

# 0172-508 – Level 3 Technicals in Equine Management – Theory Exam (2)

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;  
**0172-508 – Level 3 Technicals in Equine Management – Theory Exam (2).**

# Theory Exam – March 2024

## Grade Boundaries and distribution

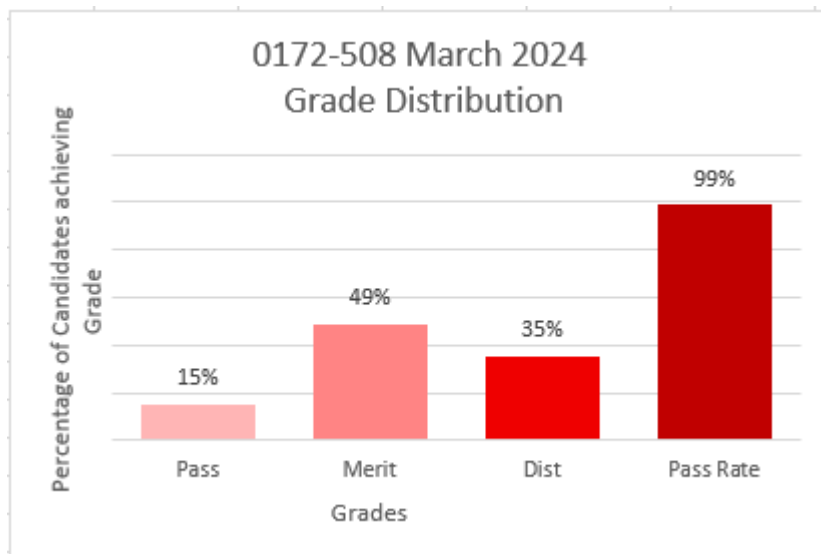
Assessment: **0172-508**

Series: **March 2024**

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

<b>Total marks available</b>	<b>60</b>
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: 0172-508**

### Series 1 (March)

Candidates generally showed a good ability to read and understand the questions. For many candidates the answers given clearly related to the specifics of the question.

Candidate performance was stronger in questions where recall of facts was required (AO1) especially in the more practical and vocational questions. The questions which required explanations to demonstrate an understanding of topics (AO2), were the questions where candidates lost most marks. Candidates gained the most marks for AO2 questions where they could apply their practical understanding. The theoretical/scientific/business understanding questions posed more of a challenge for some candidates. Some candidates offered answers that were lists, brief descriptions of facts, or statements instead of a sufficient explanation of the question topic.

#### Unit 358

This unit focuses on the principals of equitation. Most of the questions in this unit were answered effectively. The main areas of strength were questions on the benefits of developing a horse's suppleness when working on the flat and indicators that a horse is evading the contact when ridden on the flat. The topic that was answered least effectively was on deviations to a rider's balanced position.

#### Unit 360

This unit focuses on horse fitness. Questions within this unit were mostly answered well. The main strengths covered reasons for clipping horses and factors to be considered when preparing a horse for a fitness programme. Some candidates performed less well on questions relating to respiratory adaptations seen in horses when working in a fitness programme.

#### Unit 364

This unit focuses on business in the land-based sector. These questions were generally answered well by most candidates. The main area of strength was on the detail required on an order form when making purchases. The question that was answered least effectively was on the benefits of being a member of a professional body in the equine industry.

#### Extended Response Question (ERQ)

This question focused on the factors that need to be considered to create a viable freelance groom business. Many candidates demonstrated a good, basic understanding of the factors involved and could bring together information from across the units being assessed. The candidates who performed best in this question were able to demonstrate a more in depth understanding and could discuss a range of factors and justify their decisions. Candidates who performed less well were unable to link factors together and lacked depth of underpinning theory thus preventing them from achieving marks in the higher bands.

Overall, most candidates interpreted command verbs correctly. As in previous years the more theoretical/scientific/business understanding questions were the least well answered. The depth of understanding in explanations was often weaker on these questions and would be a beneficial area of focus during preparation. Ensuring candidates read the specifics of the questions will help prevent marks being lost by misinterpretation. Bringing information together also proved challenging for some candidates, therefore it would also be beneficial to focus on this to show candidates ability to justify discussion points in the extended response question.

**Centres are reminded of the City & Guilds Technicals 'Exam Guides' available here:**  
[Technicals in Animal Care Management and Equine Care Management qualifications and training courses | City & Guilds \(cityandguilds.com\)](https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-training/courses)