



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
SZL 200: VERTEBRATIC ZOOLOGY

DATE: Monday 26th March, 2012

TIME: 8.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ALL questions from Section A and ONE question from Section B. Within a section all questions carry equal marks. Illustrate your answers with diagrams and give examples whenever appropriate.

SECTION A – Answer ALL questions.

1. (i) Outline the classes in super class Gnathostomata.
(ii) Explain the evolutionary advances in superclass Gnathostome.
2. With the help of example explain commensalisms in Teleosts.
3. State the reasons of neoteny and its relationship with thyroxine hormone in salamanders.
4. (i) Explain what is typical about the notochord in amphioxus.
(ii) Describe briefly the structure and function of precursor of vertebrate thyroid gland in Amphioxus.
5. Uromastix is called “Spinytailed lizard”, Explain.
6. Describe briefly the exoskeleton of birds.
7. Explain the production, composition and control of “Pigeon milk”.
8. Explain following terms:
 - (i) Cirri
 - (ii) Metameres
 - (iii) Preen gland
 - (iv) Fangs

SECTION B – Answer any ONE question.

9. Describe in detail the circulatory system in Birds.
10. “Metatherians are supposed to be imperfect mammals”. Explain and give its relationship with Eutherians and prototherians.
11. Write an essay on the terrestrial adaptations of spiny tailed lizards.

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