



7907-20 – Level 2 Technical Certificate in Painting and Decorating (360)

2024

Qualification Report

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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 2024 academic year. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose.

The document provides commentary on the following assessments:

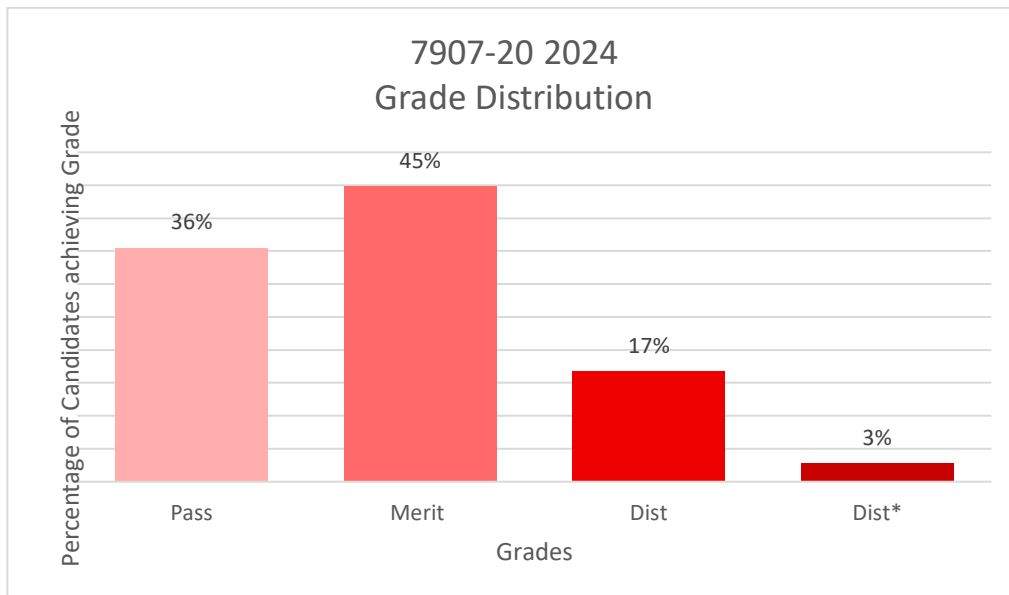
7907-003/503 Level 2 Painting and Decorating – Theory exam

- March 2024 (Spring)
- June 2024 (Summer)

7907-004 Level 2 Painting and Decorating – Synoptic Assignment

Qualification Grade Distribution

The approximate grade distribution for this qualification 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. The grade distribution shown above could include performance from previous years.

Theory Exam

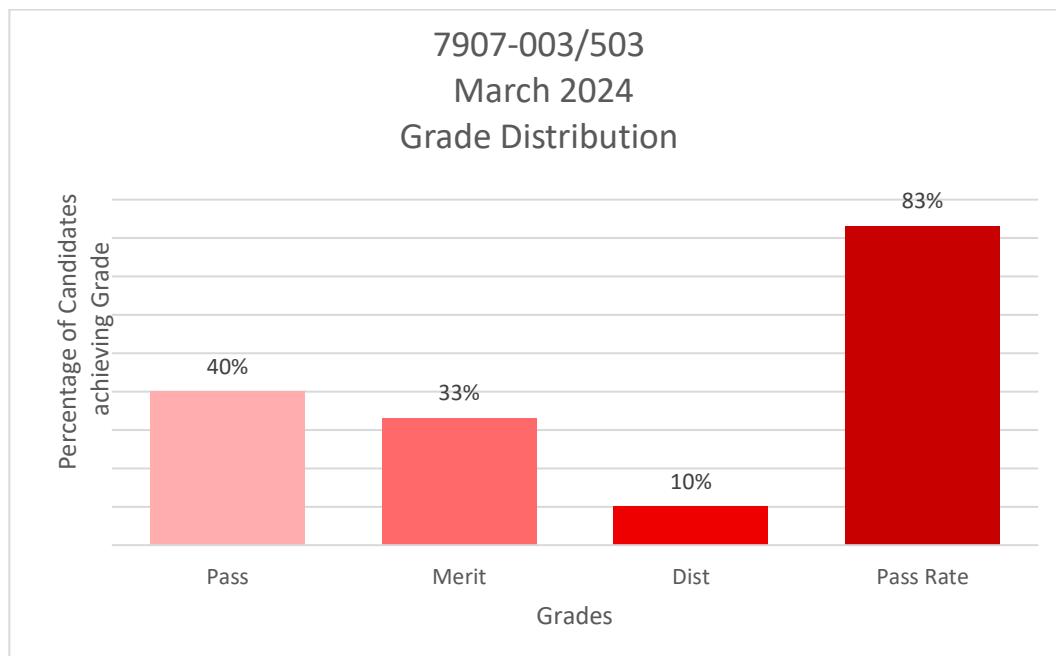
Grade Boundaries

Assessment: 7907-003/503
Series 1: March 2024 (Spring)

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	34
Distinction mark	43

The graph below shows the distribution of grades and pass rates for this assessment.

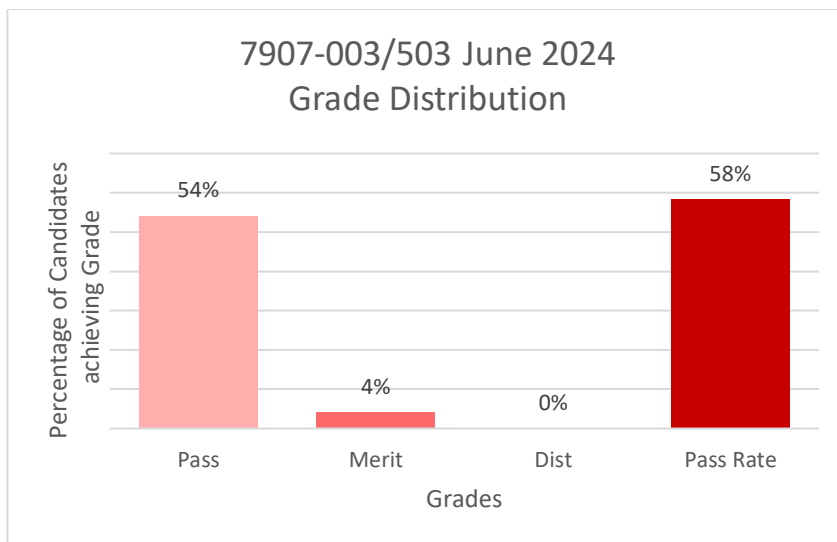


Assessment: 7907-003/503
Series 2: June 2024 (Summer)

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	34
Distinction mark	43

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



Chief Examiner Commentary

Assessment component: 7907-003/503

Series 1: March 2024

This 60-question exam paper was set in a multiple-choice format assessing units 201, 202, 203 and 204 within the 7907-003/503 Level 2 in Painting and Decorating qualification handbook. A mixture of AO1 (recall), AO2 (understanding) and AO4 (applied knowledge) questions were used across the breadth of units examined.

Candidates demonstrated good knowledge and understanding in areas where the questions focused on theoretical learning that would have been mirrored in practical sessions; particularly around health and safety where most candidates were able to correctly identify the regulations that apply when storing solvent-borne paint materials, and the health and safety considerations when removing paint from a painted surfaces using a liquid paint remover, removing wallpaper using a steam stripper, and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Other areas of the examination where candidates' knowledge and understanding performance was strong, included questions based on:

- Protecting the work area; most candidates were able to correctly answer how to protect a hardwood floor when using a proprietary tower.
- Paint types, paint properties and paint usage.
- Construction drawings.
- Access equipment, candidates were able to correctly identify a trestle platform and factor in considerations before selecting, erecting, and moving access equipment.

There was evidence of good, applied knowledge for this series. Candidates were able to correctly respond to most of the questions around the preparation and application of surface coatings to metal, timber and cement render including preparing a surface contaminated with organic growth. However, the correct process to safely remove paint using a liquid paint remover did not perform as well as expected. Candidate responses to the applied knowledge questions around defects were mixed; most candidates were able to correctly respond to the process used to prevent the common defect 'bleeding' but were unable to identify the cause of the defect 'flashing.'

Areas where performance could be improved were identified around:

- Communication within a construction team. Candidate responses were poor for questions on identifying the organisations that contribute to the construction process, the key personnel involved in day-to-day communication on a construction site and their roles.
- Types of timber and timber sheets, preparing softwood timber and plywood sheeting for decoration.

In conclusion, a broad, representative range of the subject matter included in the qualification handbook was covered by the paper, highlighting good health and safety and practical application knowledge, and understanding. However, candidate performance would benefit from centres putting a greater emphasis on technical and theoretical knowledge aspects of the qualification handbook, with a focus on terminology. Where candidates favour practical learning, linking some of the understanding into that practical environment can help reinforce learning in areas that are not commonly practiced, for example, solvent wiping timber sheets and degreasing metals.

Candidates need to ensure they fully read and understand all questions before responding, particularly the AO2 (understanding) and AO4 (applied knowledge) style questions. Centres need to support their candidate's development with these types of questions.

Series 2: June 2024

This 60-question exam paper was set in a multiple-choice format assessing units 201, 202, 203 and 204 within the 7907-003/503 Level 2 in Painting and Decorating qualification handbook. A mixture of AO1 (recall), AO2 (understanding) and AO4 (applied knowledge) questions were used across the breadth of units examined.

Candidates demonstrated good knowledge and understanding in areas where the questions focused on theoretical learning that would have been mirrored in practical sessions, particularly around health and safety. Other areas of the examination where candidates' knowledge and understanding performance was strong included:

- Personnel involved in construction work and communication within a construction team from the principles of a construction unit. Most candidates were able to correctly respond to questions on the types of construction, the key personnel involved in day to day communication; and additional parties involved in wider communication.
- Selecting and inspecting access equipment and the factors affecting access equipment usage in the access equipment unit. Most candidates were able to correctly respond to questions around the factors to consider:
 - before dismantling access equipment
 - when inspecting access equipment.
- The types of timber and timber sheets in the preparation of surfaces for decoration unit, where most candidates were able to correctly identify a timber sheet from an image. Other areas of this unit that performed well included the removal of defective paint coatings and the types of stoppers and fillers used on previously painted surfaces. Most candidates were able to correctly respond to questions around paint removal processes and the correct type of filler to use for a given scenario.
- Work area protection and protective materials for domestic and commercial areas in the application of surface coating units. Most candidate were able to correctly identify the materials used to protect items, and the safety consideration when using solvent borne paint in a domestic area. Other areas of this unit that performed well included paint coatings and their properties, types of water and solvent-borne coatings and types of coating defects.

Areas of the examination where candidates' knowledge and understanding performance was weak, included the types of building elements and the purpose of substrate materials in the principles of construction unit. Most candidates were unable to correctly respond to questions on second fix building elements or the types and purposes of foundations. Other weak areas included questions around:

- Construction information used to manage, support, and organise projects; where most candidates were unable to identify the correct information source for a given scenario.
- Technical drawings, where most candidates were unable to identify a type of drawing from an image.
- Health and safety legislation, where most candidates were unable to identify when a given regulation would apply.

The applied knowledge and understanding questions (AO4) performed poorly this series. Candidates were unable to correctly respond to most of the scenario-based questions around the preparation and application of surface coatings to metal, timber, and plaster. Candidate responses or questions around defects were mixed.

In conclusion, a broad, representative range of the subject matter included in the qualification handbook was covered by the paper, highlighting good health and safety and practical application knowledge, and understanding. However, candidate performance would benefit from

centres putting a greater emphasis on technical and theoretical knowledge aspects of the qualification handbook, with a focus on terminology. In general, candidates seem to favour practical learning, so linking some of the understanding into that practical environment can help reinforce learning in areas that are not commonly practiced, for example, coloured fillers, caulk, and the use of varnish.

Candidates need to ensure they fully read and understand all questions before responding, particularly the AO2 (understanding) and AO4 (applied knowledge) style questions. Centres need to support their candidate's development with these types of questions.

Synoptic Assignment

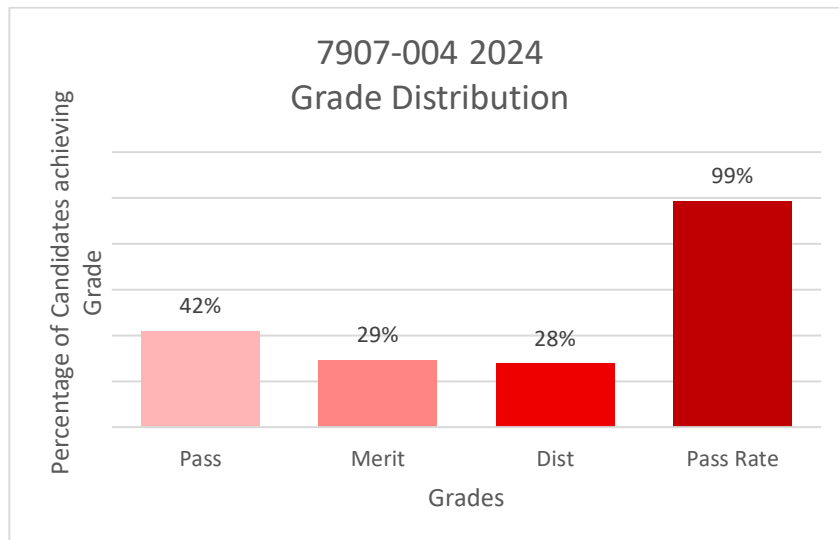
Grade Boundaries

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

Assessment: 7907- 004
Series: 2024

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	35
Distinction mark	45

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



Principal Moderator Commentary

The assessment maintained a similar level of complexity to previous years, encompassing a wide range of tasks and practical requirements. It included the hanging of wallcoverings, basic brushwork, and decorative effects, all of which are integral components of the synoptic assessment.

Most candidates demonstrated good overall performance across the various decorative tasks and health and safety protocols were strictly followed, and safe work practices were evident throughout.

Throughout the assessment, most candidates completed the planning documentation reasonably well. However, there were notable instances where the content was weak and brief, particularly in the method statements and resources list. This indicated a need for better preparation and a deeper understanding of the assessment requirements. Health and safety practices across the cohort was good and adequate for the assessment to run safely, reflecting a solid grasp of necessary precautions and protocols.

The quality of brushwork varied significantly among candidates. While the majority demonstrated a good standard, this was not consistent across the board. Some candidates exhibited a lack of proficiency in cutting-in skills, resulting in less polished finishes. This suggests that while basic brushwork techniques are understood, more advanced skills require further development.

The glaze and wipe effect were not executed as well as expected by many candidates. There were issues with the interpretation of the synoptic specification, leading to the use of incorrect colours by some candidates.

Wallpapering skills showed a similar pattern of variability. Many candidates showcased strong abilities, applying wallcoverings proficiently with minimal defects. Their work displayed a good understanding of techniques and attention to detail. However, this was not universal. Some candidates' wallpapering efforts were untidy, marked by poor cutting and application skills. Visible joints and jagged edges were common issues, indicating a need for more practice and refinement in these areas.

Overall, while there were areas of strength, the assessment highlighted several key areas for improvement. Enhancing method statement detail, refining brushwork, and cutting-in skills, and improving the precision of wallpaper application are critical steps for candidates to elevate their overall performance. With focused practice and attention to these areas, candidates can achieve a higher and more consistent standard of work in future assessments.

To improve future assessments, the following actions are recommended for centres:

- Assessors must thoroughly read the synoptic specification before planning the assessment process to ensure correct materials are available.
- Assessors must understand the photograph requirement to avoid excessive photographic evidence.
- A digital approach is advised for assessors to prevent misunderstandings or misinterpretations of the provided evidence.
- Ensure all documentation is checked and presented correctly to prevent any delays in moderation.