

0172-543 - 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:

0172-543 - Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080) -Theory Exam (2).

0172-043/543 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (Animal Management)

Grade Boundaries

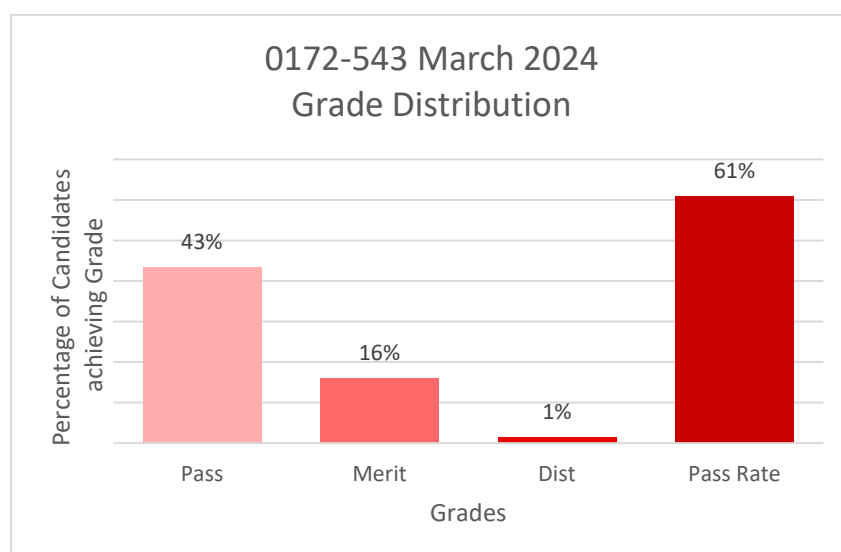
Assessment: 0172-043/543

Series: March 2024

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	26
Merit mark	34
Distinction mark	42

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment:



Chief Examiner Commentary

0172-043/543 Level 3 Animal Management (Animal Management) - Theory exam

Series 1 - March 2024

Many candidates showed good recall techniques and consistently achieved marks for recall of knowledge across the topics. Candidates showed very little knowledge and/or understanding of technical terminology and this restricted access to those questions containing these terms. Candidate responses to some of the questions indicated weaknesses in examination technique particularly in lower achieving candidates, and mostly in questions where candidates were required to apply knowledge to given scenarios, these candidates were often unable to provide clear points when attempting to provide depth of understanding. However, it was clear from this series that the candidate's ERQ techniques have improved. Overall, candidates need to work on refining their exam technique, particularly the lower-scoring candidates who would benefit from practising writing succinct responses which focus on what the question is asking. This will enable them to show depth of understanding and access higher marks.

Unit 308 - This unit focuses on **Wildlife Ecology and Conservation**. Candidates showed strength in topics relating to hunting strategies and genetic variability, however a lack of exam technique was seen with some candidates missing opportunities to gain marks by not providing further depth in understanding. Weaknesses were seen in questions relating to the aims of organisations. Centres should ensure that candidates practice explanations providing a reason/cause/consequence to enable them to gain higher marks for explanations.

Unit 315 - This unit focuses on **Animal Nursing**. Candidates demonstrated knowledge of symptoms seen in a specified disease and signs of medical conditions. Many candidates were able to provide a detailed discussion on appropriate communication in a given scenario, however, some candidates provided a generic discussion on communication techniques which was not applied to the scenario and therefore these candidates missed out on marks.

Unit 327 - This unit focuses on **Kennel and Cattery Management**. Strengths were seen in topics relating to animal behaviour and life-stage care. Many candidates achieved high marks in a question relating to signs of animal behaviour by providing accurate examples for a given behaviour. Candidates tended to struggle more so with legislation in this topic than across the paper.

Unit 364 – This unit focuses on **Business Management in the Land-Based Sector**. A varied performance was observed in this topic with candidates' strengths seen in both recall and understanding of legislation but clear guessing was noted in the remaining question containing technical terminology. Centres should ensure that technical terminology is utilised throughout teaching to enable candidates to recognise and understand it.

Extended Response Question (ERQ)

Candidates were asked to discuss the impact, on kennel facilities and the local environment, in a given scenario. Overall, the ERQ showed a mixed performance across the bands, with the majority of candidates accessing marks in Band 1, providing superficial answers. Those candidates that created a plan provided a more structured response, however, many candidates did not provide answers covering both elements in the scenario. Many candidates accessed Band 2, and those achieving at the higher-end of the band included discussion around both elements and provided clear explanations with some valid justifications. Higher-

scoring candidates were able to give linked responses to both elements of the scenario, showing thorough knowledge and understanding.

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.

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.

