



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2017/2018

DIGITAL SCHOOL OF VIRTUAL AND OPEN LEARNING

SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

AGE 301: PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY III

DATE: MONDAY 18TH JUNE 2018-----**TIME: 8.00A.M. – 10.00A.M.**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question 1 and two questions, one question from each section (Atmosphere and Biosphere). Use illustrations where appropriate.

PART 1: MANDATORY

1. A. Describe the influence of the following processes on species distribution:
 - i. Dispersal (6marks)
 - ii. Vicariance (6 marks)
- B. Explain the association of the following factors with corresponding biomes.
 - i. Air masses and tropical deserts (4 marks)
 - ii. Latitude and Arctic Tundra (4 marks)
- C. Using examples, describe two adaptive features that plants occupying:
 - i. Chaparral biome (5 marks)
 - ii. Taiga (Boreal) Forest biome (5 marks)

PART II: ATMOSPHERE

2. A. Discuss the challenges of classifying climates. (8 marks)
 - B. Outline the major differences between generic and genetic climate classification schemes. (12 marks)
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3. Describe how continental drift has altered earth's climate. (20 marks)

PART III: BIOSPHERE

4. Describe how the following factors influence the soil development:
 - a) Time (4 marks)
 - b) Topography (4 marks)
 - c) Organisms (4 marks)
 - d) Climate (4 marks)
 - e) Parent material (4 marks)
5. Explain the differences between Equilibrium and non-equilibrium theories of community structure and dynamics. (20 marks)
