

0175-001/501 – Level 3 Floristry - Theory exam

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:

0175-001/501 – Level 3 Floristry - Theory exam

Theory Exam – March 2024

Grade Boundaries and distribution

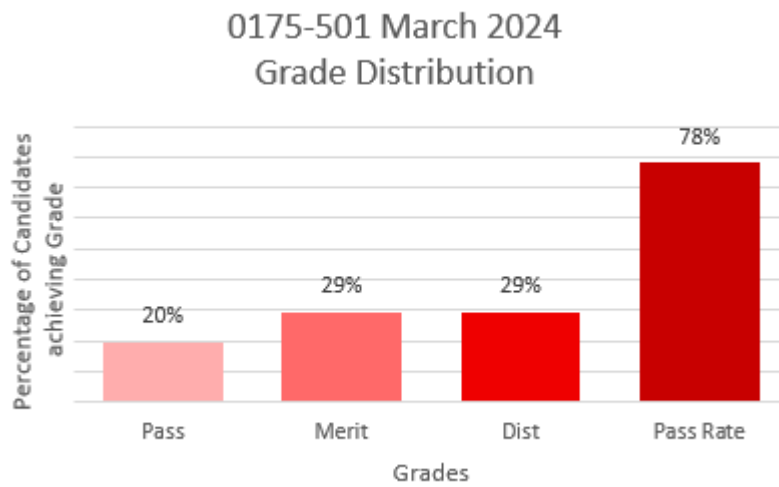
Assessment: **0175-501**

Series: **March 2024**

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: 0175-501

Series 1 (March)

Overall, candidates' performance on the paper has improved on last year, with questions answered to a varying degree of accuracy and depth suggesting candidates are better prepared for examinations. The question paper was generally balanced and covered a good level of knowledge and understanding across the qualification. On the whole, candidates gave responses which showed a good level of recall in the areas of industry standards such as roles within a floristry business and identifying botanical material. Descriptions and explanations were also more detailed than the previous examination.

Candidates demonstrated a good recall of knowledge, gaining marks in topics such as the design schema and business. Particular areas of strength included recall of cut flower, foliage and plant identification, which has improved from last year. Candidates demonstrated good understanding of the design schema, business practices and plant knowledge. Higher scoring candidates were able to demonstrate breadth and depth of knowledge, backed up by relevant examples and included explanations where needed, although some candidates tended to give brief answers and not explain fully. Some candidates demonstrated the ability to recall knowledge across all areas and apply to a given scenario showing evidence of reasoning and justification.

One area of weakness for many candidates was the importance of nomenclature. Additionally, some candidates missed the opportunity to gain marks where they were unable to demonstrate recall of knowledge for tropisms. Many candidates were unable to access the full range of marks due to misinterpreting the question. Candidates need to focus on reading the questions carefully as responses in some areas did not relate to what was being asked, for example methods of taxation. Some candidates wrote answers that were not clear and appeared to add everything, in the hope they will have included the correct one, such as listing five answers when only three were required, meaning only the first three were accepted for marking. Some papers had questions not attempted. Candidates also need to be prepared for the different types and structures of questions contained within the paper and need to be familiar with the variety of command verbs.

Extended Response Question (ERQ)

The Extended Response Question required candidates to demonstrate their knowledge of marketing and sales techniques that could be used when expanding into new markets, as well as their ability to carry out a business and financial analysis. Half of the cohort were able to access marks in bands 2 or 3, with the majority showing evidence of reasonable understanding of the tasks. Some discussed with a degree of breadth and depth but lost marks by failing to refer back to the scenario. Answers accessing the higher marks were well structured to cover a full range of considerations.

Candidates should be encouraged to avoid giving answers that are very similar, or tend to overlap, especially where several points are required. Candidates would also benefit from reading and fully understanding what the question requires before attempting to answer. In addition, centres should remind candidates that listing as many answers as possible will not guarantee marks will be achieved; if a question asks for three answers, only the first three will be marked.

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