

Examiners' Report/  
Principal Examiner Feedback

January 2012

Principal Learning  
CB204 Create the Built  
Environment: Structures

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## **Level 2 Unit 4 Create the Built Environment: Structures**

### **General Comments**

The question paper was again ramped with the latter half of the paper having an increased number of answers and some evaluative questions and a comparison question. The latter part of the paper is designed to challenge the A\* candidate.

Candidates found identifying basic small and medium sized plant items difficult, especially with the terminology associated with the plant items name for example "backactor".

The identification of the basic types of structures was answered well by many candidates. Again prefabrication formed a large part of some questions and candidates averaged well on this aspect.

Candidates found the identification of the component parts of a cavity wall opening above a window difficult and struggled to name a "reveal". The quantity surveyor question 7 did not fare well with candidates obviously not taught the contents of a bill of quantities, and many gained marks by a random guess.

On the whole candidates performed well with the external assessment gaining marks from a variety of questions. There were no grade A\* candidates in this series.

Question 11 saw the introduction of one of the unit specification areas of software use for design and planning. Again candidates did not appear to have had this aspect covered within their delivery.

### **Q12**

This question covers the methods used to reduce the impact of site practices upon the natural environment. Candidates managed to name at least one item that would reduce impacts from the site, but many lost marks by identification only with very little description.

### **Q13**

Candidates had to evaluate two methods of external cladding, brickwork and curtain walling and state three advantages of a curtain walling over brick cladding

Unfortunately many candidates interpreted this question as the application of curtain walling directly over the brickwork. The decision was taken to award marks if this did provide an acceptable answer to be fair to all candidates.

## **Grade Boundaries**

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