

3038-502 – Level 2 Hair and Beauty Studies – 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;

- **3038-502 – Level 2 Hair and Beauty Studies – Theory Exam**

Theory Exam – March 2024

Grade Boundaries and distribution

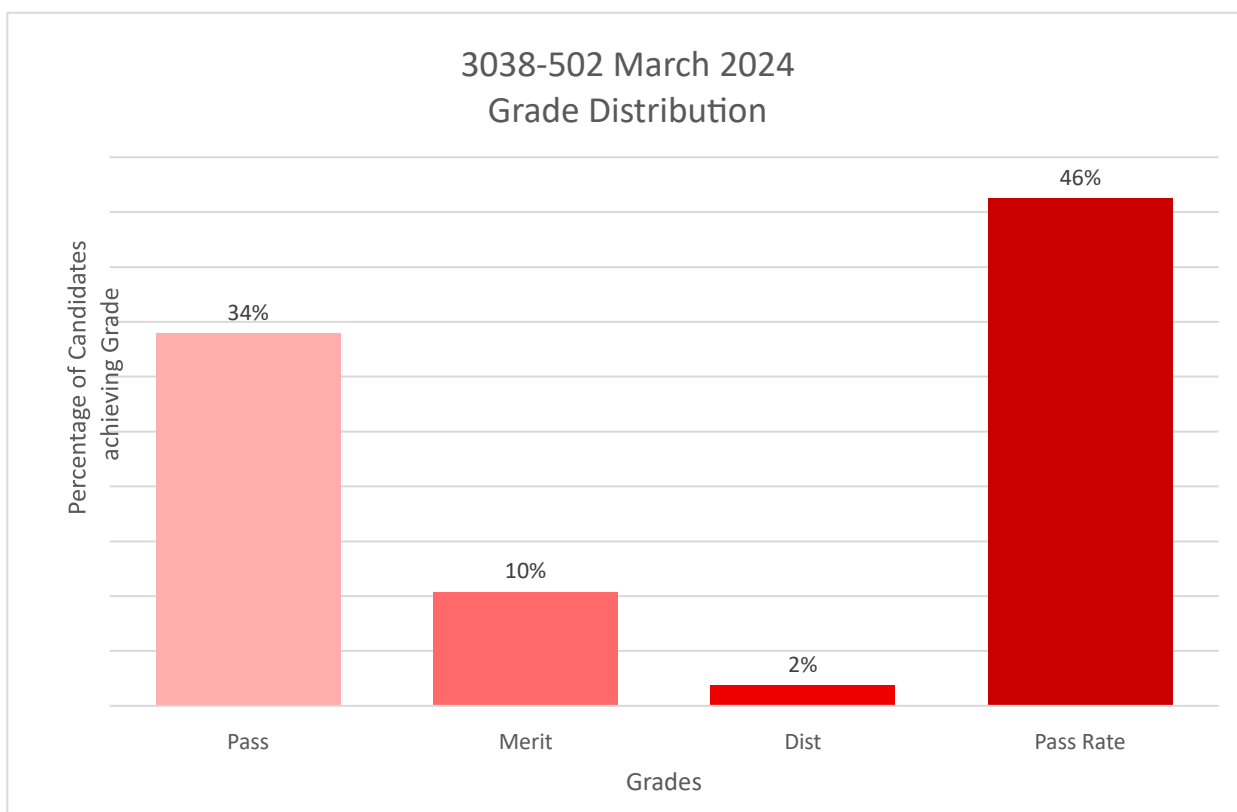
Assessment: **3038-502**

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 | 43 |

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: 3038-502

Series 1 (March)

This examination paper covered a full range of topics that are directly linked to the learning outcomes in the qualification handbook. The content of the questions are deemed comparable to previous series in respect of the level, accessibility and range of topics included. Full marks were achieved by some candidates across many of the questions.

Most candidates across this cohort performed well in recall of knowledge questions linked to the beauty sector and layers of the hair. Most candidates were also able to show some understanding of the effects of exfoliators on the skin. Questions that differentiated well between higher and lower achieving candidates included: the importance of elasticity tests and the effects of recession on a salon. Candidates who did well in these questions were able to show accurate recall of knowledge and their responses were focussed to the questions requirements with evidence of their depth of understanding with justifications to show their reasoning for points made.

Most candidates showed a limited understanding of how the Trade Descriptions Act needs to be considered when promoting products in the salon. When asked about the effects on the skin of different strengths of acid, there was a high number of candidates who could not link their response to a weak/strong acid which limited their opportunities to achieve marks. Candidates are reminded to pay close attention to the requirements of the stem before producing a response.

In the Extended Response Question (ERQ), the scenario covered the design and creation of packaging for a new product. This scenario differentiated well across the cohort with marks being mainly achieved across bands 1 and 2. Most candidates focused their discussion on the design elements of the scenario which allowed them to access some marks, however, many candidates were only able to identify a limited range of factors which in turn limited their ability to access higher marks. In order to have the best chance at achieving higher marks, candidates are reminded to refer to a range of factors which need to be considered for the scenario at hand. This includes, but is not limited to purpose, resources needed, economic, ethical, and social factors as well as legal requirements.

Creating a simple plan before writing the extended response question would help to reduce repetition seen in many candidates' responses. Whilst the majority of the cohort answered all of the questions, a small portion of candidates were unable to provide responses which were specific to the main requirements of the stem which indicates that learners need to ensure they read the entire question before responding with the breadth and depth required.

Candidates will benefit from practicing the examination techniques required to answer questions using a range of command verbs. To access higher marks on questions testing understanding, candidates should ensure they demonstrate clear understanding by supporting their responses with justification and reasoning.

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

[3038-21 technicals exam document 2021 v1-2-pdf.ashx \(cityandguilds.com\)](https://www.cityandguilds.com/~/media/00000000000000000000000000000000/3038-21_technicals_exam_document_2021_v1-2-pdf.ashx)