



# **MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR  
FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES,  
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND  
AGRICULTURE  
DIPLOMA IN TOURISM AND WILDLIFE  
MANAGEMENT**

**COURSE CODE: NDTW 114  
COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO  
NATURAL HISTORY OF MAMMALS**

**DATE: 14/5/2024 TIME: 1100-  
1300HRS**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

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

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

## SECTION A (25 MARKS)

1. Define the following terms as relates to mammals, giving an example of each  
(i) Altruism; (ii) Cursorial; (iii) Speciation; (iv) Polyandrous Family; (v) Ethology [5 marks]
2. Briefly describe the chronology of events leading to the evolution of mammals, differentiating between mammal-like reptiles and present-day mammals [5 marks]
3. Briefly explain **FIVE** key ecological roles of Kenyan Mammals [5 marks]
4. Explain the mating ritual of the Ugandan kob (*Kobus kob thomasi*) [5 marks]
5. Briefly Explain the social organization of the African Wild Dogs (*Lycaon pictus*) [5 marks]

## SECTION B (45 MARKS)

6. Discuss mammalian orders (giving examples and distinguishing characteristics) of the following mammalian orders; Serenia, Pholidota, Macroscelidea, Tibulidentata, Hyracoidea, Cetatcea, Lagomorpha, and Proboscidea [15 marks]
7. a.) Explain the female lion strategies of defense to Infanticide [8 marks]  
b.) Describe the structure of a mammalian skull and discuss how skulls can be used to identify Kenyan mammals [7 marks]
8. Discuss the pros and Cons of living in social groups in mammals [15 marks]
9. Mammals are a group of animals with a backbone with **EXCLUSIVELY** some key characteristics, discuss these key characteristics. [15 marks]

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