

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
NATIONAL EXAMINATION COUNCIL OF TANZANIA
DIPLOMA IN SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION**

711

GENERAL STUDIES

Time: 3 Hour.

ANSWERS

Year: 2001

Instructions

1. This paper consists of section **A**, **B**, and **C**.
2. Answer **all** questions in section A, **two (2)** questions from section B and **two (2)** questions from section C.
3. Cellular phones are **not** allowed in the examination room.
4. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your answer booklet(s).

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SECTION A (36 Marks)

Answer all questions in this section. Write short answers where applicable.

1. Define the following concepts as used in General Studies:

(a) Good governance

Good governance refers to the effective, transparent, accountable, and equitable management of public affairs and resources by government institutions. It emphasizes participation, rule of law, responsiveness, and inclusiveness in leadership to ensure justice and the wellbeing of citizens.

(b) Press freedom

Press freedom is the right of media institutions and journalists to report news and express opinions without interference, censorship, or restriction by the government. It enables the public to access accurate information and hold leaders accountable in a democratic society.

(c) Economic surplus

Economic surplus refers to the excess of production or output over consumption. It represents the additional resources or goods that remain after meeting immediate needs and can be used for investment, savings, or trade, thus contributing to economic growth.

(d) Citizenship

Citizenship is the legal status of a person recognized by a state as a member with specific rights and duties. It includes the right to vote, work, and reside in the country and the obligation to obey laws, pay taxes, and contribute to national development.

2. State three (3) key roles played by the Tanzanian Parliament in promoting democracy.

The Tanzanian Parliament enacts laws that uphold democratic principles, protect individual freedoms, and regulate governance. By creating and reviewing legislation, it ensures that all citizens are treated fairly and equally before the law.

Parliament provides checks and balances to the Executive by questioning government policies and expenditures. Through parliamentary debates and oversight committees, it ensures transparency and holds leaders accountable for their actions.

It represents the voices of citizens by allowing elected Members of Parliament to present and defend the interests of their constituencies. This ensures that governance reflects the will of the people and promotes public participation in decision-making.

3. Mention four (4) responsibilities of a good citizen in a democratic society.

A good citizen must obey the laws of the country and respect the constitution. Law-abiding behavior ensures peace, stability, and harmony in society.

Citizens are responsible for participating in democratic processes, especially voting during elections. This allows them to choose leaders and influence decisions that affect their lives.

Paying taxes honestly and timely is another responsibility. Taxes fund public services such as education, healthcare, and infrastructure, which benefit all members of society.

A good citizen should promote national unity by respecting cultural diversity and avoiding discrimination. This fosters social cohesion and peaceful coexistence in a plural society.

4. Identify three (3) causes of land degradation in developing countries.

Deforestation is a major cause of land degradation. Cutting down trees for fuel, agriculture, or construction without replanting disrupts the soil structure and exposes it to erosion and infertility.

Overgrazing by livestock depletes vegetation cover and compacts the soil, reducing its ability to retain water and nutrients. This leads to soil erosion and land exhaustion.

Improper farming practices such as continuous cropping, use of chemical fertilizers, and poor irrigation methods degrade soil quality and reduce its long-term productivity.

5. Outline three (3) effects of corruption in public service delivery.

Corruption leads to misallocation of resources where funds meant for essential services like health or education are diverted for personal gain. This reduces the quality and reach of public services.

It undermines public trust in government institutions. Citizens lose confidence in authorities when they witness bribery and favoritism, which erodes democratic governance.

Corruption increases inequality by favoring the rich and connected individuals. Poor citizens are often denied services or forced to pay bribes, widening the gap between rich and poor.

6. What is the meaning of globalization?

Globalization is the process of increasing interconnection and interdependence among countries through the flow of goods, services, information, technology, and people. It allows global trade, cultural exchange, and international cooperation but also brings challenges such as cultural erosion and economic dependency.

7. Point out four (4) functions of the mass media in a democratic society.

Mass media acts as a watchdog by monitoring government actions and exposing corruption or abuse of power. This ensures transparency and accountability in leadership.

It informs citizens about national and international events, enabling them to make informed decisions and participate meaningfully in democratic processes.

Media provides a platform for public debate, where different opinions are shared and discussed. This strengthens freedom of expression and encourages civic engagement.

It educates the public on social, economic, and political issues through programs, articles, and documentaries. This promotes awareness and responsible citizenship.

8. Explain briefly the importance of appropriate technology in development.

Appropriate technology refers to tools and methods that are simple, affordable, and suitable for the local environment. It promotes sustainable development by using locally available resources and skills, reducing reliance on foreign technology.

It enhances productivity in agriculture, health, and small industries by improving efficiency without requiring large capital investments. This makes it ideal for low-income communities.

Appropriate technology also creates employment opportunities, especially in rural areas, by promoting small-scale industries and self-reliance among citizens.

9. Mention four (4) objectives of Tanzania's foreign policy.

One objective is to promote and protect national interests such as peace, security, and economic development through diplomatic engagement with other nations.

Tanzania's foreign policy aims to enhance regional and international cooperation in areas like trade, security, and health. This fosters mutual development and global integration.

It also seeks to promote peace and solidarity among nations, especially in Africa, by supporting conflict resolution and liberation struggles.

Another objective is to safeguard sovereignty and independence by engaging in international diplomacy that respects Tanzania's values and non-alignment principles.

SECTION B (40 Marks)

Answer two (2) questions from this section.

10. With reference to Tanzania, examine five (5) effects of privatization on the provision of social services.

Privatization has led to improved efficiency in the delivery of some social services. Private companies often introduce better management practices and modern technology, which can lead to higher quality services in areas like water supply, education, and telecommunications.

However, privatization has also caused an increase in service costs. Since private entities prioritize profit, many essential services such as healthcare and electricity have become expensive and unaffordable to low-income citizens, limiting equal access.

In some cases, privatization has contributed to unemployment. When government-owned enterprises are sold, new owners may reduce the workforce to cut costs, leading to job losses and increased poverty.

Privatization has reduced the government's direct control over critical services. This can limit the state's ability to regulate pricing or ensure equitable service delivery, especially in rural and underserved areas.

Finally, privatization has attracted foreign investment, bringing in capital and expertise. This has contributed to economic growth and improved infrastructure in certain sectors, but it also raises concerns about national ownership and exploitation of local resources.

11. Discuss how reproductive health challenges influence socio-economic development in developing countries.

Reproductive health challenges such as maternal mortality, teenage pregnancies, and unsafe abortions reduce the productivity of women. When women suffer health complications or die due to reproductive issues, families and societies lose valuable contributors to development.

High fertility rates caused by poor access to reproductive services increase population pressure. This strains public services like education, housing, and healthcare, leading to overcrowding and reduced quality of life.

These challenges hinder women's education and career advancement. Teenage pregnancies often force young girls to drop out of school, limiting their future economic opportunities and contributing to the cycle of poverty.

Reproductive health issues increase public healthcare costs. Governments are forced to allocate more resources to maternal and child health services, reducing the funds available for other development priorities such as infrastructure or industry.

Poor reproductive health undermines gender equality. When women lack control over their reproductive choices, they face discrimination and reduced participation in economic and political decision-making, which weakens inclusive development.

12. "Environmental degradation is a serious obstacle to sustainable development." Justify this statement using examples.

Environmental degradation reduces agricultural productivity. Practices like deforestation, overgrazing, and poor irrigation lead to soil erosion and desertification, making land less fertile and reducing food security.

It leads to water scarcity and contamination. When forests and wetlands are destroyed, water sources dry up or become polluted, increasing disease and reducing access to clean drinking water.

Degradation affects biodiversity. The destruction of habitats causes the extinction of plant and animal species, which disrupts ecosystems and limits resources like medicinal plants or pollinators necessary for food production.

It contributes to climate change. Deforestation and industrial emissions release greenhouse gases that lead to global warming, causing unpredictable weather patterns, floods, and droughts that harm development plans.

Environmental damage increases the cost of living and reduces economic opportunities. For example, fishers and farmers lose income due to polluted rivers or degraded soil, while governments must spend more on disaster response and rehabilitation instead of development projects.

13. Evaluate the role of regional integration in promoting peace and development in East Africa.

Regional integration enhances peace through cooperation and dialogue among member states. Organizations like the East African Community (EAC) promote joint security strategies, conflict resolution mechanisms, and diplomatic ties that prevent wars and political instability.

It stimulates economic development by creating larger markets. Free trade zones and common external tariffs allow goods, services, and labor to move freely across borders, increasing production, consumption, and competitiveness.

Integration promotes infrastructure development. Member states collaborate to build roads, railways, and energy projects that connect the region, reduce transportation costs, and open up new investment opportunities.

It enhances social unity and cultural exchange. Citizens from different countries interact through education, tourism, and employment, fostering regional identity and mutual understanding.

Regional integration also strengthens the collective bargaining power of East African countries on the global stage. Together, they can negotiate better trade deals, attract foreign investment, and advocate for the region's interests in international forums.

SECTION C (24 Marks)

Answer two (2) questions from this section.

14. To what extent has globalization affected traditional values and cultures in Tanzania?

Globalization has exposed Tanzanian society to foreign cultures through media, internet, and travel. This has led to the adoption of new lifestyles, dressing styles, and languages, especially among the youth, which sometimes erodes indigenous traditions.

Traditional ceremonies and beliefs have declined in importance. Modern religions, global holidays, and Western education systems have influenced social practices, reducing the role of clan elders, local rituals, and oral traditions.

However, globalization has also facilitated the preservation of culture through technology. Tanzanian artists, musicians, and historians now use digital platforms to document, share, and promote local traditions to global audiences.

Globalization has introduced universal values such as gender equality, human rights, and democracy. These have challenged some outdated cultural practices like early marriages and female genital mutilation, promoting social progress.

In summary, globalization has both weakened and revitalized traditional values. Its impact depends on how society chooses to integrate modern influences with cultural preservation.

15. Justify the statement: “Corruption is both a moral and economic crisis.”

Corruption is a moral crisis because it violates ethical principles like honesty, fairness, and integrity. It promotes greed, dishonesty, and selfishness, undermining the moral fabric of society and eroding trust between citizens and leaders.

It leads to favoritism and discrimination. Qualified individuals are denied opportunities in employment or education because decisions are based on bribes or connections, creating social injustice and resentment.

Economically, corruption diverts public funds meant for development into private pockets. This reduces investment in essential sectors like health, education, and infrastructure, slowing down national progress.

Corruption increases the cost of doing business. Investors lose confidence in corrupt systems, and businesses are forced to pay bribes to access services or contracts, discouraging economic growth and innovation.

Furthermore, it creates inefficiency in public institutions. Projects are poorly implemented, substandard materials are used, and services are delayed, leading to waste of resources and reduced public satisfaction.

16. Discuss the relevance of good governance in ensuring social justice and equality in Tanzania.

Good governance promotes transparency and accountability. When leaders are answerable to the public, resources are managed fairly, and all citizens benefit from development projects without favoritism or discrimination.

It ensures equal access to services. Effective governance provides quality education, healthcare, and infrastructure to all regions, including rural areas, reducing inequality and improving living standards.

Rule of law is a principle of good governance. It ensures that all individuals are treated equally before the law, protects human rights, and prevents abuse of power by leaders or security forces.

Good governance fosters participation. Citizens are involved in decision-making processes through elections, consultations, and community forums, giving them a voice and promoting ownership of national development.

Lastly, it builds public trust and social stability. When people believe in their institutions, they are more likely to cooperate, invest, and work together towards national goals, reducing conflict and enhancing unity.