

Cambridge International AS & A Level

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES & RESEARCH

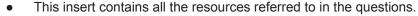
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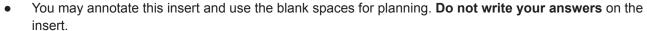
Paper 1 Written Exam

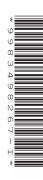
May/June 2025

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INFORMATION







The following documents consider issues related to cultural heritage. Read them **both** in order to answer **all** the questions on the paper.

Adapted from: Can songs save an endangered language? written by Stephanie Vermillion. Published in 2022 by 'National Geographic Society' (US), a non-profit organization dedicated to funding science and exploration across the planet. The author is a travel and outdoors journalist, filmmaker, and photographer.

For centuries, Central America's Garifuna people have kept their history alive through their ancestors' native language.

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This kind of revival is a long, multi-generational road.

Document B

Adapted from: *Protection of Cultural Heritage: The Nigerian experience*, written by Seun Lari-Williams and published in 2022 by 'The IP Press', a professional blog about intellectual property (IP) issues. The author is a litigation lawyer in Nigeria and an IP Consultant.

Recently, we have seen news about museums returning stolen artefacts to their country of origin. This has raised the topic of cultural heritage in Nigeria. The Nigerian National Commission for Museums and Monuments (NCMM) is finally receiving much-deserved attention.

According to UNESCO, cultural heritage includes products that can be touched and seen. Some examples are: architecture, paintings, textiles, pottery, books, and sculpture. It also includes aspects of life such as folklore, beliefs, music, dance, traditions, language, and knowledge. Culture is inherited from past generations. Cultural heritage is maintained for the benefit of future generations. Heritage is a source of identity and unity for communities. Cultural heritage can also attract tourists.

Nigeria has a rich cultural heritage, including, drama, music, poetry, and rituals. Places like the Nigerian National Museum and the Centre for Contemporary Art hold many examples of Nigerian heritage. These include paintings, sculptures, coins, and manuscripts.

The cultural heritage of Nigeria faces several challenges. The NCMM manages 51 museums and 65 national monuments and sites. However, Nigeria does not have the resources needed to protect the country's cultural heritage. UNESCO provides international funding and resources to promote culture and protect heritage sites. Nigeria has been managing its cultural heritage for seventy years. Yet, so far, UNESCO's World Heritage List only mentions two places in Nigeria: Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove and Sukur Cultural Landscape. If Nigeria could get more places onto the list, we could receive more funding.

Colonialism is in the past, but it still impacts cultures and traditions. In colonized nations such as Nigeria, many heritage items were stolen by the colonists. Also, many temples which could have served as interesting heritage sites were destroyed.

Powerful multinational corporations have played a role in the entertainment industry of Nigeria. They have promoted western music and musical instruments, foreign dance styles and dress culture. This has negative impacts on traditional music, dance, and dancers in Nigeria. Also in the fashion industry, traditional clothes are being abandoned.

Another challenge is the mismanagement of cultural resources in Nigeria. This includes thefts from museums, illegal trading, and destruction of cultural heritage. The government, community leaders, academics, and law enforcement agencies do not pay enough attention to these problems. As a result, national monuments and heritage objects are not protected.

The law on cultural heritage is outdated. Nigeria's first law on cultural heritage was the NCMM Act of 1979. The National Assembly of Nigeria is currently discussing this law. Amending the law could reduce cultural heritage violations in Nigeria. The law could include fines and punishments for damaging heritage. Stronger measures and punishments are bound to improve the present situation. They should be welcomed.

Nigeria ranks high when it comes to cultural heritage. This article discussed some of the challenges faced regarding its protection. Nigeria's cultural heritage is vital to the history and culture of its people. However, protecting cultural heritage can be a challenge due to high costs. The Nigerian government should consider raising international awareness about Nigeria's heritage. It should push for recognition of Nigerian items of cultural heritage by UNESCO. Thus, it could gain access to several international funds.

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