



External Assessment Report 2011

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| 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 the majority of Credit candidates were being presented at the correct level. However, there were still a small number of candidates who clearly found the Credit paper very difficult and would therefore appear to have been presented at the wrong level. Some candidates at Credit level did not take a new page for each new question or put headings on tables etc, and therefore lost some easy marks as a result.

Areas in which candidates performed well

Most candidates did very well with the Foundation paper, and Question 2 was particularly well done. Overall the General paper was also well done, with the exception of some careless mistakes in Question 1 and some difficulties with Question 4. In the Credit paper, Question 1 was particularly well done and candidates were clearly comfortable with this type of question.

Areas which candidates found demanding

In the General paper many candidates lost marks for careless mistakes in Question 1, by not including basic parts of the letter including full address, date and signature. This was surprising given how well letters have been done in recent years, and the amount of practice questions of this type available from past papers. Also in the General paper, many candidates did not do as well as expected in Question 4 by not including enough information in the poster. It may well be worthwhile for centres to make sure that candidates are well prepared for this type of question in the future.

Some candidates were confused about what was required in Question 2 in the Credit paper, and 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. While Question 3 in the Credit paper was demanding, it was attempted well with several candidates achieving full or almost full marks for it.

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. 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

Standard Grade

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| Number of resulted entries in 2010 | 2743 |
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| Number of resulted entries in 2011 | 2609 |
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Statistical Information: Performance of candidates

Distribution of overall awards

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|----------|-------|
| Grade 1 | 19.0% |
| Grade 2 | 26.2% |
| Grade 3 | 26.9% |
| Grade 4 | 17.3% |
| Grade 5 | 6.6% |
| Grade 6 | 0.8% |
| Grade 7 | 0.0% |
| No award | 3.2% |

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

| Assess-able Element | Credit Max Mark | Grade Boundaries | | General Max Mark | Grade Boundaries | | Found-ation Max Mark | Grade Boundaries | |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|----|------------------|------------------|----|----------------------|------------------|----|
| | | 1 | 2 | | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 |
| CA | 70 | 49 | 35 | 60 | 37 | 27 | 55 | 32 | 23 |