



**Level 3 Advanced Technical
Diploma in Bricklaying
(7905-30)(450)**

Qualification Report 2023

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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.

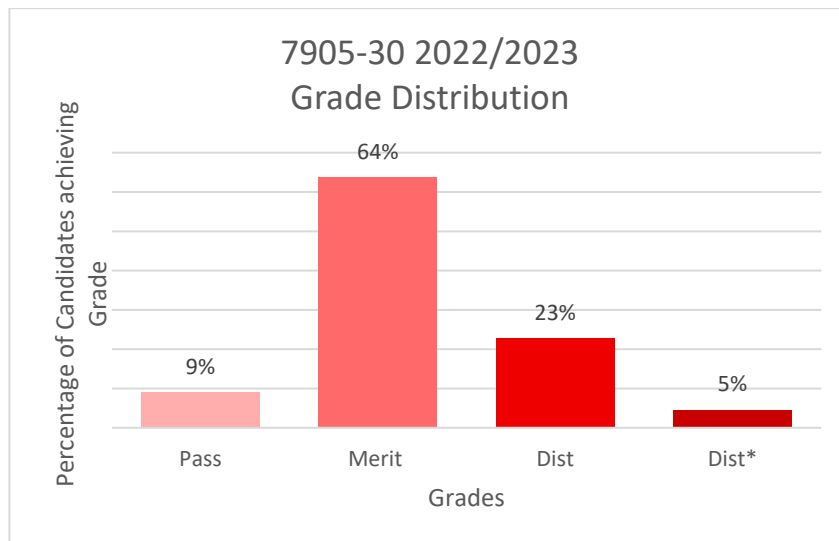
This report provides general commentary on candidate performance in both the synoptic assignment and theory exam. It highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat assessments in the 2023 academic year. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose.

The document provides commentary on the following assessments;

- 7905-001/501 Level 3 Bricklaying – Theory Exam
 - March 2023 (Spring)
 - June 2023 (Summer)
- 7905-002 – Level 3 Bricklaying – Synoptic Assignment

Qualification Grade Distribution

The grade distribution for this qualification during the 2022/2023 academic year is shown below;



This data is based on the distribution as of 18 August 2023.

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.

Theory Exam

Grade Boundaries

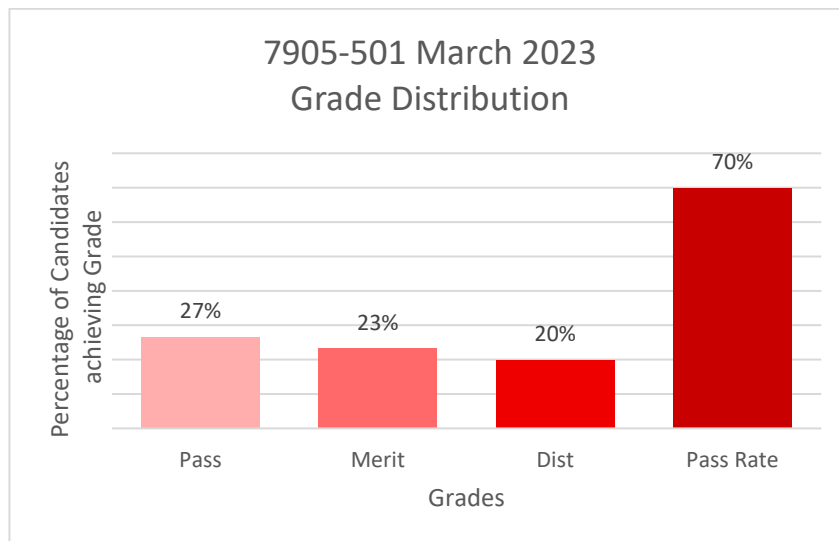
Assessment: 7905-501

Series: March 2023 (Spring)

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 distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment.

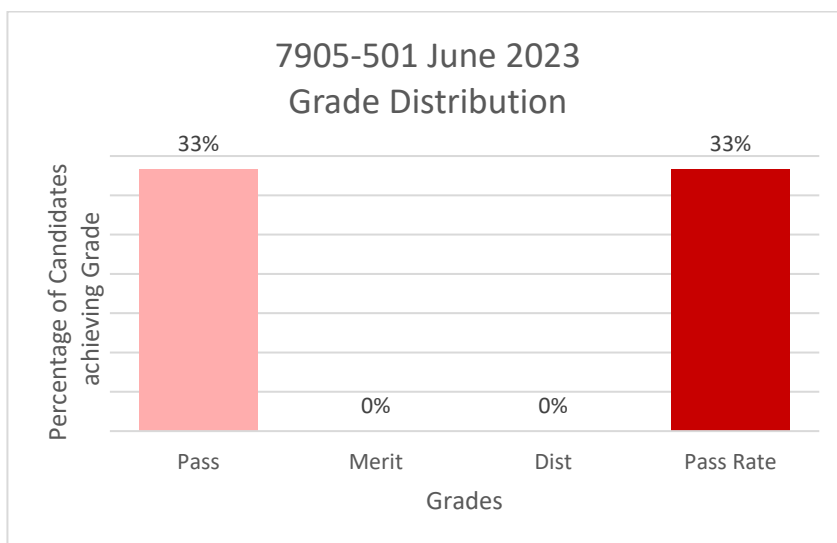


Assessment: 7905-501
Series: June 2023 (Summer)

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment.

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

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment using the above boundary marks.



Chief Examiner Commentary

Qualification Title: 7905-001/501 Level 3 Bricklaying –Theory Exam

Series 1 – March 2023

This component was taken by 30 candidates, and all took the paper-based version of the test this series.

The March 2023 paper covered a range of questions from across the units 301 Principles of organising, planning and pricing construction work, 302 Repair and maintain masonry structures and 305 Constructing fireplaces and chimneys. The paper was structured to test recall of knowledge (AO1), understanding (AO2) and applied knowledge (AO4). The paper was a combination of multiple-choice questions, short response questions and an extended response question.

The complexity and level of questions within this series paper is comparable with previous years papers.

The ten multiple choice questions were attempted by all candidates and good results were achieved by most candidates on these questions. Several candidate scripts were seen, where only the 10 multiple choice questions had been attempted, with no attempts seen to answer the short-written response questions. These candidate scripts scored limited marks as a result. Candidates should be encouraged to attempt all questions to maximise marks.

Candidate responses generally demonstrated a good knowledge of construction terminology especially when this related to practical application.

The short-written response questions were attempted by most candidates although some candidates did not provide enough clear narrative and often did not seem to understand what the question required.

Candidate responses given for a few questions within the following units and topic areas were weak.

- Unit 301 Topic 3.1 this question related to schedule and many candidates did not get this question correct which highlighted a lack of understanding of the term schedules.
- Unit 301 Topic 3.1 the question related to units of measurements and when they should be used.
- Unit 302, Topic 3.2 many candidates selected the wrong response to the question on an electric disk cutter, suggesting that connecting the water or ensuring the cord was retracted was the answer, this would seem to be a case of not reading the question properly.
- Unit 305, Topic 2.1 very few candidates knew the minimum thickness for fireplace Jamb and this question drew a range of answers across the distractors.
- Strong responses were given by candidates who had read the questions and understood what the response required. Candidate responses achieved some of the marks, but many failed to gain full marks for questions as they provided insufficient detail.

However, there were similar weak areas as in previous years relating to Tendering and BIM where the level of understanding seen was superficial.

The extended response question (ERQ) is designed to allow the candidate to demonstrate their depth and breadth of knowledge, covering a range of topics, giving the candidate the opportunity to discuss in detail their understanding of planning carrying out a specific piece of work. This ERQ required candidates to discuss the planning and procedures to safely remove a chimney stack to the final completion of the work.

The extended response question was attempted by most candidates with some good responses seen. The candidate responses that received lower marks tended to give a brief overview, missing out important detail and failing to present the answer in a logical format. Many candidate responses showed no consideration to the protection of the inside of the building during removal of the stack. Awareness of the need to use a chute to lower materials to the disposal skip was demonstrated in a good proportion of responses.

Candidates would benefit from being reminded of the need to demonstrate their full depth/breadth and range of knowledge and understanding across all topic areas assessed. Candidates should be encouraged to read the questions carefully before responding and pitch their answers to the marks available to maximise marks scored. During the extended response questions candidate responses should demonstrate understanding and analysis of the given scenario, giving full and justifiable reasoning to allow them to fully access marks available.

Centres and Candidates are encouraged to reference the handbook whilst preparing for this assessment to ensure that topics have been covered to sufficient depth. Candidates must ensure that they read the questions carefully before attempting to answer to ensure that they access all possible marks.

Series 2 – June 2023

The exam was taken by 9 candidates, all candidates took the exam on the paper-based system for this series.

The June paper contained a range of questions across units 301 Principles of organising planning and pricing construction work, 302 Maintain and repair masonry structures and Unit 305 Constructing fireplaces and chimneys.

The paper tested recall of knowledge (AO1), understanding (AO2) and applied knowledge (AO4) The paper consisted of multiple-choice questions, short response questions and an extended response question.

The 10 multiple choice questions were attempted by all candidates, with varying levels of achievement. Some gained a reasonable number of marks but in some cases, it seemed that candidates were poorly prepared and had resorted to guessing.

The short response questions were attempted by most candidates, but the content of the answers often indicated that the candidates did not know the correct answer or did not read the question thoroughly enough to allow them to understand what was being asked.

Unit 301 - some candidates were able to provide answers to the questions on this topic, but many answers were too short or poorly communicated.

Unit 302 - candidates attempted most of the questions on maintenance and repair of masonry structures, but content of the answers was limited, and many responses did not answer the question fully resulting in low marks being awarded.

Unit 305 - Candidates attempted the questions in this area, but the overall knowledge of components and materials proved to be weak. Answers were not fully covering what the question was asking.

The extended response question (ERQ) was answered reasonably well by a few candidates although candidates did not achieve high marks in this area. The structure of the answers was not flowing. Many candidates did not provide a process of carrying out the work in a sequential manner and many did not consider the use of temporary supports to protect the existing work.

Several candidates did not attempt any short answer questions or the extended response question.

Candidates would benefit from being reminded of the need to demonstrate their full depth/breadth and range of knowledge and understanding across all topic areas assessed. Candidates should be encouraged to read the questions carefully before responding and pitch their answers to the marks available to maximise marks scored. During the extended response questions candidate responses should demonstrate understanding and analysis of the given scenario, giving full and justifiable reasoning to allow them to fully access the marks available.

Centres and candidates are encouraged to reference the handbook whilst preparing for this assessment to ensure that topics have been covered to sufficient depth.

Synoptic Assignment

Grade Boundaries

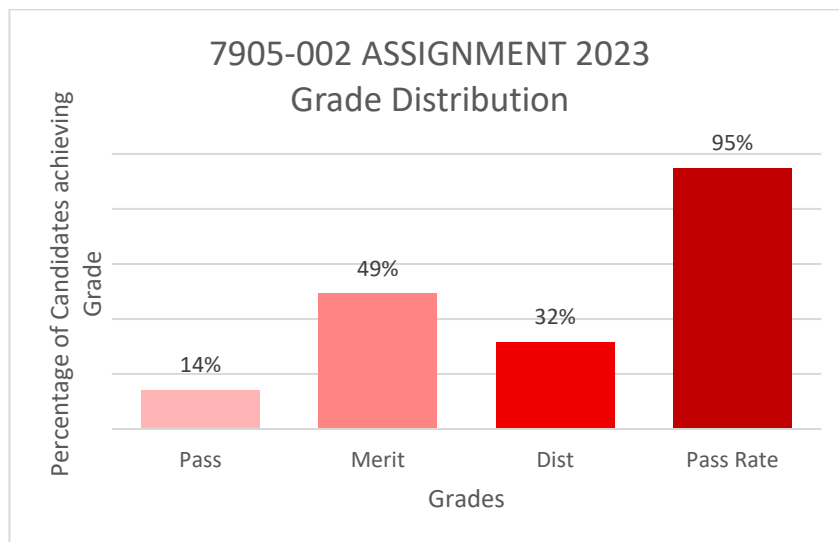
Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment.

Assessment: 7905-002

Series: 2023

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	26
Merit mark	36
Distinction mark	46

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment using the above boundary marks.



Principal Moderator Commentary

The synoptic assignment is designed to cover the elements of the programme not assessed within the knowledge test. For this academic year, the assignment covered the following units.

- Unit 303 Construct radial and battered brickwork
- Unit 304 Construct decorative and Reinforced Brickwork

The overall assignment was based around the construction of a sample wall to present to a client. The assignment was broken down into three parts as follows.

- Task 1 candidates were required draw a drawing of an axed segmental arch to span an opening.
- Task 2 candidates were required to set out and build the solid wall to the specification and drawing.
- Task 3 candidates were required to complete a self- evaluation.

There was a low cohort of candidates doing the assignment again this year. The tasks were approached in an organised way which allowed candidates the time, space, and materials to complete the assignment safely without being disturbed.

Task 1

Candidates were able to demonstrate how to set out an arch and to annotate the various parts. Some drawings were accurate and clearly showed the procedure used to draw the arch. Many drawings were not produced to scale as required. Most candidates were able to label the points required accurately.

Some candidates had difficulty setting out the squint quoin, but managed to complete the task which was only four courses high. Materials were generally positioned correctly prior to the building task. This indicated that candidates had planned their work prior to commencing the practical element of the assignment.

Task 2

The practical Task was approached by many candidates with confidence and almost all candidates completed the model.

The model consisted of a 1 brick solid wall with a squint quoin. The front elevation had a decorative panel with projecting bricks. There was also a curved step and a raking cut to a pier. Constructing the panel, and plumbing the surround, provided a challenge to some candidates but most candidates completed the panel to the required standard. However, the general walling on most models was completed to a high standard.

Task 3

Candidates were required to complete a self-reflection/evaluation form, and this has proven to be an excellent tool for assessment and moderation purposes as the candidates generally gave an honest reflection on their own strengths and areas for development. It was noted that candidates tended to type up their evaluation this year, giving the finished task within this assessment a professional appearance. This also saves the time of the marker as it is easier to read.

AO1 Recall

Candidates recall of knowledge was mostly accurate in this area, however some drawings were not to scale. This is a common feature and centres need to focus and train candidates to draw to scale.

AO2 Understanding

Candidates demonstrated a reasonable level of understanding with a logical sequence of works was followed, however it was clear that some candidates were having problems with understanding what was required.

AO3 Practical skills

Candidates demonstrated some good practical skill with some high-quality models completed. Candidates use of tools and equipment was good, and candidates carried out the work to a safe standard.

Candidates need to focus on accuracy of work especially plumb and gauged as this was the weakest area.

AO4 Bringing it all together.

Most candidates used their knowledge, understanding and skills well to complete the task within the required time.

AO5 Attention to detail

It was evident that there was good attention to detail, checking the quality of finish, accuracy and tolerances were all evident.

Where candidates spent extra time cleaning and finishing the work a more pleasing finish was achieved.

Summary

A significant majority of evidence that was submitted by centres for moderation contained excellent detail, and this supported the moderation process.

Assessors feedback on the work was generally clearly documented and the supporting photographic evidence was clear and aided moderation.

It was clear that centres adhered to the recommended timing set for the assignment and the candidates were given every opportunity to complete the task. Health and Safety was always adhered to.