MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY

REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR
THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER

SCHOOL OF TOURISM & NRM
BACHELOR OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

COURSE CODE: WRM 3107
COURSE TITLE: HERPETOLOGY

DATE: 11ᵀᴴ 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 (25 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*)
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. Highlight five features that are important in the identification of lizards **[5 marks]**

5. (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 (45 MARKS)

6) Giving examples, discuss defense mechanisms employed by herps against predation **[15 marks]**
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7) East African snakes can be classified into four groups. Giving examples, describe the groups detailing the basis for such classification **[15 marks]**

8) Discuss **five** threats facing conservation of reptiles and amphibians in Kenya **[15 marks]**

9) Discuss the steps involved in the preparation of herpetological specimens for preservation/storage **[15 marks]**

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