



EXAMINERS' REPORTS

**LEVEL 1 / LEVEL 2 AWARD IN
CONSTRUCTING THE BUILT
ENVIRONMENT**

JANUARY 2022

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Annual Statistical Report

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CONSTRUCTING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Level 1/2 Award

January 2022

SAFETY AND SECURITY IN CONSTRUCTION

General Comments

Teachers are to be commended on their preparation of candidates for this unit assessment regardless of restrictions.

It has been noted for past series of the previous construction examination that candidates should be encouraged to provide a reasonable amount of detail in their responses. The examining team felt that a significant number of candidates still failed to gain potential marks by providing overly short or limited responses. It is also suggested that candidates should read the questions fully, so as to understand what is being asked of them. It is also suggested that candidates should read the questions fully, to understand what is being asked of them. There were several instances where candidates provided well written responses which simply did not address the question.

Comments on individual questions/sections

- Q.1** This question had a facility factor of 63 and as such was the most accessible question on the paper. Part (a) of the question required the candidates to identify types of fire extinguisher. Part (b+c) required candidates to recommend one fire extinguisher that must be used in certain situations. The majority of candidates answered this question correctly.
- Q.2** This question had a facility factor of 52 and presented a challenge to a number of candidates. Candidates were asked to provide the meaning for a number of site safety signs. Some candidates were able to identify the sign but struggled to give sufficient detail as to its meaning.
- Q.3** This question had a facility factor of 62 and was reasonably well answered by many candidates
Part (a) of the question required candidates to explain how certain PPE prevents or reduces risk of injury. Part (b) required candidates to name one piece of legislation that applies when PPE is not used.
- Q.4** This question had a facility factor of 38 and presented a challenge to a number of candidates. The question required candidates to describe two actions that could be taken to ensure the security of sensitive data held on company laptops. A significant number of candidates failed to provide adequate actions and/or sufficient detail.
- Q.5** This question had a facility factor of 42 and presented a challenge to a number of candidates who could not differentiate between Health and safety and site security risks.

The first part of this question (Part a) required candidates to identify health and safety risks in a scenario. When candidates correctly differentiated between the two this was reasonably well done by many candidates, as indeed was the second and third parts of the question (Part b & c) which required the identification of security risk and then the description of suitable control measures to minimise risks.

It was noted that some candidates did not expand on how the control measures they suggested would minimise the security risks they identified.

Q.6 This question had a facility factor of 17 and as such was the most difficult question for the candidates. Part (a) of the question required candidates to explain the purpose of a 'permit to work' and part (b) required candidates to explain the role of a 'competent person' responsible for health and safety. Many candidates either did not attempt this question or provided very limited or incorrect responses.

Q.7 This question had a facility factor of 59 and was reasonably well answered by many candidates.
This is a twenty mark question that is based on four photographs. Candidates were required to identify a hazard, the associated risks and suggest control measures to reduce or remove the risks. Overall, candidates were able to express their understanding of the hazards, risks and control measures for each scenario well. As with previous years, some found it difficult to differentiate between hazards and risks. Candidates tended to give overly brief responses with some unable to complete all 4 sections.

Summary of key points

Centres are advised to:

- encourage candidates to provide extended responses to questions where appropriate
- place a greater emphasis on the teaching of responsibilities of employers and employees under the Health and Safety at Work Act and with reference to competent person and permit to work
- place a greater emphasis on the differentiation of security and health and safety risks
- continue to develop the candidate's ability to identify hazards, describe the associated risks and suggest potential control measures.



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