

# **0173-509 - Level 3 Land and Wildlife Management – Theory exam (2)**

**March 2024**

## **Examiner Report**

# Contents

Introduction.....	3
Theory Exam – March 2024.....	4
Grade Boundaries.....	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 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:

**0173-509 – Level 3 Land and Wildlife Management – Theory exam (2).**

# Theory Exam – March 2024

## Grade Boundaries and distribution

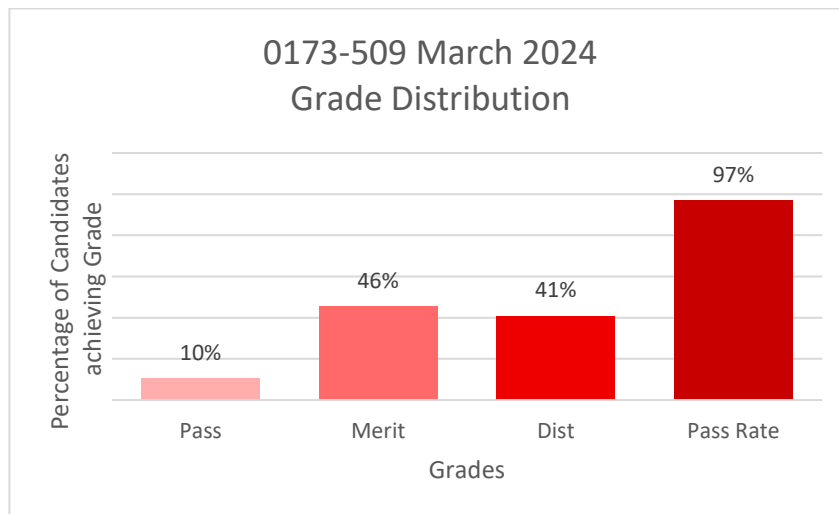
Assessment: **0173-509**

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	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: 0173-509**

### Series 2 (March 2024)

The question paper was balanced and covered a good range of knowledge and understanding from across units. Questions were answered with a varying degree of accuracy and depth, but generally the standard of response was good. Overall candidates' performance was better than in March 2023.

The candidates who achieved higher marks answered all questions thoroughly and showed excellent breadth and depth of knowledge supported by relevant examples. Some candidate's performance was stronger in the recall questions and there was a general briefness to some explanations and discussions.

Topic areas of questions that were answered well:

- The carbon cycle.
- Methods of presenting data.
- Hand tools and coppicing.
- Rescores in a meta population.
- The hydrological cycle.

Topic areas of questions that were not answered well:

- Formation of sedimentary rocks.
- Leaching effecting soil composition.
- Organic matter in soils.
- Microhabitats in woodlands.

Candidates generally performed well across the paper, particularly on practical-based questions in unit 307 Woodland habitat management. Candidates' performance varied across unit 306 principles of physical and biological environmental processes with many achieving full marks on the hydrological cycle question, but were challenged by questions on leaching. Candidates struggled particularly on questions related to the impact of organic matter on soil composition. Candidates performance on unit 318 ecological concepts and application was generally good, some candidates were challenged by questions on microhabitats, however many achieved full marks on questions related to resource competition within a metapopulation.

### Extended Response Question (ERQ)

Candidates were required to discuss the information required to formulate a management plan to create a woodland management plan and reduce soil erosion to a nearby river. This question allowed candidates to demonstrate their breadth of knowledge and understanding of factors to be considered to establish a new woodland and the techniques that could be used in the management plan.

There was an improvement in candidate responses compared to previous years with candidates planning their responses before answering. Candidates considered the issues in the scenario well. Some candidates concentrated on established woodland management techniques therefore they did not provide sufficient breadth and depth to achieve marks in higher bands. Most candidates achieved upper band 1 and lower band 2. Candidates who discussed all aspects and considerations and used examples, provided sufficient breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding to achieve a band 3.

Centres are strongly advised to ensure that candidates are familiar with command verbs and the type of responses required as well as the need to read each question carefully and to respond clearly to the question given in the depth required. Candidates would benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this exam, to fully understand the requirements of the question before attempting to answer and learn how to plan for extended response questions. 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>