

STD 4 SOCIAL STUDIES

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UNIT 1 WHO IS A VILLAGE HEAD MAN?

A village headman is a traditional leader who looks after a village

LEADERS IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

- Traditional authority (TA)
- Sub-Traditional authority
- Group village head
- Ward counselors
- Political leaders
- Religious leaders
- Headteachers

PUTTING LEADERS IN THEIR POSITIONS

Leaders are put in positions through;

- Election eg, counsellors
- Appointment by the authorities
- Inheritance from parents eg chiefs

ROLES OF THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES

- Settling disputes
- Trying civil cases
- Encouraging development work
- Settling land issues
- Representing people at government meetings
- Encouraging people to obey laws

INFLUENCE OF COMMUNITY LEADERS ON DEVELOPMENT

- Initiate development project

- Encourage people to participate in development work
- Have meetings with funding organisations
- Form organising committees

UNIT 3

COOPERATION

Cooperation is when people work together for a common purpose

SITUATIONS THAT NEED COOPERATION

- Times of happiness eg wedding
- Time of sorrow eg funeral
- Development work eg construction of roads

UNIT 4

PHYSICAL FEATURES IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

- Rivers
- Lakes
- Hills
- Valleys
- Mountains
- Plains

IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICAL FEATURES

Trees found in the hills and plains are used for fire wood or timber

Water from the rivers is used for drinking and irrigation

Fish found in the rivers is used for relish

Plain used for constructing roads and houses

RESOURCES FROM PHYSICAL FEATURES

- Firewood
- Timber

- Animals
- Fish
- Wild fruits
- Water
- Soil
- Grass

USES OF THE RESOURCES FROM PHYSICAL FEATURES

1. HILLS AND MOUNTAINS ; give us

- Trees
- Grass
- Stones

USES;

- Trees for timber
- Grass for thatching houses
- Stone for building houses

2. RIVERS AND LAKES give us,

Fish for relish

Water for,

drinking

bathing

farming

fishing

Water ways

Construction

3.PLAINS - give us,

- Flat land for settlement

- Construction of roads and railway
- Good soil for farming

4. VALLEYS give us,

- Fertile soils for,

Farming

Settlement

HOW PEOPLE MISUSE PHYSICAL FEATURES

- Cutting down trees carelessly
- Bush fires

WAYS OF CONSERVING THE PHYSICAL FEATURES

- Avoid bushfires
- Avoid cutting down trees carelessly
- Plant more trees in all bare hills, plains and valleys
- Make sure that soils are covered with vegetation to protect them
- Avoid cultivating on hill slopes

UNIT 5. SEASONS

Seasons are marked by the changes in weather and climate

WEATHER

What is weather ?

Weather is the daily condition of the atmosphere

CLIMATE

What is climate ?

Climate is the weather condition observed over a long period of time

THREE MAIN SEASONS

There are three main seasons in Malawi. These are ;

1. RAINY SEASON (OCTOBER-MARCH)

- It is hot and humid
- Rain falls
- Natural plants like mushrooms grow
- Farmers grow crops
- There is a variety of animals such as ant, millipedes and centipedes

2 . COLD SEASON (MAY- JULY)

- It is cold and dry
- Plants lose leaves
- Most animals disappear
- Farmers harvest crops such as maize and groundnuts

3. HOT AND DRY SEASON (AUGUST- OCTOBER)

- Leaves shoot out
- Other plants blossom (flowering)
- Water and grass are scarce
- Farmers prepare their gardens

HOW SEASONS AFFECT LIFE

In dry season,farmers find problems to feed their animals because water and grass are scarce

Women go far to draw water

Plants dry up

In the rain season, crops are plenty

Food types changes due to season

UNIT 6

SOURCES OF WATER IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

- Rivers
- Lakes
- Streams

- Boreholes
- Dams
- Wells
- Tap

USES OF WATER IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

- Drinking
- Cooking
- Washing
- For toilet
- Fish farming
- Watering plants

HOW WATER CAN BE POLLUTED

- Urinating in water
- Bathing in rivers
- Waste from toilets
- Washing clothes
- Waste from factories
- Use of bush toilet
- Dumping rubbish in the river

UNIT 7

POPULATION COMPOSITION IN A TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

What is population ?

Population is the total number of people living in an area.

Malawi is a country.

It has three regions

- Northern region
- Central region
- Southern region

Northern region has 6 districts

- Chitipa
- Karonga
- Rumphi
- Mzimba
- Nkhata-Bay
- Likoma

Central region has 9 districts

- Kasungu
- Mchinji
- Ntchisi
- Dowa
- Lilongwe
- Nkhotakota
- Salima
- Dedza
- Ntcheu

Southern region has 13 districts

- Balaka
- Zomba
- Mangochi
- Machinga

- Chiladzulu
- Phalombe
- Blantyre
- Thyolo
- Mulanje
- Mwaza
- Neno
- Chikwawa
- Nsanje

The population of any place, community or township is made up of different group of people

The population in a TA may have people of different races

For example

- Coloured
- Indians
- Africans
- Europeans
- Americans or other races

ETHNIC GROUPS IN MALAWI

Population in a TA may also have people of different ethnic groups

Lambya	Tonga
Ndali	Chewa
Nyakyusa	Lomwe
Nkhonde	Yao
Tumbuka	Sena
Ngoni	Nyanja

Khokhola	
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THE IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING POPULATION OF A TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

- It helps the government to make development plans
- It helps the government to decide whether or not to provide social services to the traditional authority

Examples of social services are;

schools

Hospital

Markets

Roads

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION OF A TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

Some parts of the areas in the TA have more people than others

REASONS WHY THE POPULATION IS DISTRIBUTED DIFFERENTLY FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER

- ✓ Hills and mountains covering some parts
- ✓ Thick forest, game reserves or national parks in the area
- ✓ Sand areas along the lake shore
- ✓ Fertile plains where people go for settlement and farming
- ✓ Some areas being near towns or in cities

UNIT 8

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN A TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

Economic activities are activities which people do to set money and profits

EXAMPLES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

- Fishing
- Buying and selling fish
- Selling second hand clothes

- o Growing and selling vegetables, onions, tomatoes
- o Operating small grocery shops
- o Repairing bicycles
- o Repairing shoes
- o Tailoring
- o Buying and selling food crops
- o Doing piece work

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES THAT ARE MOSTLY DONE IN RURAL AREAS ARE

- Buying and selling fish
- Buying and selling food crops
- Operating small grocery shop
- Doing piece work
- Fishing in rivers and lakes

FOOD CROPS GROWN IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

Examples of food crops

Maize	Sweet potatoes
Rice	Vegetables
Beans	Pigeons
Cassava	Millet
Groundnuts	Fruits

IMPORTANCE OF FOOD CROPS

- For food
- For income

TRADITIONAL OR INDIGENOUS METHODS OF KEEPING FOOD

- ★ Sun drying
- ★ Smoking
- ★ Application of ash and salt

EXAMPLES OF TRADITIONAL OR INDIGENOUS WAYS OF STORING FOOD ARE;

- ✓ Granaries (nkhokwe)
- ✓ Cry pot (mbiya)
- ✓ Woven basket (dengu)
- ✓ Leaf bag (chikwatu)
- ✓ Gourds (zikho)

EXAMPLES OF NON INDIGENOUS WAYS OF STORING FOOD

- Tins
- Sacks
- Bottles
- Plastic containers
- Cartons

Other food are attacked by moulds and fungus which are poisonous

Food needs to be protected because it gets spoiled. It may be poisonous and can cause illness

UNIT 10

ROAD SIGNS

What are road signs ?

Road signs are symbols placed along the road

USES OF ROAD SIGNS

- To warn
- To inform
- To regulate road users or what lies ahead of the
- All this is to avoid accidents

TYPES OF ROAD SIGNS

- Danger warning signs
- Regulatory signs
- Informative signs

IMPORTANCE OF ROAD SIGNS

Road signs are very important to all road users they;

- Help to reduce road accidents
- Inform road users on direction to places
- Help road users with proper information
- Control the flow of traffic

WAYS OF TAKING CARE OF ROAD SIGNS

- Not removing them
- Not changing their shape or the way they look
- Reporting to police people who destroy them

EXAMPLES OF ROAD USERS

A. motorists

Uses cars and motocycles

B. Cyclists

Use bicycles

C. Pedestrian

Walks on foot

CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Right are accepted ways or principles of fairness and justice for all

Responsibility is a duty given to someone by law

Everyone one has to enjoy the Rights and freedom

EXAMPLES OF RIGHTS

- Right to have property
- Right to safe water
- Right to health facilities
- Right to share ideas and learn from each other
- Right to participation
- Right to education
- Freedom of worship
- Freedom of dressing
- Freedom of speech
- Freedom of assembly

THE IMPORTANCE OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- ★ Everyone's idea is heard
- ★ Everyone's enjoys a better life
- ★ Every body is expected to look after the environment
- ★ There is tolerance
- ★ There is room for interaction

THE ORIGIN OF ETHNIC GROUPS IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

In a traditional authority ,there is a possibility of having different ethnic groups

People may settle permanently or temporary.

Some of these ethnic groups come from different places either from within the traditional authority or other areas in Malawi or other countries

REASONS FOR THEIR MOVEMENT

- Intermarriage
- War
- Misunderstandings within an ethnic group or family
- Seeking fertile land
- Seeking grazing land

- Seeking land for farming

HOW ETHNIC GROUPS ARE IDENTIFIED

Ethnic groups or tribes may be identified through

- a. Language
- b. Culture
- c. Religion
- d. Dressing
- e. Dances

EXAMPLES OF ETHNIC GROUPS

- Chewa
- Yao
- Sena
- Lomwe
- Khokhola
- Ngonde
- Lambya
- Mang'anja
- Nyanja
- Ngoni
- Tumbuka
- Nyakyusa
- Ndali

ORIGIN OF ETHNIC GROUPS

Ethnic groups in a traditional authority might have come from different TA's , districts ,regions of Malawi or other countries

Some of the countries are

- Zambia

- Tanzania
- Mozambique
- Zaire
- South Africa

COUNTRIES THAT SHARE BORDERS WITH MALAWI

There are three countries that share borders with Malawi. These are ;

- i. Tanzania
- ii. Zambia
- iii. Mozambique

CULTURAL EXPRESSION

Cultural expression talks about traditional heritage.

Traditional heritage is anything passed from generation to generation

These express different tribes or ethnic groups

TYPES OF CULTURAL EXPRESSION

1. VERBAL EXPRESSION

people express themselves using

- a. Words
- b. Riddles
- c. Folktales
- d. Poems
- e. Names

2. MUSICAL EXPRESSION

- a. Songs
- b. Instrumental music

3. TANGABLE EXPRESSION

They show their creative

skills in

- a. Painting
- b. Carvings
- c. Pottery
- d. Basket weaving

4. EXPRESSION BY ACTION

- a. Dances
- b. Plays
- c. Rituals

IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL EXPRESSION

Cultural expression are used to ;

- o Entertain
- o Educate
- o Give value to culture
- o Promote respect of cultures
- o Encourage community creativity

COMMUNICATION IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

What is communication ?

Communication is the sending and receiving of messages.

WAYS OF COMMUNICATION

- ✓ Drums
- ✓ Whistles
- ✓ Leaves
- ✓ Flags
- ✓ Verbal messages

- ✓ Letters
- ✓ Telephone
- ✓ Radio
- ✓ Video
- ✓ e-mail
- ✓ Internet

WAYS OF USING COMMUNICATION

A. *Drums*

- break time
- beer

B. *Whistle*

- break time
- warning people of danger

C. *Leaves on the road*

- funeral
- vehicle break down

D. *Flags*

- traditional doctor
- ownership of a place
- presence of gule wamkulu
- advertising sales

E. *Book*

- educate
- entertain
- sending messages

F. *Letters*

- sending messages

- receiving messages

G. *Video / television*

- sending messages

- educate

- entertain

H. *Computers*

- sending and receiving messages

- educate and entertain

I. *Telephone*

- communication

- sending messages

- receiving messages

MODES OF TRANSPORT IN THE TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY

People move from one place to another

They use different modes of transport

EXAMPLES OF MODES OF TRANSPORT

- ★ Bicycles

- ★ Oxcart

- ★ Motorcycle

- ★ Train

- ★ Canoe

- ★ Ship

- ★ Boat

- ★ Horses

- ★ Camels

- ★ Donkey
- ★ Lorries
- ★ Car
- ★ Aeroplane

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References

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