OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA

CAMBRIDGE TECHNICALS LEVEL 2 (2016)

Examiners' report

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

05890, 05880, 05881

Unit 2 Summer 2024 series

Contents

Introduction

Our examiners' reports are produced to offer constructive feedback on candidates' performance in the examinations. They provide useful guidance for future candidates.

The reports will include a general commentary on candidates' performance, identify technical aspects examined in the questions and highlight good performance and where performance could be improved. The reports will also explain aspects which caused difficulty and why the difficulties arose, whether through a lack of knowledge, poor examination technique, or any other identifiable and explainable reason.

Where overall performance on a question/question part was considered good, with no particular areas to highlight, these questions have not been included in the report.

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Unit 2 series overview

We saw fewer entries this series in comparison to January 2024. We continue to see fewer no responses. Candidates are more aware of the different command words and are, in the main, more able to develop responses that reflect the requirements of the different command words.

That said, we saw responses that had no correlation to the question being asked, e.g. providing inspection agencies for Question 1 (b) which had asked for them to identify a piece of legislation.

The least successful question was Question 4 (a); we saw very few responses that achieved Level 2. This is often the least successful question particularly when the focus is on how a manager should respond to a specific emergency.

The specification reference for this is 4.3: Responding to emergencies

1. **deciding priorities**, e.g. life safety then stabilise the incident

2. **following procedures**, e.g. fire evacuation policy, emergency policy

3. **carrying out evacuation plans**, e.g. vertical and horizontal evacuations, evacuating individuals with mobility difficulties

4. **reporting incidents**, e.g. to Ofsted, Care Quality Commission, emergency services

5. **recording incidents**, e.g. written and signed records, accident books

6. **review risk assessments and policies after incidents**, e.g. to determine if policies were followed and to make changes if necessary

Candidates should aim to include the emboldened points within their response, providing more depth to each point by applying this to the specific emergency within the question.

Candidates who did well on this paper generally:	Candidates who did less well on this paper generally:
- addressed the command words - understood the requirements of the question being asked - gave structure to their responses, particularly the level response questions - were able to assess the hazards in Question 3 (a).	- did not always address the command words, e.g. Question 3 (a) required candidates to assess the hazards; some candidates only identified the hazards - did not address the requirements of the question - gave no structure to their responses, both points based and level response - were only able to identify the hazards in Question 3 (a).

Question 1 (a)

Section A

(a) Describe the term **health and safety management**.

[2]

Reference to procedures was one of the most common points made along with providing training. What would have strengthened these responses is by having described what these procedures/training entailed.

Some less successful responses were seen that just stated that health and safety management was all about keeping people safe.

Question 1 (b)

(b) Identify **one** piece of legislation relevant to health and safety.

[1]

This was a well answered question. Many candidates could correctly identify a piece of legislation, some choosing to write their response in full while others gave the abbreviation; both were accepted. Worthy of note is that the abbreviation legislation needed to be fully accurate, e.g. for Health and Safety at work Act HASAWA would be correct, but HASAA would have been marked incorrect. Control of Substances to health would have been assessed as incorrect. It should be Control of Substances Hazardous to Health or COSHH.

Misconception
? Confusing inspection agencies/specific health and safety procedures, e.g. risk assessments for legislation. A matching chart may help some candidates to differentiate these better: **Legislation**   **health and safety procedures**   **inspection agencies**

Question 1 (d)

(d) Describe how hazardous substances could pose a risk to children in a nursery.

[2]

When candidates knew what a hazardous substance was they were able to provide some very good descriptions on how these could pose a risk. The most common responses were linked to drinking, being burnt, significant irritation, being incorrectly stored and death.

The main error was in not understanding what a hazardous substance was; we saw responses that were not connected, e.g. tripping. Tripping is a hazard but not a hazardous substance.

Question 1 (e)

(e) State **two** hazards that could occur in a **public space**.

[2]

Hazard 1

Hazard 2

We had many varied responses provided to this question; fire, flood, dog faeces, uneven steps and aggressive/intoxicated people. The main error was in candidates linking a public space to roads and traffic; any responses provided that were linked to being hit by a vehicle were marked as incorrect. A public space is a place where large crowds of people gather.

Question 1 (f)

(f) Identify **one** activity where hazards might arise in a **nursing home**.

[1]

The most common responses were linked to food/hot drink preparation, recreational activities, and care routines. Some responses provided were applied to children; candidates had seemingly misread the question not realising that the context was a nursing home.

Question 2 (a)

(a) Describe **one** procedure that should be included in a hot drinks policy.

[2]

Mixed responses were seen for this question. Many clearly stated that where there were children that no hot drinks should be in the vicinity. We saw several responses that drinks should be cooled sufficiently before being served and that protective safety bands should be used. The most common error seen was in candidates stating, 'tell them to be careful before drinking because the drink is hot'. They did not seem to understand the word procedure.

Question 2 (b)

(b) Describe **one** procedure that should be included in an emergency planning policy.

[2]

This was very poorly answered. Those that scored some marks focused on emergency evacuations. Answers were accepted that applied to any aspect of an evacuation procedure.

Question 2 (d)

(d) Identify **one** inspection agency that can give a negative judgement for not following policies.

[1]

Generally well answered with many citing Ofsted and CQC.

Question 2 (e)

(e) Injury or harm is a consequence for an employee if policies are not followed.

Identify **one** other possible consequence.

[1]

Another well answered question with the most common responses being linked to disciplinary action, dismissal or having to face legal action/prosecution. The most common error was in applying responses to an individual being cared for rather than the employee.

Question 2 (f)

(f) Outline **one** way that risk can be reduced when disposing of used bandages in a hospital ward.

[2]

A poorly answered question; many candidates missed the point that this was linked to how risk can be reduced.

The most common response cited the use of PPE. However where responses stated to wear gloves, this was not given credit. Correct terminology would be to state the use of disposable gloves.
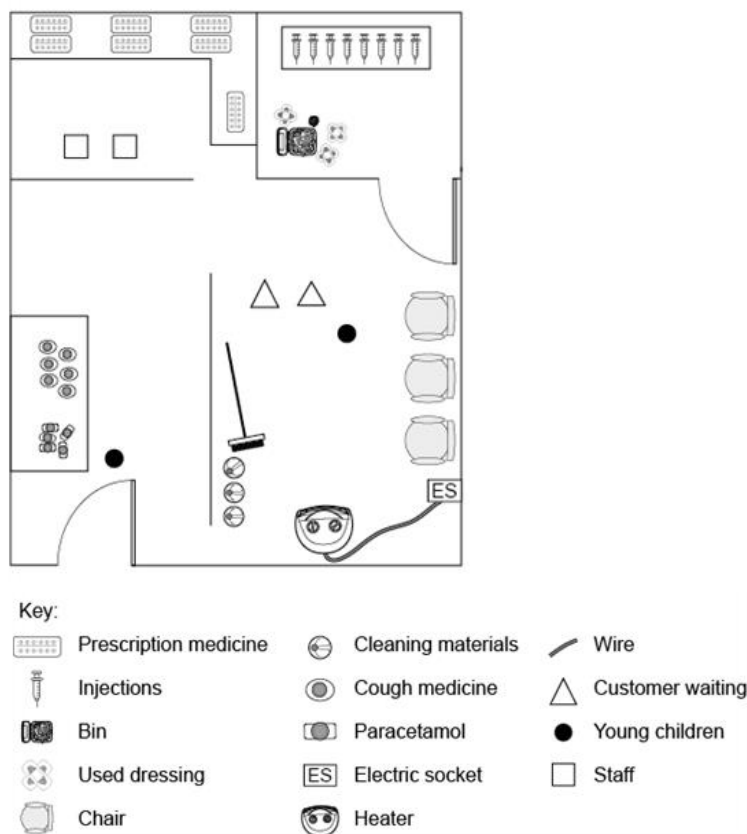
Question 3 (a)

Section B

(a)* Assess the hazards within the pharmacy on **Fig. 3.1** and describe actions to be taken to reduce or eliminate risk.

[8]

Fig. 3.1 Pharmacy

Key:

Prescription medicine	Cleaning materials	Wire
Injections	Cough medicine	Customer waiting
Bin	Paracetamol	Young children
Used dressing	Electric socket	Staff
Chair	Heater	

The whole spectrum of marks were given for this question with many being able to access Levels 2 and 3. The command word was assess. For the hazards we saw some very considered and thoughtful responses; candidates were clearly able to demonstrate their understanding of the hazards seen within Fig 3.1. Descriptions provided on actions to be taken to reduce or eliminate risk was also effectively done.

The main error was in candidates only identifying the hazards, failing to assess the potential risk. We also saw some very basic responses for the actions, most notably 'store in cupboard'.

Question 3 (b)

(b) Outline how a risk assessment would be reviewed.

[2]

This was a poorly answered question. Many described how a risk assessment was developed rather than how it would be reviewed.

The most common response was to make any needed changes.

Question 4 (a)

> **(a)*** There has been a bomb threat at a hospital.
>
> Explain how the manager should respond to this emergency.
>
> [8]

This was not a high scoring question. The majority of responses centred around evacuation, calling the emergency services and raising the alarm. Only a very small number of candidates provided sufficient depth in their responses to be given Level 2; the vast majority were only able to access Level 1.

As stated in the overview the specification reference is 4.3. There are six main responses that could have been included.

Assessment for learning

An idea would be to provide the candidates with all six specified responses:

1. Decide priorities
2. Following procedures
3. Carrying out evacuation plans
4. Reporting incidents
5. Recording incidents
6. Review risk assessments and policies after incidents

Provide candidates with different 2 or 3 different scenarios using different settings along with different emergencies – fire, flood, accidents, epidemics, gas leaks, bomb threats, lost children or vulnerable adults and intruders.

They could work in small groups to state how a manager would respond; making sure that responses are applied to the scenario.

Question 4 (b)

(b) Describe **one** responsibility of a first aider.

[2]

Some responses provided lacked specifics; several candidates stated to make sure everyone is safe or make sure they are taken care of. Answers to the responsibilities of a first aider need to be precise with specific actions provided, e.g. to call for an ambulance, to make sure hands are washed in hot soapy water and to carry out breathing checks.

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