

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

711

GENERAL STUDIES

Time: 3 Hour.

ANSWERS

Year: 2004

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 brief responses.

1. Define the following:

- (a) Social justice
- (b) Economic integration
- (c) Media literacy
- (d) Public accountability

(a) Social justice refers to the fair and equal distribution of opportunities, privileges, and resources within a society. It emphasizes equality, human rights, and dignity for all individuals, especially marginalized groups.

(b) Economic integration is the process by which countries in a region reduce or eliminate trade barriers and coordinate their economic policies to function as a single market. It fosters economic cooperation and growth among member states.

(c) Media literacy is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, and create media content. It enables individuals to critically assess information presented in various media platforms and make informed decisions.

(d) Public accountability means the obligation of public officials and institutions to be answerable for their actions and decisions. It ensures transparency, checks misuse of power, and promotes trust in governance.

2. State four (4) causes of poor provision of health services in Tanzania.

Inadequate government funding limits the construction of health facilities and the purchase of essential medical equipment and drugs.

Shortage of qualified health professionals, especially in rural areas, reduces access to timely and quality care for the majority of citizens.

Poor infrastructure such as bad roads and lack of electricity hinders service delivery and emergency response in many parts of the country.

Corruption and mismanagement in the health sector result in misallocation of resources, leading to inefficient and unequal distribution of services.

3. Identify three (3) effects of early marriages on girls' education.

Early marriage often forces girls to drop out of school to take on family responsibilities, thus ending their academic progress.

It leads to early pregnancies which negatively affect girls' physical health and make it difficult for them to return to school.

Early marriage reduces girls' chances of acquiring life skills and qualifications necessary for employment and independence, limiting their future opportunities.

4. Give three (3) ways in which civil society contributes to development.

Civil society advocates for social justice by defending the rights of marginalized groups and ensuring policies are inclusive.

It complements government efforts by delivering services such as education, health, and disaster relief in underserved communities.

Civil society also raises public awareness and promotes accountability by monitoring government actions and mobilizing citizen participation.

5. What is meant by economic dependency?

Economic dependency is a situation in which a country relies heavily on another country or external sources for financial support, goods, technology, or investment. It weakens national sovereignty and limits self-reliant development.

6. List four (4) areas where good governance is important in national development.

Good governance is essential in public financial management to ensure resources are used effectively and transparently.

It plays a role in service delivery, ensuring access to quality education, health, and water services for all citizens.

In legal and judicial systems, good governance promotes the rule of law and protects human rights.

It strengthens democratic institutions by ensuring inclusive participation, accountability, and peaceful leadership transitions.

7. Explain the term democratic elections and state its two (2) characteristics.

Democratic elections are electoral processes in which citizens freely choose their leaders through a transparent, fair, and competitive system. They are a key component of representative democracy.

One characteristic is freedom of choice, where all eligible voters can vote without intimidation or coercion. Another is fairness, where all candidates have equal access to media, resources, and the legal system.

8. Outline three (3) key objectives of the African Union (AU).

To promote political and economic integration among African countries for collective development and unity.

To defend the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of its member states.

To accelerate sustainable development and improve living standards through coordinated regional cooperation.

9. Mention four (4) challenges facing public institutions in promoting transparency.

Corruption among public officials undermines efforts to ensure openness and fairness.

Lack of information access laws or weak enforcement makes it difficult for citizens to obtain government records.

Limited use of digital technologies reduces efficiency and makes it harder to track public transactions and services.

Political interference prevents some institutions from operating independently and holding leaders accountable.

SECTION B (40 Marks)

Answer two (2) questions from this section.

10. Analyse five (5) negative effects of land degradation on Tanzania's economic progress.

Land degradation reduces agricultural productivity. As soil fertility declines due to erosion or overuse of chemicals, farmers harvest less, which affects food security and national income from agricultural exports.

It leads to increased poverty among rural populations. Most Tanzanians depend on farming, and when land becomes unproductive, they lose their main source of income, making it harder to afford basic needs.

Land degradation contributes to deforestation, which affects the availability of forest products like timber and medicinal plants. This loss reduces employment in forest-based industries and impacts traditional livelihoods.

It escalates rural-urban migration. As land becomes unfit for farming, people move to urban areas in search of work, increasing pressure on city resources and leading to problems like unemployment and poor housing.

Land degradation increases the cost of rehabilitation. The government and local communities must invest heavily in soil conservation, irrigation, and tree planting, diverting resources from other development needs.

11. Discuss the impact of technology transfer on socio-economic development in Tanzania.

Technology transfer has improved productivity in agriculture. Mechanized tools, better seeds, and irrigation methods have boosted yields and efficiency, enhancing food security and farmers' incomes.

It has supported the growth of industries. Imported machinery and skills have enabled local manufacturing and processing industries to expand, creating jobs and increasing the availability of locally made goods.

Technology transfer has improved healthcare delivery. Access to diagnostic machines, digital health systems, and better medical practices has increased the quality and reach of services.

In the education sector, digital learning tools and internet access have enhanced teaching methods and increased access to information, especially in remote areas.

However, reliance on foreign technologies can reduce innovation if local research and development are neglected. It may also increase costs due to the need for spare parts, expertise, and licensing from external providers.

12. With evidence, examine the influence of foreign aid in shaping Tanzania's development agenda.

Foreign aid has supported infrastructure development. Roads, water systems, schools, and hospitals across Tanzania have been built with funding from donors such as the World Bank, EU, and China.

It has financed health initiatives. Programs targeting HIV/AIDS, malaria, and maternal health have benefited from donor support, improving life expectancy and reducing disease burden.

In the education sector, foreign aid has enabled the expansion of classrooms, teacher training, and textbook provision, especially during the implementation of free education policy.

However, foreign aid can sometimes distort national priorities. Donors may attach conditions that force the government to focus on areas that align with their interests rather than the immediate needs of Tanzanians.

Dependence on aid also limits self-reliance. When key services rely heavily on external funding, any reduction or withdrawal of support can lead to service disruption and developmental setbacks.

13. Explain five (5) roles of education in enhancing social responsibility and civic engagement.

Education raises awareness of rights and responsibilities. Citizens who are educated understand laws, the constitution, and their role in building a democratic society.

It builds critical thinking skills. People learn to evaluate information, question policies, and participate actively in public decision-making.

Education promotes tolerance and respect. It teaches values such as unity, cooperation, and the importance of diversity in nation-building.

It increases voter participation. Educated individuals are more likely to register and vote in elections, hold leaders accountable, and demand transparency.

Education develops leadership capacity. It equips people with knowledge and confidence to take leadership roles in their communities and advocate for positive change.

SECTION C (24 Marks)

Answer two (2) questions from this section.

14. “Privatization has both positive and negative consequences in public service delivery.” Discuss.

Privatization can increase efficiency. Private companies are often more motivated to improve service quality and reduce operational costs to remain competitive.

It reduces government burden. By transferring ownership to private firms, the government can focus its limited resources on other critical sectors like health and education.

Privatization also attracts investment. Investors bring capital and expertise, which can improve infrastructure and service delivery in areas like water, electricity, and transportation.

However, privatization may lead to increased service costs. Private firms prioritize profit, which may make essential services unaffordable for low-income earners.

It can also reduce access to services in rural or low-income areas, as private firms may avoid less profitable regions, leaving some citizens underserved.

15. Assess the contribution of civil liberties in strengthening democratic governance in Tanzania.

Civil liberties such as freedom of speech, assembly, and association allow citizens to express opinions, organize, and participate in political and civic life, promoting inclusive governance.

Freedom of the press encourages accountability. Journalists investigate and report on issues affecting the public, exposing corruption and informing decision-making.

The right to a fair trial and legal representation protects individuals from abuse of power and ensures equality before the law, enhancing public trust in the justice system.

Civil liberties also empower civil society and opposition parties to operate freely, challenge policies, and offer alternative solutions, which is essential for checks and balances in a democracy.

When civil liberties are respected, citizens feel safe and valued, which builds loyalty, reduces conflict, and strengthens the relationship between the government and the people.

16. To what extent does the Tanzanian media support or hinder social change?

The media supports social change by raising awareness on issues like gender equality, corruption, environmental protection, and reproductive health. Through radio, television, and online platforms, it educates the public and mobilizes action.

It facilitates dialogue and participation. Citizens use media platforms to voice opinions, hold debates, and influence policies that promote progress and reform.

The media gives marginalized groups a voice. By highlighting the challenges faced by women, youth, and rural communities, it pressures authorities to respond and implement inclusive policies.

However, biased or sensational media can mislead the public and promote division. When media outlets are used for propaganda or serve political interests, they hinder constructive change.

Some media platforms lack professionalism and spread misinformation or unverified content, which undermines public trust and delays informed action on critical issues.