

0173-501 – Level 3 Land and Wildlife Management – Theory exam (1)

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;
0173-501 – Level 3 Land and Wildlife Management – Theory Exam (1).

Theory Exam – March 2024

Grade Boundaries and distribution

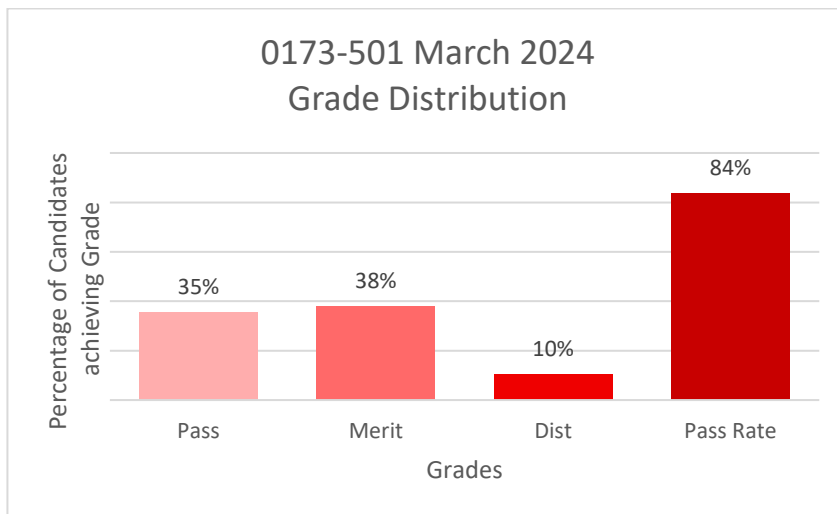
Assessment: **0173-501**

Series: **March 2024**

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 distribution of grades and pass rates for this assessment:



Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 0173-501

Series 2 (March 2024)

The question paper was balanced and covered a good range of knowledge and understanding from across the units and was comparable with previous papers. Questions were answered with varying degrees of accuracy and depth. Overall candidates' performance on the paper was comparable to last year's.

The candidates who achieved higher marks answered all questions thoroughly and showed excellent breadth and depth of knowledge that was backed up by relevant examples. Candidates that performed well in this examination demonstrated relevant knowledge in all three topics machinery, ecology and conservation and estate skills. Some candidates' performance was stronger in the recall questions and there was a general briefness to explanations and discussions.

Areas of questions that were answered well:

- Safety requirements on land-based machinery.
- The Badger Act.
- Habitat management for trees.
- Construction of the shed.

Areas of questions that were not answered well:

- Lifting Equipment and Lifting Equipment Regulations.
- Justification of cutting mechanism for a hedge.
- Characteristics of Biomes.
- R-breeding in plants.

Candidates generally performed well across the paper, particularly on practical-based questions in unit 303 Land-based industry machinery operations, though candidates struggled on legalisation questions in this unit. Candidates were more challenged by unit 304 Populations surveys, ecology and conservation, most struggled with questions on characteristics of the r-breeding strategies in flora. Candidate's performance on unit 310 Undertake estate skills was good, most candidates accessed full marks in a question requiring candidates to identify habitat management activities associated with trees and explaining the benefits of a material in the construction of a shed.

Extended Response Question (ERQ)

Candidates were asked to discuss factors to consider, and techniques used to control invasive plant species along a stream. This question allowed candidates to demonstrate their breadth of knowledge and understanding of factors that must be considered when developing a suitable plan for the given scenario.

Candidates were awarded higher marks in this question when discussing all factors and correctly linking to the scenario. Lower marks were awarded when candidates only discussed the techniques that could be used without considering the stream.

Candidate performance for this question was good, showing similar achievement as in previous years with most candidates achieving higher band 1 and lower band 2. Those that provided

justifications for the techniques in the scenario and considered the stream in their responses achieved a band 3.

Centres are advised to ensure that candidates are familiar with the different command verbs and the type of responses expected, as well as the need to read each question carefully and to respond clearly to the question given in the depth required.

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

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/environment-countryside-and-conservation/0173-technical-in-land-wildlife-management#tab=information>

Previous papers and examiner reports will also assist centres and candidates to prepare for future examinations. These are available here:

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/environment-countryside-and-conservation/0173-technical-in-land-wildlife-management#tab=documents>