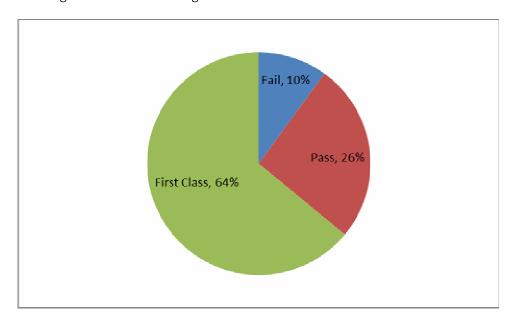
8990 - 03 Business Finance Level 3

General Observations

There has been a significant improvement in first class passes this year. Teachers and candidates are to be congratulated in achieving these excellent results.



Areas of good performance

Candidates performed well in a number of topics such as of breakeven analysis, apportionment and absorption costing and marginal costing. The numerical aspect of discounted cash flow was also well handled and payback was better answered than previously.

Areas for development

Some candidates showed a good understanding of variances in standard costing but there is still room for additional work and practice on calculating variances.

Candidate answers have developed in preparing written explanations and descriptions and additional practice will assist further.

Recommendations

Teachers and candidates should make good use of available resources such as sample examination papers, the examination support guide, FAQs, etc on the City & Guilds website.

Monitoring, controlling and planning are key to organisational success and this is reflected in the examination. It is useful for candidates to look at case studies and real examples which will help them in answering questions.

Tips

Although a product may be making a loss it may be sensible to continue making it if it makes a positive contribution

Remember the formulae for standard costing variances

In a labour intensive department, labour hours will usually be chosen as the basis of overhead absorption

Additional comments

Full workings and clear presentation will help answers in the examination fulfil the needs of providing useful and understandable information to management for problem solving and decision making.

If a decision or recommendation is required, it should be given.