

OSCE Code 7457-350 Laboratory Diagnostics 05 (Parasite) for Unit 309

This station covers the following RCVS Day One Skills: 1.2, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 8.3

This OSCE will be used to assess the awards indicated

Award	Award Reference	Pathway
7457 – Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing	600/6052/6	Small Animal
7457 – Level 3 Diploma in Veterinary Nursing	600/6052/9	Equine

Scenario

The veterinary surgeon is consulting and has passed you a microscope slide. The vet has asked you to examine it under the microscope for any evidence of parasites.

- a. Set up the microscope, locate and focus on the parasite on the prepared slide.
- b. Write down the Vernier scale reading to relocate the parasite if the slide is moved.
- c. Identify the ectoparasites on the photographs provided by the examiner.

You will be expected to:

1.	Check that the light intensity switch (rheostat) is turned to the lowest setting to avoid damaging the bulb
2.	Turn the microscope on
3.	Rack down the mechanical stage to as low as possible
4.	Select the lowest power objective lens (x 4 or x 10 depending on the microscope available)
5.	Place microscope slide on stage, correct way up
6.	Look at the stage directly whilst racking it up so that it is positioned just below the objective lens (or rack down eyepiece to the stage, depending on the microscope)
7.	Look down the eyepieces
8.	Adjust the rheostat to a medium setting
9.	Adjust the height of the substage condenser to a few millimetres below the stage
10.	Adjust the fine/coarse focus in order to focus the microscope
11.	Focus on the parasite on the prepared slide
12.	Read and correctly record the horizontal scale
13.	Read and correctly record the vertical scale
14.	Identify parasite A (common name/Latin name)
15.	Identify parasite B (common name/Latin name)