



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

SZL 310: VERTEBRATE PALAEOLOGY

DATE: Thursday 5th April, 2012

TIME: 8.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer ALL questions in Section A and any one question in Section B. Within a section ALL questions carry equal marks. Illustrate your answers and give examples where appropriate.

SECTION A

Answer ALL questions.

1. Discuss briefly why Vertebrate Paleontology is taught in a Tertiary institution.
2. Outline the characteristics of the Vertebrate Sub-phylum.
3. Explain in brief the relevance and application of taxonomy and classification in the animate world.
4. Discuss briefly the requirements for flight in birds and its advantages.
5. Describe briefly the interpretation of taphonomy and the subsequent steps it must undergo.
6. Explain in brief the need and application of geologic time clocks in fossil-dating.
7. Discuss briefly the ways in which fossils form.
8. Describe briefly the relevance and the relationship of geology and man.

SECTION B

Answer only/any 1 question.

9. Write an essay on the history of the dinosaurs.
10. Discuss the emergence of the first mammals and advent of a special talent.

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