

0172-024/524 Level 2 Technical Certificate in Animal Care

March 2023

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 2023** 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;

0172-024/524 Level 2 Animal Care – Theory

Theory Exam – March 2023

Grade Boundaries and distribution

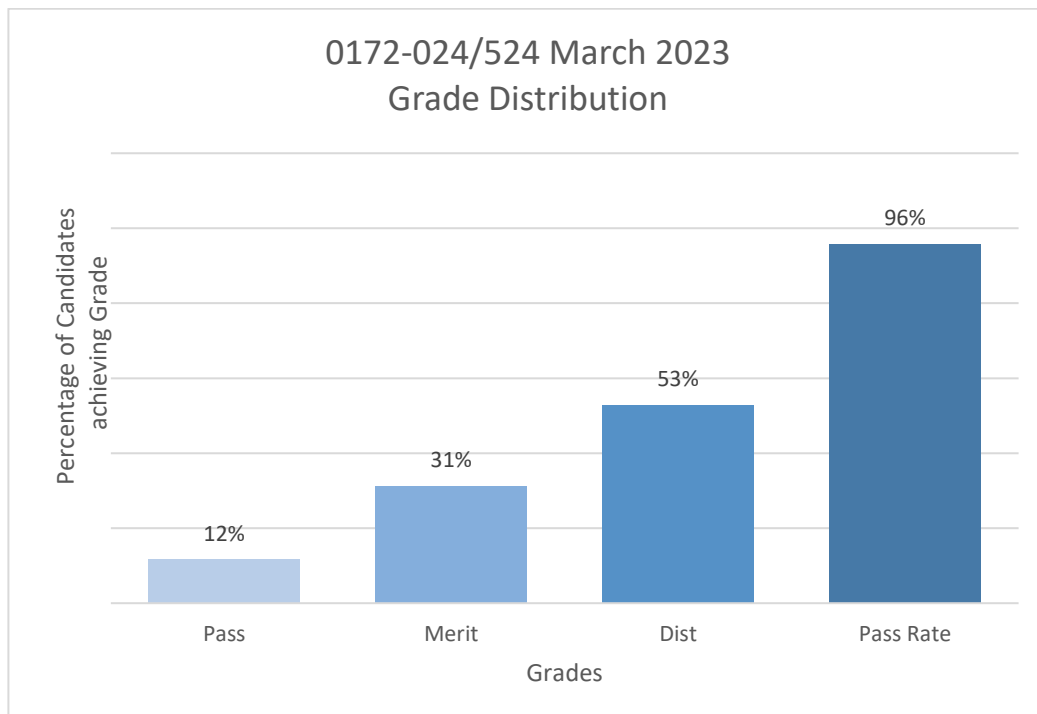
Assessment: **0172-024/524**

Series: **March 2023**

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

Total marks available	
Pass mark	26
Merit mark	30
Distinction mark	35

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: 0172-024/524

Series 1 (March 2023)

Overall, candidates have performed well on this assessment demonstrating good recall across most of the subject areas. Candidates' performance was stronger than that of the 2022 series.

Differentiation was seen in questions where candidates are required to apply knowledge to a given scenario and where candidates are required to share their understanding of the 'first sign' of a disease and identifying the correct amount of food to feed based in an animal's condition. There were some low performing AO1 and AO2 questions, some AO2 questions seemed to be the more challenging to candidates, despite being on the core topics.

In this paper, questions relating to animal health conditions, eg identifying a normal appearance, causes of disease and First Aid were answered well demonstrating candidates' knowledge of animal care. Candidates also responded well to questions including the use and care of equipment as well as behaviour questions, with higher performing candidates able to show knowledge and understanding of territorial behaviour and the cause of another specified behaviour. Most candidates performed well in the business questions with many candidates able to identify the correct organisation when given a brief description, showing understanding of job roles and health and safety.

Candidates show a lack of depth of knowledge and understanding in certain core topics; signs and symptoms of common diseases, rules of first aid, nutritional requirements of individual animals, consequences of an inadequate diet, appropriate use of restraint equipment and identifying the most appropriate restraint techniques.

Lower performing candidates were unable to show understanding of recording and reporting on observations and situations that require handling with care. Many candidates continue to struggle with technical terminology and application of knowledge and understanding to the given scenarios.

Centres are encouraged to help candidates develop their understanding of technical terminology across the qualification. Candidates would also benefit from further exam practice prior to sitting their assessment as a number of candidates did not appear to focus on reading the questions, especially scenario-based, which often leads a missed opportunity to achieve marks.

Past papers and marking schemes are available on the City and Guilds website which should be used for exam practice.

City & Guilds also offers a technical exam guide to support the work on the exam technique.

All documents are available to download from [Technicals in Animal Care Management and Equine Care Management qualifications and training courses | City & Guilds \(cityandguilds.com\)](https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications/0172-024/524)

Past papers and marking schemes: Documents – Animal Care - Level 2 – Assessment Materials – Past papers tabs

Exam guide: Documents – Animal Care - Level 2 – Assessment Materials