

**MAASAI MARA UNIVERSITY**

**REGULAR UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2016/2017 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**THIRD YEAR FIRST SEMESTER**

**SCHOOL OF TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

**COURSE CODE: WLM 350**

**COURSE TITLE: ORNITHOLOGY**

**DATE: 30TH JANUARY, 2017 TIME: 11:00AM-1:00PM**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **ALL** questions in section **A** and any other **THREE** in section **B.**

***This paper consists of 2 printed pages. Please turn over***

**Section A: Answer all question (25 marks)**

1. a)Name four characteristics that shows birds have a reptilian ancestry

**(2 marks)**

b) Explain characters in support of birds endothermic condition **(2 marks)**

2.Explain why the number of bird’s species breeding in tropical region e.g. in

Kenya is much higher (over 1300 species) and reduces towards the polar

region e.g. Greenland is only about 50 species. **(4 marks)**

3. a) With named examples, explain the three mating patterns in birds

**(3 marks)**

b) What is brood parasitism? **(1 marks)**

4. Briefly explain factors that make birds to have a very effective and efficient

respiratory system **(5 marks)**

5. a) Outline the characters you can use to identify birds in the field**(5 marks)**

b) Briefly explain the importance of migration in migratory birds **(3 marks)**

**Section B: Answer three (3) questions only (45 marks)**

6. Discuss in details the characteristics that differentiate birds from other vertebrates. **(15 marks)**

7. a)Discuss in details the challenges birds conservation efforts faces in Kenya

today **(8 marks)**

b)Exhaustively explain how these challenges named in 7a above can be

countered  **(7 marks)**

8.Exhaustively discuss the values of conserving birds in Kenya **(15 marks)**

9.Discuss in details adaption’s that have made birds effective in flight **(15 marks)**

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