

S101/1
GENERAL PAPER
Paper 1
July / August 2024
2 hours 40 minutes



MASAKA DIOCESAN EXAMINATIONS BOARD

Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education

JOINT MOCK EXAMINATIONS 2024

GENERAL PAPER 1

2 hours 40 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- *This paper consists of **two** sections; A and B.*
- *The candidate is supposed to attempt **two** questions in **all**, choosing **one** question from **each** section.*
- *A candidate **must** divide his time equally for both questions.*
- *All questions carry **equal** marks. Extra questions done shall **not** be marked.*

SECTION A:

Answer one question in this section using 500 - 800 words in length.

1. In which ways has corruption impeded Uganda's development?
2. "The deteriorating Juvenile behaviour in Uganda today is primarily a result of parental negligence." Discuss.
3. Examine the challenges facing the implementation of the New Lower Secondary School Curriculum.
4. How can we ensure food security in Uganda without compromising the quality of the environment.

SECTION B:

5. *Study the information below and answer the questions that follow.*

In the recently proposed minimum wage for all employees in Uganda has come with new salary scale proposals set by government in accordance with given financial regulations as set in the national development plan. The conditions set for payment of the workers are as follows:

- i) Retirement age for all non-political jobs is 60 years.
- ii) A worker will be paid in a salary scale for a period not exceeding three years (probation) and then automatically move to the next salary scale. This upward movement shall continue after every five years based on performance.
- iii) Medical insurance is paid to the National Insurance Corporation of Uganda and is compulsory to all workers.
- iv) Every worker is required to save with the National Social Security Fund (NSSF). This money is deposited in a bank on a fixed deposit account earning a monthly interest of 1.5%.
- v) All payment and deductions to the income of a worker are done by electronic money transfer (EMT) on the 28th of each month.
- vi) Every worker shall pay PAYE (Pay as You Earn) tax according to their salary scale.
- vii) Payment and deductions are done on a monthly basis.
- viii) This scale shall apply to both nationals and foreign workers. The foreign workers shall be free to convert their pay into their national currencies for comfortable follow up of their pay.

The table below shows the summary for the payment schedule for the period 2025/20226 for workers in one of the companies in Uganda.

Salary scale	Monthly pay	No. of workers	PAYE rate	Medical Ins.	NSSF
S7	222,000	150	2%	2%	30,000
S6	270,000	270	10%	3%	30,000
S5	335,000	75	14%	4%	30,000
S4	550,000	51	22%	6%	100,000
S3	670,000	33	26%	7%	100,000
S2	840,000	15	30%	8%	100,000
S1N	999,000	08	35%	9%	100,000
S1S	1,300,000	05	40%	9%	100,000

Questions:

(a) Determine;

i) The net amount that will be paid out by the company to all workers. (10 marks)

ii) The total PAYE that will be received by government. (02 marks)

iii) How much the National Social Security Fund will earn from the workers in scale 2? (04 marks)

iv) The company has planned to employ foreign expatriates for S1N, if the exchange rate for 1US Dollar is 3680 shillings, how much will these workers earn in Gross pay? (04 marks)

(b) If workers in S1N retire and the company makes an internal arrangement to fill their positions using the performance condition after every five years, explain what will happen. (02 marks)

(c) What are the benefits of the medical insurance and NSSF to workers? (08 marks)

(d) Explain the challenges workers face in your country. (07 marks)

SPGE = 10 marks)

6. Read the following passage below and answer the questions using your own words as much as possible.

The entire earth with all her majestic physical features is known for her rich biodiversity, excellent soils and generations of flora and fauna.

However, the earth is rapidly facing the negative effects of climate change. This informs the importance of the earth's inhabitants to understand and tackle the implications of climate change as the entire eco-system and communities are coming under attack and threat.

Over the past decades, the earth has experienced substantial climatic changes. Its environmental components changing dramatically with the increase in the incidences of landslides, stone slides, strong winds and floods.

Previously known for its pleasant predictable climate, tropical Africa is now seeing irregular weather patterns, higher temperatures and altered precipitation cycles. These changes are primarily due to global warming and deforestation, which have upset the ecological balance.

The spike in average temperatures in the regions has also caused mountainous a slew of environmental issues. Water supply decreases during the dry season, affecting both agricultural activity and daily life, although most of the regions are known food baskets, feeding other regions with harsh climate conditions.

A case in point is Uganda's mt. Elgon region whose rainfall has become more erratic. The once reliable rainy seasons have given way to unpredictable downpours and extended dry spells. This transition has serious ramifications for agriculture, which is the bedrock of the local economy. Crops like coffee, bananas and maize which flourish in specific climates, are now having to adapt, resulting in lower yields and food insecurity.

Climate change has also increased the frequency and severity of extreme weather occurrences in the Elgon region. Flash floods and landslides have increased in frequency wreaking havoc on people and infrastructure. Mount Elgon's steep slopes are particularly susceptible to landslides, which have claimed lives, damaged homes and displaced families in Bududa, Mbale district, Bulambuli and Sironko.

The bulk of the Elgon region's inhabitants depends on agriculture for a living. So, the shifting environment directly threatens food security and economic stability.

Farmers are dealing with crop failure, pest infestations and soil degradation. Traditional farming practices are becoming increasingly unsustainable, necessitating the development of climatic resilient agricultural techniques.

Furthermore, there is a severe threat to biodiversity in the Elgon region which is a bio-diversity hotspot with distinct flora and animals. However, climate change is upsetting these sensitive ecosystems. Species that rely on certain climatic conditions

are under threat of extinctions. Pollinators, who play an important role in biodiversity and agriculture, are also affected by environmental change.

Despite the hardships, residents around Elgon have shown extraordinary resilience. Local government, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and international organisations are collaborating to adopt adoptable measures. These initiatives include:

Embracing climate-smart agriculture. In this initiative farmers are receiving training in climate-friendly agricultural practices such as crop diversification, agroforestry and conservation agriculture. These activities build resilience to climate change and increase soil health.

Efforts to restore the region's forest cover through reforestation and afforestation are critical in minimizing the consequences of climate change. Planting trees helps stabilize slopes, reduces the risk of landslides and sequesters carbon dioxide. The National Forestry Authority has done an incredible job by giving out free seedlings, especially in preparation for World Environment Day, so that every community in the region participates in planting trees.

There has been the strategy of setting up early warning systems for extreme weather occurrences which can save lives and property. Improved community knowledge and forecasts allow for early evacuations and disaster readiness, thanks to the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, which has done an excellent job in establishing an extension office in Sironko district and other disaster-prone locations throughout the region.

Critical among others is water conservation. The Ministry of water and Environment has launched an initiative to create reservoirs and promote rainwater collecting, which is critical in solving water scarcity during dry spells.

Lastly, there is an effort in Education and knowledge. Raising knowledge about climate change and its consequences is critical in cultivating a culture of sustainability. Community education initiatives encourage people to take pro-active efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

In conclusion the problems of climate change are enormous but the resilience and adaptability of the people provide a ray of hope. Through collaborative efforts, innovative solutions and a commitment to sustainability, people can navigate the complexities of climate change and build a more secure future for the communities and Eco-systems. Uganda is at the van guard of the fight against climate change.

(The New Vision June 5, 2024 with minor changes)

Questions:

- (a) Suggest a suitable title for this passage. (02 marks)
- (b) What does the author mean by the following phrases.
- i) “..... caused a slew of environmental issues.” (02 marks)
 - ii) “..... which is the bed-rock of the local economy.” (02 marks)
- (c) In 100 words summarise the impact of climate change and the efforts to reverse it. (14 marks)
- (d) Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as used in the passage.
- i) biodiversity (02 marks)
 - ii) altered precipitation cycles (02 marks)
 - iii) spike (02 marks)
 - iv) ramifications (02 marks)
 - v) threat of extinction (02 marks)
 - vi) soil health (02 marks)
 - vii) sequesters (02 marks)
 - viii) reservoirs (02 marks)
 - ix) proactive efforts (02 marks)
 - x) vanguard (02 marks)

SPGE = 10 Marks

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