

Assignment: Museum Visit

Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum Scavenger Hunt

AIMS



The main aims of this assignment are to (1) continue learning about the evolution of biodiversity, (2) be exposed to the biological sub-disciplines of taxonomy and systematics, and (3) give you an opportunity to explore the diversity of organisms found in Southeast Asia. You will also discover information and develop perseverance by looking for the answers in the LKCNHM gallery. Good luck and have fun!

NOTES



Weightage	5%		
Deadline	2359h, 23rd February (Wednesday)		
Plagiarism Check	Required		

MUSEUM DETAILS

Address: Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum
2 Conservatory Drive
Singapore 177377

Information for visitors can be found on their website: <http://lkcnhm.nus.edu.sg>

Opening Hours: 10:00am – 7:00pm (Last admission at 5:30pm). **Closed on Mondays.**



Entrance Fees: Free for NUS students if you present your matric card.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Visit the Gallery of the Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum during opening hours.
2. **Bring your NUS matriculation card to show the front desk, so that you can gain free entry to the gallery.** If asked, you can mention that you are part of the LSM1301 General Biology class.
3. Walk around and read the displays to learn about biodiversity in Singapore and beyond. The answers to the questions are found throughout the Museum Gallery. **Take note that there are also displays on the 2nd level** and some of the answers may be found there.
4. When you take photographs, **please do not use any flash**, as this promotes oxidation and discoloration of the specimens. The museum also discourages the use of selfie sticks or camera tripods.
5. Take care when interacting with the exhibits and displays.
6. Finally, do not bother the museum staff members for the answers!




TASKS

	1.	Please download the file named ' Museum Visit Answer Sheet.docx ' from the ' <i>Museum visit</i> ' sub-folder of the ' <i>Handouts for tutorials/practical</i> ' folder under ' <i>Files</i> ' in LumiNUS.
	2.	Rename your file in the following format: user ID-museumvisit . If your user ID is <i>e0001234</i> , the filename should be <i>e0001234-museumvisit</i> . Files that are not renamed according to the stated format will be subjected to a 10% penalty . Upload your file to ' <i>Submission Museum</i> '. 
	4.	It is your responsibility to ensure that the correct file was uploaded successfully to the correct Turnitin folder. You will not be given another chance to upload any other file to the folder after the deadline has passed. If you decide to upload an updated version of your submission before the deadline, please delete the older file before uploading the newer file. Refer to module FAQs for more details.

QUESTIONS

Deductions may be made for incorrect spelling/format of scientific names. Where explanations/ descriptions are required, make sure to **use your own words** to answer.

	1.	What are the key elements that should be included when preparing to preserve a plant specimen? (2 marks)
	2.	Imagine you discover similar sized skull remains of a cow, a lion and a pig. How can tell them apart? (2 marks)
	3.	Alfred Russell Wallace collected numerous specimens in Southeast Asia and there is only one specimen in the museum that is from his original collections in the early 1800s. What is the common and scientific name of this specimen? (1 mark)
	4.	Individuals from different species sometimes mate to produce hybrid offspring. Give the common names and the full scientific names of two local plant species on display that produce such hybrid offspring and give the common name of this hybrid. (2 marks)
	5.	Based on the skull display, which other hominid species likely co-existed at the same time as <i>Homo ergaster</i> Groves & Mazak, 1975? (2 marks)
	6.	Both mammals and birds are able to produce sounds but in completely different ways. Name the structure that is present in birds but absent in mammals as well as the structure that is present in mammals but absent in birds. (1 marks)
	7.	Across the displays, why are the "Reptiles" and "Fishes" sections in quotation marks? Explain and elaborate on your answer. (2 marks)
	8.	Solve the riddle to identify the species being described. Give common as well as the full scientific name: <i>I have opposable thumbs and long arms</i> <i>I travel far and wide looking for food to eat</i> <i>I live on an island, hang out with my momma and learn many skills</i> <i>PS: My relative was a famous Singapore tourism icon and quite the celebrity</i> (1 mark)

	9.	<p>Solve the riddle to identify the species being described. Give the common and full scientific name:</p> <p><i>Like my arachnid relatives, I also have many limbs. Along the mangrove coasts of Singapore, I like to find my mates in the high spring tides. My kind are often harvested for our special blood. And we are endangered, so please protect us.</i></p> <p>(1 mark)</p>
	10.	<p>Take a selfie with your favorite specimen in the museum. Paste your picture in your submission, give the full scientific name and the reason why you chose the organism.</p> <p>(1 mark)</p>