

7457-407/607 Level 3 Anatomy and Physiology knowledge test - Paper 3

March 2020

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.

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;
7457-407/607 Level 3 Anatomy and Physiology Knowledge test Paper 3.

Theory Exam – March 2020

Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-407/607**

Series: **March 2020**

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	38
Pass rate	63%

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 7457-407/607

Series 1 (March)

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.

The paper had a balance of topics and items that allowed candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. Overall the candidates performed well on the paper with a couple of candidates achieving high marks. Better candidates gave a good level of detail in their answers and sometimes provided examples, whereas lower achieving candidates often gave one word answers.

There was evidence of poor exam technique seen, which meant candidates lost out on marks. Candidates did not always engage with the command verbs i.e. only listing/stating rather than explaining. Therefore they did not always demonstrate their understanding. There was also evidence of candidates not reading the questions properly i.e. describing the structure of the components of the eye rather than the function.

Areas of strength for the cohort were:

- Cell division.
- Osmosis.
- Prefixes.
- Body cavities.

Areas of weakness for the cohort were:

- The function of the different components of the eye
- Significant arteries

The extended response question provided an opportunity for candidates of every level to present their knowledge and understanding. However although candidates were able to show a good level of knowledge on the respiratory system, few were able to link it to athleticism in the horse. Candidates would have benefited from planning their responses first as some responses lacked structure. Also some candidates lost marks by not providing enough detail. The lower achieving candidates mainly recalled basic facts. There was a varying degree of understanding across the cohort. The higher achieving candidates demonstrated a greater depth of understanding in the subject and were able to access the higher marks.

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 the variety of command verbs. Candidate should ensure they read each question carefully. To ensure they respond clearly to the question given in the depth required.