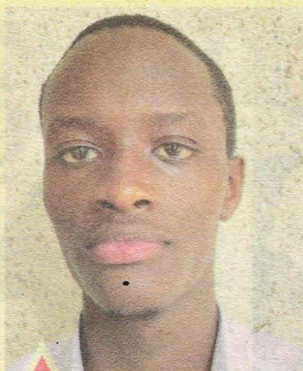


# Does Uganda's economy give young people hope for the future?

BY PATRICK SSENTONGO

**T**he talk about the economy is everywhere; prices shooting up, jobs feeling out of reach, and everyone saying "life is hard." But what do teens really think about Uganda's economy and their future in it? We asked a few students at Namirembe Hillside High School, and here is what they said.



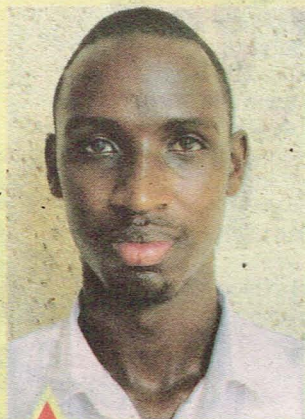
**Musa Katenga (S.5 Sciences)**

Honestly, the economy feels tough right now as everything is expensive. However, I still believe the future can be better if more investment is made in science and innovation. We just need real opportunities, not empty promises.



**Arthur Busobozi (S.5 Sciences)**

The economy does not give much hope yet because you see graduates struggling to find jobs. It is scary. But at the same time, I think young people can create their own hope by being more innovative and business-minded instead of waiting for government jobs.



**Joshua Akandwanaho (S.5 Sciences)**

I think the economy can only give us hope if leaders prioritise education and skill development. Many youth have talent and ideas but lack support to start something.



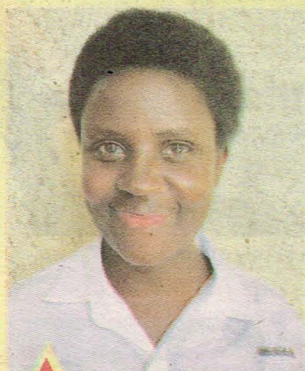
**Ryan Agum (S.5 Arts)**

Right now, I would say the economy does not feel friendly to young people. You see how expensive everything has become – even small side hustles are hard to start. But I still have faith that our generation will find creative ways.



**Vivian Vivika Ayebare (S.5 Sciences)**

The economy is definitely shaky, but I think hope is a personal choice. If we learn to use technology, start small, and stay focused, we can build something. I just hope we get more programs to help us.



**Bonus Ankunda (S.5 Arts)**

When I hear about inflation and unemployment, it feels like the system is stacked against us. But I also believe we should not just sit and complain but be part of the solution.



**Esther Stanley Liong (S.5 Sciences)**

It is hard to stay positive when prices keep rising, and even parents are struggling. But the hope I have is that young people are more aware now. We talk about money, investment, and saving.



**Lauren Mitchel Atuha (S.5 Sciences)**

I think the economy gives a little hope but not enough. There is too much inequality and corruption. If that changes, then maybe we can have a real chance at success. Until then, I just focus on studying.