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Primary 5 Social studies

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Term 1

Theme: LIVING TOGETHER IN UGANDA

Topic 5/5: Natural Resources in Uganda

Learning Outcomes:

The learner is able to know the natural resources in their immediate and distant environment, how people use them to earn a living and analyse bad practices that destroy natural resources.

Natural Resources

Natural resources are things found in nature that people use to satisfy their needs.

They are not made by humans but are provided by the environment.

Types of Natural Resources in Uganda

- (i) **Forests** – provide timber, firewood, medicine, and fresh air.
- (ii) **Water resources** – lakes, rivers, and wetlands used for fishing, transport, and farming.
- (iii) **Minerals** – gold, copper, oil, and iron ore used for industry and trade.
- (iv) **Wildlife** – animals and birds found in national parks, important for tourism.
- (v) **Soils** – fertile soils used for farming crops like coffee, tea, and bananas.
- (vi) **Climate** – rainfall and sunshine that support agriculture.

Exercise 1

1. What are natural resources?
2. Give two examples of natural resources found in Uganda.
3. Mention one use of forests as a natural resource.
4. How are lakes and rivers useful to people in Uganda?
5. Name one mineral resource found in Uganda.
6. Why wildlife is considered a natural resource?
7. Give one example of a crop grown using fertile soils in Uganda.
8. How does climate act as a natural resource?
9. Mention one way in which natural resources support tourism in Uganda.
10. Why is it important to protect natural resources?

Location of Natural Resources in Uganda

(i) Water Resources

- (ii) **Lakes:** Lake Victoria (Central), Lake Kyoga (Central/Eastern), Lake Albert (Western).

- (iii) **Rivers:** River Nile (flows from Lake Victoria through Uganda), River Katonga, River Kafu.
- (iv) **Springs:** Found in mountainous areas like Mount Elgon and Rwenzori.

(ii) People (Population)

- (i) Uganda has men and women living in all regions.
- (ii) Most people are concentrated in **Central Uganda** (around Kampala and Wakiso).
- (iii) Other large populations are in Eastern (Jinja, Mbale), Northern (Gulu), and Western (Mbarara).

(iii) Animals

- (i) **Domestic animals:** goats, cows, sheep, chickens – found in homes and farms across Uganda.
- (ii) **Wild animals:** lions, elephants, giraffes, gorillas – found in national parks like Queen Elizabeth, Murchison Falls, and Bwindi.

(iv) Vegetation

- (i) **Grasslands:** found in Northern and Eastern Uganda.
- (ii) **Swamps:** found around Lake Kyoga, Lake Victoria, and in Central Uganda.

(v) Climate

- (i) **Sunshine:** experienced throughout Uganda, especially in dry areas like Karamoja.
- (ii) **Wind:** stronger in open areas such as Lake Victoria shores and plains in Northern Uganda.

Exercise 2

1. Name one lake found in Central Uganda.
2. Which river flows out of Lake Victoria?
3. Where are springs commonly found in Uganda?
4. In which part of Uganda is the population highest?
5. Give one example of a domestic animal in Uganda.
6. Mention one wild animal found in Uganda's national parks.
7. Where grasslands are mainly found in Uganda?
8. Name one swamp found in Central Uganda.
9. Which part of Uganda experiences strong winds near Lake Victoria?
10. Why sunshine is considered a natural resource?

Importance of Natural Resources

- (i) **Land:** Provides space for farming, settlement, and building industries.
- (ii) **Minerals:** Used for making goods, earning money through trade, and creating jobs.
- (iii) **Water:** Important for drinking, fishing, transport, farming, and generating electricity.
- (iv) **Climate:** Sunshine and rainfall support farming and tourism.
- (v) **Wind:** can be used for energy.
- (vi) **People:** Provide labour, skills, and ideas for development.
- (vii) **Animals:** Domestic animals give food, transport, and income while Wild animals attract tourists and support conservation.
- (viii) **Plants:** Provide food, medicine, timber, and fresh air. Help control soil erosion and beautify the environment.

Exercise 3

1. Why land is considered an important natural resource?
2. Mention one use of minerals in Uganda.
3. Give two uses of water as a natural resource.
4. How does climate help farmers in Uganda?
5. Why people are called a natural resource?
6. Give one importance of domestic animals.
7. Mention one way wild animals benefit Uganda.
8. How do plants help in controlling soil erosion?
9. Give one reason why plants are important to human health.
10. Why is it important to protect natural resources?

Problems in Developing Natural Resources

(i) Land

- Encroachment and land conflicts.
- Overuse leading to soil erosion and reduced fertility.

(ii) Minerals

- Expensive to mine and require advanced technology.
- Cause environmental destruction and pollution.
- Lead to conflicts over ownership.

(iii) Water

- Pollution from industries and farming.
- Overfishing reduces fish stocks.
- Conflicts over water use.

(iv) Climate

- Unreliable rainfall affects farming.
- Droughts and floods destroy crops and homes.

(v) People

- Rapid population growth puts pressure on resources.
- Poor health and low education reduce productivity.

(vi) Animals

- Poaching and hunting reduce wildlife numbers.
- Diseases affect domestic animals.

(vii) Plants

- Deforestation from logging and farming.
- Overharvesting of medicinal plants.

Exercise 4

1. Mention one problem faced in developing land as a resource.
2. Why is mining minerals difficult in Uganda?
3. Give one problem caused by pollution of water bodies.
4. How does unreliable rainfall affect farmers?
5. Why is rapid population growth a challenge to natural resources?
6. Mention one problem faced by domestic animals.
7. How does poaching affect wild animals?
8. Give one problem caused by deforestation.
9. Why is overfishing a challenge in Uganda's lakes?
10. Suggest one way Uganda can reduce problems in developing natural resources.

In short: **Developing natural resources faces problems like land conflicts, pollution, poaching, deforestation, unreliable climate, and population pressure.**

Care for Natural Resources

(i) Proper Land Use

- Use land for farming, settlement, and building without destroying the environment.
- Practice crop rotation and avoid soil erosion.

(ii) Careful Development of Minerals

- Mine minerals responsibly to avoid pollution and land destruction.
- Ensure minerals benefit all people.

(iii) Avoid Pollution

- Keep water, air, and soil clean.
- Dispose of waste properly and avoid cutting trees carelessly.

(iv) Proper Health Care, Nutrition, Education, and Government

- Healthy, educated people use resources wisely.
- Good government ensures fair distribution and protection of resources.

(v) Conservation

- Protect forests, animals, and water bodies.
- Plant trees and create national parks to preserve nature.

Exercise 5

1. Why is proper land use important?
2. Mention one way minerals can be developed carefully.
3. What is pollution?
4. Give one example of pollution that affects water.
5. Why should people receive proper health care?
6. How does education help in caring for natural resources?
7. Mention one role of government in protecting resources.
8. What is conservation?
9. Give one example of conservation in Uganda.
10. Why is it important to care for natural resources?

✓ In short: **Natural resources must be cared for through proper land use, careful mining, avoiding pollution, good health and education, and conservation.**

Revision questions

1. Give **one** reason for enforcing laws against poor fishing methods in Uganda.
 - (i) **to protect fish from being depleted**
 - (ii) **ensure sustainability**
2. State **one** reason why you would not advise fishermen to use herbs as a method of fishing.
 - (i) **to protect fish from being depleted**
 - (ii) **ensure sustainability**
3. How are rubber trees important to transport sector in Africa?
Provide rubber for making tyres
4. Write any **one** challenge faced by miners who use the underground method of mining.
 - (i) Lack of enough air for breathing
 - (ii) Risk of being buried
 - (iii) Inadequate light
5. (a) State any **two** reasons why you would visit any one tourist attraction site in Uganda.
 - (i) to see beautiful scenery
 - (ii) to learn about culture, animals and plants
 - (iii) to relax

(b) Give any **two** contributions of tourism industry to the development of East Africa.

 - (i) **Employment:** Tourism creates jobs for guides, hotel workers, and transport providers.
 - (ii) **Income:** It brings money to governments and local communities.
 - (iii) **Infrastructure:** Roads, airports, and hotels are built to support tourism.
 - (iv) **Conservation:** Wildlife and forests are protected because they attract tourists.
 - (v) **Cultural Exchange:** Tourists learn about East African traditions and cultures
6. Mention any **one** way in which oil drilling can benefit the people living in the Albertine region.
 - (i) Employment
 - (ii) Market for produce
 - (iii) Social services
7. (a) Give the source of the following forms of energy:
 - (i) Solar energy: sun
 - (ii) Wind energy: wind

(b) State any **two** benefits of extending hydro-electric power (HEP) to all parts of Uganda.

 - (i) **Improves industries and businesses** by providing reliable electricity.
 - (ii) **Creates jobs** through factories and services that use power.

- (iii) **Supports education and health** with lighting in schools and hospitals.
 - (iv) **Reduces use of firewood and charcoal**, protecting forests.
 - (v) **Improves living standards** by powering homes with light and appliances.
8. State any **one** resource we get from water bodies.
- (i) Fish
 - (ii) Water
 - (iii) **Sand and clay** – for building.
 - (iv) **Tourism** – lakes and rivers attract visitors.
 - (v) **Energy** – rivers provide hydro-electric power.
9. Name the mineral that is used for making electric wires.
- Copper
Aluminium
10. Mention any way in which electricity cost can be minimized at home.
- (i) **Switch off lights and appliances** when not in use.
 - (ii) **Use energy-saving bulbs** instead of ordinary ones.
 - (iii) **Iron clothes in bulk** instead of one by one.
 - (iv) **Avoid wasting electricity** by unplugging unused devices.
 - (v) **Use electricity only when necessary**
11. Mention any **one** benefit that people living near Lake Katwe have.
- (i) Water
 - (ii) Fish
 - (iii) Salt
 - (iv) Tourism
12. (a) State any **two** local material from environment which are used to make crafts.
- (i) **Clay** – for making pots and sculptures.
 - (ii) **Papyrus reeds** – for mats, baskets, and hats.
 - (iii) **Banana fibres** – for ropes, mats, and decorations.
 - (iv) **Wood** – for carvings and furniture.
 - (v) **Animal hides and skins** – for drums and traditional wear.
 - (vi) **Grass** – for weaving baskets and mats.
- (b) Mention any **two** examples of crafts made from local materials.
- (i) Mats
 - (ii) Baskets
 - (iii) Hats
 - (iv) Furniture
 - (v) ropes

13. Give any **one** danger of fishing using undersized nets.
Fishes young fish reducing stock in water
14. How does Sudan benefit from River Nile?

- (i) **Water for farming** through irrigation in dry areas.
- (ii) **Transport** for moving goods and people.
- (iii) **Fishing** provides food and income.
- (iv) **Hydro-electric power** from dams along the river.
- (v) **Tourism** from the beauty of the Nile.

15. Mention any **one** natural forest found in Uganda.

Forest	Location	Key Features
Budongo Forest	Masindi/Hoima District (near Murchison Falls)	Largest mahogany forest in East Africa; famous for chimpanzees.
Bugoma Forest	Hoima District	Important for chimpanzees and biodiversity; threatened by deforestation.
Mabira Forest	Buikwe District (near Jinja)	Central Uganda's largest rainforest; popular for eco-tourism.
Bwindi Impenetrable Forest	Southwestern Uganda	UNESCO World Heritage Site; home to mountain gorillas.
Kibale Forest	Western Uganda (Fort Portal area)	Known as the "Primate Capital of the World" with many chimpanzees and monkeys.

16. State any **one** reason why it is important to care for forests.

- (i) **Provide fresh air** by making oxygen.
- (ii) **Control climate** and bring rainfall.
- (iii) **Prevent soil erosion** by holding the soil together.
- (iv) **Give resources** like timber, medicine, and food.
- (v) **Home for animals and plants** that support tourism and biodiversity.
- (vi) **Protect water sources** such as rivers and lakes.

17. (a) Name the source of solar energy?

sun

- (b) Name **two** uses of solar energy.

Solar electricity

Drying clothes

- (c) Name any advantage of using solar energy over hydroelectricity.
- (i) Widely available
 - (ii) No monthly costs
 - (iii) Does not pollute environment
 - (iv) Cheap to install on small scale
18. Why tourism is called an industry?
- (i) It **creates jobs** for many people.
 - (ii) It **earns income** for the country through visitors.
 - (iii) It **supports development** by improving roads, airports, and services.
19. (a) State any **two** traditional methods of catching fish in Uganda
- (i) **Fish baskets and traps** made from reeds or papyrus.
 - (ii) **Hook and line** using simple strings and hooks.
 - (iii) **Spearing** fish in shallow waters.
 - (iv) **Hand-catching** especially mudfish.
 - (v) **Dugout canoes** used to reach fishing areas.
20. Apart from cultivation, state one other way in which people misuse swamps in Uganda.
- (i) **Draining swamps** to create farmland.
 - (ii) **Cutting papyrus and reeds** without replacement.
 - (iii) **Dumping rubbish and waste** into swamps.
 - (iv) **Building houses and factories** in swamp areas.
 - (v) **Over-harvesting fish and other resources** from swamps.
21. Name the largest natural forest found in the central part of Uganda.
Mabira forest
22. Mention any **one** human activity which causes the number of wild animals to reduce in National Game parks.
Poaching
23. Give any **one** reason why people should not settle in swamps
Flooding of swamps destroy house and life
Presence of waterborne disease
Protecting swamps from destruction
24. Name any **one** feature on a river that helps in generation of hydro-electric power.
Waterfalls
25. How are forests important to carpenters?
Provide wood and timber
26. Give any **one** danger of fishing using poison.

- (i) **Kills many fish at once**, including young ones, reducing future supply.
 - (ii) **Pollutes water**, making it unsafe for people and animals.
 - (iii) **Destroys other water life** like plants and insects.
 - (iv) **Causes health problems** when people eat poisoned fish.
 - (v) **Leads to loss of income** for communities that depend on fishing.
1. (a) Into which Seas does River Nile flows?
Mediterranean sea
- (b) State any **two** advantages of River Nile to the people who live along it.
- (i) **Water for farming** through irrigation in dry areas.
 - (ii) **Transport** for moving goods and people.
 - (iii) **Fishing** provides food and income.
 - (iv) **Hydro-electric power** from dams along the river.
 - (v) **Tourism** from the beauty of the Nile.
- (c) Give any **one** problem that people who live along River Nile experience.
- (i) Flooding
 - (ii) Water borne diseases
 - (iii) Drowning
 - (iv) Risk from water animals such as crocodiles
2. (a) Write down **two** advantages of a large population in an area.
- (i) **Provides enough workers** for farms, factories, and businesses.
 - (ii) **Creates a big market** for goods and services.
 - (iii) **Encourages development** like schools, hospitals, and roads.
 - (iv) **Promotes cultural exchange** through different traditions and skills.
 - (v) **Strengthens security** because many people can defend the area.
- (b) State **two** problems caused by a big increase of population in an area.
- (i) **Shortage of land** for farming and settlement.
 - (ii) **Unemployment** because jobs are not enough for everyone.
 - (iii) **Poor housing** leading to slums.
 - (iv) **Pressure on schools and hospitals**, making services overcrowded.
 - (v) **Environmental destruction** such as cutting trees and draining swamps.
 - (vi) **High cost of living** due to too many people competing for resources.
3. (a) What is solar energy?
Sun
- (b) What is hydroelectricity?
Running water

(c) Give **two** reasons why people in rural areas do not use electricity.

- (i) **Too expensive** for many families to afford.
- (ii) **Lack of connection** because power lines do not reach remote villages.
- (iii) **Dependence on other sources** like firewood, charcoal, or kerosene.
- (iv) **Low income levels** make paying electricity bills difficult.
- (v) **Limited infrastructure** since some areas are not yet developed.

Thank You

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