

3038-002/502 – Level 2 Technical Award in Hair & Beauty Studies – Theory Exam

March 2020

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 2020** 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;

- **3038-002/502 – Level 2 Technical Award in Hair & Beauty Studies – Theory Exam.**

Theory Exam – March 2020

Grade Boundaries and distribution

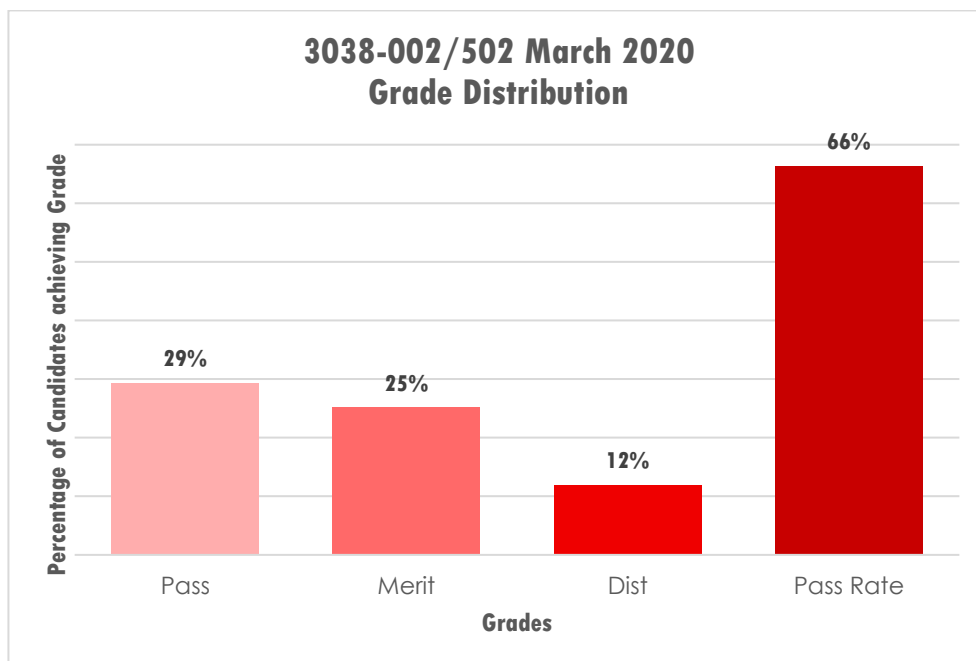
Assessment: **3038-002/502**

Series: **March 2020**

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	34
Distinction mark	43

The graph below shows the approximate distribution of grades and pass rates for this assessment:



Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 3038-002/502

Series 1 (March)

This examination paper covered a wide range of learning outcomes across the qualification and was comparable to the March 2019 paper in relation to accessibility, level and range of topics, enabling candidates to gain marks across the paper. Candidate responses generally showed a good level of knowledge recall on products and services used in the industry. Overall, candidates performed better on the Extended Response Question than previous years with more candidates providing a structured discussion with reasoning. However, the overall cohort did not perform as well on questions requiring responses showing a combination of breadth of knowledge and depth of understanding.

Many candidates performed well on topics relating to the importance of carrying out hair tests, however, some candidates gave reasons for the specific test and others described how to carry out the test, with only a few candidates combining both aspects to show sound reasoning. Many candidates also showed good knowledge recall of nail services and technological developments in the nail industry, and demonstrated good understanding on the influence celebrities have on the demand for products. One other area where candidates demonstrated good knowledge recall was related to the methods of testing the pH of hair and beauty products.

Candidates should be encouraged to go over the full question before answering as responses did not always relate to the main requirements of the stem. One example of this was on a question testing understanding on functions of the skin; many candidates missed the opportunity to gain higher marks due to responses going off track and giving a detailed description of the layers of the skin structure. Another example was related to the effects of acids and alkalis on the hair, many responses did not relate the acids and alkalis to the products/chemicals used in the sector but rather the general effects of acids and alkalis.

Many candidates did not manage to demonstrate a suitable level of knowledge recall of specific legislations relating to consumers. Most candidates were unable to name the legislations and gave barcoding, sell by dates or features of products as responses.

For the Extended Response Question, candidates were provided with a scenario and asked to discuss the factors which should be considered when creating a type of promotional material to advertise new products. The cohort's performance on this question was similar to the March 20219 cohort with candidates showing the ability to access marks across all three bands.

Some candidates achieved limited marks as their response focussed on the features or design of the product being advertised and missed the key focal point of the scenario being factors relating to the creation of the promotional material required. Candidates achieving higher marks for this question provided a structured response with detailed explanations of a wide range of factors that were relevant to the scenario. These candidate's discussions were balanced in depth across all factors identified.

Candidates will benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this examination. They need to be familiar with the variety of command verbs and be prepared to respond to the different types and structures of questions contained within the paper. They will also benefit from reading each question carefully to clearly respond with the depth required.

Centres are reminded of the City & Guilds Technicals 'Exam Guides' available here

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/beauty-and-complementary-therapies/beauty/3038-technical-in-hair-and-beauty#tab=documents>