

7907-20 – Level 2 Technical Certificate in Painting and Decorating

2019

Qualification Report

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Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Chief Examiner and Principal Moderator; it is designed to be used as a feedback tool for centres in order to enhance teaching and preparation for assessment. It is advised that this document is referred to when planning delivery and when preparing candidates for City & Guilds Technical assessments.

This report provides general commentary on candidate performance in both the synoptic assignment and theory exam. It 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 assessments in the 2019 academic year. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose.

The document provides commentary on the following assessments:

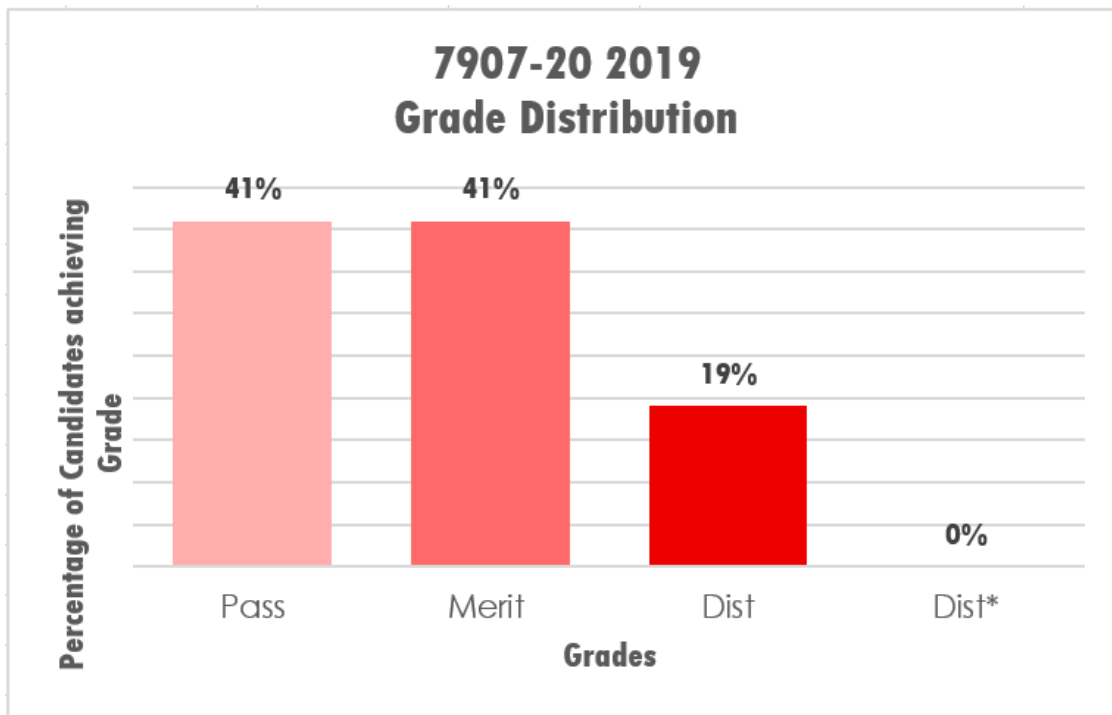
7907-20 (003/503) Level 2 Painting and Decorating – Theory exam

- March 2019 (Spring)
- June 2019 (Summer)

7907-20/004 Level 2 Painting and Decorating – Synoptic Assignment

Qualification Grade Distribution

The approximate grade distribution for this qualification is shown below:



Please note City & Guilds will only report qualification grades for candidates who have achieved all of the required assessment components, including Employer Involvement, optional units and any other centre assessed components as indicated within the Qualification Handbook. The grade distribution shown above could include performance from previous years.

Theory Exam

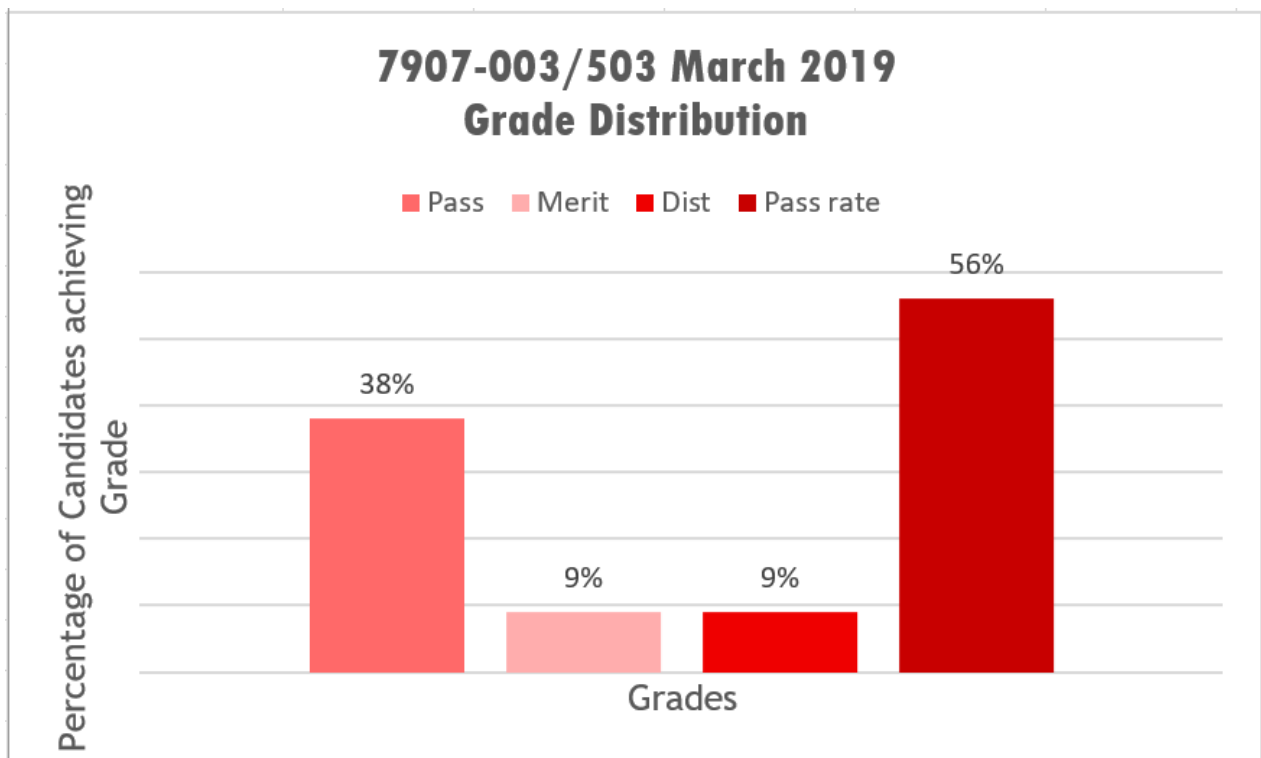
Grade Boundaries

Assessment: 7907-003/503
Series: March 2019 (Spring)

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel:

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	27
Merit mark	36
Distinction mark	45

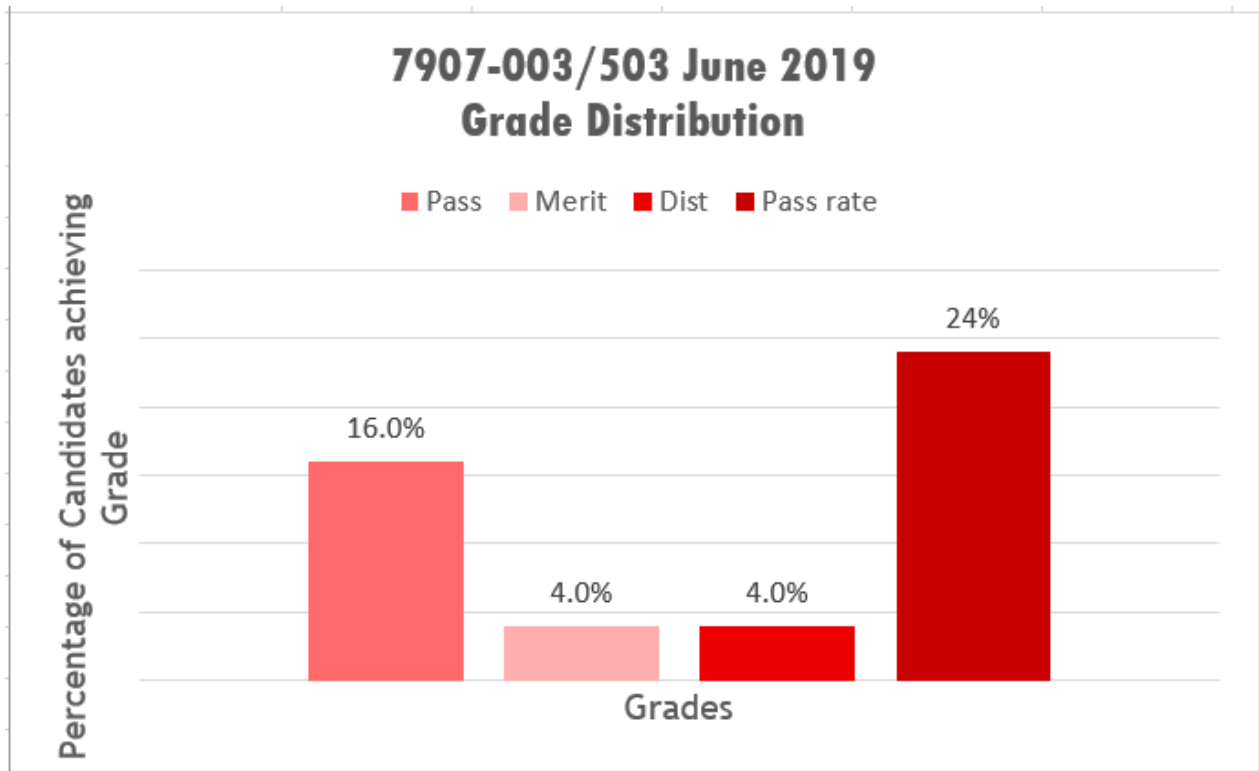
The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment:



Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel:

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	34
Distinction mark	43

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment:



Chief Examiner Commentary

7907 Painting and Decorating - Theory exam

Series 1 – March 2019

The paper was set at an appropriate level and was consistent both with levels set in the 2018 papers and the test specification. The paper contained a mixture of AO1 recall, AO2 understanding and AO4 applied knowledge questions, set in a format of multiple choice questions.

The paper was a full examination of 60 questions with 1 mark awarded for each question. Following question analysis, all 60 questions were deemed suitable and appropriate, allowing this assessment to be scored out of a possible 60 marks.

Candidates demonstrated some good knowledge and understanding in many areas, particularly Health & Safety and the practical skill topics of Preparing and Applying Paint Coatings. However, it appeared that the sound understanding of these topics is correlated to individual centres.

In the calculation section, higher performing candidates demonstrated good levels of calculation, but lower performing candidates struggled with calculation and their measurement units, and attempted the calculation without the required understanding.

Weaker performing sections of the examination included the areas covering Metals, Paint Coating and Defect Terminology, Construction and Building Classifications and Construction Personnel Identification. When assessing the responses from these questions, it highlighted that candidates were unable to identify or understand some key decorative and construction terminology.

Generally, candidates did not display a good depth of knowledge and understanding when answering AO2 and AO4 questions, suggesting that candidates had not read the question fully and only picked up on key words resulting in their responses being incorrect. And therefore, exam preparation incorporating appropriate examination techniques to highlight the importance of understanding of what the question is actually asking and all the given options, before answering the question, would benefit candidates.

AO1 and AO2 questions in theoretical knowledge of the Principals of Construction were answered poorly compared to questions relating to practical applications. The responses demonstrated that candidates were more able to answer correctly for questions they could relate to doing, than those which were of purely theoretical knowledge. And therefore, these theoretical subjects should be delivered in a way that they are relatable to decorative scenarios where possible.

Responses in Understanding of Paint Coating and Preparation of Metals were particularly weak, with under a third of candidates answering questions in these LOs correctly. Candidates would benefit from as much emphasis being given to the Delivery of Metals and Paint Coatings as is given to Application of Coatings by Brush and Roller.

Candidates' responses to questions regarding any Health & Safety aspect were good, as were responses in the Use of Access Equipment, with one exception, the Erecting and Dismantling Procedures of Mobile Towers. Though delivery of this procedure is probably small, emphasis must be placed on the importance of adopting the correct procedure.

In conclusion, the paper covered a broad, fair, representative range of the subject matter, highlighting good Health & Safety and practical application knowledge, but centres should apply more emphasis to technical and theoretical knowledge aspects.

Series 2 – June 2019

The paper was set at an appropriate level and was consistent both with levels set in the 2019 March paper and the test specification. The paper contained a range of AO1 recall, AO2 understanding and AO4 applied knowledge questions, set in a format of multiple-choice questions.

The paper was a full examination of 60 questions with 1 mark awarded for each question. Following question analysis, all 60 questions were deemed suitable and appropriate, allowing this assessment to be scored out of a possible 60 marks.

Candidates answered all questions, designed to test a broad understanding and knowledge across qualification.

Overall candidates demonstrated good knowledge and understanding, particularly on the Health and Safety aspects contained in the paper. Candidates also demonstrated a sound understanding and recall of construction documentation, but responses concerning construction terminology and construction methods appeared to be problematic.

Responses in 'Principals of Construction' demonstrated a lack of knowledge across the breadth of the learning outcome, particularly highlighting a lack of understanding of building components and procedures, construction roles and hierarchy. This though being more of a theoretical subject matter, demonstrates that more time should be afforded to the delivery of this section.

Other less theoretical areas which were particularly weak, were the 'preparation of metals and hardwoods' areas. Identification of the substrates demonstrated general breadth of knowledge but no depth of the subject, but the more 'day to day' procedures of preparing softwoods and plaster and protection of surfaces, a higher proportion of the candidates achieved a correct answer.

Candidates demonstrated good ratio and calculation skills and good knowledge of 'Application of Surface Coating', again tasks they would do day to day, but where candidates came across a more theoretical area for example, the components of paint, the candidates performed poorly.

Where candidates were presented with a scenario AO4 question, which involved having to evaluate the situation and understand the consequences of a certain procedure, candidates again performed poorly and did not picture the scenario to determine the correct course of action.

Generally, candidates answering AO2 and AO4 questions did not display a good depth of knowledge and understanding, suggesting that candidates had not read the question fully and only picked up on key words, resulting in their responses being incorrect. An example of this: candidates confusing the uses of DPC and DPM. Candidates must understand that some questions have bolded words highlighted to help the candidate understand specifically what the question is asking.

In conclusion, the paper covered a broad, fair, representative range of the subject matter, highlighting good H&S and practical application knowledge. Centres should apply more emphasis to the technical and theoretical knowledge aspects, particularly regarding the Principals of Construction aspects of the criteria, and a greater depth of understanding of application procedures and why those procedures must be followed and the consequences of not adopting them. This would positively benefit candidates' responses when answering AO2/AO4 style questions.

Synoptic Assignment

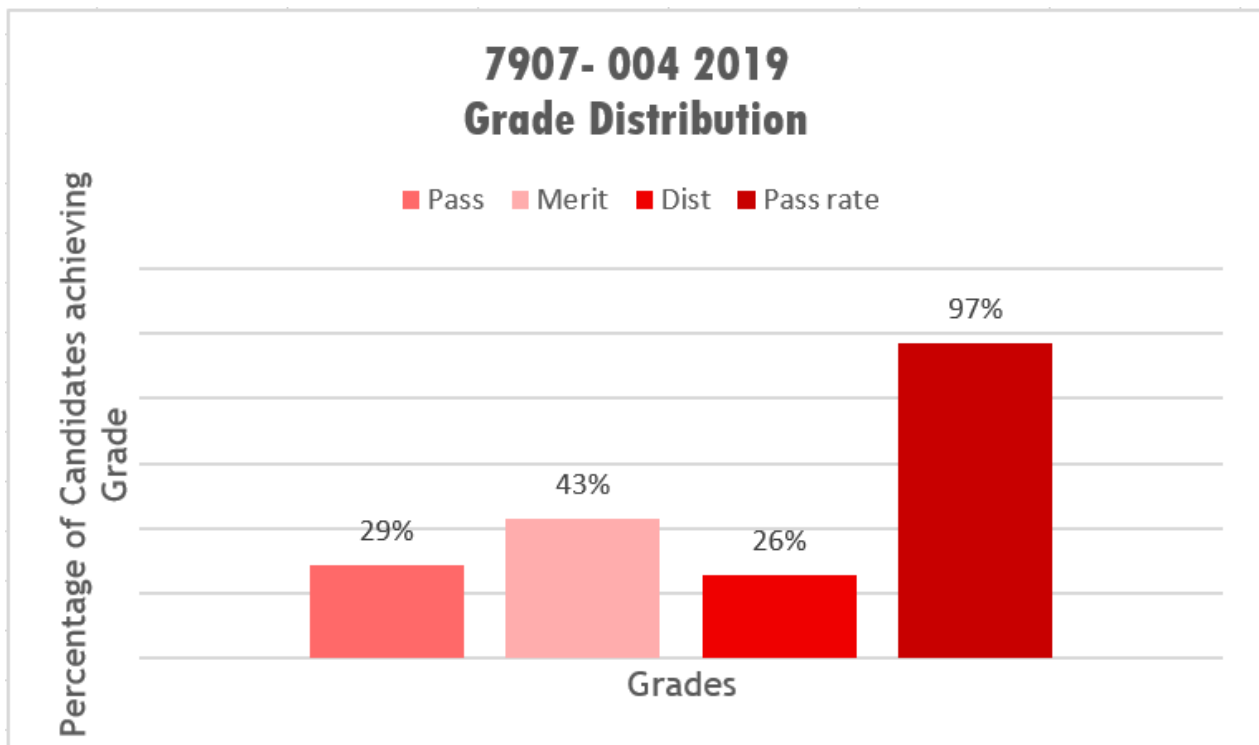
Grade Boundaries

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel:

Assessment: 7907- 004
Series: 2019

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	26
Merit mark	36
Distinction mark	47

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment:



Principal Moderator Commentary

The Painting and Decorating L2 synoptic assignment for this year was the second series to be undertaken. There were a smaller number of candidates registered for this component than last year.

There was sufficient evidence that the work had been generally produced to a good standard from moderation visits to centres and photographic images and observation reports of the work provided by the centre assessor/marker.

Overall the tasks were performed well by most candidates, who were able to demonstrate their skills in planning, practical application of preparation, paperhanging, application of both decorative and plain painting techniques.

In some cases quite a poor standard was applied to the glaze and wipe activity showing patchiness and uneven finish. Some candidates appeared to struggle with using paperhanging shears to achieve neat cutting in the wallpaper task.

In a number of cases the method statement task was not of a good standard with little detail provided. In some cases the City and Guild templates were used however the sequence of operations described was very basic and candidates did not expand on the methods to be used to complete tasks.

Tasks were completed over a number of days as advised within the assignment to allow for drying times. Some candidates demonstrated a high level of skill during these tasks which allowed them to achieve higher marks. All candidates were complying with health and safety during the synoptic tasks.

The majority of images uploaded were of a good standard, although in a number of cases the quality of images provided were dark or indistinct. There was a variance in the quantity provided not always matching the requirements of the specification and in some cases images were submitted unnamed and not task linked.

The justifications for the marks awarded in some cases were very brief and did not contain enough detail to support high end marks. Some reasoning for the marks had been applied, whereas others gave only one or two sentences with little justification of the marks applied. In future, assessors/markers should try to relate their mark justifications to the band descriptors in detail within the candidate's record form when allocating higher end marks in particular.

Performance against each AO

AO1 Recall of knowledge appeared to have stretched some candidates, particularly when completing the method statement. Insufficient detail being provided in some instances.

Markers used good questioning techniques to gather evidence for recalling knowledge.

AO2 Most candidates were able to demonstrate a good understanding of knowledge and were able to apply this well to their methods of working. Working drawings and the specification were correctly interpreted and most candidates were methodical in their approach to the tasks required.

AO3 All tasks were complete and photographic evidence was submitted for the practical tasks. Candidate record forms and practical observation forms helped to form an opinion on the performance of the candidates. Generally the standard of work was good overall, however some evidence clearly indicated poor working practices such as not wiping paste from surfaces while paperhanging was in progress. This was noted by the moderator at one centre visit. Some poor application techniques were observed for the wipe and glaze process as well as some irregular cutting with paperhanging shears.

AO4 In most cases the tasks were planned and completed to the specification containing only minor errors. The higher performing candidates were able to bring together all aspects of their work and completed reflective accounts of a high standard.

AO5 The evidence indicated that the attention to detail in most cases was completed, generally accurate and of a good standard.

Candidates generally performed well overall and were more consistent in their approach than previous year.