

273/1
GEOGRAPHY
Paper 1
Oct./Nov. 2025
2¾ hours



UGANDA NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD

Uganda Certificate of Education

GEOGRAPHY

Paper 1

2 hours 45 minutes

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES:

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

Section A has two compulsory items.

Section B has two Parts; I and II. Respond to one item from each part.

Respond to four items in all.

You may use diagrams, where applicable, to illustrate your responses.

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

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

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

SECTION A

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

Item 1: Map Skills

For this item use the *EAST AFRICA 1:50,000 (UGANDA) series Y732, sheet 22/3 Edition 1 – U.S.D map extract of Koc provided and the information in the text to respond.*

Koc, located 32° 05' East of Greenwich, is characterised by various plant species that make distinct natural shrubs, thickets and woodland vegetations. The area is crossed by numerous streams including Ayago, Kalang, Kulutogo, etc. and is reported to have fertile soils and sparse population.

A company dealing in the buying and selling of land has acquired the area of Koc shown in the map and is re-selling it. According to Koc Land Development Policy, land in the area must **not** be fragmented and any land buyer in the area **must** use it in ways that take care of the effects of Climate Change. The company has established its office at Koc (081882) and many interested buyers visit the office on a daily basis to inspect the land on sale.

You have been employed by the company as a Marketing Assistant. In this employment, your roles are to direct interested buyers to the field office as well as to prepare the information to be used in advertising the land on sale. The advertisements are to be published in posters, company brochures, newspapers and radio stations.

Task:

- (a) Prepare a written guide to visitors from Gulu town to Koc field office.
- (b) Taking into consideration the local land policy and any relevant evidence from the map, explain the economic activities that can be carried out by a land buyer in Koc area.

Item 2: Photographic Skills

For this item, use the photograph and the information in the text to respond.

Overfishing is a major problem in Uganda's fishing industry. It has affected fish stock in the natural fishing grounds and livelihood of the people that depend on fishing as some of the landing sites have nearly closed. The photograph below shows a fish landing site that had no catch for the whole day. Fish, which is a rich source of protein and iodine in human nutrition, a source of income to the fishermen and revenue to the government has reduced greatly, therefore affecting both families and the government.

The local leadership of the fishing community shown in the photograph has planned to restore its fishing grounds. They intend to carry out public awareness and community mobilisation to support restoration of the fishing grounds and they have hired you to prepare a write-up to be used in creating public awareness and mobilisation. The write up should show the importance of fish to the community, and things that should be done to restore the exhausted fishing grounds.



Task:

- (a) Describe the scene in each part of the photograph.
- (b) Prepare a write-up that will be used to create community awareness and to mobilise them to restore fishing grounds shown in the photograph. Take into consideration the legal, environmental and technological factors.

SECTION B

Part I

Respond to only one item in this part.

Item 3

Two tourists, Thomas and Jean, visited Western Uganda to see two beautiful lakes they had heard about. They saw that those two lakes had contrasting features. With their guide, they named one of the lakes **A** and the other one **B**. The characteristics of the two lakes are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1

Lake A	Lake B
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Circular in shape.- Deep with steep sides.- No river or stream flows into or out of the lake.- Water in the lake comes from rainfall and underground springs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Semi-circular or horse-shoe shaped.- Occupies a uniformly flat low lying area.- Shallow with clear still water.- Its edges are covered by swamp vegetation.

Thomas and Jean wanted to understand how each of the two lakes was formed, but their guide could not explain to them. They were unhappy that the communities living around those beautiful lakes were encroaching on and polluting them. They had cut down vegetation and introduced various dangerous plant species like water hyacinth. They felt the community needed to be advised to conserve those lakes.

Task:

- (a) Explain to Thomas and Jean how each of the lakes **A** and **B** was formed.
- (b) Advise the communities living around both lakes on how they can conserve them.

Item 4

Along a rocky Indian Ocean coast, waves continually hit rocks. This leads to changes in the appearance of the coast forming many features including headland and beach as shown in Figure 1.

The coastal people believe that the appearance of the land is a result of spirits that do not want people to carry out any activity except performing cultural rituals. The few settlements around the area frequently perform a lot of rituals in order to "live well".

Your school Geography club is organising a study tour of the coast. During the tour, you are expected to help the coastal people to understand that those features are not a result of the work of the spirits. You are also expected to advise the same people to develop the area.

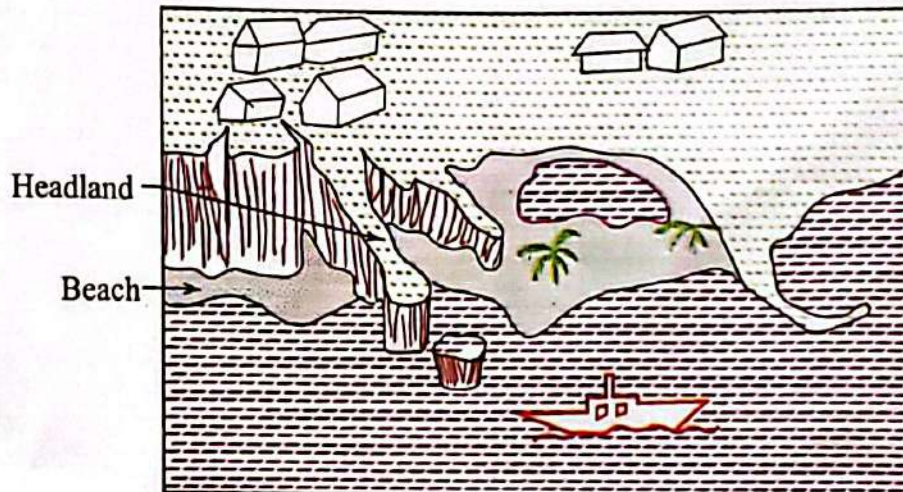


Fig. 1

Task:

- (a) Prepare a write-up that you will present to the coastal people to help them understand the formation of those features.
- (b) Advise the people living at the coast about the development activities which they can carry out.

Part II

Respond to only one item in this part.

Item 5

Population is one of the most important resources for the development of any country. For this resource to remain useful, it has to be controlled so that it does not grow beyond the capacity of other resources and social services to sustain it and it must be prepared for the world of work.

According to the 2024 Population and Housing Census report (UBOS), the population of Uganda was about 46 million, and is growing at a rate of 2.9% per year resulting in the structure shown in Figure 2(a). This causes many problems for the country.

By contrast, developed countries such as country Z, whose population structure is shown in Figure 2(b) have taken effective measures to control the growth rate and

size of their population. This has brought them many advantages and benefits thereby increasing their development.

You have been invited as one of the speakers at a National youth conference on population and development. At the conference, you are expected to discuss the characteristics of different population structures and how a Developing Country like Uganda can achieve the best population structure.

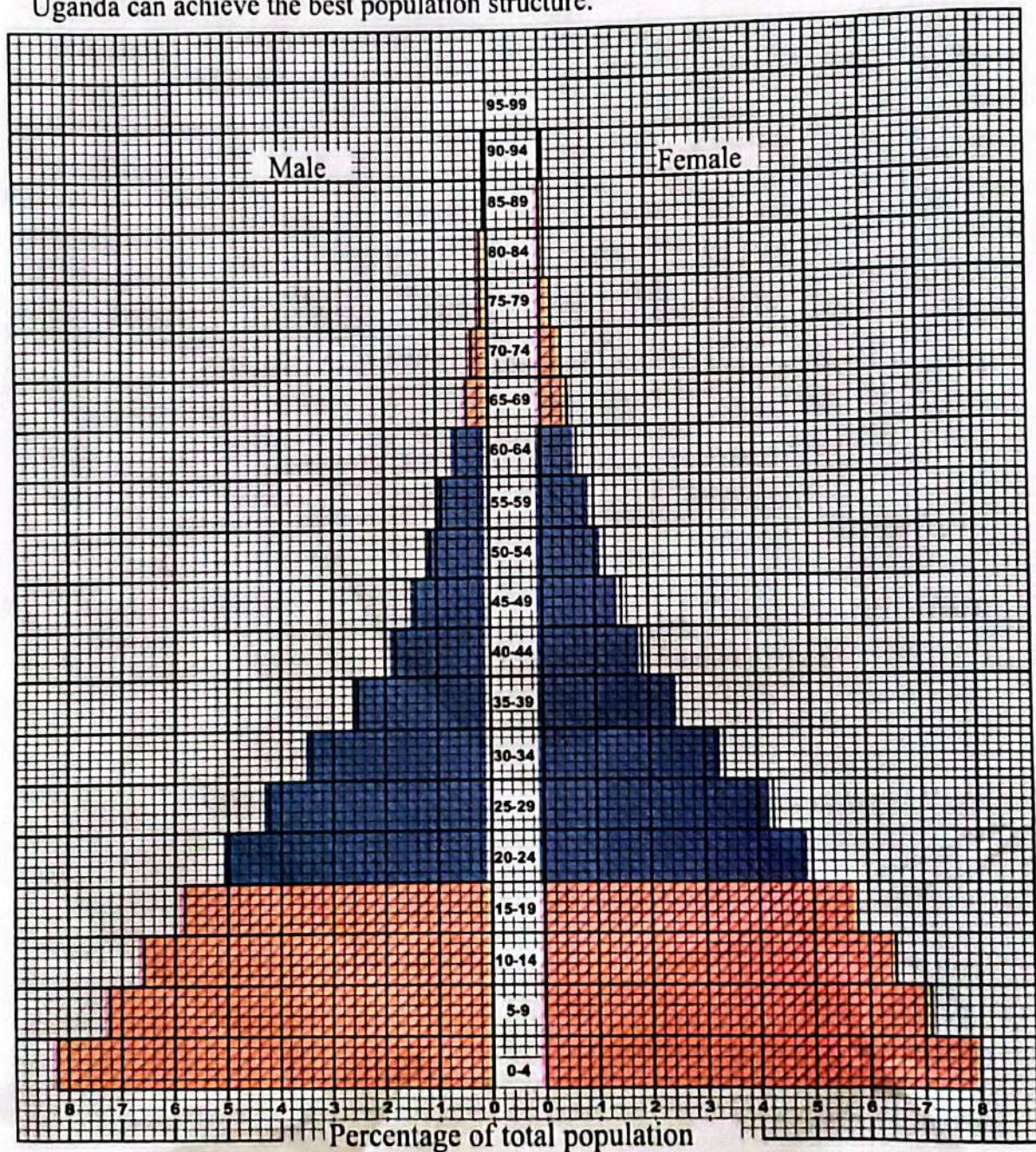


Fig.2(a) The population structure of Uganda (2024)

Key :



Working population

Dependent population

Fig. 2(a)

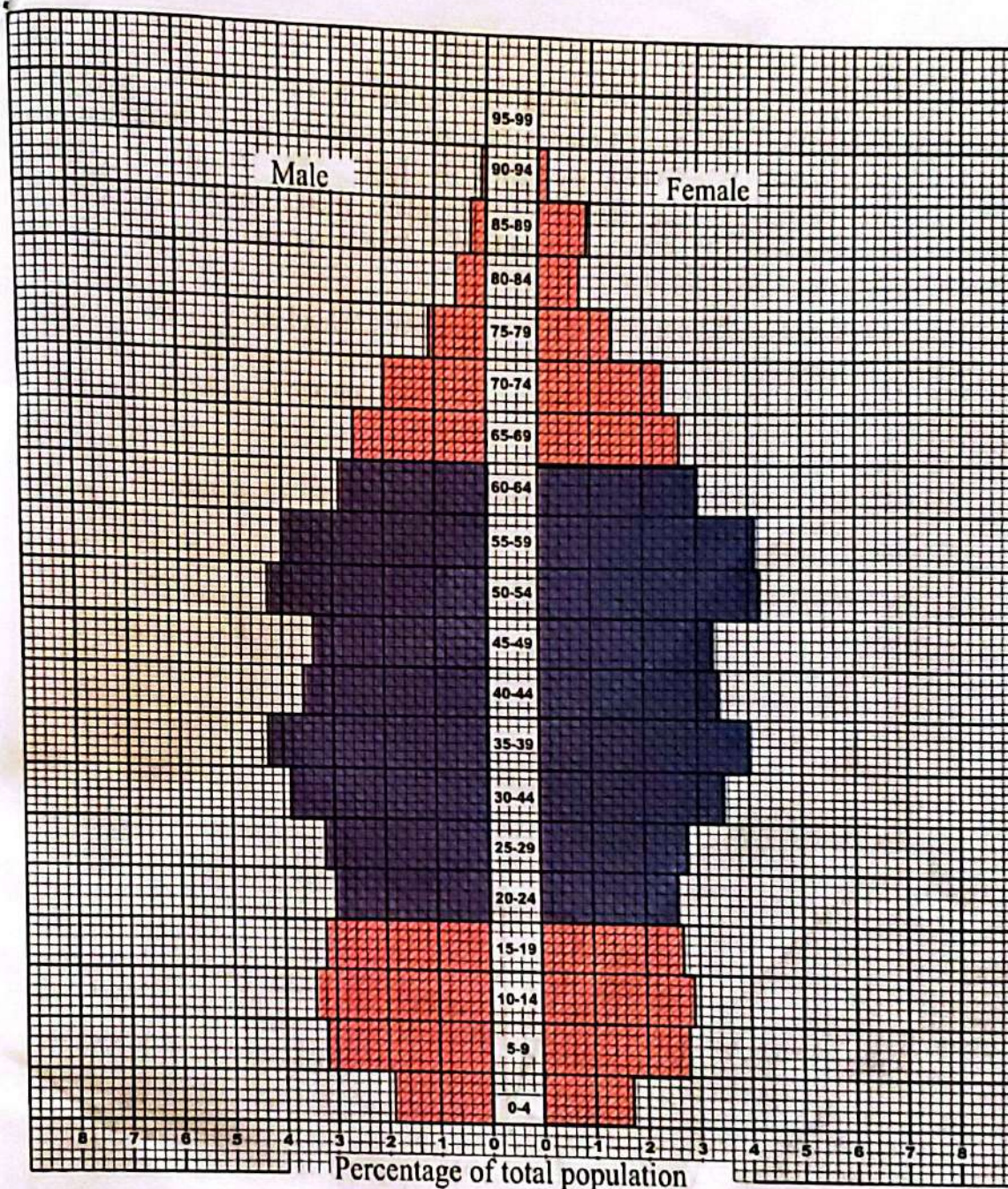


Fig.2(b) *The population structure of country Z (2024)*

Key :

- Working population
- Dependent population

Fig. 2(b)

Task:

- (a) Explain the characteristics of the population structures presented in figures 2(a) and 2(b).
- (b) Recommend measures that Uganda can take in order to reach a population structure similar to that of country Z by 2050.

Item 6

Uganda is a member of the African Union (AU) and other regional trading blocks. These include the East African Community (EAC), Common market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the COMESA – EAC-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area. This membership has secured access to a large market for her products and services. Despite this, Uganda's trade with other African countries remain as low as shown in Table 3 and Figure 3.

The Uganda Export Promotion Board has organised a school essay competition on how to increase Uganda's foreign trade with other African countries. You have been selected to represent your school at the competition and provided with Uganda's trade data for June 2024 to prepare your essay.

Table 3: Uganda's Export and Import trade by region and percentage share (June 2024).

Region	Percentage of Exports	Percentage of Imports
EAC	33	17
Middle East	24	18
European Union	18	6
Asia	18	37
Other African Countries	4	19
Others	3	3
Total	100	100

Adapted: UBOS (2024) Merchandise Trade Statistics bulletin August, 2024

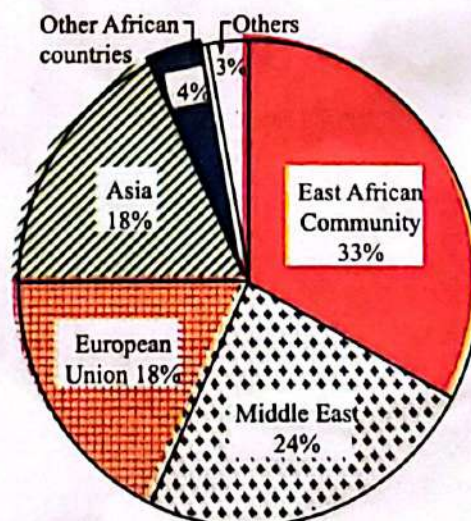


Fig. 3: Uganda's Export trade by region and percentage share in June 2024.

Task:

Using the information given in Table 3 and the text;

- draw a suitable diagram to illustrate Uganda's imports by region in June 2024.
- prepare an essay that you will present to Uganda Export Promotion Board on the ways that Uganda can follow in order to increase her trade with other African countries.