



MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2018/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR
THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

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

**COURSE CODE: WRM 3103
COURSE TITLE: ORNITHOLOGY**

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER, 2018

TIME: 0830 – 1030 HRS

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 (25 marks)

1. a) State 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 breeding in tropical region e.g. in Kenya is much higher (over 1300 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) What is brood parasitism? **(1 marks)**
4. Briefly explain factors that make birds to have a very effective and efficient respiratory system **(5 marks)**
5. 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 (45 marks)

6. Discuss in details the characteristics that differentiate birds from other vertebrates **(15 marks)**
7. a) Discuss in details the challenges birds conservation efforts faces in Kenya today **(8 marks)**
b) Exhaustively explain how these challenges named in 7a above can be countered **(7 marks)**
8. Discuss in details the values of conserving birds in Kenya **(15 marks)**
9. Discuss in details adaption's that have made birds effective in flight **(15 marks)**

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