

# **0173-009/509 - Level 3 Land and Wildlife Management – Theory exam (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 for City & Guilds Technical qualifications.

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;  
**0173-009/509 – Level 3 Land and Wildlife Management – Theory exam (2).**

# Theory Exam – March 2023

## Grade Boundaries and distribution

Assessment: **0173-009/509**

Series: **March 2023**

Below identifies the final grade boundaries for this assessment, as agreed by the awarding panel:

<b>Total marks available</b>	<b>60</b>
Pass mark	25
Merit mark	33
Distinction mark	42

The graph below shows the approximate distribution of grades and pass rates for this assessment:

# Chief Examiner Commentary

## General Comments on Candidate Performance

**Assessment component: 0173-009/509**

### Series 2 (March 2023)

The question paper was balanced and covered a good range of knowledge and understanding from across units. Questions were answered with a varying degree of accuracy and depth, but generally the standard of response was good. Overall candidates' performance was comparable to March 2022.

The candidates who achieved higher marks answered all questions thoroughly and showed excellent breadth and depth of knowledge backed up by relevant examples. Candidates that performed well in this examination demonstrated that they have relevant knowledge on the hydrological cycle and carbon cycle in food chains. Some candidate's performance was stronger in the recall questions and there was a general briefness to explanations and discussions.

Many candidates demonstrated good understanding of causes of local extinction. Candidates were also able to discuss the benefits of controlling invasive species in a woodland.

Topic areas of questions that were answered well:

- Hydrological cycle.
- Carbon cycle in food chains.
- Causes of local extinction.
- Effect of controlling invasive species.

Topic areas of questions that were not answered well:

- Nitrogen fixation.
- Adhesive properties of water.
- The difference between thinning and coppicing.
- Definition of ancient woodland.

Some candidates were unable to demonstrate knowledge of the ways nitrogen is fixed, and some candidates were unable to explain the difference between thinning and coppicing.

### Extended Response Question (ERQ)

Candidates were required to discuss factors of potential sites of a woodland, rich in biodiversity. This question allowed candidates to demonstrate their breadth of knowledge and understanding of factors to be considered buying and managing a woodland for biodiversity. There was an improvement in candidate responses compared to previous years with candidates planning their responses before answering. The consideration of the issues in the scenario were generally good, with some candidates concentrating on one aspect either before or after the purchase of the wood meaning they did not provide sufficient depth. Candidates who discussed all aspects and considerations and used examples provided sufficient breadth and depth to achieve a Band 3.

Centres are strongly advised to ensure that candidates are familiar with command verbs and the type of responses required as well as the need to read each question carefully and to respond clearly to the question given in the depth required. Candidates would benefit from practising examination techniques when preparing for this exam, to fully understand the requirements of the question before attempting to answer and learn how to plan for extended response questions. as well as the need to read each question carefully and to respond clearly to the question given in the depth required.

Centres are reminded of the City & Guilds Technicals 'Exam Guides' available here:

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/environment-countryside-and-conservation/0173-technical-in-land-wildlife-management#tab=information>

Previous papers and examiner reports will also assist centres and candidates to prepare

for future examinations. These are available here:

<https://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/environment-countryside-and-conservation/0173-technical-in-land-wildlife-management#tab=documents>