MALAWI GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ

The Warm Heart of Africa

20 questions • 4 options per question • 1 correct answer each

Instructions: Choose the best answer for each question. Each question is worth one point. Your total score is out of 20.

Quiz questions

1. What is the capital city of Malawi?

A. Blantyre
B. Lilongwe
C. Mzuzu
D. Zomba

2. In which year did Malawi gain independence from Britain?

A. 1960
B. 1962
C. 1964
D. 1966

3. Which famous lake lies along much of Malawi's eastern side?

A. Lake Victoria
B. Lake Tanganyika
C. Lake Malawi
D. Lake Chad

4. Who became Malawi's first president when it became a republic in 1966?

A. Hastings Kamuzu Banda
B. Bakili Muluzi
C. Bingu wa Mutharika
D. Joyce Banda

5. What is the official currency of Malawi?

A. Malawian shilling
B. Malawian kwacha
C. South African rand
D. Zambian kwacha

6. Which three countries share land borders with Malawi?

A. Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique
B. Zimbabwe, Angola and Zambia
C. Tanzania, Kenya and Mozambique

D. Zambia, Botswana and Tanzania

7. What is the nickname of Malawi's national football team?

A. The Black Stars
B. The Warriors
C. The Flames
D. The Chipolopolo

8. Which traditional Malawian staple is made mainly from maize flour?

A. Nsima
B. Injera
C. Couscous
D. Jollof rice

9. What affectionate nickname is commonly associated with Malawi?

A. The Rainbow Nation
B. The Warm Heart of Africa
C. The Pearl of Africa
D. The Land of a Thousand Hills

10. Which Malawian national park is especially well known for elephants and wildlife?

A. Serengeti National Park
B. Kruger National Park
C. Liwonde National Park
D. Etosha National Park

11. What is the name of Malawi's highest mountain peak?

A. Sapitwa
B. Mount Kilimanjaro
C. Mount Kenya
D. Mount Meru

12. Which language is widely spoken in Malawi and serves as its national language?

A. Swahili
B. Chichewa
C. Zulu
D. Amharic

13. Which city is widely recognised as Malawi's main commercial and financial centre?

A. Zomba
B. Mzuzu
C. Blantyre
D. Karonga

14. Which river flows out of Lake Malawi and through southern Malawi?

A. Zambezi River
B. Shire River
C. Nile River

D. Limpopo River

15. On which date does Malawi celebrate Independence Day?

A. 1 January
B. 6 July
C. 14 October
D. 25 December

16. Which of these is an important export crop grown in Malawi?

A. Tea
B. Olives
C. Dates
D. Coconuts

17. Which well-known inhabited island is located in Lake Malawi?

A. Zanzibar
B. Likoma Island
C. Pemba Island
D. Robben Island

18. What is the name of the university established as Malawi's national public university in 1964?

A. University of Zambia
B. University of Nairobi
C. University of Malawi
D. University of Dar es Salaam

19. The Vimbuza healing dance tradition is particularly associated with which part of Malawi?

A. Northern Malawi
B. The far south only
C. The lakeshore islands only
D. The central plateau only

20. Which UNESCO World Heritage Site in central Malawi is famous for its ancient rock paintings?

A. Chongoni Rock-Art Area
B. Great Zimbabwe
C. Olduvai Gorge
D. Robben Island

Answer key and explanations

Use this section to check the answers after completing the quiz.

1. B – Lilongwe

Lilongwe is Malawi's capital. Blantyre is the country's principal commercial and financial centre.

2. C – 1964

Malawi became independent on 6 July 1964. It became a republic in 1966.

3. C – Lake Malawi

4. A – Hastings Kamuzu Banda

Hastings Kamuzu Banda became Malawi's first president in 1966, after serving as prime minister following independence.

5. B – Malawian kwacha

The Malawian kwacha is Malawi's currency. Zambia has a separate currency also called the kwacha.

6. A – Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique

Malawi borders Zambia to the west, Tanzania to the north and northeast, and Mozambique to the east and south.

7. C – The Flames

The Flames is the nickname of Malawi's national football team.

8. A – Nsima

Nsima is a thick maize-based staple commonly eaten with vegetables, beans, fish or meat.

9. B – The Warm Heart of Africa

Malawi is widely known as the Warm Heart of Africa, a reference to its reputation for hospitality.

10. C – Liwonde National Park

Liwonde National Park, along the Shire River, is a major wildlife destination in Malawi.

11. A – Sapitwa

Sapitwa, on the Mount Mulanje massif, is Malawi's highest peak.

12. B – Chichewa

Chichewa, also called Chewa, is Malawi's national language and is widely spoken throughout the country.

13. C – Blantyre

Blantyre, in southern Malawi, is the country's principal commercial and financial centre.

14. B – Shire River

The Shire River flows from the southern end of Lake Malawi through southern Malawi before joining the Zambezi system.

15. B – 6 July

Malawi celebrates Independence Day on 6 July, marking independence in 1964.

16. A – Tea

Tea is an important Malawian export crop, especially in the southern districts of Thyolo and Mulanje.

17. B – Likoma Island

Likoma Island is an inhabited island in Lake Malawi, known for its scenery and St Peter's Cathedral.

18. C – University of Malawi

The University of Malawi was established in 1964. Its constituent institutions and structure have evolved over time.

19. A – Northern Malawi

Vimbuza is a healing dance tradition associated particularly with the Tumbuka people of northern Malawi.

20. A – Chongoni Rock-Art Area

The Chongoni Rock-Art Area, in central Malawi near Dedza, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its rock paintings.

Scoring guide

Score	Achievement
18–20	Malawi Expert
15–17	Excellent Knowledge
11–14	Good Knowledge
6–10	Keep Learning
0–5	Time to Explore Malawi!



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