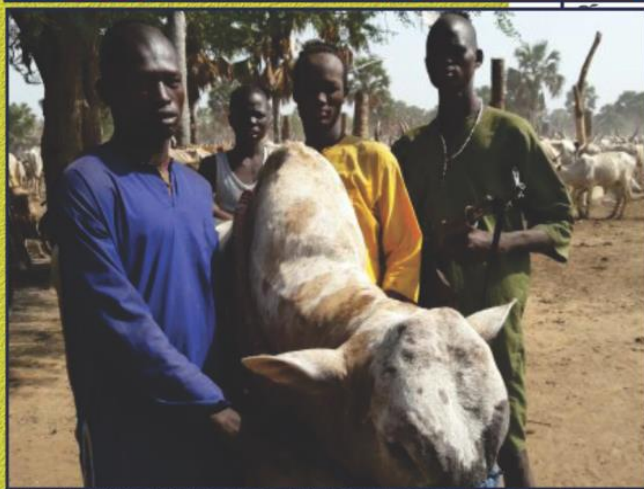
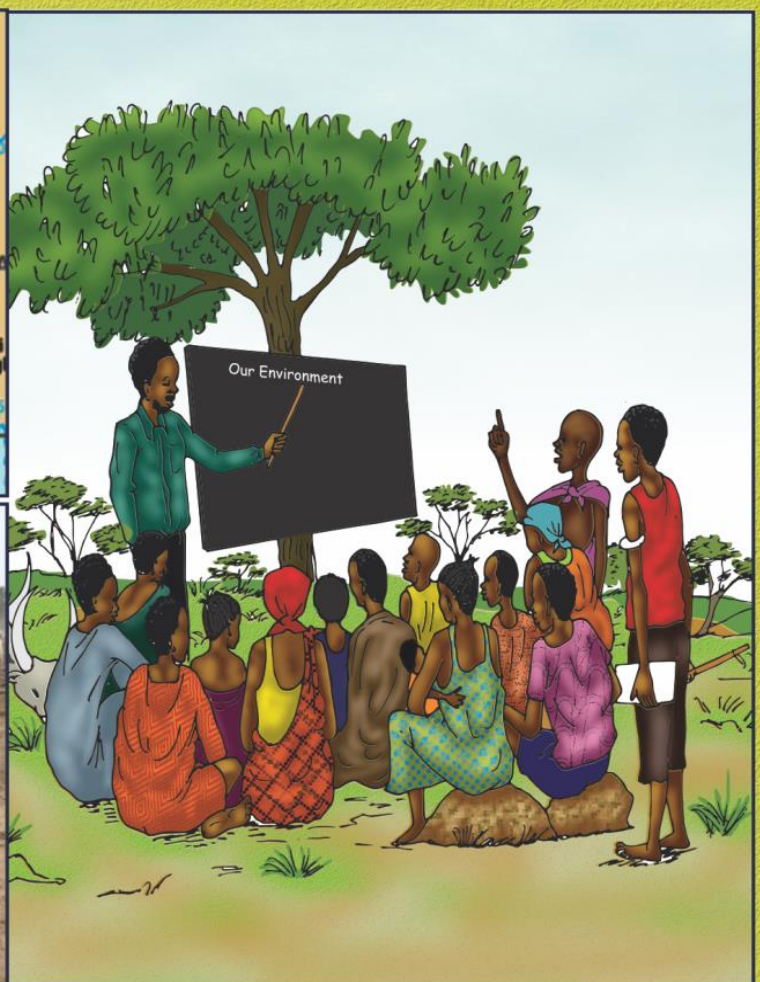


Republic of South Sudan

PASTORALIST LIVELIHOODS AND EDUCATION FIELD SCHOOLS(PLEFS) APPROACH

Social Studies for Youth Learners

LEVEL 4



Ministry of General Education and Instruction

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UNIT 1: MAP READING

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN IN AFRICA



The Republic of South Sudan is situated in East Africa. It lies between latitude 4° N and 13° N and longitude 22° E. It borders the Republic of Sudan to the north and Ethiopia to the east, Kenya to the southeast, Uganda to the south, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to the southwest. The Central Africa

Republic (CAR) lies to the west. The size of the Republic of South Sudan is about 835,270 square kilometers.

Africa is separated from Europe by the Mediterranean Sea and from the Middle East by the Red Sea. The Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea. The canal is 163 kilometers long was built between 1859 and 1869 to enable ships sail between Europe and Asia without passing the southern tip of Africa. The rest of Africa is surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean in the west and the Indian Ocean in the east.

The continent of Africa lies between the latitudes of 37° north and 35° south. The equator (0° latitude) divides the continent almost exactly in half. The continent lies between longitudes 17° west and 52° east. The 0° longitude, also known as the Greenwich Meridian or the Prime Meridian crosses western Africa at Accra, Ghana.

The northern-most tip of Africa is Cape Blanc in Tunisia and the southern-most tip place is Cape Agulhas in South Africa. The distance between the two points is 8,000 kilometers.

AFRICA AND OTHER CONTINENTS



The continent of Africa lies in the heart of the world map. Europe is to the north of Africa, Middle East and Asia are to the east and to far southeast is the Australian continent, while North and South America lies to the west.

The area of Africa is about 30,330,000 square kilometers, covering 22% of the total world land area. Africa is the second largest continent in the world

after Asia. The northern part of Africa is big and wide. As we go south of the equator, the continent becomes narrower. Africa is the only continent where both the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn cross the land mass.

Questions:

1. What are the latitude and longitude of South Sudan?
2. What countries border South Sudan?
3. Where Africa does lies in the world?
4. What's the largest continent in the world?
5. What is the name of the line of latitude which divides Africa into 2 halves?

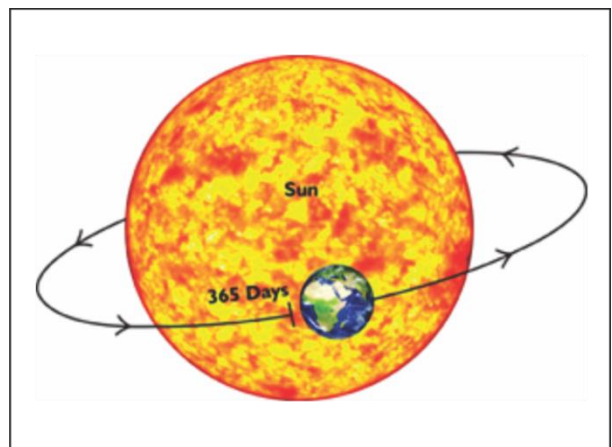
LONGITUDE AND TIME

As we learned in level 3, the earth makes a complete rotation on its axis every 24 hours. This means that it takes 24 hours to rotate 360° . One hour has 60 minutes, since it takes 24 hours for the earth to go 360° , it will take 4 minutes to go 1° .

Suppose the sun rises at 6 am at Bentiu town in South Sudan, which is approximately 30° east. What time will it be at Aweil, which is at 33° east? These two towns are exactly 3° of longitude apart. Since it takes 4 minutes to go 1° , the time at Bentiu will be $(3^\circ \times 4) = 12$ minutes ahead of Aweil time because Aweil is to the west of Bentiu.

In reality we don't figure time in this way. The earth is divided into 24 time zone to zones, and time differs by the hour rather than by minutes as you go from zone to zone.

South Sudan is at longitude 30° , what time will it be in South Sudan when it is 6 am at Accra, Ghana? The time in South Sudan will be 8 am.



This picture shows the earth's rotation.

Questions:

1. How long does the earth take to rotate once on its axis?
2. Suppose South Sudan is at longitude 30° E. what time will it be in South Sudan when it is 6 am at Addis Ababa, which is approximately 38° east?
3. Is time actually figured in this way?

DRAINAGE IN AFRICA

Drainage refers to the distribution and movement of water in a given area, especially to how water drains from land by streams and rivers. It includes surface and underground water systems. Drainage system can be either natural or man-made. Natural drainage features include lakes, rivers, swamps and springs, while man-made features include wells, boreholes and canals. Drainage systems in East Africa can be divided into three systems, namely:

- a) River drainage systems.
- b) The Rift Valley drainage system.
- c) Lake drainage systems.

a) River Drainage Systems

The point where a river begins is called its source, and the point where it flows into a lake, sea or ocean is called its mouth. As a river moves from source to mouth, smaller rivers called tributaries flow into it. A river together with its tributaries forms a river system. The area covered by a river system is known as a river basin.

East and South Africa is drained by a number of rivers. In the south, major rivers such as the Orange and Vaal Rivers drain into the Atlantic Ocean. Drainage Rivers in East Africa include the Tana, Athi and Juba Rivers. They all flow into the Indian Ocean. The Nile River with its major tributaries (such as the Blue Nile) drains a large part of East Africa before entering the Mediterranean Sea.

In Central Africa there is the great Congo River. This river drains into the Atlantic Ocean. The Senegal River and Niger River are the major drainage systems in West Africa. They both flow into the Atlantic Ocean.

b) The Rift Valley Drainage System.

The Rift Valley is an enormous valley in east Africa. The drainage system is characterized by rivers and streams flowing into the lakes on the Rift Valley floor. These lakes include Lake Baringo, Lake Naivasha, Lake Norton and Lake Turkana (formally known as Lake Rudolph). This type of drainage is called internal or inland drainage because the water stays inland and doesn't flow into the ocean.

c) Lakes Drainage Systems.

These consist of all the rivers and tributaries flowing into lakes from the highlands. These lakes include Lake Chad (inland), Lake Malawi, Lake Tanganyika, Lake Victoria, Lake Edward and Lake Albert.

Questions:

1. What is drainage?
2. What are the three types of drainage systems in East Africa?
3. Name three lakes that provide inland drainage in Africa.

PHYSICAL FEATURES

The main physical features of Africa are the Great Rift Valley, mountains, plateaus, plains, lakes and rivers. Africa is divided into four regions:

1. East Africa.
2. West Africa.
3. North Africa.
4. South Africa.

East Africa

The main physical feature of East Africa is the Great Rift Valley. A number of mountains, plateaus, hills, rivers and lakes lie within the Rift Valley. The Rift Valley extends from Syria in the Middle East to Mozambique in southern Africa making it the longest valley system in the world. It covers an area of 4,830 square kms.

There are two branches of the Rift Valley in east Africa: the east branch and the west branch. Lake Turkana, Mount Elgon, the Boma Plateau, Lake Tana and the Ethiopian highlands lie within the east branch of the Rift Valley. Lake Malawi, Lake Tanganyika, Lake Kivu, Lake Edward and Lake Albert are within the west branch.

Some of the highest mountains in Africa are found in East Africa. The highest mountain in Africa is Mount Kilimanjaro which rises to 5,889 meters above sea level. Mt. Kilimanjaro is in Tanzania near the border with Kenya. The second and the third highest are Mount Kenya which is 5,199 meters above sea level and Mount Elgon which is on the border of Kenya and Uganda. Mt. Elgon rises 4,620 meters above sea level. Mountains ranges include the Imatong ranges in South Sudan and Aberdares in Kenya.



Picture of Mount Kilimanjaro

West Africa

The main land forms of West Africa are plateaus, highlands and plains. The land generally slopes down from the highlands to the Atlantic Ocean. The Guinea Highlands (the Fouta Djallon), the Jos Plateau and Adarnawa Highlands constitute the main physical features in West Africa. Besides these highlands, there are coastal plains which stretched along the Atlantic Ocean. The main rivers are the Niger River and Senegal River which flow from the Fouta Djallon into the Atlantic Ocean and the Volta River in Ghana which also flows into the Atlantic Ocean.

North Africa

North Africa main physical features are high mountains, deserts, plateaus and plains. The coastal plains are in the north and west along the Mediterranean Sea. Behind the coastal plains are the Atlas Mountains. These are the highest mountains in North Africa. Beside these mountains is a wide plateau which is called Plateau of Shotts. This is the northern-most limit of the Sahara Desert.

To the northeast of Sahara the land is a low plateau with some lowlands. It is crossed by the Nile River as it flows north through Sudan. There is also a range of mountains that lies along the coast of the Red Sea and a group of volcanic mountains at Jebel Mara in Western Sudan.

South Africa

South Africa's land forms consist of mountains, plateaus, coastal plains and lowlands. The Drakensberg Mountains are the largest mountain range in South Africa. They stretch from the south to the east. To the west in Angola lies a plateau called the Bie Plateau.

The Kalahari Desert and Namibia Desert are the dry lowlands of South Africa. The Vaal River and the Orange River cross the southern part of the Kalahari Desert before flowing into the Atlantic Ocean. Along the Atlantic Ocean lie the coastal plains which stretch from Mozambique in the east to Angola in the west.

Questions:

1. List the main rivers in East, South, and West Africa.
2. In which part of Africa are the Niger and Senegal Rivers?
3. Name the highest mountain in Africa.
4. Name two deserts in Africa.
5. Where is the Atlas Mountains range?

UNIT 2: PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS

CLIMATIC REGIONS

Africa can be divided into four climatic regions:

- i) Equatorial climate
- ii) Savannah climate
- iii) Tropical desert climate
- iv) Mediterranean climate

Equatorial Climate

An equatorial climate is characterized by hot temperatures ranging from 25° to 30° c and heavy rainfall throughout the year. This makes it possible for people to settle within the region and carry out agricultural activities.

In Africa the equatorial climate is found mainly in the lowlands north and south of the Equator, in the southern part of Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic (CAR) and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In West Africa it extends to the coastal areas of Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Savannah Climate



Picture of Savannah Climate

This is the largest climate region in Africa. It extends from the west to the east and southward to the northern parts of the Republic of South Africa. The temperature is generally hot with heavy seasonal rainfall (it rains only during certain seasons, not all year as with the Equatorial Climate).

The areas north of Equator receive most of their rain from April to August and areas south of Equator receive most of their rain from October to February. The main occupations of the people within this region are agriculture and animal raising.

Tropical Desert Climate

In this type of climate, there is generally low rainfall which varies from desert to desert and sometimes no rain at all for a number of years. This is a difficult environment and human settlement is mainly through adaptability to the environment. Temperatures rise to 40°C in the daytime and drop below 10° at night because there are no clouds to hold in heat.



Picture of Desert

The main desert in Africa is the Sahara Desert which covers a large area of North Africa from west to east. In southern Africa there are there are Kalahari and Namibia Deserts.

Mediterranean Climate

This type of climate is found around the Mediterranean Sea and at the southern tip of Africa around Cape Town. South Africa receives rains from May to August while along the Mediterranean coast it rains from October to March. Mediterranean weather is hot in the summer and mild in the winter. The temperature ranges from 10°C in winter to 21°C in summer. This is a good climate for human settlement and agricultural activities.\

Questions:

1. What is the physical environment?
2. What are the four types of climate in Africa?
3. What are the characteristics of the equatorial climate and where is it found in Africa?
4. What are the characteristics of the three climates and where are they found?
5. What are the differences between the savannah climate and equatorial climate?

CLIMATE AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

“Climate” refers to the average weather conditions in a given place a long period of time. The migration patterns and economic activities of people are greatly affected by the climate. Areas with adequate and reliable rainfall and with temperatures that aren’t extreme attract more people who cultivate land and keep animals. Areas with adequate rainfall attract more people than arid areas.

In areas with an equatorial type of climate, people grow mainly trees crops which include oil palm, cocoa, rubber, bananas, and plantains, and root crops such as yams and cassava. Rice is also planted on hillsides and swamps that are cleared of vegetation. The hick tall grass in equatorial regions isn’t suitable for livestock, and the hot, wet climate is the home of insects like the tsetse fly which causes animal diseases.

Areas with a savannah climate are good for grain crops including maize, millet, wheat and sorghum and fruits such as oranges, grapes and pineapple. The grasslands are very good for animal grazing. Savannah areas attract human settlement and most of them are densely populated.

Semi-desert areas have good pasture only during the short wet season. They are inhabited mostly by nomads moving from place to place in search of pasture and water. In desert areas people raise camels. Camels can live for a long time without water. They are able to close their nose and eyes against sand-storms and they have big padded feet which enable them to walk on the desert sand.

An oasis is a place in the desert where there are water springs or wells. People live around oases, often cultivating date palms.

Questions:

1. What does the term "climate" mean?
2. What conditions affect the economic activities of a place?
3. What are the economic activities carried out in your area and how are they affected by the climate of your area?
4. Describe the main climate regions and how the weather affects economic activities in each?

ROTATION AND REVOLUTION OF THE EARTH

The earth rotates (turns) on its axis once a day from west to east. As the earth rotates on its axis it goes through 360°. During this rotation one side of the earth faces the sun (daytime) while the opposite side remains in darkness (night). This means that the earth's rotation causes day and night.

As the earth rotates on its axis, it also orbits the sun. The earth takes 365 days (one year) to orbit the sun once. The actual time for a revolution is 365¼ days. A leap year occurs every 4th year, and has 366 days. The extra day comes from the four quarters added together from four years. During a leap year the month of February has 29 days.

THE UNIVERSE AND SOLAR SYSTEM



Illustration of the Solar System

The universe consists of all matter that exists, including all stars and planets. Our own solar system is a tiny part of the universe. "Solar" means "sun", so our solar system is our sun and the planets that revolve around it. Our sun is actually another star like the stars you see in the sky at night.

The solar system is made up of the sun (a star) and nine planets. All the planets revolve around (orbit) the sun. The planets in their order from the sun are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto.

The Solar System also includes asteroids and satellites such as our moon. The sun has a strong pull of gravity that keeps all the planets orbiting around it. Each planet also has its own force of gravity that keeps everything in place on the planet including soil, people, planets and atmosphere.

Questions:

1. What is the universe? What is the solar system?
2. The sun is a star. Explain this sentence.
3. Explain the movement of the earth and how it causes day and night.
4. Name the nine planets in order from the sun.

UNIT 3: THE PEOPLE

LANGUAGE GROUPS OF AFRICA

The language a person speaks may identify his or her ethnic group. In Africa there are hundreds of languages and ethnic groups. Different languages can be compared to and those that have similar vocabulary and grammar are said to be related. Related languages are classified into groups, and it's generally understood that each group had common ancestors in the past.

The main language groups in Africa are the Bantu, the Cushite, Nilo-Hamite, Nilotic and Semitic.

1. The Bantu

The Bantu forms the largest language group in Africa. The Bantu people live all through western, central, and eastern Africa. In East Africa they live in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and South Sudan. In West Africa they are found in every country, and they also occupy the central part of Africa where they are found in the Congo, Central Africa Republic and Cameroon.

2. The Cushite

Cushite language speakers mainly occupy the eastern part of Africa and some parts of West and Central Africa. In East Africa they are found in Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya.

3. The Nilotic

People who speak Nilotic language are spread from West to East Africa. They are divided into three groups: the River/Lake Nilote include the Dinka, Shiluk, Nuer and Acholi. The Plain Nilote are mainly the Toposa, the Didinga and the Boya.

4. The Nilo-Hamite

Nilo-Hamite speakers are found in the eastern and central parts of Africa, mainly in central Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia.

5. The Semitic Language group

Semitic languages are mainly found in North and East Africa and in the Middle East. In Africa this includes Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt and Northern Sudan. In East Africa they are found in Kenya, Tanzania and Somalia.

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE DISTRIBUTION OF LANGUAGE GROUPS IN AFRICA

There are many factors that led to the distribution of language groups (or ethnic groups). These factors include:

1. Climate
2. Natural vegetation
3. Soil fertility
4. Water resources

1. Climate

Generally people like a good climate that is suitable for living. The distribution and settlement of people in a given area are highly influenced by climate.

2. Natural Vegetation

Early people settled in places that had food available in the forest. Later people moved into savannah areas when they learned to keep animals and raise crops.

3. Soil Fertility

Soil is important for agriculture. For agricultural people it's important to have soil that is fertile enough to grow crops.

4. Water Resources

Rivers or other sources of water are important for settlement. People live along the banks of rivers for fishing, and use the water for irrigation of their crops and animals. In the desert, people live near an oasis where there is water.

MIGRATION OF PEOPLE

Migration refers to the movement from one place to another. Migration may be voluntary or forced. Migration of people may be divided into these types:

1. Rural to rural
2. Rural to urban
3. Urban to rural
4. Urban to urban

1. Rural to rural migration

This is the movement of people from one village to another. When there is an increase in the population of a village the land for cultivation, housing and keeping animals becomes scarce. As a result, people move to other areas to look for land to live.

Another reason is seeking employment in agricultural-based industry. People who are employed in these industries leave their homes and move to where the new jobs are.

2. Rural to urban migration

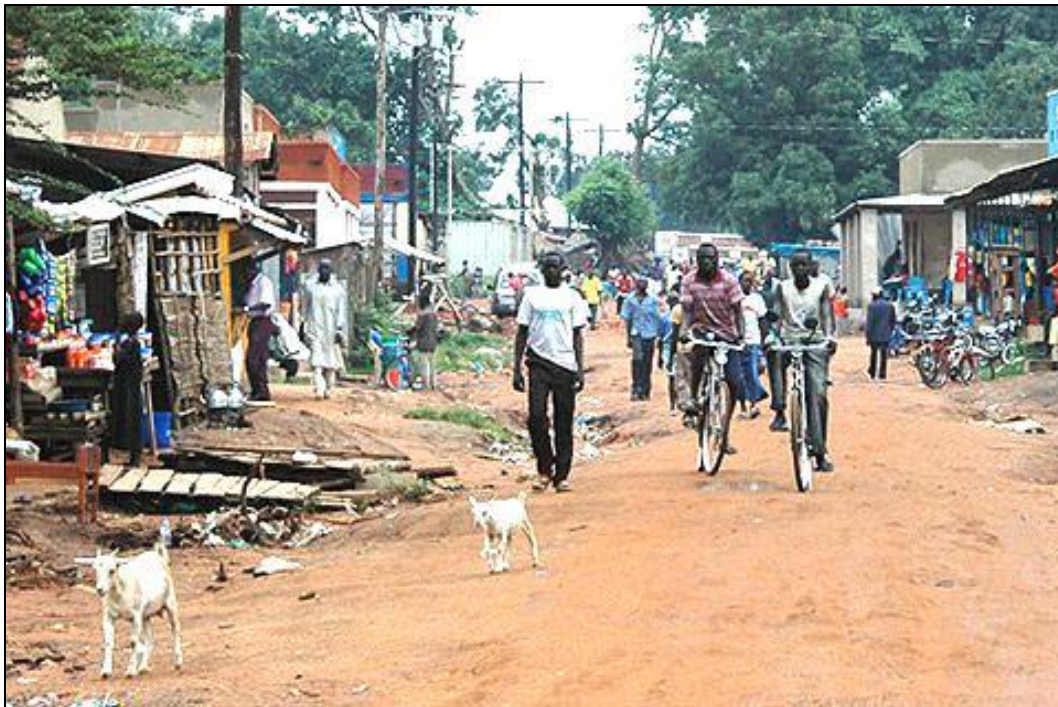
This is the movement of people from villages to bigger towns and cities. People migrate from the rural areas to the towns mostly to look for employment. This is because the industries government offices and businesses that offer job opportunities are located in urban areas. Some people migrate for medical reasons or for education.

3. Urban to rural migration

This is the movement of people from bigger towns and cities to villages. People do this because the living conditions in a town or city become intolerable. Problems may include traffic, high population, crime, lack of employment, and the high cost of living.

4. Urban to urban migration

This refers to moving from one town to another. People do this to search for employment or for other opportunities to improve their lives such as education.



Picture of overcrowding in an urban area

Causes of Migration

People migrate from one place to another for the following reasons in addition to economic reasons:

1. Congestion and shortage of land

When there is a population increase in an area, housing becomes a problem and land for cultivation and keeping animals becomes scarce. This situation forces people to move in search of land for cultivation, and grazing land and water for their animals.

2. Ethnic conflicts

When fighting breaks out between two or more ethnic groups, it results in the migration of one or more groups to other areas in search of peace and security.

3. Drought and famine

Natural factors such as drought and famine are also causes of migration. People migrate in search of food and water.

4. Outbreaks of disease

The congestion of people in one area and the consequent shortage of land lead to an increase in slum conditions. Crowded, unsanitary living conditions may cause the outbreak of diseases and epidemics which force people to migrate to safer areas.

Positive Effects of Migration on Urban Areas

Migration to urban areas has many effects on the economy and society. Effects are both positive and negative.

1. Cheap Labour ;

One positive effect of rural-urban migration on industry is that when people migrate to urban areas they provide cheap Labour for industry. The more people migrate, the more Labour is available.

2. Improvement of Living Standards;

People living in cities and have incomes often have higher standards of living. For example, their diet and medical care improve.

3. Provision of a market for industries;

People who migrate to the urban centers provide a market for industrial goods. This increases the need for industrial inputs and production, therefore improving the economy of the country.

4. Inter-marriages;

In urban centers, there is a greater tendency for people of different ethnic groups to interact and intermarry. In doing this they learn to appreciate one another which create national unity.

5. Introduction of new skills, tools and methods;

When people migrate from one area to another they learn about and adopt new skills and methods from one another. These may be new and improve agricultural or industrial skills that benefit the people living there, and lead to the development of the area.

Negative Effects of Migration to Urban Areas

1. Increase in population

When people migrate to urban areas the population of the city increases. This creates crowded conditions and housing becomes a problem. A shortage of affordable housing leads to an increase in the number of slums which leads to outbreaks of diseases and epidemics such as cholera and STDs. Other social facilities like transportation, health, education, parks, and sports facilities become inadequate.

2. Loss of culture

People may lose their ethnic identity and values by interacting with other ethnic groups and nationalities when families are away from their homeland for a long time.

3. Crime and dependency

Unemployment may cause some people to turn to stealing, murder, population and dependency on others to live.

4. New conflicts

When people move to new areas, they may enter into conflicts with the people who already live there. These conflicts may arise from land disputes and other misunderstandings.

5. Environmental destruction

The migration and settlement of people from one area to another forces them to cut down trees and clear forests for agriculture, livestock and construction. This causes soil erosion and environmental degradation.

6. Loss of property

When people migrate to new areas their property is sometimes exposed to stealing and robbery.

Questions:

1. What are the main language groups in Africa?
2. What factors determine the distribution of ethnic and language groups in Africa?
3. What are the different types of migration?
4. Give reasons why people migrate from rural areas to urban areas.
5. Can you think of other effects of migration? (both positive and negative)

UNIT 4: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SOCIAL INTERACTION BETWEEN SOUTH SUDAN, AFRICA AND THE WORLD.

The people of South Sudan interact with many kinds of people from neighbouring countries, other countries of Africa, and other continents. These interactions happen in different ways, whether by people of South Sudan traveling or migrating to other places, or by people from other places coming to South Sudan.

Movement of different people was common in historical times. For example, the Luo left their cradle land in South Sudan and settled in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania. The Turkana, Pokot, Kalenjin and Masai also migrated from South Sudan and settled in Kenya. The Bantus such as the Azande and the Gbaya(Kresh) came to South Sudan from their place of origin in the Congo basin. Communities who moved away from their land of origin left their relatives behind, which mean that the ethnic groups inhabiting South Sudan are the very same ethnic groups found in other African countries. This helps form a strong relationship between the people of South Sudan and other African countries.

In addition to the interaction that takes place through migration and settlement, the people of South Sudan have a history of intermarriage with people from different parts of Africa. This has helped to bring about the interchange of cultures and adaptation of one another's languages. Intermarriage brings the spirit of brotherhood, peace, and unity among the people of South Sudan and the rest of Africa.

People of South Sudan also carry out trade with people of the neighbouring countries. For instance, South Sudan's cattle are marketed in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and in return the people of South Sudan import clothes, medicine and bicycles. Furthermore, many students of South Sudan study in other African countries. This creates a strong social interaction between the people of South Sudan with their fellow African countries.

South Sudan also has good relations with countries in Asia, Europe, Australia, and North and South America. Because of these good international relationships, South Sudan receives a lot of assistance in different forms from

the United States of America, Britain, Canada, Australia, China and Scandinavian countries. People from South Sudan often go to study and be trained in countries on other continents, and there is also intermarriages between South Sudanese and people of other continents.

Questions:

1. What are the two ways that South Sudanese interact with people from other countries?
2. What is the original land of the Luo?
3. What is the cradle land of the Bantu?
4. Which groups that originated in South Sudan migrated to other countries?
5. What are the advantages of intermarriage?
6. How do Africans interact with each other?
7. How do South Sudanese interact with people on other continents?

Trade

The interaction between South Sudan and the rest of the world is small in regard to trade. This is because South Sudan resources have not yet been exploited.

At the present time, South Sudan is exporting only a few things such as cattle, timber, gold, agricultural produce (groundnuts, simsim, honey) and hides. Uganda, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo are good markets for South Sudan exports. In return, South Sudan imports clothes, sugar, school materials, medicine and bicycles.

Competition and Tournaments

A competition is a contest in which all who take part strive for the same thing. In sports or games the teams compete for a prize and a higher position among other teams. This may be done within one country or it may involve teams from different countries.

Tournament in a sport or game is a series of contests between a number of competitors, competing for an overall prize. A tournament involves a number of teams or players. Examples include the African Cup of Nations, the World Cup and the Olympic Games.

South Sudan has formed a number of teams to compete in various games and sports. During competitions and tournaments players participating from different countries have the opportunity to both demonstrate their skills and send greetings and good wishes from their home country.



SOME

Promotion of Patriotism and Peace through Sports

Games and sports promote team work, friendship, peace and cooperation. During inter-school competitions students come together to support their teams. The young people who come from different areas in South Sudan to meet and participate in friendly games and sports also develop strong feelings

of patriotism. When South Sudan sends football teams and athletes to a neighbouring country, it gives us a sense of pride as a nation.

Questions:

1. What's the difference between a competition and a tournament?
2. What are some well-known tournaments?
3. What's the importance of games and sports in developing social relationships?
4. What are some positive effects of tournaments?
5. What is the meaning of patriotism?

The Importance of Festivals and Ceremonies

In south Sudan, festivals and ceremonies are very important for our communities. Many people gather together when there is a ceremony or festival. For example, the family and community members celebrate when naming a baby. The parents of the child prepare food and wine for the people who have been invited to attend.



Another important ceremony is when young boys are to be fully recognized as young men. The young boys undergo certain activities which initiate them into adulthood. The initiation rites differ from community to community. For example, the Dinka, Nuer, and Shiluk cut special marks on their foreheads to indicate that they are adults. In the Dinka community, when a young woman reaches puberty and

experiences her first menstruation period, people gather and celebrate. The age group of the girl also gathers and dances and sings praise songs. The ceremony is also attended by older women. From that day on, the girl is an adult ready for marriage. These ceremonies mark the passage into adulthood for young girls and boys. In some communities there are circumcision ceremonies to mark the passage into adulthood.

There are many other types of ceremonies and festivals. Ceremonies may be performed for deceased ancestors. The relatives of the deceased gather and offer a sacrifice by slaughtering a cow or a bull. This is usually done after the new harvest is over. There are also ceremonies for rainmaking. The elderly men and women gather in a place and offer sacrifices to God as a means of communication with Him. They ask God to give them rain when there has been no rain for a long time. They sing or march around the area asking their father, God, to respond to their request.

People also make festivals for the new harvest. The people prepare food and drinks, and everyone joins together to feast and dance as a sign of happiness. When there is a death in the community the people conduct funeral ceremonies.



South Sudanese Traditional dance

Questions:

1. Describe some of the ceremonies in South Sudan.
2. What kinds of things are prepared by the family when naming a baby?
3. Describe some ceremonies and festivals which are held in your community.
4. What is the importance of ceremonies in our lives?
5. When there is no rain in your area, what do people do to get rain?

MARRIAGE

Marriage is the foundation on which family life is built. It is a very important social institution within which children are born. The aim of marriage is to provide companionship between people and to reproduce. In this way, society carries on smoothly from one generation to the next. Marriage gives legal rights to a husband, his wife and their children.

Types of Marriages

There are two main types of legal marriage practices in South Sudan; these are:

1. Traditional Marriage

This takes place according to the customs and traditions of the ethnic group or community to which the bride and groom belong.

The two parties representing the bride and bridegroom sit to discuss the dowry price. The dowry can be in the form of cows or money depending on the culture. After this discussion, the two sides reach an agreement on the bride price and the bride is handed over officially to join her bridegroom. Traditionally a man can marry more than one wife (polygamy).

2. Religious Marriage

Religious marriages are conducted according to religious beliefs and practices of the people involved. Religious ceremonies are conducted by a religious leader and usually take place in a church, temple, chapel, or mosque.

The couple exchanges wedding vows. A marriage certificate is then issued. Some religious marriages are monogamous. This means that the man is allowed to have only one wife and a wife is allowed to have only one husband. Christians, Jews, Buddhists, and Hindus, among others, practice monogamy.

Muslims are polygamous. A man can marry up to four wives. A Muslim marriage is based on Islamic law (Sharia law), and is conducted by a sheikh (a religious leader).

Questions:

1. Why do people marry?
2. State the two types of marriage held in Africa?
3. What are the places where religious marriage takes place?
4. Compare monogamy and polygamy.
5. Which religious allow polygamy?
6. What are your thoughts on monogamy and polygamy?

Advantages and disadvantages of the Bride Price

Paying a bride price or dowry has continued as a tradition in South Sudan for centuries. The practice has both advantages and disadvantages. One advantage is that the relatives can share the money and use it for their family. Also, because the boy's family pays the dowry it acts as a guarantee that they will take good care of the girl, thus giving confidence to the girl's family.

The disadvantages are that young people may not have sufficient wealth to marry, so they remain unmarried. Some young people may have to migrate to cities to find money to get married. Another disadvantage is that a boy and

girl may love each other and wish to get married, but the boy's family can't afford the dowry that girl's family demands or the girl's family wants her to marry another man who can give more dowry.

Questions:

1. State the advantages of dowry.
2. State the disadvantages of bride price

UNIT 5: RESOURCES AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

Resource and their Importance

Resources are things that people take from environment to use and support themselves in life. Our resources in South Sudan include land, forests, rivers, lakes, minerals, animals, and people.

LAND

Land is probably the most important resource to humans, because it is the place where we live. Without land and soil there would be no life on earth. The land provides water, air, and minerals. Plants grow on land, and without plants there would be no animals. Land also provides materials humans use for construction and in industry.

FORESTS

A forest is a continuous, extensive piece of land covered with trees. There are two types of forests: natural and man-made. Natural forests are indigenous trees that grow on their own according to the climate conditions of the area. Man-made forests are planted by people, either in new areas or in areas where natural forests have been cut down. Forests are important for the following reasons:

a. Wood fuel

Forests provide us with wood and fuel for domestic and industrial use. Charcoal is also made from wood.

b. Timber

Forests provide timber for building. Timber is used in the construction industry for making fencing, telephone poles, furniture, bridges and houses.

c. Industrial Materials and Food

Forest resources are also used for making many kinds of things. Wood pulp is used to manufacture paper. Other products like rubber, gum and medicines

are obtained from trees. Some products from the forest are also used in the manufacture of soap and cosmetics. Some trees bear fruit and nuts used as food by people, animals and birds.



Picture of a tropical forest

d. Home for animals and birds

Forests are the home for birds and animals. Birds build their nests in trees and animals live in many different habitats of the forest. Forests and wildlife that are properly managed can be a natural attraction and provide a source of income.

e. Soil conservation

Forests conserve the soil by stopping erosion. They hold it together and prevent it from being washed away. Trees also act as windbreaks, stopping the wind from blowing away soil and damaging crops. Forests also help to improve the fertility of soil. When leaves fall to the forest floor and when tree die, they rot and enrich the soil.

f. Improving the climate

Trees and other plants in the forest add moisture to the atmosphere and keep the ground and atmosphere cool. In this way they are helping in the formation of rain. Trees also help to purify the air by breathing in air and breathing out oxygen.

RIVERS AND FISHING

Rivers are important to humans for transportation, irrigation, as sources of fish, and as a necessary component of the habitats of other animals. Rivers are also used to produce hydroelectric power.

Fishing is one of man's oldest activities, and it is carried out all over the world. In some communities of South Sudan, fishing is the main occupation of people who live along the Nile and the banks of the rivers and streams. Fishing is one of the main sources of food and income in South Sudan.

MINERALS

Minerals are substances obtained by mining the earth, such as oil and coal. South Sudan has deposits of gold, copper, uranium, mercury and oil. Minerals are important for industrial purposes and in the manufacture of things such as vehicles and weapons. Minerals are found underground and extracted by mining or drilling. Mining refers to the extraction of minerals, either solid, liquid or gas, from the earth with appropriate methods.

Petroleum is a combination of gaseous and liquid hydrocarbons that developed from animal and vegetable matter laid in sedimentary rocks millions of years ago. In South Sudan, oil has been discovered in Bentiu in Upper Nile region, and in the bahr el Ghazal region. Oil is used as the major source of energy and fuel for transport and industries all over the world and is a source of wealth and income for South Sudan.

ANIMALS

Animals include birds, reptiles, mammals and amphibians. Animals are classified as either domestic or wild.

Domestic animals are raised by people at home. They receive food and protection while humans with food, money, Labour and clothing. Humans and domestic animals depend on each other.

Wild animals are animals that live in the forest or bush. They may be useful to humans but they also may be dangerous.

Uses of Domestic Animals

People have depended on domestic animals for a long time. Following are some of their uses for humans:

1. Bulls and oxen plough the land.
2. Horses, camels and donkeys carry heavy loads.
3. Animal provide meat, milk, and eggs.
4. They provide hides and skins for clothing and industry.
5. Animal waste is used as manure.