

Our high school journey was not an ordinary one

The release of the 2025 Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) results by the Uganda National Examinations Board (Uneb) on March 13, marks the end of an important chapter in the lives of many GenZs in Uganda.

For the over 165,000 students who sat for the exams, the moment brings both relief and reflection. It is a time to look back at a journey that has shaped us and look forward to the paths that lie ahead.

Our high school journey was not an ordinary one. Along the way, we faced a number of challenges that tested our determination and resilience.

One of the most significant was the disruption caused by Covid-19 that led us to a seven-year stay in high school. Schools were closed for months, learning shifted away from classrooms, and many students struggled to keep up with studies while at home.

The pandemic changed the way we learned and forced us to adapt to new circumstances with limited resources throughout O-Level that we conquered.

Apart from the pandemic, there were also the usual pressures of academic life. Long hours of studying, preparing for tests, and balancing academics with co-curricular activities demanded discipline and commitment.

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Alvin Rwebembera
Reflections



At times the workload felt overwhelming, yet these challenges taught us valuable lessons about perseverance and hard work.

As Mark Twain once stated, "The secret of getting ahead is getting started." Every small step we took in our studies brought us closer to this milestone.

Throughout this journey, we were not alone. Teachers worked tirelessly to guide us, parents and guardians offered support, and friends encouraged each other during difficult moments.

Now that the results have been released, the question on many minds is simple but significant: What next? For some students, the next step will be joining universities or other higher institutions of learning to pursue professional careers in fields such as

medicine, engineering, education, business, and information technology.

Others may choose vocational training to acquire practical skills in areas like carpentry, mechanics, tailoring, or electrical installation.

These skills are equally important for the growth and development of our country.

Others may also take time to work, volunteer, or start small businesses as they plan for the future.

This period should not be viewed as a time of uncertainty but as a moment of opportunity to explore our talents and interests.

As we move forward, we should remember that examination results are only one part of our journey. Determination, creativity, discipline, and a willingness to keep learning will ultimately shape our success. As stated by William Shakespeare, "We know what we are, but know not what we may be." This reminds us that our potential is far greater than what we may imagine today.

The end of high school is, therefore, not the end of the road, it is simply the beginning of a new chapter. As the last lot of the old curriculum, we must move forward with courage, hope, and a clear sense of purpose. Our experiences, including the challenges we overcame, have prepared us for the responsibilities and opportunities that lie ahead.

With determination and hard work, we can shape a future not only for ourselves but also for the nation we call home.

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