

Principal Moderator's Report January 2010

GCE

GCE Health & Social Care - Unit 6 (6943)

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6943/01: Public Health

General comments

There was a small entry this series but there were still some issues that cause concern.

Some learners included large amounts of information taken directly from the internet which, although referenced tended to take the place of the learner's own input and the overuse of sources is something that learners should be discouraged from, this especially detracts from the learners analysis and evaluations in AO3 and 4, and their focus in AO1.

Assessment Objective 1

The successful learners had chosen relevant issues and linked them to the public health consequences. This was the first time that quality of written communication had been assessed in this assessment objective and the main problem this caused for learners was their ability to produce a focussed report. Because of the tendency to include large amounts of information from the internet, learners often lost focus and found it hard to achieve at the highest levels.

Assessment Objective 2

The successful candidates had chosen relevant issues and linked them to a specified group of the population, and then identified the relevant social, environmental and lifestyle issues that were relevant to that section of the population. This section leads directly into the analysis in AO3. Some learners are still not identifying a specified group of the UK population and are making the work harder for themselves, and losing focus thus losing marks in AO1

Assessment Objective 3

Some learners showed good skills in obtaining information from literature searches but need to be encouraged to be more selective about the information they use in their final report and they should take care to reference all the work that they quote. It is good practice to ensure that learners include bibliographies to reports. At mark band 2 and 3 they are required to analyse environmental and lifestyle problems in relation to the public health issue. Although the descriptions were seen in AO2 there are still few attempts at realistic analysis seen and what attempts were seen are still being overmarked.

Assessment Objective 4

This is an assessment objective that learners still find difficult. Even the stronger learners tend to submit descriptions and information from websites rather than evaluations of strategies, making it harder for them to access the higher marks in mark band 3. Evidence that the learner has thought themselves about the issue and drawn some conclusions from the information they have considered needs to be seen. Learners need guidance on both analysis and evaluation at this stage to ensure that they can achieve Mark Band 3. The process is new to them and should be supported by their Centres.

Grade Boundaries

Internally assessed units

6943: Public Health

Grade	Max. Mark	A	B	C	D	E
Raw boundary mark	60	50	45	40	35	30
Uniform boundary mark	100	80	70	60	50	40

Notes

Maximum Mark (Raw): the mark corresponding to the sum total of the marks shown on the mark scheme.

Boundary mark: the minimum mark required by a candidate to qualify for a given grade.

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