

0172-002/502 – Level 3 Equine Management - Theory exam (1)

March 2020

Examiner Report

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Theory Exam – March 2020.....	4
Grade Boundaries and distribution.....	4
Chief Examiner Commentary.....	5

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 2020** 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;
0172-002/502 Level 3 Equine Management - Theory exam (1)

Theory Exam – March 2020

Grade Boundaries and distribution

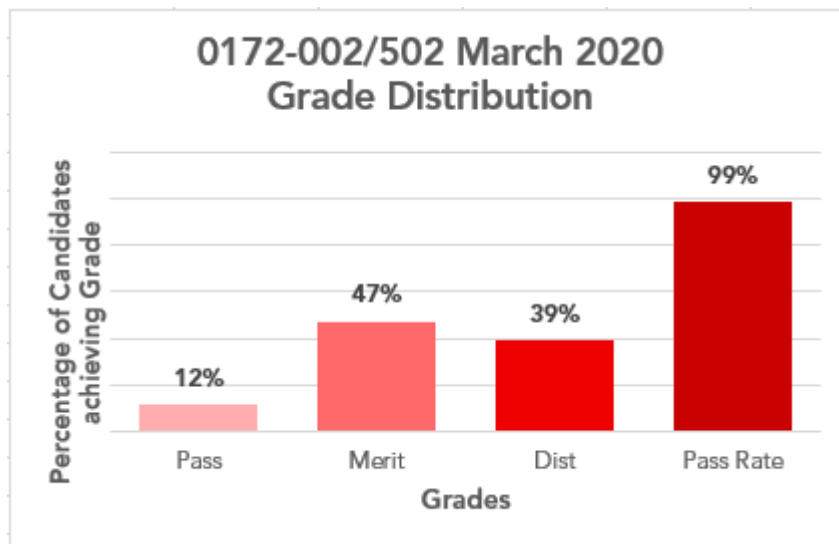
Assessment: **0172-002/502**

Series: **March 2020**

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

Total marks available	
Pass mark	24
Merit mark	33
Distinction mark	42

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: 0172-002/502

Series 1 (March)

Candidates generally performed well on this paper and gained high marks. In many cases an improvement was seen in exam technique compared to previous years. There was still some evidence of candidates not reading questions properly, which caused candidates to miss out on marks.

A common weakness seen was that candidates referenced the five welfare needs throughout the paper but failed to relate the role of these to the question, or even to give specific examples, so marks could not be awarded.

Unit 350

This unit focuses on various areas of stable management and yard operations. The questions in these areas were generally well answered, specifically the questions about field management. Most candidates gained some marks in every question related to unit 350 although some misread questions.

Unit 351

This unit focuses on animal health. Variable responses were seen, and it was evident that this was a weaker unit than 350 in many cases. Strengths were seen in questions relating to types of vaccination and use of first aid equipment. Weaknesses showed in questions relating to the purpose of vaccinations and gastric ulcers. There was also a general lack of use and understanding of key terminology e.g. in relation to disease transmission routes and pathogenic organisms which cause diseases.

Extended response question

The question enabled every candidate to gain some marks. It was designed to ensure they could show their knowledge of a combined field and stable management system and the impact this can have on horse health and welfare. It was notable that candidates with evidence of planning their answer usually performed better than other candidates. It was also clear that some candidates simply ran out of time as they started well but then the quality of the discussion deteriorated, or the answer simply just stopped.

The five welfare needs were stated but very few candidates related these to the question to show their impact on the management and welfare for the horse, therefore, not gaining them any marks for this part of the discussion.

Only the more competent candidates discussed the combined system and its impact with a holistic approach. Other candidates discussed stable and field management as separate systems, limiting the marks available to them.

Generally, to gain higher marks candidates need to develop a better strategy for answering the extended response question, as many were recalling facts without expanding on their answers to show their understanding. Following a strategy such as PEGEX (point, example (e.g.) and explain (ex.)), may help them in future.

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

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/animal-management/0172-technicals-in-animal-care-management-and-equine-care-management#tab=documents>