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History and  
Political Education  
Paper 1  
Oct./Nov. 2025  
2¼ hours



UGANDA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD

Uganda Certificate of Education

HISTORY AND POLITICAL EDUCATION

Paper 1

2 hours 15 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

*This examination paper consists of two Sections; A and B. It has four items.*

*Section A is compulsory.*

*Respond to one item from Section B.*

*Respond to three items in all.*

*Responses to each part of the item must be started on a fresh page.*

*Any additional item(s) responded to will not be scored.*

*All responses must be written in the answer booklet(s) provided.*

## SECTION A

Respond to **both** items in this section.

### Item 1

As early as the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, large numbers of Bantus and Nilotes migrated and settled in what later became East Africa among the Cushites and Bushmen, among others. The political, social and economic conditions both in the cradle lands and East Africa caused these migrations and settlements.

These migrations and settlements brought several developments in the political, social and economic spheres of life that are, to date, celebrated as some of the cultural heritages of East Africa.

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development in Uganda is organising a Cultural day celebration. In this celebration, the public is to be enlightened about the role that was played by migrations and settlements in shaping today's East Africa through a public debate.

#### Task:

Taking into consideration the political, social and economic factors in both the cradle lands and East Africa during the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, make a write-up to discuss:

- (a) the conditions that made those migrations and settlement into East Africa necessary.
- (b) ways in which those migrations and settlements have continued to impact East Africa to date.

### Item 2

The kingdom of Buganda, one of the traditional Kingdoms in Uganda has a unique political system that has been in existence for centuries. One key feature of this political system is a very clear administrative structure that runs from top to bottom, making the implementation and supervision of administrative roles easy.

When the British established a protectorate over Uganda, a society with diverse ethnic groups and distinct systems of governance, the British decided to use the Buganda administrative system in order to make administration more effective in the protectorate. In this system, traditional rulers were used to establish British control. Those rulers would implement the British orders while they also remained with some powers over tax collection and local courts. This system left an impact on Uganda's political system to date.

In the orientation ceremony of the newly elected Local Government leaders, the Guest Speaker is expected to make a presentation highlighting the origin and impact of the structure of Buganda's administrative system on the British indirect rule in Uganda and the post-independence Uganda Local Government system.

**Task:**

Prepare a document that the Guest Speaker will present in that ceremony explaining:

- (a) the relationship between the Buganda Kingdom's administrative structure and the Uganda Local Government administrative structure.
- (b) the challenges faced during the implementation of the Buganda Kingdom's administrative structure outside Buganda during the colonial period.

**SECTION B**

*Respond to one item in this section.*

**Item 3**

Uganda has had four major constitutional reforms since Independence. First was the 1962 Constitution, which provided for parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy. It was replaced by the 1966 Constitution which merged the position of the head of state and that of the Prime Minister. It was also replaced by the 1967 Constitution which abolished all traditional rulers and local parliaments and increased the power of the Executive arm of government. Finally, was the 1995 Constitution, which emphasised the Rule of Law, Separation of Powers and protection of individual rights.

To celebrate constitutional achievements, a nationwide sensitization campaign has been launched by the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs under the theme 'Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law, my Pride'. Some participants have been identified to prepare papers in line with the theme to be presented during the campaign.

**Task:**

- (a) Explain the circumstances that led to each of the four major constitutional reforms in Uganda.
- (b) How successful has the government of Uganda been in upholding the spirit of constitutionalism since 1995?

**Item 4**

The United Nations (UN) is actively involved in Uganda, working on various projects to support the country's development and humanitarian needs. This is being guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also known as Global Goals adopted in 2015. These SDGs are a global call to action to end poverty, hunger, promote health and education, achieve gender equality, ensuring access to clean water and energy, fostering economic growth and tackling climate change.

There is a growing public interest in discussing the impact of the United Nations on Uganda. A public debate has been organised to discuss the activities of the United

Nations in Uganda. For you to benefit from that debate, you need to have prior understanding of the achievements and challenges of the UN in implementing the SDGs.

**Task:**

- (a) Explain the achievements of the United Nations in implementing any **two** SDGs in Uganda.
- (b) Explain the challenges being faced by the UN in implementing those goals.