

0175-001/501- Level 3 Floristry – Theory Exam (1)

March 2020

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 2020** 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;
0175-001/501 – Level 3 Floristry – Theory Exam (1).

Theory Exam – March 2020

Grade Boundaries and distribution

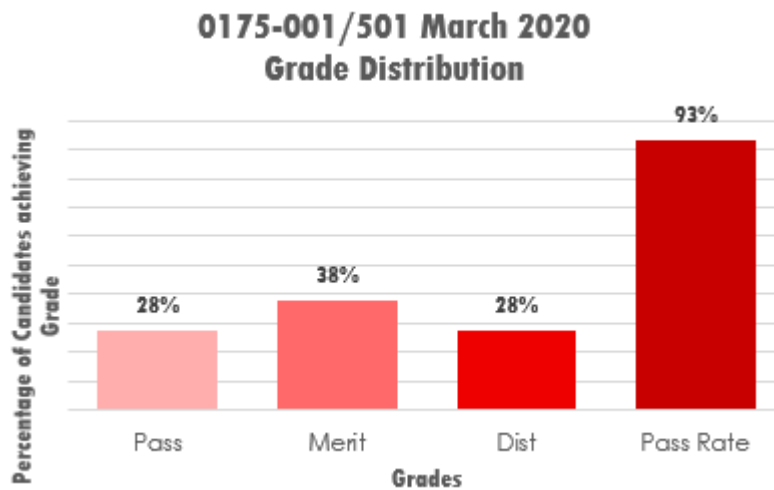
Assessment: **0175-001/501**

Series: **March 2020**

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

Total marks available	60
Pass mark	23
Merit mark	32
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: 0175-001/501

Series 1 (March)

Candidates' overall performance in the March 2020 paper improved. Exam technique and subject knowledge improved compared to last year's papers allowing many to gain higher marks. The majority of candidates demonstrated a good understanding of the questions in the paper and was strong in answering the recall questions but there was a general trend of inaccuracy or lack of knowledge when identifying plant materials.

Higher achieving candidates showed evidence of reasoning and justification as well as the recall of knowledge required across all the units. Also, most candidates were able to demonstrate some knowledge of business activities but some lacked depth and breadth of understanding of actual processes.

Particular areas of strength in understanding of the design schema was evident. Candidates overall, gave responses to questions which showed a good level of recall throughout the paper. Higher scoring candidates demonstrated the ability to recall knowledge across all of the mandatory units and evidence their understanding, through targeted justification and reasoning.

The breadth and depth of knowledge relating to financial forecast and potential findings of a SWOT analysis were weak with limited use of business terminology within answers. Candidates need to focus on reading the questions carefully as responses in some areas did not relate to what was being asked. One example of this was a question asking for an explanation of the importance of completing a risk assessment, many completed a risk assessment and some only stated what was required for a risk assessment.

Many candidates demonstrated weaknesses in both the knowledge and understanding questions that related to business practices. Some answers indicated that candidates had not read and understood the focus of some questions fully, whilst other responses lacked justification and reason, meaning they were unable to gain full marks. There was a lack of breadth of knowledge on topics and areas that have an impact on a business such as Demographics, Logistics, Policies, Legislation, Global communications, Ecological and environmental, Political climate, Economic climate, Ethical practices, Seasonality and availability.

Candidates will benefit from practicing examination techniques when preparing for this exam in particular the importance of reading and understanding the detail of a question.

Candidates also 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, 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/floristry/0175-technicals-in-floristry#tab=information>