



# **MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR  
THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCE,  
TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT**

**COURSE CODE: WRM 3117-1  
COURSE TITLE: ORNITHOLOGY**

**DATE: 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**TIME: 11:00 – 13:00**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **ALL** questions in section **A** and any other **THREE** in section **B**.

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

**Section A: Answer all questions (20 marks)**

1. a) Name four characteristics that shows birds have a reptilian ancestry **(2 marks)**
- b) Explain characters in support of birds endothermic condition **(2 marks)**
2. Explain why the number of bird's species in tropical region e.g. in Kenya is much higher (over 1100 species) and reduces towards the polar region e.g., Greenland is only about 50 species. **(4 marks)**
3. a) With named examples, explain the three mating patterns in birds **(3 marks)**
- b) Define brood parasitism **(1 mark)**
4. a) Outline the characters you can use to identify birds in the field **(5 marks)**
- b) Briefly explain the importance of migration in migratory birds **(3 marks)**

**Section B: Answer any three (3) questions only (30 marks)**

5. Discuss in details the characteristics that differentiate birds from other vertebrates **(10 marks)**
6. a) Explain the challenges birds conservation efforts faces in Kenya today **(5 marks)**
- b) Exhaustively explain how these challenges named in 7a above can be countered **(5 marks)**
7. Discuss the values of conserving birds in Kenya **(10 marks)**
8. Discuss adaption's that have made birds effective in flight **(10 marks)**

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