



# **City & Guilds Level 2 Extended Technical Occupational Entry in Plastering (Solid Plastering and Dry Lining) (Diploma) (7255-82)**

**Version 1.0 (February 2025)**

**Sample MCQ      7255-254  
Sample paper, multiple choice answer sheet and mark  
scheme**

Version and date	Change detail	Section
1.0 February 2025	Initial version	All

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SAMPLE

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SAMPLE

# 1 Introduction

Area	Description
What is in this document	This document contains the sample test, answer sheet and mark scheme for MCQ 254 test.
Documents included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sample test</li><li>• Answer sheet</li><li>• Mark scheme</li></ul> <p>Learners should be provided with the sample test and the answer sheet.</p> <p>The mark scheme is to be used by training providers to mark the completed tests.</p>

**Note to centres**, this sample paper-based version of the MCQ is to support formative assessment activities.

Live versions of the MCQ test can be accessed using the City & Guilds e-volve online system. Please refer to the qualification handbook for details on how to book and administer live tests.

# 7255-254 Sample test

**Test duration: 70 minutes**

**You should have the following for this test:**

- a pen with black or blue ink
- a calculator
- MCQ answer sheets.

**Read the following notes before you answer any questions:**

- Attempt all questions
- If you find a question difficult, leave it and return to it later.

**This paper contains 45 MCQs worth 1 mark each.**

**This question paper is the property of City & Guilds.**

## **How to complete the multiple-choice answer sheet**

Each multiple-choice question shows four possible answers (lettered 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd'); only one is correct.

Decide which one is correct and mark your answer on the answer sheet with your pen.

For example, if you decide 'b' is correct, mark your answer with a cross like this:

1 a  b  c  d

If you change your answer, cancel your first choice by filling in the box then put a cross in the answer which you have now decided is correct, like this:

1 a  b  c  d

<b>Q1</b>	Which of the following types of drawings shows the dimensions of rooms and is used for calculating materials?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Layout.</li> <li>b) Elevation.</li> <li>c) Component.</li> <li>d) Detail.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.1/1.1.1

<b>Q2</b>	What information would a dry lining specification provide?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Cost of plasterboard.</li> <li>b) Thickness of plasterboard.</li> <li>c) List of tools for installation.</li> <li>d) Suitable PPE.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.1/1.1.2

<b>Q3</b>	Which document provides information on plaster setting times? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Specification.</li> <li>b) Schedule.</li> <li>c) Manufacturer's information.</li> <li>d) Gantt chart.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.1/1.1.3

<b>Q4</b>	What information is found on a timesheet? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Cost of labour.</li> <li>b) Instructions for work.</li> <li>c) Type of materials.</li> <li>d) Record of hours worked.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.1/1.1.4

<b>Q5</b>	Which document identifies correct PPE to be worn? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Specification. b) Schedule. c) Method statement. d) Risk assessment.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.1/1.1.5

<b>Q6</b>	Which person is responsible for planning and designing a new building? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Local authority. b) Builders merchants. c) Architect. d) Client.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.1/1.1.6



<b>Q7</b>	How many whole bags of undercoat plaster would be required for a wall area measuring 12.000m x 2.400m?  One bag covers 3.5m <sup>2</sup> .  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) 9.  b) 8.  c) 4.  d) 5.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.2/1.2.1

<b>Q8</b>	How many angle beads are required for preparing an independent pier with a height of 2.400m?  One angle bead measures 2.400m.  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) 4 angle beads.  b) 2 angle beads.  c) 1 angle bead.  d) 3 angle beads.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/1.2/1.2.1

<b>Q9</b>	When mixing lightweight plaster, what is the <b>most</b> suitable material used to protect a finished floor from spillages?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Dust sheets. b) Polycarbonate sheets. c) Tarpaulin sheets. d) Clear plastic carpet protector.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/2.1/2.1.1

<b>Q10</b>	Which of the following activities would a nail bar be used for?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Removing old solid render. b) Stripping expanded metal lath. c) Scoring a common brick surface. d) Removing fixings from timber backgrounds.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/2.1/2.1.1

<b>Q11</b>	What should be used to ensure accuracy and consistency when measuring and gauging loose plastering materials?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Paddle.</li> <li>b) Bucket.</li> <li>c) Shovel.</li> <li>d) Wheelbarrow.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/2.1/2.1.1

<b>Q12</b>	Why is a devil float used for plastering work?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To form a key after applying a scratch coat.</li> <li>b) To form a key after ruling the backing coat.</li> <li>c) To cut back at beads in preparation for finish plaster.</li> <li>d) To produce a plain textured finish by consolidating.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/2.1/2.1.1





<b>Q17</b>	Which material is used as an aggregate when mixing a traditional lime-based plaster? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Colouring pigments. b) Coarse sand. c) Pozzolans. d) Cement.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/3.1/3.1.1

<b>Q18</b>	Why is waterproofer added to sand and cement base coats? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) To increase the setting time. b) To control suction in the background. c) To reduce the setting time. d) To control efflorescence.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	203/3.1/3.1.1

<b>Q19</b>	When is a traditional lime and sand-based plaster used for plaster work? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To create a waterproofing surface.</li> <li>b) To increase a wall's thermal performance.</li> <li>c) To meet conservation requirements.</li> <li>d) To reduce working timeframes.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/3.1/3.1.1

<b>Q20</b>	Why is vermiculite added to pre-blended lightweight plaster during manufacturing? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To increase setting times of the plaster in cold weather.</li> <li>b) To improve the plaster adhesion during application.</li> <li>c) To provide reinforcement to the plaster surface.</li> <li>d) To make the plaster workable for even coverage.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/3.1/3.1.2





<b>Q23</b>	An operative has mixed plastering materials by hand.  Which of the following is a reason for having done this?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) The operative has used a pre-blended undercoat that only needs water for mixing.  b) The operative is working alone on a mobile elevated platform.  c) The operative is carrying out repairs in a busy office block.  d) The operative has needed to ensure the correct consistency of mixed materials.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/3.3/3.3.1

<b>Q24</b>	Which of the following types of backgrounds is classed as high suction?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Common brickwork.  b) Aerated blockwork.  c) Breeze blockwork.  d) Standard plasterboard.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/4.1/4.1.1

<b>Q25</b>	How is a composite wall prepared for solid plastering application? <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Covered with a cement-based slurry. b) Crevices dubbed out to even the surface. c) Direct bonded with standard plasterboard. d) Fixed mechanically with expanded metal lath.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/4.2/4.2.1

<b>Q26</b>	Which of these is a surface defect caused from rising damp? <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Efflorescence. b) Delamination. c) Hairline cracks. d) Grinning.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/5.1/5.1.1

<b>Q27</b>	What is the <b>most</b> likely effect of applying external render in direct sunlight?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<p>a) The applied render will sag and become uneven.</p> <p>b) The render will take longer to set and delay the curing process.</p> <p>c) The render material will crumble in time and become weak.</p> <p>d) The render will dry naturally; however, the surface will be affected by staining.</p>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/5.1/5.1.1

<b>Q28</b>	When would a bead be checked for level?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<p>a) When fixing a bead to a pier return.</p> <p>b) When fixing a bead to a door reveal.</p> <p>c) When fixing a bead to a beam soffit.</p> <p>d) When fixing a bead to form a vertical stop end.</p>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	230/6.1/6.1.2



<b>Q31</b>	What is the final process to be carried out when applying finishing plaster on a window wall? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Reinforce all plasterboard joints.</li> <li>b) Apply a final trowel to finish the surface.</li> <li>c) Clean all plaster mixing tools.</li> <li>d) Ensure beads are clean.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	231/1.1/1.1.1

<b>Q32</b>	Which traditional fixing was used to fix plasterboard onto timber joists? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Galvanised clout nails.</li> <li>b) Stainless steel nails.</li> <li>c) Plugs and screws.</li> <li>d) Dry wall screws.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	231/1.2/1.2.1

<b>Q33</b>	What plastering method is applied onto timber lath? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Dubbing out.</li> <li>b) Spatter dash.</li> <li>c) Pricking up.</li> <li>d) Scratch coat.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	232/1.1/1.1.1

<b>Q34</b>	What is the correct thickness for applying an external scratch coat? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) 1–4mm.</li> <li>b) 5–7mm.</li> <li>c) 8–12mm.</li> <li>d) 15–18mm.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	232/1.1/1.1.1

<b>Q35</b>	Which type of external render is applied proud of fixed beads prior to finishing? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) Plain face. b) Scraped texture. c) Brush finish. d) Ashlar blockwork.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	232/1.1/1.1.1

<b>Q36</b>	Why would a bell cast bead need to be fixed prior to applying external render? (1 mark)
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) To form a drip above a window opening. b) To form a corner on a door reveal. c) To allow for movement on straight joints. d) To form a stop against facing brick.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	232/1.2/1.2.1

<b>Q37</b>	Why would a green-faced plasterboard need to be used for dry lining work? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To reduce noise transmittance.</li> <li>b) To control moisture.</li> <li>c) To increase fire rating.</li> <li>d) To control vapour.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/1.1/1.1.1

<b>Q38</b>	Why is it necessary to use secondary fixings after direct bonding thermaline plasterboard? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To meet energy performance certificate requirements (EPC).</li> <li>b) To avoid adhesive dabs delaminating from the background.</li> <li>c) To build out uneven backgrounds prior to applying dry wall dabs.</li> <li>d) To meet building control regulations in the event of fire.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/1.1/1.1.1



<b>Q39</b>	What is the minimum length of screw required to install 12.5mm thick plasterboard onto steel studs?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) 10mm.  b) 15mm.  c) 20mm.  d) 25mm.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/1.2/1.2.1

<b>Q40</b>	What is the maximum distance between each screw when installing plasterboard to ceilings joists?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) 400mm centres.  b) 330mm centres.  c) 300 mm centres.  d) 230mm centres.
<b>AO</b>	AO1a
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/1.2/1.2.1

<b>Q41</b>	Why is it important to stagger plasterboard during installation? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) To avoid wastage of plasterboard. b) To control moisture. c) To increase thermal performance. d) To reduce in line cracks
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/1.3/1.3.1

<b>Q42</b>	Why are the position of studs marked on the floor and ceiling prior to fixing plasterboard? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) To ensure an accurate fixing line during installation. b) To identify the service box dimensions that require cutting out. c) To ensure the correct distance between each fixing. d) To allow the cutting to be carried out after installation.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/1.3/1.3.1

<b>Q43</b>	Why are additional dry wall adhesive dabs applied during dry wall installation?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) To reduce noise transmission coming through the wall.</li> <li>b) To increase the wall's fire rating.</li> <li>c) To prevent cold air causing cold spots.</li> <li>d) To reinforce the wall, reducing possible cracking.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/1.4/1.4.1

<b>Q44</b>	What is the correct process for applying tape and jointing compound to plasterboard joints?  <p style="text-align: right;">(1 mark)</p>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Sand surface, apply compound, apply tape and apply compound.</li> <li>b) Apply compound, sand surface, apply tape and apply compound.</li> <li>c) Apply compound, apply tape, apply compound and sand surface.</li> <li>d) Apply tape, apply compound, sand surface and apply compound.</li> </ul>
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/2.1/2.1.1

<b>Q45</b>	Why is perforated tape used on plasterboard tapered edge joints? <span style="float: right;">(1 mark)</span>
<b>Mark Scheme</b>	a) To allow for movement. b) To prevent cracking. c) To form a corner. d) To form a hard angle.
<b>AO</b>	AO1b
<b>Qual spec reference</b>	233/2.1/2.1.1

SAMPLE

# 7255-254 Answer sheet

Candidate Name:

Date of Test: Click or tap to enter a date.

1	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
2	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
3	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
4	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
5	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
6	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
7	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
8	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
9	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
10	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
11	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
12	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
13	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
14	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
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16	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
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19	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
20	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
21	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
22	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
23	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>

24	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
25	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
26	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
27	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
28	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
29	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
30	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
31	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
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35	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
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40	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
41	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
42	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
43	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
44	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
45	a <input type="checkbox"/>	b <input type="checkbox"/>	c <input type="checkbox"/>	d <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Number of correct answers:</b>		<b>/ 45</b>		

## 7255-254 Mark scheme

### Grading

Pass – 27 marks or above

Fail – 26 marks or below

Question Number	Key	Question Number	Key
1	A	24	B
2	B	25	D
3	C	26	A
4	D	27	C
5	D	28	C
6	C	29	D
7	A	30	A
8	A	31	D
9	B	32	A
10	D	33	C
11	B	34	C
12	B	35	B
13	C	36	A
14	D	37	B
15	A	38	D
16	C	39	D
17	B	40	D
18	B	41	D
19	C	42	A
20	B	43	C
21	B	44	C

Question Number	Key	Question Number	Key
22	A	45	B
23	C		

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