

**P250/1**

**GEOGRAPHY**

**Paper 1**

**2 hours**

**CURIOUS ATLAS256**



**Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education**

**Geography**

**Paper 1**

**Physical Geography**

**2 hours**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:**

- This paper consists of two sections; A and B.
- Section A is compulsory
- Section B. Attempt one item from each part.
- Attempt two items in all.
- You may use sketch maps, diagrams and statistics, where applicable, to illustrate your answers.
- Any additional item(s) attempted will not be scored.

## SECTION A

### Application of Geographic Tools and Techniques to analysing Physical Environments

#### Item 1:

For this item, use the 1:50,000 Uganda Map Extract of MASINDI , Series 39/3, Sheet 71/1, Edition 1-U.S. D.

The government of Uganda through funding from the world development Bank is planning to develop a new housing estate along Nyangahya between Eastings 51 and 55, and north of Northing 83. However, the most recent heavy rains in the have caused several landslides in the area. This has raised concerns about the stability of the hill slopes and the possible risks to human life, infrastructure and other developments.

A team of geographers has been assembled and you a part of it , you have been requested to conduct a detailed analysis of the hill slopes to provide information that will guide the development plan. Your analysis is expected to include details about the nature and stability of the slope, which is very important in assessing hazard risk and in devising measures to overcome the associated challenges.

#### Tasks:

- a) Draw **a relief section** of the area shown on the map that is to be developed and on it mark and name the relief features, drainage features and land use types.
- b) Account for the nature of the any slope observed Nyangahaya hill (use any theory of slope development) and advise the government , based on the cross section you have drawn, on whether the Local government should go ahead to develop the road on this hill slope or not.
- c) Explain the possible measures which can be taken to reduce the occurrence of any **one** natural hazard that can affect the area shown on the map as a result of its relief.

## SECTION B

### Geomorphic Processes and their Impacts

#### Part I

*Attempt one item from this part.*

#### ITEM 2

On 21st November 2025 at exactly 4:18 p.m., residents of the coastal city of Thessaloniki in Greece were startled by violent ground shaking. A powerful earthquake measuring 7.5 on the moment magnitude scale struck beneath the Aegean Sea, about 30 kilometers from the shoreline. The tremor continued for nearly one minute, toppling poorly constructed buildings, cracking roads, and disrupting electricity supply. In the days that followed, several aftershocks kept communities anxious and alert.

Greece lies in a seismically active zone where the African Plate is slowly pushing against the Eurasian Plate. However, earthquakes are not confined to Europe. In February 2022, a moderate earthquake of magnitude 5.1 affected parts of Rwanda and western Uganda within the East African Rift System, reminding citizens that Africa too experiences tectonic activity.

In the aftermath of such disasters, different interpretations often emerge. Some people attribute the shaking to spiritual forces or divine warning, while others turn to earth scientists for explanations rooted in plate tectonics and fault movement. These differing beliefs sometimes create confusion about how best to respond to earthquake hazards.

To promote accurate understanding and preparedness, the National Office of Civil Protection plans to publish an informative feature in a leading newspaper. The objective is to educate the public on why earthquakes occur, the types of damage they can cause, and the steps that can be taken to safeguard lives and property.

#### **Task:**

Assume you are a physical geographer invited to contribute to this feature article. Explain

the scientific origin of earthquakes, analyses their environmental and human impacts, and recommends effective preparedness and mitigation measures.

### ITEM 3

On 14th May 2026, heavy rainfall lasting for four consecutive days caused the River Tana in eastern Kenya to overflow its banks. The flooding submerged nearby farms, damaged roads and bridges, and displaced hundreds of families living along the floodplain. At the same time, satellite images showed that the river channel had shifted slightly, eroding its outer banks while depositing large amounts of sand and silt downstream.

Despite the destruction, local leaders argue that the river valley has strong development potential. However, environmental experts warn that continued use of the flood plain increases the risks of flooding and riverbank erosion.

The county government has invited geographers and environmental planners to assess the situation. They are expected to evaluate both the development opportunities and the environmental challenges associated with the river system, and to recommend sustainable solutions.



*Image of a floodplain*

**Task:**

Using your knowledge of geomorphic processes, drainage systems , assess and explain how river processes have shaped the landscape in the area and the development opportunities provided by the river and practical and sustainable measures to promote safe and balanced development

**ALUTA CONTINUA**

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