

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

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;

0172-524/024 Level 2 Animal Care – Theory

Theory Exam – March 2024

Grade Boundaries and distribution

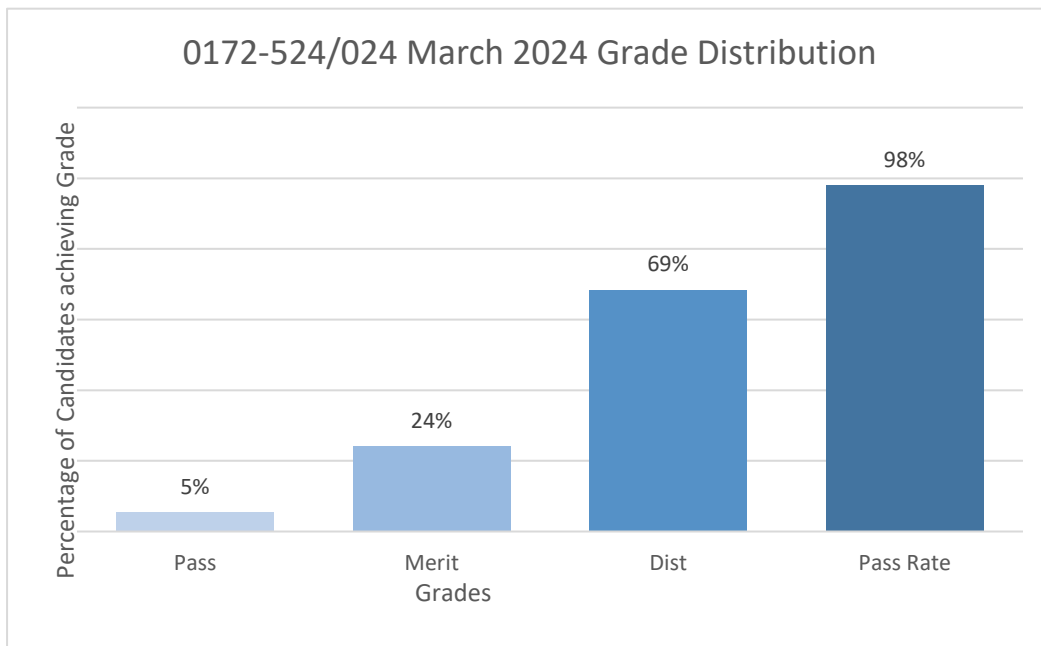
Assessment: **0172-524/024**

Series: **March 2024**

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

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Total marks available | |
| Pass mark | 27 |
| Merit mark | 31 |
| Distinction mark | 36 |

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: 0172-524/024

Series 1 (March 2024)

Overall, candidates have performed well on this assessment demonstrating good recall across the majority of the subject areas. Candidates' performance was stronger than that of the 2023 series.

Differentiation was seen in questions where candidates were required to apply knowledge to a given scenario and where candidates were required to share their understanding of the life-stage requirements and identify appropriate feeding methods. Candidates' seemed to particularly struggle with questions relating to nutrition, and advertising and with questions that required them to recall technical terminology.

In this paper, questions relating to animal health conditions, e.g. causes of disease, identification of parasites and First Aid were answered well, demonstrating candidates' knowledge of animal care. Candidates also responded well to questions relating to waste disposal, cleaning frequency and appropriate substrates in a given scenario. Higher performing candidates were able to show knowledge and understanding of grooming requirements and legislation across the paper. Most candidates performed well in the business questions, with many candidates able to identify the role of a given organisation, define a specified business type, identify the correct policy to refer to in a given scenario and show an understanding of health and safety.

It was evident in this series that candidates struggled with recalling technical terminology overall and therefore were unable to understand the requirements of those few questions which contained this. However, candidates did perform reasonably well in questions that used medical terminology e.g. routes of administration.

Lower-performing candidates were unable to show an understanding of the suitability of different types of promotion and multiple aspects of nutrition.

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 to 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/0172-524/024)

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