0172-037/537 Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (720)

March 2020

Examiner Report

Contents

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 2020** 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:
0172-037/537 Level 3 Animal Management - Theory exam (2)

Theory Exam – March 2020
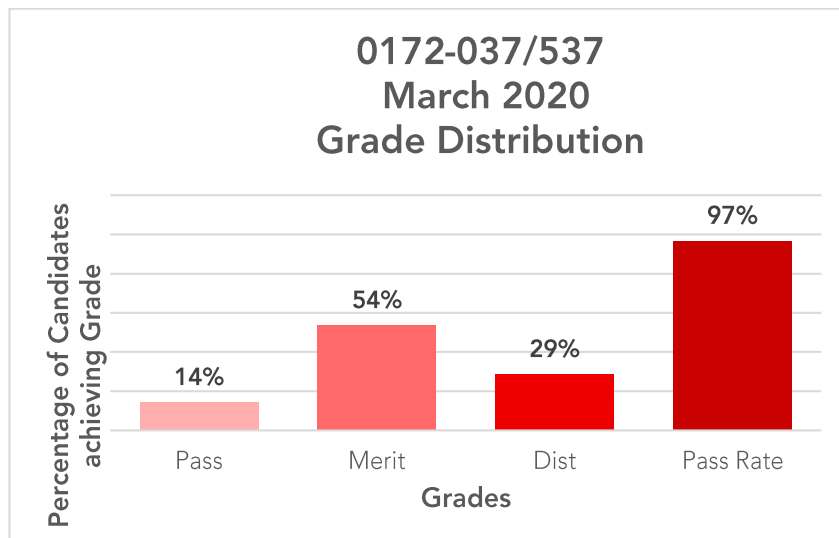
Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **0172-037/537**
Series: **March 2020**

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

Total marks available	40
Pass mark	19
Merit mark	24
Distinction mark	30

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

0172-037/537
March 2020
Grade Distribution

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 0172-037/537

Series 1 (March)

Overall, candidates performed well on this paper in a similar way to the previous ones. An improvement in candidates' exam technique compared to previous series is evident. Many candidates provided answers that contained a significant level of information as was required, especially in the extended response question.

Candidates' strengths were evident in topics relating to pet store management, specifically around accessibility for wheelchair users. Candidates showed greater awareness of disabled needs as required by law, which is also a key consideration of pet store design. The higher performing candidates demonstrated depth and breadth of knowledge when explaining the challenges of selling an older animal within a pet store, however, lower performing candidates provided statements or brief explanations missing opportunities for higher marks. Overall, candidates' performance was stronger in the questions where recall was required.

Candidates' weaker areas related to housing of prey species as answers did not relate to a prey species but mostly focussing on the environment. A lack of understanding was also evident relating to the accommodation requirements for pet store licensing with many candidates considering suitable diet, natural behaviour, but only linking this to size. Many candidates failed to explain the ideal whelping location to enable successful parturition. They also missed marks by not considering why the location of the kennel was important or by not showing an understanding of the term whelping. Another topic highlighting a weakness was around immediate first aid actions with many answers referring to actions that are not immediate or missing the importance of managing an arterial bleed. Ways of reducing pacing behaviour of boarding dogs and failing to consider any further alternatives to enrichment and exercise was another area where candidates provided weaker answers.

The extended response question focused on the addition of a pet store to an existing kennel, discussing the consideration for the pet store design to maximise customer experience but not to negatively impact on welfare of the boarding dogs. The question provided candidates with an opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and understanding from across the units in a holistic way. Candidates were showing improved examination technique here by providing longer, more considered and justified responses. As a result, more candidates were achieving marks in the top band.

Centres are encouraged to help candidates develop their use and understanding of technical terminology across the qualification. Although the candidates showed a significant improvement in the examination technique, they would further benefit from practising these techniques when preparing for this exam to understand fully the requirements of the question before attempting to answer. Explain questions require candidates to demonstrate reasons and justifications to support the statements or cause and effect made within the answers.

Centres are reminded of the City and Guilds Technicals 'exam guides' available here
https://www.cityandguilds.com/-/media/productdocuments/land_based_services/animal_management/0172/0172_level_3/animal_management/assessment_materials/0172-037_technical_exams_document_2018_v2-pdf.ashx