

7457-401 Level 3 Synoptic Knowledge Test - Paper 2

March 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 **March 2023** 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 – March 2023

Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-401**

Series: **March 2023**

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	50%

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 7457-401

Series: March 2023

Unit 367: This unit facilitates an understanding of the application of diagnostic imaging techniques within a veterinary environment. Candidates either demonstrated clear knowledge or showed uncertainty for radiography. Understanding of how an ultrasound is applied was not answered well.

Unit 368: This unit facilitates an understanding of diagnostic testing and essential laboratory techniques in clinical veterinary practice. Candidates either demonstrated basic or superficial knowledge in laboratory techniques. All questions were attempted although with some inaccuracy.

Unit 369: This unit facilitates an understanding of veterinary operating theatre practice for veterinary nurses. Candidates performed stronger in theatre practice with their recall of knowledge than in other areas, although they lacked depth of understanding when required to give explanations.

Unit 371: This unit facilitates an understanding of the essentials of nursing sick animals within a veterinary environment. Candidates demonstrated basic knowledge base of anaesthesia with some acceptable responses made in addition to the model answers. Candidates showed a lack of understanding when asked about pulse oximeter readings.

Unit 372: This unit will assist student veterinary nurses in preparing for entry on to the RCVS Register for Veterinary Nurses. There was an improvement in responses from previous series regarding professional registration, however, candidates are still unable to apply key sources of information to their future professional status with a lack of understanding of the RCVS code of Professional Conduct as a key requirement to practice.

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 performed well in peri-op nursing showing a good basic recall of knowledge although they lacked depth of understanding with their explanations.

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 demonstrated a basic knowledge in this unit, they did not expand upon answers to show depth or understanding specific to the questions.

Unit 374/Extended Response Question:

All candidates performed in the lower banding (Band 1) with a basic knowledge of patient care shown but they did not demonstrate depth of understanding in relation to the specific conditions, their diagnostics and subsequent care requirements to show that they can apply theory and nursing to individual care requirements, although they may follow veterinary direction well.

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