7457-402 Level 3 Anatomy and Physiology knowledge test - Paper 3

February 2023

Examiner Report

Contents

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:
7457-402 Level 3 Anatomy and Physiology Knowledge test Paper 3.

Theory Exam – December 2022

Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-402**
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	32
Pass rate	30%

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 7457-402

Series: December 2022

Generally, candidates displayed an improved ability to read and understand the questions compared to previous series. Many answers given to the recall questions clearly answered the question. However, where questions required more information to demonstrate a higher understanding (AO2 questions) eg detailed descriptions and explanations to candidates missed out on accessing the higher marks available.

Some candidates offered facts, one and two-word answers, or a brief statement instead of a sufficient explanation for an answer. In some instances, this was due to the focus of the question being incorrectly addressed. Questions that required an explanation of a function were least effectively answered eg providing a function however neglecting to provide a correlating explanation.

This paper was comprised of questions from Unit 361 only which consists of four learning outcomes.

Learning outcome 1

This outcome focuses on anatomical and physiological terminology and these questions were attempted successfully. Candidates' strengths were in providing definitions of some physiological terms, and the modes of joint movements in the shoulder joint. Candidates struggled with the definition of the term cystocentesis.

Learning outcome 2

This outcome focuses on anatomical landmarks with candidates required to identify bones relating to different landmarks. Responses to this question were poor, with few marks achieved by any candidate. Candidates identified bones rather than the landmarks.

Learning outcome 3

This outcome focuses on the normal form and function of body systems. The majority of candidates' marks were gained from this outcome, as there was 48 marks available over 12 questions (including the Extended Response Question (ERQ)). Questions were attempted with variable degrees of effectiveness. Strengths were demonstrated in questions relating to the function of the kidney and the reproductive hormones. Weaknesses were demonstrated when defining osmosis, the function of the meibomian gland and the respiratory definitions. The questions which required explanations to demonstrate depth of knowledge were poorly attempted in this outcome, whereas recall questions had mixed responses. The ERQ was well attempted as candidates covered a good breadth of content. However, although most candidates demonstrated a good basic knowledge and understanding of the subject matter, most did not go into sufficient detail to demonstrate a depth of understanding to achieve the higher marks.

Learning outcome 4

This outcome focuses on the significant differences in anatomy and physiology of birds and reptiles compared to dogs, cats, small mammals. Most candidates were able to state at least two anatomical differences between the digestive system of a bird and a dog. This question was largely addressed well, and any weakness demonstrated came from candidates not recalling a sufficient number of correct answers or answering in relation to another body system.

Extended Response Question

The Extended Response Question focused on the structure and function of the musculoskeletal system. Most candidates demonstrated at least a basic knowledge of the functions of the structures, however candidates were limited by depth/detail of the discussion provided. The best answers showed a greater depth of understanding with some omissions and a limited ability to bring all the information together. Some candidates displayed an inability to fully explain their points. There were omissions and inaccuracies of the structures under discussion, and inaccurate information given on the anatomical structures. Performance is similar to that of the previous series with 50% of candidates accessing marks within Band 2 however, no candidates accessed marks within Band 3.

Overall comments

It is advisable that candidates take care when reading the questions and need to be familiar particularly with the variety of command verbs and the types of responses that will be expected of them to access the full range of marks available.

In preparation for the Extended Response Question, the key areas of focus to improve candidates' marks over a range of abilities are:

1. Plan the answer to aid a focused discussion.
2. Include a wide range of descriptive information that relates to the topic. A wider range of basic information will improve marks in the lower bands.
3. Improving the candidate's ability to explain and justify their comments will improve their marks in the higher bands.

Previous papers and examiner reports are available to support candidates with preparation for future exams here: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