

# **UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL STUDIES**

**Pupil's Book**

**5**



@Kaweesi Publishers

**2ND EDITION**

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# **Topic 1: Location of Uganda on the map of East Africa**

## **Section 1.1: The districts that form Uganda**

A **district** is the biggest political unit in the country. The political head of the district is the **Chairperson Local Council five**, for a city is the **Mayor** while for the capital city is the **Lord mayor**. **Kampala** is the capital city of Uganda.

### **Examples of districts in Uganda**

- Jinja
- Iganga
- Gomba
- Masaka
- Kasese
- Kyotera
- Amuru
- Ngora
- Amudat
- Pallisa
- Bushenyi
- Kalangala
- Mbarara
- Kaabong
- Mpigi
- Kaberamaido
- Soroti
- Mukono

Some of the newly formed districts include; Kasanda district, Kwania district, Bugweri district and Kyotera district.

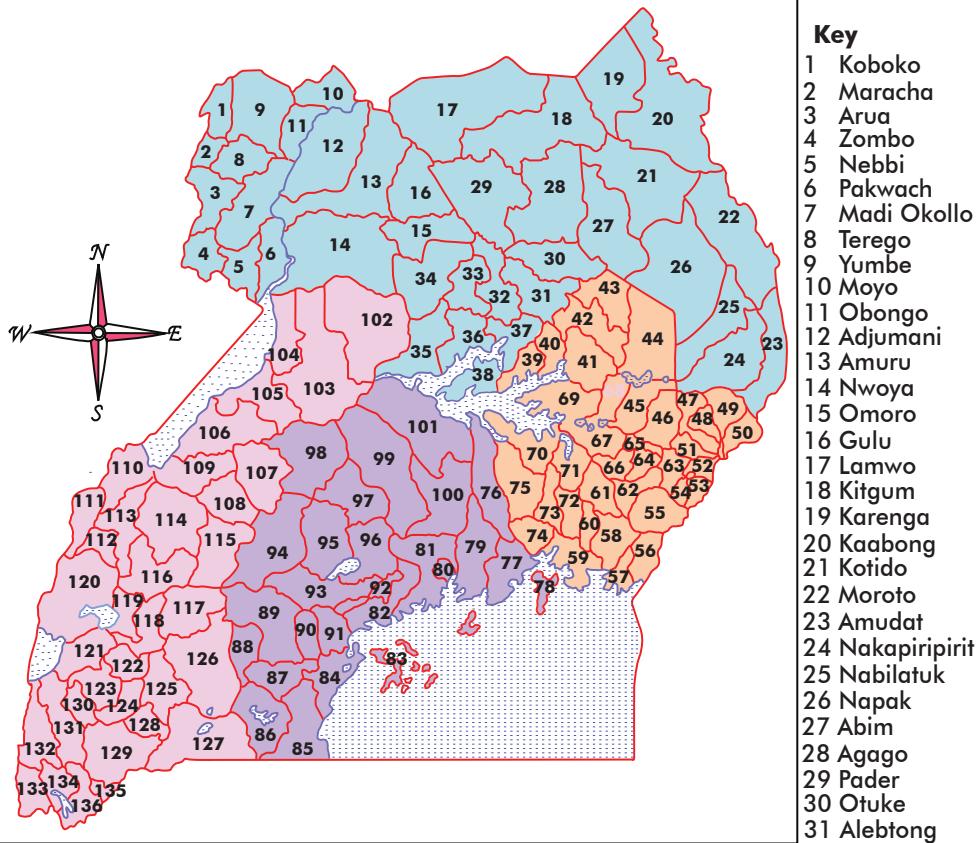
### **Regions of Uganda**

Uganda is made up of four major regions, that is, Northern, Eastern, Central and Western regions.

Table showing examples of districts in each region

<b>Region</b>	<b>Districts</b>
Northern region	Gulu, Lira, Moyo, Adjumani, Lamwo, Oyam, Apac, Arua, Agago, Pader, Kitgum, Nebbi, Pakwach, Omoro, Amuru, Yumbe and Koboko.
Eastern region	Jinja, Iganga, Pallisa, Soroti, Kamuli, Bugiri, Busia, Mayuge, Tororo, Buyende, Luuka, Kumi, Ngora, Bukedea, Mbale, Kapchorwa, Namutumba and Manafwa.
Central region	Kampala, Wakiso, Kyotera, Masaka, Buikwe, Kalungu, Gomba, Mityana, Mukono, Kayunga, Nakaseke, Kiboga, Rakai, Sembabule and Luwero.
Western region	Mbarara, Bushenyi, Kamwenge, Hoima, Masindi, Bundibugyo, Kasese, Kyankwanzi, Kakumiro, Buliisa, Kanungu, Rubirizi, Kagadi, Kyegegwa, Kibaale and Kabale.

## A map of Uganda showing Districts



32 Lira	59 Mayuge	87 Lwengo	115 Kyengegw
33 Kole	60 Bugweri	88 Lyantonde	116 Kamwenge
34 Oyam	61 Namutumba	89 Sembabule	117 Kazo
35 Apac	62 Butaleja	90 Bukomansimbi	118 Ibanda
36 Kwania	63 Mbale	91 Kalungu	119 Kitagwenda
37 Dokolo	64 Budaka	92 Butambala	120 Kasese
38 Amolatar	65 Butebo	93 Gomba	121 Rubirizi
39 Kaberamaido	66 Kibuku	94 Mubende	122 Buhweju
40 Kalaki	67 Palisa	95 Kasaanda	123 Bushenyi
41 Soroti	68 Ngora	96 Mityana	124 Sheema
42 Amuria	69 Serere	97 Kiboga	125 Mbarara
43 Kapelebyong	70 Buyende	98 Kyankwanzi	126 Kiruhura
44 Katakwi	71 Kaliro	99 Nakaseke	127 Isingiro
45 Kumi	72 Iganga	100 Luwero	128 Rwampara
46 Bukedea	73 Luuka	101 Nakasongola	129 Ntungamo
47 Bulambuli	74 Jinja	102 Kirandongo	130 Mitooma
48 Kapchorwa	75 Kamuli	103 Masindi	131 Rukungiri
49 Kween	76 Kayunga	104 Bulisa	132 Kanungu
50 Bukwo	77 Buikwe	105 Hoima	133 Kisoro
51 Sironko	78 Buvuma	106 Kikuube	134 Rubanda
52 Bududa	79 Mukono	107 Kakumiro	135 Rukiga
53 Namisindwa	80 Kampala	108 Kibaale	136 Kabale
54 Manafwa	81 Wakiso	109 Kagadi	
55 Tororo	82 Mpigi	110 Ntoroko	
56 Busia	83 Kalangala	111 Bundibugyo	
57 Namayingo	84 Masaka	112 Bunyangabu	
58 Bugiri	85 Kyotera	113 Kabarole	
	86 Rakai	114 Kyenjojo	

## **Decentralisation**

Decentralisation is the transfer of some powers from the Central Government to the Local Government (district levels). Uganda is a decentralised country.

### **Reasons why Uganda is divided into districts**

- For easy administration.
- To extend services nearer to the people.
- To create more employment opportunities to the people.

However, creating more districts makes it very difficult and expensive to maintain them. The **Ministry of Local Government** is responsible for creating new districts in Uganda.

### **Disadvantages of creating new districts**

- It is expensive for the government to maintain the new districts.
- It increases government expenditure.

## **Island districts**

An **island** is a piece of land surrounded by a water body. **Island districts** are districts surrounded by water bodies. Examples of island districts in Uganda include **Buvuma** district and **Kalangala** district.

### **Economic activities carried out in island districts**

**Economic activities** are activities done by people to earn a living.

Economic activities carried out in island districts include;

- |                |               |               |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| • Fishing      | • Tourism     | • Sand mining |
| • Crop growing | • Boat making |               |

### **Problems faced by island districts**

- Poor health and medical services.
- Poor transport and communication services.
- Low standards of education due to inadequate education institutions.
- Floods during rainy seasons.
- Poor sanitation or hygiene due to poor disposal of wastes.
- Limited market for goods/products due to low population.



### Activity 1.1

1. How does the low population in island district affect the trade activities in the district?
2. State two health problems faced by people living in island districts.
3. Write down two types of transport used to travel to island districts.

### Solutions to the problems faced by Island districts

- Developing and promoting water transport.
- Establishing more education institutions in the Island districts.
- Construction of more public toilets/pit latrines for proper disposal of human wastes.
- Establishing water ambulances to improve on health services.

### Importance of districts

- Districts provide employment to people.
- Districts provide social services to people.
- Districts make the administrative work easy for the Central Government.

### Functions of Kampala as a city

- Kampala serves as an administrative center. Most of the administrative units and offices are found in Kampala.
- Kampala is the centre of commerce and trade with many shopping arcades and malls.
- It is a centre of communication with many communication companies such as MTN and Airtel.
- It acts as an education centre with many schools and institutions.
- It is a financial centre with many banks and insurance companies.
- It is an industrial centre.



### Activity 1.2

1. Why is Kampala called the centre of commerce and trade?
2. Give one reason why Kampala is known as the administrative city.
3. What term is used to refer to a place where district main offices are located?

## Section 1.2: Locating places

### Ways of locating places

- Using the compass.
- Using lines of longitude and latitude (grid reference).
- Using the position of the sun.
- Using neighbouring places.
- Using physical features.
- Using landmarks. For example, tall buildings.



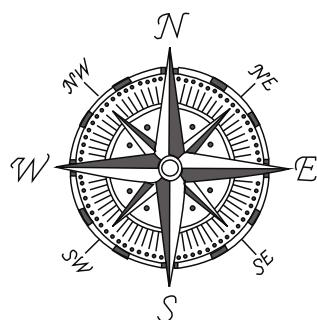
### Activity 1.3

1. State any two traditional ways of locating places.
2. Give one way one can locate places on the map.

### Cardinal and semi-cardinal points of a compass

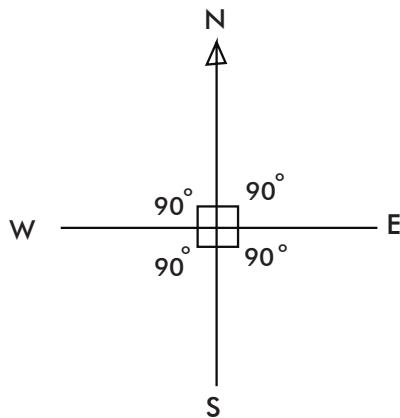
- A **compass** is an instrument that shows direction of places in relation to other places. A compass has four major points called **cardinal points**, that is, North, East, West and South. Cardinal points are further divided into semi-cardinal points or secondary points. Semi-cardinal points are NorthEast, SouthEast, SouthWest and NorthWest. A compass needle always points to the North.

Compass

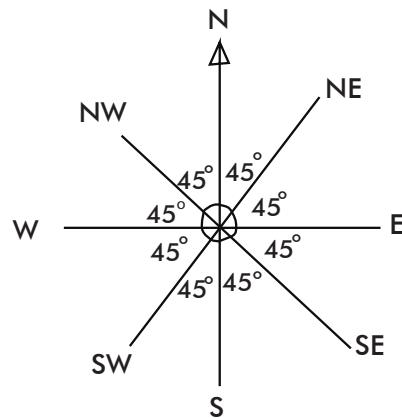


Cardinal points lie at angle  $90^\circ$  from each other, that is to say, between North, East, South and West. The angle difference is  $90^\circ$ . Semi-cardinal points lie at  $45^\circ$  from the cardinal points.

### Cardinal points



### Semi-cardinal points



### Groups of people who use a compass

- Sailors              • Pilots              • Mountain climbers
- Rally drivers      • Surveyors         • Scouts and girl-guides.

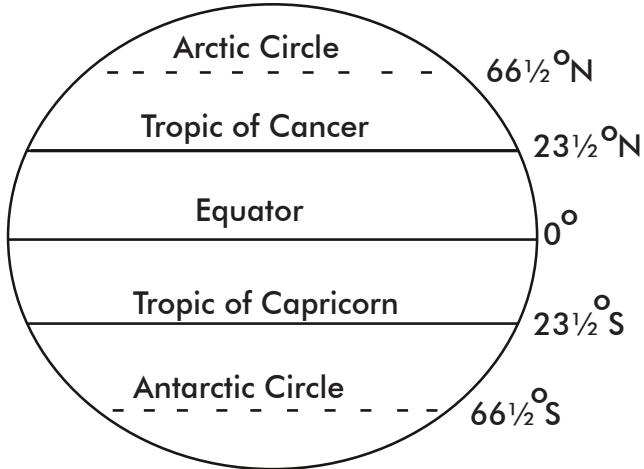
### Latitudes

**Lines of latitude** are imaginary lines drawn on a map running from East to West. They are called imaginary lines because they do not physically exist. Latitudes are used to define the North-South position of a location on the planet. **Latitude** is the distance North or South of the equator. Lines of latitude are also called **parallels**. This is because they do not meet at any point on the globe.

### The major lines of latitude

- Equator marked zero degrees 0°.
- Tropic of Cancer marked  $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  N ( $23.5^\circ$ N)
- Tropic of Capricorn marked  $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  S ( $23.5^\circ$ S)
- Arctic Circle marked  $66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  N ( $66.5^\circ$ N)
- Antarctic Circle marked  $66\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  S ( $66.5^\circ$ S)

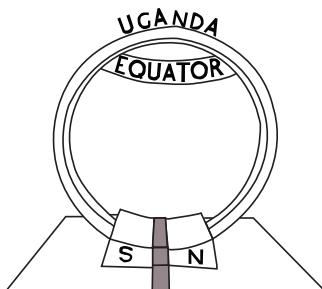
## Major lines of latitude



### The equator

The equator is marked zero degrees,  $0^{\circ}$ , because it is the starting point for measuring other lines of latitude. It is also called the **equator** because it divides the earth into two equal parts called hemispheres, that is, Northern hemisphere and Southern hemisphere. A **hemisphere** is a half of the world formed by the equator or prime meridian.

### An equator monument at Nabusanke



### Lakes in Uganda crossed by the Equator

- L. Victoria      • L. George

### Districts in Uganda crossed by the Equator

- Kasese      • Mpigi      • Wakiso      • Kamwenge
- Kalungu      • Sembabule      • Kiruhura      • Ibanda

### Equinox

Equinox is the period when the sun overheads the equator. Or equinox is a period when the earth experiences equal length of day and night world wide. Months of the year when the sun overheads the;

- Equator – 21st March and 23rd September.
- Tropic of Cancer – 21st June.
- Tropic of Capricorn – 22nd December.

### **Importance of the equator (lines of latitude)**

- It is used to locate places on the map/earth's surface.
- It helps to determine the climate of an area. Places on or near the equator, are warm all year long because they get about the same amount of sunshine during the year.

### **Longitudes**

Lines of longitude are imaginary lines drawn on a map running from the North pole to the South pole. They are numbered in degrees. They are used to define the East-West position of a location on the planet.

**Longitude** is the distance East or West of the Prime Meridian. Lines of longitude are also called **Meridians**. The following are the major lines of longitude.

- **The prime Meridian:** It is the line of zero degrees ( $0^\circ$ ) longitude. It is the starting point for measuring distances both East and West around the Earth. It is also known as **Greenwich Meridian** because it passes through the place called Greenwich in London. In Africa, it passes through Accra in Ghana. The Prime Meridian also serves as the basis for the world's **Standard Time Zone System**.
- **The international Date Line:** It is the line of  $180^\circ$  longitude. This line separates days of the week in Western and Eastern parts of the world.

### **Importance of lines of longitude**

- They are used to locate places on the map/earth's surface.
- The Prime Meridian is used as the basis for the world's time zones.
- The International Date Line is used to determine days and dates.



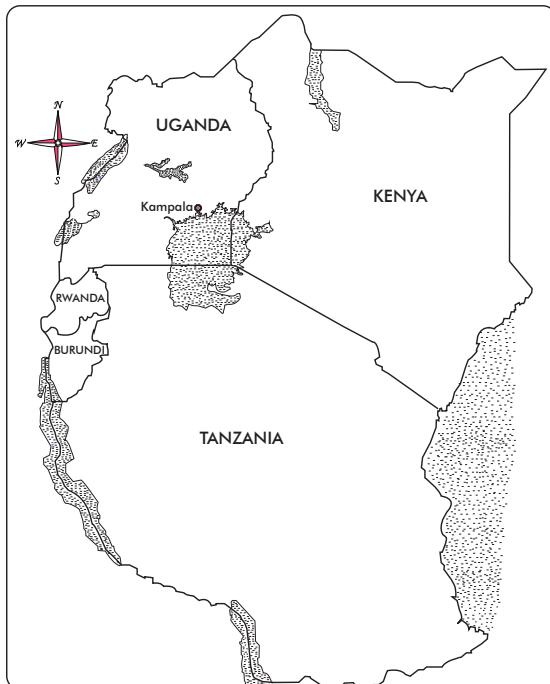
#### **Activity 1.4**

1. State one international importance of the prime Meridian.
2. How do lines of longitude help in locating places on a map?
3. Which line of longitude separates one day from another?

## **Locating Uganda on the East African map**

- Uganda is located in East Africa, the Eastern region of the continent of Africa.
- Uganda lies within the tropics of Africa.
- Uganda lies between latitudes  $4\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}\text{N}$  and  $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{S}$  and longitudes  $29^{\circ}\text{E}$  and  $35^{\circ}\text{E}$  of the Greenwich Meridian.
- Uganda is located in the East of the Prime Meridian.
- It is crossed by the equator.

**Map of East Africa showing the location of Uganda**



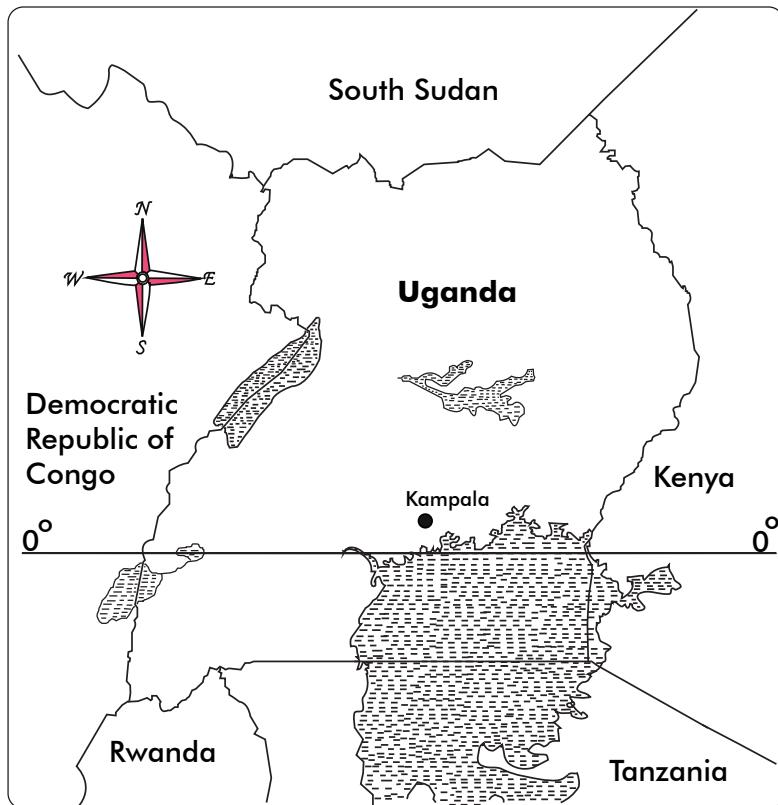
## **Section 1.3: Uganda's neighbouring countries**

Uganda is bordered by five African countries in all directions.

Direction	Country	Capital city	President
North	South Sudan	Juba	H.E Salva Kiir
East	Kenya	Nairobi	H.E William Luto
West	D.R.C	Kinshasa	H.E Felix Tshisekedi Tshilombo
South	Tanzania	Dodoma	H.E Samia Suluhu Hassan
South West	Rwanda	Kigali	H.E Paul Kagame

D.R.C stands for Democratic Republic of Congo. Burundi is a member of the East African Community but not a neighbour of Uganda.

## Map of Uganda showing her neighbours



### Ports

A port is a place where ships (water vessels) load and off load goods. Ports help to handle imports and exports.

### Types of ports

- **Sea-port:** Seaports are found on the coastline. Sea-ports of Uganda's neighbours are Port Mombasa in Kenya and Port Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania. A **hinter land** is an area which is served by a seaport.
- **Inland ports:** They are found on lakes far away from the coastline. Example of inland ports in Uganda include;
  - Port Bell on Lake Victoria
  - Bukakata Port on Lake Victoria
  - Port Jinja on Lake Victoria
  - Port Butiaba on Lake Albert

### Uganda as a landlocked country

A **landlocked country** is a country without a coastline. Therefore, a landlocked country has no direct access to the sea. Uganda is a landlocked country and thus has no coastline. She therefore relies on

the ports of **Mombasa** in Kenya and **Dar-es-Salaam** in Tanzania for most of her imports and exports.

### **Reasons why Port Mombasa handles most of Uganda's imports and exports**

- It is geographically near to Uganda which reduces on the transport costs.
- There is a direct railway route connecting Mombasa to Uganda.

### **Uganda's imports**

**Imports** are goods or products brought into a country from other countries. Examples of Uganda's imports are vehicles, clothes, jewellery, drugs, guns, phones and cosmetics.

### **Uganda's exports**

Exports are goods, products or services sold to other countries. Examples of Uganda's exports are coffee, cotton, fish, flowers, electricity, maize, sugar and crude oil. Examples of Uganda's invisible exports are tourism, entertainment, skilled labour and electricity. **Invisible exports** are services sold to other countries.

### **Problems faced by landlocked countries**

- Delay of goods in transit.
- High taxes imposed/charged on imports and exports.
- High transport costs.
- Highway robberies.

### **Solutions to the problems faced by landlocked countries**

- Cooperation with neighbouring countries with seaports.
- Promoting air and railway transport systems.
- Promoting peace and security with neighbours.
- Promoting domestic industries.

### **Reasons why Uganda should have a good relationship with her neighbours**

- To enable free movement of goods and people (to promote trade).
- To promote peace and security.
- To create a wider market for her goods and services.



### Activity 1.5

State the political reason why landlocked countries should maintain a good relationship with their neighbours.

## Smuggling

Smuggling is the illegal importation and exportation of goods.

### Dangers of smuggling

- Smuggling reduces revenue for the government.
- Leads to importation of poor standard goods in the country.
- It reduces market for locally manufactured goods.
- It increases insecurity in the country.

Note: The Special Revenue Protection Service fights against smuggling.



### Activity 1.6

State any one political danger of smuggling to Uganda.

## Section 1.4: Maps and pictures

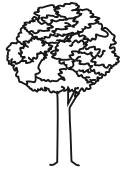
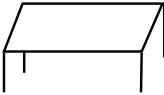
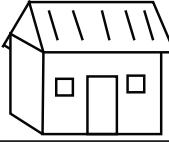
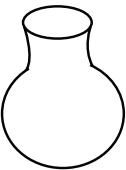
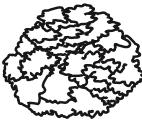
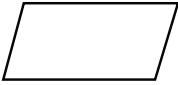
A **map** is a representation of an object drawn as seen from above. A **picture** is a drawing of an object as seen from sides.

### Differences between pictures and maps

- A map is a representation of an object as seen from above while a picture is a drawing of an object as seen from sides.
- A picture is more detailed than a map.

### Similarities between a map and a picture

- Both are drawings.
- Both are representations of real objects.

Picture			
Tree	Table	House	Pot
			
Map			
Tree	Table	House	Pot
			

## Types of maps

Maps are categorised or classified according to the nature of the data or information they show.

- **Political maps:** They show political boundaries for example district boundaries.
- **Historical maps:** They show information about things and places of the past.
- **Climatic maps:** They show information about climatic zones, rainfall and temperatures.
- **Vegetation maps:** They show vegetation like forests.
- **Physical maps:** They shows different physical features or landforms like lakes and mountains.
- **Population maps:** They show information about population distribution and population density.
- **Economic maps:** They show different economic activities carried out in an area.

## Elements of a map

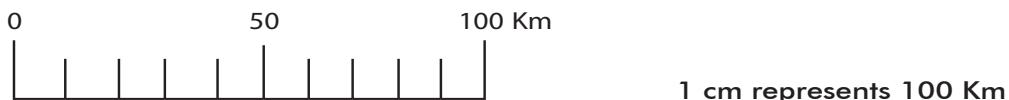
Elements of a map are things which help a map reader to understand a given map easily. They are mainly five elements of a map.

- **Key:** It is used to explain or interpret symbols used on a map.
- **Title:** It indicates the name of the area or the information represented on the map. It tells what the map is all about.
- **Compass direction:** It used to indicate the direction of one place from another. We can find the direction by either clockwise or anti-

clockwise movements. Clockwise means moving to the right direction like the hands of a clock face. Anti-clockwise means moving to the left direction.

- **Scale:** It is used to calculate the actual ground distance between places. It shows the relationship between map distance and ground distance. Scales are of three types.

### **Linear or graphical scale**



### **Ratio scale**

This scale can be written as; 1 : 1000 or  $\frac{1}{1000}$

The numerator represents the distance on the map while the denominator represents the distance on the ground. The units on the numerator and denominator are the same.

### **Statement scale**

This scale is written as 1 cm represents 1000 km.

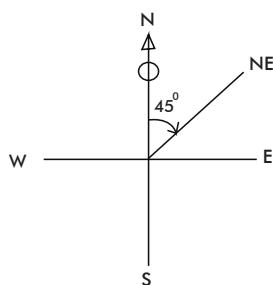
- **Frame:** It shows the area represented by the map. It beautifies the map. A **boundary** shows the limits of a given map.

## **Worked examples about elements of a map**

### **Example 1: Compass direction**

Murungi was facing the Northern direction and suddenly turned  $45^\circ$  clockwise. What was Murungi's new direction?

**Solution:**

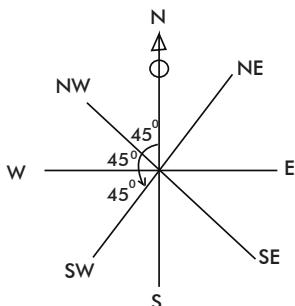


∴ Murungi's new direction was North East.

### **Example 2: Compass direction**

If you are facing towards the North and you turn through an angle  $135^\circ$  anti-clockwise, state your new direction.

**Solution:**



$\therefore$  My new direction was South West.

### **Example 3: Scale**

If the distance from Luton Town to Kiti Town is 25 cm on the map, calculate the ground distance in kilometres between the two towns. Given that 1 cm represents 10 km.

**Solution**

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ cm} &\rightarrow 10 \text{ km} \\ 25 \text{ cm} &\rightarrow (25 \times 10) \text{ km} \\ &= 250 \text{ km} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  It is 250 km from Luton Town to Kiti town.

### **Example 4: Scale**

How far is it from point M to point X if the distance in centimetres between the two towns is 6 cm. Given 1 : 50 and give your answer in metres.

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} 1 \text{ cm} &\rightarrow 50 \text{ cm} \\ 6 \text{ cm} &\rightarrow (6 \times 50) \text{ cm} \\ &= 300 \text{ cm} \\ 100 \text{ cm} &= 1 \text{ m} \\ \text{Distance in metres} &= \left(\frac{300}{100}\right) \text{ m} \end{aligned}$$

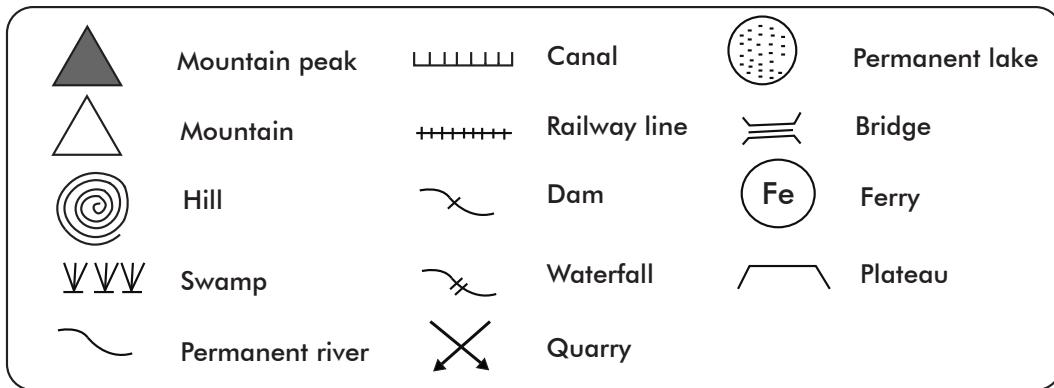
$\therefore$  It is 3 m from point M to point X.

## Map symbols

Map symbols are signs that represent real objects or features on a map. They are used on a map in order to;

- Avoid overcrowding on the map.
  - Make the map look neat and tidy.

**Below are some of the common symbols used on maps.**

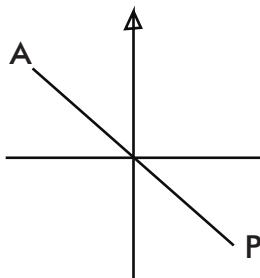


## Testing exercise 1

1. What is a district?
  2. State the difference between a compass and a compass rose.
  3. Name any two newly formed districts in Uganda.
  4. Give any one reason why the government has created new districts in Uganda.
  5. Mention the major regions of Uganda.
  6. Why did the colonialists divide Uganda into administrative districts?
  7. Give one disadvantage of creating new districts in Uganda.
  8. Name any two districts from each region of Uganda below.  
(a) Central region                   (c) Eastern region  
(b) Northern region                 (d) Western region
  9. State the economic importance of Kalangala district.
  10. Mention any two problems facing people in Kalangala district.
  11. State solutions to the problems facing people in Kalangala district.
  12. In which district is Uganda's capital city?

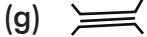
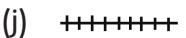
13. Give any one reason why Kalangala does not have Hydro Electric Power.
14. Who is the political head of a district?
15. In which geographical region of Africa is Uganda found?
16. How useful are districts in Uganda?
17. How did the creation of districts affect ethnic groups/tribes?
18. Name the districts crossed by the equator in Uganda.
19. Which ministry is responsible for creating new districts in Uganda?
20. Name any two island districts in Uganda.
21. Who is the head of civil servants in the district?
22. Name the system of government that is practiced in Uganda today.
23. What is the main type of transport used in Buvuma district?
24. How is Buvuma district similar to Kalangala district in terms of location?
25. Which district neighbours Kampala in the East?
26. How is Kampala an important city to Uganda?
27. Name any three neighbouring countries of Uganda.
28. How is a key different from a title on a map?
- 29(a) Give any three local ways of locating places.  
(b) Of what importance is a compass to a mountain climber?
30. Mention any four elements of a good map.
- 31(a) Name any two attributes of a good map.  
(b) Mention any three qualities of a good map.
- 32(a) What is a map?  
(b) What is a picture?
33. How is the location of Uganda different from that of Kenya?
- 34(a) State the differences between a map and a picture.  
(b) Show the difference between a map and a picture of a tree by drawing.
35. Give any one reason why symbols are put on a map instead of real objects.
36. State the major role of a compass direction to a map reader.
- 37(a) What is a compass?  
(b) Name the major cardinal points of a compass direction.

38. Name the country that borders Uganda on the Eastern side.
- 39(a) Name the semi-cardinal points of a compass direction.  
 (b) Name the semi-cardinal point which lies between South and East on a compass direction.
40. What helps a pilot flying a plane from Arua to Entebbe to find the direction to Entebbe Airport?
41. Name the directions shown on the compass direction.  
 (i) A      (ii) P



42. What is the difference between primary points and secondary points of a compass direction?
43. Name the groups of people who mainly use a compass while doing their work.
44. Which element gives detailed information about the map?
45. What is the direction of Uganda from Burundi?
46. Give any one problem likely to be faced by a tourist without a compass.
- 47(a) What country neighbours Uganda in the South West?  
 (b) How is the country in (a) above related to Uganda in terms of location?
48. What is the direction of Uganda from South West?
49. What is the direction of Entebbe from Mbale?
50. Why do people of Uganda see the sun later than those in Kenya?
51. Mention any two features which can be used to find direction of places.
- 52(a) Why is the equator called so?  
 (b) Apart from the sun, moon and stars, how were people of long ago able to locate or find direction?
- 53(a) Musa was moving to school in the morning and saw his shadow on the right hand. In which direction was his school?  
 (b) Nakakeeto was going back home from school. She saw her shadow on her left. In which direction was her home from school?

54. What are by-laws?
55. What do we call the use of lines of latitude and longitude to locate places?
56. What are lines of latitude?
57. What are lines of longitude?
58. Name the major lines of latitude.
59. Name the major lines of longitude.
60. Name the line of longitude used in determining
  - (a) dates of places.
  - (b) time of places.
61. Why is the equator the most important line of latitude?
62. Why is the prime meridian the most important line of longitude?
63. Why are lines of latitude and lines longitude referred to as imaginary lines?
64. Why is the prime meridian also known as Greenwich?
65. What is the major imaginary line that divides the earth into Southern and Northern hemispheres?
66. Name three districts crossed by the equator in Uganda.
67. Why are areas around the equator hot?
68. Name six districts in Uganda found in the Southern hemisphere.
69. Name two countries in East Africa which lie in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres.
70. Apart from locating places, give other uses of lines of longitude.
71. State the difference between;
  - (a) latitude and lines of latitude.
  - (b) longitude and lines of longitude.
72. Name three countries of East Africa found in the Southern hemisphere.
73. What major line of latitude is marked  $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N}$ ?
74. What degree is marked by the following major lines of latitude?
  - (i) Arctic circle
  - (ii) Tropic of Capricorn
  - (iii) Antarctic circle
- 75(a) What is a landlocked country?
  - (b) Name three landlocked countries in East Africa.
76. Apart from Rwanda, name any other one landlocked country that borders Uganda.

77. Why is Uganda called a landlocked country?
- 78(a) Mention any one port in East Africa that handles Uganda's imports and exports.
- (b) Give the economic importance of Mombasa port to Uganda.
79. Why does Uganda need to cooperate with her neighbouring countries?
80. Mention three problems faced by landlocked countries in East Africa.
- 81(a) What is equinox?
- (b) Name the line of latitude where equinox is experienced.
82. How useful is a key to a map reader?
- 83(a) Who is the current president of Uganda?
- (b) Name the capital cities of Uganda's neighbours below.
- (i) South Sudan (ii) Kenya  
 (iii) Rwanda (iv) Democratic Republic of Congo
84. Give the meaning of the following map symbols.
- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| (a)    | (b)    | (c)    |
| (d)    | (e)    | (f)    |
| (g)  | (h)  | (i)  |
| (j)  | (k)  |   |
- 85(a) How useful is a scale to a map reader?
- (b) Name any two types of scales used on a map.
- (c) Calculate the actual ground distance from Kampala to Gulu town if the distance on the map between the two towns is 4 cm. (Given the scale of 1cm represents 15Km).
86. What is the use of a frame on a map?
87. Jane is standing at school facing North. If she turns 45 degrees clockwise, which new direction will she face?
- 88(a) In which region is Uganda's capital city located?
- (b) What title is given to the head of a capital city?
- 89(a) What is meant by the term decentralisation?
- (b) State the main economic activity carried out in Kalangala district.

90(a) State the difference between imports and exports.

(b) Mention any two examples of Uganda's;

- (i) imports
- (ii) exports

91(a) What do we call the illegal importation and exportation of goods?

(b) Of what disadvantage is the above term in (a) to Uganda's economy?

92. Mention one country in Africa is crossed by the line of longitude marked  $0^{\circ}$ ?

93. Why is Uganda said to be lying in both hemispheres?

94. Give a reason why lines of latitudes are called parallels.

95. In which way can visitors in an area be able to locate a particular school?

# **Topic 2: Physical features in Uganda**

## **Section 2.1: Physical features**

**Physical features** are landforms on the earth's surface. **Landforms** are features that give land shape. Examples of physical features are mountains, plateaus, lakes, plains, hills, valleys, rivers and rift valleys.

### **Types of physical features**

- Relief features      • Drainage features

#### **Relief features**

**Relief** is the general appearance of an area. **Relief features** are landforms that show the general appearance of the landscape. Examples of relief features are mountains/highlands, hills, plateaus, islands, plains, inselbergs and rift valleys.

#### **Drainage features**

**Drainage** is the ground water system of an area. Drainage features are landforms that contain water. Examples of drainage features are lakes, rivers, swamps, streams and springs.

## **Section 2.2: The plateau**

A plateau is a flat topped raised piece of land. Lakes, rivers, hills, swamps, plains and valleys can be found on the plateau.

### **Economic activities carried out on the plateau**

- Crop farming      • Lumbering      • Fishing      • Industrialisation
- Tourism      • Animal rearing      • Mining

### **Importance of plateaus**

- Plateaus have fertile soils for crop growing.
- They attract tourists who bring in foreign exchange to the country.
- They are sources of minerals like sand.
- Plateaus are settlement grounds for people.
- They have plenty of grass for animal grazing.



## Activity 2.1

1. How are plateaus important to crop farmers?
2. Give one way plateaus are important to cattle keepers.
3. State any two economic importance of plateaus.

## Section 2.3: Mountains and highlands

A **mountain** is a large and high raised piece of land with steep slopes usually thousands of metres above the sea level. The height of land above sea level is called **altitude**. Examples of mountains in Uganda are Mt. Rwenzori, Mt. Moroto, Mt. Kadam, Mt. Napak, Mt. Mufumbiro and Mt. Elgon.

### Types of mountains

Mountains are categorised according to their way of formation. There are two types of mountains in Uganda.

- Block/horst mountains
- Volcanic mountains

### Block mountains

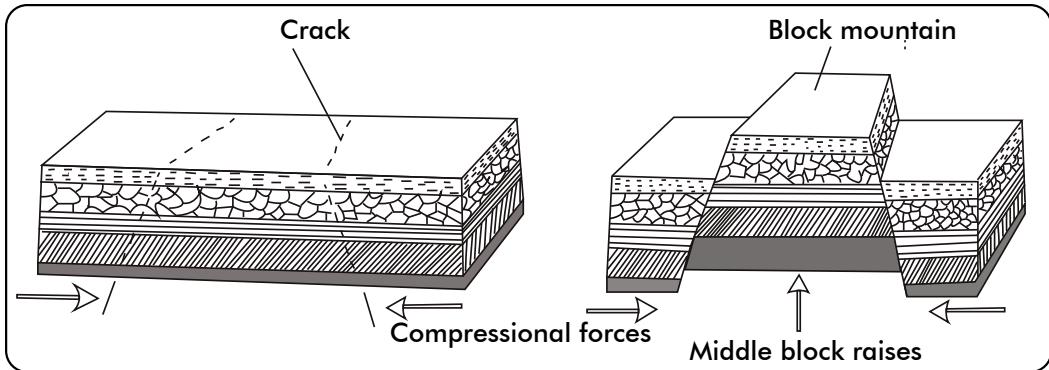
Block mountains are mountains which were formed as a result of faulting. They are also known as **horst mountains**. Mountain Rwenzori is the only block mountain in Uganda.

### Terms related to block mountains

- **Faulting:** It is the cracking/fracturing of the earth's crust (rocks) due to tensional and compressional forces.
- **Tensional forces:** These are forces which act to either sides of the surface.
- **Compressional forces:** These are forces which act towards each other.
- **Faults:** These are lines of weakness due to external forces acting on a surface.

### Formation of block mountains

When the earth is acted upon by compressional forces, cracks also known as faults develop on it. When the faults occur on the earth's surface, the middle blocks are forced to raise upwards forming a block mountain.



### **Mountain Rwenzori (Rwenzori mountains)**

- Mountain Rwenzori is a block mountain.
- It is the highest mountain in Uganda and the third highest mountain in Africa.
- It is found in Western Uganda in the districts of Kasese and Bundibugyo.
- Mountain Rwenzori has many peaks which form ranges. A **peak** is the highest point of a mountain. A **range** is a series of mountains connected together.
- The highest peak of Mountain Rwenzori is **Margherita peak**. Stanley peak is another peak of Mountain Rwenzori.
- The highest point on Rwenzori (Margherita) is snow capped throughout the year. This is because the peak rises above the snow line. **Snow line** is the level on a mountain above which snow is formed.
- Rwenzori mountain ranges form a natural boundary between Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).
- Mount Rwenzori was discovered by a European explorer, **Henry Morton Stanley**. He named it '**Mountains of the moon**' because its peak shined like a new moon due to the reflection from the snow.
- Tribes that live along the slopes of Mountain Rwenzori are Bamba and Bakonjo in Uganda and the Pygmies in DRC.
- The major means of transport used are the donkeys.

### **Rivers that have their sources on Mt. Rwenzori**

- R. Mobuku      • R. Sebwe      • R. Nyamwamba      • R. Mpaga

### **Economic activities around Mt. Rwenzori**

- Tourism      • Crop growing      • Trade



## Activity 2.2

1. Why is Mt. Rwenzori called a block mountain?
2. Why is Mt. Rwenzori referred to as a mountain range?
3. Give one political importance of Mountain Rwenzori.
4. Why did HM Stanley refer to Mt. Rwenzori as ‘mountains of the moon’?

### **Reasons why there are no plants and animals on the top of Rwenzori mountains**

- The temperatures at the top are too low (cold) to support plant and animal life.
- It is snow capped throughout the year.

### **Volcanic mountains**

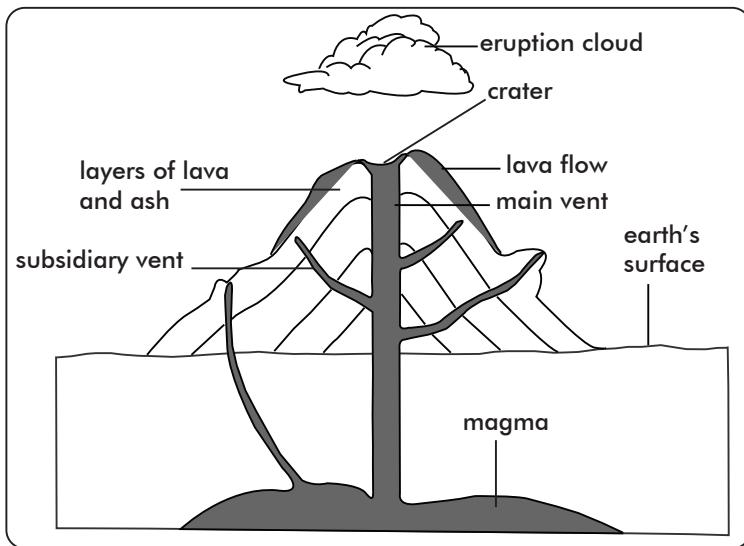
Volcanic mountains are formed as a result of vulcanicity or volcanic activity.

#### **Terms related to volcanic mountains**

- **Volcanicity:** It is the process by which magma (molten rocks) is ejected from the earth's crust through the vent.
- **Magma:** It is the hot molten rock material which comes out of the earth's crust during eruption.
- **Lava:** It is solidified magma on the earth's surface.

#### **Formation of volcanic mountains**

Molten rocks (magma) is ejected from the earth's crust through the vent. Magma solidifies on top of the earth's surface. When lava accumulates, it forms a volcanic mountain.



## Examples of volcanic mountains in Uganda

Except Mountain Rwenzori, all other mountains in Uganda are volcanic mountains. Examples of volcanic mountains are Mt. Elgon, Mt. Moroto, Mt. Napak, Mt. Kadam and Mt. Mufumbiro.

## Types of volcanic mountains

- **Active volcanoes:** These are volcanoes which show signs of eruption at any time. They erupt. An example of an active volcano is Mufumbiro Mountains.
- **Dormant volcanoes:** These are volcanoes which have not erupted for many years but can erupt again. They are also referred to as **sleeping volcanoes**. An example of a dormant volcano is Mt. Moroto.
- **Extinct volcanoes:** These are volcanoes which cannot erupt again. They are also referred to as **dead volcanoes**. An example of an extinct volcano is Mt. Elgon.

## Mount Elgon

- Mount Elgon is found on the Uganda-Kenya border in the East.
- It was formed by volcanicity.
- It is the second highest mountain in Uganda.
- Mount Elgon's local name among the Bagisu is **Mt. Masaba**.
- Its highest point (peak) is **Wagagai**.
- **Joseph Thomson** was the first European explorer to see Mt. Elgon.
- Mountain Elgon is found in the districts of Mbale, Bukwo, Kapchorwa, Bududa, Sironko, Kween, Manafwa and Bulambuli.

- The Sabiny in Kapchorwa and the Bamasaba (Bagisu) are the tribes that live on the slopes of Mt. Elgon.
- Mountain Elgon is a source of many rivers like R. Manafwa, R. Walaba, R. Nzoia and R. Rwakhakha.
- Cash crops mainly grown on slopes of Mt. Elgon are Arabica coffee and wheat.
- The leading wheat producing district in Uganda is Kapchorwa.

### **Factors that favour the growing of Arabica coffee and wheat on Mt. Elgon slopes**

- Presence of fertile volcanic soils.
- The slopes of Mountain Elgon receive reliable rainfall.
- Presence of low temperatures on Mt. Elgon slopes.

### **Mount Moroto**

- It is found in the North Eastern part of Uganda.
- Mount Moroto is a dormant volcanic mountain.
- Its highest peak is **Sokdek**.
- The slopes of Mount Moroto receive little rainfall because they receive dry winds.
- The main occupation of people there is pastoralism, majorly nomadic pastoralism. **Nomadic pastoralism** is the movement of people with their animals from one place to another in search for water and pasture.
- The Karimojong of Uganda and the Jie of Kenya are known to be the inhabitants of Moroto.

### **Mufumbiro ranges**

- Mufumbiro ranges are found in the South Western part of Uganda.
- It is found at the border of Uganda and Rwanda.
- It is said to be an active volcano.
- The highest peak of this mountain is **Muhavura**. Other peaks of Mufumbiro ranges include Sabinyo and Gahinga.
- It has thick vegetation and bamboo which act as a home for mountain gorillas.
- Tribes that live on the slopes of Mt. Mufumbiro are Bakiga, Batwa, Bahororo and Bafumbira.
- Major crops grown on the slopes include; wheat, Arabica coffee, sorghum and bananas.
- The local meaning of Mufumbiro mountains is ‘**Mountains that cook**’ due to their volcanic tendencies.

## Inselbergs

Inselbergs are isolated hills on plain lands. Examples of inselbergs are Sukuru hills in Tororo, Musaija Mukulu hills in Kasese and Labwor hills in Karamoja.

## Importance of mountains and highlands

- Mountains and highlands help in rain (relief rainfall) formation.
- Mountain slopes have fertile soils which support crop farming.
- They attract tourists who bring in foreign exchange to the country.
- Some mountains form natural boundaries between countries.
- They are sources of some rivers which provide water for domestic and industrial use.
- They act as mining grounds since they have mineral deposits like limestone from Tororo and Hima and copper from Mt. Rwenzori.
- The slopes have cool temperatures for human settlement.
- They provide stones for construction/building of houses.

### Activity 2.3

1. How are mountains important to the mining industry of Uganda?
2. Give one political importance of Mountain Elgon to Uganda.
3. State one way mountains promote agriculture in the country.
4. Mention any two economic values of mountains in the country.
5. How can road transport be made possible in mountainous areas?
6. State one political danger of mountains to a country.

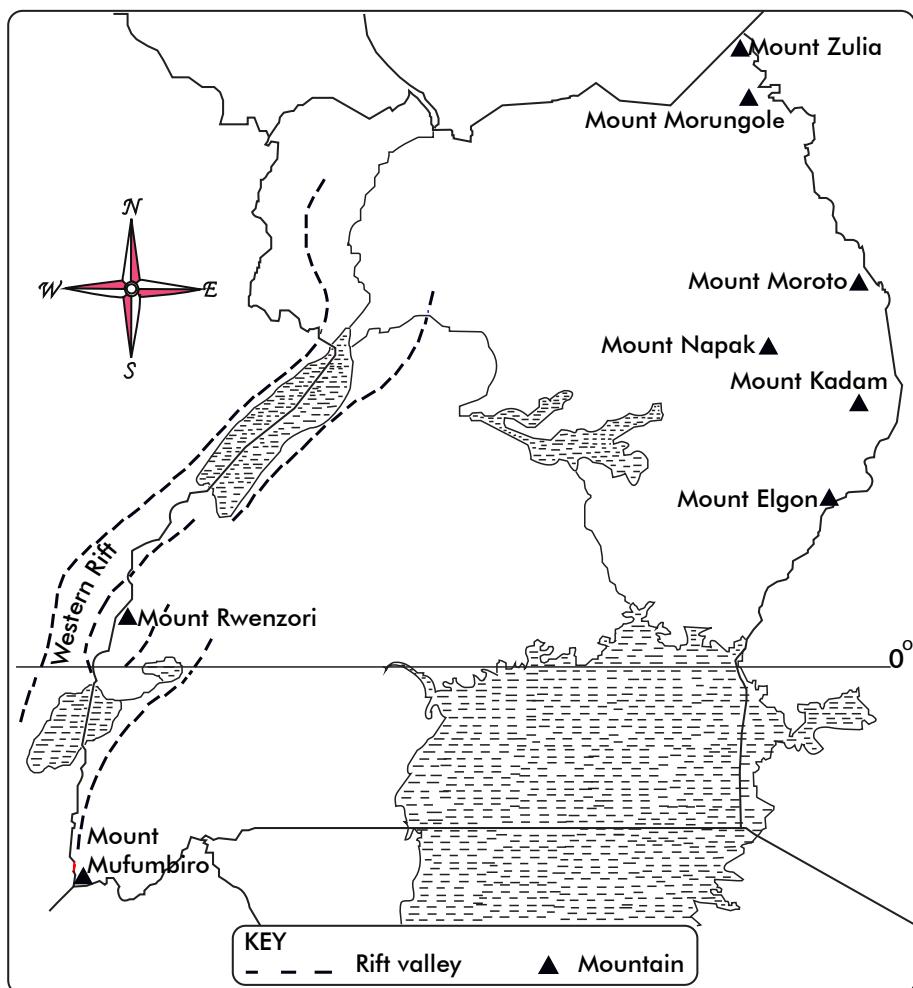
## Problems faced by people who live on the slopes of mountains

- Soil erosion especially during wet seasons.
- Landslides causing death and property destruction.
- Poor transport and communication networks.
- Volcanic eruptions causing death and property destruction.
- Land shortage due to high population.
- Inadequate social services such as schools.
- Steep slopes hinder mechanisation.

## Solutions to the problems faced by people who live on the slopes of mountains

- By rearing donkeys to ease transport.
- By using terracing, contour ploughing and strip cropping to control soil erosion.
- Resettling people to safer areas.
- Carrying out afforestation and re-afforestation on mountain slopes.
- Construction of winding roads.

**Map of Uganda showing the rift valley and major mountains**



## Section 2.4: Rift valleys

A rift valley is a long narrow depression on the earth's surface with steep sides. The steep sides are called escarpments. **Escarps** are the steep sides of a rift valley.

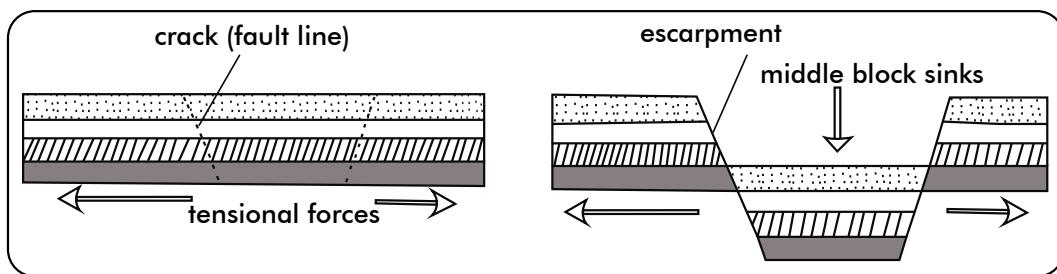
### Arms of the rift valley

The rift valley in East Africa is divided into two arms;

- **Eastern arm:** It passes through Kenya and Tanzania.
- **Western arm:** It passes through Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania. Lakes found in the Western arm of the rift valley in Uganda are Lake Albert and Lake Edward.

### Formation of rift valleys

Rift valleys were formed as a result of faulting due to tensional forces. These forces pull the earth sideways forming cracks or faults. As the forces further act on the block/earth, the middle block sinks leading to the formation of a rift valley.



### Importance of rift valleys

- Rift valleys are tourist attraction centres.
- Rift valleys have fertile soils that support crop growing.
- Rift valley lakes are fishing grounds.
- They act as grazing grounds for animals.
- Rift valleys are sources of minerals like crude oil on the Albertine escarpment.
- The flat areas can be used for settlement.

#### Activity 2.4

1. Give any two economic importance of rift valleys to the economy of Uganda.
2. How do rift valleys promote crop growing in an area?
3. How do rift valleys promote the development of the mining industry?
4. Which arm of the rift valley passes through Uganda?

## **Problems faced by people who stay in the rift valleys**

- Poor transport network.
- Landslides causing death and property destruction.
- Soil erosion especially during wet seasons.
- Floods causing death and property destruction.
- They harbour disease vectors and wild animals which are dangerous to human life.
- High temperatures due to low altitude.
- Steep slopes hinder the use of machines.

## **Economic activities carried out in rift valleys**

- Mining • Farming • Fishing • Pastoralism • Tourism

### **Section 2.5: Lakes**

A lake is a big depression with water. Examples of lakes in Uganda are L. Victoria, L. Kyoga, L. George, Kabaka's Lake, L. Kwania, L. Katwe, L. Edward, L. Wamala, L. Bunyonyi, L. Bisina, L. Opeta, L. Mburo, L. Nyungu and L. Kachira.

#### **Types of lakes**

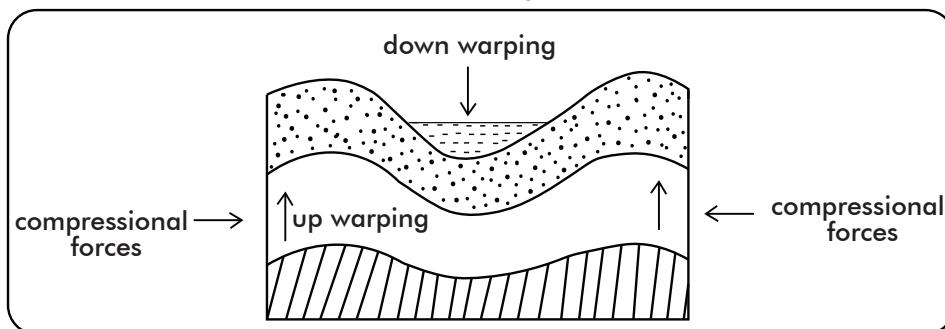
Lakes are categorised according to how they were formed.

- Depression lakes/Basin lakes • Rift valley lakes/Fault lakes
- Lava dammed lakes • Crater lakes
- Man-made lakes

#### **Depression lakes**

They are also called basin lakes or fresh water lakes. Depression lakes are lakes which were formed as a result of down warping. They have in-lets and out-lets. Examples of depression lakes in Uganda include; L. Victoria, L. Opeta, L. Bisina, L. Kijenebarola, L. Kyoga, L. Kwania, L. Mburo, L. Wamala, L. Kachira and L. Nakivali.

*Formation of a depression lake*



## **Characteristics of depression lakes**

- They are shallow in depth.
- They are wide in size.
- They have fresh water.
- They have both in-lets and out-lets.
- They always appear like a basin filled with water.
- They usually have swampy shores.

## **Lake Victoria**

- Lake Victoria is a depression lake.
- It is the largest fresh water lake in Uganda and Africa and the second largest fresh water lake in the world after Lake Superior in North America.
- It is crossed by the equator.
- It is shared by the great three East African countries of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. Hence referred to as an **inter-territorial lake**.
- It is the source of River Nile.
- It was in 1858 that **John Hannington Speke** became the first European explorer to see L. Victoria.
- John Hannington Speke named it Lake Victoria after Queen Victoria of England (United Kingdom).
- Its local name is **Nalubaale** meaning ‘home of gods.’
- It has many in-lets like R. Kagera, R. Katonga and only one out-let, Victoria Nile.
- It is connected to Lake George by River Katonga.

## **Islands on Lake Victoria in Uganda**

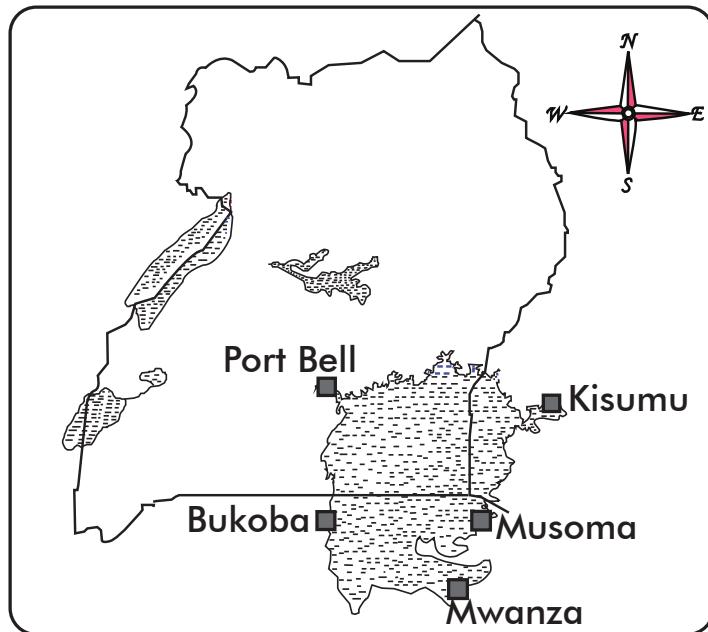
- |                 |                 |                    |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Ssesse island | • Buvuma island | • Kalangala island |
| • Bugala island | • Sigulu island | • Bubeke island    |
| • Ngamba island |                 |                    |

Note: Ngamba island serves as a sanctuary for chimpanzees.

## **Inland ports on Lake Victoria**

- |                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Port Bell (Port Luzira) in Uganda | • Port Mwanza in Tanzania |
| • Port Kisumu in Kenya              | • Port Bukoba in Tanzania |
| • Port Musoma in Tanzania           | • Port Jinja in Uganda    |
| • Port Bukakata in Uganda           |                           |

## **Map of Uganda showing inland ports on Lake Victoria**



### **Importance of ports**

- They handle imports and exports of countries.
- They are sources of employment to people.
- They promote transport.

### **Major economic activities carried out on Lake Victoria**

- Fishing
- Sand mining
- Transportation (water transport)

### **Major economic activities carried out around Lake Victoria**

- Crop growing
- Trading
- Lumbering
- Tourism

### **Problems faced by people living around Lake Victoria**

- Floods especially during the rainy season.
- Dangerous water animals that attack them.
- Water hyacinth which hinder transport.
- Strong winds and storms which destroy their property.
- Pirates/sea robbers.
- Easy spread of water borne diseases due to poor disposal of human wastes.
- Accidents such as drowning which leads to death of people.

## **Reasons why the shores of Lake Victoria are densely populated**

- They receive reliable rainfall.
- They have fertile soils for crop growing.
- They have high employment opportunities.

## **Lake Kyoga**

- Lake Kyoga was formed by down warping.
- It is the most swampy lake in Uganda because it is shallow.
- It is connected to L. Albert and L. Victoria by the Victoria Nile.
- It is found in the centre of Uganda.
- L. Kyoga is surrounded by L. Kwanza, L. Opeta and L. Bisina.
- L. Kyoga is on a lower altitude than L. Victoria.

## **Rift valley lakes**

Rift valley lakes were formed by faulting. They are also known as **fault lakes**. They are found on the floor of the rift valley.

### **Characteristics of rift valley lakes**

- Most rift valley lakes are salty since they have no outlets and some have salty rocks.
- They are narrow and long in shape.
- They are deep.
- They have steep sides.

### **Examples of rift valley lakes**

- L. Albert        • L. Edward

## **Lakes Edward**

- It is a rift valley lake formed by faulting.
- It is joined to L. George by **Kazinga Channel**.
- Lake Edward is found along the DRC-Uganda border.
- It is found in the Western Arm of the rift valley.
- Lake Edward was discovered by H.M Stanley.
- Lake George is crossed by the Equator.
- The major tourist attractions on Kazinga Channel are the Hippopotamuses.

## **Lake Albert**

- It is found in Uganda in the Western Arm of the rift valley.
- It also lies along the Uganda-DRC border in Hoima district (Bunyoro region).
- Its local name is '**Mwitanzige**' which means 'Killer of locusts'.
- L. Mwitanzige was named L. Albert by a European explorer known as **Sir Samuel Baker**.
- Its major inland port is **Port Butiaba**.
- Lake Albert has an escarpment known as **Albertine** where crude oil is mined.
- L. Albert is connected to L. Edward by a water channel known as R. Semliki.

## **Economic activities carried out on and around L. Albert**

- Fishing • Mining • Tourism • Transport • Trading
- Fish processing

## **Why Port Butiaba was built**

- To handle Uganda's imports and exports.
- To aid transportation of goods and people.
- To link Uganda to Democratic Republic of Congo.



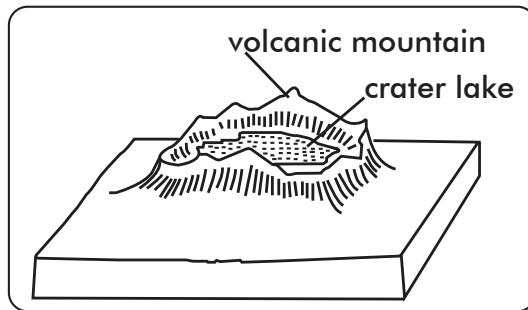
### **Activity 2.5**

1. Which factor makes L. Kyoga shallow?
2. Mention any one lake that forms a natural boundary between Uganda and democratic Republic of Congo.
3. What makes rift valley lakes salty?
4. Name the lake in Uganda where petroleum was discovered.

## **Crater lakes**

A crater lake is a depression on the top or on the surface of a dead or extinct volcano which is filled with water. Examples of crater lakes in Uganda are L. Katwe in Kasese, L. Nyakasura, L. Nyinambuga, L. Kasenda, L. Kyaninga (in Kabarole) and L. Nkugute, Nyanzibirizi (Twin lakes), L. Munyanyange, L. Nyungu, L. Bunyampaka, L. Rutoto and L. Nyamunuka.

Note: Lake Katwe is not found at the top of the mountain.

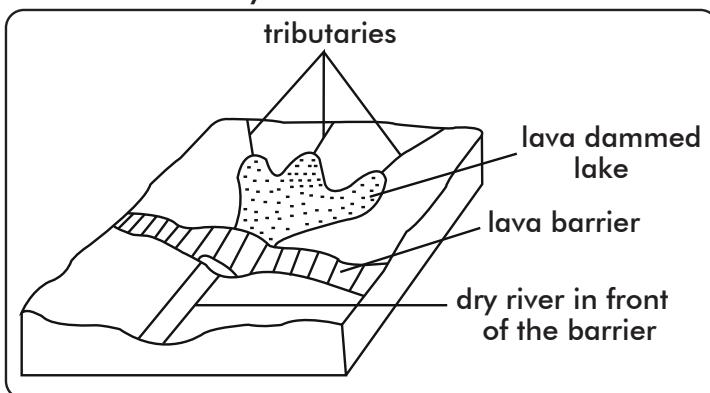


### **Characteristics of crater lakes**

- They are salty.
- They are circular and steep-sided.
- They have no inlets and outlets.
- Their shore lines consist of rocks.

### **Lava dammed**

Lava dammed lakes are lakes formed when lava flowing from a volcanic eruption blocks a river valley.



### **Examples of lava dammed lakes in Uganda**

- L. Mutanda and Mulehe in Kisoro.
- L. Bulela
- L. Saka in Kabarole.
- L. Bunyonyi: It is the deepest lake in Uganda found in Kabale district.

### **Man-made lakes**

Man-made lakes are lakes formed as a result of human activities. Their formation may be due to construction of a dam across a river path.

## **Examples of man-made lakes in Uganda**

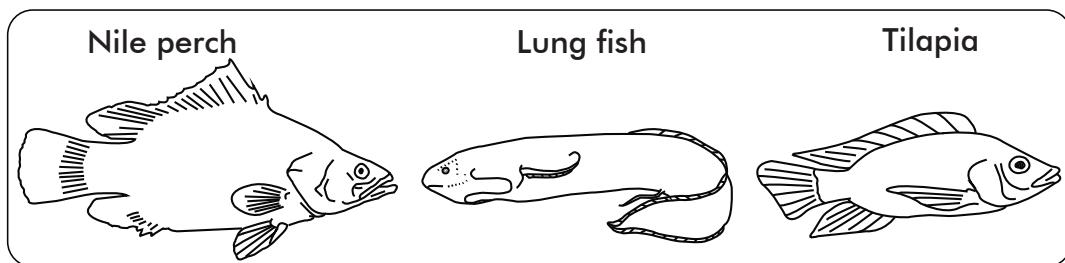
- Kabaka's Lake in Kampala.
- Lake Namugongo (Martyrs' Lake).
- Lake Kibimba in Bugiri.

## **Fishing in Uganda**

Fishing is the activity of catching fish from water bodies.

### **Types of fish caught in Uganda**

- Nile perch (the biggest)
- Silver fish
- Synodontis
- Tilapia (commonest type)
- Lung fish
- Mud fish
- Cat fish



### **Methods of catching fish**

There are two methods of fishing;

- Traditional methods of fishing
- Modern methods of fishing

### **Traditional methods of fishing**

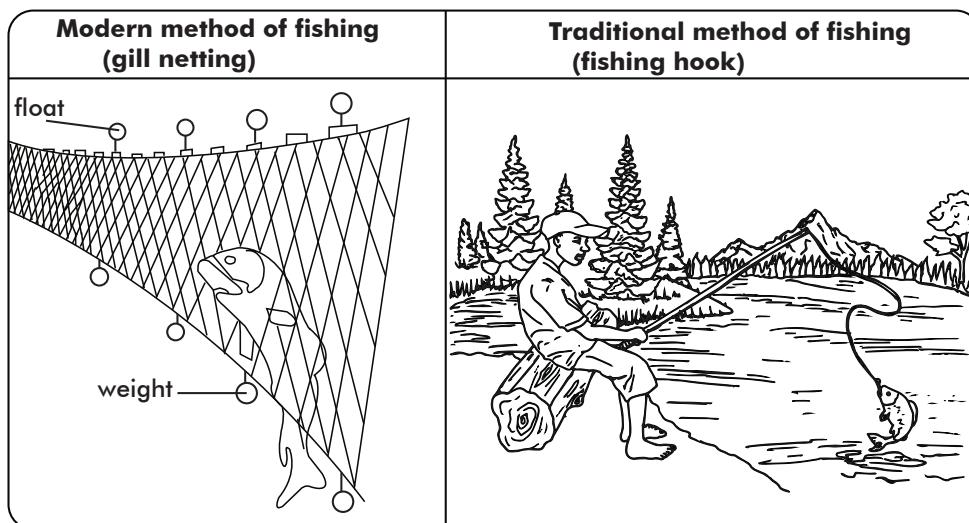
They are used on a small scale. They include the following:

- **Use of traps:** The containers known as traps are placed along the fish paths to attract fish.
- **Use of fishing baskets:** In this method, baskets are placed in water to attract fish.
- **Using bows, arrows and spears:** People use such tools to spot fish.
- **Fishing hooks:** A hook bearing a bait of food is tied on a string which is tied on a simple stick and then placed in water..

## **Modern methods of fishing**

Modern methods are used in commercial fishing where fish is caught for profits. Examples include;

- **Gill netting:** In this method, gill nets with floats at the top and weights at the bottom are laid vertically in water. While the fish swims, the net traps its head and the gills. It is the mostly used method in East Africa.
- **Long-Lining method:** Here, hooks bearing baits of food are tied on a boat in a line and put in water to trap fish.



## **Preservation of fish**

Preservation of fish is the protecting of fish from bacteria which make it go bad. Or it is the way of keeping fish for a long time without going bad.

### **Methods of fish preservation**

- Traditional methods of fish preservation
- Modern methods of fish preservation

### **Traditional methods of fish preservation**

Traditional method is the use of local methods to protect fish from bacteria which make it go bad easily. They include;

- **Salting:** Salt absorbs moisture from the fish.
- **Smoking:** Hanging the fish above fire place removes moisture from the fish.
- **Sun drying:** Putting fish under sunshine removes moisture from the fish.
- **Flour making:** Fish is dried and ground into powder.

## **Modern methods of fish preservation**

- **Freezing/refrigeration:** Fish is kept under very cold conditions that do not allow multiplication of bacteria.
- **Canning:** Fish is sealed in cans after it has been cooked.

## **Section 2.6: Rivers in Uganda**

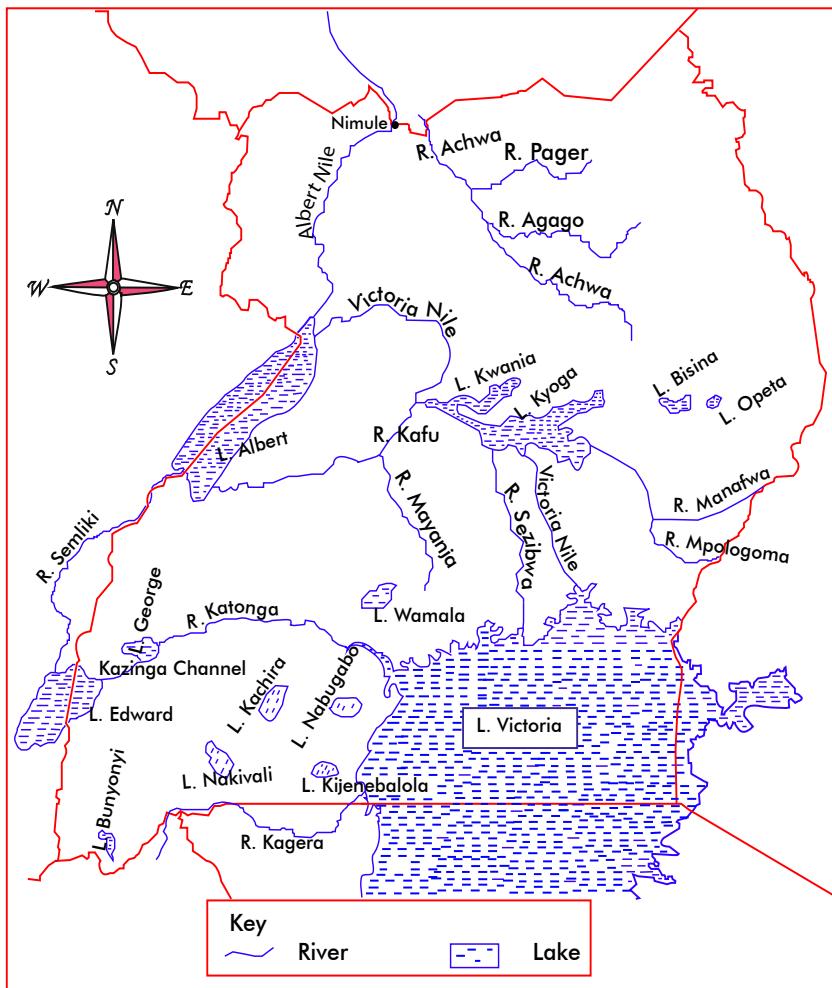
A river is a body of water flowing in a well-defined channel.

### **Examples of rivers in Uganda**

- **Victoria Nile:** It flows from L. Victoria through L. Kyoga to L. Albert.
- **Albert Nile:** It flows from L. Albert towards the White Nile.
- **R. Semliki:** It flows from L. Edward to L. Albert.
- **R. Katonga:** It flows from L. George to L. Victoria.
- **R. Sezibwa:** It flows from wetlands of Ngogwe in Buikwe to L. Kyoga.
- **R. Manafwa:** It flows from Mt. Elgon into R. Mpologoma.
- **R. Kafu:** It flows from Kitoma swamp in Kibaale to the Victoria Nile.
- **R. Achwa:** It flows from North Eastern Uganda to the White Nile.

Other examples of rivers are, R. Mpanga, R. Nkusi, R. Lumansi, R. Mayanja, R. Mubuku, R. Muzizi, R. Kagera, R. Longiro and R. Kibimba.

## Map of Uganda showing major lakes and rivers



### Types of rivers

There are two types of rivers.

- **Permanent rivers:** These are rivers which flow throughout the year. They are also called perennial rivers. Examples include R. Nile
- **Seasonal rivers:** These are rivers which flow during the rainy season and dry up during the dry season. Examples include; R. Sebugoro, R. Kabyosi, R. Nyamagosa and R. Majanji.

Note: **Glacier rivers** start from snow capped mountains because they get their water from melting snow.

### Parts of a river (terms related to rivers)

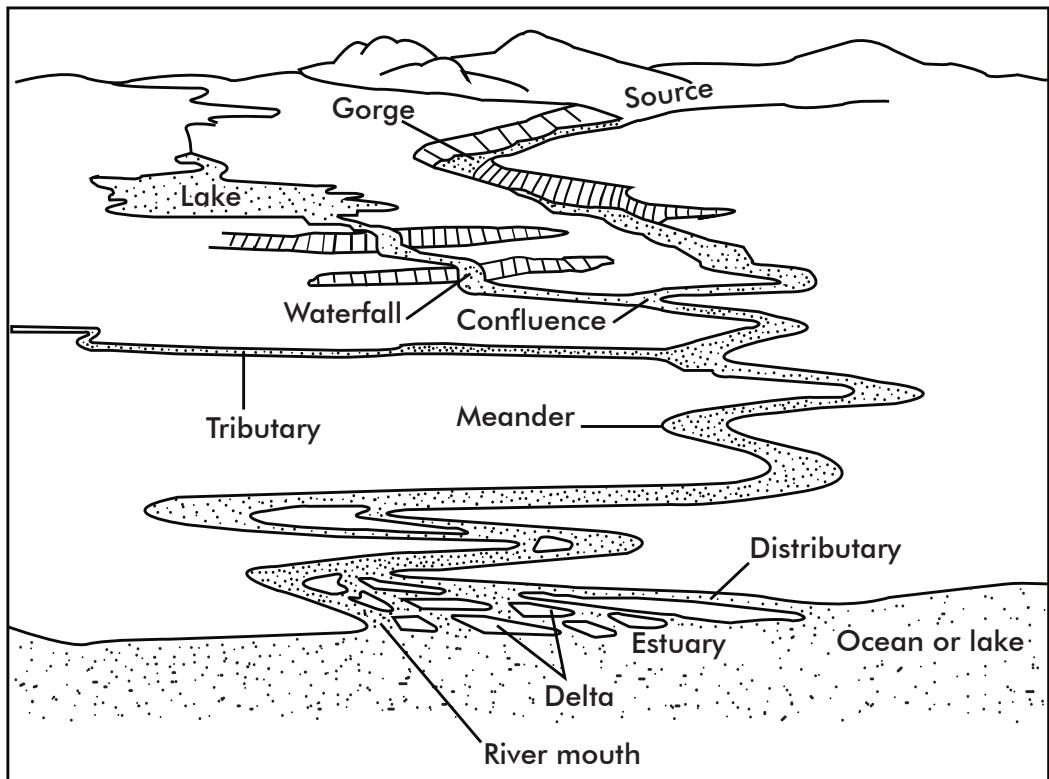
- **River source:** It is a point where a river begins to flow. For example, mountains and lakes.

- **River mouth:** It is where a river ends/pours its water. For example, lakes, oceans and seas.
- **Tributary:** It is a small river which joins the main river.
- **Distributary:** It is a small river which branches off the main river.
- **Estuary:** It is where a river ends in a wide opening.
- **Delta:** It is where a river divides into small streams as it enters the ocean or sea.
- **Confluence:** This is a point where two or more rivers meet.
- **Gorge:** It is a narrow part of a river with an over deepened valley.
- **Meander:** It is a curved bend of a river.

### Other terms

- A **river catchment area** is the total land area that supplies water to the river.
- A **cataract** is a series of waterfalls on a river.
- A **river bank** is the side of a river.
- **River load** refers to particles carried by the river.
- A **river course** is the direction followed by the river.

### Parts of the river





## Activity 2.6

1. Why is R. Nile called a permanent river?
2. Which river joins L. George to L. Victoria?
3. Give a reason why some rivers originate from mountains.

### River Nile

- River Nile is the longest river in Africa. It stretches from L. Victoria (its source) to the Mediterranean Sea (its mouth) in Egypt.
- Its local name is '**Kiira**'.
- The source of R. Nile (L. Victoria) was discovered by John Hannington Speke in 1858 among the Europeans.
- In Uganda, R. Nile is divided into two sections, that is, **Victoria Nile** (between L. Victoria and L. Albert) and **Albert Nile** (between L. Albert and Nimule).
- River Nile flows towards the North because the Central parts of the Uganda plateau tilts towards the Northern direction. Therefore, L. Victoria is at a higher altitude than the Northern part of Uganda.

### Nile basin

Nile basin is also called **Nile valley**. Nile basin is that land drained by the River Nile with all its tributaries. Countries in the Nile valley are Uganda, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia and Egypt.

### Waterfalls found on R. Nile in Uganda

- Kabalega/Murchison Falls on Victoria Nile.
- Itanda Falls on Victoria Nile
- Kalagala Falls on Victoria Nile.

### Dams on R. Nile in Uganda

The waterfalls on R. Nile are potential sites for the generation of hydro electric power (HEP). Examples of dams on R. Nile in Uganda are Nalubaale dam, Bujagali dam, Isimba dam, Kiira dam and Karuma dam.

R. Nile is not navigable, hence cannot be used for transport. This is because it has many waterfalls and rapids.

### River Achwa

- It drains its water into the White Nile in South Sudan.
- It has tributaries like Pager and Agago.

- R. Achwa is the most extensively used river in Uganda mainly for irrigation.
- It is the second longest river in Uganda.

### **River Semliki**

- It is located along the Uganda-DRC border.
- It joins L. Albert and L. Edward (flows from L. Edward into L. Albert).
- It ends in a simple delta.
- Along it is the R. Semliki National Park.

### **Other waterfalls**

- Sezibwa Falls on R. Sezibwa
- Aruu Falls on R. Achwa.
- Sipi Falls on R. Sipi.

### **Economic importance of waterfalls**

- They attract tourists.
- They help in the generation of hydro electricity.

### **Reasons why some rivers are not navigable**

- Some rivers have waterfalls and rapids.
- Some rivers are narrow.
- Some rivers have floating vegetation.
- Some rivers are shallow.

### **Importance of lakes and rivers to man**

- They help in the formation of convectional rainfall.
- Rivers at their lower stage may be used for transport.
- Lake shores and river banks have fertile soils which favour crop growing.
- They provide water for both industrial and domestic use.
- They act as fishing grounds.
- Some rivers have waterfalls which can be used to generate hydro electric power.
- They act as tourist attraction centres.
- Some lakes are sources of minerals like salt from L. Katwe and oil from L. Albert.
- They provide water for irrigation.
- They act as recreation centres like swimming.
- Lakes and rivers act as research centres.
- Some lakes and rivers act as natural boundaries between Uganda and the neighbours like L. Albert and R. Semliki.



## Activity 2.7

1. How are lakes and rivers important to crop farmers?
2. How are rivers important to the industrial development of a country?
3. State two reasons why the shores of Lake Victoria are densely populated.
4. Give one social value of lakes to man.
5. How do lakes and rivers help to boost the agricultural sector of Uganda?
6. State one political importance of lakes and rivers.
7. Give any three economical uses of lakes and rivers to man.

### Problems faced by lakes and rivers

- Silting            • Prolonged drought            • Water pollution

### Dangers of lakes and rivers

- Rivers have waterfalls and floating vegetation which hinder transport.
- They harbour dangerous wild animals like crocodiles which kill people.
- They harbour disease vectors which spread diseases.
- They flood especially during rainy seasons leading to death of people and destruction of property.
- Drowning due to overturning of boats causing loss of lives.

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