

0172-035/535 - Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (720)

March 2023

Chief 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:

0172-035/535 - Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (720)-Theory Exam.

0172-035/535 Level 3 Animal Management (Zoos and Wildlife)

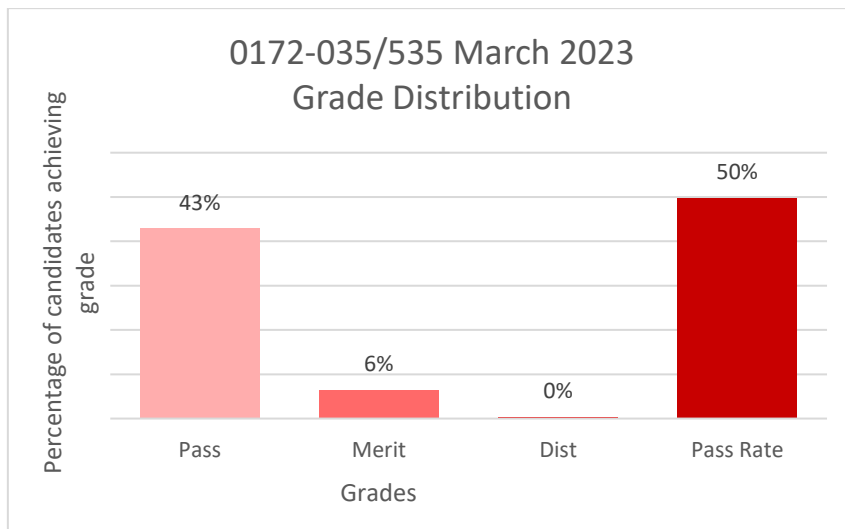
Grade Boundaries

Assessment: **0172-035/535**
Series: **March 2023 (Spring)**

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

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Total marks available | 60 |
| Pass mark | 24 |
| Merit mark | 33 |
| Distinction mark | 42 |

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



Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

0172-035/535

Series 1 (March)

Overall candidate performance on this paper was lower than previously seen, with the average mark of 23.43 compared to March 2022 at 26.1 and March 2020 at 32.5.

Candidates provided somewhat good levels of recall in most areas; however, a lack of exam technique observed across the cohort lead to many candidates losing out on marks in this exam. Candidates generally failed to expand their answers for questions requiring explanations, often not providing detail that shows the depth of knowledge and understanding, which lead to achieving only partial marks. This was also evidenced in the questions that utilised technical terminology where candidates generally showed very little knowledge and/or understanding.

Unit 308 - This unit focuses on **Wildlife Ecology and Conservation**. Strengths were seen in questions relating to abiotic factors and evolution. Candidates showed weaknesses in questions which contained technical terminology and often missed out on marks due to inaccurate recall of different conservation techniques and understanding primary consumers.

Unit 310 - This unit focuses on **Exotic Animal Health and Husbandry**. Candidates demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the impact of biosecurity protocols. Again, candidates missed out on marks due to inaccurate recall of technical terminology and were therefore unable to accurately explain their answers. Candidates showed a varied achievement in questions relating to legislation.

Unit 316 - This unit focuses on **Zoological Collections**. Strengths were seen in questions relating to zoo ethics with many candidates providing both recall and understanding. Weaknesses were seen in questions requiring recall of technical terms. Candidates showed a varied achievement in questions relating to modern zoo roles.

The extended response question (ERQ) focused on visitor expectations and animal welfare and provided an opportunity for candidates of every level to present their knowledge and understanding. Overall, the candidates did not perform well, with very few accessing band 3. Candidates often made a good attempt at this question but then provided limited breadth and made little attempt to link the two considerations. Many candidates focussed solely on the five animal needs, which is one consideration of many expected to be discussed. There was very little evidence of holistic approach to the question and limited depth of understanding was shown. This resulted in candidates mostly achieving band 1 and 2.

Centres should ensure they train candidates to discuss a holistic approach applying different aspects of any given scenario to allow the candidate to gain higher marks. Candidates should answer the question offering the breadth and depth, explaining their reasons behind their comments and then either justify or appraise their own comments offering explanations or justifications for their answers. This will enable candidates to move towards the higher banding depending on the level of detail the candidates go into.

Centres should remind candidates that if their handwriting is illegible marks cannot be awarded.

City & Guilds has produced a technical exam guide to support the work on the exam technique, which is available to download from <https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/animal-management/0172-technical-in-animal-care-management-and-equine-care-management#tab=documents>