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English Language
Paper 1
July 2026
2 Hours

ACEITEKA JOINT MOCK EXAMINATIONS 2026

Uganda Certificate of Education

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Paper 1

2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

- *This paper consists of two sections; A and B.*
- *Section A is compulsory.*
- *Attempt one item from section B.*
- *All answers to section A must be written in the spaces provided.*
- *Answers to section B must be written in the answer booklet provided.*
- *Any additional items answered will not be scored.*

SECTION: A

ITEM 1

You are the health prefect in your school. You have noticed that most of the students have been taken up by modern fashion trends. During the assembly, the teacher on duty invites you to address your fellow students on the health problems caused by fashion trends.

In a clear paragraph of about 120 words, write what you will tell them basing on the article below.

Recently a bride collapsed at her wedding ceremony and, while many among the guests attributed it to being overwhelmed by her big day, some hawk -eyed observers attributed it to the corset worn inside. In salons, the debate was on; that she literally fell for the groom and that love can do that to anyone.

Experts claimed that she had donned a corset underneath and because it was so tight, it cut off air circulation. Corsets or shape wears have been around since the 19th century. They are known to serve flawless hourglass figures.

According to nationalgeographic.com, this cultural obsession goes back centuries keeping a tight face, a tight body through socially acceptable means such as exercises, support garments and imperceptible plastic surgery has long been an image symbol. The expectation that a well brought-up woman should modify her body through corsetry dates to the sixteenth century.

While fashionable, fashionists say corsetry and other fashions trends can cause severe health issues.

Martin Larry Mukooza, a celebrated local fashion designer says fashion trends like corsets, high-heels and skinny jeans can be so detrimental that they cause breathing difficulties, foot pain, nerve damage and blood circulation problems due to tight lacing, poor posture and restricted movements.

Mukooza adds, "Some people go for fashion trends such as rib removal surgery to get a slimmer waist. But honestly, this surgery causes internal bleeding and even damages

organs". There is excessive plastic surgery, lip flitters, breast implants and other body enhancement which can make you look great but can cause radiation poisoning and even fatalities.

The fashion world often pushes this idea of being super skinny which can mess with people's minds, leading to body dysmorphia, low self-esteem and even eating disorders.

For Ronah Kisakye, the founder of Empower Her Initiative, even fashions like sagging pants (worn below the waist) cause hip and lower back strain from walking awkwardly and restricted leg movement. Heavy shoulder bags and handbags can lead to shoulder, neck and back pain. They can also cause nerve strain especially in the dominant arm.

Kisakye adds: "Those high heels women wear can cause foot deformities and ankle sprains. You see women developing shortened calf muscles over time.

The tight hats or headbands can cause headaches from pressure on scalp and hair breakage or traction alopecia (hair loss from tension).

In a few cases it could be accidental. Beneath what we see with our naked eye on the street can cause more harm. The wrong underwear for women can cause viral and bacterial infections. For men, it has variously been said, it can mess with the reproduction system so much it kills sperm. Underwear is a foundation of personal grooming and confidence. It should support hygiene, comfort and body health. When you die because you wanted to impress the world with a wasp waist, people at the funeral will not say "What a waist!" They will instead say, "What a waste!" (Adapted from: The New Vision, Friday 17th October, 2025.)

ROUGH COPY

FAIR COPY

Basis Code	SSI	
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ITEM 2 COMPREHENSION

Read the passage below and respond to the tasks that follow:'

I was still a very little girl when I started living with Madam. It was just after completing my catechism studies that my mother gave me the sad news that she was unable to pay school fees for me. This hurt me so much because I had fully prepared myself for the next level in school but then my future dreams were all shuttered.

My mother was indeed a poor woman. Many of our neighbours could laugh at her. However much they mocked her, she kept praying to God that her financial status would improve someday.

I chose to go and work for Madam who was then living in the city. When I reached, she gave me a schedule of duties to perform. The house chores were too many for me but I had nothing to do.

"Nafula! Wake up! What are you still doing in bed at this time?" She would shout at me every morning.

I could hear the voice of Madam from a distance and even though I wanted to wake up, I just did not have the strength. I turned in bed and coiled myself like a snake. I wished I could sleep forever to escape Madam's wrath. My train of thoughts was interrupted by a loud bang on the door of the store where I spent my lonely nights. I shot up from bed and mumbled something to show I was sorry. Madam was fuming and her towering presence intimidated me. I was utterly helpless.

"Get out of here and start your chores, or else..." she thundered angrily as I scrambled out of the store.

I wondered what this 'or else' meant since I had never been to school. Madam could not entertain any nonsense and could do harm to us, and to me in particular. Madam could not tolerate this. Any time she heard a noise in the kitchen she would come very fast.

"How many plates have you broken this time?" she would ask, not caring whether I was hurt or not. If by any bad luck I had spilt a few drops of milk, for example, she would always ask,

"What do you think baby will drink when she wakes up? There will be no supper for you today. That will teach you a lesson." As I lay in bed one such evening, I remembered that mother was coming the following week to collect my salary and this cheered me up.

My day started very early in the morning. I prepared breakfast for madam and her children long before they woke up. I also prepared the children for school, before embarking on washing huge bundles of dirty clothes.

My breakfast was the children's leftovers but I didn't mind because baby seemed to have no appetite. In most cases her plate was almost full when she left for school and was enough for me. Sometimes I wondered whether she left her breakfast deliberately for me. Baby liked me and I looked forward to seeing her when she returned home in the evening.

Madam's house was so big that when I first came, I thought it was a school, since where I come from, only schools were that big. Madam had a very big wardrobe full of all types of dresses. I wondered whether she had time to wear all the dresses she had. Her bed was very big. It could possibly accommodate more than five people. After laying madam's bed, I would lie on it to stretch my back and to relax. It felt so good that once too often I would actually fall asleep. I would dream I was the owner of the house, but unlike madam, I would treat my workers kindly.

One day she caught me lying on the bed and all hell broke loose! I tried to hide in the wardrobe but...

Tasks

a) One day she caught me lying on the bed and 'all hell broke loose' what does the narrator mean by the quoted phrase?

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Basis Code	Score
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b) Her bed was very big. It could possibly accommodate more than five people. (Join the **two sentences)**

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Basis Code	Score
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c) In life, we encounter people of different behaviour. We praise them for good conduct, but hate some for their wrong doing. Describe madam's personality as presented in the passage above.

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Basis Code	Score
CA2	

d) As people who are growing up, we may find ourselves in charge of others, what lessons should we draw from the passage?

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Basis Code	Score
AL2	

e) Authors always have reasons for whatever they write. Wat does the writer of the above passage aim at?

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Basis Code	Score
IF2	

f) Parents make us what we become later in life. Apart from providing education, what else do you think parents should do to ensure that their children have a comfortable life in future?

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Basis Code	Score
OP2	

SECTION B

Attempt one question in this section.

Item 3

You attended a social function in the neighbourhood last holiday. While there, a thief came and stole an item from one of the guests. The thief ran away from the angry mob and entered your father's house.

Write what happened. Use 400 - 500 words

Item 4

One of your teachers recently organised a tour. On the return journey, you got a serious problem beyond your ability to handle. However, one of the female teachers who had accompanied you helped you out. It is a day that you will live to remember. Describe the experience. Use 400 - 500 words

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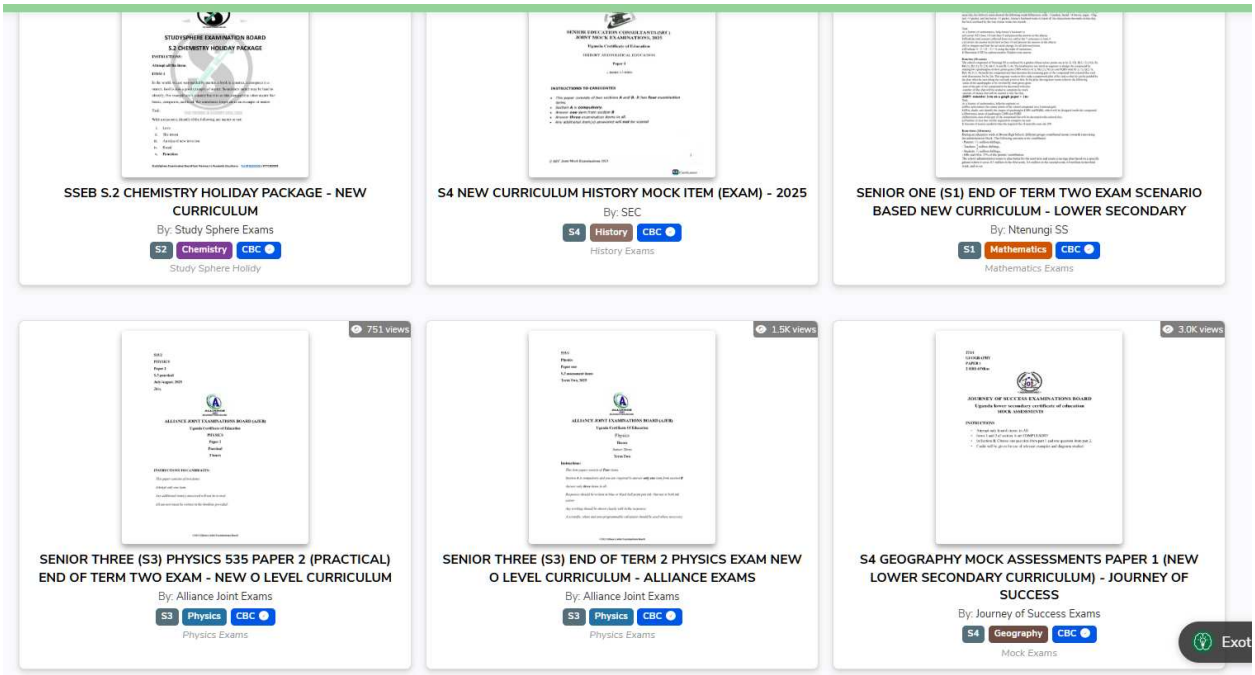
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