

GENERAL PAPER

Paper 1

July/August 2023

2 Hours 40 minutes

SECONDARY SCHOOLS JOINT MOCK EXAMINATIONS, 2023

Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education

GENERAL PAPER

PAPER 1

2 Hours 40 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer two questions which must be chosen as follows:

One question from section A and one question from section B

Answer to each question must begin on a fresh answer booklet which should be fastened together

You are advised to divide your time equally between the two questions

All questions carry equal marks

Any additional question(s) attempted will not be marked.

SECTION A

Answer one question from this section

Answer should be between 500 to 800 words in length

1. "Female genital mutilation is an outdated practice that should be outlawed". How far do you agree?
2. Discuss the causes and effects of rampant teenage pregnancy in Uganda.
3. Examine the ways in which modern communication technology has impacted the cultural values of society.
4. To what extent is Multi-party system the best form of governance? Answer with ample illustration.

SECTION B

5. Study the table on the left and the information below and answer the questions which follow.

Information available indicates that 49% of the pupils in primary schools in 2004 were girls. The total number of boys was 3,872, 589. The estimated number of students who sat UCE was 120,000 while 70,000 students sat UACE in the same year.

TRENDS IN SCHOOL ENROLMENT, TRANSITION AND COMPLETION (2001 -2004)

	Indicators	2001	2002	2003	2004
1	Survival rate to P5	58%	68%	52%	55.7%
	Boys	58.9%	65%	52%	55.2%
	Girls	58%	70%	51%	56%
2	Transition rate (S.1-S6)	61%	69%	59%	64%
	Boys	56%	65%	57%	61%
	Girls	66%	74%	63%	68%
3	Gross Enrollment	13%	13%	18%	21%
	Boys	15%	15%	20%	23%
	Girls	12%	12.2%	17%	19%
4	Completion rate (S4)	21%	22%	18%	25%
	Boys	23%	25%	20%	28%
	Girls	19%	19%	17%	22%
5	Transition rate (S4-S5)	31%	41%	42%	39%
	Boys	34%	43%	45%	43%
	Girls	28%	49%	33%	33%

Source: EMIS & UBOS 2004 (The New Vision, Monday, January 3 2005)

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- (a) Calculate the total number of school-going age children in primary schools in 2004.
 - (b)
 - (i) Calculate the average survival rate to P.5 for both boys and girls for the four years.
 - (ii) What is the total number of students who dropped out of school between S.1 2001 and S.4 2004?
 - (c) Account for the difference in the drop-out rate between the boys and girls.
 - (d) Suggest measures to address the problem above.

6. **Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow using your own words wherever possible.**

After damning politicians up hill and down dale for many years, as rogues and vagabonds, frauds and scoundrels, I sometimes suspect that, like anyone else, I often expect too much of them. Though faith and confidence are surely more or less foreign to my nature. I do not frequently find myself looking to them to be able, diligent, candid and even honesty.

Plainly enough that is too large an order, as anyone must realize who reflects upon the manner in which they reach public office. They seldom if ever get there by merit alone at least in democratic states. Sometimes to be sure, it happens but only by a kind of miracle. They are chosen normally for quite different reasons, the chief of which is simply their power to impress and enchant the intellectually under privileged. It is a talent like any other, and when it is exercised by a radio crooner, a movie actor or a bishop, it even takes on a certain austere and sorry respectability. But it is obviously not identical with a capacity for the intricate problems of statecraft.

Those problems demand for their solution - when they are soluble at all, which is not often - a high degree of technical proficiency, and with it there should go an adamant kind of integrity, for the temptations of a public official are almost as cruel as those of a glamour girl or dipsomaniac. But we train a man for facing them, not by locking him up in a monastery and stuffing him with wisdom and virtue, but turning him loose on the sump. If he is a smart and enterprising fellow, which he usually is, he quickly discovers there that hokey pleases the boobs a great deal more

than sense. Indeed, he finds that sense really disquiets and alarms them - that it makes them, at best, intolerably uncomfortable, just as a tight collar makes them uncomfortable, or a speck of dust in the eye, or the thought of Hell. The truth, to the overwhelming majority of mankind, is indistinguishable from a headache. After trying a few shots of it on his customers, larval statesmen concludes sadly that it must hurt them, and after that he taps a more humane keg, and in a little while the whole audience is singing "Glory, glory hallelujah," and when the returns come in, the candidate is on his way to the White House.

I hope no one will mistake this brief account of the political process under democracy for exaggeration. It is almost literally true. I do not to argue, remember, that all politicians are villains in the sense that a burglar, a child-stealer, or a Darwinian are villains. Far from it. Many of them in their private characters, are very charming persons, and I have known plenty that I'd trust with my diamonds, my daughter or my liberty, if I had any such things. I happen to be acquainted to some extent with nearly all gentlemen, both Democrats and Republicans, who are currently itching for the Presidency, including the present incumbent and I testify freely that they are all pleasant fellows, with qualities above rather than below the common. The worst of them is a great deal better company than most generals in the army, or writers of murder mysteries, or astrophysicists and the best is a really superior and wholly delightful man - full of sound knowledge, competent and prudent, frank and enterprising and quite as honest as any American can be without being clapped into a mad house. Don't ask me what his name is, for I am not in politics. I can tell you that he has been in public for a long while, and has not been caught yet.

But can this prodigy, or any of his rivals, ever unload any appreciable amount of sagacity on the stump? Will any of them venture to tell the plain truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth about the situation of the country, foreign or domestic? Will any of them refrain from promises that he knows he can't fulfill - that no human being could fulfill? Will any of them utter a word, however obvious, that will alarm and alienate any of the huge packs of morons who now cluster at the public trough, wallowing in the pap that grows thinner and thinner, hoping against hope? Answer: maybe for a few weeks at the start. Maybe before the campaign really begins. Maybe behind the door. But not after the issue is fairly joined and the struggle is on in earnest. From that moment they will resort to demagoguery and by the middle of June of election year the only choice among them will be a choice between amateurs of that science and professionals.

They will all promise every man, woman and child in the country whatever he, she or it wants. They'll all be roving the land looking for chances to make the rich poor, to

~~remedy the irremediable, to sussor the succorable, to unscramble the unscrambleable,~~
to dephlogisticate the undeephlogisticable. They will all be curing warts by saying words over and over them, and paying off the national debt with money that no one will have to earn. When one of them demonstrates that twice two is five, another will prove that it is six, six and a half, ten, twenty, in brief, they will divest themselves of their character as sensible, candid and truthful men, and become simply candidates for office, bent only on **collaring** votes. They will all know by then even supposing that some of them don't know it now, that votes are collared under democracy, not by talking sense but by talking nonsense and they will apply themselves to the job with a hearty yo-heave-ho. Most of them, before the uproar is over, will actually convince themselves. The winner will be whoever promises the most with the least probability of delivering anything.

Some years ago I accompanied a candidate for the Presidency on his campaign tour. He was like all such rascals, an amusing fellow, and I came to like him very much. His speeches at the start were full of fire. He was going to save the country from all stupendous frauds and false pretenses of his rival every time that rival offered to rescue another million of poor fish from the neglects and oversights of God he howled his derision from the back platform of his train. I noticed at once that these blasts of common sense got very little applause and after a while the candidate began to notice too. Worse, he began to get word from his spies on the train of his rival that the rival was wowing them, panicking them, laying them in the isles. They threw flowers, hot dogs and five cent cigars at him.

In places where the times were especially hard they tried to unhook the locomotive train, so that he'd have to stay with them a while longer and promise them some more. There were no Gallup polls in those innocent days, but the local politicians had ways of their own for finding out how the cat jumping and they began to join my candidate's train in the middle of the night and wake him up to tell him that all was lost, including honour. This had some effect upon him - in truth and effect almost as powerful as that of sitting in the electric chair. He lost his intelligent manner, and became something you would hardly distinguish, from an idealist. Instead of mocking, he began to promise, and in a little while he was promising everything that his rival was promising and a good deal more.

One night out in the Bible country, after the hullabaloo of the day was over, I went into his private car along with another newspaper reporter and we sat down to gabble with him. This other reporter a faithful member of the candidate's own party, began to upbraid him, at first very gently, for letting off so much hokum. What did he mean by making promises that no human being on this earth, and not many of the angels in Heaven, could ever hope to carry out? In particular, what was his idea in trying to

work off all those preposterous bile-beans and snake-oils on the poor farmers, a class of men who had been fooled and rooked by every fresh wave of politicians since Apostolic times? Did he really believe that the Utopia he had begun so fervently to preach would ever come to pass? Did he honestly think that farmers, as a body, would ever see all their rosy dreams come true, or that the share-croppers in their lower ranks would ever be more than a hop, skip and jump from starvation?

The candidates thought a-while, took a long swallow of the coffin varnish he carried with him, and then replied that the answer in every case was no, he was well aware, he said, that the plight of the farmers was intrinsically hopeless and would probably continue so, despite doles from the treasury, for centuries to come. He had no notion that anything could be done about it by merely human means, and certainly not by political means; it would take a new Moses, and a whole series of miracles. But you forget, Mr. Blank," he concluded sadly, "that our agreement in the premises must remain purely personal. You are not a candidate for President of the United States. I am." As we left his interlocutor, a gentleman grown gray in Washington and long ago lost to every decency, pointed the moral of the episode. "In politics," he said, "man must learn to rise above principle," then he drove it in with another: "when the water reaches the upper deck," he said, "follow the rats."

Questions

- (a) Suggest a suitable title for the passage. 2 marks
- (b) On what grounds, in spite of all, does the writer indicate that he rather likes the politician? 8 marks
- (c) In about 100 words summarize the behavior of politicians in American democracy. 10 marks
- (d) Explain the meaning of the words and phrases in bold type as used in the passage. each 2 marks
- i. uphill and down dale.
 - ii. intricate problems
 - iii. adamant kind of integrity
 - iv. exaggeration
 - v. sagacity
 - vi. alienate
 - vii. collaring votes
 - viii. rascals
 - ix. stupendous frauds
 - x. hullabaloo

END