

1145-532 Level 3 Engineering – Theory Exam

March 2024

Examiner Report

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Theory Exam – March 2024	4
Grade boundaries and distribution.....	4
Chief Examiner Commentary	5

Introduction

This document has been prepared by the Chief Examiner, it is designed to be used as a feedback tool for centres to use in order to enhance teaching and preparation for assessment. It is advised that this document be referred to when preparing to teach and then again when candidates are preparing to sit examinations for City & Guilds Technical qualifications.

This report provides general commentary on candidate performance and 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 the **March 2024** examination series. It will explain aspects which caused difficulty and potentially why the difficulties arose, whether it was caused by a lack of knowledge, incorrect examination technique or responses that failed to demonstrate the required depth of understanding.

The document provides commentary on the following assessment;

1145-532 – Level 3 Engineering – Theory Exam

Theory Exam – March 2024

Grade boundaries and distribution

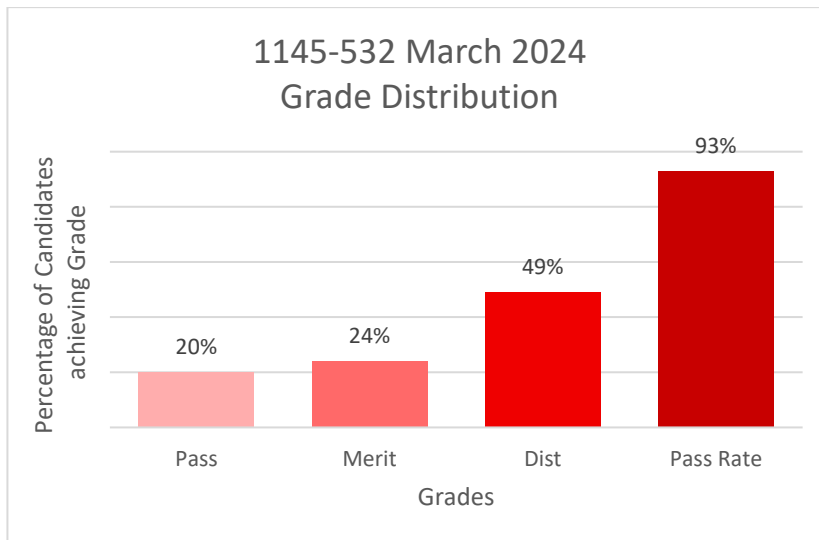
Assessment: **1145-532**

Series: **March 2024**

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	23
Merit mark	31
Distinction mark	39

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



Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidates Performance

Assessment component: 1145-532

Series 1 (March 2024)

Overall, candidates' performance on the paper improved slightly when compared to last year. The questions covered a wide range of technical knowledge in the specification and were pitched at an appropriate level. The balance of question types between knowledge, understanding and synoptic reasoning was in line with the previous series.

Candidates demonstrated a satisfactory level of understanding across a range of topics. Many of the candidates demonstrated knowledge recall and understanding across both units (307 - Engineering Workshop Practice and 308 – Innovation and New Technologies). However, it was evident, that candidates struggled with the extended response question (Q8), with responses lacking in depth and not addressing the question. It may be beneficial to give candidates additional practice with exam techniques, such as how to interpret the question and draft a response. It was noted that some of this cohort made handwritten notes in the spaces around the questions, and this appeared to help them, as proved evident in the quality of their answers.

The question paper as a whole was well answered, most notably, candidates displayed a solid grasp of legal responsibilities and risk assessment procedures in the workplace, indicating a strong foundation in health and safety principles. Many demonstrated a solid understanding of these fundamental concepts and were able to apply them effectively in their responses. Health and safety training appeared to be a strength, as evidenced by candidates' responses to questions regarding workplace safety practices and risk assessment procedures. This indicates a strong emphasis on practical knowledge and awareness of safety protocols within engineering.

There were areas where candidates encountered challenges, particularly in understanding the practical applications of certain equipment and concepts, as evidenced by weaker responses in questions involving equipment usage and environmental impact analysis. This suggests a potential gap in practical experience or exposure to certain technical concepts in some settings. Centres should consider enhancing their curriculum by incorporating more practical workshop sessions, as hands-on experience with equipment usage and application can significantly improve candidates' understanding and proficiency in engineering principles.

Performance on extended response questions varied among candidates. While some demonstrated a strong ability to analyse and synthesise information to construct well-reasoned arguments, others struggled to fully address the complexities of the question. Candidates who performed well on extended response questions showcased higher order thinking skills and the ability to integrate knowledge from multiple sources to provide comprehensive responses. This suggests a capacity for critical analysis and effective communication of ideas.

While candidates demonstrated competence in foundational knowledge areas, there is room for improvement in critical thinking, analytical skills, and application of knowledge to diverse contexts. Centres are encouraged to continue providing comprehensive instruction across all topics, fostering deeper understanding and critical engagement among candidates. Additionally, candidates are urged to approach questions with careful consideration of the context provided, ensuring that responses demonstrate both knowledge recall and application.

Centres are reminded of the City & Guilds Technicals 'Exam Guides' available here:

[Technicals in Engineering qualifications and training courses | City & Guilds \(cityandguilds.com\)](https://www.cityandguilds.com/Technical-Exam-Guides)