



Assesor Guide
ACMINF201

Handle companion animals safely and follow infection control guidelines

Assessment 1 of 1

Short answer question



Assessment Instructions

Task overview

This assessment task is divided into 10 short answer questions. Read each question carefully before typing your response in the space provided.

This unit of competency consists of 1 knowledge assessment completed in this module, in addition to the Structured Workplace Learning and Assessment (SWLA) completed in Module 7.

You must complete both sets of assessments related to this unit to be deemed competent.

Assessment Information

Submission

You are entitled to three (3) attempts to complete this assessment satisfactorily. Incomplete assessments will not be marked and will count as one of your three attempts.

All questions must be responded to correctly to be assessed as satisfactory for this assessment.

Answers must be typed into the space provided and submitted electronically via the LMS. Hand-written assessments will not be accepted unless previously arranged with your assessor.

Reasonable adjustment

Students may request a reasonable adjustment for assessment tasks.

Reasonable adjustment usually involves varying:

- the processes for conducting the assessment (e.g. allowing additional time)
- the evidence gathering techniques (e.g. oral rather than written questioning, use of a scribe, modifications to equipment)

However, the evidence collected must allow the student to demonstrate all requirements of the unit.

Refer to the Student Handbook or contact your Trainer for further information.



Please consider the environment before printing this assessment.

Question 1

What behaviour or body language should you look for when you approach an animal for handling?

(Approximate word count: 50 words)

Assessor instructions: Students must demonstrate knowledge of animal behaviour and body language.

The candidate answer must reflect the exemplar.

When approaching an animal for handling you need to look out for the behaviours and body language that indicate the animal's temperament and help identify how the animal should be handled.

Behaviour and body language to look out for include:

- Aggressive behaviours (snarling, biting, lunging, scratching, barking, hissing etc.) ·
- Frightened behaviours (hiding, jumping up on owner, trying to get away, trembling etc.) ·
- Indications of pain or injury which may include hunching over, lameness or favouring of a limb. ·
- Excitable (licking, jumping, barking etc.)

Question 2

Describe the behaviour and body language a companion dog would depict if they were:

- Aggressive
- Distressed
- Relaxed

(Approximate word count: 20 words)

Assessor instructions: students must demonstrate a basic understanding of each behaviour and the body language that would be demonstrated.

The candidate answer must include at least two examples of body language/ behaviour for each.

	Body language/behaviour of an animal
Aggressive	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Snarling• Biting• Lunging• Barking
Distressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hiding• Jumping up at the owner (If they are not in a cage)• Shying away• Trembling• Whimpering or vocalising• Guarding

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide eyes • Flat ears
Relaxed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleeping • Excited • Showing interest with surroundings such as interacting with people • Relaxed muscles • Wagging tail

Question 3

Describe how you implement the key principles of biosecurity and infection control for animals in the workplace.

(Approximate word count: 20 words per principle)

Assessor instructions: Students must identify how they would follow the key principles of biosecurity and infection control for animals. Sample answers have been provided.

The candidate answer must reflect the exemplar.

Key principles of biosecurity and infection control	How you implement these in the workplace
Prevent the spread of disease and limit contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) • Isolate infected or suspected infected animals • Correct disposal of waste • Use of disinfectant at correct dilution and contact time • Signage and communication with other staff • Limit movement of animals between cages
Personal hygiene and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear PPE • Vaccinations • Personal hygiene such as changing uniforms when soiled, tying hair back, correct shoes, washing hands, and showering daily.
Disinfecting and sanitising of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate disinfection dilution and contact time used • Disinfect all equipment after use
Cleaning animal housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use PPE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct disposal of waste • Use of appropriate disinfectants. Including the correct dilution and contact time
Limit movement of infectious animals and environmental contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation of infected animals • Limiting the amount of people that have contact with this animal • Wearing PPE • Correct disposal of infected waste
Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Immediately reporting signs of disease to your supervisor • Following biosecurity legislation and reporting any infected animals to regulatory bodies • Immediately reporting incidents of biosecurity

Question 4

Define the following key terms:

(Approximate word count: 10-50 words per term)

Assessor instructions: Students must provide an accurate definition of each term.

The candidate answer must reflect the exemplar.

Term	Definition
Biosecurity	Biosecurity refers to measures aimed at preventing the introduction and/or spread of harmful organisms (e.g., viruses, bacteria, etc.) to animals and plants to minimize the risk of transmission of infectious disease.
Infectious	Infectious means able to be spread by infection, like a disease that spreads from one person to another.
Contagious	Contagious means able to be passed from one person or animal to another by touching or having a sickness that can be passed to someone else by touching.
Zoonosis	Zoonosis means a disease which can be transmitted to humans from animals.
Pathogen	A pathogen is a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that can cause disease.

Contaminant	Contaminant is a polluting or poisonous substance that makes something impure.
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Question 5

Identify the four modes of transmission of disease and provide an explanation of each.

(Approximate word count: 10-40 words per mode of transmission)

Assessor instructions: Students must identify the four modes of transmission and provide an accurate explanation. A sample answer has been provided.

Candidate answer must reflect the exemplar.

Mode of transmission	Explanation
Direct contact	Coming into contact with the saliva, blood, urine, mucous, skin, faeces, or other body fluids of an infected animal. Examples include petting or touching animals, and bites or scratches.
Indirect contact	Coming into contact with areas where animals live and roam, or objects or surfaces that have been contaminated with germs. Examples include aquarium tank water, pet habitats, chicken coops, plants, and soil, as well as pet food and water dishes.
Vector-borne	Being bitten by a tick, or an insect like a mosquito or a flea.
Droplet	When a disease is carried is transferred to another person via droplet. This could be a cough or sneeze. The droplets must land on the other person or animal for infection to occur.

Question 6

What are the risks associated with contracting a zoonotic disease when working with companion animals?

(Approximate word count: 100 words)

Assessor instructions: Students must identify some risks associated with zoonotic disease when working with companion animals

A sample answer is provided below. Candidates' answers must identify the health risks to staff and animals.

It is important that people who handle animals, and people like vets who treat sick animals, are very aware of the risk of zoonotic diseases. There is always a risk that someone will acquire a zoonotic disease when working with animals. There are several zoonotic diseases that can be contracted. These diseases pose a threat to the health of other animals and staff. Depending on what disease is contracted, there are long and short-term effects on human health. Some examples include:

- Infant loss in pregnant women
- Heart conditions

- vomiting
- diarrhea
- gastrointestinal worms

Question 7

What are the signs and symptoms of the following infectious diseases affecting companion animals?

(Approximate word count: 30 words per disease)

Assessor instructions: Students must demonstrate their knowledge of signs and symptoms of infectious diseases in companion animals.

Candidate answer must reflect the exemplar.

Infectious disease	Signs and symptoms
Canine parvovirus/ feline panleukopenia	Some of the signs of parvovirus include lethargy; loss of appetite; abdominal pain and bloating; fever or low body temperature (hypothermia); vomiting; and severe, often bloody, diarrhea.
Canine infectious respiratory disease complex (Kennel cough)	Some of the signs are a strong cough, often with a “honking” sound – this is the most obvious symptom, runny nose, sneezing, lethargy, loss of appetite and low fever.
Feline upper respiratory disease complex (Cat Flu)	The most common signs include sneezing, lethargy, loss of appetite, runny nose, gunky eyes and low fever.
Toxoplasmosis	The most common symptoms of toxoplasmosis include fever, loss of appetite, and lethargy. Often cats will have no signs or symptoms.
Salmonellosis	Animals that become sick from Salmonella infection typically have diarrhea that may contain blood or mucus. Sick animals may seem more tired than usual and may vomit or have a fever.
Ticks	Lethargic Shaking Anxious Confused Dilated/nonresponsive pupils Panting Noisy/laboured respiration Shallow breathing Salivation Vomiting Wobbly on feet Looks like a back problem Incoordination Flaccid hind leg paralysis Voice/bark change

Fleas and Lice	Evidence of parasites in coat/fur Evidence of flea dirt Anaemia Itchy or irritated skin
Sarcoptic mange/scabies	Rhino like skin Hair loss Itchy or irritated skin Oozing sores Scapes
Ringworm	Hair loss Red scaly lesions on skin
Roundworm, hookworm	Anaemia (blood loss) Intestinal blockage Diarrhoea Vomiting Bloated stomach Worms may be visible in stool

Question 8

Identify 2 common disinfectants used in the animal care industry. Describe how you would use these correctly including the appropriate dilution and contact time.

(Approximate word count: 100 words per disinfectant)

Assessor instructions: Students must identify 2 common disinfectants, how they should be used and the contact time.

A list of answers has been provided. Candidate answers must reflect two of the following.

Disinfectant name	How it should be applied	Dilution	Contact time
F10 SC	All biological matter should be cleaned off the surfaces prior to using F10. This should be done with a detergent. Spray F10 to all areas/surfaces and leave for 5 minutes. F10 does not need to be rinsed off.	Any of the following dilutions are acceptable: General disinfection at 1:500 (2ml in 1 litre) High level disinfection against bacteria, fungi and most viruses (including coronavirus) at 1:250 (4ml in 1 litre) For use against the most resistant viruses such as Parvovirus or PBFV at 1:125 (8ml in 1 litre) For environmental control of protozoal oocysts (e.g., of cryptosporidium,	5 minutes

		coccidia and giardia) use at 1:100 (10ml in 1 litre)	
Trigene	Trigene should be directly applied to the surfaces that require disinfection.	General disinfection of all surfaces. Dilute 1:100 for general use and intermediate risk areas.	5 minutes
Virkon	All surfaces need to be cleaned with a detergent before Virkon is applied. Virkon should then be applied and left for 10 minutes. Scrub all surfaces and then rinse with water.	General disinfection of all surfaces. Dilute 1:100	10 minutes
Safe4	Apply to all surfaces, allow to dry. Do not rinse off.	1:100 1:50 Depending on virus	30 minutes

Question 9

Identify 2 pieces of equipment or materials you would use while cleaning an animal cage. Describe how you would correctly use each piece of equipment.

(Approximate word count: 20 words per item)

Assessor instructions: Students must identify 2 pieces of equipment or materials they use to clean cages in the workplace. The student must demonstrate their knowledge on how to use these items. A sample answer has been provided.

Candidate answer must reflect at least two of the following exemplar answers.

Equipment or material	How it is used
Hose	A hose is used to wet down all areas of a run/cage. This helps to remove any debris.
Scrubbing broom	A scrubbing broom is used to scrub detergent or disinfectant into large areas.
Scrubbing brush	A scrubbing brush is used to scrub detergent or disinfectant into small areas.
Floor squeegee	A floor squeegee is used to remove any excess water, detergent, or disinfectant.

Paper towel	Paper towel is used to either apply disinfectant/detergent or to remove excess disinfectant/detergent.
Bucket	A bucket is used to hold water.
Spray bottle	A spray bottle is used to apply disinfectant or detergent to small surfaces or areas.
Dustpan and brush	A dustpan and brush are used to sweep up and collect any debris.
Broom	A broom is used to sweep and collect debris.
Fogger	A fogger is used to apply disinfectant to large rooms.

Question 10

Who would be the appropriate person to approach or report to in the workplace for the following:

(Approximate word count: 10 words per issue)

Assessor instructions: Students must demonstrate their understanding of reporting requirements relevant to their job role. Students must identify the appropriate person to report to in the workplace

A sample answer is provided below. Candidates should identify at least one of the people listed in the exemplar answer.

	Who would you approach or report to?
You suspect an animal in your care has an infectious disease	This answer will differ depending on the workplace a student has access to but could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor • Kennel Manager • Vet • Head Nurse
You have sustained an injury whilst cleaning out kennels	This answer will differ depending on the workplace a student has access to but could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor or practice manager • WH&S supervisor
An animal in your care is displaying unusual behaviour	This answer will differ depending on the workplace a student has access to but could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor • Head Nurse • Vet

Assessment checklist:

Students must have completed all questions within this assessment before submitting. This includes:

1	10 short answer questions to be completed in the spaces provided.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Congratulations you have reached the end of Assessment 1!

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