Five College Mentored Swahili Study Guide 39

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# MATERIALS FOR THIS STUDY GUIDE

* Almasi
  + Chapter 13 (pp. 125-137)
* [CultureTalk Tanzania](https://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/culturetalk/Tanzania)
  + CultureTalk Tanzania – Economy and Politics – Economic Development – Gaps between Rich and Poor
  + CultureTalk Tanzania – Economy and Politics – Entrepreneurs – Women as Entrepreneurs
  + CultureTalk Tanzania – Economy and Politics – The East African Community – Self-Employment and Competition with Kenyans
* Newspaper Resources
  + [Gazeti la Mwananchi Tanzania](http://www.mwananchi.co.tz/)
  + [Mwanzo - Hizb ut Tahrir Kenya](https://hizbke.org/sw/)
  + [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/sw/)
* Other Online Resources
  + [TBC Online: TANZANIA HAIPO UCHUMI WA KATI |](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmklIZUtTPo&pp=ygUSdWNodW1pIHdhIHRhbnphbmlh)
  + [Citizen TV Kenya: Ujasiriamali wa vijana katika kaunti ya Kisii](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLYWqHnJ6SI)

## TOPIC: Economies of East Africa

In this section we will discuss basic institutional and structural components of economic development in East Africa. Moreover, in the ‘Vocabulary and Content for Review’ section, you will learn about banking in East Africa and making monetary exchanges. Because the Culture Talk videos for this section focus explicitly on the Tanzanian economy, most of this lesson will be devoted to learning about the challenges associated with political stability and economic growth in this particular country. However, because the transnational economic relations between Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda have always affected the internal development of these nations, it is important to briefly discuss the differences between the economic foundations of these individual countries.

As we discuss the situations of these nations, it will become evident that their common plights are often driven by social, political, and economic fragmentation. The predominant site of fracturing is between rural and urban regions, wherein political and economic structures necessarily emerge and evolve in distinct forms in response to the particular geographic and cultural conditions of these spaces. This rural versus urban divide is prominent in all East African nations. However, in Kenya, economic and political fragmentation has been crudely intertwined with continual bouts of religious and ethnic strife while Uganda is confronted with the problem of fragmentation instantiated by the intra-national proliferation of international agencies. While Tanzania also faces the problems of the urban versus rural divide, ethnic/tribal strife, and neocolonial hegemony, these issues have had a different economic impact in Tanzania.

Tanzania’s economic challenges have developed alongside efforts to establish equilibrium between state-sponsored institutions (e.g. education) - which provide social stability and political/economic opportunity - and engagement with the global free market and liberal international political structures in order to support socialized state structures. Tourism, agriculture, and the export of raw materials are some of the largest and most productive economic sectors in East African nations. However, due to long histories of corruption and exploitation, the growth of these sectors in recent years has not necessarily decreased poverty, which remains the most prominent social and economic concern in Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya.

Since 1986, the nation of Tanzania has steadily dissolved the socialist economic and political policies and governmental structures implemented by the socialist regime (*Ujamaa* kwa Kiswahili) established by Mwalimu Nyerere in the post-independence era. The dismantling of socialist frameworks has been influenced by pressure from the global community to liberalize trade and increase investment in the private sector in an attempt to increase GDP (Gross Domestic Product) and assuage the suffering of citizens due to impoverishment and lack of economic opportunity. Although this has proven partially successful, especially in regards to GDP per capita which increased by 40% between 1998 and 2007, Tanzania has continued to be confronted by the complex challenges of negotiating diverse economic needs and resources.

As the largest and most advanced economy in East and Central Africa, Kenya has seen expansion in the areas of agriculture, tourism, higher education, construction, and telecommunications - with the GDP increasing around 4% in 2011. However, only a small minority of affluent Kenyans enjoy the benefits of this economic growth, while half of the population lives in absolute poverty. Furthermore, the agricultural sector, which employs around 75% of the population is highly inefficient and has faced continued problems in recent years due to political instability and conflict, though still accounting for around 20% of the GDP. Thus, Kenya’s major economic concern is establishing stable patterns of growth and attaining food security in order to avoid inconsistencies and growth and to ensure better living conditions for the entire population - not just an affluent minority.

Similarly, to Kenya and Tanzania, Uganda’s economy is largely supported by the agricultural sector. However, without the benefits of large tourism industry, Uganda has faced more economic difficulties than these other nations - which are largely due to corruption, misuse of funds, inflation, and involvement with the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Uganda is rich with natural resources such as crude oil, natural gas, mineral deposits, and fertile soils. While agricultural exports, especially that of coffee, once accounted for the largest increase in GDP, this has now shifted to the services sector in recent years. Attaining economic stability in Uganda is very much dependent on securing political stability in order to end corruption and misuse of funding.

# ASSIGNMENTS FOR INDEPENDENT STUDY:

## Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary

* Study Almasi, Chapter 13 (pp. 125-137). Note anything you have forgotten from the grammar section and memorize it. Then focus on the vocabulary, which includes a number of terms related to economics. Study and learn the relevant vocabulary words.
  + **HAND IN:** Almasi, Practice Exercise C (pg. 131)

## Talking about Economics and Politics

* Watch the following videos on [CultureTalk Tanzania](https://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu/culturetalk/Tanzania). Watch them a couple times trying to listen and absorb, then read the transcripts to get a better understanding. Record and memorize any new expressions.
  + CultureTalk Tanzania – Economy and Politics – Economic Development – Gaps between Rich and Poor
  + CultureTalk Tanzania – Economy and Politics – Entrepreneurs – Women as Entrepreneurs
  + CultureTalk Tanzania – Economy and Politics – The East African Community – Self-Employment and Competition with Kenyans
* Watch the following videos on some current economic issues in East Africa. The first video is a speech in the Tanzanian parliament on the state of the economy. The second video is a news story about youth entrepreneurs in Kenya. Note and memorize any new words or expressions.
  + [TBC Online: TANZANIA HAIPO UCHUMI WA KATI |](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmklIZUtTPo&pp=ygUSdWNodW1pIHdhIHRhbnphbmlh)
  + [Citizen TV Kenya: Ujasiriamali wa vijana katika kaunti ya Kisii](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLYWqHnJ6SI)
* Use all of this information, as well as some of your own research when needed (searching online using some of the Swahili vocabulary about economics that you have learned in this study guide could be helpful), to complete the following assignment:
  + **HAND IN:** The written transcript of your presentation on the major economic successes, challenges, and concerns in one East African nation. Furthermore, discuss what might be helpful in resolving economic shortcomings and unequal distribution of wealth. Your presentation should not be more than two (but more than one) pages in length, and should take around 7-8 minutes to present.
  + **HAND IN:** Write an at least 20-line dialogue between an American and a citizen of one of the East African nations. Specify the nation, and have the two discuss the economic issues of their countries as well as their strong points.

## Reading the News

* Go to the [Gazeti la Mwananchi Tanzania](http://www.mwananchi.co.tz/), [Mwanzo - Hizb ut Tahrir Kenya](https://hizbke.org/sw/), or [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/sw/) and find a short article in Swahili on the subject of politics or economics. Read the article, noting down any new words or expressions to study afterwards and enter into your memory system.
  + **HAND IN:** A short summary (10 sentences) of an authentic Swahili news article about politics or economics. Visit [Gazeti la Mwananchi Tanzania](http://www.mwananchi.co.tz/), [Mwanzo - Hizb ut Tahrir Kenya](https://hizbke.org/sw/), or [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/sw/) to find one.

# CONVERSATION SESSION PREPARATION

* Be prepared to… **Present** a long discussion (7-8 minutes in length) of the major economic successes, challenges, and concerns in one East African nation. Furthermore, discuss what might be helpful in resolving economic shortcomings and unequal distribution of wealth.
* Be prepared to… **Role play** people of different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds in an East African country, who discuss their work and the impact of the economy on their lives.
* Be prepared to… **Discuss** economic challenges and successes in many different nations and contexts, drawing on your research and personal experience.

# HOMEWORK FOR TUTORIAL

* **HAND IN:** Almasi, Practice Exercise C (pg. 131)
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* **HAND IN:** Write a dialogue (at least 20 sentences) between an American and a citizen of one of the East African nations. Specify the nation, and have the two discuss the economic issues of their countries as well as their strong points.
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