

# **0172-539 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080)**

**March 2023**

## **Chief 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 2023** 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;  
**0172-539 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080) -Theory Exam.**

## 0172-539 Level 3 Animal Management (Zoos)

### Grade Boundaries

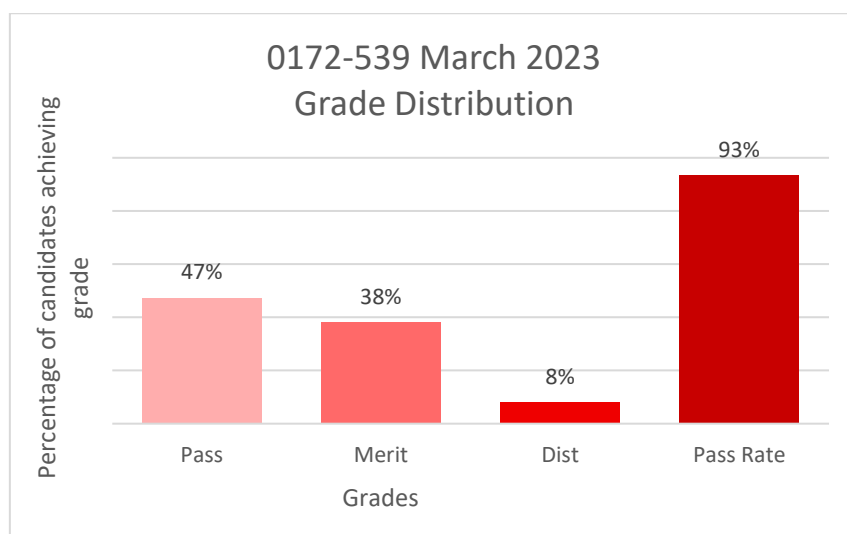
Assessment: **0172-539**

Series: **March 2023 (Spring)**

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 distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment:



# Chief Examiner Commentary

## General Comments on Candidate Performance

0172-539

### Series 1 (March)

Cohort performance was much stronger than that of the 2022 series. Candidates generally performed well in questions relating to zoological management and business. However, they require further support in anatomy and aquatics.

Although, it is noted that there was a significant improvement in candidates' exam technique compared to the last series, there are still improvements to focus upon, particularly in the questions that require reasoning, cause and/or justifications. Technical terminology is still inaccurately used and misunderstood by many candidates.

Candidate responses to some of the questions indicated weaknesses in both examination technique and subject area knowledge. Many candidates performed significantly better on questions requiring recall of knowledge but were not always able to demonstrate the expected understanding or fully explain their answers.

**Unit 313** - This unit focuses on **Aquatics Welfare and Breed Development**. Some candidates were able to demonstrate recall of knowledge of species characteristics and signs of disease, but many missed out on these marks due to not understanding the technical terms. However, many candidates were able to provide examples and explain adaptations to living environments.

**Unit 314** - This unit focuses on **Avian Health and Husbandry**. Strengths for questions relating to this unit were seen in identification of dietary types and advantages of food provision. Areas of weakness were seen in avian anatomy. Candidates lost marks in this section mainly due lack of anatomical knowledge and understanding.

**Unit 316** - This unit focuses on **Zoological Collections**. Overall, candidates performed very well on questions relating to this topic; understanding of the benefits of a specified exhibit type and knowledge of appropriate provision of enrichment was evident. Reasonably good differentiation was seen in a question covering the topic of specified materials used within enclosures.

**Unit 364** - This unit focuses on **Business Management in the Land Based Sector**. Recall of a specified resource type was a key strength in this subject. Candidates were also able to provide understanding of the importance of record keeping.

The extended response question (ERQ) provided an opportunity for candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of visitor expectations and the impact this has on conservation. Most candidates accessed higher end band 1, with answers focused on visitor expectations, often missing the link to the impact on conservation. Technical terminology was seen to be applied inconsistently throughout the cohort. Where candidates did not achieve band 2, minimal to no technical terminology was used and there was a clear lack of discussion showing breadth of knowledge and understanding. Candidates that

achieved within band 2 and higher were able to provide a more planned approach to the ERQ, discussing expectations with some valid links to the scenario.

Centres should encourage candidates to plan out their answer and then methodically go through their plan, relating it to the scenario and justifying their responses.

Centres should also remind candidates that if their handwriting is illegible marks cannot be awarded.

City & Guilds has produced a technical exam guide to support the work on the exam technique, which is available to download from

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/animal-management/0172-technicals-in-animal-care-management-and-equine-care-management#tab=documents>