

P245/1
DIVINITY
July/Aug, 2026
Paper 1
3 hours



JOURNEY OF SUCCESS EXAMINATIONS BOARD
JOINT MOCK EXAMINATIONS 2026

Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education
DIVINITY
Paper 1
3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

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

Section A has two compulsory items.

Section B has two optional items. Respond to one item.

Respond to three items in all.

Any additional item responded to will not be scored.

Responses to each part of the item should start on a fresh page.

All responses must be written in the examination paper booklet(s) provided.

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SECTION A

Item 1

In Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Moses addressed the people of Israel before they entered the promised land, reminding them of the central place God was to hold in their lives.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”

“These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.”

“Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

The Book of Genesis records the story of Joseph, introduced as the favoured son of Jacob whose brothers grew jealous of him because of his dreams and the special coat given to him by his father. Out of envy, his brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt, where he served in the household of Potiphar before being wrongfully imprisoned after resisting temptation.

While in prison, Joseph remained faithful and interpreted dreams for two of Pharaoh's officials. His gift eventually brought him before Pharaoh himself, and he was elevated to a position of authority over all Egypt. When famine struck the region, Joseph's brothers travelled to Egypt in search of food, not recognising the brother they had betrayed years earlier.

Rather than taking revenge, Joseph forgave his brothers, declaring, “You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good” (Genesis 50:20, NIV). Throughout his trials, Joseph held on to his devotion to God, trusting that his suffering had purpose.

The experience of Joseph continues to speak to many people today who face betrayal, injustice, delayed breakthroughs, and family conflict. His story challenges believers to reflect on faithfulness, forgiveness, and trust in God's timing even when circumstances are painful.

Task:

- a) Examine the forms of devotion that Christians today ought to embrace in their everyday lives as guided by Deuteronomy 6 above.
- b) Analyze the devotional life of Christians in Uganda today in relation to the suffering and forgiveness in the story of Joseph.

Item 2

In Nakaseke Trading Centre, Peter operates a small shop where residents from the surrounding villages come to buy household items and to borrow money in times of need. Although he is a successful businessman, many people avoid greeting him publicly because of the way he had, in the past, overcharged desperate customers and demanded high interest on small loans. Some members of the community consider him dishonest, while others blame him for the financial hardship of families who had borrowed from him. Feeling isolated, Peter keeps mostly to his shop and avoids church gatherings.

One evening, a travelling preacher passing through the trading centre stopped at Peter's shop to buy paraffin. Instead of avoiding him like others did, the preacher greeted him warmly and asked to share a meal with him. Their conversation moved from ordinary business talk to questions about honesty, generosity, and the possibility of starting afresh. Surprised that someone respected would choose to sit with him, Peter opened up about the guilt he had carried for years.

The encounter changed Peter's outlook on life. The following morning, he announced publicly that he would repay four times the amount he had overcharged anyone who came forward, and he began offering fair credit terms to struggling families. Many residents who had once avoided him started to trust him again, and some began attending church because of the change they witnessed in his life.

Peter's experience reflects the encounter between Jesus and Zacchaeus the tax collector in Luke 19:1-10. It also reflects situations in many Ugandan communities today, where dishonest dealings, social exclusion, and mistrust often prevent people from being reconciled to one another.

Task:

- a) Discuss the similarities in Jesus' ministry to Zacchaeus that are reflected in Peter's experience in the scenario.

- b) Analyze the Early Church experience to encourage modern Christians in their everyday lives as guided by Luke 19 above.

SECTION B

Respond to one item from this section.

Item 3

In a certain sub-county in Uganda, a well-known local leader was known for organising community projects and settling disputes among residents. Many people trusted him because he always appeared fair and generous in public gatherings. However, it later emerged that he had been quietly seizing pieces of land from vulnerable widows and orphans in the area, using his influence to forge ownership documents. Those who suspected the truth were afraid to speak out because of his standing in the community.

A visiting church minister who had heard rumours decided to meet the leader privately. Rather than making direct accusations, the minister told him a story about a shepherd with a hundred sheep who deliberately drove a stray lamb belonging to a poor neighbour into his own flock, even though he had plenty of his own. Moved with anger at the injustice described, the leader declared that such a shepherd deserved to lose everything he owned. The minister then quietly responded, “You are that shepherd.”

The leader was overcome with shame. He realised that the story mirrored his own conduct, and although he had tried to justify his actions to himself, he now understood that his wrongdoing could not remain hidden from God. The encounter moved him to return the seized land and to seek reconciliation with the families he had wronged.

This situation reflects the events recorded in 2 Samuel 12, where the Prophet Nathan confronted King David after his sin against Uriah and Bathsheba. It also reflects the challenges faced in Uganda today, where some leaders and ordinary citizens abuse trust, conceal wrongdoing, and find it difficult to accept correction.

Task:

- a) Examine Prophet Nathan's guidance in 2 Samuel 12 to inform a people-centred leadership style by local leaders in the scenario above.
- b) Evaluate King David's leadership of Israel to guide local leaders in the scenario on servant leadership.

Item 4

In many communities in Uganda today, families are increasingly faced with challenges such as poverty, bereavement, migration for work, and prolonged separation. Relatives who once lived close together and supported one another often find themselves scattered, while some elderly parents are left without the care and companionship of their grown children. Cultural and religious leaders continue to encourage family loyalty and mutual support, but many families still struggle to maintain these bonds because self-interest and hardship strain relationships.

Some family members choose to remain loyal to one another only when it is convenient, while others abandon ageing relatives once they can no longer contribute financially. As a result, elderly parents are left vulnerable, younger relatives lose a sense of belonging, and communities weaken the cultural value once placed on caring for one's own.

These challenges reflect the experience of Ruth and Naomi recorded in the Book of Ruth. After the death of her husband and sons, Naomi urged her daughters-in-law to return to their own families, yet Ruth refused to abandon her, declaring, “Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God” (Ruth 1:16, NIV). Through Ruth's loyalty and hard work gleaning in the fields of Boaz, God provided for Naomi's household and restored the family's fortunes.

Task:

- a) Examine the message conveyed through Ruth's loyalty to Naomi in the Book of Ruth.
- b) Evaluate the lessons that Ugandan families and communities today can learn from Ruth's relationship with Naomi.

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