

# 6003-524 – Level 2 Nail Treatments – Theory Exam

March 2024

## 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;  
**6003-524 Level 2 Nail Treatments – Theory Exam.**

# Theory Exam – March 2024

## Grade Boundaries and distribution

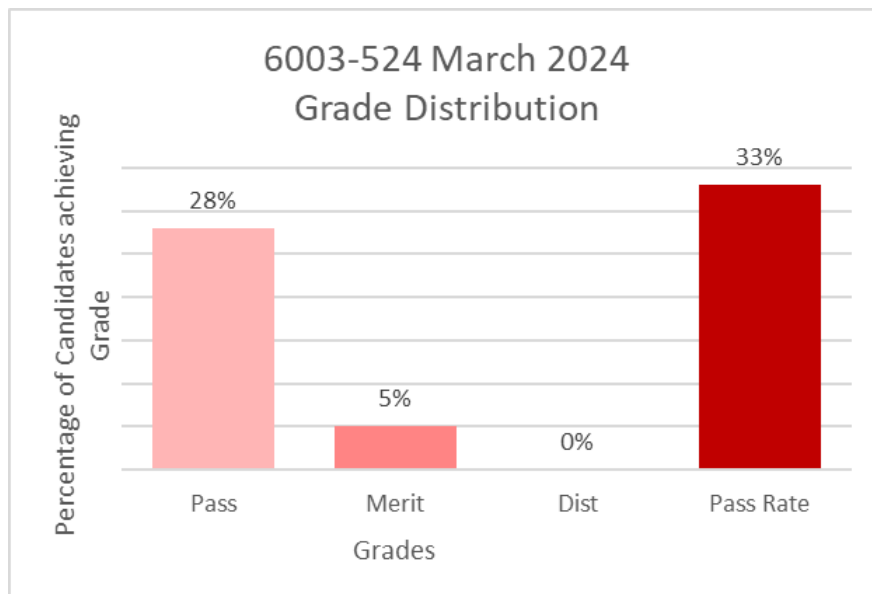
Assessment: **6003-524**

Series: **March 2024**

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

<b>Total marks available</b>	<b>60</b>
Pass mark	26
Merit mark	34
Distinction mark	42

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: 6003-524**

### Series 1 (March)

The examination paper covered a good range of learning outcomes over the whole qualification and was similar to the previous series in terms of range, suitability and level.

Candidates performed well in the recall of knowledge (AO1) questions in the following topic areas:

- Range of joint movement
- Business set-up costs
- Prepare tools, equipment and products

Candidates did not demonstrate good understanding (AO2) in the following topic areas:

- Structure and functions of the nail
- Apply and finish nail enhancements
- Prepare self and working area

However, most candidates did achieve some high marks in the topic area:

- Provide advice and recommendations

Higher-scoring candidates demonstrated the ability to recall knowledge across all of the mandatory units and evidence their understanding, through linking some responses and some reasoning. The combination of these skills, supported by the accurate use of industry-specific terminology, enabled them to solve routine problems presented in scenarios which covered the breadth of the syllabus.

Some candidates missed the opportunity to gain marks where they were unable to demonstrate recall of knowledge for anatomy and physiology questions relating to the structure and functions of the skin. Some of the responses to the technical skills questions on services were often inaccurate. For example, an (AO2) question from the topic area 'Provide advice and recommendations' referred to reasons for restricting a manicure service for a client with diabetes. Most responses to this question referred to the fluctuation of blood sugars and appointment times. Many candidates also did not gain marks with their responses to the question covering 'Legislation relevant to the nail industry'. Some candidates omitted the question relating to the topic 'Types of Chemicals' and some responses lacked justification and/or reason, meaning they were unable to gain full marks.

### Extended Response Question

Candidates were asked to present client treatment options, justifying the preferred treatment plan, including ways to enhance the nails and skin. Most candidates provided justified treatment plans which linked to the client's needs and achieved marks within Band 2.

Minimal marks were gained when candidates provided very basic service options and treatment plans that were not linked to the client's needs as outlined in the case study. Responses tended to contain inaccuracies and omitted areas such as timescales, budgets, nail art, aftercare, retail and maintenance advice. Candidates who achieved higher marks demonstrated more depth and breadth to their reasoning and choices, rather than simple recommendations. Candidates achieving higher marks often made links to both timescales and budgets, they had depth to discussion relating to nail art and included more comprehensive homecare, maintenance and retail advice.

Centres are encouraged to help students develop knowledge and understanding of anatomy and physiology, products and chemistry of the industry and terminology and application techniques.

Candidates will benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this examination. Candidates also need to be prepared for the different types and structures of questions contained within the paper and need to be familiar with the variety of command verbs.

Candidates are encouraged to read each question carefully and to respond clearly to the question given in the depth required. Candidates are also encouraged to attempt all questions.

Centres are reminded of the City & Guilds Technicals 'Exam Guides' available at <https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/beauty-and-complementary-therapies/beauty/6003-beauty-therapy-nails-and-spa#tab=documents>