GEOGRAPHY

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The aim of the Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination (UTME) syllabus in Geography is to prepare the candidates for the Board's examination. It is designed to test their achievement of the course objectives, which are to:

- 1. handle and interpret topographical maps, statistical data and diagrams and basic field survey;
- 2. demonstrate knowledge of man's physical and human environment and how man lives and earns a living on earth surface with special reference to Nigeria and Africa;
- 3. show understanding of the interrelationship between man and his environment;
- 4. apply geographical concepts, skills and principles to solving problems.

DETAILED SYLLABUS

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES		OBJECTIVES		
I.	PRACTICAL GEOGRAPHY		Candid	ates should be able to:
	a.	Scale and measurement distances, areas reduction and enlargement, directions, bearings and gradients with reference to topographical maps.	ai ii	apply the different types of scale to distances and area measurement; apply the knowledge of scale to gradients, map reduction and enlargement;
	b.	Map reading and interpretation; drawing of cross profiles, recognition of intervisibility, recognition and description of physical and human features and relationship as depicted on topographical maps.	bi ii	illustrate the relief of an area through profile drawing; interpret physical and human features from topographical maps.
	c. d.		ci	Compute quantitative information from statistical data, diagrams and maps, interpret statistical data, diagrams and maps.
	u.	prismatic, open and close traverse, procedure, problems, advantages and disadvantages.	di.	analyse the principle and procedure of each technique; compare the advantages of the two techniques.

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES	
II. PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY	Candidates should be able to:	
a. The earth as a planet	ai identify the relative positions of the planets	
i. The earth in the solar system,	in the solar system;	
rotation and revolution;	ii relate the effects of the rotation to the	
ii. The shape and size of the earth	revolution of the earth;	
iii. Latitudes and distances, longitudes	iii provide proof for the shape and size of the	
and time;	earth;	
iv. The structure of the earth (internal	iv differentiate between latitude and	
and external).	longitude;	
ŕ	v relate latitude to calculation of distance;	
	vi relate longitude to calculation of time;	
	vii compare the internal and external	
	components of the earth.	
b. Rocks	bi differentiate between major types of rocks	
i Types and characteristics	and their Characteristics;	
ii Modes of formation	ii analyse the processes of formation and the	
iii Uses of rocks	resultant features;	
	iii indicate the uses of rocks.	
c Landforms	ci distinguish between the internal and the	
i processes; earth movements (faulting,	external processes of landforms	
folding, earthquakes, volcanicity),	development;	
erosion, transportation and deposition.	ii identify the agents of denudation;	
ii Modifying agents; water (surface and	iii associate landforms with each process and	
Underground) wind and sea waves;	agent.	
iii Types of landforms associated with the		
Processes and agents specified above		
(Karst topography, plains fold		
mountains, faulted landforms, volcanic		
mountains, deltas, river terraces, barchans		
seifs and zeugens).		
d. Water Bodies	di locate oceans and seas on the globe;	
i. Oceans and seas (world distribution,	ii examine the characteristics and uses of	
salinity and uses);	Ocean and seas;	

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
ii Ocean currents - types, distribution,	iii classify the types of ocean currents;
causes and effects;	iv account for the distribution of ocean
iii Lakes – types, distribution and uses.	currents;
	v evaluate the causes and effects of ocean
	currents;
	vi identify the types and location of lakes;
	vii indicate the characteristics and uses of lakes
e Weather and Climate	ei differentiate between weather and climate;
i Concept of weather and climate	ii differentiate between the elements of
ii Elements of weather and climate	weather and climate;
iii Factors controlling weather and climate	iii isolate the factors controlling weather and
(pressure, air, mass, altitude, continentality	climate;
and winds);	iv compare Koppen's and Greek's
iv Classification of climate (Greek and	classifications
Koppen).	v identify the major types of climate
v Major climate types (Koppen), their	according to Koppen;
Characteristics and distribution.	vii relate the weather instruments to their
vi Measuring and recording weather	uses.
parameters and instruments used.	
f Vegetation	
i Factors controlling growth of plants	fi trace the factors controlling the growth
ii The concept of vegetation e.g. plant	of plants;
communities and succession	ii analyse the process of vegetation
iii Major types of vegetation, their	development;
characteristics and distribution,	iii identify the types, their characteristics
iv Impact of human activities on vegetation.	and distribution;
	iv assess the impact of human activities
	on vegetation;
g Soils	
i. Definition and properties	gi classify soils and their
ii. Factors and processes of formation	ii. properties;
iii. Soil profiles	ii. isolate the factors of formation;
iv. Major tropical types, their	iii. differentiate between the different types
characteristics, distribution and uses;	of soil horizons and their characteristics;

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
v. Impact of human activities on soils.	iv. compare the major tropical soil types and uses of soils;v. account for the distribution and uses of soils;
	vi. assess the impact of human activities on soils.
h Environmental Resources; i Types of resources (atmospheric, land,	hi. interpret the concept of environmental resources;
soil, Vegetation and minerals);	ii. relate environmental resources to their uses;
ii The concept of renewable and non-renewable resources;	iii. differentiate between the concepts of renewable and non-renewable resources.
I Environmental interaction:i Land ecosystem	Ii. identify the components of land ecosystem;
ii Environmental balance and human interaction	ii. establish the interrelationship within the ecosystem;
	iii. interpret the concept of environmental balance;
	iv. analyse the effects of human activities on land ecosystem.
j Environmental: hazards	ji identify the natural hazards and their
 i. Natural hazards (droughts, earth-quakes, volcanic eruptions, flooding) 	ii. relate the human-induced hazards to their
ii. Man-induced (soil erosion, Deforestation, pollution, flooding Desertification)	causes; iii. locate the major areas where they are common and their effects;
iii. Effects, prevention and control of hazards.	iv. recommend possible methods of prevention and control.
III. HUMAN GEOGRAPHY	Candidates should be able to:
a. Population	ai. identify the characteristics of
i. World population with particular reference to the Amazon Basin, N.E.	population (growth rates and structure); ii. determine the factors and the patterns of

	TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES		OBJECTIVES
	U.S.A., India, Japan and the West		population distribution;
	Coast of Southern African.	iii.	identify the factors and problems of
ii.	Characteristics – birth and death rates,		population growth;
	ages/sex structure.	iv.	relate the types of migration to their
iii.	Factors and patterns of population		causes and effects;
	distribution;	v.	account for the ways population constitute
iv.	Factors and problems of population		a resource.
	growth;		
b.	Settlement with particular reference to	bi	differentiate between types of
	Western Europe, Middle East and West		Settlements;
	Africa;	ii.	classify the patterns and functions of
i.	Types and patterns: Rural and Urban,		rural settlements;
	Dispersed, nucleated and linear;	iii.	classify the patterns and functions of
ii.	Rural settlement: classification, factors		urban settlement;
	of growth and functions;	iv.	establish the interrelationship between
iii.	Urban settlement – classification, factors		rural and urban settlements;
	for growth and functions.		
iv.	Problems of urban centres		
v.	Interrelationship between rural and urban		
	settlements.		
c.	Selected economic activities	ci.	identify the types of economic activities;
i.	Types of economic activities: primary,	ii.	differentiate between the types of
	secondary and tertiary;		economic activities;
ii.	Manufacturing industries, types,	iii.	compare the types of manufacturing
	locational factors, distribution and socio-		industries;
	economic importance and problems of	iv.	identify the factors of industrial location;
	industrialization in tropical Africa.	iii.	examine the socio-economic importance
iii.	Transportation and Communication types,		of manufacturing industries;
	roles in economic development and	iv.	give reasons for the problems of
	communication in tropical Africa.		industrialization in tropical Africa;
iv.	World trade-factors and pattern of	v.	differentiate between the types and
	world trade, major commodities (origin,		means of transportation and
	routes and destinations).		communication;
		vi.	assess the economic importance of

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
	transport and;
	vii. give reasons for the problems of
	transportation in tropical Africa;
	viii. relate the factors to the pattern of world
	trade.
	ix. classify the major commodities of trade in
	terms of their origins, routes and
	destination.
IV. REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY	
A. Nigeria	Candidates should be able to:
a Broad outline	Ai describe the location, size and political
i. Location, position, size, political division	Divisions of Nigeria.
_	ii. identify the ethnic groups and their
(states) and peoples;	distributions;
ii Physical settling: geology, relief,	iii. relate the components of physical settings to
landform,	their effects on human activities;
climate and drainage, vegetation and	iv. account for the pattern of population
soils;	distribution;
iii Population: size, distribution, migration,	v. examine the types of migration, their
(types, problems and effects);	problems and effects;
iv Natural Resources: types (minerals, soils,	vi. identify the types of natural resources
Water, vegetation etc) distribution, uses	and their distribution;
and	vii. indicate their uses and conservation;
Conservation;	viii. compare the farming systems practiced in
v. Agricultural Systems: the major crops	Nigeria;
produced, problems of agricultural	ix. identify the crops produced and the problems
development in Nigeria.	encountered;
vi. Manufacturing Industries: factors of	x. identify the types and location of the major
location, types of products, marketing	manufacturing industries;
and problems associated with	xi. determine the factors of industrial location
manufacturing;	and the problems associated with the
vii. Transportation and trade: modes of	industries;
transportation and their relative	xii. establish the relationship between transport
advantages and disadvantages, regional	and trade;
and international trade.	xiii. relate the modes of transportation to their
	relative advantages and

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
	disadvantages;
	xiv. classify the major commodities of
	regional and international trade;
b. Geographical Regions of Nigeria	bi. Identify each geographical region and
i Eastern Highlands;	its distinctive features;
ii Eastern Scarpland;	ii. identify the people of each region and the
iii Northern Central Highland	settlement pattern;
iv Western Highlands;	iii. account for the mode of resource
v Sokoto Plains;	exploitation in each region;
vi. Niger-Benue trough;	iv. examine the modes and problems of
vii. Cross River Basin;	transportation in each region;
viii Southern Coastland each region	v. give reasons for the problem of
analysed under the following sub-	development in each region;
headings: physical setting (relief,	vi. Suggest solutions.
drainage etc) people, population and	
settlements, modes of exploitation of	
natural resources, transportation and	
problems of development.	
B. The Rest of Africa:	
a Africa on broad outline;	ai. Identify the location, size and political
i Location, size, position, political	Division of Africa;
settings (relief, drainage, climate	ii. relate the components of the physical
type, Vegetation type etc).	setting to the effect on human
ii. Distribution of major minerals	activities;
	iii describe the distribution of major minerals.
	bi analyse the factors that favour the
b Selected Topics	Development of lumbering in the
i Lumbering in equatorial Africa with	identified areas;
particular reference to Cote d'voire	ii. examine the methods and problem
(Ivory Coast) and the Democratic	lumbering;
Republic of Congo.	iii. assess the economic importance of
	lumbering;
ii Irrigation Agriculture in the Nile and	iv. account for the reason for irrigation in the
Niger Basin;	area;

TOPICS/CONTENTS/NOTES	OBJECTIVES
	v. compare the methods and major crops
	produced;
	vi. identify the problems associated with
	irrigation in the area;
iii Plantation Agriculture in West and East	vii account for plantation agriculture and its
Africa	requirements;
	viii. relate the methods of management to the
	crops produced;
	ix assess the economic importance of
	plantation agriculture;
iv Fruit Farming in the Mediterranean	x identify the conditions that favour fruit
Regions of Africa.	farming in the area;
	xi relate the major areas of fruit farming to
	types of fruits produced;
	xii assess the economic importance and
	problems associated with fruit farming in
	the area;
v Mineral Exploitation	xiii proffer solutions to the problems;
- Gold mining in South Africa	xiv identify the area of production and the
- Copper mining in the Democratic	method of mining each mineral in the
Republic of the Congo	specified country;
- Crude oil production in Algeria and Libya	xv relate the economic importance of the
· D. Le' D'e'l e' · Weeke	mineral to the region;
vi Population Distribution in West Africa	xvi determine the problems of associated with
	the exploitation of the mineral in each
	country; xvii account for the pattern of population
	xvii account for the pattern of population distribution in West Africa;
vii International Economic Cooperation in	xviii indicate the factors influencing the pattern
West Africa, e.g. ECOWAS	of distribution;
West Fifficia, e.g. 200 Wild	xix identify the member countries;
	xx examine the objectives for which
	ECOWAS was established;
	xxi evaluate the prospect and problems of the
	organization

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

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