

Principal Moderator's Report January 2010

GCE

GCE Health & Social Care - Unit 11 (6948)

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6948/01: Social Issues and Welfare Needs

General comments

There was a very small entry this series but the following issues are still causing problems and centres should take note of them before submitting work for the summer series

The unit is about social issues and welfare needs and, as such, health issues are not appropriate: these fall under the remit of Unit 6 and centres should be careful to avoid them when directing learners. This direction towards health issues was the biggest single reason that learners were struggling with accessing the assessment criteria.

When choosing topics it is often worth identifying government responses and demographic factors associated with the issue before embarking on the report.

Assessment Objective 1

Learners generally used a wide range of different sources. As a general point, learners should use the inception of the welfare state as a starting point for this assessment objective, thus reduces the tendency to submit irrelevant and long historical descriptions.

Assessment Objective 2

When deciding which issue to do, learners should consider whether there are enough appropriate demographic factors associated with it to enable them to access mark band 3 before embarking on their coursework.

Learners are still writing this section as a generic description of demographic factors they should be applying the effect of the demographic factors on the issue they are doing about

Assessment Objective 3

Good knowledge of the contemporary nature of the issue was shown by many learners but little analysis of work-related issues was shown. The work-related issues can be considered from any relevant viewpoint: this may be the effect on employers (e.g. the army when considering suicide in young men), the affected group themselves, workers within that group (e.g. counsellors working with young men, issues for primary teachers when considering childhood poverty).

Assessment Objective 4

Description of government strategies was seen in nearly all cases but the attempts at evaluating the strategies was generally very poor. A lot of descriptive information was seen, and many students had poorly referenced information they had sourced on the internet, they need to be encouraged to reference all such information.

Grade Boundaries

Internally assessed units

6948: Social Issues and Welfare Needs

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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