



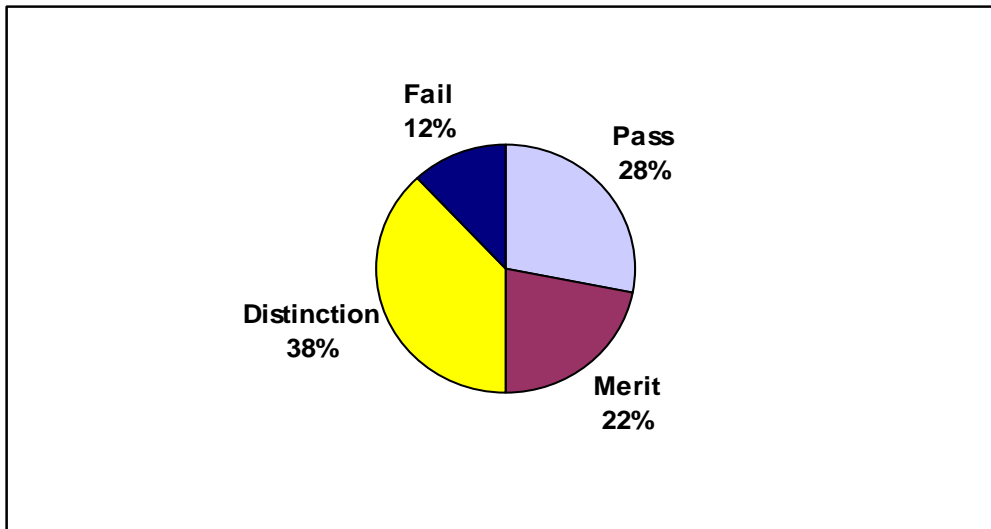
AMSPAR



June 2010 series – Examiner's report

4419-221 – L2 Medical Principles for the Administrator

Overall Performance grades, see chart below.



Areas of good performance

The short answer questions appeared to suit many candidates as, in several instances candidates were able to gain maximum marks by demonstrating only a basic/narrow knowledge of the subject areas

There were some excellent papers with many candidates demonstrating full and accurate knowledge across the breadth of the syllabus. Clearly much good teaching had taken place.

Q's 5 -10 (infection) and Q's 18 – 20 (drugs and anatomy) were well answered by the majority of students, (all candidates were given a mark for Q9 because of the mistake on the paper)

Q's 14 and 15 were answered well by many candidates who demonstrated a particularly good knowledge of the methods used to prevent breaches of confidentiality.

Areas for development

In Q's 1 and 2 some candidates confused screening with Health Promotion and several stated incorrectly that the purpose of HP was to detect anomalies earlier and so improve prognosis. In Q3 there was some confusion between the screening of newborn babies and developmental screening in childhood with candidate.

Q's 11 and 12 There appeared to be a lack of correct knowledge regarding diagnostic departments. It may be that candidates are not being given accurate, full information in this area.

Several candidates gave more than one answer to questions, in some instances 4 or 5 answers eg in Q14 students were asked for two ways of preventing reports being read, some gave 5 or 6 ways. This may be because they were not sure of the correct answer or it may be because they wished to demonstrate the breadth of knowledge that they had. Only the number of answers requested in the question were awarded marks.

Weaker candidates did not appear to understand the meaning of the term 'describe' and as a result their answers were sometimes too short and did not contain sufficient information. This was particularly evident in questions 1, 12, 17 and 20b. Several gave very brief answers and so forfeited some of the available marks.

Spelling was very poor in some instances, particularly in the answers to Q18, 19 and 20. Candidates were not given the available marks if the drug group or medical term was spelt incorrectly. Correct spelling is a necessity when working in this environment and all the drug categories, organs and medical terms have been given to candidates in the lists provided.

There were instances when candidates misread the questions and so gave incorrect information. Q14 asked for information regarding the written word, several answers given incorrectly mentioned the telephone or the spoken word.

Recommendations

Reading the questions. Candidates should read the questions carefully and should keep checking their answers to ensure that they are only giving the information/number of answers requested in the paper. Giving extra answers may use valuable time and cannot gain extra marks. E.G. in Q5 candidates were asked for four symptoms which may indicate infection. Some candidates gave 10 or more answers and gave both signs and symptoms. If their first four answers contained signs they were not awarded the marks even if the correct answers were further down their list.

Spelling. When learning information such as the medical term for a bone, candidates should practice the spelling of the term until they can spell it correctly. Terms etc spelt incorrectly will not be awarded the mark.

Extra space for answers. When asked to describe an area candidates should include as much information as possible, the lack of space for writing answers on the paper may have inhibited some candidates from giving more information in their answers.

Tips

Keep reading the questions

Make sure that you have attempted all parts of the paper

Practice spellings until you are perfect

Section 5 - Additional comments

All candidates from a couple of centres did extremely well showing that tutors had covered the entire syllabus to a satisfactory level.

In a couple of instances all candidates from one centre appeared to lack knowledge or gave incorrect information.