



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

SECOND YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

**SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES, TOURISM
AND HOSPITALITY**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN WILDLIFE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

COURSE CODE: WRM 2106-1

**COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO
ECOLOGY**

DATE: 14/12/2023

TIME: 0830-1030HRS

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 (20 MARKS)

1. Define the following terms;
 - I.Parasitism **(1 Marks)**
 - II.Niche **(1 Marks)**
 - III.Biome **(1 Marks)**
 - IV.Ecosystem **(1 Marks)**
 - V.Population **(1 Marks)**
2. What is the difference between abiotic factor and biotic factor in the ecosystem? **(3 marks)**
3. Describe the nested hierarchy that ecologists use to organize the biological world **(6Marks)**
4. Explain the role of decomposers in an ecosystem **(2 Marks)**
5. Explain the concept of a food chain and give an example involving at least three trophic levels **(4 Marks)**

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS (10 MARKS EACH)

6. Discuss the human impacts on biogeochemical cycles **(10 Marks)**
7. Using a well labeled diagram discuss the carbon cycle **(10 Marks)**
8. Discuss the ecological significance of species interaction in an ecosystem **(10 Marks)**
9. Describe the process of ecological succession and the role it plays in the development and maintenance of ecosystems **(10 Marks)**

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