

The Open University of Sri Lanka
Faculty of Natural Sciences
B.Sc Degree Programme



0217

Department	: Zoology
Level	: 5
Name of the Examination	: Final Examination
Course Code and Title	: ZYU5300 Aquatic Biology
Academic Year	: 2025 - 2026
Date	: 06 December 2025
Time	: 09.30 am to 11.30 am
Duration	: 2 hrs

General Instructions

1. Read all instructions carefully before answering the questions.
 2. This question paper consists of **six (06)** questions and **two (02)** pages.
 3. Answer any **04 (four)** questions only. All questions carry equal marks.
 4. Answer for each question should commence from a new page.
 5. Draw fully labelled diagrams where necessary.
 6. Having any unauthorized documents/ mobile phones in your possession is a punishable offense.
 7. Use blue or black ink to answer the questions.
 8. Circle the number of the questions you answered in the front cover of your answer script.
 9. Clearly state your index number in your answer script.
-

1.
 - a. "Water is one of the most biologically important and chemically significant compounds." Comment on this statement.
 - b. Discuss the role of phosphorus in freshwater ecosystems and explain how it affects aquatic plants.
2.
 - a. Explain what is meant by "primary productivity" in an aquatic ecosystem.
 - b. State the factors that influence primary productivity in a freshwater lake and explain how each of those factors affects it.
3.
 - a. State the factors that contribute to the zonation of rocky shores in Sri Lanka
 - b. "Animals that live on rocky shores are well adapted to their environment." Comment on this statement giving suitable examples.
4.
 - a. Briefly describe the different oceanic lifestyles.
 - b. Explain the adaptations shown by pelagic organisms to survive in their environment.
5.
 - a. Compare lowland and upland reservoirs in Sri Lanka, describing their key abiotic and biotic characteristics.
 - b. "Lentic water habitats provide a better environment for animals than lotic water habitats". Comment on this statement.
6. Write short notes on any **two** of the following:
 - a. Eutrophication
 - b. Upwelling
 - c. Flocculation
 - d. Marine Spatial Planning