

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

711

GENERAL STUDIES

Time: 3 Hour.

ANSWERS

Year: 2003

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.

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

- (a) Non-state actors
- (b) Sustainable development
- (c) Economic liberalization
- (d) Pluralism

(a) Non-state actors are organizations or individuals that are not affiliated with any government but play a role in political, economic, or social development. Examples include NGOs, private companies, community-based organizations, and faith-based groups.

(b) Sustainable development is the process of meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It emphasizes environmental protection, economic growth, and social inclusion.

(c) Economic liberalization refers to the process of reducing government control in the economy by promoting free-market policies. It includes actions such as removing trade barriers, privatizing public enterprises, and encouraging foreign investment.

(d) Pluralism is a political and social system that allows multiple groups, beliefs, or opinions to coexist and be represented. It supports diversity and encourages participation from different sectors of society in decision-making.

2. State three (3) responsibilities of the media in promoting democracy.

The media is responsible for informing the public by reporting on political, economic, and social matters. This helps citizens make informed decisions and participate effectively in democratic processes.

It plays a watchdog role by exposing corruption, abuse of power, and mismanagement in public offices. This holds leaders accountable and protects the rule of law.

The media provides a platform for public dialogue and opinion exchange. It allows citizens to express views, engage in debates, and influence policy decisions.

3. Identify four (4) problems associated with poor reproductive health in Tanzania.

Poor reproductive health leads to high maternal mortality rates due to lack of access to skilled birth attendants and emergency care.

It contributes to teenage pregnancies, which disrupt girls' education and reduce their economic opportunities.

Uncontrolled fertility rates cause rapid population growth, which strains social services such as health, education, and housing.

Lack of family planning leads to increased poverty levels as families struggle to provide for large numbers of children.

4. List three (3) ways in which education helps to fight poverty.

Education equips individuals with knowledge and skills needed for employment, allowing them to earn income and support their families.

It promotes entrepreneurship by enabling people to create and manage small businesses, thus becoming self-reliant.

Educated individuals are more likely to access health information, practice family planning, and make informed decisions, which contributes to improved living standards.

5. Briefly explain three (3) characteristics of good governance.

Good governance is accountable, meaning leaders are answerable to the people and must explain their decisions and actions.

It is participatory, allowing all citizens, including marginalized groups, to be involved in political and development processes.

It ensures transparency, where decisions are made openly and information is freely available to the public to reduce corruption and misuse of power.

6. Mention four (4) goals of the United Nations (UN) that relate to development.

Promoting sustainable development to ensure long-term growth that benefits current and future generations.

Eradicating poverty and hunger by supporting countries to improve livelihoods and food security.

Ensuring access to quality education for all, particularly children, women, and vulnerable populations.

Promoting health and well-being by reducing disease, improving maternal care, and expanding health systems.

7. Give three (3) differences between NGOs and government institutions in service delivery.

NGOs are independent organizations that operate without government control, while government institutions are public bodies run and funded by the state.

NGOs often focus on specific issues like health, education, or environment, while government institutions have broader responsibilities including policy implementation and national administration.

NGOs may receive funding from international donors and are flexible in their operations, whereas government institutions rely on public budgets and are often bound by bureaucratic procedures.

8. What is meant by regional economic bloc?

A regional economic bloc is a group of countries within a specific geographical area that form an alliance to promote trade, investment, and economic integration among themselves. Examples include the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

9. Point out four (4) negative effects of corruption in developing countries.

Corruption reduces the quality and availability of public services such as health, education, and infrastructure.

It discourages foreign investment, as investors fear loss of profits through bribes and unpredictable regulations.

It increases inequality because public funds are diverted for personal gain, leaving the poor underserved.

Corruption undermines the rule of law and weakens public trust in institutions, leading to instability and poor governance.

SECTION B (40 Marks)

Answer two (2) questions from this section.

10. Discuss the importance of cultural identity in promoting national unity in Tanzania.

Cultural identity helps Tanzanians understand and appreciate their roots. By recognizing their tribal heritage, languages, traditions, and values, citizens develop a shared sense of belonging that fosters unity despite ethnic diversity.

It promotes mutual respect among different communities. When people are taught to value their own culture and those of others, they are less likely to discriminate or promote divisions, which encourages peaceful coexistence.

Cultural festivals and national celebrations such as Nane Nane or Uhuru Day bring people together from all regions. These events promote unity through collective participation and pride in national achievements.

Language plays a key role in cultural identity. Kiswahili, as the national language, bridges communication among different ethnic groups and serves as a strong unifying factor in Tanzania.

Cultural identity also helps reinforce national values like patriotism, hard work, and cooperation. When people identify with national symbols and history, they are more willing to contribute to national development.

11. With examples, analyse five (5) ways through which globalization affects economic development in Tanzania.

Globalization opens access to international markets. Tanzanian businesses can now export goods such as coffee, tea, and minerals, generating foreign exchange and boosting economic growth.

It attracts foreign investment. Global companies bring capital, technology, and skills that support the development of sectors like telecommunications, banking, and manufacturing.

Globalization increases competition, which improves the quality of goods and services. Tanzanian producers are pushed to innovate and meet global standards, enhancing productivity.

However, globalization can undermine local industries. Cheap imported goods from industrialized countries may outcompete local products, leading to the closure of small businesses and loss of jobs.

It influences cultural and consumer behavior. Exposure to global trends changes spending habits and may shift demand away from locally made products, affecting local economic growth.

12. Examine five (5) advantages of Tanzania's participation in international organizations.

Participation allows Tanzania to access development funding. Institutions like the World Bank and IMF offer loans and grants to support infrastructure, education, and health projects.

It provides a platform for Tanzania to advocate for its interests and influence global policies on trade, environment, and human rights.

Tanzania benefits from technical support and capacity building. International organizations offer training and knowledge-sharing programs that improve national skills and governance.

Being part of global and regional groups promotes diplomatic relationships. This enhances peace, cooperation, and the resolution of cross-border challenges such as climate change and security.

It enhances Tanzania's reputation and credibility. A strong international presence improves investor confidence and opens doors for tourism and economic collaboration.

13. Evaluate the impact of gender inequality on national development.

Gender inequality limits women's participation in education and employment. When girls are denied education or restricted from formal jobs, the country loses a large portion of its human capital.

It leads to economic inefficiency. Excluding women from leadership and decision-making reduces the diversity of perspectives and talent needed for effective governance and innovation.

Gender-based violence and discrimination lower the health and productivity of women. This results in increased healthcare costs and reduced workforce participation, which hinders economic progress.

It perpetuates poverty. Women who lack financial independence or land ownership struggle to support their families, especially in female-headed households, which increases dependency.

Gender inequality also weakens social development. When women are excluded from politics or community leadership, policies may fail to address the needs of all citizens, slowing down inclusive growth.

SECTION C (24 Marks)

Answer two (2) questions from this section.

14. Assess the effectiveness of Tanzania's strategies in combating poverty.

Tanzania has implemented social protection programs like TASAF (Tanzania Social Action Fund), which provide financial support to vulnerable families, enabling them to invest in education, health, and income-generating activities.

The government has increased access to free primary and secondary education. This strategy equips youth with knowledge and skills, reducing long-term poverty by increasing their employability.

Support for agriculture through subsidies and extension services helps smallholder farmers increase productivity and income. Since agriculture is the main livelihood for many, this strategy directly tackles rural poverty.

However, poverty remains high in some regions due to unequal resource allocation, limited infrastructure, and high unemployment, especially among youth.

Corruption and poor project implementation also limit the impact of these strategies. Funds may not reach intended beneficiaries, and the quality of services remains a concern.

15. Explain the role of human rights awareness in improving governance and accountability.

Human rights awareness empowers citizens to demand fair treatment and service delivery from leaders. When people know their rights, they are more likely to challenge corruption and abuse of power.

It promotes transparency. Leaders are compelled to follow due process and uphold legal standards when the public is informed and monitoring their actions.

Awareness enhances public participation in governance. Citizens engage in elections, budget discussions, and development planning, ensuring decisions reflect collective needs.

It strengthens institutions. Civil society organizations and media use human rights principles to hold government accountable and advocate for reforms in areas like justice and public service.

Human rights awareness also protects vulnerable groups. When society recognizes the rights of women, children, and the disabled, policies become more inclusive and socially just.

16. “Rapid population growth undermines national development.” Discuss.

Rapid population growth increases the demand for social services such as education, healthcare, and housing. When the population grows faster than the economy, the government struggles to meet these needs, lowering service quality.

It contributes to high unemployment. More people enter the labor market than the economy can absorb, leading to joblessness and underemployment, especially among youth.

Population pressure leads to environmental degradation. Forests are cleared for settlement and farming, reducing biodiversity and affecting sustainability.

It exacerbates poverty. Families with many children face financial strain, making it difficult to invest in education, nutrition, and health, thus continuing the cycle of poverty.

However, if well managed, a large population can be a resource. With proper education, healthcare, and economic planning, the population can provide a productive workforce that drives development.