

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

711

**GENERAL STUDIES**

**Time: 3 Hour.**

**ANSWERS**

**Year: 2016**

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**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. Give short and clear answers.*

1. Define the following terms:

(a) Human dignity

Human dignity refers to the state of being worthy of respect and honor. It is the inherent value that every individual possesses by virtue of being human, regardless of race, status, or gender. Upholding human dignity means treating people with fairness, equality, and decency.

(b) Democracy

Democracy is a system of government in which the people have the power to make decisions either directly or through elected representatives. It promotes participation, freedom of expression, free and fair elections, and respect for human rights and rule of law.

(c) Unemployment

Unemployment is the condition in which individuals who are capable and willing to work do not have access to any form of paid employment. It is a serious socio-economic problem that leads to poverty, crime, and underdevelopment.

(d) Corruption

Corruption is the misuse of public power or resources for personal gain. It includes acts such as bribery, embezzlement, favoritism, and fraud, and it undermines good governance and development by weakening institutions and public trust.

2. State three (3) responsibilities of citizens in a democratic country.

Citizens have the responsibility to participate in the electoral process by voting during elections. This helps in choosing competent leaders and ensuring government accountability.

They are expected to respect and obey the laws of the country. Law-abiding citizens help to maintain peace, order, and the rule of law, which are essential for democracy to thrive.

Citizens should participate in community development initiatives and express their views on national matters. Active involvement promotes transparency, inclusion, and development.

3. List four (4) environmental problems facing Tanzania today.

Deforestation is a major problem caused by excessive logging, charcoal production, and expansion of agricultural land. It leads to soil erosion, loss of biodiversity, and desertification.

Pollution, especially in urban areas, affects air, water, and soil quality. Industrial waste, poor waste management, and vehicle emissions pose serious threats to public health and the environment.

Climate change has led to unpredictable rainfall patterns, prolonged droughts, and floods. These affect agriculture, water supply, and food security.

Land degradation due to overgrazing, poor farming practices, and mining activities reduces the quality of land and threatens long-term sustainability of natural resources.

4. Mention three (3) roles of the media in promoting accountability.

The media informs citizens by reporting on government actions, public spending, and social issues. This enables the public to hold leaders accountable for their decisions and behavior.

It acts as a watchdog by exposing corruption, abuse of power, and inefficiencies in public offices. This deters misconduct and prompts corrective measures.

The media provides a platform for public debate and citizen engagement, where different opinions can be shared and feedback given to leaders, encouraging transparent governance.

5. Identify four (4) causes of moral decline among youth.

Peer pressure influences young people to engage in immoral behaviors such as drug abuse, theft, and sexual promiscuity in order to fit in with certain social groups.

Lack of proper parental guidance leads to poor upbringing. Children who grow without attention, love, or discipline often grow up without strong moral values.

The rise of social media and exposure to harmful content can distort youth perception of right and wrong, promoting materialism, violence, and disrespect.

Poor education on ethics and values in schools and communities leaves many youth without a clear understanding of acceptable behavior and consequences.

6. State three (3) objectives of Tanzania's foreign policy.

To promote and maintain peaceful and friendly relations with other nations, which ensures Tanzania's security and fosters regional stability.

To attract foreign investment, technology, and aid that can contribute to national development and improve the welfare of Tanzanians.

To support African unity and liberation by participating in international efforts aimed at eradicating colonialism, racism, and promoting human rights and justice.

7. Distinguish between public and private sectors.

The public sector is composed of government-owned institutions and agencies that provide services such as education, health, and security to the public, usually funded by taxpayers.

The private sector consists of businesses and organizations owned by individuals or groups for the purpose of making profit. These include shops, factories, farms, and banks.

8. Give four (4) ways of promoting sustainable development in Tanzania.

Encouraging environmental conservation through tree planting, protection of water sources, and sustainable farming practices ensures resources remain available for future generations.

Investing in renewable energy sources like solar and wind reduces dependence on fossil fuels and minimizes environmental pollution.

Promoting education and skill development empowers citizens to make informed decisions and adopt innovative practices in agriculture, business, and technology.

Strengthening institutions that enforce environmental and development laws ensures accountability and supports long-term national goals.

9. Point out three (3) challenges facing the rule of law in developing countries.

Weak judicial systems, including lack of independence and underfunding, reduce access to justice and allow powerful individuals to avoid accountability.

Corruption within law enforcement and judiciary discourages fairness and promotes impunity, weakening trust in legal systems.

Low public awareness about legal rights and procedures makes it difficult for citizens to demand justice or defend themselves against violations.

### **SECTION B (40 Marks)**

*Answer two (2) questions from this section.*

10. Analyze five (5) effects of poor governance in a developing country.

Poor governance leads to widespread corruption, where public officials misuse resources for personal gain. This reduces funds available for essential services like education, health, and infrastructure, resulting in stagnated development.

It causes weak public institutions. When governance systems lack transparency and accountability, institutions become ineffective, unresponsive, and prone to manipulation, which undermines service delivery.

Poor governance erodes public trust in leadership. Citizens lose confidence in government decisions, which can lead to political apathy, low voter turnout, and reluctance to participate in national matters.

It increases poverty and inequality. Mismanagement of resources and lack of social protection means that only a few benefit, while the majority continue to live in poor conditions without access to basic services.

Poor governance can lead to political instability. Frustration due to lack of opportunities, injustice, and exclusion often sparks protests, violence, or even civil unrest, which further disrupts national progress.

#### 11. Describe how gender equality can contribute to Tanzania's national development.

Gender equality promotes inclusive economic growth. When women have equal access to employment, credit, and entrepreneurship opportunities, they contribute to productivity and household income, boosting the overall economy.

It improves social welfare. Educated and empowered women are more likely to invest in their children's education, health, and nutrition, resulting in healthier and more educated future generations.

Gender equality strengthens democracy and governance. When women are included in leadership and decision-making positions, it ensures that diverse perspectives are considered, leading to more balanced and representative policies.

It reduces poverty. Empowering women economically and socially enables them to support themselves and their families, decreasing the number of dependents and improving quality of life.

Gender equality fosters innovation and development. By tapping into the talents and skills of the entire population, including women, the country benefits from a broader base of ideas and solutions to address national challenges.

#### 12. Explain the importance of constitutional reforms in strengthening democracy.

Constitutional reforms help align laws with the current needs and aspirations of the people. As societies evolve, legal frameworks must adapt to ensure that rights and freedoms are protected and promoted effectively.

They ensure balance of power. Reforms may include clearer definitions of roles among branches of government, which helps prevent abuse of power and enhances checks and balances.

Reforms increase citizen participation. By including provisions for freedom of speech, voting rights, and public consultations, reforms create a more open political environment where people feel represented.

They protect minority rights. Through constitutional guarantees, reforms can address discrimination and promote equality, ensuring that all groups are treated fairly under the law.

Constitutional changes enhance transparency and accountability. By mandating open government practices, public access to information, and stronger oversight bodies, democracy is made more functional and responsive.

13. Discuss the role of science and technology in improving the quality of life.

Science and technology improve healthcare through better diagnostics, treatment methods, and disease control. Access to modern medical equipment and research leads to longer life expectancy and reduced suffering.

They enhance communication and information sharing. The internet and mobile technology allow people to connect instantly, access educational content, and engage in global markets.

In agriculture, modern technology improves yields through mechanization, irrigation, and improved seeds. This helps farmers increase productivity and reduce food insecurity.

Science and technology create job opportunities. Innovation drives the growth of industries such as ICT, manufacturing, and renewable energy, creating new avenues for employment.

They improve transportation and infrastructure. Advances in road construction, aviation, and public transport systems make movement easier, safer, and more efficient, facilitating trade and social interactions.

**SECTION C (24 Marks)**

*Answer two (2) questions from this section.*

14. “Civic education is essential for a strong democracy.” Discuss this statement.

Civic education helps citizens understand their rights and responsibilities. Informed citizens are more likely to participate in elections, demand accountability from leaders, and defend democratic values such as justice, equality, and freedom.

It fosters patriotism and national identity. Through civic education, people learn about their country’s history, constitution, symbols, and leadership structure. This knowledge strengthens unity and pride in the nation, which are vital for democratic stability.

Civic education empowers marginalized groups. Women, youth, and people with disabilities often face barriers to participation. When they are educated about their rights and the political process, they gain confidence to engage in leadership and decision-making.

It promotes peaceful coexistence. Civic education teaches tolerance, respect for diversity, and conflict resolution. This reduces political tensions and helps communities resolve differences through dialogue rather than violence.

It supports good governance. Educated citizens can scrutinize policies, understand budgets, and hold public servants accountable. This enhances transparency and ensures that leaders fulfill their obligations to the public.

15. Evaluate the impact of regional integration on Tanzania's economy.

Regional integration has expanded Tanzania's trade opportunities. As a member of the East African Community (EAC) and SADC, Tanzania enjoys access to larger markets, allowing local products and services to reach more consumers, which boosts export revenues.

It promotes infrastructure development. Through regional cooperation, countries work together on projects such as roads, railways, and energy networks. Tanzania has benefited from regional transport corridors and electricity sharing arrangements.

Integration enhances investment. Harmonized policies and reduced trade barriers attract foreign investors who see the region as a unified, more stable economic zone. This brings capital, jobs, and technology into the country.

It fosters knowledge and technology transfer. Regional collaboration in education, research, and science allows Tanzanians to benefit from shared innovations and skills, strengthening local industries and institutions.

However, regional integration can also increase competition. Local industries may struggle to compete with goods from stronger economies within the region unless they are adequately supported and protected.

16. Examine how education can be used as a tool for solving social problems.

Education raises awareness about key social issues such as HIV/AIDS, gender inequality, drug abuse, and environmental conservation. An informed population is more likely to make responsible choices and support positive change.

It empowers individuals with skills for employment and self-reliance. This helps reduce poverty, crime, and dependency by enabling people to earn a living and support their families and communities.

Education promotes critical thinking and civic responsibility. Learners are trained to analyze problems, seek solutions, and actively engage in public affairs, which leads to better decision-making and stronger democracy.

It encourages social mobility. When children from poor backgrounds access quality education, they gain opportunities to improve their lives and contribute meaningfully to society, reducing inequality and marginalization.

Education fosters tolerance and respect for diversity. Through inclusive curricula and exposure to different cultures, learners develop attitudes that support peace, cooperation, and harmonious living.