

Examiner's Report

Qualifications Framework

Stage 2: Unit 4 Product Safety Examiner Report May 2025

Written Examiner's Report May 2025

General

A total of twelve candidates sat the examination during this round, and marks were slightly higher than previous cohorts, ranging from 31% to 82%.

Some candidates were still missing basic knowledge of product safety, or appropriate application of what they did know, but generally the standard was very good, with several candidates demonstrating an excellent grasp of what is a complex area of law and practice.

Part A

Q1 Answered by 11 candidates

Candidates scored between 4 and 8 marks out of out of 10. Marks were missed for not mentioning product identity and how this relates to conformity assessment documentation. Overall answers were generally adequate.

Q2 Answered by 4 candidates

Candidates scored between 2 and 6 marks out of 10. This question was unfortunately misunderstood by all nearly those who answered it. The precautionary principle relates to serious risk where there is uncertainty over either the probability or severity of risk, but there is potential for it to be serious in nature and precautionary action despite the uncertainty. Consideration must be given to the potential for harm if no action is taken.

Q3 Answered by one candidate only

The candidate who answered this scored 5 marks out of 10. This question was answered adequately although more marks could have been obtained by highlighting that instructions may be in a product booklet whereas warnings would be expected to be on the product itself.

Q4 Answered by 11 candidates

Candidates scored between 4 and 10 marks out of 10. Generally, this question was answered well, although some candidates got confused between producer under the GPSR and manufacturer/importer under the NLF. There is no conformity assessment process for businesses who make products which are solely under this legal framework.

Q5 Answered by all candidates

Candidates scored between 3 and 8 marks out of 10. The question was generally well answered, although some candidates missed the point that this question required discussion of module A when using the harmonised/designated standard and module B plus C where this standard had not been applied at the design stage but also if the product could not be designed to comply with it.

Q6 Answered by 7 candidates

Candidates scored between 3 and 8 marks out of 10. The question was generally well answered, with good discussions of both the Toys (Safety) Regulations, and the Cosmetics Products Regulation, although this latter provision was missed by several candidates, as was the difference in the means by which the product is regulated, through pre-market rather than post-market controls.

PART B**Q7 Answered by 3 candidates**

Candidates scored between 7 and 17 marks out of 30. The question was generally adequately answered, but candidates must remember to answer both parts of the question.

Q8 Answered by 11 candidates

Candidates scored between 8 and 22 marks out of 30. There were some very comprehensive answers to this question, with good discussions about what evidence of conformity looks like and the actions which may be taken if it is inadequate. Unfortunately, there were also some very general answers which did not address the specifics of the question.

Q9 Answered by 2 candidates

Candidates scored between 11 and 19 marks out of 30. There were some good discussions of the PPE regulation but unfortunately both candidates incorrectly decided that this was cat III PPE, and although there could be an argument made that viruses could fall under the heading of biological agents in some circumstances this argument wasn't made, and so such a product would generally be considered as cat II. Conformity assessment was discussed but could have been expanded on in both cases for more marks.

Q10 Answered by 8 candidates

Candidates scored between 9 and 27 marks out of 30. There were some truly excellent answers to this question but also some poor ones indicating a lack of understanding of basic concepts in product safety legislation. Some candidates did not read the first part of the question fully. It did not ask for the responsibilities of the various EO's but instead a definition of their role, with examples.