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History and
Political education
Paper 1
Jul/Aug 2026
2¹/₄ Hours



USTAA MOCK EXAMINATIONS 2026

Uganda Certificate of Education
HISTORY AND POLITICAL EDUCATION

Paper 1
2Hours 15mins

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

This paper consists of sections **A** and **B**. It has **four** examination items.

Section **A** is **compulsory**.

Answer **one** item from section **B**.

Answer **three** examination items in all.

Any additional item answered **will** not be scored.

All answers **must** be written in the answer booklet (s) / sheets provided.

Section A

Answer **all** items in this section

Item 1

During a wildlife safari in Uganda's Bwindi impenetrable national park, a group of students observed Mountain gorillas exhibiting complex social behaviours, the tour guide explained that the gorillas share DNA with humans highlighting the close evolutionary relationship between the gorillas and humans. With his explanation, the Learners recalled the scientific theory that they learnt and it was relating with what the tour guide explained. One of the learners curiously, asked the tour guide about the other theories but he could not explain them. You have been identified to help the tour guide with the necessary information he would use to respond to the curious learner.

Task:

- a. Prepare a write up required by the curious learner.
- b. In an essay, explain to the learners in the scenario the steps they can follow to trace their background.

Item 2:

In Bundi district of Uganda, the local community have greatly been engaged in cash crop growing which are known to have been the backbone of colonial economy like coffee and tobacco growing earning a lot of revenue for the area. However, the recent war in Middle East has affected their life style as no more export are going on and many households are now struggling with food insecurity because huge chunks of land is dedicated to cash crop growing leaving very little land for subsistence farming.

The district council called for a debate on either to abandon growing of cash crops and shift to food crops to address the food scarcity, which caused mixed reactions in the district leadership. One of your relatives has been invited to give a key advise address the district council and he has requested for your assistance in preparing the document he will use during his presentation.

Task:

- a. In an essay present your view on whether Bundi district should remain growing coffee and tobacco or shift to food crop production.
- b. Explain the impact of the colonial economy on East Africa's development.

Section B

Answer only **one** item in this section

Item 3

Uganda marks Independence Day every 9th October celebrating freedom from colonial rule. However, a recent survey conducted by the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs revealed that many citizens, especially young people, have limited knowledge about important national symbols and their significance that represent the country's identity and unity.

As preparations for this year's Independence Day celebrations continue, local leaders in your community have organized a public awareness programme to educate residents on matters of national importance. You have been selected to participate in the programme because of your ability to communicate effectively with members of the community.

Tasks

- a. Prepare a speech that you will deliver during the public awareness programme to help community members appreciate the importance of the features referred to in the scenario.
- b. Explain how increased public awareness about the features referred to in the scenario can promote patriotism, national unity, and responsible citizenship among Ugandans.

Item 4

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, African intellectuals and activists began to organise and advocate for black unity and self-determination. This sought to promote the interests and wellbeing of Africans and to challenge the ongoing impacts of colonialism, slavery and racism. The above movement was spearheaded by many African states and regions that make up the African continent. This was seen in the formation of different boards and organisations among which is the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

It's now close to two decades since the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) was rebranded as African Union (AU) in 2002. Despite several achievements, there are still elements of divisionism and conflicts among some African states, over reliance of African states on foreign countries among others.

Some AU member states have started getting concerned about the role of organisation in fulfilling the aims of Pan-Africanism and most especially towards fostering economic development of post-independence Africa. You have been appointed to attend the forthcoming assembly of African Union in Addis Ababa - Ethiopia.

Task:

Prepare a write up you will use to address the concerns of the member states in the scenario above;

- a. Explain how the organisation is fulfilling the aims of Pan Africanism.
- b. Discussing how the AU has impacted on post-independence Africa.