0172-541 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080)

March 2023

Chief Examiner Report

Contents

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:
0172-541 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management – Theory Exam (2).

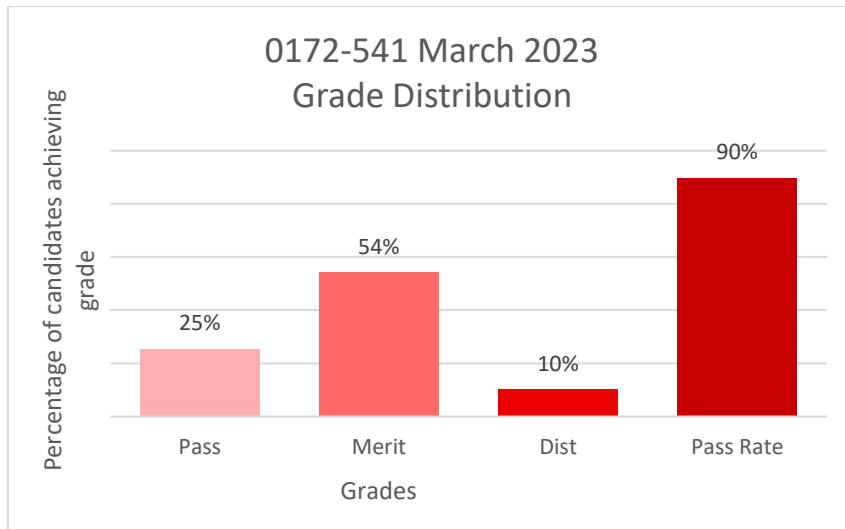# 0172-541 – Level 3 Animal Management (Wildlife)

Grade Boundaries

Assessment: **0172-541**
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	25
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

0172-541

Series 1 (March)

Candidate performance was stronger than that of the equivalent 2022 series. This cohort showed an improved exam technique in comparison to the March 2022 series, although some candidates lacked attention to detail when reading questions containing scenarios. This caused them to inaccurately answer and therefore miss out on AO2 marks. Candidate performance was stronger in the questions where recall was required. A varied performance was seen in questions containing technical terminology with candidates often able to provide accurate definitions but unable to provide recall of specified terms. Centres should emphasise to their candidates on the importance of technical terminology and the correct exam technique.

Unit 308 – This unit focuses on **Wildlife Ecology and Conservation**. Strengths for this unit were around evolution and conservation types. Good differentiation was seen in the topic relating to defence mechanisms. Technical terminology and definitions appeared to be an issue for most candidates. Centres should ensure that technical terminology is utilised throughout teaching to enable candidates to correctly recall and show understanding of the relevant terms.

Unit 309 – This unit focuses on **Wildlife Management and Rehabilitation**. Strengths for this unit were around legislation and behaviour patterns. Good differentiation was seen in a question relating to impacts of wildlife populations. Weaknesses were observed in questions requiring the recall of technical terminology.

Unit 328 – This unit focuses on **Ecological Concepts and Application**. Candidates demonstrated strengths in recall of knowledge in relation to ecological surveys. Whilst many candidates had knowledge of breeding, a lack of exam technique was seen with some candidates missing opportunities to gain marks by not providing succinct explanations in questions relating to this topic. Centres should remind candidates to develop their answers where explanations are required by offering reason/cause/consequence depending on what the aim of the question to enable them to gain higher marks.

Unit 364 – This unit focuses on **Business Management in the Land-Based Sector**. Candidates were somewhat successful at defining business competitors but struggled to gain higher marks in the question relating to consequences to a business in a given context. Centres should continue to focus on ensuring candidates have a firm understanding of all aspects of business.

The extended response question (ERQ) focused on considerations that should be made for a specified wildlife species that had been admitted to a wildlife recuse centre. Many candidates were not able to leave the lower banding due to a lack or breadth and/or depth in the considerations provided and it was clear that many candidates struggled to expand on the statements that they provided. Although a high number of candidates were able to discuss realistic options for care, rehabilitation and considered release of the species, some candidates provided unrealistic considerations which limited their achievement.

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-technicals-in-animal-care-management-and-equine-care-management#tab=documents