

0172-537 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (720)

March 2024

Chief Examiner Report

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Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Chief Examiner, it is designed to be used as a feedback tool for centres to use in order to enhance teaching and preparation for assessment. It is advised that this document be referred to when preparing to teach and then again when candidates are preparing to sit examinations for City & Guilds Technical qualifications.

This report provides general commentary on candidate performance and highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat the **March 2024** examination series. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose, whether it was caused by a lack of knowledge, incorrect examination technique or responses that failed to demonstrate the required depth of understanding.

The document provides commentary on the following assessment:

0172-537 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management – Theory Exam (2).

Theory Exams – Year 2

0172-32 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (720) – Animal Management and Science

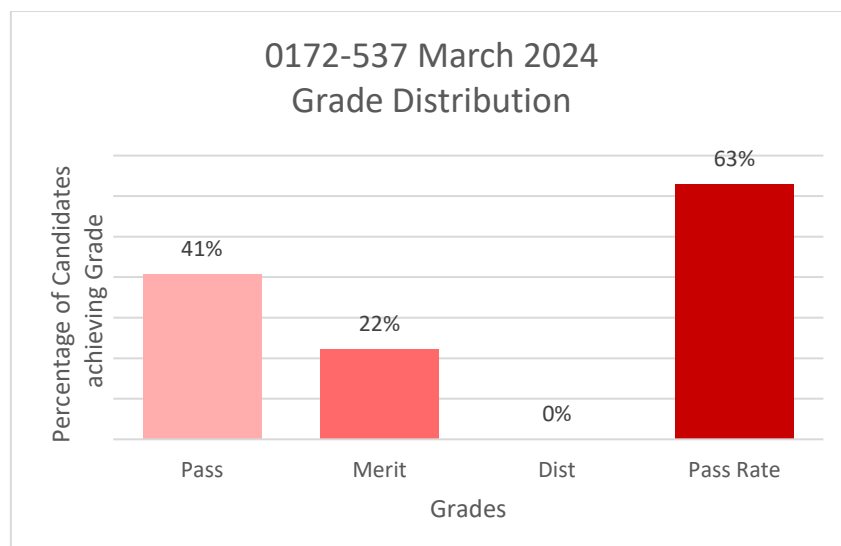
Grade Boundaries

Assessment: 0172-037/537
Series: March 2024 (Spring)

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel;

Total marks available	40
Pass mark	18
Merit mark	23
Distinction mark	29

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment, it does not account for any marks that have been amended due to generosity:



Chief Examiner Commentary

0172-037/537 Level 3 Technicals in Animal Management (Animal Management and Science - Theory exam

Series 1 – March 2024

General Comments on Candidate Performance

0172-537

Series 1 (March)

Candidates provided a good level of recall with most candidates picking up marks across the paper. However, candidates demonstrated varying levels of exam technique in questions requiring understanding, affecting their ability to score well. Specifically, candidates often failed to expand on answers for explanation-based questions, lacking the detail that would demonstrate the depth of their knowledge and understanding, thus achieving only partial marks. Candidates showed basic knowledge of legislation but generally showed limited understanding.

The mean mark for this smaller entry exam was 18.8 which compares to 21.2 from Spring 2023, and which is reflected in the reduced overall achievement rate for this series. The portion of candidates accessing the grade scales remains relatively stable, including no candidates achieving a distinction grade (mirroring performance in Spring 2023).

Unit 311 - This unit focuses on **Pet Store Design and Management**. Questions relating to this unit were generally answered well, with candidates demonstrating knowledge of sourcing livestock and showing an understanding of carbon footprint. Weakness within the cohort was seen in the question relating to legislation where some candidates were able to achieve the lower end marks in this question but many missed opportunities to access higher end marks due not providing a succinct explanation.

Unit 327 - This unit focuses on **Kennel and Cattery Management**. Strengths for questions relating to this unit were seen in candidates understanding the use of ancillary services, and animal behaviour. Differentiation was seen in questions relating to life-stage care and the provision of veterinary attention in given scenarios. Candidates showed higher achievement of marks in the question relating to life-stage care by providing linked explanations to their suggestions, candidates struggled to provide an understanding of why veterinary care had to be sought.

Extended Response Question

The Extended Response Question (ERQ) provided an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the cattery design and promotion of reputation. It is worth around 20% of the marks available for the paper overall and so performance on this question can significantly impact the overall mark and grade a candidates can achieve.

There was a varied performance observed, with some candidates accessing Band 1 providing generic design considerations with limited links to the maintenance of animal welfare. Candidates in Band 1 tended to focus on one element of the ERQ rather than

covering design considerations and the promotion of reputation. Around 70% of candidates accessed marks in Band 2 (which compares better to around 50% in Spring 2023) and these candidates were able to provide a planned and more considered approach to the question discussing design layouts, legislation, licencing requirements and providing examples of how to promote a positive reputation.

Centres are advised to help candidates develop their use and understanding of technical terminology across the qualification.

Candidates are also strongly advised to practice examination techniques when preparing for this exam to fully understand the requirements of the question before attempting to answer, particularly those that require candidates to demonstrate reasoning. Explain questions require candidates to demonstrate reasons and justifications to support the statements or cause and effect.

Past papers and marking schemes are available on the City and Guilds website which should be used for exam practice.

City & Guilds has produced a technical exam guide to support the work on the exam technique, which is available to download from

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/animal-management/0172-technical-in-animal-care-management-and-equine-care-management#tab=documents>

Centres opting for paper-based examinations should remind candidates that if their handwriting is illegible marks cannot be awarded.