



**RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES**

**Bachelor of Science Honours in Applied Biology  
Fourth Year–Semester I Examination–July/August 2023**

**BIO 4204 – SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION**

**Time: Two (02) hours**

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**Answer ALL questions.**

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1. Describe in detail the **three (03)** key factors that should be considered before undertaking any type of scientific communication (maximum **400 words**). **(100 marks)**
  
2. Write short notes on the following topics (maximum of **100 words** for each topic):
  - a) The abstract of a scientific paper
  - b) Common pitfalls when writing the following sections of a scientific paper:
    - i. Results and Discussion
    - ii. Conclusions
  - c) The key indicators that you might use to identify a predatory publication
  - d) The budget and budget justification of a research proposal

**(4 × 25 marks)**
  
3. Imagine that you are giving an oral presentation using powerpoint slides to a scientific audience composed of researchers from a wide range of biological disciplines (e.g. microbiology, bioinformatics, ecology and plant sciences).
  - a) Discuss the points that you should consider in ensuring that your delivery (verbal component) is clear/readily understandable and stimulating (maximum **300 words**). **(75 marks)**
  - b) Explain how you might design effective text slides for your presentation (maximum **100 words**). **(25 marks)**
  
4.
  - a) You are about to submit a paper for publication to an international scientific journal. Describe what points you should include in your cover letter to the journal's Editor-in-chief (maximum **200 words**). **(50 marks)**
  - b) Your paper passes the initial editorial evaluation and is sent out for peer review. Write a brief account of peer review and explain why peer review is important (maximum **200 words**). **(50 marks)**

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