

0173-511 Level 3 Land and Wildlife 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:

0173-511 – Level 3 Land and Wildlife Management – Theory exam (2).

Theory Exam – March 2024

Grade Boundaries and distribution

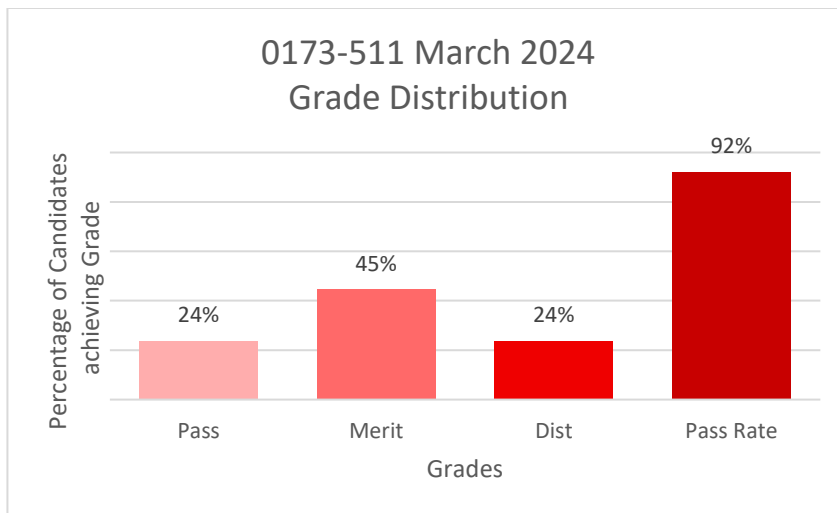
Assessment: **0173-511**

Series: **March 2024**

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

Total marks available	60
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: 0173-511

Series 2 (March 2024)

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

The candidates who achieved higher marks answered all questions, however they did not always access full marks in AO2 questions due to not responding to the depth required, or fully engaging with the command verb.

Candidates who performed well in this examination demonstrated that they have relevant knowledge of environmental processes as well as the game units.

Some candidates' performance was stronger in recall questions, however, there was a general briefness to explanations and discussions with candidates providing brief and bullet-pointed answers.

Topic areas of questions that were answered well:

- Domestic animals used as lethal pest control.
- Shotgun cartridge length.
- Bullet ricochet.
- External influences on game bird populations.
- Types of UK crow.
- Rail bird found in the UK.

Topic areas of question that were not answered well:

- Levels in a food chain.
- Acidification and future land use.
- How a ladder/crow cage is an effective trap.
- How hedge laying improves habitats.
- Categories of transferring firearms.

Candidates generally performed well across the paper, particularly on practical-based questions in Unit 308 Pest and Predator Control, Unit 309 Use of Firearms in the Environmental and Land-based Sector and Unit 328 Ecology of Gamebird Species. Candidates' performance varied across Unit 306 Principles of Physical and Biological Environmental Processes and struggled particularly in the categories of transferring firearms and shotguns.

Extended Response Question (ERQ)

Candidates were required to discuss the priorities for integrating arable farms into an existing shoot and the benefits of managing the larger area. The extended response question allowed candidates to demonstrate their breadth of knowledge and understanding of factors to be considered for the benefits and priorities of the given scenario.

Most candidates provided details of a comprehensive range of benefits and priorities meeting band 2 descriptors and showing a great improvement to previous year's response. There were good justifications for their responses, showing breadth and some depth in places, but most lacked the reasoning and critical thinking required to achieve marks in Band 3.

Candidates would benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this exam, to familiarise themselves with the command verbs they may encounter, and fully understand the requirements of the question before attempting to answer. Explain questions require candidates to provide reasons and justifications to support the statements, or to show cause and effect within the answers. Candidates would also benefit from practising how to plan extended response questions.

Centres are strongly 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 in preparing 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>