



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION 2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR FOURTH YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND INFORMATION SCIENCES
FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE ZOOLOGY**

COURSE CODE: ZOO 3111

COURSE TITLE: ANIMAL ECOLOGY

DATE: 3RD DECEMBER, 2018

TIME: 0830 – 1030 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- a) Answer **ALL** questions in section **A** and **any two** questions in section **B**
- b) Illustrate your answers with suitable diagrams and give examples wherever appropriate.

This paper consists of 2 printed pages. Please turn over.

SECTION A: Answer ALL questions in this section , Each question carries 3marks

1. Explain adaptation fitness. (3marks)
2. State the law of tolerance and its significance. (3marks)
3. With examples explain dispersal pattern. (3marks)
4. State the barriers to animal dispersal. (3marks)
5. List the different methods used to describe ecological communities. (3marks)
6. Distinguish between Parasitism and Mutualism relationships in animals (3marks)
7. Outline the factors that determine the number of species in an island. (3marks)
8. State the factors that can cause disturbance in an ecosystem. (3marks)
9. Explain the concept 'community structure'. (3marks)
10. Explain how community stability can be achieved. (3marks)

SECTION B: Answer Any Two Questions. Each question carries 20 marks

11. Discuss animal migration and explain significance in an ecosystem. (20 marks)
12. Outline the Carbon cycle and explain its significance. (20 marks)
13. Explain interspecific competition and its significance in animal ecology. (20 marks)
14. Describe the adaptation of a named predator and its prey species. (20 marks)

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