

7457-401 Level 3 Synoptic Knowledge Test - Paper 2

February 2023

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 **December 2022** 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;
7457-401 Level 3 Synoptic Knowledge Test – Paper 2

Theory Exam – December 2022

Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-401**

Series: **December 2022**

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	33
Pass rate	33%

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 7457-401

Series: December 2022

Unit 367: This unit facilitates an understanding of the application of diagnostic imaging techniques within a veterinary environment. All candidates demonstrated clear gaps in knowledge for both radiography settings and reduction of scatter.

Unit 368: This unit facilitates an understanding of diagnostic testing and essential laboratory techniques in clinical veterinary practice. All candidates demonstrated a lack of knowledge and understanding with regards to PCV.

Unit 369: This unit facilitates an understanding of veterinary operating theatre practice for veterinary nurses. Candidates demonstrated gaps in their depth of knowledge regarding how an ultrasonic cleaner works although some were able to discuss the advantages of brushing.

Unit 371: This unit facilitates an understanding of the essentials of nursing sick animals within a veterinary environment. Candidates' strengths were understanding reasons for premedication. However, candidates were unable to use an appropriate methodology to calculate TV and FGF rate. Depth of knowledge was lacking regarding the medication used in anaesthesia.

Unit 372: This unit will assist student veterinary nurses in preparing for entry on to the RCVS Register for Veterinary Nurses. Candidates demonstrated a lack of knowledge and understanding with regards to the code of conduct and schedule 3 of The Veterinary Surgeons Act.

Unit 373: This unit facilitates an understanding of peri-operative nursing care principles which encompasses the care of patients: pre-operative, intra-operative, post-operative and during home convalescence. Candidates were able to pick up some marks and demonstrate some knowledge however, overall, they showed a lack of breadth and depth of understanding regarding specific nursing techniques.

Unit 375: This unit prepares candidates to provide nursing care and first aid treatment to injured and critically ill dogs, cats, small mammals within a veterinary environment. Candidates showed a clear gap in knowledge of ECC techniques. Some candidates were able to identify actions, however, did not offer sufficient explanations

Unit 374/Extended Response Question:

Candidates did not demonstrate sufficient depth and breadth for this question. Candidates made few considerations regarding the pathology of this disease and the nursing care required with only basic signs, symptoms and diagnostic tests discussed. Candidates were unable to provide an explanation in their answers, which resulted in difficulty to ascertain their understanding of the commonly encountered condition. 33% of candidates scored within Band 2 with the remaining within Band 1.

Overall Comments

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 they may encounter.

Candidates should ensure they read each question carefully to ensure they respond clearly to the question giving the depth required to achieve full marks.

Past papers and examiner reports are available on the City & Guilds website to support candidates with this preparation:

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/animal-management/7457-veterinary-nursing#tab=documents>

For any candidate wishing to appeal their result, centres can find information regarding the process for this here:

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