

THE BIG FRIENDLY COUNT



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INTRODUCTION

In the timeless tradition of storytelling, the author embarks on a transformative journey to simplify selected census processes, concepts, and terminologies. Through the lens of storytelling, she uses relatable examples and familiar scenarios to make the census clear and interesting for everyone. Each delicately crafted narrative brings a census term alive through a fictional character and situation close to the reader.

In this series, the power of storytelling finds its resonance in the lives of Ugandans, drawing from their everyday experiences to explain the population and housing census. In doing so, they unlock the potential for enhanced civic engagement, facilitate informed decision-making processes that lay the foundation for a more inclusive and equitable society. As these stories weave their way into the fabric of communities, they offer not just comprehension, but a shared narrative of empowerment and belonging.

So, get ready for a journey where stories unlock understanding and create a shared sense of belonging. Dive in and discover the power of the census, one engaging tale at a time!

THE BIG FRIENDLY COUNT



Once there lived a curious little girl nick named “Nansu” after her name Nansubuga. She loved to ask questions about everything around her. One day, as the family watched

television, her attention was drawn to an announcement on the 2024 Population and Housing Census conducted by Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS)

Curiosity sparked in Nansu's mind, and she skipped over to “Jajja”, her grandmother, who was sitting on a nearby bench.

"Jajja," Nansu asked, tugging on her skirt, "What is a Census?" Jajja smiled warmly and patted the spot next to her, inviting Nansu to sit down.

"Umm a Census," she began, "is like taking a big friendly count of all the people who live in our village at a specific point in time.

Jajja further explained that a census is not counting people in home like 1,2,3, BUT

involves asking household members they individual details such as; full name, age and date of birth, sex, education level, religion, tribe among others.

Nansu's eyes widened with interest.

Ohh, Jajja, so why is it important to count everyone? Jajja?"

"Well, dear," explained Jajja, The Census helps us to know how many people there are, how old they are, where they live, the type of housing units used, their access to health and education services, and the availability of water, sanitation, and electricity.

Nansu asked again "what would happen if the census provided the total number of children in the country".

Jajja explained "Knowing the number of children in different age groups can help with education planning, allowing the government to know how many villages need schools and teachers in the future. The government could predict how many vaccines they would need for children under five. Adding that it could also plan to provide essential services like nutritional programs and ensure that these programs reach the most vulnerable populations."

Nansu nodded, understanding slowly dawning on her face. "So, it's like sharing slices of bread amongst family member depending on how hungry each one is".

"Exactly!" Jajja exclaimed, her eyes twinkling with pride.

Nansu giggled, imagining a loaf of bread being shared amongst her friends. "So, the Census helps make sure everyone has a slice depending on their needs?".

"That's right, my clever girl," Jajja said, giving Nansu a gentle squeeze. "And when we know what everyone needs, we can help make our village a happier place for all."

Nansu hopped down from Jajja's lap, her heart light and happy. She ran off to join her friends again. She realized that counting could help everyone in her village have their slice of happiness.

NOTE TO THE READER

This Census Story is of imaginary narrative that utilise fictional characters to explore complex statistical processes, concepts, and terminologies. The narratives, crafted offer a captivating escape from the usual technical jargons, thus allowing a reader to relax, be entertained and experience the full range of emotions. Readers are, however, reminded that within the fantastical lies the potential for profound education. So, enjoy the exploration, knowing that even though the stories are imaginary, the lessons learnt hold valuable truths.

CAUTION

The views, explanations and interpretations expressed in each census story tale are entirely those of the author. They do not necessarily represent the views of the Uganda Bureau of Statistics, its staff, or the stakeholders they coordinate, or development partners, nor its Board of Directors.

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