

Level 2 Technical Certificate in Site Carpentry (7906-20)

Qualification Report 2019

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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.

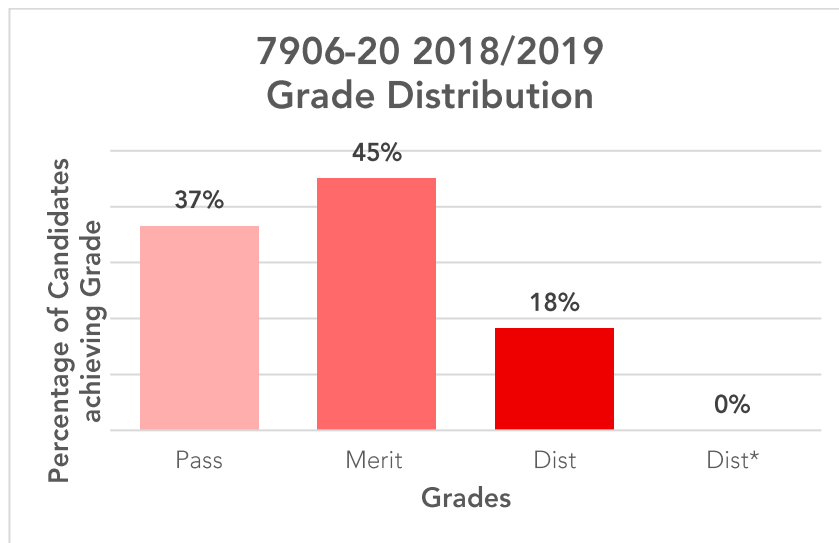
This report provides general commentary on candidate performance in both the synoptic assignment and theory exam. It highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat assessments 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;

- 7906-007/507 Level 2 Site Carpentry – Theory exam
 - March 2019 (Spring)
 - June 2019 (Summer)
- 7906-008 – Level 2 Site Carpentry - Synoptic Assignment

Qualification Grade Distribution

The grade distribution for this qualification during the 2018/2019 academic year 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.

Theory Exam

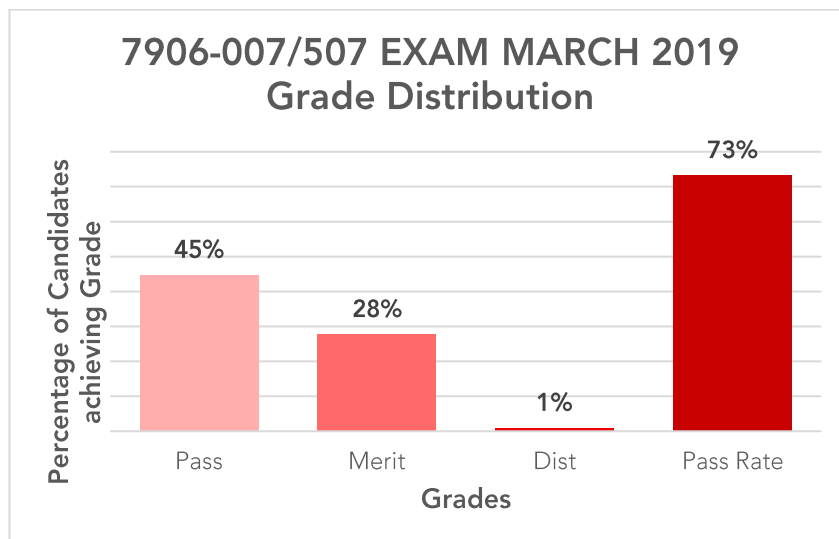
Grade Boundaries

Assessment: 7906-007/507
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.

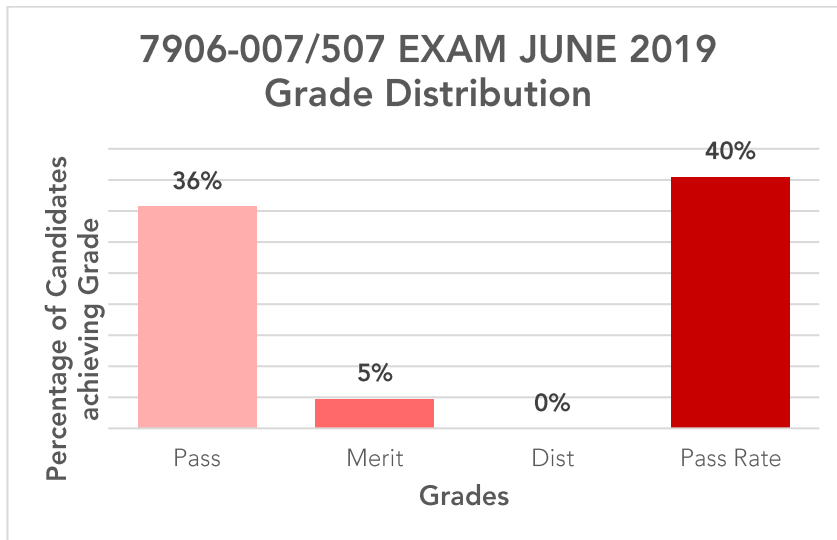


Assessment: 7906-007/507
Series: June 2019 (Summer)

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.



Chief Examiner Commentary

7906-007/507 Level 2 in Site Carpentry – Theory exam Series 1 – March 2019

This is the second series for the Level 2 Technical Certificate in Site Carpentry. The paper fully met the requirements of qualification.

All candidates attempted all questions in the time allocated.

Candidates tended to perform best with the AO1 (Recall) questions, specifically within units 204 and 205 and some areas within 201 such as range of construction work and building elements being answered well.

Candidates primarily found the AO2 (Understanding) questions more difficult across all of the units with most questions underperforming in which the areas candidates require further development were within the trade unit 204 topics

- 1.5 Hanging doors and fit ironmongery
- 3.4 Service encasements.

This could be down to candidates having limited exposure within these subject areas.

Timber seasoning and moisture content is another area that candidates found challenging. Candidates need to fully understand the theory behind these subject areas if they are to do well in the exam

In general candidates did well with the AO4 (Applied knowledge) questions with 8 out of the 12, being answered very well, candidates struggled with the remaining 4 questions from a range of topic across the paper. A similar theme to last year's cohort, the areas candidates showed the least knowledge were contract documents, timber technology and saw blades. Candidates need to ensure they fully read and carefully analyse the applied knowledge questions by breaking them down to their component parts before selecting their responses. Applied knowledge is a format of question that may be new to some candidates.

It is worth noting that past papers are available on the City and Guilds website for training purposes and centres to familiarise candidates with the various styles of questions they will encounter during their formal exam.

Series 2 – June 2019

This is the second series for the Level 2 Technical Certificate in Site Carpentry. The paper fully met the requirements of qualification.

All candidates attempted all questions in the time allocated.

In general, candidates performed best with the AO1 (Recall) questions, across all three units tested (201, 204 and 205) with two thirds of questions being well responded to.

Candidates primarily found the AO2 (Understanding) and AO4 (Applied knowledge) questions more difficult across all of the units with just over half of the questions not being answered well.

Unit 201

Candidates answered these question well with the best performing topic range of construction work.

Topic 4.1 Substructure, candidates struggled with each type of question on this topic area. More revision and focus is needed on this topic area.

Questions on topic 2.3 technical drawings were also challenging for candidates.

Unit 204

Candidates generally answered the AO1 questions very well on this unit, but struggled with the AO2 and AO4 questions with majority of candidates making an incorrect selection. This demonstrates that questions when a deeper understanding and application of knowledge is required it is lacking in this units.

Unit 205

Candidates performed well answering these questions. There were only a couple of questions candidates found difficult.

For candidate's performance to improve they need to ensure they fully read and carefully analyse the applied knowledge questions by breaking them down to their component parts before selecting their responses. Applied Knowledge is a format of question that is still new to candidates and will require the support of the centres to improve their performance.

It is worth noting that past papers are available on the City and Guilds website for training purposes and to familiarise candidates with the various styles of questions they will encounter during their formal test.

Synoptic Assignment

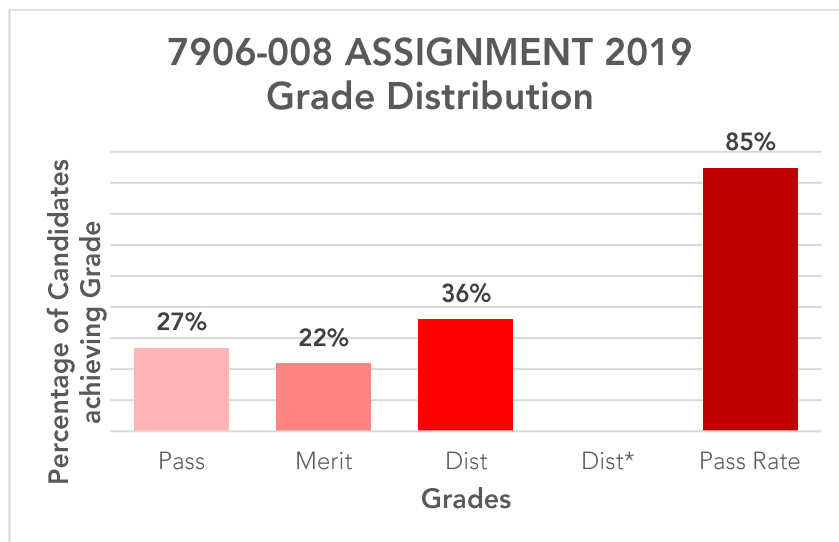
Grade Boundaries

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

Assessment: 7906-008 Level 2 in Site Carpentry
Series: 2019

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	24
Merit mark	33
Distinction mark	42

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



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 it was broken down into two distinct parts unit 202 structural carcassing (Practical task) and unit 203 non-structural carpentry prior to plastering (Knowledge task)

Both tasks were set around the same scenario giving a purpose behind each part; the practical was designed to check the candidate's knowledge and understanding of floor construction, scaled drawing, interpretation of information and planning skills. A jig simulating an open stairwell had to be infilled with a smaller trimmed opening to accommodate a disabled lift shaft. Candidates had to take the information from the brief produce a scaled working drawing, collate the tools, materials and equipment required to complete the task then construct the floor to their own specifications.

The knowledge task was to independently research and come up with a recommendation on replace the existing balustrade to the other staircase with a rationale behind their proposal. They also had to produce a sketch along with a tools, material and equipment list.

There was a vast difference in the responses to the knowledge task, with most candidates only taking into account the pitch of the stairs between the newels and did not take into account the landing and return. A proportion of candidates completed the task holistically and produced the relevant information to a good standard.

Some candidates submitted downloaded images as part of task one, when the task required candidates to "Research options and prepare an annotated sketch", it is important that all candidates follow the assignment brief.

For the first time candidates had to complete a self-reflection form. This has proven to be an excellent tool for assessment and moderation purposes, the candidates always gave an honest reflection on their own strengths and areas for development.

AO1 Recall

Most candidates demonstrated their knowledge recall well during the practical assessment, selecting correct tools and equipment, but most missed the opportunity to fully demonstrate this during the research task.

AO2 Understanding

A number of candidates did not take full advantage of the opportunities that the research task provided, focusing on the pitch of the stairs between the two newels only and not the complete balustrade as required in the assessment brief. Some references were made to the building regulations. The candidates that followed the brief and understood that the balustrade includes the open well of the landing as well as the pitch of the stairs, tended to produce a more comprehensive material list and justifications behind their recommendations.

AO3 Practical skills

Most candidates focused on completing the practical tasks, being successful within the recommended time, to a standard that would be classed as fit for purpose within the construction industry. The majority of the tolerances were met by some candidates, with a number of candidates exceeding them.

AO4 Bringing it all together

Candidates that achieved the higher marks within AO4 had familiarised themselves with the assessment brief and fully understood what was required and devised a method of work that would enable them to complete the task timely, and to a standard that met the tolerances. Candidates that did not prepare and plan adequately tended to be marked lower within this AO.

AO5 Attention to detail

Most candidates across the cohort placed all their emphasis on completing the practical task aiming to meet the tolerances and pass the practical skills element. They failed to give the research task the attention it required to fully demonstrate the candidates overall breadth and depth of knowledge, understanding and attention to detail. This was reflected in the marks allocated. Scaled drawings produced as detailed working drawings ranged from been fit for purpose to drawing that did not meet the standards required to accurately work from.

It is important that candidates read and accurately produce working drawings using scales, as these will become an everyday occurrence when working in industry.

Summary

Candidates need to treat all the tasks with the same importance, and not focus primarily on the practical task. Marks are allocated holistically so it would be advisable if candidates gave priority to all tasks increasing their likelihood of achieving marks that truly reflect their knowledge, understanding and abilities across the whole skill base that is required to be a successful level 2 Site Carpenter.