
Synoptic Practical Examination Criteria

iHB3D13 – VTCT (ITEC) Level 3 Diploma in Barbering
603/6589/4

Synoptic practical examination criteria

Learners must complete a synoptic practical examination as part of the Level 3 Diploma in Barbering qualification. The practical examination will be externally set by the VTCT (iTEC) and examined and marked by an External Examiner. Learners will be expected to demonstrate effective hygiene and client care throughout the services as well as competence in their relevant skills.

Client requirements

Centres must identify suitable clients for the examination. Centres may ask learners to identify suitable clients. Clients must meet all the following requirements:

- be 16 years or over
- be willing to have a minimum of 1-3cm of hair removed
- Have sufficient facial hair growth for the shaving service
- be willing to accept a visible change in the hair style, facial hair and finish
- not have hairdressing knowledge or experience
- provide consent to participate

It is the responsibility of the centre and learner to work collaboratively to ensure a suitable client is provided for the examination purposes.

Learners will be expected to perform the following barbering services for the synoptic practical examination:

- **Barbering client consultation services**
 - Perform consultations for the barbering services
- **Cut hair using on trend barbering techniques**
 - Perform an emerging haircut
- **Dry and finish men's hair**
 - Perform drying and finishing of the hair
- **Shaving services**
 - Perform a full shaving service
- **Facial massage services**
 - Perform a facial massage service
- **Time allocation**
 - The time allocated for this synoptic practical examination is a **maximum of two hours**

Practical examination grade

All sections of the Examiner's Assessment Form must be demonstrated by the learner. Failure to demonstrate any section of the Examiner's Assessment Form will result in non-achievement of the synoptic practical examination. The synoptic practical examination will be graded:

- Pass 60% - 74%
- Merit 75% - 89%
- Distinction 90% - 100%

Marking criteria for Level 3 Diploma in Barbering

*In order to achieve a minimum of a pass grade, learners must achieve a minimum of 3 marks from each of the first 3 sections.

***Appearance – 5 marks (1 mark each)**

The learner demonstrated:

1. Clean, ironed professional wear with no visible underwear and fully enclosed shoes worn
2. Clean, neat, styled hair
3. Clean, maintained hands and nails
4. Appropriate personal protective clothing throughout the service
5. Professionalism by not chewing gum, no sucking of sweets and no body or breath odour

***Client care – 5 marks (1 mark each)**

The learner:

1. Greeted and introduced self to client and assisted the client to the barber's chair/work station
2. Explained the service procedure thoroughly to the client
3. Ensured correct positioning of the client, protected the client's clothing and skin appropriately and checked the client's comfort throughout the service
4. Maintained a positive and professional approach to the client throughout the service
5. Ensured ergonomic working practices of self throughout the service

***Hygiene and sterilisation – 5 marks (1 mark each)**

The learner:

1. Wiped equipment and work area over with appropriate sanitiser before and after use
2. Sanitised hands before, during and after service as appropriate
3. Used clean towels and gowns throughout the service
4. Ensured that lids were replaced on products and disposed of general waste hygienically and appropriately
5. Maintained own work area and equipment, used and stored equipment appropriately

Barbering client consultation services – 10 marks (2 marks each)

The learner:

1. Used a variety of consultation techniques to identify the client's needs and expectations for the services
2. Conducted the appropriate consultation tests to analyse the client's hair
3. Checked the skin and scalp for any contra-indications to the services
4. Identified any influencing factors that could limit or affect the services
5. Advised clients, agreed services and products and provided aftercare advice and recommendations to the client

Cut hair using on trend barbering techniques – 25 marks (5 marks each)

The learner:

1. Selected the correct tools and equipment to create the agreed desired look
2. Applied the appropriate cutting techniques safely which were suitable for the client's hair classification type, hair's condition and the agreed desired look
3. Applied an even degree of tension to the hair and maintained even moisture in the hair throughout the cutting service
4. Performed the haircut using the appropriate cutting angles and sectioning patterns for the agreed desired look and worked in a methodical manner
5. Performed cross-checking methods to ensure an even balance of the haircut

Dry and finish men's hair – 10 marks (2 marks each)

The learner:

1. Selected and used appropriate styling and finishing products in accordance to hair classification type, hair's condition and agreed desired finished look
2. Selected the correct tools and equipment to create the agreed desired look
3. Applied accurate and appropriate techniques throughout the drying and finishing service
4. Ensured the correct use of styling equipment and applied effective control of the client's hair during the drying and finishing process
5. Confirmed the finished look is balanced and meets the agreed desired effect

Shaving services – 25 marks (5 marks each)

The learner:

1. Selected the correct products, tools and equipment to create the agreed desired look
2. Applied the appropriate shaving techniques safely which were suitable for the client's facial hair classification type and skin
3. Applied an even degree of tension of the skin whilst shaving the facial hair
4. Performed the shaving service using the appropriate angles and worked in a methodical manner
5. Performed cross-checking methods to ensure an even finish of the shaving service

Facial massage services – 15 marks (3 marks each)

The learner:

1. Selected the correct products and equipment to create the agreed desired look
2. Applied the appropriate massage products safely which were suitable for the client's skin
3. Performed the facial massage service using the correct massage techniques
4. Applied an even degree of pressure whilst performing the facial massage service
5. Performed checks of the client's skin to ensure residue product removal and applied cleanser and toner as appropriate

Document History

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