

7908-503/003 – Plastering (Fibrous)– Theory Exam

March 2022

Examiner Report

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Theory Exam – March 2022.....	4
Grade Boundaries.....	4
Chief Examiner Commentary.....	5

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 2022** 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;
7908-503/003 – Plastering (Fibrous)– Theory Exam.

Theory Exam – March 2022

Grade Boundaries and distribution

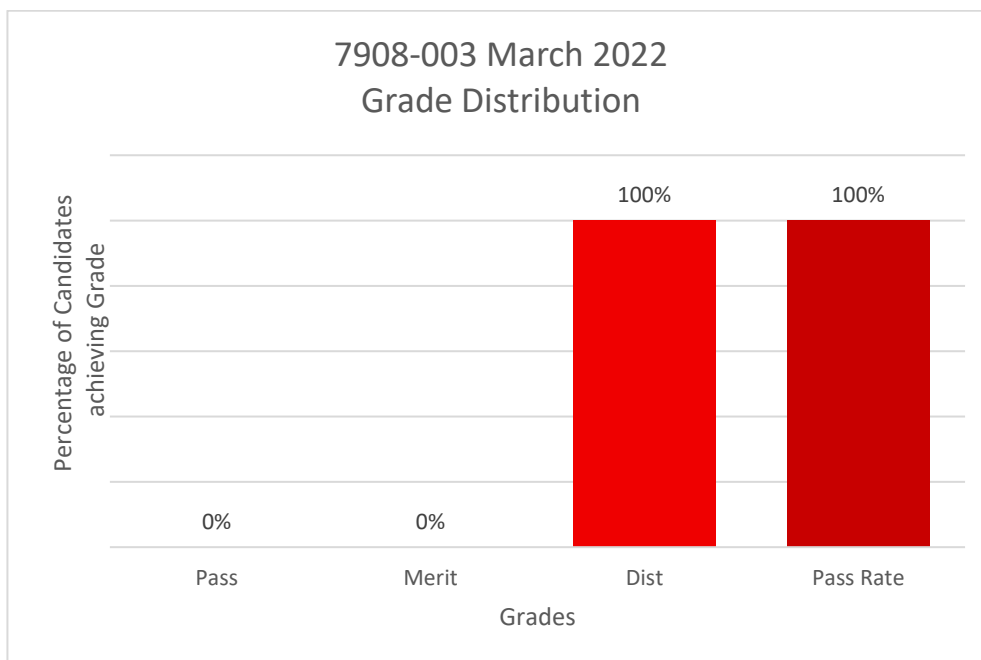
Assessment: **7908-503/003**

Series: **March 2022**

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

Total marks available	70
Pass mark	28
Merit mark	37
Distinction mark	47

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: 7908-503/003

Series 2 - March 2022

This was the first series of the Level 3 Advanced Technical Diploma in Plastering (Fibrous) exam taken, with a small number of candidates sitting. All candidate performance was of a high standard.

The areas the cohort performed well within the multiple-choice section includes: Planning approval and design, recognising areas that require insulation, planning labour for construction work, preparing basic substrates for the application, identifying hand tools for keying a floating coat, recognising least environmental heating systems, selecting appropriate H&S control measures, selecting types of specialist cement, and identifying defects found in plasterwork. The cohort of candidates provided the correct answer to most of the MCQs therefore performed very well in achieving high marks in this area.

The candidates performed well and demonstrated good knowledge and understanding in the following topic areas: planning permission design, position of insulation within buildings, environmental considerations, recognising hazardous substances and health and safety legislation, the use of drawings, process for running in-situ moulding including materials and resources for running, making good, stopping in, CAD, the benefits of using lightweight plaster and identifying the use of hand tools for applying and finishing plastering systems.

Candidates in the cohort demonstrated weaknesses in the multiple-choice questions covering the following topics: Planning and regulations governing buildings and construction documentation.

Candidates demonstrated weakness in knowledge and understanding questions relating to identifying how to prepare backgrounds with pricking up coats, building styles and the use of construction documentation.

Some candidates found a few questions challenging; these questions were mainly process questions and required learners to explain or describe a methodical work method. Topics associated in this area included running in-situ panel moulding, preparing backgrounds using bracketing and the use and identification of constructed running moulds for carrying out various in-situ runs.

In terms of the extended response question, candidates were asked to present a plan on how to carry out in-situ plastering work on a new extension. Most candidates provided a comprehensive report detailing methods of work but lacked the understanding of the importance of planning and having a systematic approach to the installation process.

The candidates provided a thorough account of planning and preparation justifications, elaborating on methods to carry out the work including detailing essential materials and resources specific to the task. Health and safety and waste disposal was also included.

Following the candidate's overall response to the question paper, performance evidence suggests that there is a need to focus knowledge and understanding in the topic areas mentioned above as well as the following: planning and building control, scheduling construction work, key construction documents and their purpose, environmentally designed buildings, use of manufacturer's literature and the process for running panel mouldings.

Centres are advised to revisit the current handbook, schemes of learning and previous exam papers to fine-tune the delivery of their programmes.

In preparation for future examinations on the subjects, it would be beneficial for learners to read up on Fibrous plastering and Principles of construction topics to reinforce their understanding. Both topics are covered in the C&G textbooks and Smart Screen packages, this would enable learners to be further prepared for the multi choice question section of the exam paper.

Centres are encouraged to consult the sample paper to ensure they mirror and familiarise the way responses enable candidates to explain and describe methods and techniques. Where a question asks for an explanation of a process a detailed answer in a logical order will ensure they are awarded the best possible marks. When preparing candidates for the Extended Response Questions, centres should ensure they plan the structure of their response.

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

[Plastering qualifications and training courses | City & Guilds \(cityandguilds.com\)](https://www.cityandguilds.com)