



External Assessment Report 2010

Subject	Social and Vocational Skills
Level	Standard Grade

The statistics used in this report are pre-appeal.

This report provides information on the performance of candidates which it is hoped will be useful to teachers/lecturers in their preparation of candidates for future examinations. It is intended to be constructive and informative and to promote better understanding. It would be helpful to read this report in conjunction with the published question papers and marking instructions for the Examination.

Comments on candidate performance

General comments

Overall, candidates coped well with the exam at all levels this year. Markers generally reported that most candidates attempted all questions and knew what was expected of them. Candidates were clearly very well prepared for the exam by centres. This was especially true at Credit level, which indicates that Credit candidates were being presented at the correct level.

However, some candidates at Credit level did not put headings on tables etc, and therefore lost some easy marks as a result. There were still some candidates who clearly found the Credit paper very difficult and would therefore appear to have been presented at the wrong level. However, as indicated above, these were fewer in number than in previous years.

Areas in which candidates performed well

The letter and memo questions were generally well done, which indicates that candidates were well prepared for these types of questions at Foundation and General levels. As indicated above, Credit candidates generally coped well with all the questions.

Areas which candidates found demanding

The completion of the financial statement in General Question 3 was generally either very well or very poorly done. This was also true to some extent about General Question 4 and Foundation Question 3, and centres should take care to make sure that candidates are prepared for the full range of possible questions.

Many candidates lost marks by not deleting or using block capitals when completing form-filling questions. While this will be taken into account in designing future papers, centres should make sure that candidates are asked to read questions carefully to make sure that they are clear on exactly what they are being asked to do.

There was some confusion about what were required in Question 2 in the Credit paper, due to the ambiguous wording of part of the question, but this did not greatly affect overall performance. There was some concern about candidates not including enough information to gain full marks in Credit Question 3, but this was taken into account during grade boundary setting and will be looked at for future years.

Advice to centres for preparation of future candidates

Centres should continue their good work in making sure that candidates are entered at the correct level. As indicated above, centres would do well to make sure that candidates are asked to read the instructions on the exam papers and individual questions carefully, to make sure that they are clear on exactly what they are being asked to do.

Statistical information: update on Courses

Number of resulted entries in 2009	2734
Number of resulted entries in 2010	2743

Statistical information: performance of candidates

Distribution of overall awards

Grade 1	18.8%
Grade 2	25.0%
Grade 3	28.3%
Grade 4	17.2%
Grade 5	6.6%
Grade 6	0.8%
Grade 7	0.0%
No award	3.3%

Grade boundaries for each assessable element in the subject included in the report

Assessable Element	Credit Max Mark	Grade Boundaries		General Max Mark	Grade Boundaries		Foundation Max Mark	Grade Boundaries	
		1	2		3	4		5	6
CA	70	50	35	60	37	27	55	32	23