



**Level 3 Advanced Technical
Diploma in Site Carpentry
(7906-30)(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.

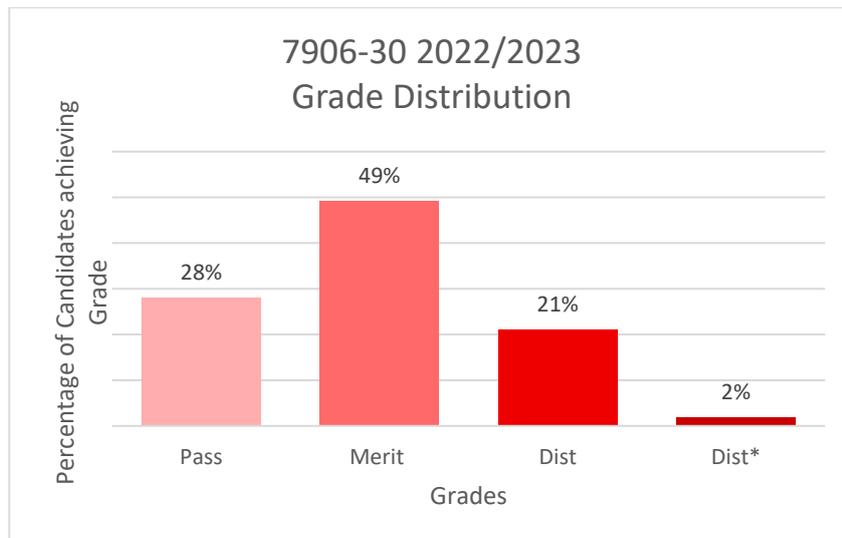
This report provides general commentary on candidate performance in both the synoptic assignment and theory exam. It highlights common themes in relation to the technical aspects explored within the assessment, giving areas of strengths and weakness demonstrated by the cohort of candidates who sat assessments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

- 7906-001/501 Level 3 Site Carpentry – Theory Exam
 - March 2023 (Spring)
 - June 2023 (Summer)
- 7906-002 – Level 3 Site Carpentry – 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

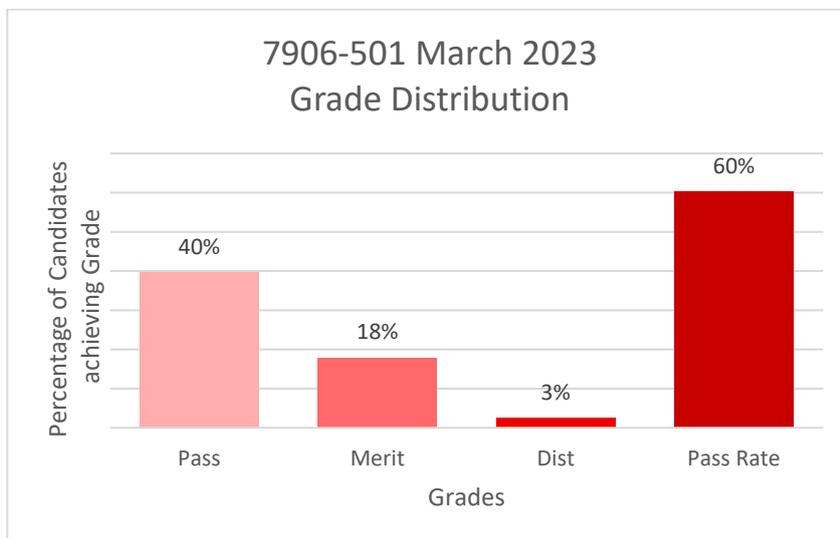
Grade Boundaries

Assessment: 7906-501
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	30
Merit mark	39
Distinction mark	49

The graph below shows the approximate distributions of grades and pass rate for this assessment, it does not account of any marks that have been amended due to generosity.

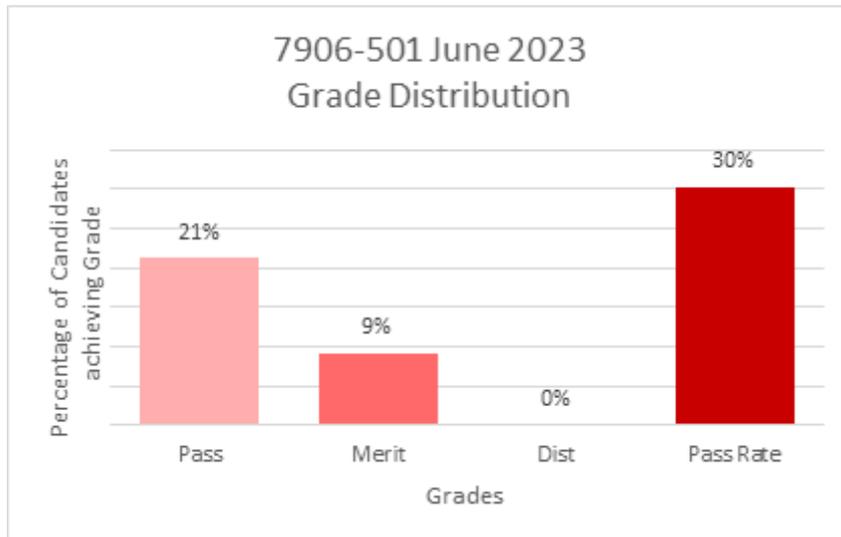


Assessment: 7906-501
Series: June 2023 (Summer)

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment.

Total marks available	70
Pass mark	29
Merit mark	38
Distinction mark	48

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: 7906-001/501 Level 3 Site Carpentry –Theory Exam

Series 1: March 2023 (Spring)

The exam was answered reasonably well across most areas, with some areas showing specific strengths and other areas demonstrating the need for further development.

Most candidates did well with the multiple-choice questions (MCQ), except for a question relating to the woodwork machinery. Broadly, all questions were answered correctly in the MCQ section of the paper, although not by some of the candidates.

Most questions on unit 301 were reasonably well responded to by most of the candidates, except for a question around properties of insulation and estimating/quotes which were poorly responded to by most of the cohort. Questions around renewable energy sources were answered very well by most of the candidates.

Unit 305 overall was not responded to well, with most of the candidates struggling with the hazards and control measures for a given scenario. Most candidates also struggled to differentiate between the cause of dry and wet rot.

Unit 306 had some very poor responses around the design features of different saw blades and safety aids, confusing safety aids with PPE and machine components. Some relevant Health and Safety answers were given, specifically the sourcing of information relevant to the servicing and the safe use of woodworking machinery. It appears that this unit received a lot less teaching delivery, resulting in poor responses across the whole unit.

The extended response question (ERQ) is designed to allow the candidates to demonstrate their depth and breadth of knowledge across a few units (301, 305 and 306). It allows the candidates the opportunity to discuss in detail their understanding of the selection and purchasing of tools and equipment to a pre-set budget and to fit out a van to carry out repairs to a set scenario provided within a brief. As a cohort most candidates answered this question quite well. The candidates that received the highest marks read the question carefully and gave comprehensive responses directly relating to the full scenario, providing rationales behind their choices and the management of a budget. Attention to detail through a coherent and thorough explanation was evident.

The candidates that received the lower marks just provided a brief overview of the tools required and the scenario was not fully considered. Their responses often lacked attention to detail and showed some gaps in their learning, and the managing of a budget.

Candidates need to be reminded of the need to demonstrate their full depth/breadth and range of knowledge and understanding across all units. Candidates should also remember to read the questions carefully and pitch their answers to the marks available to access the full marks. During the extended response questions, candidates should demonstrate their understanding and have analysed the scenario fully, giving justifiable reasoning behind their responses to fully access the marks available.

Series 2: June 2023 (Summer)

A sitting of 33 candidates in total which consisted mostly of candidates resitting from the March series.

The exam was generally answered poorly across all units with some exceptions on specific topics within each unit, showing limited strengths and demonstrating several areas for improvement.

Unit 301 - eleven questions, of which six were MCQs and five written response questions. Site documentation was the best responded question, while types of planning, costings and positioning of insulations performed below expectations. Most struggled to differentiate between the benefits of hand produced and CAD drawings.

Unit 305 - four questions covered this unit, two MCQs and two written response, with one of each performing reasonably well. Responses provided tended to be quite similar pointing to centre specific training showing through. A clear lack of knowledge regarding the identification of dry rot.

Unit 306 - seven questions including two MCQs and five written response questions. Both MCQs underperformed, with candidates not knowing about manufacturers literature or safety aids specific to tasks. Most candidates did well on how to change a saw blade on a table saw but did not know the chisel/ auger assemble of a mortice machine (this question had the most omissions) or squaring timber using a combination planer (few candidates knew what a combination planing machine is and discussed setting up and using a handheld planer).

One Extended Response Question (ERQ) covering units 301 and 305. This was very poorly responded to, bucking the recent trend of previous series where the ERQ has been well responded to.

The Extend Response Question (ERQ) is designed to allow the candidate to demonstrate their depth and breadth of knowledge and understanding across a range of units. This question provided the candidates the opportunity to discuss in detail their understanding of installing a warm deck flat roof, including the planning and materials required to complete the task. The candidates that received the lower marks did not read the brief fully and did not provide a list of materials or a clear sequenced method of work. Many candidates did not mention any planning strategies or documents. The higher scoring candidates provided a comprehensive material list, clear evidence of planning and a structured sequence of operations. It is worth noting that few understood the term warm deck and this was evident in the responses received.

Candidates should be reminded of the need to demonstrate their full depth/ breadth and range of knowledge and understanding across all topic areas. Candidates should also be reminded to read the questions carefully and pitch their answers to the marks available to access all marks available. During the extended response questions, candidates should demonstrate they understand and have fully analysed the scenario and show a confident understanding, giving justifiable reasoning behind their responses to fully access the marks available.

Synoptic Assignment

Grade Boundaries

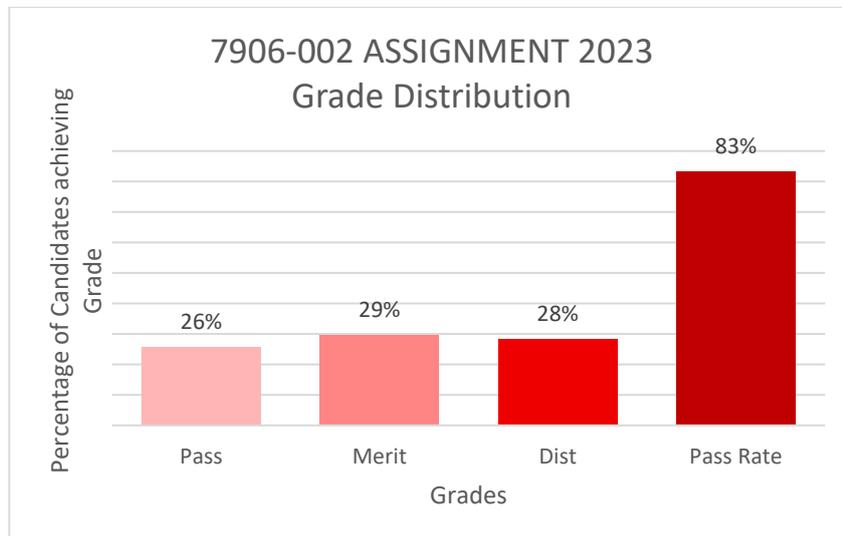
Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment.

Assessment: 7906-002

Series: 2023

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	33
Distinction mark	42

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 units of the qualification that are not assessed within the knowledge test.

All tasks were designed to simulate a real scenario, in this series it was based around the conversion of a double garage with a flat roof into a habitable room within the pitched roof space to include a Juliet balcony.

For this series the assignment was broken down into four distinct parts:

Task 1

This knowledge task was to research the relevant stair regulations for a domestic property. (Task 1a) and produce an annotated scale drawing of the upper floor joist layout (Task 1b).

Task 2

This practical task was to trim out the opening to accommodate the dormer (Task 2a) and construct the dormer cheeks (Task 2b).

Task 3

This practical task was to cut and erect a gable ended dormer roof.

Task 4

Following completion and allowing time for reflection, candidates had to complete a self-evaluation document (approximately 500 words).

Break down on each AO

AO1 Recall

Most candidates demonstrated good evidence of recalling terminology. Some knowledge across the practical tasks including selecting the correct tools and equipment for producing the dormers and cut roof. Basic geometry was required to set out the rafters. A proportion of the candidates struggled to produce a scaled drawing, demonstrating a lack of knowledge regarding basic drawing practice.

AO2 Understanding

Some learners demonstrated a good understanding across the whole synoptic assessment. Some candidates provided a detailed breakdown on how they calculated the quantities of materials required, including liner meterage, while others only provided the number of each components required. A lack of understanding regarding the structural integrity of a roof was evident in the lower marked candidates, with lay boards having no support but the load from the roof being imposed directly on to it.

AO3 Practical

Most candidates completed the practical within the recommended timeframe and to a standard that would be classed as fit for purpose within the construction industry. The majority of tolerances were met by some of the candidates, with a small number exceeding them. However, a proportion produced work that did not match the specifications or drawings provided, centres should not encourage deviation from the brief or re-invent the task to mirror their preferred method.

AO4 Bring it all together

Candidates that achieved higher marks within AO4 had obviously familiarised themselves with the assessment brief and fully understood what was required. They 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

Candidates tend to perform poorly in the research task, focusing all their attention on completing the practical tasks to the best of their abilities. As a Level 3 Site Carpenter it would be expected that they should be able to produce drawings, material lists using correct terminology and calculate quantities of materials that could be used to price up projects, plan work activities or convey information to a third party. Some of the drawings, material lists and calculations observed showed clear gaps in the candidate's attention to detail (sketches not produced to a scale, no annotation and generally evidence that is not fit for purpose.). Some candidates completed the research tasks providing the information required to fully meet the assessment brief.

Risks/Issues

Task 1 was often poorly carried out with candidates producing drawings that contained no or minimum dimensions or annotation. Some research tasks had little evidence, just a copy and paste from the building regulations.

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 parity to all tasks increasing their likelihood of achieving marks that truly reflect their knowledge, understanding and abilities required to be a successful Site Carpenter at Level 3.

In Task 3, candidates are to be given the brief and it is expected that they work towards completing the tasks with full autonomy over the way they interpret and execute the specifications. Centres that deviate from the given specification are potentially disadvantaging their own candidates.

Task 4, the self-evaluation document, is used to reflect the overall performance of the candidate with a recommendation of 500 words. Some candidates struggled to produce a good reflection often writing a basic method statement which was often difficult to read. If candidates had the opportunity to word process these, they might find articulating their thoughts using a word processor less daunting than traditional handwriting.