



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR
THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF TOURISM & NRM
BACHELOR OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

COURSE CODE: WLM 366

COURSE TITLE: HERPETOLOGY

DATE: 19TH APRIL 2018

TIME: 1100 - 1300 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **All** the Questions in Section A and any **THREE** IN SECTION B

*This paper consists of **TWO** printed pages. Please turn over.*

SECTION A (25 MARKS)

- 1) (a) Giving an example, define what you understand by the term tetrapod as relates to herps [2 marks]
(b) Explain three critical evolutionary steps that led to the evolution of reptiles from amphibians [3 marks]
2. Highlight any 5 differences between Kenya's forest cobra (*Naja melanoleuca*) and the Taita Warty Frog (*Callulina dawida*) [5 marks]
3. (a) Kenyan amphibians are classified into two orders. Giving examples, name the two orders [2 marks]
(b) Giving examples, name three symptoms of snake bites in Kenya [3 marks]
4. Highlight five features that are important in the identification of lizards [5 marks]
5. (a) Differentiate a voucher specimen from a type specimen [2 marks]
(b) As a technical staff employed at the Herpetology Section of the National Museums of Kenya, a layman brings in a snake he has killed on his farm. Outline any three features you would use to identify the snake [3 marks]

SECTION B (45 MARKS)

- 6) Giving examples, discuss defense mechanisms employed by herps against predation [15 marks]
- 7) East African snakes can be classified into four groups. Giving examples, describe the groups detailing the basis for such classification [15 marks]
- 8) Discuss **five** threats facing conservation of reptiles and amphibians in Kenya [15 marks]
- 9) Discuss the steps involved in the preparation of herpetological specimens for preservation/storage [15 marks]

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