

CTSI Qualifications Framework (QF) written examination

Unit 4: Product Safety

May 2025

Guidance for this examination

Please ensure that you indicate, by ticking (✓) the relevant box on the front of your examination booklet, the law viewpoint from which you will be answering: English, Scottish or Welsh.

The examiners may expect candidates to show knowledge of legislation which is in place but not in force (i.e. has been enacted) and regulations which have been made but are not yet in force, if they are directly relevant to the subject-matter of the examination.

Examination structure

There are two sections to the examination paper:

Section A Consists of six questions.
Candidates should attempt to answer four questions.
Total allocation of marks is 40 marks.
Suggested time allocation is 30 minutes.

Section B Consists of four questions.
Candidates should attempt to answer two questions.
Total allocation of marks is 60 marks.
Suggested time allocation is 60 minutes.

Total time allowed – 1 hour 30 minutes (plus ten minutes' reading time).

Note:

The Product Safety paper is a **closed book**; no materials are permitted to be taken into the examination room.

*The examination paper has **four** pages, including this front sheet.*

Exam: Unit 4: Product Safety

Exam cycle: May 2025

Date: Thursday 8 May 2025

Reading time: 10 minutes

Time: 10:00 – 11:30

Max: 100 marks

Section A

Candidates should attempt to answer four questions.

Each question carries ten marks.

Total: 40 marks.

1. Explain, using examples, why traceability is important in product safety. (10 marks)
2. Explain, using examples, what is meant by the precautionary principle and how it is applied. (10 marks)
3. Explain, using examples, the difference between operating instructions and product warnings, for a battery-powered garden strimmer. (10 marks)
4. Explain, using examples, the difference in the legal obligations between a producer and a distributor under the General Product Safety Regulations 2005. (10 marks)
5. Explain the two methods of conformity assessment for a toy. (10 marks)
6. How would face paints, given away on the front of a children's comic, be regulated? Explain your answer. (10 marks)

Section A total of 40 marks.

End of Section A.

Section B
Candidates should attempt to answer two questions.
Each question carries 30 marks.
Total: 60 marks.

7. Answer both parts of the question.

- (a) How are product hazards addressed in the regulatory framework?

Outline the process undertaken by trading standards officers to identify and quantify product hazard. Illustrate this by providing examples.

(20 marks)

- (b) How is risk quantified and, if deemed to be intolerable, how is it managed?

(10 marks)

(Total: 30 marks)

8. Answer both parts of the question.

- (a) Outline the process of requesting evidence of conformity assessment (technical documentation) for a CE marked mains-powered electrical product and explain what adequate evidence of conformity assessment would look like for this product.

(20 marks)

- (b) What steps would you take if you felt that the evidence of conformity was inadequate?

(10 marks)

(Total: 30 marks)

9. You receive information from another trading standards department that a local business is selling face coverings online which claim to protect the user against 'all known viruses.'

Outline the legal framework for such a product, and what you expect the business to be able to provide to substantiate such a claim.

(30 marks)

Section B continues over the page.

10. Answer both parts of the question.

- (a) Explain, giving examples, the roles of 'manufacturer', 'importer', 'authorised representative' and 'distributor' under regulations aligned with the new legislative framework.
(15 marks)
- (b) Briefly outline the obligations of each of these roles in relation to a gas-fired barbeque.
(15 marks)
(Total: 30 marks)

Section B total of 60 marks.

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER.