



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION, BACHELOR
OF SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING
AND BACHELOR OF ARTS

UCU 100/110: COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION SKILLS

1ST SEMESTER 2024/2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ALL FOUR QUESTIONS.

QUESTION ONE: COMPREHENSION (25 MARKS)

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

1. Coral reefs are often described as the rain forests of the sea, teaming with vibrant life as well as spectacular colours. They are vast underwater structures made from calcium carbonate, secreted by soft-bodied organisms known as coral polyps. These polyps live in colonies, attaching themselves to the hard surfaces in shallow tropical waters. Over long periods, spanning to thousands of years, their calcium carbonate skeletons accumulate, forming the majestic reefs we see today.
2. Corals have a symbiotic relationship with microscopic algae, which live within their tissues. The algae provides the corals with food through photosynthesis, while the corals offer the algae a protected environment and access to sunlight. This synergy is what allows coral reefs to flourish, supporting an estimated 25 per cent of all marine life.
3. Kenya and the wider East African coastline are home to some of the most stunning coral reefs in the world. They are found in places like Malindi, Watamu and Kisite Mpunguti Marine Park.
4. Coral reefs play a critical role in maintaining the health of our oceans, and by extension, our planet. For marine life, coral reefs are vital habitats, providing food, shelter and breeding grounds for a wide variety of species.
5. For humans, coral reefs attract fish that are an important source of food, supporting fisheries that millions of people depend on for their livelihoods. Additionally, coral reefs are beneficial to the economy as tourists from around the world come to marvel at their fascinating beauty.

6. The great value of corals to the planet and to humans notwithstanding, corals can be adversely affected by a phenomenon known as coral bleaching. It results from unfavorable climate conditions such as increase in ocean temperatures, overexposure to sunlight as well as pollution leading to changes in water chemistry. These conditions expel the algae living in coral tissues so that the corals lose their vibrant colours and turn stark white, hence the term bleaching.

7. A bleached coral can take anywhere from 10 to 50 years to recover. For this to happen, the surrounding water conditions must stabilize. This includes a return to normal sea temperatures, reduced pollution, and the presence of healthy vibrant coral polyps to populate the bleached areas.

8. In addition to the role of natural processes in alleviating the stressful conditions that corals sometimes have to endure, human intervention can also support corals to recover. Efforts like coral gardening where fragments of healthy corals are transplanted to damaged areas, the creation of marine protected zones can also aid in the restoration process.

N/B: Answers requiring an explanation should not exceed 20 words.

- a) Which of the following title best suit the passage? (3 marks)
 - i) Coral reefs suffer stressful conditions.
 - ii) Coral reefs along Kenyan coastline.
 - iii) Coral reefs are like rain forests.
- b) What key feature about rain forests is being likened to coral reefs? (3 marks)
- c) From the passage, which climatic condition along the Kenyan coast supports the growth coral reefs? (2 marks)
- d) Rewrite the first sentence of paragraph two starting with the article A... (3 marks)
- e) There is more than one reason why paragraphs in this passage do not bear aspects of academic writing. Provide one reason. (3 marks)
- f) Identify three benefits of corals to other species in the ocean? (3 marks)
- g) State three causes of coral bleaching. (3 marks)

h) Use paragraph 5 to identify the two words that best describe benefit of corals to humans. (2 marks)

- i) In which two ways can humans mitigate the deterioration of coral reefs? (2 marks)
- j) Write down the topic sentence that declares the function of paragraph 8. (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO

WRITING SKILLS (15 MARKS)

- a) In not more that three well-constructed sentences. Explain why a plan is required before students write their end term essay. (3 marks)

— avoid panic
— enough research & preparation
— confidence

b) Let us say your group chose the topic THE MAIN CAUSES OF CORRUPTION IN KENYA as their topic for end of semester essay:

i) Write four main causes which your group may have considered. (4 marks)

ii) From (i) above, write three pieces supporting evidence of one of the main points. (3 marks)

c) Before handing in the end of semester academic essay, students are advised to edit and revise their drafts. Write five mistakes or errors that students could be required to correct before handing in the final copy. (5 marks)

QUESTION THREE

INFORMATION LITERACY AND ETHICS.

a) "A search strategy is a journey into finding information to address your specific essay project needs. In one sentence, explain ONE way of making your information search more specific.

(2 marks)

b) State three criteria for evaluating sources of information during a library or online search.

(3 marks)

c) Arrange the following reference using the APA (American Psychological Association) 7th edition format:

The aims of an argument. A brief guide. 4th edition. Timothy W. Crusius and Carolyn E.

Channell. McGraw Hill. 2003. (5 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

STUDY AND COLLABORATION SKILLS (10 MARKS)

a) Kofi, a student at the university finds it difficult to effectively revise for examinations. In FOUR points, advise him on how he should go about revising. (4 marks)

b) Study groups are very useful while one is in the university as long as they work well. State and explain any three factors that at times made your group to be ineffective. (6 marks)