MZOE-002

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET

M.Sc. (Zoology) Programme

(MSCZOO)

(ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR AND ANIMAL WELFARE ETHICS)

Valid from 1st January, 2026 to 31st December, 2026

School of Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068

(2026)

Dear Student,

Please read the Section on assignments in the Programme Guide for M.Sc. (Zoology). A weightage of 30 per cent, as you are aware, has been earmarked for continuous evaluation, which would consist of one tutor-marked assignment for this course. The assignment is in this booklet. The total marks for this assignment is 100, of which 40 marks are needed to pass it.

Instructions for formatting your Assignments

Before attempting the assignment please read the following instructions carefully:

1) On top of the first page of your answer sheet, please write the details exactly in the following format:

ROLL NO.: ……

NAME: ……..

ADDRESS: ……

……

……

COURSE CODE: …….

COURSE TITLE: …….

ASSIGNMENT NO.: ……..….

STUDY CENTRE: ……..…..... **DATE:** ……..…….

PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE FORMAT STRICTLY TO FACILITATE EVALUATION AND TO AVOID DELAY.

2) Use only foolscap size writing paper (but not of very thin variety) for writing your answers.

3) Leave 4 cm margin on the left, top and bottom of your answer sheet.

4) Your answers should be precise.

5) Solve this assignment, and **submit the complete assignment answer sheets within the due date.**

6) The assignment answer sheets are to be submitted to your Study Centre within the due date. **Answer sheets received after the due date shall not be accepted. We strongly suggest that you retain a copy of your answer sheets.**

7) **This assignment is valid from 1st January, 2026 to 31st December, 2026.** If you have failed in this assignment or fail to submit it till its validity, then you need to get the assignment for the next year and submit it as per the instructions given in the Programme Guide.

8) **You cannot fill the examination form for this course** until you have submitted this assignment.

We wish you good luck.

ASSIGNMENT
(Tutor Marked Assignment)

Course Code: MZOE-002
Assignment Code: MZOE-002/TMA/2026
Maximum Marks: 100

Note: Attempt all questions. The marks for each question are indicated against it.

1. What is mimicry? Explain its different types in animals with suitable examples. (10)

2. a). What is classical conditioning? Write its components. (5)

   b). Discuss theroles played by some common vertebrate hormones inregulation of behaviour. (5)

3. a). Explain the interrelationship of altruism and inclusive fitness. (5)

   b). What is reciprocal altruism? Give its any three examples. (5)

4. Write short notes on: (10)

   i) Post-insemination mate guarding

   ii) Evolutionary importance of sexual dimorphism

   iii) Reproductive fitness

5. a). What is parental manipulation? Describe various ways in which parents manipulate their progeny. (5)

   b). Discuss the Hamilton Rule in the context of family relationships. (5)

6. a). Differentiate between minimum and optimal standards of animal welfare. (5)

   b). Discuss the role of environmental coping issues in animal welfare. (5)

7. Discuss the advantages and limitations of the Five Freedoms. (10)

8. a) How can animal welfare assessment be used for continuous improvement in animal welfare? (5)

   b) What issues might conflict with the desires of zoos to provide good welfare for the species in their care? (5)

9. a). What is meant by the term ‘resource holding potential’ (RHP) and list some common attributes that affect RHP. (5)

   b). Write three important signals that dogs give as a threat before they attack. (5)

10. a). Describe three examples of cognitive responses that are indicative of emotional states and sentience in animals. (5)

    b). Describe how different ethical views might influence decisions to use animals in experiments. (5)