



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2011/2012

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR
OF SCIENCE (CONSERVATION BIOLOGY)

SCB 209: BASIC WILDLIFE ECOLOGY

DATE: Friday, 30th March, 2012

TIME: 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer **ALL** questions in Section A and any **ONE** question in Section B.

Section A (40 marks)

1. Explain what you understand by the terms

a) Wildlife

b) Wildlife management

2. Discuss the second law of thermodynamics in relation to energy transfer in ecosystems.
3. Briefly discuss the importance of “niche concept” in relation to wildlife management and conservation
4. List and briefly describe five methods that are used to mitigate or prevent crop raiding by wildlife in Kenya.

5. a) What do you understand by the term “population” as used in ecology?

b) Mention three characteristics that can be used to describe a population.

6. a) Distinguish between animal migration and animal dispersal

b) List two techniques that may be used to study animal migration

7. Briefly discuss your understanding of the term “biodiversity” as used in the conservation field.

8.
 - a) Distinguish between the terms “territory” and “home range” as used in ecology.

 - b) List three methods by which wild animals establish and/or maintain territories.

1.
 - a) Discuss five ant-predator defence mechanisms among prey species. (10 marks)
 - b) Using clear illustration, discuss how predator and prey populations regulate each other. (10 marks)
 - c) Discuss preventive and mitigation strategies employed to manage livestock depredation by wild carnivores (10 marks)
2. Discuss ways in which man's activities disrupt migration of different wild animal species.
3.
 - a) Outline and describe types of conservation areas found in Kenya. (15 marks)
 - b) Discuss any five contemporary challenges facing protected area managers in Kenya. In your discussion, mention how managers overcome the challenge or can overcome the challenge. (15 marks)