

**What led to the decline of this trade towards the end of the 19th century?
Why did the Long Distance Trade decline by the end of the 19th century?
Explain the reasons for the decline of the Long Distance Trade by the end
of the 19th century.**

- 1) The Long Distance Trade was the trade over long distances to and from the interior as well as within the interior of East Africa
- 2) The Long Distance Trade was also known as the pre-colonial caravan trade or the interior trade
- 3) By the end of the 19th century the trade had declined due to a number of political, economic and social reasons

Body of the essay

- 4) The death of prominent leaders like Mirambo, Nyungu ya Mawe and Muteesa 1 in 1884 led to the decline of the trade
- 5) The scarcity of some of the items like ivory, led to the decline of the trade

- 6) The industrial revolution which occurred in Europe made the acquisition of slaves useless since machines had replaced human labor. This led to the decline of the trade
- 7) The coming of Christian missionaries who continuously preached against the trade eventually led to its collapse
- 8) The introduction of the cash economy which replaced the barter system led to the decline of the trade
- 9) Tropical diseases like malaria, sleeping sickness which scared the traders led to the decline of the trade
- 10) The increasing conflicts and wars in the interior which disrupted the trade eventually led to its decline
- 11) The increased penetration of the Arabs into the interior who replaced the role of the African chiefs created a lot of rivalry leading to the decline of the trade
- 12) The unfavourable climatic conditions in the interior characterized by heavy rains and prolonged droughts led to the decline of the trade
- 13) The Ngoni invasion which disrupted the trade led to its decline
- 14) The heavy taxes imposed on the coastal merchants by the interior chiefs scared the traders leading to its eventual decline
- 15) The introduction of legitimate trade provided an alternative to the trade hence leading to its decline

