

module

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**NSSC**

# Development Studies

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# Introduction

Welcome to Module 1 of Development Studies. These modules are designed for learners who are preparing to write the Namibian Senior Secondary Certificate (NSSC) Development Studies examination. Development Studies is about processes of change which affect the countries of the world and the people who live in them. To describe these processes, Development Studies draws on other subjects like Geography, History, Economics, Business Studies/Management and Politics, so as to give you a better understanding of the world you live in.

In Development Studies we look at processes which are always changing. This means that there is not always a single right answer to every question. What is important is that you try to understand the arguments and facts in these modules, and that you think for yourself and make up your own mind. After all, Development Studies is about the world that you live in, so you have first-hand experience about it!

The questions in the Development Studies examination will not always ask you simply to repeat facts, but will test how much you have thought about the issues that you have studied. Because of this, don't think of each unit in the modules as a self-contained unit that can be forgotten after you have read it. Development Studies is about a lot of different processes which are related to one another, so we will keep reminding you about earlier work as you progress.

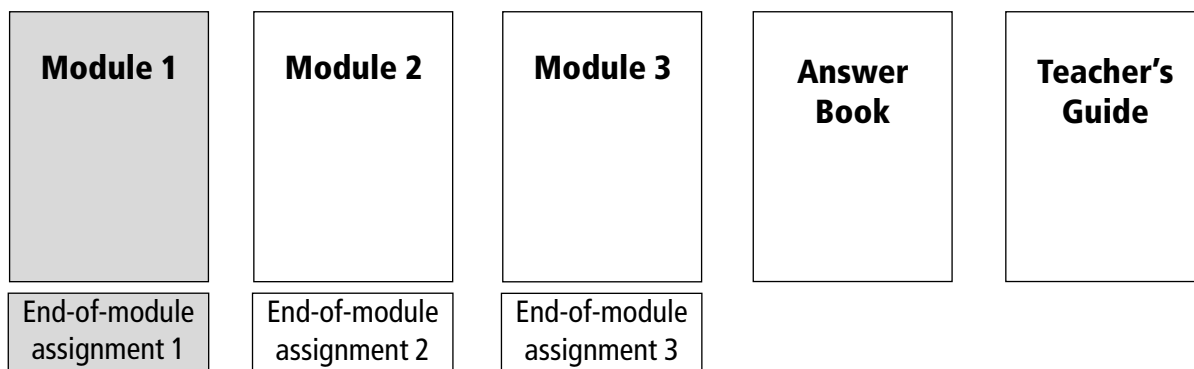
At the end of the final module you will find a unit about preparing for the Development Studies examinations. In this unit we will show you the kind of questions you can expect and we will explain how you would go about answering them.

## How does the course work?

In the diagram on the next page, you can see that this course is divided into three modules, each one in a separate book. Go back to the Contents page of this module. You will see that the module is divided into five units each dealing with a different topic. Each unit is further divided into different sections which contain the skills and content you will learn, as well as different kinds of activities.

If you are studying through a distance education college, once you have completed Module 1, you will write a test called an *End-of-module* assignment and post it in to the college. The assignment will be marked by a tutor who will also comment on your performance and progress. If you are happy with the feedback you receive from the college, then you can continue with the next module.

There is also an Answer Book and a Teacher's Guide. If you are a distance learner, then you will need to buy your own Answer Book so that you can check your answers to the activities. If you are a school learner, your teacher will have copies of both the Teacher's Guide and the Answer Book.



When you have finished studying all three modules of this course and have completed all the written assignments that your school or college has set, then you will be ready to write the examination.

## What does the examination involve?

Paper 1 consists of a written examination which lasts for 2 hours and 15 minutes. You will be expected to show that you understand the relevant terms and theories and are aware of different development issues in your own and other countries. The paper consists of five compulsory questions drawn from the whole curriculum. Each question is based on statistics, diagrams, maps or pictures.

Paper 2 is a two-hour written examination. It includes two compulsory structured questions which are based on different sections of the syllabus. You will be expected to interpret, analyse and evaluate the data presented and to relate the material to development problems. You will need to identify particular patterns and relationships and to analyse alternative approaches to development problems. In this paper you should show your awareness of development issues which affect people in Namibia.

If you are studying through a distance education college you will also be required to write Paper 3. This is an hour-and-a-quarter examination, in which you will be asked to come up with solutions to a development problem. In this paper you will be expected to show that you can investigate and research a development issue on your own and that you know how to record relevant data and present your findings clearly.

If you are studying Development Studies at school, you may be asked to do practical coursework. Ask your tutor for a copy of the NSSC Development Studies syllabus. This document clearly explains what you need to study.

## What do I need for the course?

There are many activities for you to do throughout the course. These reinforce what you have learnt and help you practise the skills you need for the examination. If you are a distance learner, it is very important that you attempt the activities yourself before checking the answers in the Answer Book. If you are a school learner, your teacher will help you to assess your work once you have completed it. Here are some of the things you will need to do the activities:

- a notebook and pen or pencil, to write down the answers to some of the activities
- a calculator, for doing mathematical calculations
- a dictionary might be useful to look up words which you don't understand
- an atlas will help you locate the different countries which are mentioned in the modules. You can also use the map of the world on page 76 of this module.

It is a good idea to study with a pen or pencil in your hand, making notes as you go along, and also practising drawing graphs where necessary.

## How should I plan my studies?

If you are aiming to write examinations, say in November next year, look at how many months you have between now and then. Then draw up a study plan so that you will have enough time to study each module, to complete the *End-of-module assignment*, and to revise all your work for the examination. The table below may help you keep track of where you are in your studies. Tick each block when you have completed the work. Try to fit in study time whenever you can – each half hour counts!

### NSSC DEVELOPMENT STUDIES MODULE 1

Unit no.	Unit title	Unit studied	'Check your progress' completed	Assignment completed	Revised for exam
1	Development				
2	Politics and development				
3	Different theories of development				
4	Production				
5	Rural development				

## How should I use the modules?

On the next few pages are samples of some pages showing the features which you will find in each unit. Make sure you understand each feature, as this will help guide your studies.

Good luck!

### Unit

A module is divided into units, each one on a different topic. Each unit begins with an introduction which tells you what you will learn and do in the unit.

### Contents

This table shows the different sections in the unit.

### Learning objectives

These bullet points describe all the skills and content which you will learn in the unit. They relate directly to the syllabus. Once you have worked through the unit you should be able to do all of these things.

**Glossary**  
 DEVELOPED – the wealth of a country  
 STANDARD OF LIVING – how well people live

## Unit 1

# Development

What is **development**? How does it affect the world? Why are some countries **DEVELOPED**, with strong economies and high **STANDARDS OF LIVING**, while other countries are less-developed and their people are poorer? How do we measure how developed a country is? In this unit we will begin answering these questions by discussing what development is, looking at how development affects a country and its people, and considering whether this is for the better or worse for countries and the people in them.

Development Studies is about many different facts and processes, and in this first unit we will introduce you to some of them. As you study later units and you become more familiar with the world of development, the ideas introduced here will become clearer. All of the units of this module are connected to one another, because they all discuss different aspects of the same thing – development! So as you progress through this module, keep referring back to earlier units. That way you will refresh your memory, and you'll find that what seemed quite hard when you first read it, is actually much easier.

This unit is divided into four sections:

A	About development
B	World development
C	Processes of development
D	Measuring development

In this unit you will learn to:

- understand what development is
- identify the different aspects of development and how they affect your life
- understand that development does not affect everyone equally
- understand how the different parts of the world are described according to their development
- measure levels of development.

## Activity

Each activity helps you to practise the skills and apply the knowledge that you are gaining as you work through the unit. You are usually advised to complete each activity within a certain time. Try to keep to this time as this will give you valuable practice in answering questions within a time limit, like you will have to do in the exams. The activities are an important tool for a distance learner as they help you to assess your own work. By completing each activity, you can keep a constant check on how well you understand the work. You can also detect if you are having a problem with a particular section and will know to go back and study it again. The answers to activities are in the Answer Book.

## Glossary

Throughout the module you will see glossary definitions in the margin. These are explanations of unfamiliar words used in the text. As you can see, the words explained in the glossary appear in capital letters in the text.

## Keywords

The words which appear in bold in the text are important words or concepts which you need to understand.

## Hint

These are small pieces of extra information which explain things, give you more background, or make links to other parts of the course.

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**ACTIVITY 12**

Take a close look at the map on page 31 and take about half an hour to answer the following questions.

- 1 Write down the names of some of the countries that have been involved in armed conflict or dispute in the past 30 years.
- 2 What do you know about the conflict in South Africa prior to 1994.
- 3 What effects did war have on Angola?
- 4 Was an end put to the war or conflict in Namibia?
- 5 South Africa, Namibia and Angola have a lot in common. What effects did war or conflict have on the development of these countries?

Many of these conflicts or wars were supported by the **SUPERPOWERS** and other nations. They were usually caused by:

- religious problems
- ethnic differences
- political differences
- economic interests
- struggles for independence

War and conflict have caused much harm to the development of Africa. **TYRANNICAL** governments, corruption, racial hatred and lack of human rights all act to hold up the processes of political change that are needed to bring about development.

The negative effects of war and conflict on the process of development are definitely visible and felt by the people who experience them. But how do we measure their effect on development? We can certainly point out where wars have occurred, but it is difficult to quantify the level of effect that they have had.

**Environmental indicators**

In Section A we mentioned that **conservation of the environment** is an important aspect of development, along with economic, social and political change. Conservation is the careful use of resources and the preservation of the land and all that depends on it, including human beings. The environment must be maintained for future generations.

We have already seen that the economic growth of a country comes from its resources – such as minerals, water and livestock. But there are two ways in which the use of these resources can slow down development. First, if industries use up resources too quickly, then there will be no resources left for development in the future.

Second, farms, mines and factories can damage the environment. Farmers can overuse the land, and not rest it after growing crops

**Glossary**

**SUPERPOWERS** – the most powerful countries in the world, which until the 1990s were the USA and the Soviet Union

**TYRANNICAL** – ruled by a cruel leader

**Hint**

The exploitation of the environment is another example in which economic growth is not the same as development. Large factories and mines may bring economic growth, but they can also damage the environment and therefore slow down development.



## Summary

Each unit ends with a summary of the main concepts learnt in the unit. As you study, it is useful to reflect on what you have learnt. These summaries will also help you when you revise for the exams.

## Check your progress

At the end of each unit is an exercise called *Check your progress*. These exercises help you assess whether you have understood the skills and knowledge in the unit, and are ready to go on to the next one. They fulfil the same function as the activities but you will find that they are a little bit more challenging. This is so that you can build up your knowledge so that by the time you come to the exam you feel confident about answering all kinds of different questions. The answers to these exercises are all in the Answer Book.

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**Glossary**  
 IMPORT – buy goods from other countries

Unfortunately all the countries of the world are using up the earth's natural resources at an alarming rate and they are polluting its atmosphere. Not only do the countries of the South use up resources for their own industries, but the countries of the North also IMPORT raw materials from the South and turn them into manufactured goods. If all the countries of the world continue to use up its resources we will change the world's climate and run out of all the things the earth provides. A major challenge that faces us is how to raise standards of living and also conserve the environment for future generations.

We have come to the end of this unit, but clearly there is much more to the exciting world of development. In the next units you will be introduced to many new concepts, and some of the ideas in this unit will be explained in more detail. So it's important that you understand what you've read so far – but remember that things will get clearer as you go along.

**Summary**

**A** In this first section we saw that development is a process of change affecting a society and giving people a higher quality of life. But development does not always affect people equally, and it can make some people worse off. Development involves several processes – economic growth, social change, political change and conservation of the environment.

**B** We looked at different terms which are used to describe different countries' levels of development. The most important division is between the North and the South, or the developed world and the developing world.

**C** Development is fuelled by a country's use of its resources. These resources are used in different sectors of production – agriculture, industries and services. We also saw that different countries' different levels of development is partly due to the history of colonialism.

**D** We looked at ways of measuring development. By discussing the different aspects of development in more detail – economic, social, political and environmental – we saw that there are some indicators that we can use to describe countries' levels of development, but that some aspects of development are very difficult to measure.

**Check your progress**

1 What do the following abbreviations or letters mean?

**a** UN [4]  
**b** GNP  
**c** LDC  
**d** NIC

2 **a** Give a definition of development. [1]  
**b** Suggest two advantages and two disadvantages of development. [4]

Each of the questions in the *Check your progress* exercises usually carries 1 mark. This is an important indication of how much time to spend on a question. The time you spend on each question should be in proportion to the marks allocated to it. Don't spend as much time on a question that only carries a few marks as you do on a question that is worth more. If you do, you will waste valuable time in the exam – and that means marks.