

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

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

Theory Exam – March 2023

Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **7457-402**

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	32
Pass rate	25%

Chief Examiner Commentary

General Comments on Candidate Performance

Assessment component: 7457-402

Series: March 2023

Candidates displayed a similar 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 (eg detailed descriptions and explanations) candidates missed out on accessing the higher marks.

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 quite effectively. Candidates' strengths were the modes of joint movements in the hip and the weaknesses were the definitions of the physiological terms.

Learning outcome 2

This outcome focuses on anatomical landmarks with candidates required to identify anatomical boundaries of the abdomen. Responses to this question were poor, with few marks achieved across the board. Candidates demonstrated a lack of understanding of the body cavities.

Learning outcome 3

This outcome focuses on the normal form and function of body systems. Most 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 the naming of the lymph nodes, the product carried in the blood and the function of respiratory structures. Weaknesses were demonstrated when explaining muscle contraction, the function of the distal convoluted tubule and the structures sperm pass through.

The questions which required explanations to demonstrate depth of understanding were poorly attempted, 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 deeper 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. This question was addressed well with most candidates able to state at least two anatomical differences between the skeletal system of a snake and a cat.

Extended Response Question

The Extended Response Question focused on the functions of skin, hair and associated glands. 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 stronger 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 regarding the structures under discussion, and inaccurate information given on the anatomical structures. However, performance has improved from last series with 13% of candidates scoring marks within band 3, 62% within band 2 and 25% within band 1.

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