

MZOE-002

ASSIGNMENT BOOKLET

M.Sc. (Zoology) Programme

(MSCZOO)

ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR AND ANIMAL WELFARE ETHICS

Valid from 1st January, 2025 to 31st December, 2025



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

(2025)

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, 2025 to 31st December, 2025. 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/2025
Maximum Marks: 100

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

1. a) According to Nikolaas Tinbergen, what are the four salient questions that should be asked while studying a behaviour? (5)
 b) What are instinctive behaviours? Give suitable example for the same. (5)
2. a) Explain Tolman's experiment and its results. (5)
 b) List the three main components of a feedback loop system. (5)
3. a) Explain the important characteristics of social insects. (6)
 b) Give any four examples of altruistic behaviours. (4)
4. Write short notes on: (10)
 i) Post-insemination mate guarding
 ii) Evolutionary importance of sexual dimorphism
 iii) Reproductive fitness
5. What is parental manipulation? Describe various ways in which parents manipulate their progeny. (10)
6. Consider a dairy cow kept tethered all day, with food and water but without access to other cows. Describe the welfare of this animal from the perspective of her a) biological function, b) naturalness and c) feelings. (10)
7. a) Explain the main frameworks currently used to determine animal welfare requirements. (5)
 b) Animals can experience fear and distress from their interactions with humans. Discuss the ways to help animals to minimize fear responses. (5)
8. a) How can animal welfare assessment be used for continuous improvement in animal welfare? (5)
 b) What are the differences between requirements of welfare legislation and Codes of Practice? (5)
9. a) Write three important signals that dogs give as a threat before they attack. (3)
 b) Describe how some negative consequences of past selection strategies have been reversed by changing the breeding strategy itself. (7)
10. a) How do contractarian views differ from utilitarian ethical views? (4)
 b) Discuss the application of relational ethical thinking to our treatment of the rabbit in different contexts. (6)