



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF SCIENCE AND BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

SZL 102: NATURAL HISTORY OF EAST AFRICA

DATE: Wednesday 4th April 2012

TIME: 8.00a.m – 10.00a.m

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ALL questions in Section A and any ONE Question in Section B. Within each Section, all questions carry equal marks. Illustrate your answers with diagrams and give examples where appropriate.

SECTION A- Answer ALL Questions (40 marks)

1. a) Define the term 'orogeny'.
b) Explain briefly what may have led to the extinction of most reptiles at the end of Cretaceous period.
2. Give a brief account of the reproductive behaviour of the Nile crocodile.
3. Explain briefly why a number of animals are endangered in East Africa.
4. State the adaptive characteristics of lizards to dry terrestrial environments.
5. a) Describe 'army worms'
b) Explain briefly how the density of army worms influences their colouration.
6. Differentiate between aposematic and cryptic types of colouration.
7. Explain why amphibians are abundant in both terrestrial and aquatic environments.
8. Describe ways which *Macrotermes* obtain and digest their food.

SECTION B: Answer any ONE question (30 marks)

9. Discuss the adaptation of carnivorous mammals to their predatory way of life
10. Discuss colouration in birds and the role it plays in their lives.
11. Write an essay on the natural history of the black rhinocerus.