

# **7457-400/600 Level 3 Synoptic Knowledge Test - Paper 1**

**December 2020**

## **Examiner Report**

# Contents

Introduction.....	3
Theory Exam – December 2020 .....	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.

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 **December 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;  
**7457-400/600 Level 3 Synoptic Knowledge Test – Paper 1**

# Theory Exam – December 2020

## Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-400/600**

Series: **December 2020**

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

<b>Total marks available</b>	<b>60</b>
Pass mark	32
Pass rate	93%

# Chief Examiner Commentary

## General Comments on Candidate Performance

**Assessment component: 7457-400/600**

**Series: December 2020**

The pass mark for the paper was set using a process of professional judgement by technical experts called 'awarding'. Through the awarding process, the pass mark is determined using both quantitative and qualitative evidence (e.g. analysis of candidate's scripts, archived samples of candidate work and statistical evidence). Please note the pass mark may differ for the paper from series to series to take into account differences in the difficulty of the question papers.

Overall candidates performed well in this paper. However, there were still some candidates missing opportunities to gain marks by giving generic answers which showed a lack of knowledge specific to the topics being assessed.

Candidates will benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this examination. Candidates also need to be prepared for the different types and structures of questions contained within the paper and need to be familiar with terminology related to the topic areas covered by the exam paper. Candidates should ensure they read each question carefully. To ensure they respond clearly to the question given in the depth required.

### **Areas of strength for the cohort were:**

- Complaint handling procedures
- Care plans

### **Areas of weakness for the cohort were:**

- Terminology & definitions
- Parasites
- Hormones

The extended response question provided an opportunity for candidates of every level to present their knowledge and understanding. Overall, the cohort performed well on this question. Although some would have benefited from planning their responses first as some responses lacked structure. Some candidates lost marks by not providing enough detail. There was a varying degree of understanding across the cohort. The lower achieving candidates mainly recalled basic facts and lacked detail to show depth of understanding. The higher achieving candidates demonstrated a greater depth of understanding in the subject and were able to access the higher marks.