



# **MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

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

**SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES, TOURISM  
AND HOSPITALITY  
BACHELOR OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

**COURSE CODE: WRM 3120-1  
COURSE TITLE: HERPETOLOGY**

**DATE: 09<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**TIME: 14:30 -16:30**

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**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 (20 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. (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 (30 MARKS)**

5. Giving specific examples, discuss defense mechanisms employed by herps against predation [10 marks]

6. East African snakes can be classified into four groups. Giving specific examples, describe the groups detailing the basis for such classification [10 marks]

7. Discuss **the** threats facing conservation of reptiles and amphibians in Kenya [10 marks]

8. Discuss the steps involved in the preparation of herpetological specimens for preservation/storage [10 marks]

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