

Moderators' Report/
Principal Moderator Feedback

January 2012

GCE Leisure Studies (6969)
Paper 01

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General Comments

There was a relatively small sample put forward for moderation in January 2012. All the activities chosen were suitable for the course and had been chosen carefully, given the small class sizes. The standard of work showed a marked improvement on previous years' entries, particularly with the work deemed by the assessors to have met mark band 3. Centre assessment and annotation was generally accurate, but centres are again to be reminded of the importance of internal standardisation and in making reference back to past advice in the form of moderators' reports.

AO1: The Plan of the Event.

This series on the whole failed to produce many detailed plans. Most candidates had included all the aspects of a plan as required in the specifications, but failed to elaborate. This produced outlines of what was to happen, and could not be reasonably adopted by another party as a workable document. The most common omission was that of a timeline or of a contingency plan. Candidates do need to show comprehensive planning by including all aspects shown in the specifications. All candidates had produced good risk assessments which showed understanding of potential hazards and how to deal with them. Centres are encouraged to monitor what candidates are including in the plan as they go along. It was clear that candidates achieving higher marks had been given some teacher input on the practices involved in planning. Once again, too many of the plans were similar in presentation to ones submitted by peers and gave a view that the plans were undertaken as a group with minor alterations for individual submission.

AO2: Individual contributions.

This was demonstrated to a high level by most candidates. Centres where candidates achieved higher marks had clearly encouraged the use of a diary or of regularly kept logs. These were usually supported by minutes of meetings (which should identify individual contribution) and by witness testimonies from the assessor. It is important for this to state what the individual role was and how the candidate contributed, rather than a sweeping statement or mass produced feedback sheet. An accurate assessor's statement should leave the moderator in no doubt as to the amount of work inputted by the candidate during planning, and carrying the activity out.

AO3: Research and Feasibility of the Event.

There was a vast improvement for this part of the unit. All the centres entered for this series had encouraged their candidates to present findings as a PowerPoint presentation, either collectively as a group, or individually. These talks came as a result of initial discussions which were clearly documented, and from describing ideas that had been flagged up, together with reasons for their rejection. The research and studying of previous ideas from former cohorts was still not being considered. Also, it is important to document the decision making process, which many candidates had taken on board whilst brainstorming ideas. There appeared to be a lot of research carried out amongst target groups and in deciding the nature of the activity. This is to be encouraged but not to the extent that it takes over the entire feasibility study. It is good that this particular Assessment objective is now being undertaken as the first task of the assignment; however some candidates continue to confuse the feasibility study with the planning.

A bibliography, although not essential, is very helpful.

AO4: Evaluation of the Event.

There continues to be a common trend by candidates to evaluate the activity as opposed to the individual role played, or the teamwork shown. There were not the copious pages of past years, where candidates include questionnaires and surveys about how successful the day has, or has not, been. A greater number of candidates achieved mark band 3 as it was clear as to what, why and how the candidate undertook their role, together with identifying how team members and teamwork contributed to the activity's success. This considered both the product or activity, and the process leading up to the actual event/activity.

Recommendations for improvements were also documented properly; however some candidates were prevented from moving through the mark bands owing to a lack of explanation to the improvement, or why it was necessary.

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