

Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Land-Based Engineering (0171-018/0171-518)

Part of 0171-38

November 2017 Version 1.0

Guide to the examination

Who is this document for?

This document has been produced for centres who offer **City & Guilds** Level 3 Advanced Technical Extended Diploma in Land-Based Engineering. It gives all of the essential details of the qualification's external assessment (exam) arrangements and has been produced to support the preparation of candidates to take the exam/s.

The document comprises four sections:

1. **Details of the exam.** This section gives details of the structure, length and timing of the exam.
2. **Content assessed by the exam.** This section gives a summary of the content that will be covered in each exam and information of how marks are allocated to the content.
3. **Guidance.** This section gives guidance on the language of the exam, the types of questions included and examples of these, and links to further resources to support teaching and exam preparation.
4. **Further information.** This section lists other sources of information about this qualification and City & Guilds Technical Qualifications.

1. Details of the exam

External assessment

City & Guilds Technical qualifications have been developed to meet national policy changes designed to raise the rigour and robustness of vocational qualifications. These changes are being made to ensure our qualifications can meet the needs of employers and Higher Education. One of these changes is for the qualifications to have an increased emphasis on external assessment. This is why you will see an external exam in each of our Technical qualifications.

An external assessment is an assessment that is set and/or marked by the awarding organisation (ie externally). All City and Guilds Technical qualifications include an externally set and marked exam. This must be taken at the same time by all candidates who are registered on a particular qualification. We produce an exam timetable each year. This specifies the date and time of the exam so you can plan your delivery, revision and room bookings/PC allocation in plenty of time.

The purpose of this exam is to provide assurance that all candidates achieving the qualification have gained sufficient knowledge and understanding from their programme of study and that they can independently recall and draw their knowledge and understanding together in an integrated way. Whilst this may not be new to you, it is essential that your learners are well prepared and that they have time to revise, reflect and prepare for these exams. We have produced a Teaching, Learning, and Assessment guide that is you should refer to alongside the present document ([Teaching, Learning and Assessment Guide](#)). If a learner does not pass the exam at their first attempt, there is only one opportunity to resit the exam, so preparation is essential.

Exam requirements of this qualification

- **Level 3 Land based Engineering** – Theory exam (2) (2 hours).

The exam is graded and a candidate must achieve at least a Pass grade in order to be awarded the qualification. (In addition to the exam, a synoptic assignment must also be completed and passed). You can find full details of the synoptic assignment in the *Qualification Handbook* and the *Synoptic Assessment Guide* – please see the link to the qualification page at the end of this document.

When does the exam take place?

The exam is offered on two fixed dates in March or June. The exact dates will be published at the start of the academic year in the *Assessments and Exam Timetable* <http://www.cityandguilds.com/delivering-our-qualifications/exams-and-admin>.

At the start of the programme of study, in order to effectively plan teaching and exam preparation, centres should know when the exam will be taking place and allocate teaching time accordingly. Section 2 of this document gives a summary of the content that needs to be covered in order to prepare learners for the exam and full details of this are given in the *Qualification Handbook*.

Form of exam

The exam for this qualification can be taken either on paper (0171-518) or online (0171-018).

Can candidates resit the exam?

Candidates may resit the exam once only. If a candidate fails the exam both on the first attempt and when resitting it, that candidate has failed the qualification and cannot achieve it in that academic year.

How the exam is structured

Each exam has a total of 60 marks available and is made up of:

- approximately 10-12 short answer questions;
- 1 extended response question.

Multiple choice and short answer questions are used to confirm **breadth of knowledge and understanding**.

The extended response question is to allow candidates to demonstrate **higher level and integrated understanding** through written discussion, analysis and evaluation. This question also ensures the exam can differentiate between those learners who are 'just able' and those who are higher achieving.

More details about and examples of question types are given in Section 3 of this document.

Assessment Objectives

The exams are based on the following set of assessment objectives (AOs). These are designed to allow the candidate's responses to be assessed across the following three categories of performance:

- **Recollection** of knowledge.
- **Understanding** of concepts, theories and processes.
- **Integrated application** of knowledge and understanding.

In full, the assessment objectives covered by the exam for this qualification are:

Assessment objective	Mark allocation (approx %)
<i>The candidate..</i>	
AO1 Recalls knowledge from across the breadth of the qualification	20%
AO2 Demonstrates understanding of concepts, theories and processes from a range of learning outcomes.	60%
AO4 Applies knowledge, understanding and skills from across the breadth of the qualification in an integrated and holistic way to achieve specified purposes.	20%

Booking and taking the exam

All assessments for City & Guilds Technical Exams must be booked through Walled Garden. There is a deadline for booking exams, synoptic assessments and any other centre marked assessments, please refer to the time line to check these dates.

The exam must be taken under the supervision of an invigilator who is responsible for ensuring that it is conducted under controlled conditions. Full details of the conditions under which the exam

must be taken can be found in the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) document, [Instructions for Conducting Examinations \(ICE\)](#).

Special consideration

Candidates who are unable to sit the exam owing to temporary injury, illness or other indisposition at the scheduled time may qualify for special consideration. This is a post-examination adjustment that can, in certain circumstances, be made to a candidate's final grade. The Joint Council for Qualifications' guide to the special consideration process can be found at www.jcq.org.uk.

To make a request for special consideration, please contact: policy@cityandguilds.com

Access arrangements

Access arrangements are arrangements that allow candidates with particular requirements, disabilities or temporary illness to take assessments, where appropriate, using their normal way of working. The Joint Council for Qualifications document, *Access Arrangements and Reasonable Adjustments* gives full details and can be downloaded [here](#).

For further information and to apply for access arrangements please see:

[Access arrangements - When and how applications need to be made to City & Guilds](#)

[Applying for access arrangements on the Walled Garden](#)

2. Content assessed by the exam

The exam assesses:

- **Unit 358: Repair Land-based Mechanical Power Transmission Systems**
- **Unit 359: Repair Land-based Synchromesh Transmissions and Clutches**
- **Unit 360: Repair Land-based Powershift Transmissions**
- **Unit 361: Repair Land-based Hydrostatic or Hydro-Mechanical (CVT) Transmissions**

Each exam assesses a sample of the content of these units. This means that a single exam will **not** cover 100% of the unit content. The full range of content will be assessed over a number of examination series. Details of the coverage of a particular exam paper will **not** be released in advance of the exam itself. Centres should **not** make assumptions about what will be assessed by a particular exam based on what has been covered on previous occasions. In order to be fully prepared for the exam, learners **must** be ready to answer questions on **any** of the content outlined below.

The table below provides an overview of how the qualification's Learning Outcomes are covered by each exam and the number of **marks** available per Learning Outcome (ie **not** the number of *questions* per Learning Outcome). In preparing candidates for the exam, we recommend that centres take note of the number of marks allocated to Learning Outcomes and to assign teaching and preparation time accordingly.

In preparing candidates for the exam, centres should refer to the Qualification Handbook which gives full details of each Learning Outcome.

The following is a summary of only that qualification content which is assessed by the exam and **not** a summary of the full content of the qualification.

Unit	Learning outcome	Topics	Number of marks
358 Repair Land-based Mechanical Power Transmission Systems	LO1 Understand land-based mechanical power transmission systems	1.1 The function and working principles of land-based mechanical power transmission systems. 1.2 Land-based mechanical power transmission system failure and trouble-shooting.	15
359 Repair Land-based Synchromesh Transmissions and Clutches	LO1 Understand land-based synchromesh transmissions and clutches	1.1 The function and working principles of land-based synchromesh transmissions. 1.2 The function and working principles of land-based clutches.	15

360 Repair Land-based Powershift Transmissions	LO1 Understand land-based powershift transmissions	1.1 The function and working principles of land-based powershift transmissions.	18
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361 Repair Land-based Hydrostatic or Hydro-Mechanical (CVT) Transmissions	LO1 Understand land-based hydrostatic and hydro-mechanical (CVT) transmissions	1.1 The function and working principles of land-based hydrostatic transmissions. 1.2 The function and working principles of land-based hydro-mechanical (CVT) transmissions.	
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Total marks for sections:			48 marks
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Integration across units*:			12 marks
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Total marks for exam: 60 Marks		
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* *Integration across units.* These marks relate to Assessment Objective 4). These marks are awarded to differentiate between levels of performance by candidates taking the exam. The marks are given for how well a candidate has applied their knowledge, understanding and skills from across the units that make up the qualification in an integrated way to meet the requirements of the exam questions.

3. Guidance

Vocabulary of the exam: use of 'command' verbs

The exam questions are written using 'command' verbs. These are used to communicate to the candidate the type of answer required. Candidates should be familiarised with these as part of their exam preparation.

The following guidance has been produced on the main command verbs used in City & Guilds Technicals exams.

A more detailed version of this table, which also includes the command verbs used in the assignments is published in *City & Guilds Technical Qualifications Teaching, Learning and Assessment* guide.

Command verb	Explanation and guidance
Analyse	Study or examine a complex issue, subject, event, etc in detail to explain and interpret, elements, causes, characteristics etc
Calculate	Work out the answer to a problem using mathematical operations
Compare (...and contrast) (or describe the similarities/differences)	Consider and describe the similarities (and differences) between two or more features, systems, ideas, etc
Define	Give the meaning of, technical vocabulary, terms, etc.
Describe	Give a detailed written account of a system, feature, etc (..the effect of...on...) the impact, change that has resulted from a cause, event, etc (..the process..) give the steps, stages, etc
Differentiate between	Establish and relate the characteristic differences between two or more things, concepts, etc
Discuss	Talk/write about a topic in detail, considering the different issues, ideas, opinions related to it
Distinguish between	Recognise and describe the characteristic differences between two things, or make one thing seem different from another
Evaluate	Analyse and describe the success, quality, benefits, value, etc (of an end product, outcome, etc)
Explain	Make (a situation, idea, process, etc) clear or easier to understand by giving details, (..how..) Give the stages or steps, etc in a process, including relationships, connections, etc between these and causes and effects.

Give example(s) illustrate/	Use examples or images to support, clarify or demonstrate, an explanation, argument, theory, etc
Give a rationale	Provide a reason/reasons/basis for actions, decisions, beliefs, etc
Identify	Recognise a feature, usually from a document, image, etc and state what it is
Justify	Give reasons for, make a case for, account for, etc decisions, actions, conclusions, etc, in order to demonstrate why they suitable for or correct or meet the particular circumstances, context
Label	Add names or descriptions, indicating their positions, on an image, drawing, diagram, etc
List	Give as many answers, examples, etc as the question indicates (candidates are not required to write in full sentences)
Name	Give the (technical) name of something
Propose	Present a plan, strategy, etc (for consideration, discussion, acceptance, action, etc).
Select	choose the best, most suitable, etc, by making careful decisions
State	Give the answer, clearly and definitely
Summarise	Give a brief statement of the main points (of something)

Question types

The following explains, and gives examples of, types of questions used in City & Guilds Technical exams. In preparing candidates to take the exam, it is recommended that you familiarise them with the requirements of each question type so that they can be effective and make best use of the time available when sitting the exam.

- An effective candidate will gauge the type and length of response required from the question and the number of marks available (which is given for each question on the exam paper).
- Short answer questions may not require candidates to write in complete sentences. Extended response questions will require a more developed response.
- Candidates should read the exam paper before attempting to answer the questions and should allocate time proportionate to the number of marks available for each question or section.

Question type:

Example question:

Short answer questions (restricted response)

These are questions which require candidates to give a brief and concise written response. The number of marks available will correspond to the

number of pieces of information/examples and the length of response required by the question.

Structured Response Questions

These are questions that have more than one part (eg a, b), etc.). The overall question is made up of linked, short answer questions which move the candidate through the topic in a structured way. For example, the question will usually start with a 'recall'/'state'/'describe' question followed by an 'explain' to draw out understanding of the topic. They usually have a shared introductory 'stem', and the number of marks may increase through the question.

Extended response questions

Extended response questions are those that require the candidate to write a longer written response using sentences and paragraphs. These usually require candidates to discuss, explain, etc. a topic in some detail. The question is often based on a short case study, scenario or other prompt. The level of detail should be gauged from the question and the number of marks available.

A combine harvester with a hydrostatic transmission system has lost drive in forward and reverse. Discuss the preparation stages, resources and steps required to carry out a full diagnostic assessment.
(12 marks)

Indicative content

1 mark for each of the following up to 12 marks:

- Discuss symptoms of the fault with the operator
- Operate the combine harvester
- Check hydraulic oil level
- Change/check hydraulic oil filters
- Check for error codes
- Check electrical solenoids for correct operation
- Check technical documentation and schematic diagrams
- Check pressure testing equipment for correct calibration
- Conduct charge system pressure test
- Conduct hydraulic pressure test for forward and reverse
- Conduct flow test of the hydrostatic pump
- Check flow through the hydrostatic motor.

Band 1 (1-4 marks)

The candidate has failed to propose many of the appropriate preparation, resources and steps required. The candidate has provided minimal rationale as to why they have proposed any preparation, resources and steps required. The candidate's response may have frequently strayed from focusing on the relevant transmission system and components. The candidate will not have suggested any expected outcomes of their proposed diagnostic steps.

Example answer:

I would start by speaking to the customer about the faults. I would then check the hydraulic oil level as a lack of oil would cause a loss of drive. If the oil level is correct, I would then conduct a pressure test of the system to see if it matches the manufactures specification. If the pressure was too low then the machine wouldn't drive. If the pressure was ok, I would replace the hydraulic oil filters to see if that helped. Lastly, I would test the hydraulic pump and if it wasn't working correctly I would replace it and send the old one away under warranty.

Band 2 (5-8) marks)

The candidate has proposed some appropriate preparation, resources and steps required, in a mostly workable sequence. The candidate has occasionally provided reasons why they have proposed the preparation, resources and steps required. The candidate has largely focused on the relevant transmission systems and components, but may have strayed into discussing irrelevant components. The candidate is unlikely to have suggested expected outcomes of their proposed diagnostic steps.

Example answer:

Firstly, I would speak to the customer and verify the fault by testing the machine. I would then check the hydraulic oil for correct level and any contamination. High levels of contamination could cause component damage/wear or blockage in the hydraulic system. I would then connect the diagnostic tool and check for error codes. I would check to see if any of the error codes linked to the drive fault in the machine. I would then conduct a pressure test in both forward and reverse comparing against manufacturers specification. This either could

indicate worn components or incorrectly adjusted pressure relief valves. If the pressure was incorrect, I would try adjusting the pressure relief valves in accordance with manufacturer's specification. Lastly, I would conduct a flow test of the hydrostatic pump, checking against manufacturer's specification for correct operation.

Band 3 (9-12 marks)

The candidate has proposed a broad range of appropriate preparation, resources and steps required, and in a logical sequence. The candidate has provided clear reasons why they have proposed the preparation, resources and steps required. The candidate has remained focused on the relevant transmission systems and components. The candidate has (where applicable) suggested expected outcomes of their proposed diagnostic steps.

Example answer:

Firstly, I would discuss the fault with the customer prior to conducting the work. Before arriving at the job, I would ensure that I have all the necessary tools and equipment to conduct this type of task. This could include, service manuals, correct specification of hydraulic oil, spill pads and rags, correct PPE, hydraulic pressure and flow testing equipment that is within calibration, multimeter that again is within calibration, new hydraulic filters and appropriate diagnostic tool with correct level of software. On arrival, I would verify the fault by testing the machine. Once tested I would conduct a thorough visual inspection of all components within the hydrostatic drive system, looking for any leaks and signs of damage or wear. I would then check the hydraulic oil for correct level and any contamination, which could indicate component failure/wear. Due to the low cost of the filters, I would replace them and operate the machine to verify the fault is still present. Using the appropriate diagnostic tool, I would check for error codes. If error codes were present, I would make a note of them and clear them to see if any come back. Any reappearing error codes could be linked to the fault and provide clues to the cause. Using a multimeter, I would check all solenoid valves for correct operation. Moving forward I would conduct a

pressure test both in forward, reverse and of the charge system. If the pressure was incorrect, I would try adjusting the pressure relief valves in accordance with manufacturer's specification and then retest the machine. Lastly, I would conduct a flow test of the hydrostatic pump and motor, checking against manufacturer's specification. Excessively worn pumps or motors could cause a complete loss of drive.

Examination technique

Candidates with a good understanding of the subject being assessed can often lose marks in exams because they lack experience or confidence in exams or awareness of how to maximise the time available to get the most out of the exam. Here is some suggested guidance for areas that could be covered in advance to help learners improve exam performance.

Before the exam

Although candidates cannot plan the answers they will give in advance, exams for Technical qualifications do follow a common structure and format. In advance of taking the exam, candidates should:

- be familiar with the structure of the exam (ie number and type of questions).
- be aware of the amount of time they have in total to complete the exam.
- have a plan, based on the exam start and finish time for how long to spend on each question/section of the exam.
- be aware of how many marks are available for each question, how much they should expect to write for each question and allow most time for those questions which have the most marks available.

At the start of the exam session

At the start of the exam, candidates:

- should carefully read through the instructions before answering any questions.
- may find it helpful, where possible, to mark or highlight key information such as command words and number of marks available on the question paper.
- identify questions which require an extended written answer and those questions where all or part of the question may be answered by giving bullets, lists etc rather than full sentences.

Answering the questions

Candidates do not have to answer exam questions in any particular order. They may find it helpful to consider, for example:

- tackling first those questions which they find easiest. This should help them get into the 'flow' of the exam and help confidence by building up marks quickly and at the start of the exam.
 - tackling the extended answer question at an early stage of the exam to make sure they spend sufficient time on it and do not run out of time at the end of the exam.
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Candidates should avoid wasting time by repeating the question either in full or in part in their answer.

Candidates should **always** attempt every question, even questions where they may be less confident about the answer they are giving. Candidates should be discouraged however, from spending too long on any answer they are less sure about and providing answers that are longer and give more detail than should be necessary in the hope of picking up marks. This may mean they have less time to answer questions that they are better prepared to answer.

Extended answer questions

Before writing out in full their answer to extended questions, candidates may find it helpful to identify the key requirements of the question and jot down a brief plan or outline of how they will answer it. This will help clarify their thinking and make sure that they don't get 'bogged down' or provide too much detail for one part of the question at the expense of others.

Towards the end of the exam

Candidates should always set aside time at the end of the exam to read back through and review what they have written in order to make sure this is legible, makes sense and answers the question in full.

If a candidate finds they are running out of time to finish an answer towards the end of the exam, they should attempt to complete the answer in abbreviated or note form. Provided the content is clear and relevant, examiners will consider such answers and award marks where merited.

Further guidance on preparing candidates to take the exam is given in the City & Guilds publication, [Technical Qualifications, Teaching, Learning and Assessment](#) which can be downloaded free of charge from City & Guilds website.

4. Further information

For further information to support delivery and exam preparation for this qualification, centres should see:

City & Guilds

Qualification homepage: <http://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeships/land-based-services/agriculture/0171-technical-in-agriculture-and-landbased-engineering#tab=information> which includes:

- Qualification handbook
- Synoptic Assignment
- Sample assessments

Technical Qualifications, Resources and Support: cityandguilds.com/techbac/technical-qualifications/resources-and-support

Joint Council for Qualifications

Instructions for Conducting Examinations: www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/jcq---instructions-for-conducting-examinations