

6002-31 Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma in Hairdressing (540)

2023

Qualification Report

Contents

Introduction	3
Qualification Grade Distribution	4
Theory Exam	5
Grade Boundaries	5
Chief Examiner Commentary	7
Synoptic Assignment	9
Grade Boundaries	9
Principal Moderator Commentary	10

Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Chief Examiner and Principal Moderator; it is designed to be used as a feedback tool for centres in order to enhance teaching and preparation for assessment. It is advised that this document is referred to when planning delivery and when preparing candidates for City & Guilds Technical assessments.

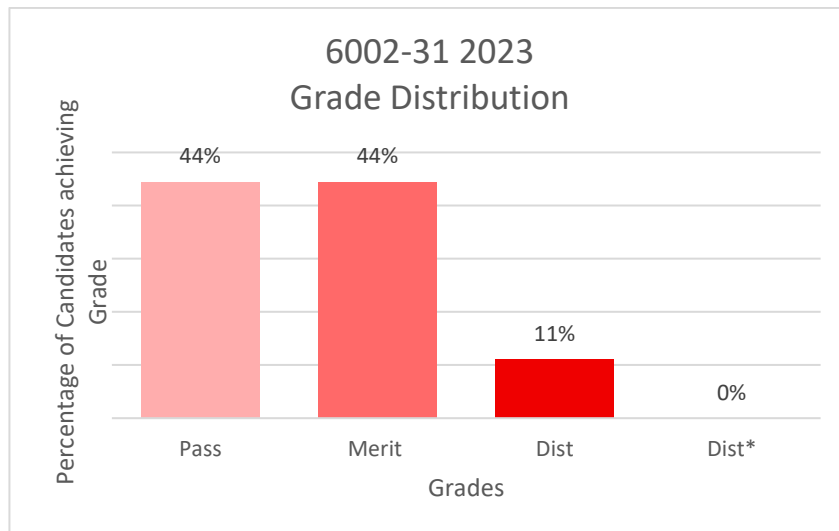
This report provides general commentary on candidate performance in both the synoptic assignment and theory exam. It highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat assessments in the 2023 academic year. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose.

The document provides commentary on the following assessments:

- 6002-532 Level 3 Hairdressing – Theory exam
 - March 2023 (Spring)
 - June 2023 (Summer)
- 6002-033 Level 3 Hairdressing – Synoptic Assignment

Qualification Grade Distribution

The approximate grade distribution for this qualification is shown below:



This data is based on the distribution as of 21/08/2022.

Please note City & Guilds will only report qualification grades for candidates who have achieved all of the required assessment components, including Employer Involvement, optional units and any other centre assessed components as indicated within the Qualification Handbook. The grade distribution shown above could include performance from previous years.

Theory Exam

Grade Boundaries

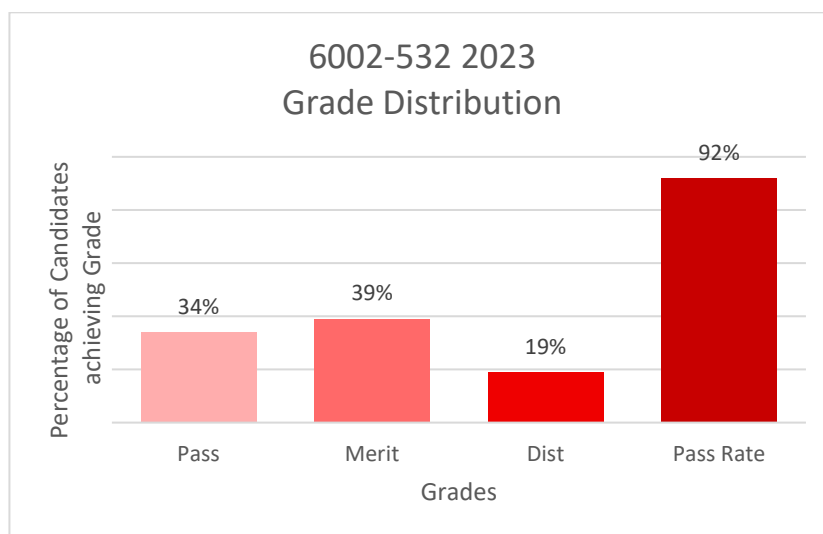
Assessment: 6002-532

Series: March 2023 (Spring)

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

Total marks available	80
Pass mark	30
Merit mark	43
Distinction mark	56

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

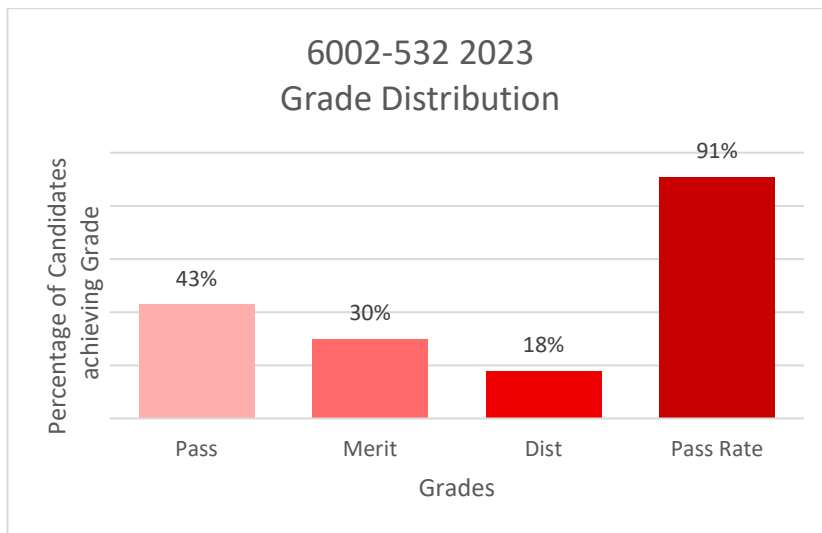


Assessment: 6002-532
Series: June (Summer)

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

Total marks available	80
Pass mark	30
Merit mark	43
Distinction mark	56

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



Chief Examiner Commentary

6002-532 Level 3 Hairdressing – Theory exam

Series 1 – March 2023

The examination paper was comparable to previous series in relation to accessibility, level and range of topics. Overall, candidates performed well with knowledge recall questions but were often weaker on differentiator type questions or questions testing understanding where justification and expansion was required to access higher marks.

Most candidates demonstrated good recall of knowledge, gaining higher marks in topics surrounding adverse scalp conditions. Many candidates showed good recall of legislation when working with styling products. Almost all candidates could recall effect of using excessive tension when styling a specific hair type. There was good understanding shown around the effect of different heat sources on a colouring service and the effects of styling products on the hair structure. Higher scoring candidates demonstrated the ability to recall knowledge across all the mandatory units and evidence of their understanding through accurate reasoning and justification. This was supported by accurate use of correct subject specific terminology across most questions.

Candidates often struggled to show their depth of understanding when discussing the impacts of hair loss or hair growth patterns when cutting hair. The majority could confidently identify how to adapt the service, however, many were not able to consider a wider range of influencing factors which would impact the creation of the style required. e.g., the effects of different cutting techniques and the use of razor. These factors were covered by some candidates but needed to be expanded further, encompassing effects or reasons for using, to allow access to higher marks. Some candidates missed the opportunity to gain marks on the same question where they misunderstood the key requirements of the stem and instead discussed consultations, testing different hair types and even different hairstyles from the image given in the scenario. Candidates would benefit from ensuring they read questions fully and focus their responses on the factors provided and their impact on the style/look desired.

When recalling application methods for virgin hair, most candidates were able to provide accurate detail on the correct sequence and the reasons why but very few candidates covered timing or the need to mix new colour for each application to allow for oxidation.

In the Extended Response Question (ERQ), the scenario encompassed a range of influencing factors within the context of a client who'd previously had a colour service carried out and returned to the salon on another day to complain about a reaction to the service. Most candidates provided a good response to this, with a discussion which considered the correct way to deal with the client complaint and the follow up actions necessary and often were able to consider the possibility of other causes to the reaction e.g., change of medication/diet etc.

Candidates who achieved higher marks explained a wide range of factors that were relevant to the scenario and their discussion was reasoned and justified across all the key aspects demonstrating critical thinking linked to the scenario. Candidates who did not perform so well only considered a narrow range of factors without thinking of wider implications to the service and dealing with an unhappy customer. Some candidates discussed using colour reducers and other scalp applications even though the client had a reaction.

Series 2 – June 2023

This examination paper covered a wide range of learning outcomes across the qualification and was comparable to previous series in terms of accessibility, level and topic range, enabling candidates to gain marks across whole the paper. Performance in scenario-type questions, that required explanation, improved when compared to June 2022, with many responses showing depth and breadth. This allowed the candidates to access higher marks. Generally, candidates also showed a good level of recall of facts across most topics. Most candidates could plan and implement their ERQ response into a clear structure.

Questions relating to legislation and colour pigments within the hair saw many candidates achieve good marks. Candidates also showed good knowledge recall around the effect on the hair structure when wet setting. The use of industry terminology was attempted by all candidates across most questions, this being particularly evident in the detailed responses to scenario-type questions on cutting and colouring. Many candidates demonstrated good recall of factors relating to the salon environment and sustainable working.

Recall of skin and scalp conditions was a weaker area for the cohort, with limited knowledge around signs and symptoms being displayed. The candidates also struggled to show knowledge and understanding around different methods of colour application when colour correcting. Candidates need to focus on reading the question in full before answering, as responses did not always relate to the stem. For example, when asked to describe the function of different hair structures, many candidates instead described the structural characteristics instead.

A mixed level of ability was shown through responses to the Extended Question, with marks being accessed across all bands. The candidates who achieved higher marks explained in detail a wide range of factors that were relevant to the stem, and their discussions were accurate, well-reasoned and justified across the key aspects. Most candidates also outlined a logical process for both the colour and cutting elements of the scenario. Many candidates continue to focus their discussion heavily around the consultation process of the service, and instead need to ensure that their responses are balanced across all key aspects of the scenario. High achieving candidates considered cutting the hair first, acknowledging the condition of the hair and wastage of products. This generally was not considered by the lower achieving candidates.

Candidates would benefit from revisiting knowledge and understanding of scalp conditions to strengthen their responses. They must also ensure not to spend too much time discussing consultations when presented with a scenario, and instead think about the technical service itself and how to adapt this. An improved exam technique was seen this series, and this should be encouraged, along with good knowledge of different legislations. Most candidates were able to achieve high marks in recall questions, with the higher achieving candidates giving responses that were more structured.

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

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/hairdressing/hairdressing/6002-hairdressing-and-barbering#tab=documents>

Synoptic Assignment

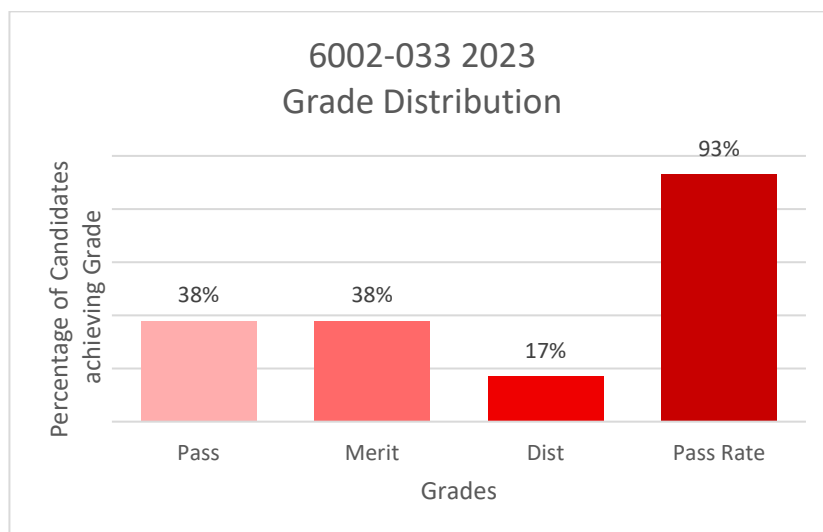
Grade Boundaries

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

Assessment: 6002-033
Series: 2023

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	28
Merit mark	38
Distinction mark	48

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



Principal Moderator Commentary

The synoptic assignment brief is divided into three tasks. Task 1 is for the candidates to plan and agree services, including the consultation and any necessary tests required prior to the synoptic practical. Task 2 requires the candidate to carry out a total restyle that alters the length, shape, and style of the hair, including personalisation through a variety of different cutting techniques. Creative colour must have an element of colour correction for this level, with style and creatively dressing long hair as the final part of the synoptic. For Task three, the candidates need to produce an evaluation of all services.

Low scoring candidates provided brief and limited plans, but these did begin to show coherency which they could carry through to the practical element of the assignment. Higher achievers provided clear evidence of research and planning, which they considered throughout all three tasks.

In the practical aspect of the assignment, the higher achievers demonstrated confidence across most skills by meeting the brief of a creative restyle and completing the colour work to industry standards within the required time. These candidates showed the ability to resolve non-routine problems when it came to the colour correction element of the task and could personalise the cut/looks for their clients. Candidates who achieved marks within the lower bands showed an attempt at being creative, however, the result lacked precision and personalisation in most services. Some candidates did not meet the brief for a restyle, altering the length only without altering the shape or style of the hair.

Task 1

In this task, the plans produced should support each candidate's vision for each service and should be accompanied by images. This year, candidates missed the opportunity to achieve higher marks due to a lack of justification for their choices of tools, equipment and products. Including justification would allow the candidates to show their understanding of how theory links into practice. Higher achievers showed comprehension of choices around the consultation process, including creativity and problem-solving.

Task 2

Centres produced the correct number of images required, however, the image of the preparation of long hair for styling and dressing was either missing or unclear e.g., hair was already in ponytails, so it was unclear what preparation had occurred. Lower achieving candidates showed little evidence of attention to detail through personalisation, which meant the opportunity for gaining more marks was lost. For the re-style element of this brief the candidates need to ensure that they keep to the brief requirements by altering length, shape, and style. Some colour work did not show the level of colour result or complexity expected at this level, with candidates remaining in their comfort zone. The higher achievers had clear colour correction elements within their colour work, allowing them to access higher marks.

Task 3

There was a noticeable improvement on Task 3 this year, with the candidates being able to evaluate their work and identify their strength and weakness. Higher achieving candidates clearly showed the ability to be reflective, show skilled application and link theory to practical. The lower achievers still recorded methods of application and showed little reflection of their work across the three services.

Candidates' performance against each AO – strengths and weaknesses

AO1- Recall of knowledge

Generally, candidates were consistent across this AO, showing safe working practices through their knowledge of health and safety, legislation and being able to follow manufacturer's instructions. They also showed good use across a variety of products, tools, and equipment. Most candidates showed a good level of professionalism and personal presentation.

AO2 – Understanding

There were varying standards seen with consultation interpretations. Some candidates demonstrated sound understanding, whilst others were brief, with little documented evidence of the interpretation of test results and consideration of factors that could influence the services. The use of products selected showed little or no justification, and aftercare advice was limited and not justified in some cases.

AO3 – Application of practical/technical skills

Most candidates showed that they could work methodically, which led to the completion of all services required. They also tended to show good communication skills, self-confidence and a friendly nature when working with the clients. High-achieving candidates presented a wide variety of techniques and completed the services in a logical sequence and to their planned timeline. Lower-achieving candidates did not manage to keep to their timeline and lacked the ability to problem solve if required. For example, if a client did not turn up, these candidates did not look at the new client's hair or adapt the service to suit the new hair type and texture, instead continuing with the original plan, which may not have been suitable.

AO4 – Bringing it all together

It was evident that some candidates planned and managed their time more efficiently than others. These candidates were well organised throughout all three tasks, showing evidence of detailed planning that flowed through to the methodical application of skills and creativity. Where required, the finished looks were refined, demonstrating balance, precision and skill. Candidates gaining lower marks did not fully respond to the task brief requirements. Evidence was lacking with regards to preparation of the hair before dressing up, showing lack of dexterity and control of the hair. They often chose 'safe' colouring services, inside their comfort zone, which did not show their creativity or understanding of higher-level industry requirements.

AO5 – Attention to detail

Evidence often showed some inconsistency across the three services or tasks e.g., the cut might have been completed to a good standard, but let down by a poor finish, such as weak curls or stray hairs. Pins may be showing, or colour may be unsuitable or patchy. Higher-scoring candidates showed persistence and consistency throughout, perfecting and refining the finished looks across all services. They stayed focused and worked meticulously to achieve a perfect result every time. Candidates are reminded to personalise their finished looks and check for balance.

Examples of best Practice

- Most centres ensured that standardisation activities had taken place between more than one marker. This was seen during centre visits by the moderators, who observed candidates being marked by two markers to ensure quality assurance and standardisation. Standardisation can prevent under-marking or over-marking, which lead to adjustments being made at the national moderation.
- This series, most centres followed the guidance, using the City & Guilds proformas provided as part of the assignment.
- Photographic evidence showed improvement, with most centres adhering to the limit put on the number of images required and placing photographic evidence within a PowerPoint presentation. These showed clear titling of before, during and after evidence.
- Centres have fully prepared the candidates and themselves for the synoptic assignment, by carrying out mock assignments.