0172-041/541 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080)

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;
0172-041/541 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management – theory exam (2)

Theory Exam – March 2020
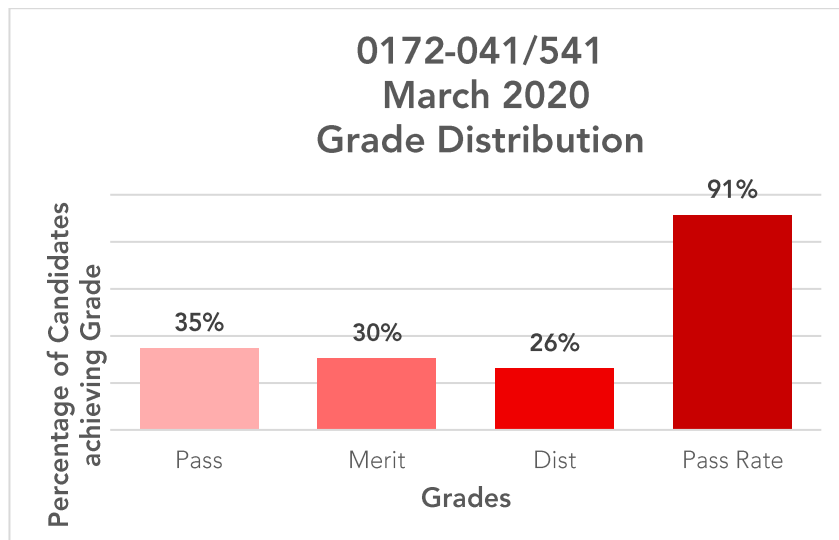
Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **0172-041/541**
Series: **March 2020**

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 distribution of grades and pass rates for this assessment:

0172-041/541
March 2020
Grade Distribution

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 0172-041/541

Series 1 (March)

The assessment is comparable with the previous series in relation to range, suitability and level. Comparability is also observed when it comes to candidate performance.

Candidates performed well in subjects relating to organisations and their strategy for conservation of wildlife and habitats, although some candidates quoted either incorrect organisations or organisations that do not conserve wildlife and their habitats. Candidates' responses were relatively strong relating to global wildlife populations although some candidates provided repetitive or similar examples. Most candidates achieved high marks for mimicry; however, some candidates forgot to include a named species. A high proportion of candidates gained full marks relating to surveys. This topic is covered in more than one mandatory unit so it is not a surprise that candidates scored well. The majority of candidates were able to describe a method of breeding strategy but those who struggled with the terminology were not able to access the full range of marks. Questions relating to biotic factors had a mixed response from candidates. Those with higher scores were showing understanding of technical terminology, which lower scoring candidates were unable to demonstrate. Candidates were able to provide a range of land-based resources and for those that found this question challenging they demonstrated a lack of understanding of the terminology. Candidate responses were mixed relating to the role of a volunteer, many answered well but some provided multifaceted responses.

Areas of weakness included questions containing technical terminology where candidates did not demonstrate the required understanding, for example natality and parental investment, however the higher performing candidates were able to access the range of marks on this topic. Another area that proved challenging to candidates was related to rehabilitation of wildlife after a major incident, with most candidates not reading the question properly and therefore discussing first aid. A further area of difficulty was the impacts of wildlife legislation on rehabilitation and release of non-indigenous species with many candidates unable to go into sufficient detail of the legislation to gain full marks.

The extended response question asked candidates to consider the impacts of seasonality on the intake of wildlife to a rehabilitation centre. There was a significant improvement in the candidates' extended response question technique. However, explanations were not always given for lower banding candidates to gain higher marks as part of their discussion. Overall performance was good on this question and some candidates performed better in the ERQ than in the rest of the paper.

Centres are encouraged to help candidates develop their use and understanding of technical terminology across the qualification. Candidates would further benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this exam to fully understand 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/0172-041_technicals_exam_document_2018_v2-pdf.ashx