

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

November 2021

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 **September 2021** 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 – September 2021

Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-400/600**

Series: **September 2021**

The table 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	32
Pass rate	67%

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 7457-400/600

Series: September 2021

The paper was set at the correct level of difficulty for a level 3 exam. There was a balance of topics and items that allowed candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding. Overall performance was similar to the June 2021 examination.

Unit 360: This unit focuses on various topics of the operational requirements of a veterinary practice. Strengths of this unit were around the legal restrictions in relation to the Veterinary Surgeons Act. The weakness of this unit was seen in the understanding of the purpose of ergonomic equipment in practice.

Unit 362: This unit focuses on professional relationships and communication within a veterinary practice. The strength for this unit was knowledge of how to appropriately communicate during a client complaint. There were no consistent areas of weakness seen in relation to this unit.

Unit 363: This unit focuses on various animal welfare, health and husbandry topics. Strength of this unit was seen in learners understanding of animal health parameters. Weakness of the unit was seen in the understanding of the legislation and codes of practice in place that protect animals

Unit 364: This unit focuses on infection control within a veterinary environment. Strengths were that candidates did have knowledge & understanding of infection control and packaging practices. Weakness was being able to accurately define given terms and link the term to an example microorganism.

Unit 366: This unit focuses on the supporting the supply of veterinary medicines. Strengths were identification of requirements for dispensing medication. Weaknesses were medical calculations and the legalities of releasing schedule 2 drugs.

Unit 370: This unit focuses on understanding the essentials of veterinary nursing care for hospitalised animals. Strengths were around models of care and properties of accommodation materials. There were no consistent areas of weakness seen in relation to this unit.

Extended response question:

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 but some candidates would have benefited from planning their responses.

There was a varying degree of depth seen across the cohort, with some candidates providing justification for the holistic care they had discussed and other candidates only providing superficial explanations. The higher achieving candidates demonstrated a greater depth of understanding in the subject and clearly link their discussion to the scenario.

Overall comments

There was evidence of some 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 fully demonstrate their understanding.

Candidates will benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this examination. Candidates 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. Candidates should ensure they read each question carefully to ensure they respond clearly to the question giving the depth required to achieve full marks.

For any candidate wishing to appeal their result, centres can find information regarding the process for this on the City & Guilds website available here:

www.cityandguilds.com/delivering-our-qualifications/centre-development/centre-document-library