting both individuals and society.

10. Verify the contention that Tanzania is a democratic state.

Democracy refers to a system of governance where citizens have the right to participate in decision-making processes through free and fair elections. Tanzania exhibits democratic characteristics as follows:

i. Multi-party system: Tanzania transitioned to a multi-party democracy in 1992, allowing citizens to choose from various political parties, such as CCM and CHADEMA.

ii. Free elections: Regular general elections enable citizens to vote for their leaders at local and national levels. For example, the 2020 elections provided opportunities for citizen participation.

iii. Freedom of speech: The Constitution guarantees freedom of expression, allowing citizens and the media to critique the government, although challenges exist in its full implementation.

iv. Rule of law: Tanzania upholds the rule of law, with a judiciary that interprets and enforces laws independently.

v. Representation: Citizens elect representatives to the National Assembly, ensuring their voices are heard in policymaking.

vi. Peaceful transitions of power: Tanzania has witnessed peaceful transfers of leadership, reflecting democratic principles.

In conclusion, Tanzania embodies democratic ideals, though continued efforts are needed to address challenges such as limited press freedom and political inclusivity.

11. Assess the contribution of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the socio-political and economic development of Tanzania.

NGOs are independent organizations that work to address societal issues and contribute to development. In Tanzania, their contributions include:

i. Promoting education: NGOs establish schools and provide scholarships for underprivileged children. For example, BRAC supports education initiatives in rural Tanzania.

ii. Improving healthcare: NGOs offer healthcare services and awareness campaigns. For instance, AMREF provides medical outreach programs in remote areas.

iii. Empowering women: NGOs advocate for gender equality and provide resources for women's empowerment. For example, Women Fund Tanzania supports female entrepreneurs.

- iv. Enhancing governance: NGOs promote democracy and human rights through advocacy and capacity-building programs. For instance, Twaweza focuses on governance and citizen engagement.
- v. Environmental conservation: NGOs implement projects to protect natural resources and combat climate change. For example, the Jane Goodall Institute works on forest conservation and wildlife protection.
- vi. Supporting economic development: NGOs provide microfinance services and skill training for small-scale entrepreneurs. For instance, FINCA empowers small businesses in Tanzania.

In conclusion, NGOs play a crucial role in improving education, healthcare, governance, and environmental sustainability, driving socio-economic development in Tanzania.

12. Corruption has been one of the causes of poor government performance in most of the Third World countries. Suggest strategies which can be employed to alleviate the problem.

Corruption undermines governance, development, and public trust. Strategies to combat it include:

- i. Strengthening institutions: Establishing independent anti-corruption agencies ensures accountability. For example, Tanzania's Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) investigates and prosecutes corruption cases.
 - ii. Promoting transparency: Requiring public officials to disclose assets and implementing open budgeting processes reduce opportunities for corruption.
 - iii. Enforcing strict laws: Imposing severe penalties for corruption deters misconduct. For instance, prosecuting high-profile corruption cases demonstrates commitment to justice.
 - iv. Enhancing public awareness: Educating citizens about the impacts of corruption and encouraging whistleblowing promotes accountability.
 - v. Encouraging media freedom: Allowing investigative journalism exposes corrupt practices and holds officials accountable.
 - vi. Digitalizing services: Automating government processes reduces opportunities for bribery and embezzlement. For example, e-procurement systems ensure transparency in public contracts.
- In conclusion, addressing corruption requires strong institutions, public participation, and transparency to restore trust and improve governance.

13. Examine the consequences of global warming and identify global efforts to alleviate the problem.

Global warming refers to the long-term rise in Earth's average temperature due to increased greenhouse gas emissions. Its consequences include:

- i. Rising sea levels: Melting ice caps and glaciers lead to coastal flooding, threatening communities. For example, low-lying islands like the Maldives face existential risks.
- ii. Extreme weather events: Global warming intensifies hurricanes, droughts, and heatwaves. For instance, Tanzania experiences prolonged droughts affecting agriculture.
- iii. Loss of biodiversity: Rising temperatures and habitat destruction endanger species. For example, coral bleaching in oceans affects marine ecosystems.
- iv. Food insecurity: Changes in climate patterns disrupt farming, reducing crop yields. For instance, maize production in Tanzania is affected by unpredictable rainfall.
- v. Health risks: Global warming increases the spread of diseases like malaria as warmer temperatures expand mosquito habitats.
- vi. Economic losses: Disasters linked to global warming strain national economies. For example, rebuilding infrastructure after floods incurs significant costs.

Global efforts to alleviate global warming:

- i. International agreements: Treaties like the Paris Agreement aim to limit global temperature rise to below 2°C by reducing emissions.
- ii. Renewable energy promotion: Encouraging the use of solar, wind, and hydropower reduces reliance on fossil fuels.
- iii. Afforestation: Tree planting campaigns absorb carbon dioxide, mitigating climate change. For example, the Great Green Wall initiative in Africa combats desertification.
- iv. Technological innovation: Developing green technologies like electric vehicles reduces carbon emissions.
- v. Public awareness: Global campaigns educate people about reducing carbon footprints.
- vi. Financial support: Developed nations provide funds to help developing countries combat climate change impacts.

In conclusion, addressing global warming requires collective efforts through policies, technology, and awareness to ensure a sustainable future.

14. Discuss the drawbacks to the development of a strong industrial base in Tanzania today.

Developing a strong industrial base is critical for Tanzania's economic growth, but several challenges hinder this goal:

- i. Limited infrastructure: Inadequate transport and power infrastructure disrupt industrial operations. For example, frequent power outages hinder manufacturing efficiency.
- ii. Low investment: Insufficient funding from both local and foreign investors slows industrial growth. For instance, the high cost of borrowing discourages entrepreneurs.
- iii. Skills gap: A shortage of skilled labor limits industrial productivity. For example, the lack of engineers and technicians affects the implementation of industrial projects.
- iv. Dependence on imports: Over-reliance on imported machinery and raw materials increases production costs, reducing competitiveness.
- v. Bureaucracy: Lengthy and complex regulatory processes discourage industrial investment. For instance, delays in acquiring business permits hinder startup growth.
- vi. Environmental concerns: Industrial activities contribute to pollution, leading to resistance from communities and environmental groups.

In conclusion, addressing these drawbacks requires investments in infrastructure, education, and streamlined regulations to strengthen Tanzania's industrial base.

15. To what extent is solar energy a solution to frequent energy crises in Tanzania?

Solar energy, derived from sunlight, offers a significant solution to Tanzania's energy crisis due to its renewable and abundant nature. Its advantages include:

- i. Accessibility: Tanzania's geographical location provides ample sunlight, making solar energy viable, especially in remote areas.
- ii. Cost-effectiveness: Once installed, solar panels offer a low-cost energy source, reducing reliance on expensive fuel imports.
- iii. Environmental benefits: Solar energy produces no greenhouse gas emissions, making it an eco-friendly alternative.
- iv. Decentralization: Solar energy systems can operate independently of the national grid, ensuring energy access in rural areas.

- v. Economic opportunities: Solar projects create jobs in installation and maintenance, boosting local economies.
- vi. Energy security: Solar reduces dependence on unreliable hydroelectric power, stabilizing energy supply during droughts.

Limitations:

- i. High initial costs: Installing solar systems requires significant investment, limiting accessibility.
- ii. Storage challenges: Solar energy relies on batteries, which are expensive and require frequent replacement.
- iii. Weather dependency: Solar output fluctuates with weather conditions, reducing reliability.

In conclusion, solar energy addresses many aspects of Tanzania's energy crisis but requires investments in technology and policy support to maximize its potential.

16. Sustainable and balanced development of any society entails application of science and technology. Substantiate.

Sustainable development meets present needs without compromising future generations' ability to meet theirs. Science and technology play a critical role in achieving this through:

- i. Renewable energy: Technologies like solar and wind power reduce reliance on fossil fuels, mitigating climate change. For example, solar energy projects in Tanzania promote sustainable energy.
- ii. Modern agriculture: Innovations such as drought-resistant crops and precision farming enhance food security while conserving resources.
- iii. Healthcare advancements: Medical technologies improve diagnosis and treatment, reducing mortality rates. For instance, mobile health services in Tanzania provide access to remote communities.
- iv. Education: E-learning platforms expand access to quality education, especially in rural areas.
- v. Waste management: Recycling technologies reduce environmental pollution, supporting sustainable urbanization.
- vi. Infrastructure development: Smart technologies improve transport and housing efficiency, minimizing environmental impacts.

In conclusion, applying science and technology ensures balanced development by addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges effectively.

