



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 3119-1
COURSE TITLE: BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY**

DATE: 6TH DECEMBER 2019

TIME: 14:30 – 16:30

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Answer **All** the Questions in Section A and any **THREE** IN SECTION B

SECTION A [20 marks]

1) Define the following terms as used in behavioral ecology **[5 marks]**

- (I) Kin selection;
- (II) Sexual selection;
- (III) Parental investment;
- (IV) Sperm competition

; (V) Coevolutionary arms race

2) Most birds are monogamous, with a few being polygynous and a few still polyandrous. In contrast, most mammals show some form of polygyny or promiscuity. Only about 5% of mammal species are monogamous, and a sort of “polyandry” is very rare. Explain this basic difference between birds and mammals? **[5 marks]**

3) Mute Swans are observed to be monogamous, and only very rarely are they observed to change mates during their breeding lifetime. Scientists would not expect to observe infanticide in this species. Why not? **[5 marks]**

4) (a) Differentiate between innate and learned behavior **[2 marks]**

(b) State any three examples of innate behavior in animals **[3 marks]**

SECTION B (30 MARKS)

5) Giving specific examples, discuss strategies different prey species use to avoid predation **[10 marks]**

6) When choosing mates, females often prefer some males over others. Why are females usually the choosy sex and what are the benefits of mate choice to females. Provide examples to support your answer

[10 marks]

7) Discuss how birds find their way during migration **[10 marks]**

9) Discuss brood parasitism in birds and explain why hosts tolerate brood parasitism **[10 marks]**

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