

7457-405/605 Level 3 Synoptic Knowledge Test - Paper 1

November 2021

Examiner Report

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Theory Exam – September 2021	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 **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;
7457-405/605 Level 3 Synoptic Knowledge Test – Paper 1

Theory Exam – September 2021

Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-405/605**

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	38
Pass rate	100%

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 7457-405/605

Series: September 2021

The paper was set at the correct level of difficulty for a level 3 exam. There was a balance of topics. The questions allowed the candidates to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding well. The paper was comparable to the previous series and the performance of the candidates remained high.

Unit 360: This unit focuses on various topics of the operational requirements of a veterinary practice. Strengths of this unit were around role of the veterinary nurse in maintaining anaesthesia, and the main principles of key applicable Health and Safety legislation. There was no area of weakness in this unit.

Unit 362: This unit focuses on professional relationships and communication within a veterinary practice. There was only one question testing this topic which related to client communication. This was answered well with appropriate examples given.

Unit 380: This unit focuses on various equine welfare, health and husbandry topics. Strengths were shown here in relation to signs of pain, and active ingredients in common classifications of medications. The weaker areas of this unit were associated with feeding an equine patient, and how to assess the correct needle placement when administering medicines to equine patients. Understanding the principles of equine legislation and identification was also a weakness shown here.

Unit 364: This unit focuses on infection control within a veterinary environment. Strengths of the unit were demonstrated in the ERQ question.

Unit 366: This unit focuses on the supporting the supply of veterinary medicines. Strengths of this unit were around pharmacy abbreviations, and the legal requirements in relation to the storage and supply of veterinary medicines. The weaker areas of this unit were associated with the limitations of using corticosteroids, and the correct drug schedules.

Unit 386: This unit focuses on understanding the essentials of veterinary nursing care for equine patients. Strengths of this unit included the correct definition for terms related to genetics, and identifying issues associated with the process of lactation in the mare. An area of weakness in this unit was associated with considerations for a foal vaccination protocol.

Extended Response Question

The extended response question provided an opportunity for the candidate to present their knowledge and understanding of infection control. Overall, the candidates performed well on this question. Generally, a good amount of detail was provided. Higher marks could have been achieved if more explanations were given.

Overall comments

Candidates will benefit from practicing examination techniques when preparing for this exam in particular the importance of reading and understanding the detail of a question.

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, as well as the need to read each question carefully and to respond clearly to the question given in the depth required