

**0172-045/545 – Level 3
Advanced Technical Extended
Diploma in Animal Management
(1080)**

March 2023

Chief Examiner Report

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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 2023** 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.

0172-045/545 – Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Animal Management (1080) – Theory Exam (2).

0172-045/545 Level 3 Animal Management (Science)

Grade Boundaries

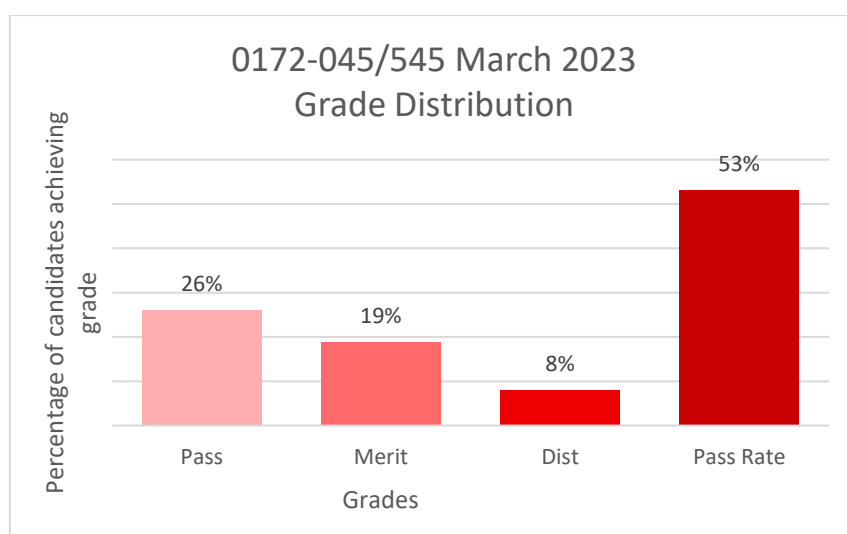
Assessment: **0172-045/545**

Series: **March 2023 (Spring)**

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	24
Merit mark	32
Distinction mark	41

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



Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

0172-045/545

Series 1 (March)

Cohort performance was not as expected for this pathway, with lower achievement and average mark of 24.39 compared to March 2022 with 26.34.

Candidate performance was varied this series. Generally, good performance was observed in the questions where recall was required. However, some candidates missed opportunities to gain marks when answering questions containing technical terminology and those where candidates were required to identify laboratory symbols.

Although, it is noted that there was an improvement in candidates' exam technique, there are still to focus upon, particularly in the questions that require reasoning, cause and/or justifications. Technical terminology was still inaccurately used and misunderstood by many candidates.

Unit 315 - This unit focuses on **Animal Nursing**. Candidates showed strengths in topics relating to signs of medical conditions and many were able to achieve marks by reasoning for a specified treatment. Differentiation across the cohort was seen in questions containing technical terminology. Many candidates were unable to show depth of understanding in these questions and were not always able to access the higher marks.

Unit 318 - This unit focuses on **Fundamentals of Science**. Candidates demonstrated knowledge of the periodic table and equilibria of liquids. There was a varied achievement in questions relating to balancing equations and identification of laboratory symbols, with many candidates not accessing full marks. Overall, candidates achieved lower marks in the questions from this unit, showing mostly breadth of knowledge rather than understanding from across the content.

Unit 321 - This unit focuses on **Cell Biology and Genetics**. Candidates showed strengths in questions relating to cell structure, function, and division. Candidates' weaknesses laid with gene expression and protein synthesis, with some candidates unable to access marks due being unable to recall the technical terms within the questions and some not able to provide explanations where required. Centres should ensure that candidates practice providing explanations by giving a reason/cause/consequence depending on the context of the relevant questions. This will enable them to achieve higher marks.

The extended response questions (ERQ) focused on the effects of a disease to animal health and body tissues. Many candidates were not able to leave the lower banding due to a lack of breadth and/or depth in the considerations provided and it was clear that many candidates were unable to expand on the statements that they provided. Although a high number of candidates were able to discuss the effects on animal health by providing symptoms of the disease, many were unable to expand on these and often omitted the effect on body tissues themselves. Some candidates were able to access band 2 but often were unable to provide the scope of knowledge required to access the higher end of this banding. A small number of candidates achieved band 3. These candidates were able to provide a detailed approach to the question discussing relevant effects on animal health and tissues within the body.

Centres should ensure they train candidates to discuss a holistic approach applying different aspects of any given scenario to allow the candidate to gain higher marks. Candidates should answer the question offering the breadth and depth, explaining their reasons behind their comments and then either justify or appraise their own comments offering explanations or justifications for their answers. This will enable candidates to move towards the higher banding depending on the level of detail the candidates go into.

Centres should remind candidates that if their handwriting is illegible marks cannot be awarded.

City & Guilds has produced a technical exam guide to support the work on the exam technique, which is available to download from

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/animal-management/0172-technical-in-animal-care-management-and-equine-care-management#tab=documents>