

0172-539 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080)

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;
0172-539 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080) -Theory Exam.

Theory Exams – Year 2

0172-039/539 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (Zoos)

Grade Boundaries

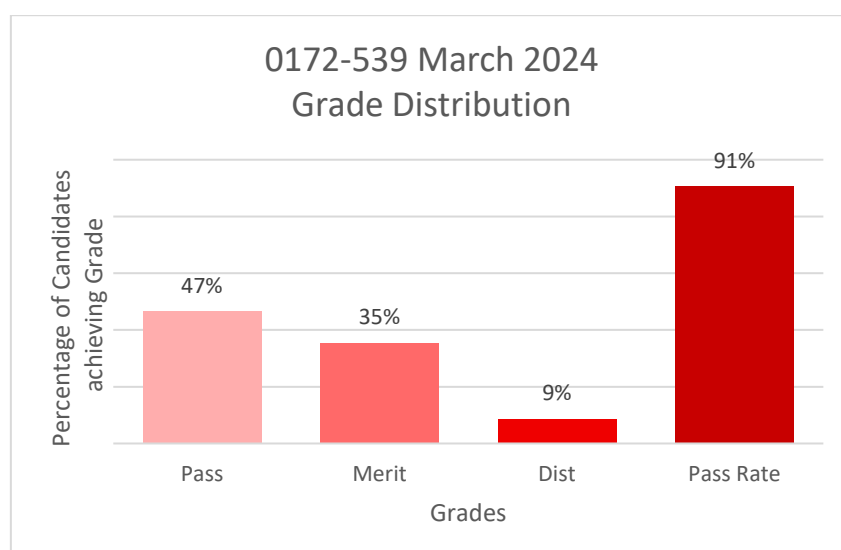
Assessment: **0172-539**

Series: **March 2024 (Spring)**

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	24
Merit mark	33
Distinction mark	42

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

0172-039/539 Level 3 Animal Management (Zoos) - Theory exam

Series 1 – March 2024

Candidates generally performed well in questions relating to zoological management and showed improvement in some questions relating to aquatics. Many candidates performed better on questions requiring recall of knowledge but were not always able to demonstrate the expected understanding or fully explain their answers. Candidate responses to some of the questions indicated weaknesses in both examination technique and subject area knowledge. 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.

Unit 313 - This unit focuses on **Aquatics Welfare and Breed Development**. Many candidates were able to demonstrate a strong recall of biology knowledge and appropriate aquaria equipment, but many missed out on these marks due to not being able to recall the treatment of a named disease. However, many candidates were able to provide generic discussion around a named legislation picking up lower marks in the range.

Unit 314 - This unit focuses on **Avian Health and Husbandry**. Strengths for questions relating to this unit were seen in the identification of meeting the welfare needs of a specified species. Areas of weakness were seen when candidates were required to respond to technical terminology. Candidates did not perform as well as previous cohorts when responding to similar-style questions on food provision for birds, candidates often missed out on marks here due to providing repetitive responses.

Unit 316 - This unit focuses on **Zoological Collections**. Overall, candidates performed well on questions relating to this topic; recalling the expectations of visitors and providing explanations for actions to a specified scenario. However, candidates struggled to discuss the change in nutritional requirements in a given scenario. Reasonably good differentiation was seen in a question covering the application of a named software.

Unit 364 - This unit focuses on **Business Management in the Land Based Sector**. Overall, candidates struggled to gain marks in this unit. Many candidates were able to pick up lower marks in the range but were not able to provide breadth of knowledge regarding legislation or understanding of business types. Centres are advised to focus candidates on solidifying the recall of different aspects of business listed in the specification.

Extended Response Question

The Extended Response Question (ERQ) provided an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of aquarium design and husbandry requirements in a specific scenario. Most candidates accessed the higher-end Band 1 and the lower-end of Band 2. Many candidates were able to extensively discuss tank design and husbandry, although it was less common for candidates to be able to confidently link this to the scenario. Many candidates were able to give a wide variety of considerations, but these considerations were not always discussed in depth or justified, therefore restricting their access to the top of band two and the lower-end of Band 3. Design and husbandry considerations seemed to be covered in fairly equal breadth and depth across the cohort. Candidates that achieved within the higher-end of Band 2 and in Band 3 were able to provide a more planned approach to the ERQ and included valid links to the scenario with clear justifications.

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.