

Survey

European qualifying examination 2012

Examination Secretariat

EQE Survey 2012

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Introduction

On 9 March 2012 candidates were invited to participate in a survey concerning the European qualifying examination 2012. 1419 answers were received by 18 April 2012.

Among the candidates who participated in the survey, 745 took part in the EQE for the first time, 640 re-sat the examination.

Please note that a number of candidates have not answered all the questions, so that the totals are not always the same.

.....

Wir bedanken uns bei allen Bewerbern, die an der Umfrage teilgenommen haben. Wir freuen uns, dass Sie sich die Zeit für die Beantwortung der Fragen genommen haben.

Das Prüfungssekretariat

We wish to thank all candidates who participated in the survey. We appreciate that you have taken the time to complete the questionnaire.

The Examination Secretariat

Nous souhaitons remercier tous les candidats qui ont participé à l'enquête. Nous vous sommes reconnaissants d'avoir pris le temps de répondre au questionnaire.

Le secrétariat d'examen



EQE Survey 2012

Seite 1

Please give your EQE registration *

This information will not be used to correlate your name with your answers but is for authorisation purpose only.

Q1) Did you participate in the EQE for the first time?

- yes
- no

Q2) In which centre did you sit the EQE 2012?

please select

- Berlin
- Berne
- Bristol
- Helsinki
- Madrid
- Munich DPMA
- Munich M,O,C
- Paris
- Rome
- Stockholm
- Taastrup
- The Hague

Q3) Examination centres - rating

Please rate

	Very good	Good	Adequate	Bad	Very bad
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Identification check	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lighting conditions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Space for candidates	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restroom facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Suitability of the examination hall	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q4) Examination centres - rating

	Very easy	Easy	Indifferent	Difficult	I could not find my seat
Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q5) Examination centres - rating

	Too warm	Ideal	Too cold
Hall temperature	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

Please add your comments

Q7) Which examination papers did you sit?

- Pre-examination
- Paper A (Ch)
- Paper A (E/M)
- Paper B (Ch)
- Paper B (E/M)
- Paper C
- Paper D

Q8) Examiners' report in the Compendium - rating

Enough

Indifferent

Not enough

Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how an answer should be composed?



Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how the papers are marked?



Q9) Elements of your personal preparation

Please indicate if you made use of the following and rate it

	I didn't make use of it	Very important	Important	Indifferent	Not important	Useless
Compendium	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
General external courses regarding intellectual property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialised courses for EQE papers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In-house training organised by your company	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in Art. 11(2)(a)REE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Study in small group with other candidates	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mock pre- examination on EQE website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q10) What other books and/or study aids did you use?

Q11) Which course(s) did you follow?

- The full eight months' training with the German authorities
- The "Diplôme d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle", obtained after completing the one-year period of study with CEIPI in Strasbourg
- The "Master of Advanced Studies in Intellectual Property" at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
- CEIPI/epi basic training course (2 years)
- CEIPI pre-preparatory course(s)
- CEIPI seminars preparing the EQE
- CEIPI special course on paper C (re-sitters)
- CEIPI cramming course paper C
- epi-tutorials
-

Q12) Which other elements did you consider important for your personal preparation for the EQE?

Please add comments

Q13) How long before sitting the EQE did you start intensive focused study?

Please choose

- More than two years in advance
- Between one and two years in advance
- Between six and twelve months in advance
- Between three and six months in advance
- Less than three months in advance

Q14) What was your greatest weakness when assessing your preparation for the EQE and your performance, and how, in retrospect, could you have overcome it?

Please describe your experiences

Q15) Do you have comments or suggestions for other candidates preparing for the EQE?

Seite 3

Q16) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training according to Art. 11(2)(a)REE?

Please select

- AL Albania
- AT Austria
- BE Belgium
- BG Bulgaria
- CH Switzerland
- CY Cyprus
- CZ Czech Republic
- DE Germany
- DK Denmark
- EE Estonia
- ES Spain
- FI Finland
- FR France
- GB United Kingdom
- GR Greece
- HR Croatia
- HU Hungary
- IE Ireland
- IS Iceland
- IT Italy
- LI Liechtenstein
- LT Lithuania
- LU Luxembourg
- LV Latvia
- MC Monaco
- MK Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- MT Malta
- NL Netherlands
- NO Norway
- PL Poland
- PT Portugal
- RO Romania
- RS Serbia
- SE Sweden
- SI Slovenia
- SK Slovakia
- SM San Marino
- TR Turkey

Q17) I completed most of the training (Art. 11(2)(a)REE) in

- Private practice
- Industry

Q18) How would you rate the support of your employer in view of your preparation for the EQE?

Please rate

	Very good	Good	Adequate	Bad	Very bad
Support of your employer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q19) How much time did your employer allow for attending courses for your preparation for the EQE?

Please indicate the number of working days: days

Q20) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your employer for participation in courses?

Please rate

	More than sufficient	Sufficient	Borderline	Too little	Inadequate
Amount of study leave allowed by your employer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q21a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art.11(2)(a) REE (i.e. the person who signed your Certificate of Training on Employment)?

Please indicate the number of working days: days

Q21b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the first year of training?

Please indicate the percentage: %

Q21c) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the second year of training?

Please indicate the percentage: %

Q21d) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the third year of training?

Please indicate the percentage: %

Q22) What would you suggest to supervisors in order to improve candidates' preparation for the EQE?

Please add comments, suggestions...

Q23) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-years training period?

Please indicate the number of cases:

Q24) How did your supervisor as defined by Art. 11(2)(a) REE train you for paper C?

Several answers are possible

- Using opposition cases from my company
- Using other opposition cases
- Compendium
- No help from my supervisor
-

Q25) How did you prepare for paper C apart from the training you received from your supervisor?

Several answers are possible

- Using opposition cases from my company
- Using other opposition cases
- Compendium
- I have followed a course/courses
-

Q26) EQE papers

Please rate the difficulty of the examination papers you sat in 2012

	Too easy	Easy	Adequate	Difficult	Too difficult
Pre-examination as a whole	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pre-examination (legal questions)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pre-examination (claim analysis)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper A (Ch)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper A (E/M)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper B (Ch)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper B (E/M)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper D I	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper D II	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q27) If you sat the pre-examination:

Q27a) Please indicate your technical background (e.g. biotechnology, chemistry, electronics, mechanics, physics)

Q27b) Comments concerning the instructions to the candidate, marking scheme, the answer sheet, the proportion of time spent on legal questions / claim analysis

Q28) Did you feel time pressure during the examination?

- yes
 no

Q29) Comments concerning the difficulty of the EQE papers

Please add comments concerning the difficulty of the EQE papers

Q30) What is your opinion about the time available for each of the examination papers you sat in 2012?

	Too much	Enough	Borderline	Not enough	By far not enough
Pre-examination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper A (Ch)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper A (E/M)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper B (Ch)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper B (E/M)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper D I	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper D II	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q31) Do you think that more time during the examination would have improved your performance in the examination papers you sat?

	Yes	Indifferent	No
Please choose	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q32) Do you have comments concerning the time available for the examination papers?

Please add your comments

Use of data

The usefulness of the answers given would be greatly increased if we were to know whether or not you passed the EQE papers. We therefore kindly ask for your permission to correlate at a later stage your answers with your examination results. Please note that use of this information will be restricted to a statistical evaluation only. Your name will not be tracked and your anonymity is guaranteed.

- I agree
- I do not agree

Training from the European Patent Academy

Q33) EQE Forum of the European Patent Academy and online services

- I used the EQE Forum
- I did not use the EQE Forum » weiter mit Umfrage beenden

Q34) How actively did you use the following services?

Please rate on a scale

	Very often	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never
Discussion of general topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussion of Examination Papers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE weekly exam type questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q35) Please rate the following sections of the EQE Forum on a scale

	Very high	High	Intermediate	Low	Very low
Discussion of general topics: General usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussion of general topics: Quality of material	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussion of general topics: Quality of responses to questions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussion of general topics: Timeliness of responses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussion of Examination Papers: General usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussion of Examination Papers: Quality of responses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discussion of Examination Papers: Timeliness of responses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE weekly examination questions: General usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE weekly examination questions: Relevance of the covered topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE weekly examination questions: Ease of use of the forum	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE weekly examination questions: Time schedule of the exercises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE weekly examination questions: Quality of the model answers and comments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q36) Are you aware of the programme "Praktika Intern - internships for patent professionals" directed at present and future professional representatives?

- yes
- no

Q37) Please rate the online service on a scale

	Very high	High	Intermediate	Low	Very low
General usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Relevance of covered topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ease of use of the tool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Level of difficulty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of the model answers and comments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q38) Did you discuss any of the EQE online exercises with your supervisor/tutor?

- yes
- no

Q39) How could the EQE online service be best integrated into your preparation for the EQE?

Please rate on a scale

	Very useful	Useful	Indifferent	Less necessary	Unnecessary
Providing last minute help on a broad range of topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Providing tutorial-like exercises with model answers and an opportunity to discuss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Serving as a basis for discussion with your supervisor/tutor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Time schedule of the exercise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of the model answers and comments	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

other, please specify:

Q40) Do you have any suggestions for how the EQE Forum or the other online exercises might be improved?

Please specify

End of survey

You have finished the survey now. Please submit the form by clicking on the blue arrow below.

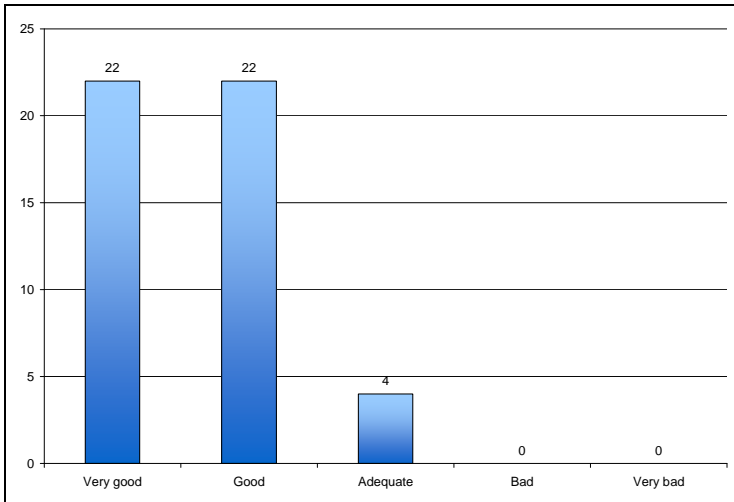
Thank you for participating in the survey.

Chapter 1 – Examination Centres

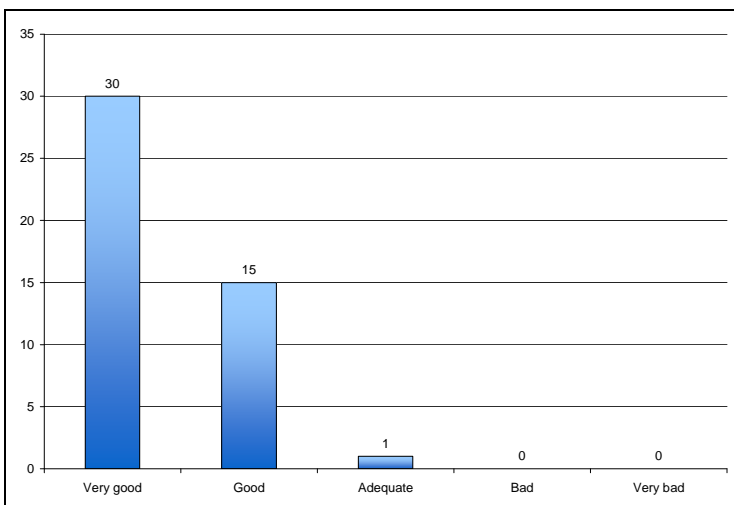
1.1 Berlin (48 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

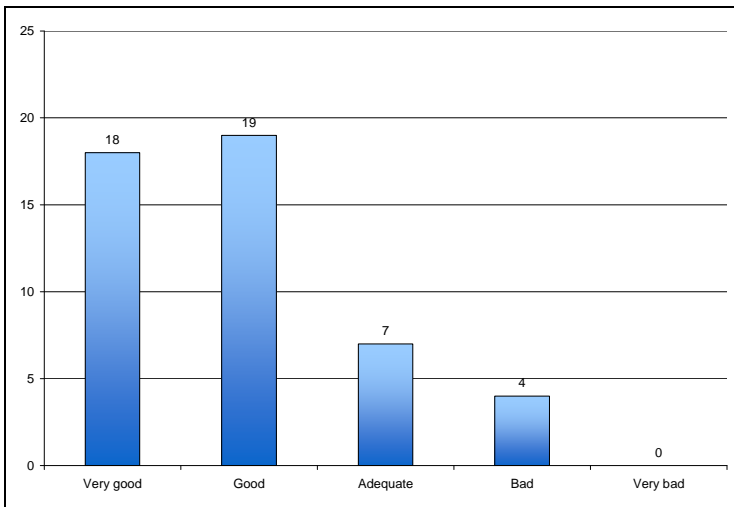
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



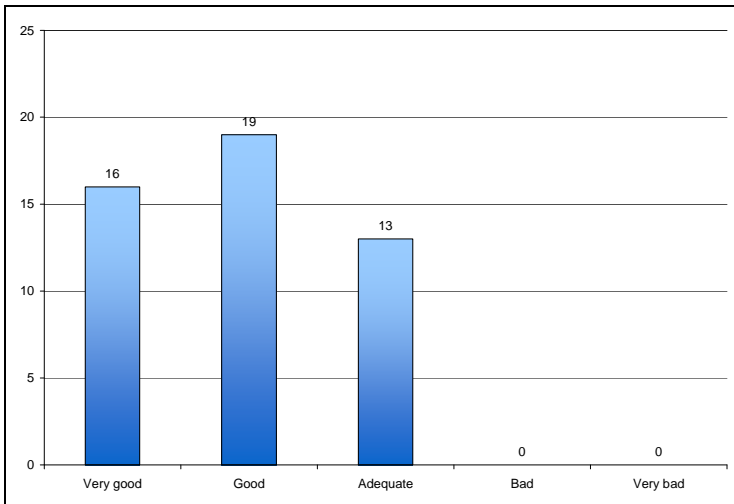
Identification check



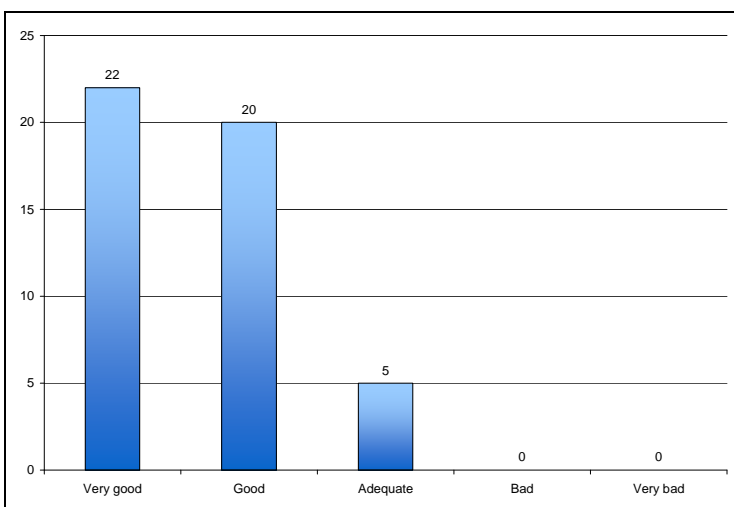
Lighting conditions



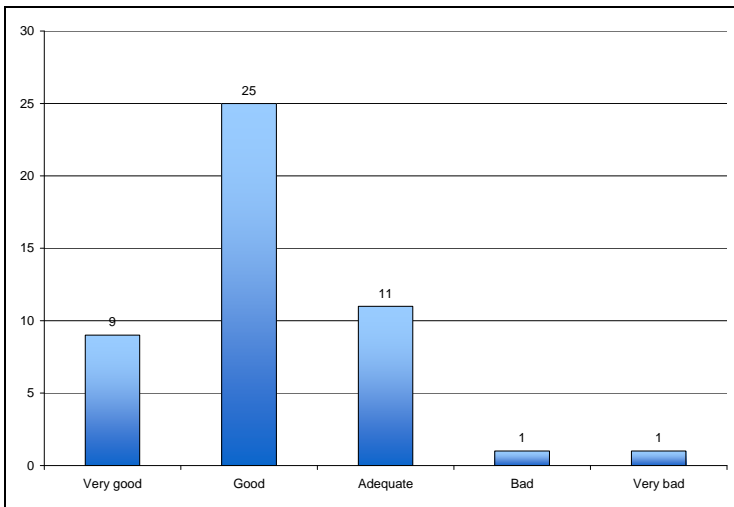
Space for candidates



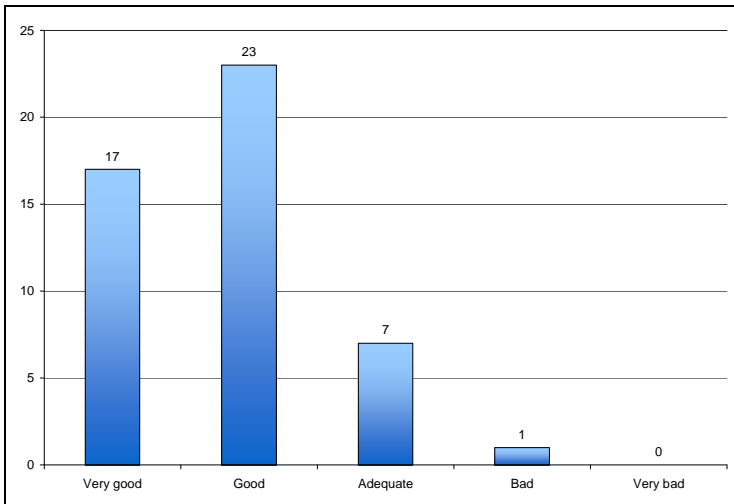
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



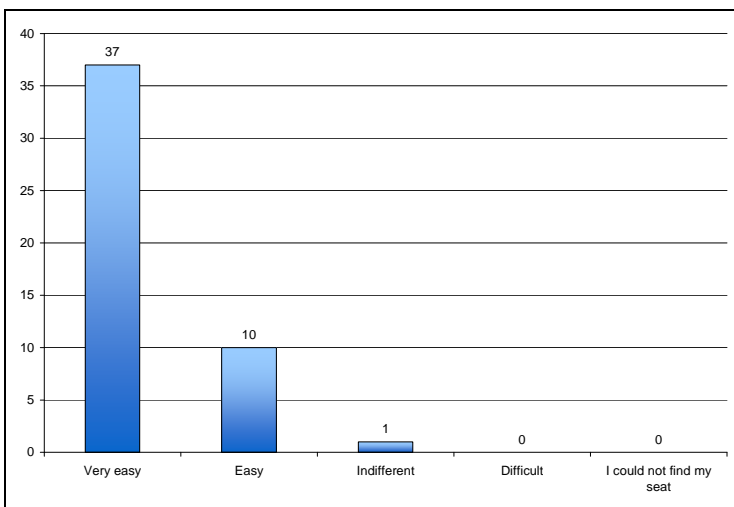
Restroom facilities



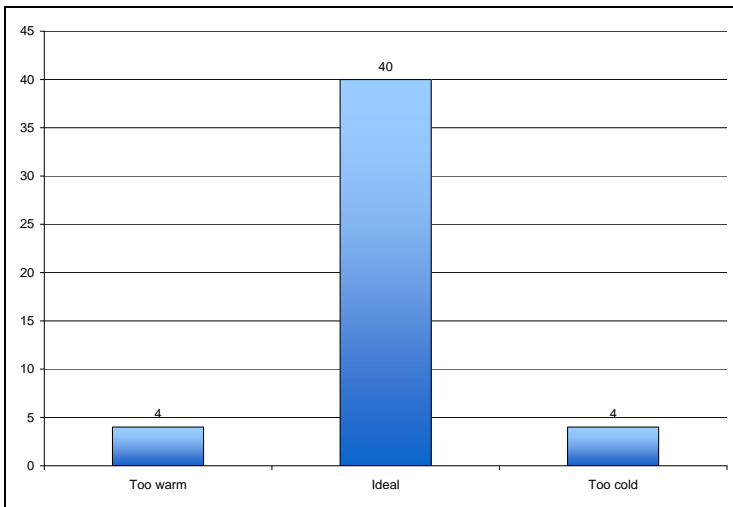
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



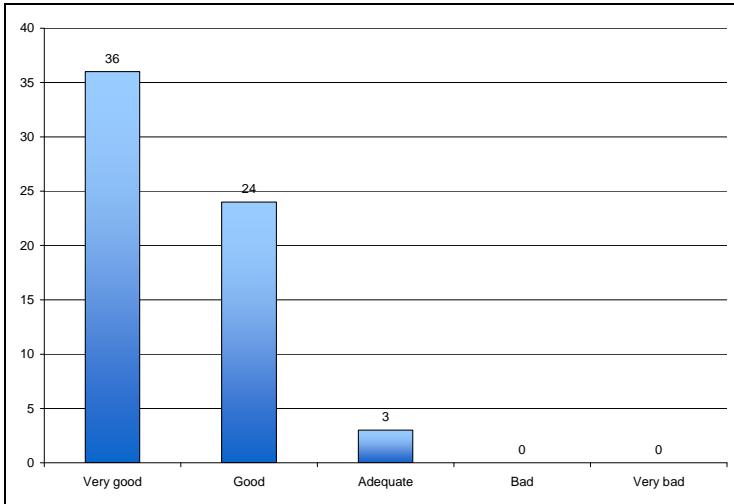
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- One of the participants was eating crisps crunching loudly and scrouching the package which was quite annoying. I think the organisers should tell the participants to keep quiet.
- I think it was organized quite professionally.
- Great conditions, I liked it - as far as examinations are likable
- Desks might also be a little larger!
- The EPO itself was a bit difficult to find due to a scaffolding outside.
- The restroom facilities (men) were partially flooded. I heard from other persons sitting the exam, that these restroom facilities were usually flooded within the previous month.
- In the restrooms, one of the toilets appeared to be broken and was permanently spilling water on the floor.
- Unfortunately the hall had no windows.
- Es wäre wünschenswert, den Raum zwischendurch mal zu lüften.
- Due to works at the roof of the building no day-light was available in "Halle West". The lighting was not good, as I had always a shadow from my hand on the paper I was writing on.
- Thanks for the time and efforts you made in preparing ideal conditions
- OK
- The air condition was directly above the tables, which sometimes was uncomfortable.
- The room did not have any windows which lead to an unwary and somewhat depressive feeling.
- no comments
- No day light due to repair works on the roof of the building. At least during one exam a jitter from a neon tube.
- no natural light - therefore quite dark. Less agreeable atmosphere.

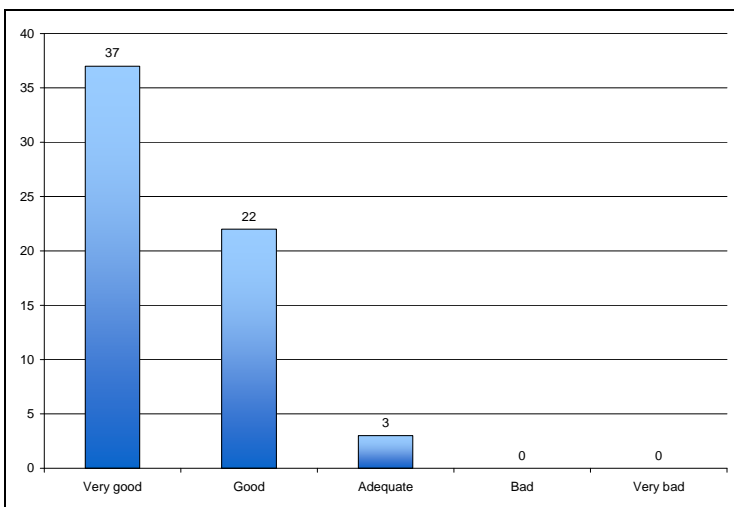
1.2 Berne (63 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

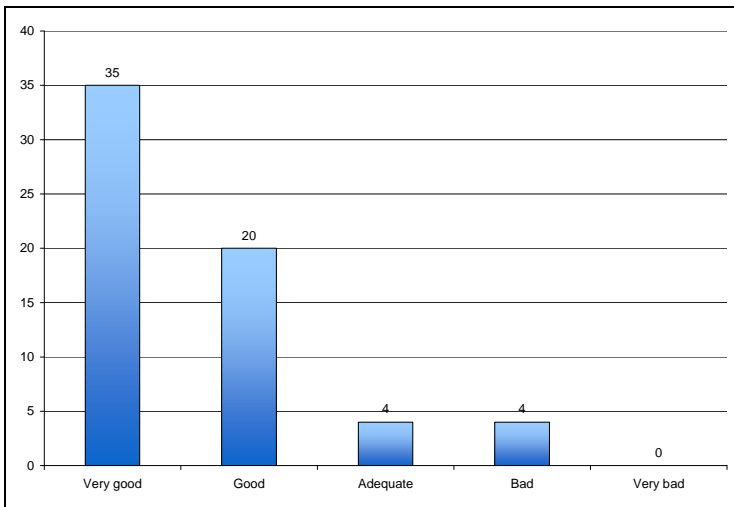
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



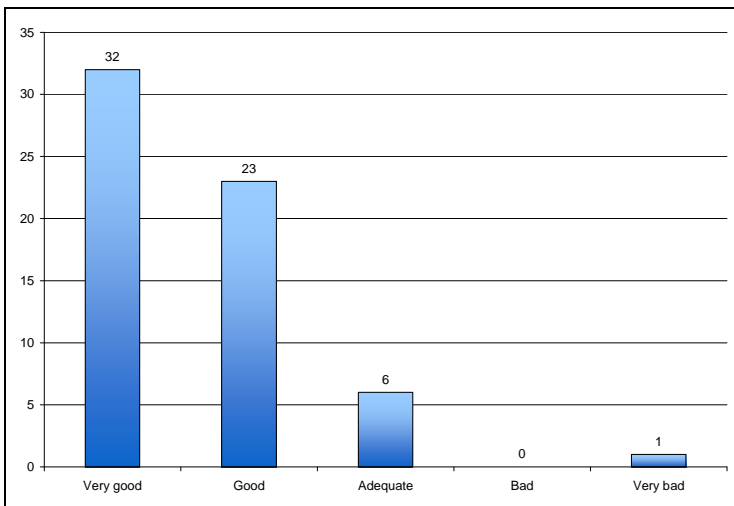
Identification check



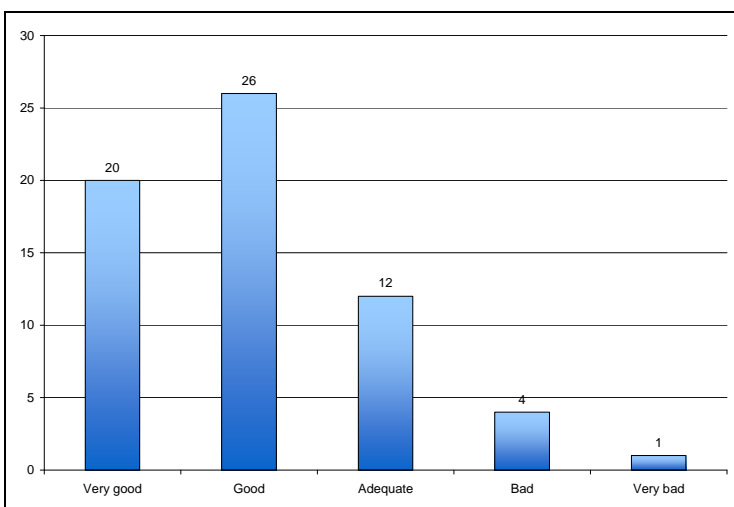
Lighting conditions



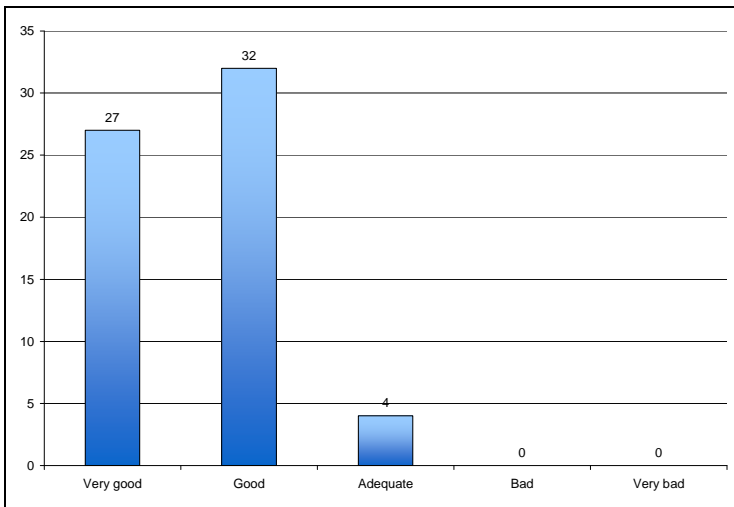
Space for candidates



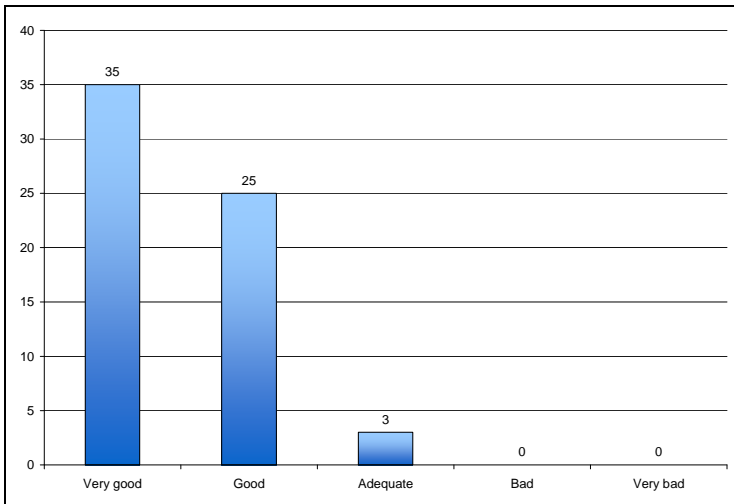
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



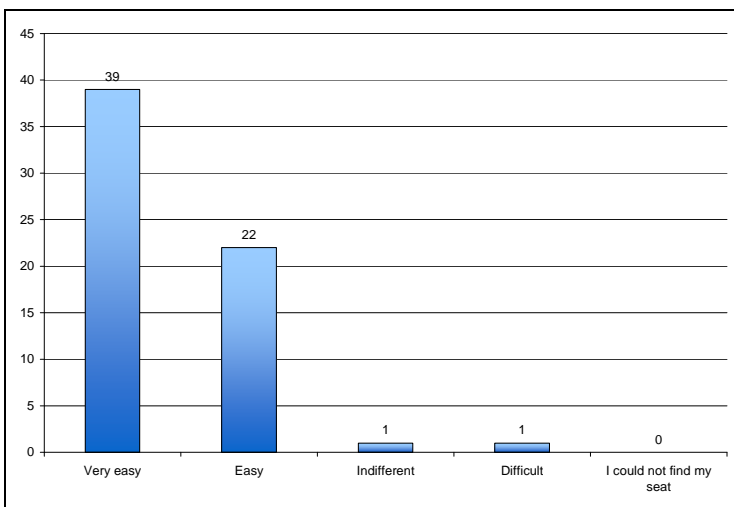
Restroom facilities



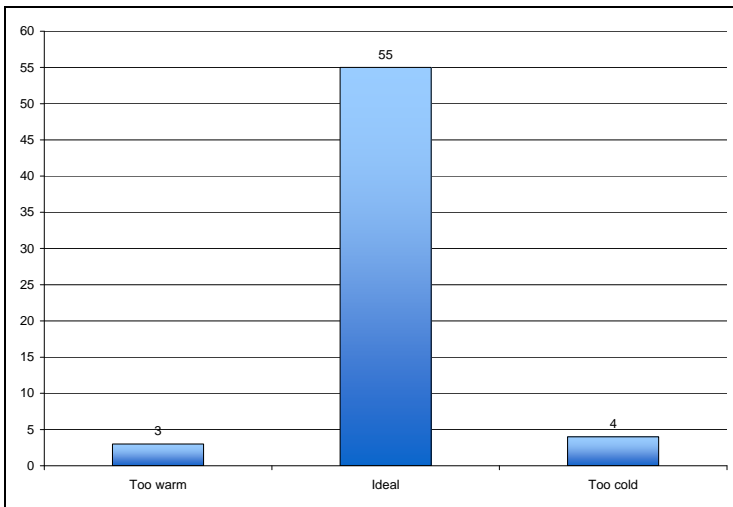
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



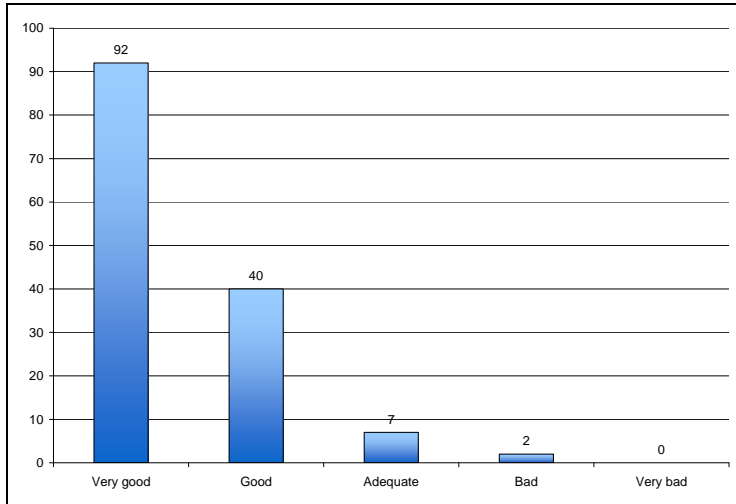
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Klapptische quietschen und klappern. Dies ist sehr störend.
- It was pleasant on some of the days, but on some others, it was too cold - particularly when the windows were opened, cold air settled to the bottom, leading to the feet being very cold while the upper part of the body was still warm. If windows need to be opened, there should also be a fan/ventilator to circulate and mix the cold air with the hot air in the room!
- The door should have some stopper/damper - it was slammed loudly whenever some left or entered the hall.; The clock could hardly be read if your place was in the front left or right corner.; In the morning, sun shades would have been appreciated against the glaring sun.; The velcro around the tables did not make the live of pullover-wearing candidates easier.
- Comments about the following questions:;; Most of them I have answered already last year, and nothing has changed, thus I only answer questions, which specifically relate to my re-sitting paper B
- The only thing I found weared, has nothing to do with the room, but with the fact that you cannot use a stapler during the exam. it would ease the organisation of the sheets, I mean the ones we receive from you, not the ones we hand in. I understand that the ones we hand in must be staple free for better copying.
- It is nice to sit the EQE in an examination hall that is not too large
- availability of water and maybe small snacks would have been appreciated. Or at least a hint before the examination (maybe with the received letters) that one should take care for this by himself.
- warm sunny places
- for berne the system should be kept. To be into an hotel where the exam take place is the best, because we can sleep where we are going to pass the exam and without having trouble of car traffic or train problem

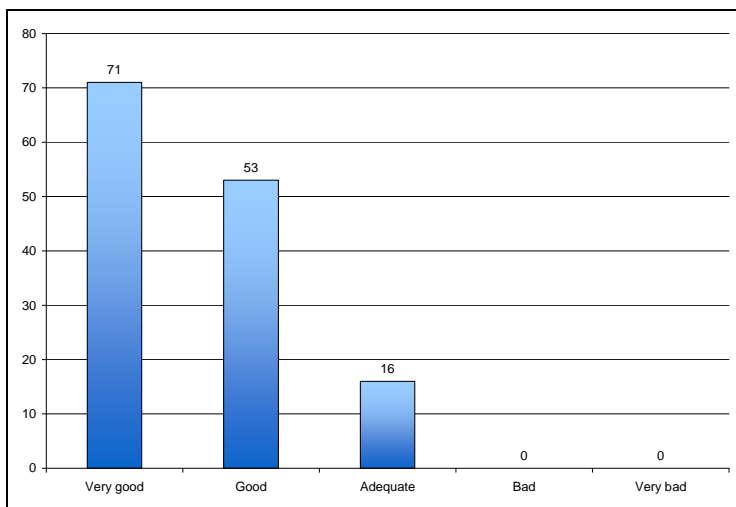
1.3 Bristol (141 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

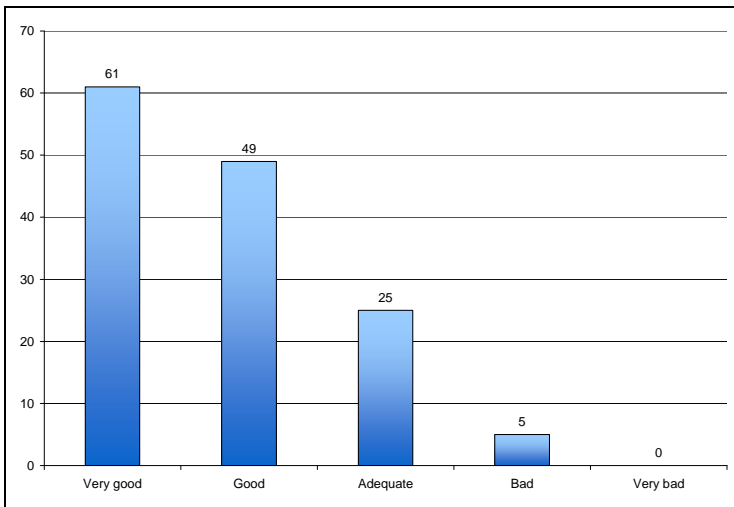
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



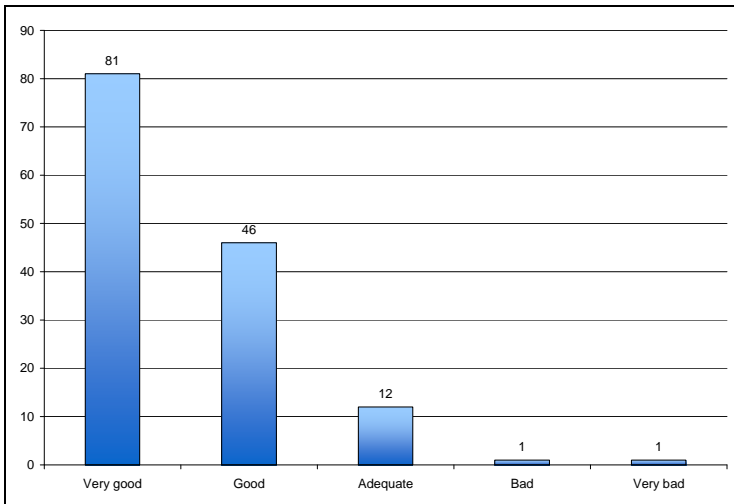
Identification check



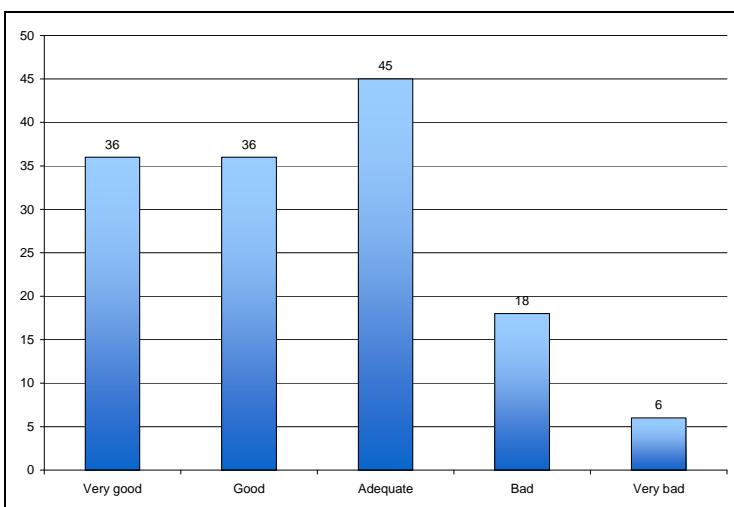
Lighting conditions



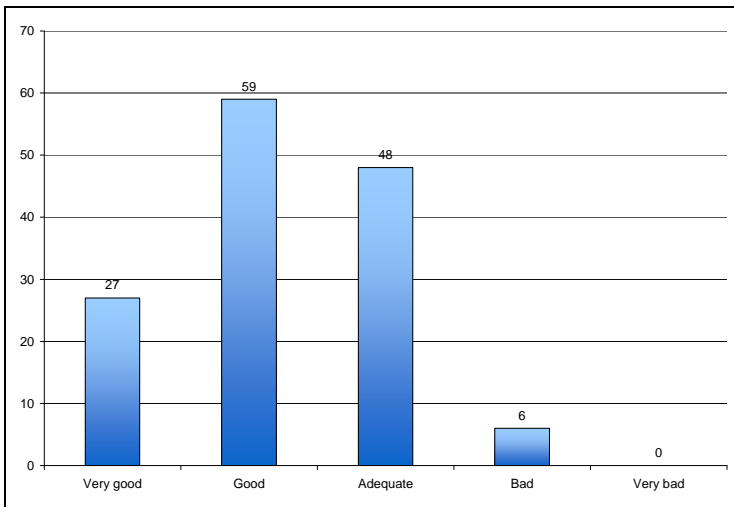
Space for candidates



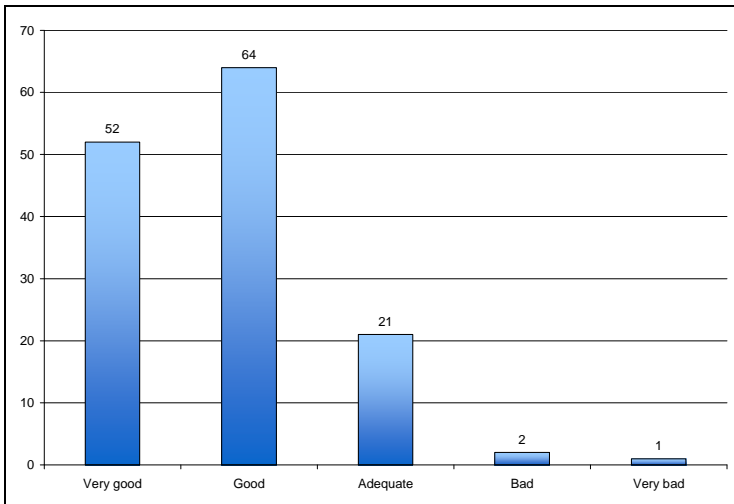
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



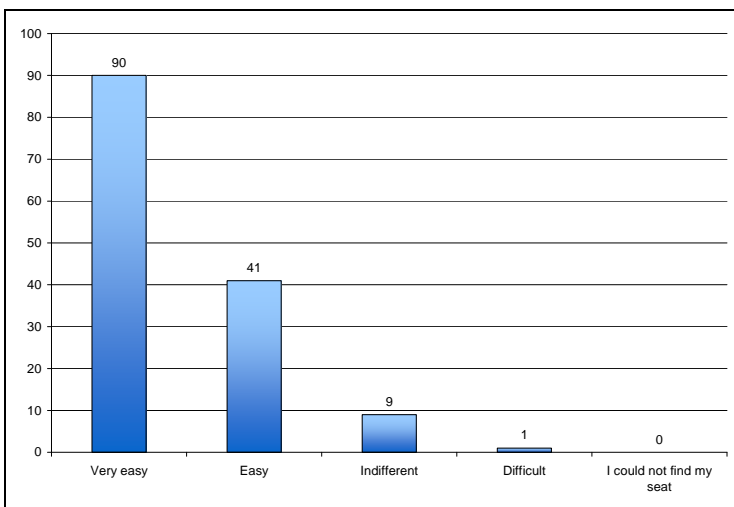
Restroom facilities



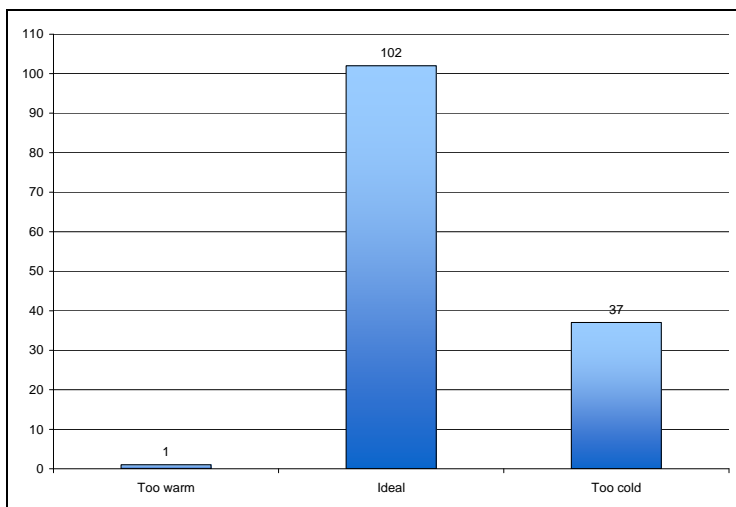
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- I wish I could invigilate the EQE once in Bristol and then go shopping in London!
- The hall got a little stuffy towards the end of the C exam.
- Far far too cold!
- Examination hall was a little cold but not too bad. Chair were bad, chairs with proper lumbar support would be much better.
- Lighting problem (for me specifically) due to a stuck window blind - fixed on second day.; Atrocious accoustics - only possible for me to hear invigilator's announcements when he was standing close to me. Not the fault of the invigilator himself.
- There were plenty of clocks, but it was difficult to see the minute hand on them. A very big clock at the from of the hall would have been helpful.
- CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO RE-LOCATING THE EXAM TO LONDON
- It was truly freezing, I sat with my big winter coat on even though outside I had not needed it.; Also, the sunlight coming through the roof windows was dazzling for a while.
- The temperature in the examination hall in Bristol was far too low! The hall is Bristol's old train station and as such it wa snever meant to be a room. The lighting was poor even though we were surrounded by floodlights, which would blind you if yiou were to look directly into them. The noise level was high as well because the hall is located beside a busy road provising access to Bristol's Temple Meads train station.
- In three of the exams I needed more paper. Whilst this was generally adequate, for Paper C I had to ask 5 times. The first time I asked was at 4 hours (i.e. 2 hours to go) and the invigilator gave me four more pages. Given that the last 2 hours will consist purely of writing, this is obviously a bit ridiculous. It was also quite difficult to get their attention. Luckily I finished the exam so it wasn't too much of a problem, but in future can you please make sure the invigilators are attentive, and give out an appropriate amount of paper. ; ; I eventually used 50 sheets for Paper C, 30 of which I used in the last two hours.; ; Other than that, it was very well handled.; ; Thanks
- Candidates would be wise to be prepared to bring warm clothing owing to the space of the hall.
- none.
- The seagulls on the roof can be quite noisy and distracting at times!
- It is very difficult to see a clock if you are seated in the middle of the hall - I could only see one from my desk (and one of the invigilators kept standing in front of it).; ; The lighting was adequate, but if it hadn't been sunny outside I think it would have been quite dark.

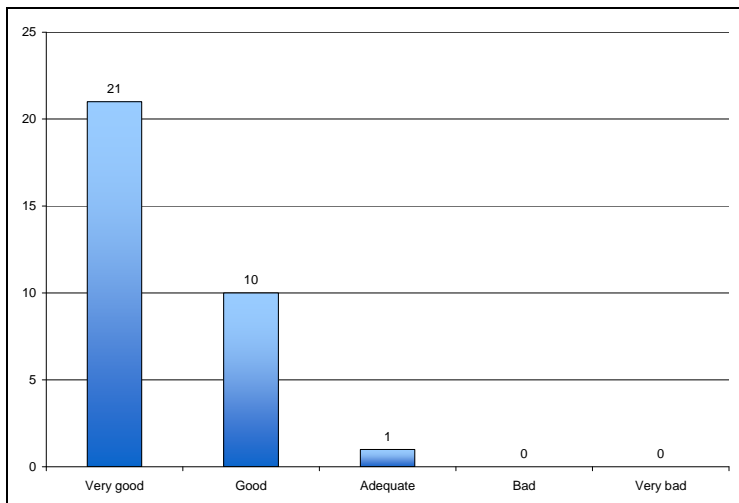
- I was sat quite near the front of the hall and I was surprised that there was no clock displayed at the front. The only clocks available for me were at either side of the hall and quite far away. A clock at the front of the hall would have been useful.
- The hall itself was great and lent a real sense of occasion to the event. The bathrooms were a bit grotty.; ; I found it quite hard to understand the invigilator's comments. Partly the sound system, and maybe partly how the invigilator used the microphone, but it was very bass heavy and difficult to hear.
- It was extremely difficult to see the clocks from many seats
- The seagulls were quite noisy !
- Lavatories needed better cleaning before the first (DI) session: the gents' at the front of the hall badly needed cleaning.
- The pre examination hall in Bristol was probably a bit too cold(especially during the middle or close to the end of the examination) , for which I suspect whether it is because the heating hadn't been turned on, or because the examination hall (the ceiling is very high also) is properly too big to heat. ; ; I would suggest to adjust the temperature of the hall, and if necessary to have an examination hall in Bristol where the room temperature would be comfortable for candidates (especially during the middle or close to the end of the examination).
- Having easy access to a main train line was excellent.
- Faultless
- Near the windows it was cold enough to need a coat for most of the exams. Invigilator was also nearly inaudible.
- The lighting was a bit dim for some of the seats towards the edge of the examination hall.
- The acoustics are poor because there was a lot of noise from seagulls which was very disturbing.
- It would have been better if we had a bit more lighting in the hall, specially on a dark day it felt quite inadequate
- Re: acoustic conditions: very little soundproofing = constant noise from seagulls! Also some sort of alarm went off part-way through one of the exams but then stopped. There was no announcement from invigilators as to what we should do or what the alarm was. Perhaps invigilators could be informed of something extra to say (in the event of no evacuation), and a proportionate amount of extra time added to the exam to alleviate the disruption caused.; Re: restroom facilities: these were quite unpleasant and awful smell. Not sure if they were even cleaned! Seemed to be old vomit on one of the toilets that I think was there from a long time before. Provision of more, cleaner, toilets very important!; Re: identity check: Quite well done, but slightly disruptive to have someone come and visit your desk when trying to work.; Good to have location near station and hotels!; Exam hall was nice temperature but I wonder if the mild weather helped with that - for normal March temperatures it could have been quite cold! Better to be too cold than too hot though!
- At times there was quite a lot of ambient noise. Although it did not bother me, I understand it affected other candidates positioned in other parts of the hall.
- With respect to the acoustic conditions: there were very noisy birds perched on the roof shrieking for most of the afternoon on the Tuesday and the Wednesday, and there seemed to be absolutely nothing in the way of soundproofing to alleviate this.; ; With respect to the audibility of the invigilators, the sound system used had such poor sound quality, and had such poor amplification, that the invigilators words were reduced to an incoherent mumble. I couldn't understand a single word.
- Given that most of the Bristol candidates are coming from London, it would be preferable to have the exams in London.; ; It would also be preferable spread the exams out over 5 days (for 5 separate papers). 21+ hours of exams in three days is simply too much.
- Excellent choice of examination hall.
- It was a little chilly on the first day, but it soon warmed up. I had be pre-warned of this by colleagues and had hat, scarf, hot coffee etc, but it was not nearly as bad as they had said. So I guess it has improved since 2011.

- There is a back door at the hall, which would be very convenient to use when having to rush off after the Examination to catch a train. However, this door is not opened for some reason that I cannot identify.
- Wearing reading glasses, I found it hard to see the hands on the clocks, so I had some difficulty in following the time, because my analogue wrist watch was not working. One big display somewhere of the time would have helped.
- In 2011 the Bristol hall was very cold, in the main body of the hall, away from the heaters at the front and back. This year we were simply lucky with the weather.

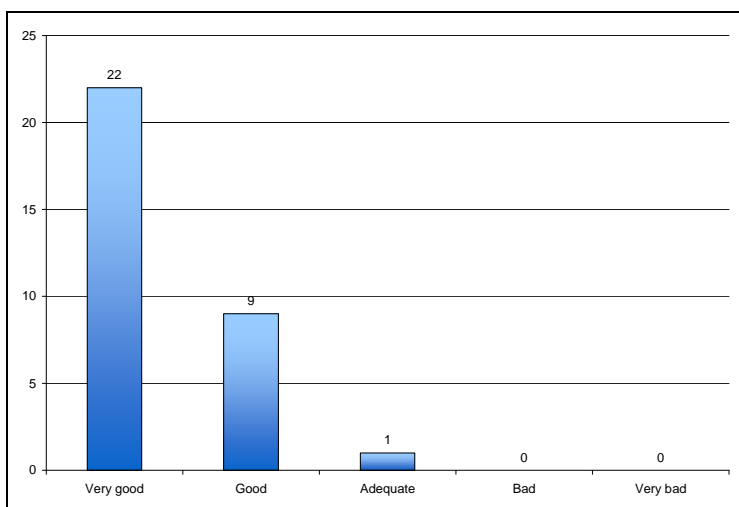
1.4 Helsinki (32 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

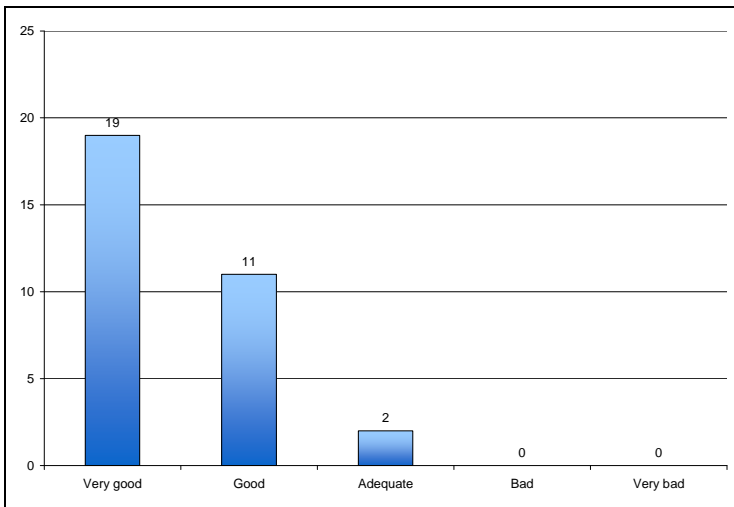
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



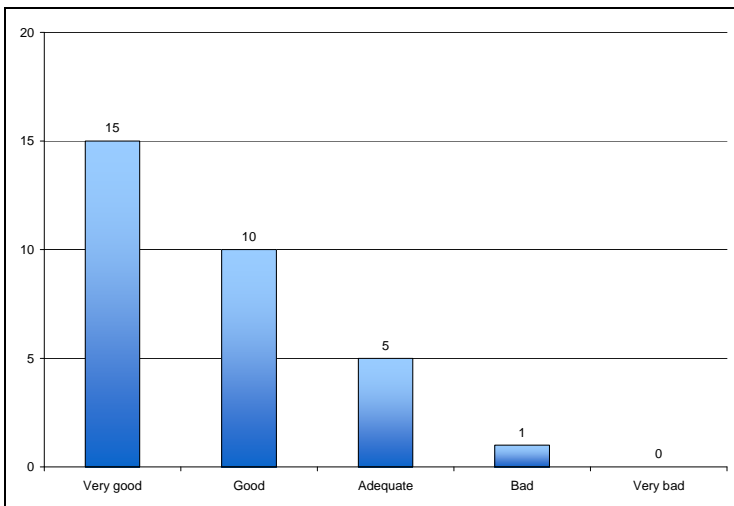
Identification check



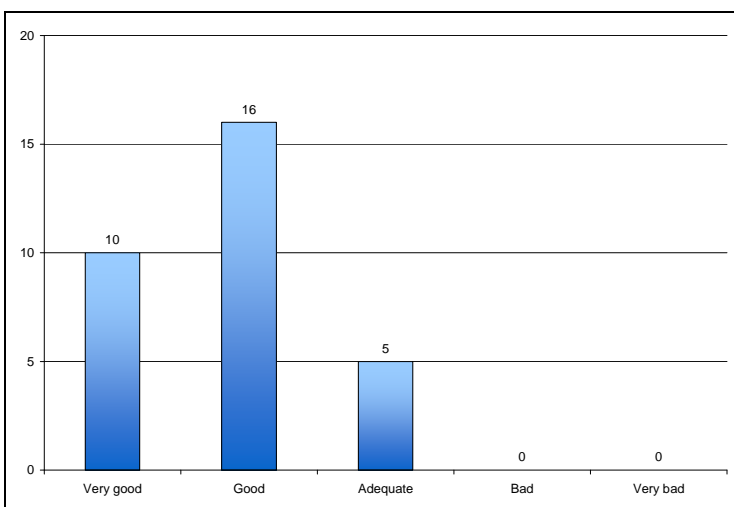
Lighting conditions



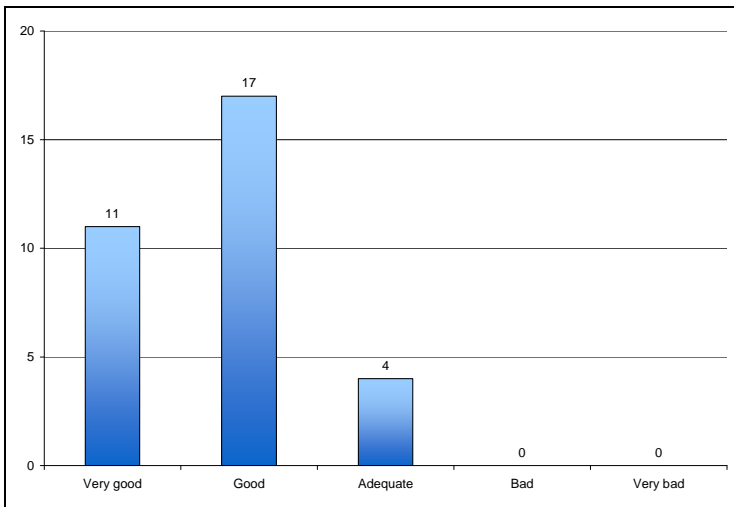
Space for candidates



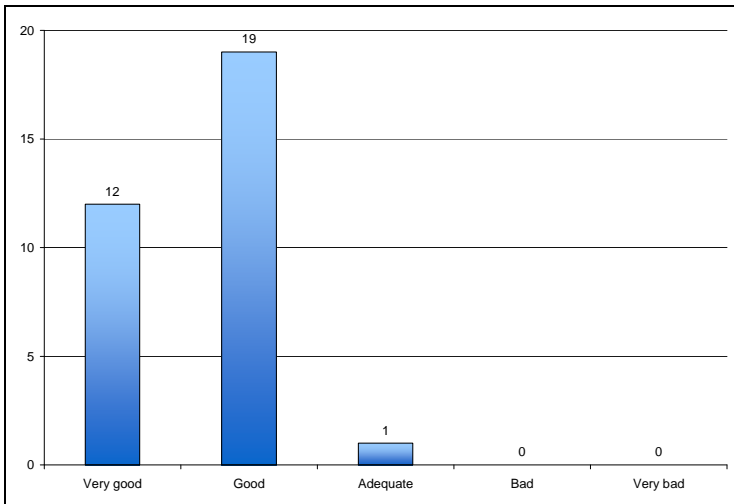
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



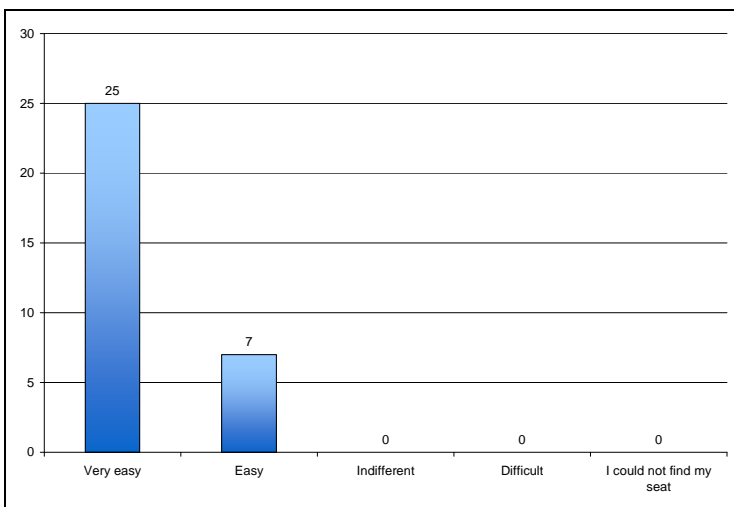
Restroom facilities



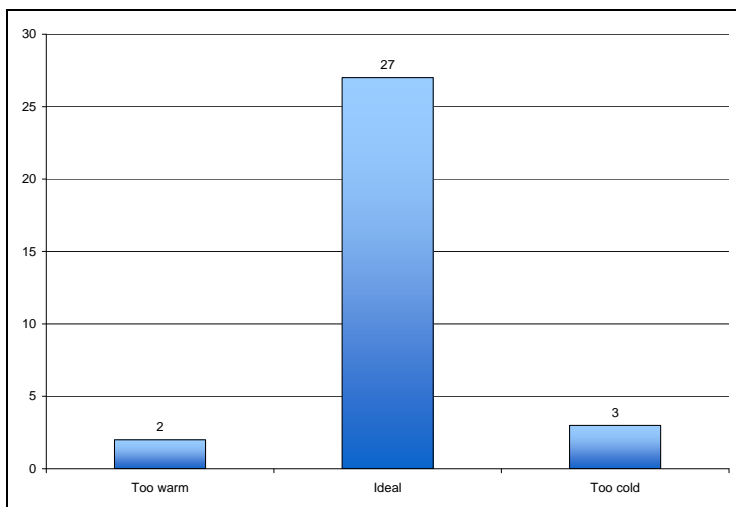
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



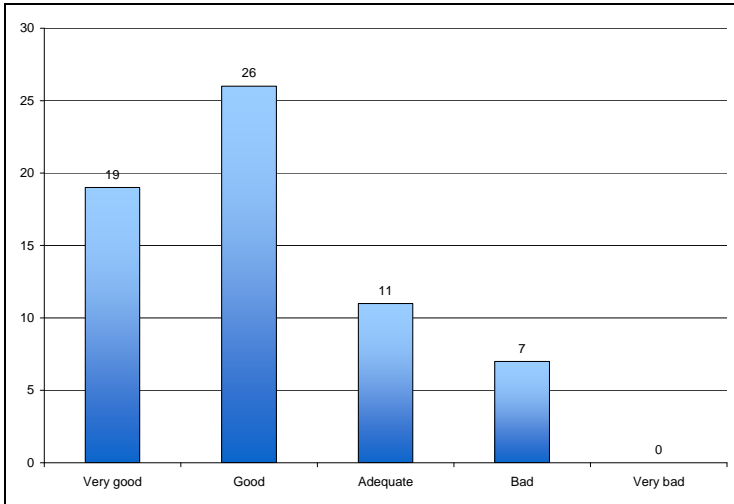
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- some high heel shoe sounds by the invigilators were a bit distracting
- Chair is a bit too low for me.
- The ventilation stopped at 6:00 pm and after that it became a bit too warm.
- I was sunny day, so few times one windows was opened. I was far from the window, so the opening didn't disturb me.
- No bad comments at all. Very good. Very pleasant Invigilators, too.

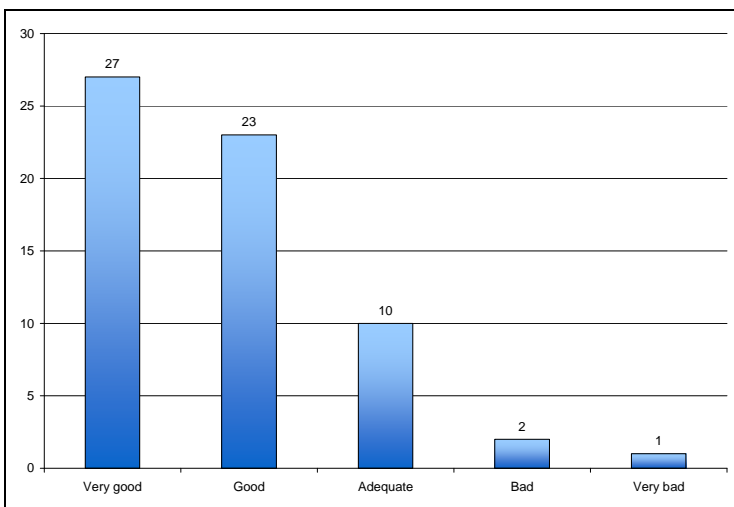
1.5 Madrid (63 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

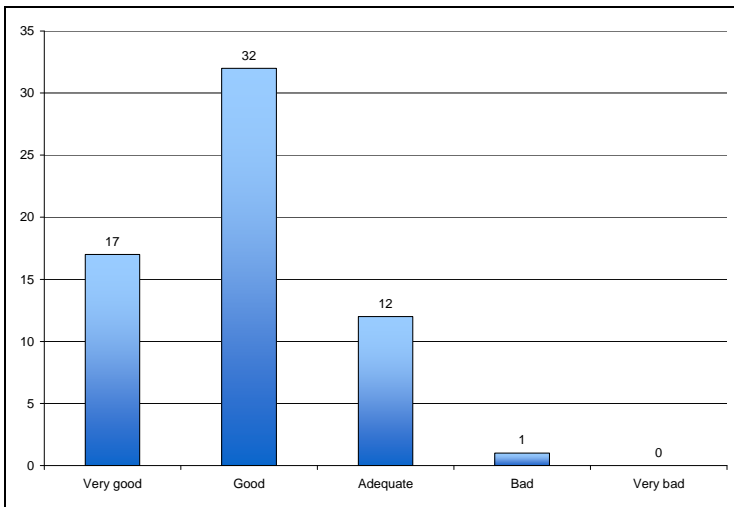
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



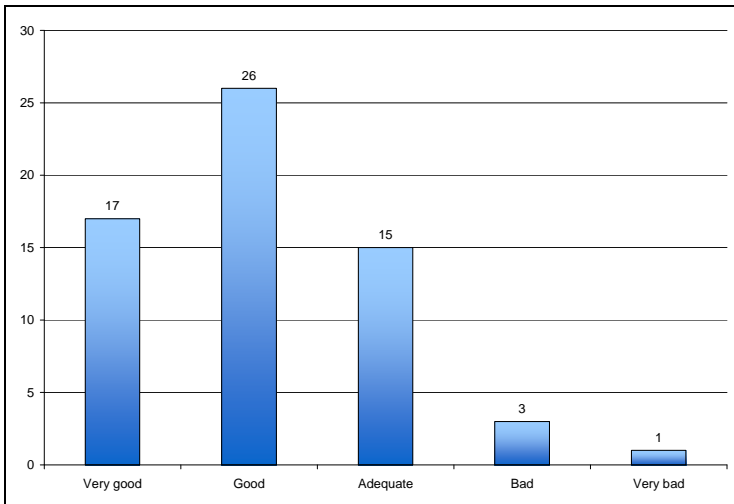
Identification check



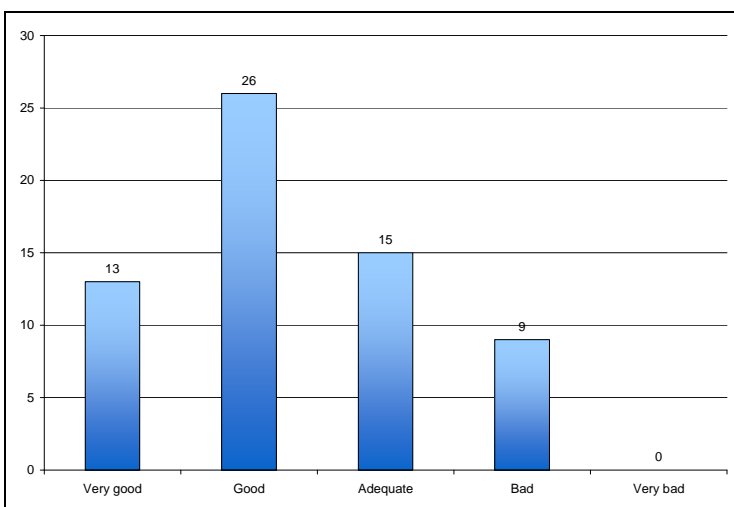
Lighting conditions



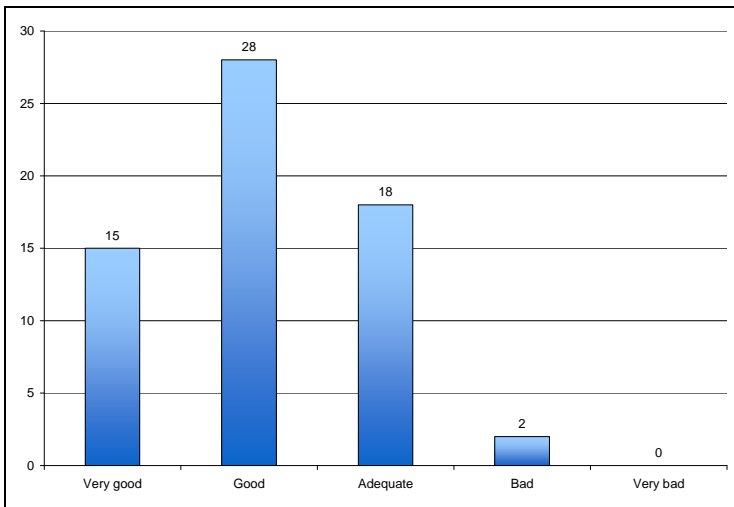
Space for candidates



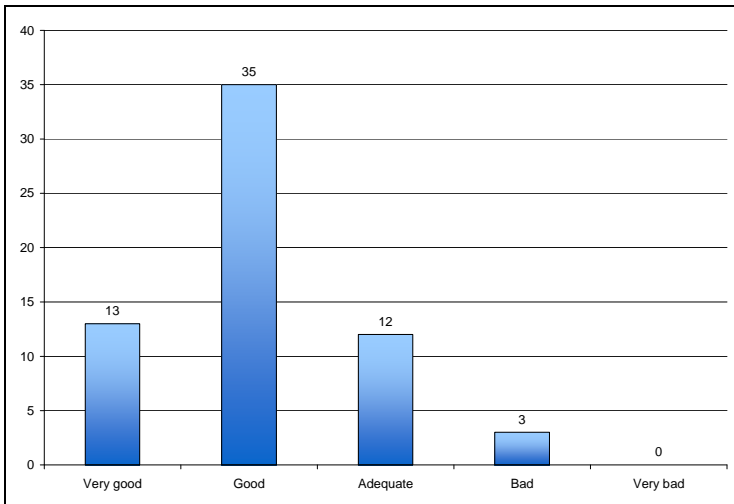
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



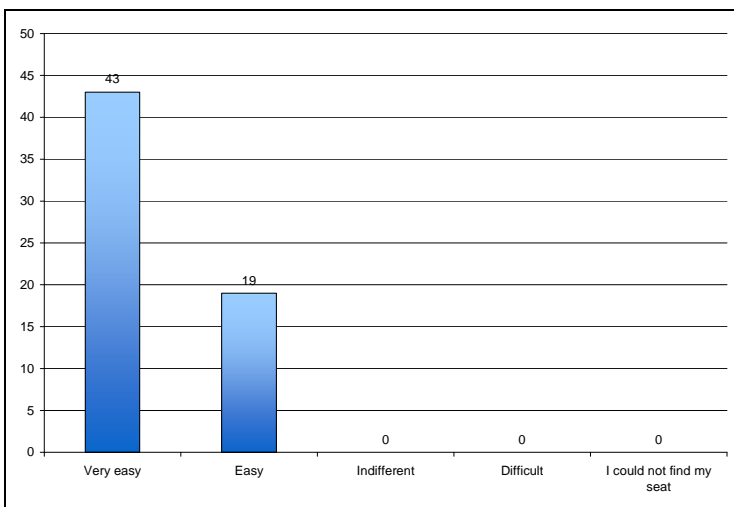
Restroom facilities



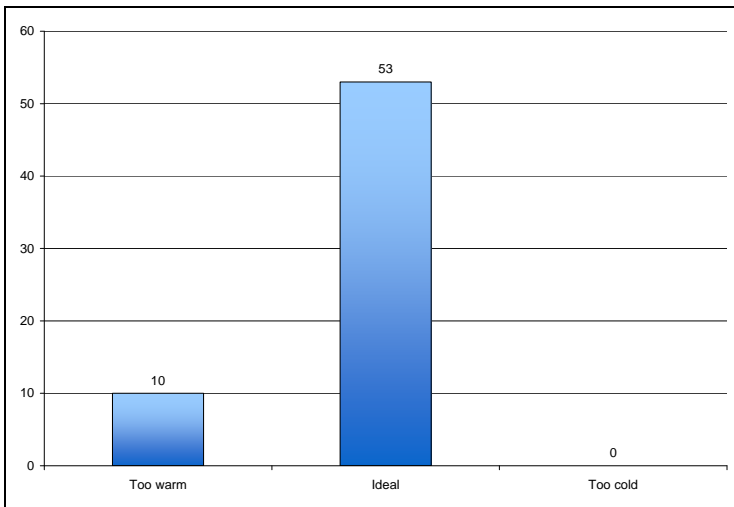
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



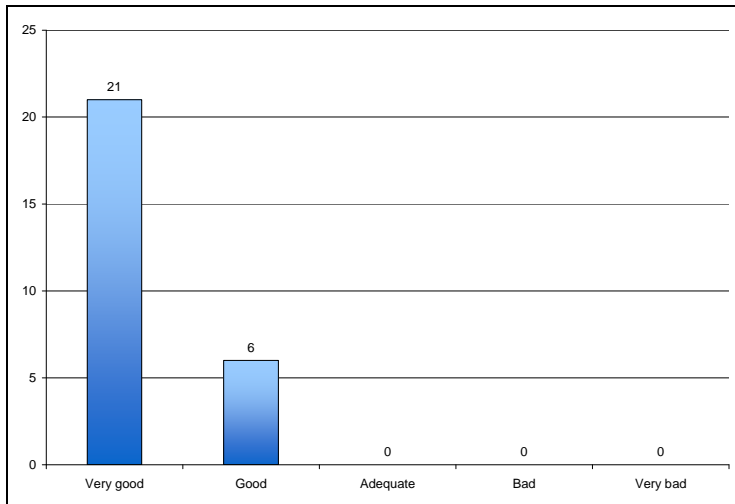
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- The table was very narrow.
- Seats and tablets very uncomfortable. The chair was too high in comparison with the height of the table (very low). Very uncomfortable for keeping on writing for long time.
- Very easily accessible by metro and bus. Very near from the National Patent Office (so most of the people taking the exam might at least have an idea of the location).
- The chairs were very uncomfortable
- Comfortable, quiet and plenty of space to work and between candidates.
- No comments
- The chair was very uncomfortable and the light conditions weren't good. It was difficult to hear the invigilators at the end of the room.
- Not adequate table. Nowhere to place the jacket or raincoat. Useless clock (reflecting surface made impossible to see the time). Kindness of invigilator telling the time every hour was of help.
- It was not easy to understand the invigilators, from the last rows. The audibility was not good.
- The lavatory is quite far away
- I missed a microphone, last rows had difficulties listening to the speaker. The rest was superb.
- Not comfortable. Light is enough but the room is very dark and "oppressive". Preferably natural light.
- The table, on which I had to write my answers, had staples under the tablecloth. Therefore, it disturbed me.
- Everything was good, thanks!!
- Small tables

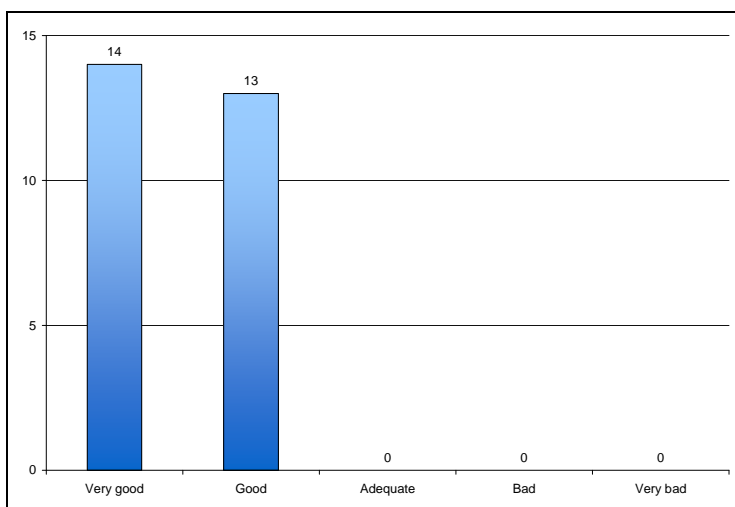
1.6 Munich DPMA (27 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

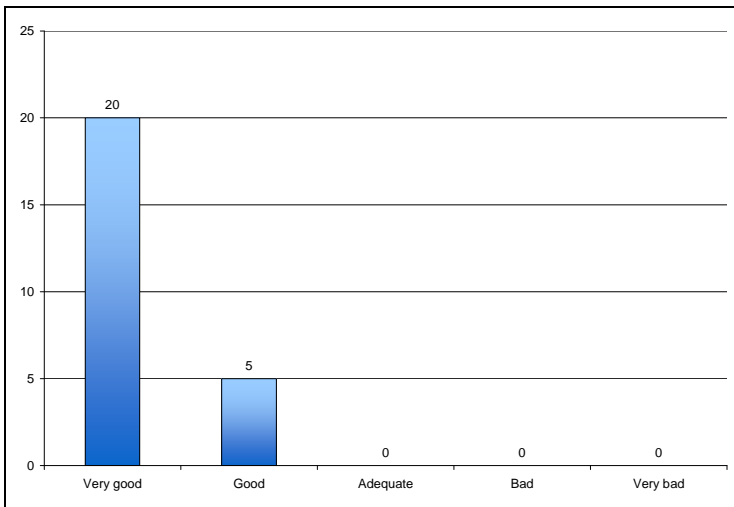
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



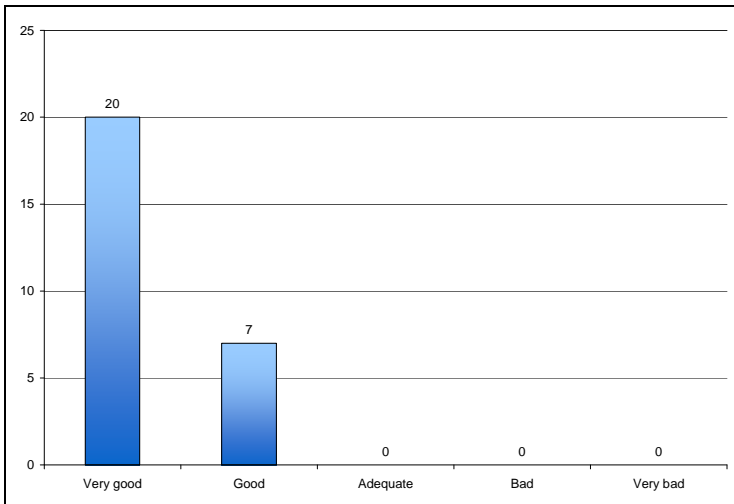
Identification check



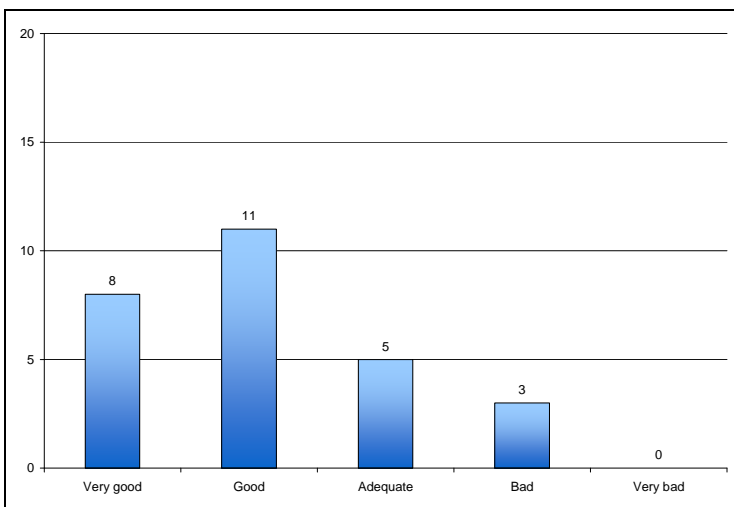
Lighting conditions



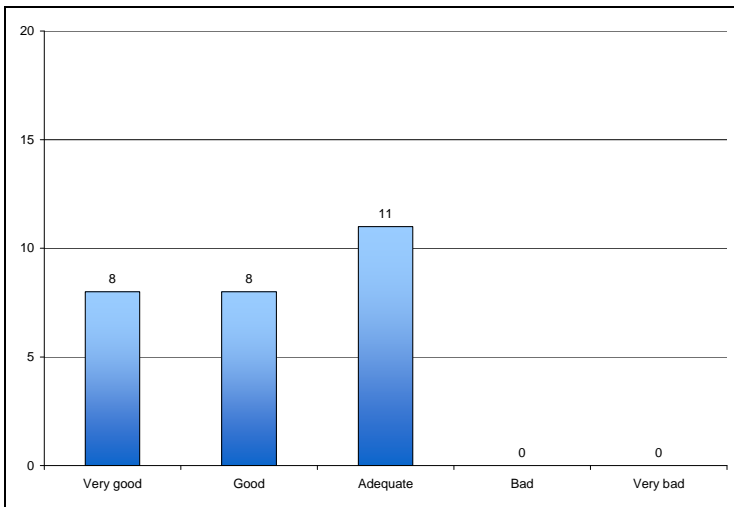
Space for candidates



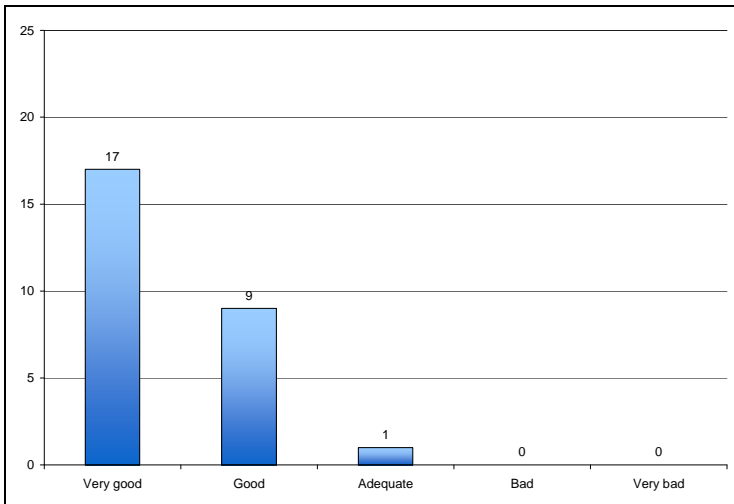
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



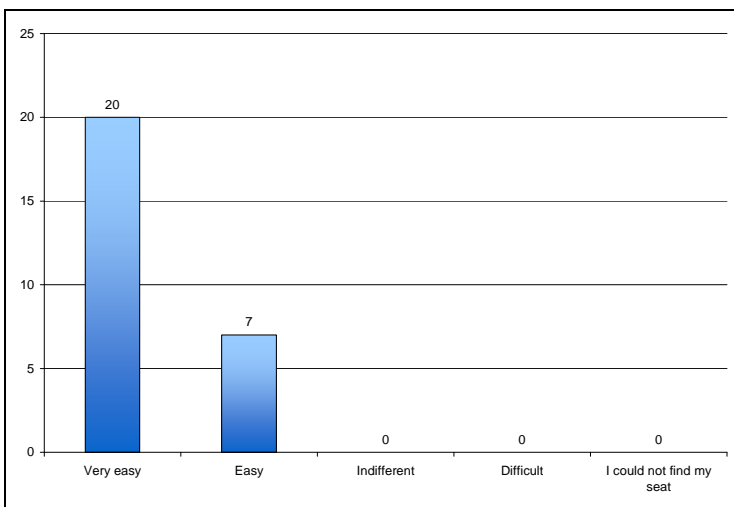
Restroom facilities



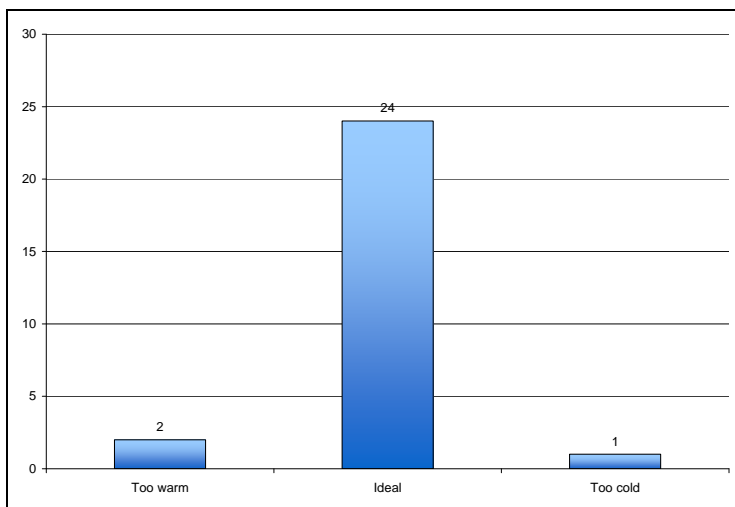
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



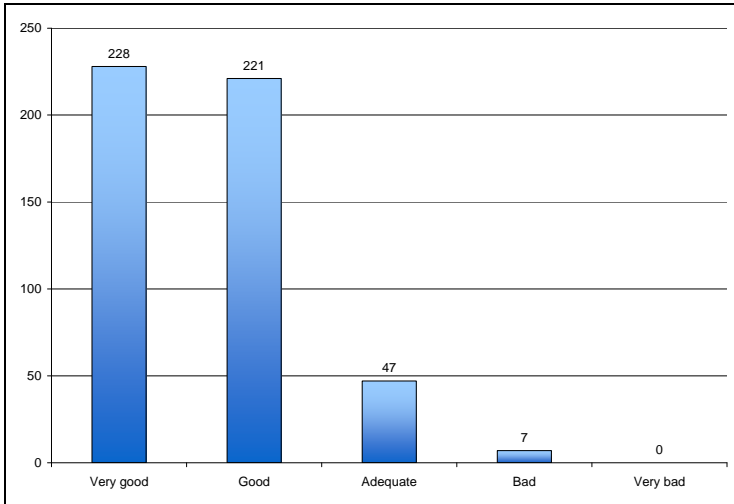
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- sehr angenehme Atmosphäre
- Chairs caused problems with respect to pain in the back. To my opinion they are not suit for sitting thereon for several hours.

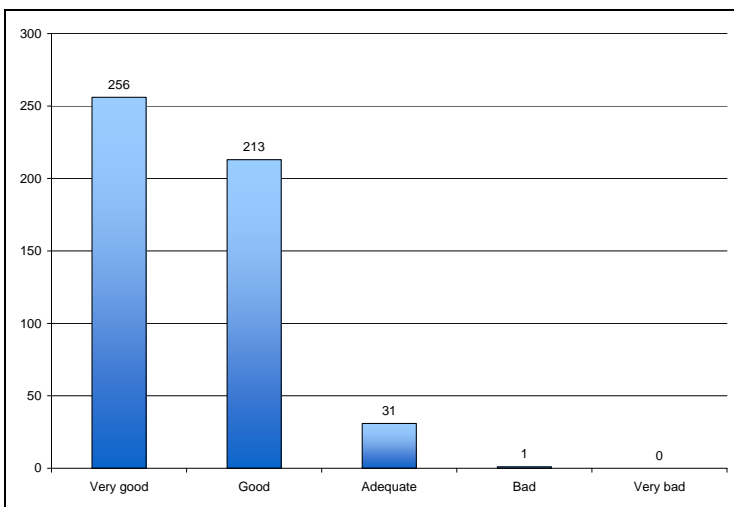
1.7 Munich M,O,C (509 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

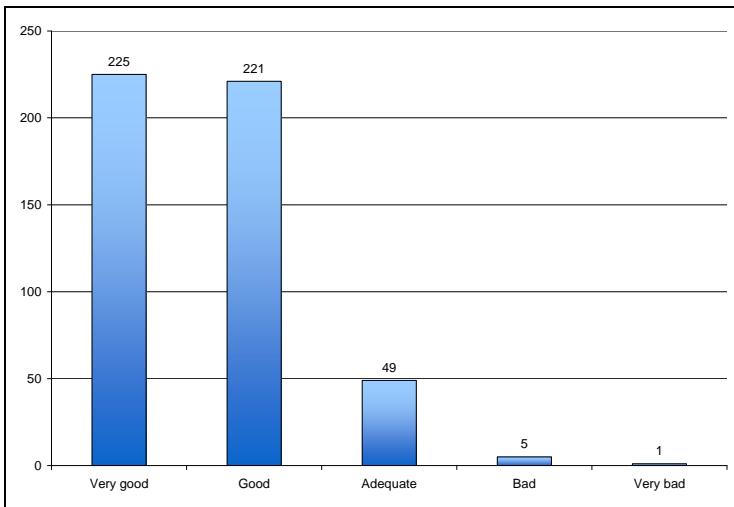
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



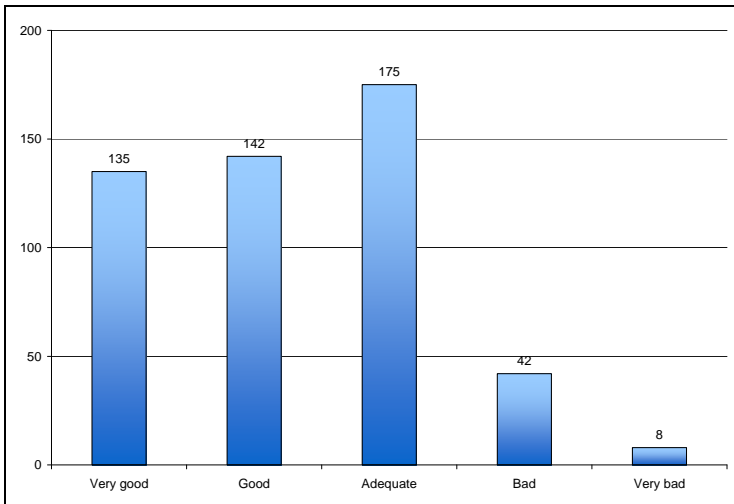
Identification check



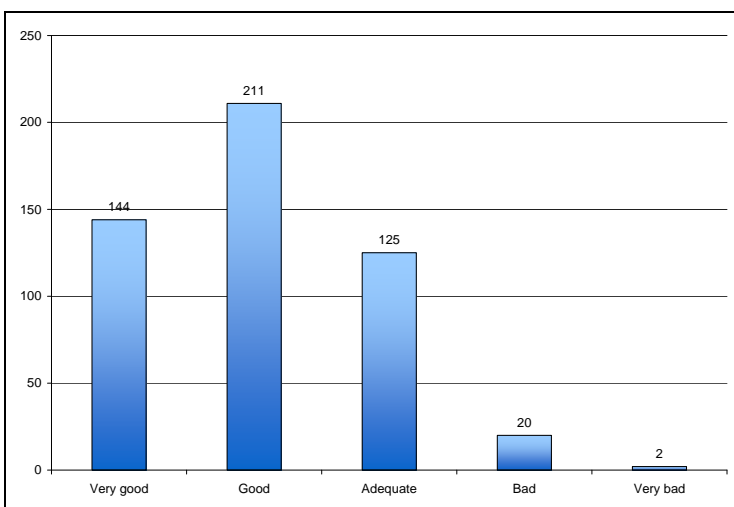
Lighting conditions



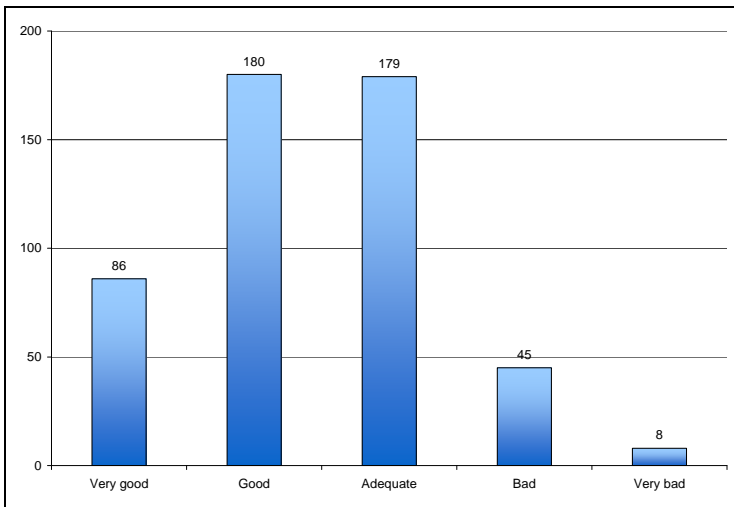
Space for candidates



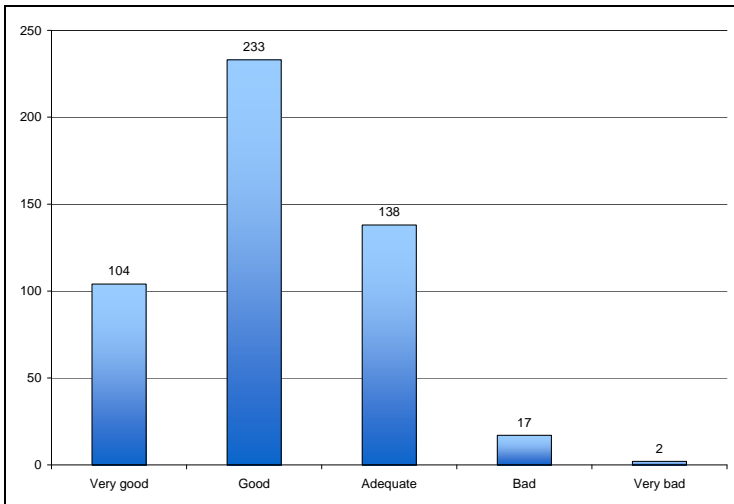
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



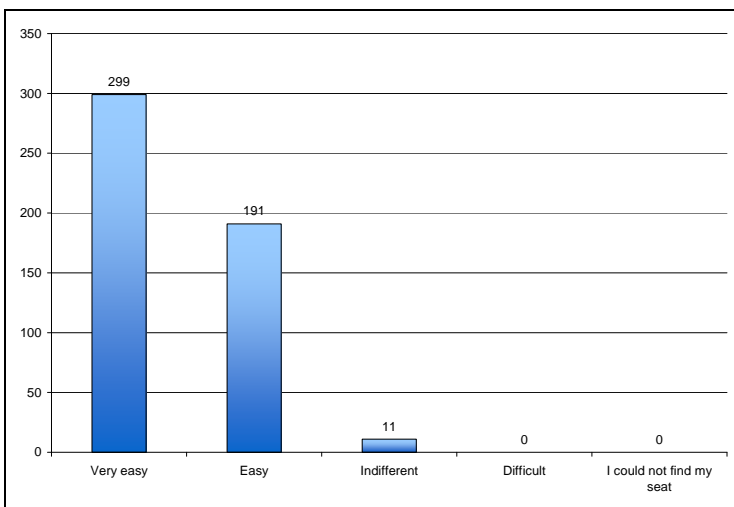
Restroom facilities



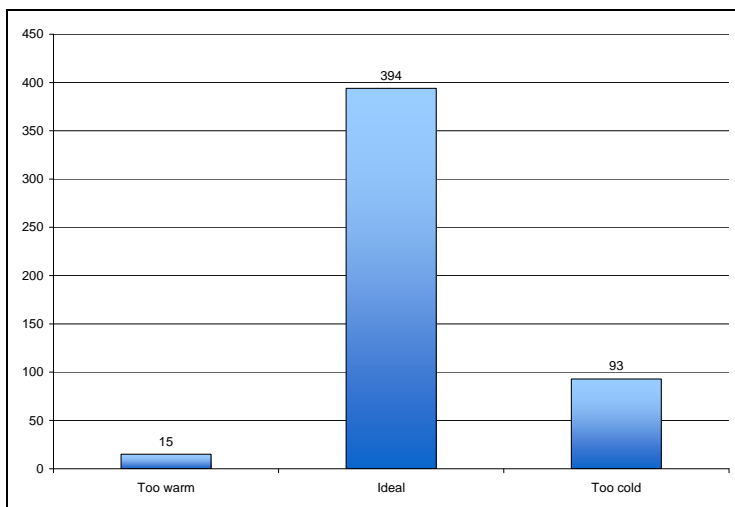
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Previously I went for the exam at the examination centre in Denmark, and I would have preferred to go there this year aswell. The number of candidates pr m2 is significantly higher at the MOC as compared to the Danish examination centre. I therefore suggest you to optimize the use of the square metres available at the Danish examination centre by decreasing the distance between the examination tables from the present about 1 metre to the about 30cm used at the MOC. ; ; Furthermore, this year like the previous years, there were a lot of empty tables during the exam in the Danish examination centre.; ; It seems as if it would be possible to increase the capacity at the Danish examination centre significantly by elimination of the empty tables and by reduction of the distance between the tables to the 30 cm available at the MOC.; ; In this way, the capacity at the Danish examination centre would presumably be sufficient.
- The air felt very stale? especcially when attending an afternoon examination and entering form outside...
- I had an aeration just above my head, which was quite noisy. I was happy to have earplugs, otherwise it would have bothered me.; The watch hanging in the room was not visible from my table. I think it would be useful to have the time visible to everyone.
- The examination center was located somewhat uncentrally, especially for candidates that do not live in Munich.
- Munich, M,O,C Forum E
- I would have preferred to sit closer to the restrooms; due to the warmth and my therefrom resulting drinking, I went there quite some times ...
- canditates should be stoped to leave the hall within the last hour
- It is a problem that the very few clocks which hang on the walls of the examination halls cannot be seen from every seat in the examination hall. Since the participants are not allowed to bring their own clocks, but only analog watches, it would be only fair to make sure everyone can check the time. Nowadays many people do not use watches anymore. I had to buy a new watch just for the examination, since I usually use my mobile phone for this purpose.
- at first too warm then in the late hours too cold
- I did expect the examination hall to be much more uncomfortable, based on earlier ratings. Seems my concerns were unsubstantiated.
- Catering, opportunity to buy some snacks is not optimal in MOC.
- It was very thoughtful that carpeting had been provided along the passageways to dampen the sound of peoples footsteps. I was very impressed that the logistics of such a large

operation were handled so well. There were no unexpected complications with the exam location, which I am very grateful for since the exam itself was already stressful enough.

- Sell drinks for candidates.
- Fresh air is very limited. The desk was at minimum size. The floor was not 100% flat so the chair was not 100% stable.
- MOC is simply in one of the worst areas around Munich: there is not a single place (bar, restaurant, etc....)where one can shut off and relax in the lunch break between DI and DII and between A and B. The situation is completely different at the central location of the DPMA. Furthermore, MOC is far to reach from the nearest underground stations (Freimann and Kiefergarten) which can be very uncomfortable when it rains and you carry the luggage with the material for the D exam. ; Please find other locations (maybe multiple locations?) better located in the town of Munich.
- you couldn't see the clock
- Hall was ok; the parking costs could be reduced
- For such a huge examination a very good organization. Very professional.
- Provision of additional clocks would be nice, since the use of mobile phones as clock is prohibited, not everybody uses a wristwatch, and the few clocks which are provided at the walls are not visible from every seat.
- Last year I sat in the K3/K4 block whereas this year I sat in the B1 block. I found it more comfortable and more place in the K3/K4 block. Also we had a big clock that could be seen from everybody. It was a pity that in the hall there is only one big clock on the wall that you can not see from block B1 last row!!!
- Not easy to access with public transportation.
- I could not see the clock, additionally my wrist watch stopped working (Murphy's Law?). It would be better to have various clocks!!!
- Height of the chairs is not adjustable, i.e. a comfortable sitting position may not be achieved by everyone.
- I was not prepared that the hall would be locked during lunch break. Hence, I could not access my books inside the locked hall for studies before afternoon exam.
- A larger table would be perfect
- Block K4
- I was also unlucky to sit close to the only guy in the hall with a terrible cold and even more terrible cough, objectively disturbing me (and probably others) during the whole session - invigilators should be more attentive and proactive on such issues that are very embarrassing for participants like myself to report - in the case in point, placing that unfortunate, but also stubborn guy (he belonged to home, not to a busy examination hall) far from everybody else in the very large room would have helped.
- Too small tables. On papers C, where 2-3 documents need to be used simultaneously there was no enough space to place them for looking them up.; Permanent reshuffling of documents was needed for placing the visible on the table. It took quite some time. C paper was the only exam where the floor had to be used to store the documents and pages of answers.
- too cold on Tuesday and Wednesday morning
- Visibility of official clock could be improved.
- The table was too small but as long as I'm allowed to utilize the adjacent tables, it's not a problem.
- Some problems with the acoustic: amplifier produced noisy sound effects
- Actually it was very cold!
- it would be nice if it were more centrally located
- I had to listen to an air conditioning device which was producing too much noise, for more than 40 minutes during the DI and DII Papers which reduced my concentration. But it was later on switched off by an invigilator. This was very kind of her. ; ; But I kindly propose you to check general conditions before the Examination day to assure that the hall can be really kept silent.

- Perfectly fine, but in all fairness, I was seated in the E section of MOC, so somewhat separated from other candidates, to say the least. Infact I was the only candidate in my room sitting the exam this year.
- none
- Positive Verbesserung: Türen der Toilette waren mit "Teppich" gedämmt. Effekt: Gute Lärmreduzierung, kein Türknallen mehr.
- The whole procedure was again very professional and reliable - a master piece of organisation an logistics - so, there is no feeling of being alone or desperate and no feeling of latent insecurity arises (which may be hindering an optimum working of the brain). ; ; After about half an hour I perceived the energy of the room settling or swinging in, like a big working temple, so optimal working conditions; and in the questions was possible. ; ; Thank you very much for a such high level of professionalism which is worth while the examination fees. ; ; The persons which organized the event and masterminded so many things which are intransparent for the participant should defintively be appreciated.
- it was very well organised
- Audibility of the invigilators was good, overall noise level was bad (bad for the purpose, that is)
- Die Temperatur in der Halle war an meinem Platz zeitweise zu kalt, so dass ich mir einen Mantel anziehen mußte.
- Air condition was not optimal. It cooled though it was already quite cool. I had to sit in a cold air flow from a air con air outlet, which I had to stop by barring the outlet it with my books... it started automatically, which was stopped by EPO personnel from the secon day on only.
- I noticed that the tables were preventet tipping. Good work.; The carpet reduced noice when people were walking, this was good.; In your letter "Enrolment for the European qualifying examination" you could inform that the hall would be opened 30 minutes before the examination starts.; ; A rather large number of students used staplers although this is not allowed.; At least one of the inviligators had used quite a lot of perfume which I noticed every time she passed my table. Please request the inviligators not to use perfume.
- Very good administration of the exam. The supervisors were very kind and professionell.
- Viel zu kalt!
- The temperature during paper D, was good, and also first part of paper C. However, when some kind of aircondition was turned on, there was draft. Not good with tension in shoulders when wrieten for 6 hours. Better if just a tiny bit too warm.; ; We were at least two, sitting in the same "block" in halle 4, MOC, who was significantly disturbed by one of the invigilators perfume. It is a severe problem for someone like me being allergic, responding with astma and migraine, when the invigilator walks by the tables again and again. Please consider to advise your invigilators that this is a serious problem.
- Hall temperature: At the first day it was ideal, at the last two days it was too cold; ; The size of the tables are really too small for sitting Paper D and Paper C
- tables quiet small especially for part C where a lot of documents have to be handled / clock was not in perfect sight so it was difficult to read the time/ hall temperature differed strongly: at the beginning windows were opened and therefore the heater worked strongly, later on it seemed that the air conditioner were working
- The examination hall is very ugly.
- The tables were large enough, but rather close to each other, so there was not much space for storing the luggage with books.
- please avoid an unessecary fire alarm next time!
- Despite the large number of people the hall was silent.; ; The candidates were too close to each other, making it difficult trips to the bathroom and was lost concentration with the movement of colleagues.; ; I think there should be more watches around.
- Invigilator did not explain at all ; ; - where the restroom facilities are located and how the procedure to use them is; - how the process of collecting the results from the candidates at the end of teh examinatin will be, what papers are collected which copies could take by the candidates; ; I ns summary I fould the instructions given by the invigilator not adequate/suffcient

- For paper C and D a little bit more space (an additional table) should be provided.
- desks more distantiated would be better
- Studio F/E was quite perfekt, but sometimes a little bit too cold.; The stuff was very fririendly.
- If possible use smaller rooms for the examination. Hall 4 in MOC is huge and because of the plenty of people there is unavoidable noise in the hall which is annoying during the examination.
- low numbers of restrooms; restrooms only at one end of the huge hall.
- It would be nice to have a central clock visible to all candidates.
- Actually it is not too cold but time to time it was cold (I was sitting in B2 and row 11) and when I talked to my friends who are sitting in the middle they said that it wasn't cold. I think the back seats can be a bit colder sometimes.
- The ventilation was too loud.
- I sat the exam in Studio E of the MOC. Overall conditions were very good.
- The space for candidates was really bad: I could not open my bag completely because I was in the "middle of the middle" of my block. It is only enough when you have the chance to be at the outside of the row... Very noisy, I was happy that I took some earplugs.
- It would be very helpful, when the candidates can leave the heavy bags with documents and law texts in the examination centre over the whol time of examination, also at the night. It was very inconvenient to carry the bags every morning to and every evening from the examination centre.
- Regarding Q5: on day 1 (for me) it was a bit cold; but that's much better than an examination hall too warm
- Cold feet
- Floor in main hall (MOC Munich) was quite cold. Maybe it is possible to caution candidates to bring warm shoes. Otherwise temperature was good.; ; Provide Lockers (outside the hall) for cell phones (maybe in seperate room, no noise to outside, no cell phone connection). Cell phone of one candidate rang during exam (unintentionally). She might have used the locker. Those candidates arriving by subway have problems of locking the cell phones away.; ; Please provide online registration. I was erroneously registered for chemistry instead of mechanics (application form was filled out correct).
- Infrastructure (meals, waiting area between exams) not existing
- Clock was not visible from my seat; maybe more clocks could be installed? (e.g. on desks of supervisors, well visible for candidates).; Air condition very noisy in the area where my seat was located.; Apart from that, very comfortable. Supervisors very friendly and quickly at hand with additonal writing paper.
- It would be good if loudspeakers could also be placed in the restrooms so that it is possible to hear any instructions etc everywhere within the examination hall. Since the instructions regarding the opening of the envelopes and signing of the coloured sheet were given before the starting signal, a number of candidates were still in the restrooms during this address!
- I was in Studio E/F on the 2nd floor of the MOC and the system of going to the toilet did not work very well. We had to raise our hand to go to the toilet on the 2nd and 3rd day of the exams however the invigilators were not always very quick to respond. Furthermore we were only allowed to go one at a time which meant sometimes having to wait for someone else to return from the toilet and therefore losing valuable time during the exam.; ; Some people are still using staplers in the C paper which was very distracting at the start of the exam.
- For me it was easy to find my seat, however, that was not a case for all of us, as on first morning, it took me a while to convince fellow candiate that he has set up his material on my desk, and this was not nice for me as took a while to convince him that he is at wrong desk, and then I needed to wait for him to move all of his material to his own desk before I was able to settle in. Hence, might be worth to consider to place exam paper envelopes middle of the desk on first morning, so that name is clearly visible and everyone can clearly see that it is correct desk before settling in.
- Compared to a small centre such as Madrid, it is amazing how 300 people manage to be so quiet and considerate.

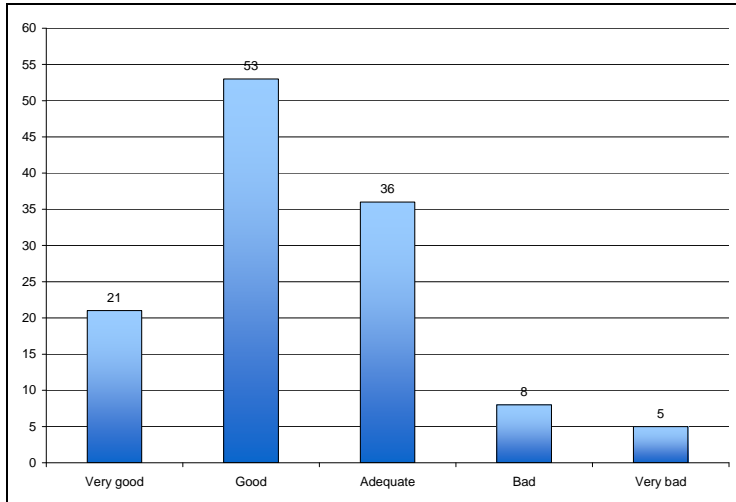
- Munich, M.O.C., Studio F: Bad air condition, no windows - doors had to be opened during the exam for fresh air.
- The only problem was the room temperature but it is was not a big issue. Actually the room was not very cold but it could be 2-3 C warmer.
- parking is expensive, but very convenient.; Restaurant is too small.; difficult to find a quiet place to the lunch break
- I was expecting a horrible hall so this was far better!
- I parked my car in the underground. There were no hints about the EQE and i was late (my fault) and lost 5 mins running through the underground to find the EQE (unlucky on the other side of the building).; Nevertheless I, too, had problems to find the right section (A-E) in the MOC, so i would be happy if in the admission letter would be a help about the section (E) and that the examination is held on the ground floor mainly. ; I have to admit that i have not visited the internet page about the circumstances of the MOC, perhaps there are helping informations but there was no hint to this page on the admission letter or place card either as I recall.....perhaps they were there?
- I was a bit wondering having two empty tables on each side, however, I was not allowed to put them together (at least one would be sufficient). So I put my books onto the other table in oder to have some space for working, but than the friendly EPO stuff gave me the advice to put most of my books onto the table I´m sitting in oder not to often stay up to get my books from the neighboring table in oder not to disturb the others- so than the space becomes less.
- very bad air conditions, smelly after few minutes and far too cold!
- Die Temperatur in der Halle war etwas zu niedrig, so dass man über die Dauer der Prüfung kalte Hände bekommen hat.
- I was sitting on the 2nd floor in a smaller room than on the ground floor and thought that it was better suitable to concentrate.
- too many persons in the same hall
- Worse conditions are hardly possible. Atmosphere like in a pig-slaughterhouse, but doesn´t matter, candidates are treated like pigs anyway. For part D, tables are too small to have a good overview on all the material.
- Some clocks which enables someone to read the time during examination.
- I found the organization extremely good.
- It was a little bit cold. This is not good as the risk of getting sick is higher whilst sitting four hours on a desk with cold feet. However, this is the only point I can add, allover the conditions were really good.
- I was positively surprised about the good conditions as loudness, temperature and working space.
- at first it was too warm then in the late hours too cold
- The small room in the second floor was really a good place for the exam!
- in part C, one could hear a truck with running motor outside the hall for a long time. The exhaust gases were also entering the hall which I could smell. Probably something which nothing can be done about.
- There was a problem with the loudspeakers: For about 20 sec a very, very loud noise came from the loud speakers during the examination; the noise was almost painful in the ears. ---> Please turn off loud speakers during the exam completely, so such problems can be avoided.
- For some candidates there was a long distance between their desk and the restrooms ("time consuming walk").
- It would have been very helpful for me to have a better view to a big clock/watch being clearly visible within the examination room in order to be able to counter-check the time schedule. The next clock/watch was too far away and was hardly visible, at least from the part where I was sitting.
- Temperature became too low during C-part due to fresh air inlet which was necessary.; Poor air condition!
- ok

- It seems as though we had less space this year than last year. It was nice to be able to spread out last year.
- Before opening to the examination hall, it was a little crowded and disorganized - however, tolerable.
- Toilettenpapier und Tücher zum Abtrocknen auf den Toiletten nicht ausreichend
- The low room temperature especially on the FIRST DAY was felt as a real impediment.
- professional atmosphere,
- Everything was fine!
- Larger desks or two desks would be good, especially when thinking of module D.
- Chairs were uncomfortable. They are not suited for sitting thereon for several hours.
- I was sitting next to the window, so "Very-good" lighting-conditions might not be representative.
- The air quality was very bad - it smelled and there was a lack of oxygen.
- More table space would be nice!
- table area is far too small, particularly for paper C. Otherwise no complaints.
- far too little space, especially for paper C

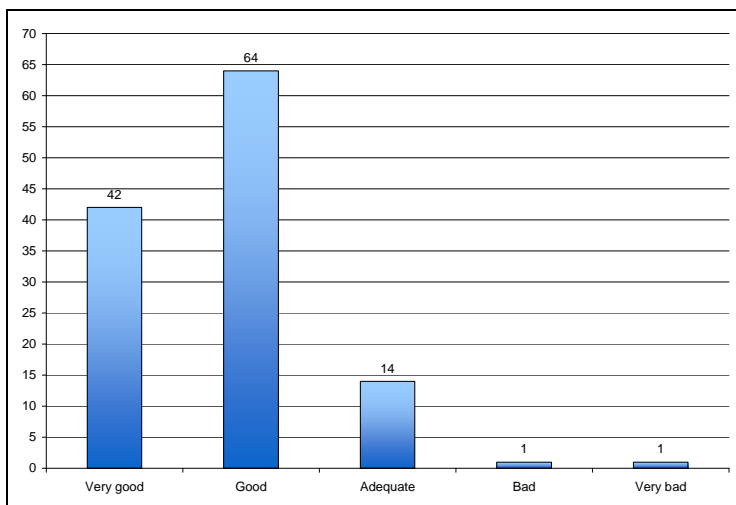
1.8 Paris (126 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

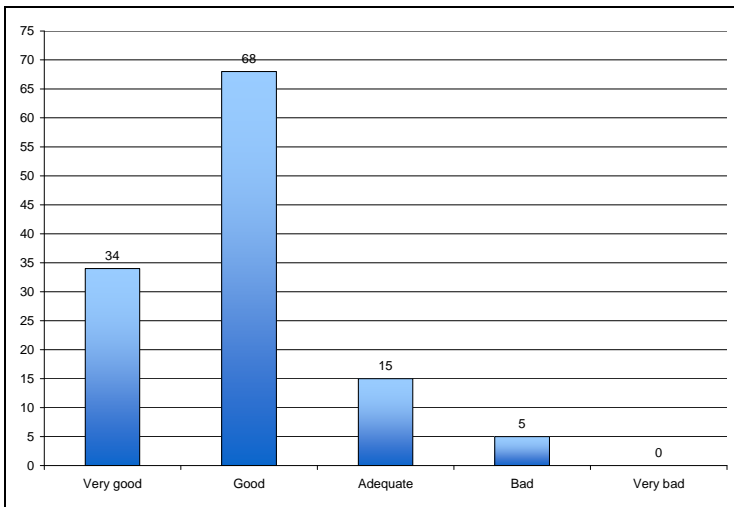
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



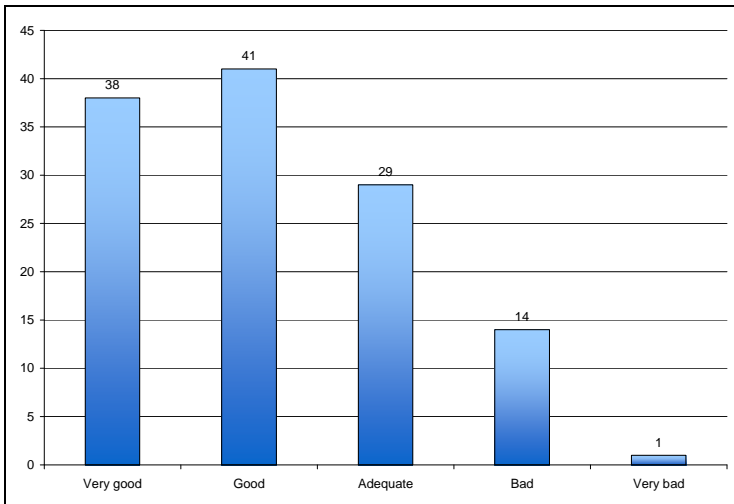
Identification check



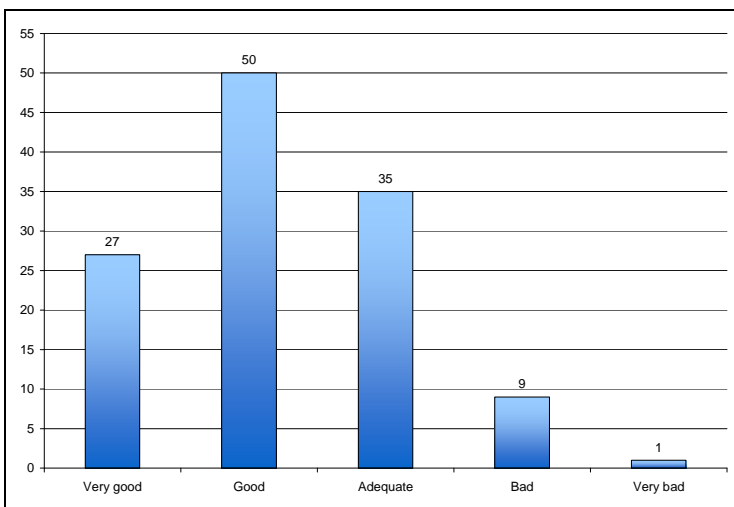
Lighting conditions



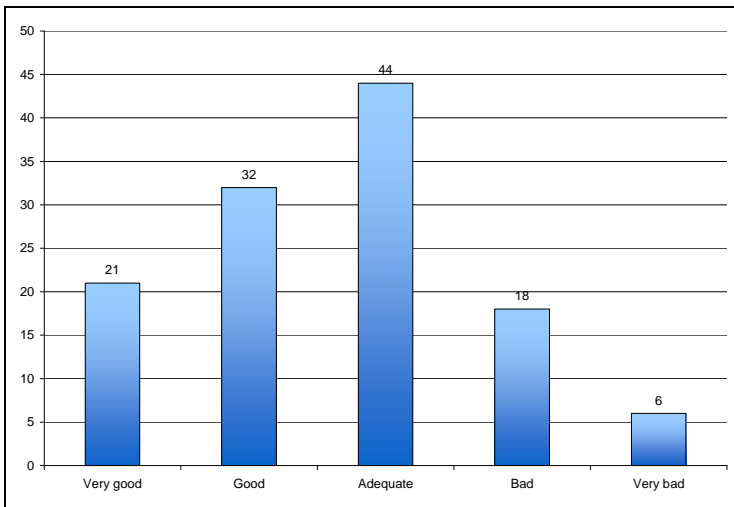
Space for candidates



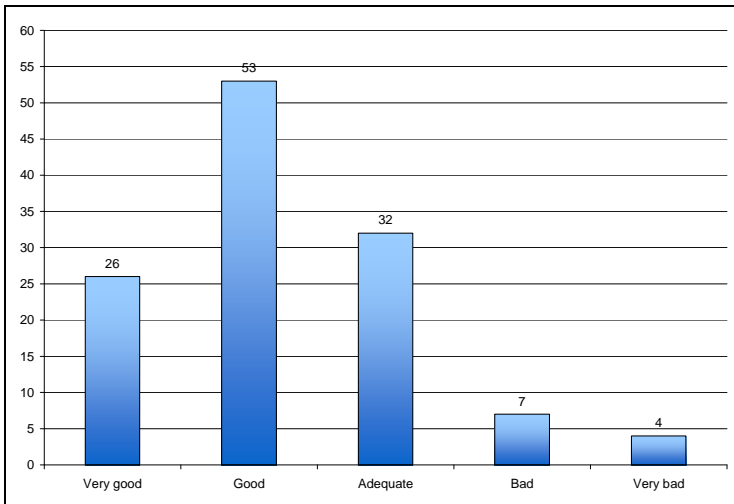
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



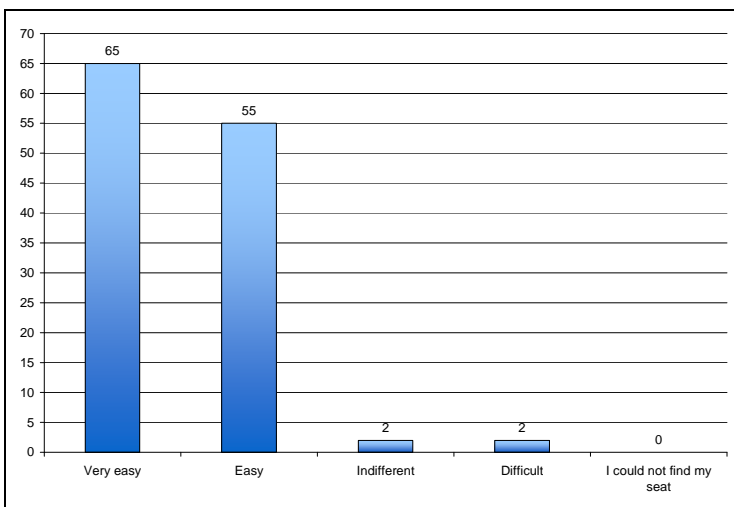
Restroom facilities



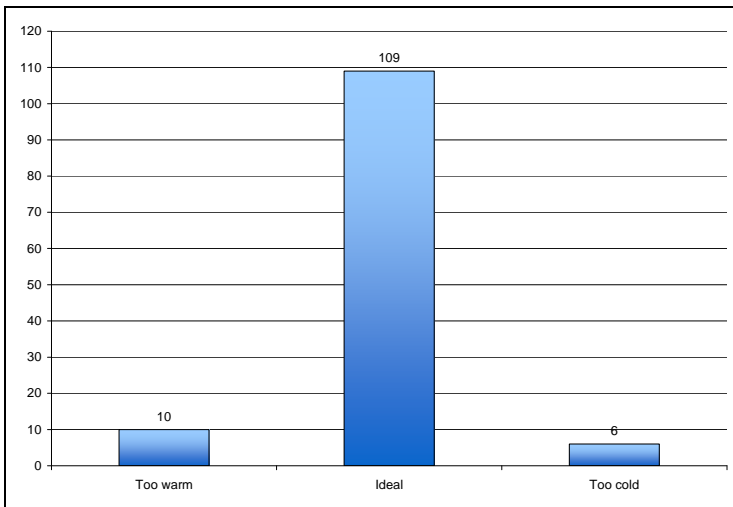
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- The access by "metro" is not very nice because there is only one line which is very loaded.
- L'endroit est assez difficile d'accès en transports en communs car excentré.
- Comments would rather concern the location of the examination center, whose access is not easy.
- numerous clocks in the examination rooms are very useful
- Le seul reproche est le fait que ça se passe à saint Ouen, la défense serait plus approprié comme lieu d'examen (rer + metro + sncf)
- The area of Paris where the exam center is located is not the most relaxing area of Paris...
- access of exam center not very easy; surroundings not very good in terms of food
- Pendant l'épreuve, je me trouvais très prêt de la porte de sortie la plus proche des toilettes. Or, pendant tout l'examen, j'ai été gêné par les discussions des gens du centre d'examen qui se regroupaient devant les toilettes et discutaient. C'était très gênant pour se concentrer et aucun surveillant n'est sorti demander aux gens de parler moins fort.
- pas assez lumineux
- Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs: Far from Paris and not well located with respect to public transportation (long time for transportation, (even with a personal car), correspondances required), no parking nearby. No hotel particularly close. By chance there were no strikes these days but the first day public transportation took me twice the time required for going to the examination centre.; Identification check: No particular problem, but could it be modernized? Space on the table could be advantageously reserved for other purposes, even if it is giving a certain solemnity to the moment. ; Lighting conditions: relatively poor. ; Space for candidates: larger tables would be appreciated ; Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators: ok. ; Restroom facilities: accessible, ok. ; Hall temperature: cold air flows.
- Reference clck was hidden by a pilar in the room. And the only other available clock was too far to see clearly the minutes.
- The examination centre is in the suburbs of Paris and thus a little bit difficult to access.; Aren't there any centre in the centre of Paris? It would be a great thing not to additionally worry about the route!
- The examination centre was not convenient at all, too far from a subway station, very difficult to find.
- All was very well done, but I could have used some more space on the table.
- Rather than identifying the seat by two numbers, 4 and 2 for me, which created confusion, it would be more logical to use one number and one letter.; ; 2) The papers not used were

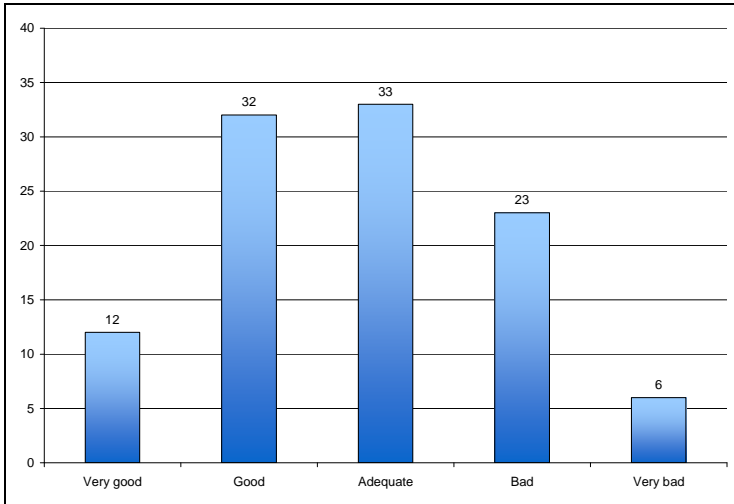
each in a plastic envelope. At a point in time one of the surveyors has counted them at least twice, has put them in a shape of a column. It took him approximately 15 mn, and it was noisy...; ; 3) There was a table with some foods and drinks, that was really a good idea!

- Would it possible in the future to have the examination centre moved more towards the center of Paris (eg. La Defense).; There is only one metro line going to St-Ouen (same thing for Saint-Denis); thus it is not practical for the candidates.; There would be more accessibility at la Defense (metro, RER, trains...) + more hotels and a safer area.
- noisy furniture (paper D when the front candidate was writing, his table squeaked)
- The location of the examination hall is bad : it is located far from the center of Paris, and in an unsafe area, especially for women
- I sat the pre-eqe, not the eqe
- Location of the examination hall is not ideal : very few hotels in the vicinity
- The area in which the center is situated is very unsafe. ; It must be changed as soon as possible.
- Falicities for catering could have been delivered earlier than the day of the Exam.
- it's VERY VERY difficult to find "correct hotel" in the area !!!
- The location of the examination hall in paris is perfect!
- The area is not ideal, off-centered from the center of Paris. The metro is far from the Eurosite. The area is unsafe especially at night near the street where are located several hotels (Dr.Babinski street).
- Beaucoup trop de bruits venant de l'exterieur de la salle. Il s'agissait notamment de discussions de la part de gens restant devant les toilettes, juste derrière l'une des portes d'entrée de la salle. C'était assez dérangeant, mais aucun des surveillants n'est intervenu pour demander aux gens de parler moins fort.
- not enough restaurants near the examination hall. decent hotels are pretty far away.
- The table was not stable and made a lot of noise every time I wrote and erased something on my paper. Of course I put some paper under the table legs but it didn't help. It was difficult to concentrate myself on the papers.; Is it so expensive to provide normal tables for this important examination??? I can't understand.
- La salle est située dans une proche banlieue de Paris qui est à éviter : difficile d'accès, pas d'hôtels corrects, sécurité moyenne.
- It was comfortable that the examination center was reachable by the metro, no need of complicated transports.
- tables were too small, there was echo rendering hearing difficult
- Since the building is old, and the room in which we were deprived from any window, the smell of said room was bad. The desks were too small.
- Le site d'examen, à Saint Ouen, est situé dans une zone de la région parisienne difficilement accessible en transport en commun, quasiment dépourvue d'hôtels, et pas très bien fréquentée !
- Accessibility to the examination centre itself is not very convenient.

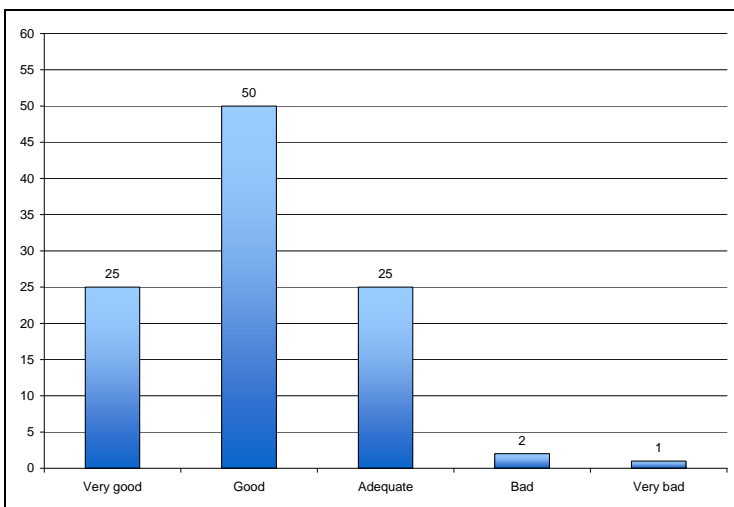
1.9 Rome (106 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

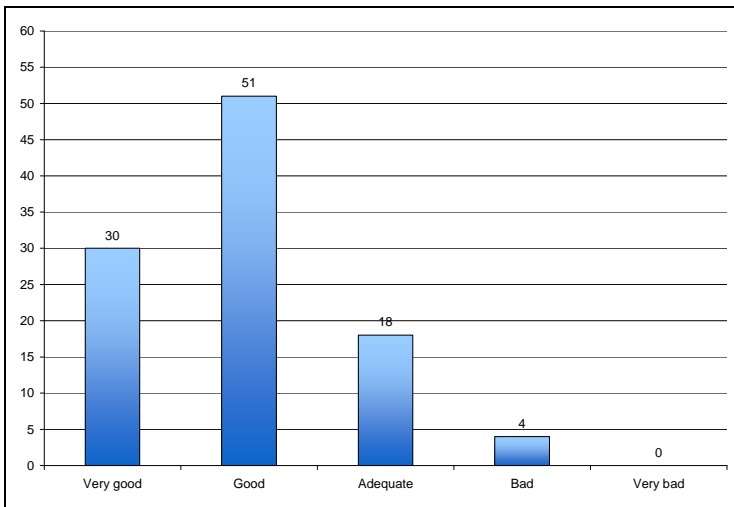
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



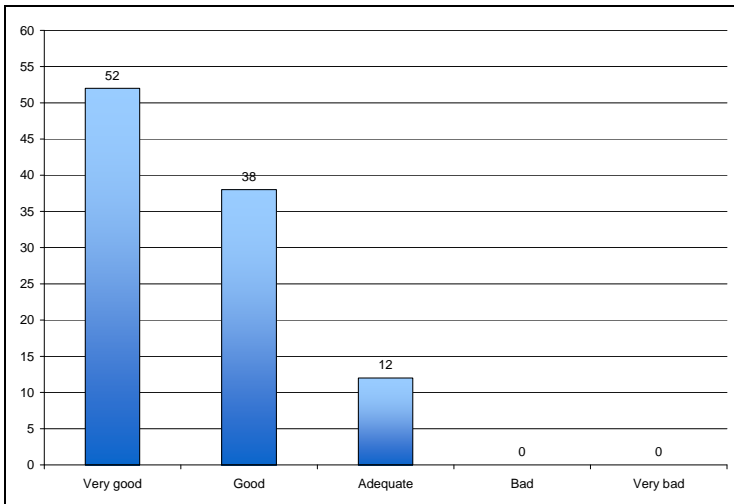
Identification check



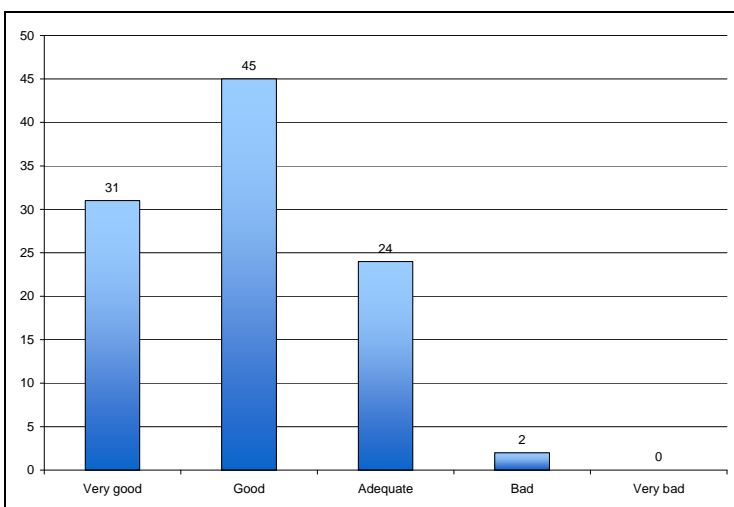
Lighting conditions



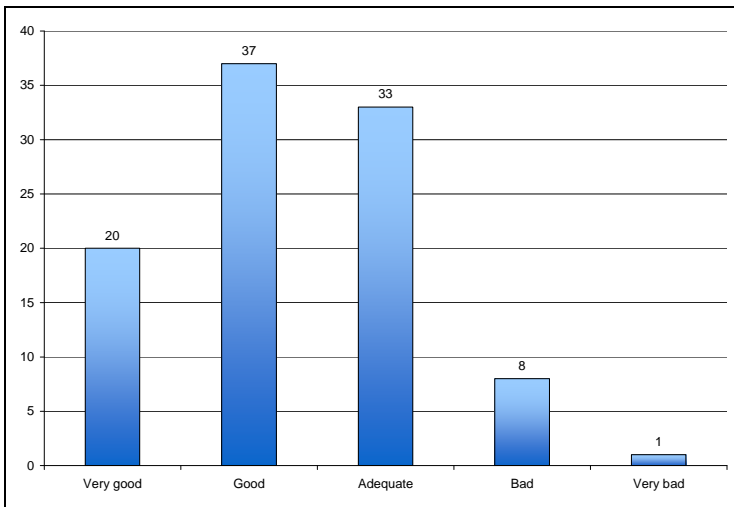
Space for candidates



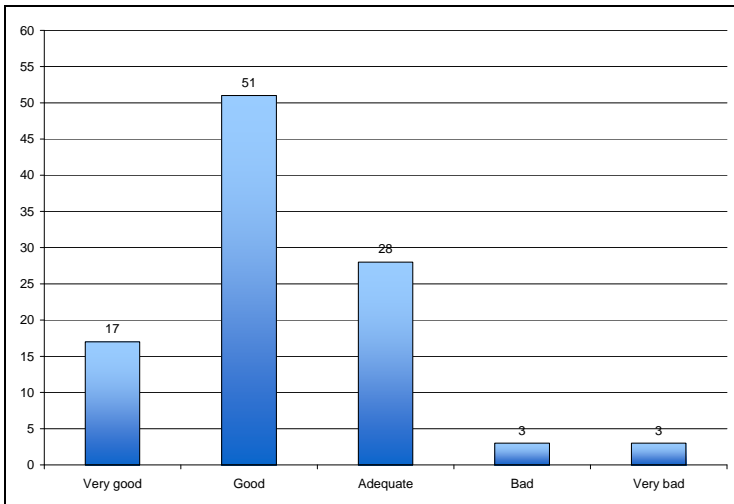
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



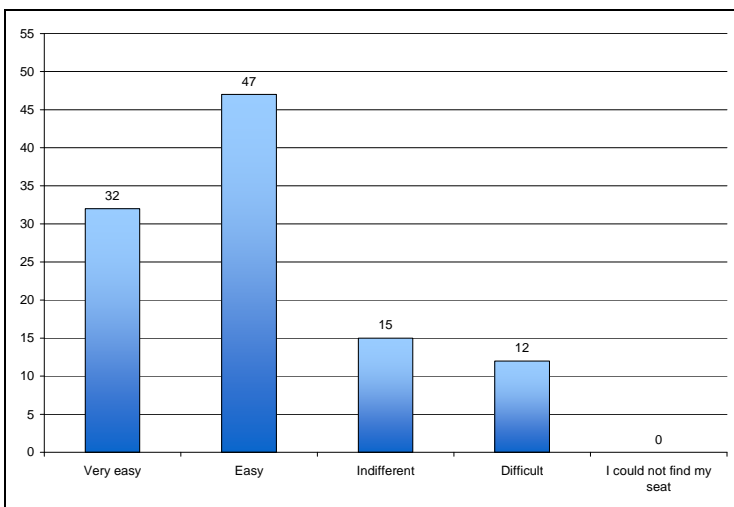
Restroom facilities



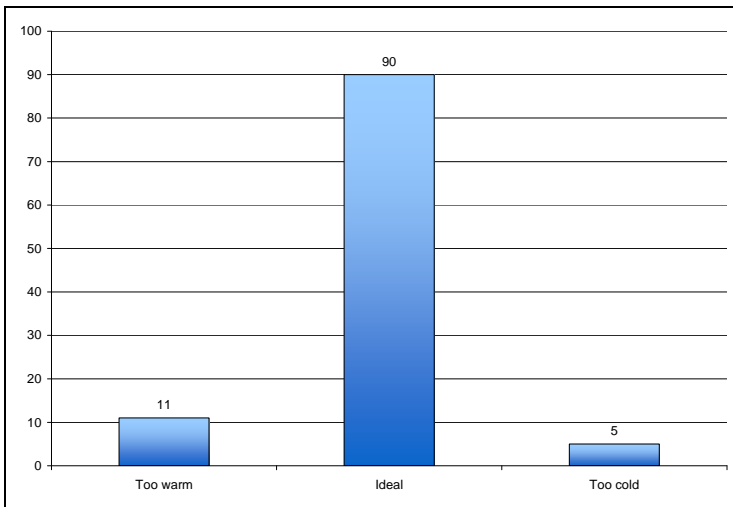
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



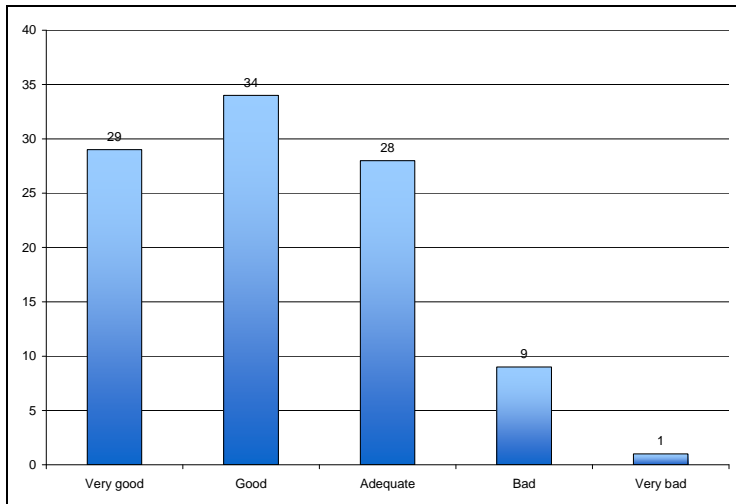
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- The examination hall was in the underground of the "Agenzia delle Entrate" close to the Ergife Hotel. The hall was accessible only by stairs, no elevator available. The stairs were not sufficiently illuminated (risk of falling, at the end of the afternoon Papers). No possibility of access for disabled people or pregnant candidates (there were at least two pregnant ladies at the Papers I attended). Most of the candidates had weighty luggage (full of books and block notes) and it was very hard to bring them with no elevator availability and risky in so bad lighting conditions along the stairs.
- Conditions of the examination hall were good, however it would be better to use a different entry in order to avoid the 4 flights with the suitcase.
- The examination Hall was accessible through many ramps of stairs, which was very uncomfortable for candidates bringing many heavy textbooks. The stairs were totally dark at the end of the first day, i.e no light on the stairs (paper D). No lift. External ramp was accessible only via a narrow emergency corridor.
- The hall was not simply accessible, because it was at floor -2 and there was no lift. Light on the flight of stairs was off at 6 pm. Information signs were handwritten on wet paper because of the rain.
- I appreciate the effort to organize the examination center that suits the needs for the candidate writing the examination.; ; Very well done in Rome.
- A lift/elevator would be appreciated, candidates normally have very heavy baggage, books, guidelines, etc. and the steep stairs are a true obstacle.
- Although the hall is not the best one (especially because it can't contain all the Italian candidates, some were assigned to Munich), it is certainly better than the hall of 2011 (which was bigger, but too cold, especially in the first day of paper D). Many stairs had to be taken (no lift available). This is not comfortable when bringing together a suitcase with the books.
- Four flights of stairs with at least two heavy suitcases full of books... it is really annoying and tiring, especially for women.; Please try to find a room more accessible or at least that has a lift.
- Signs to the examination hall were not adequate

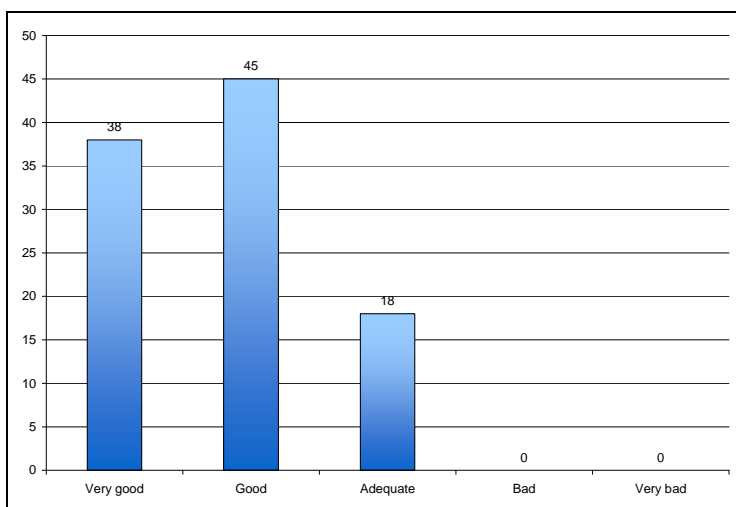
1.10 Stockholm (101 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

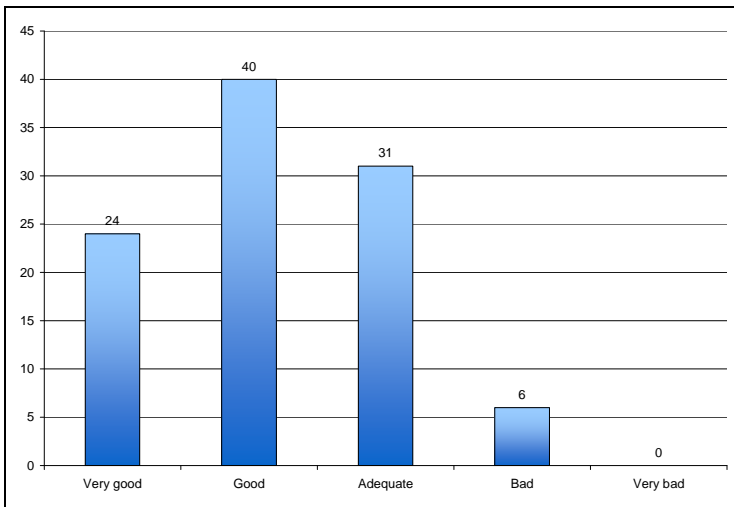
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



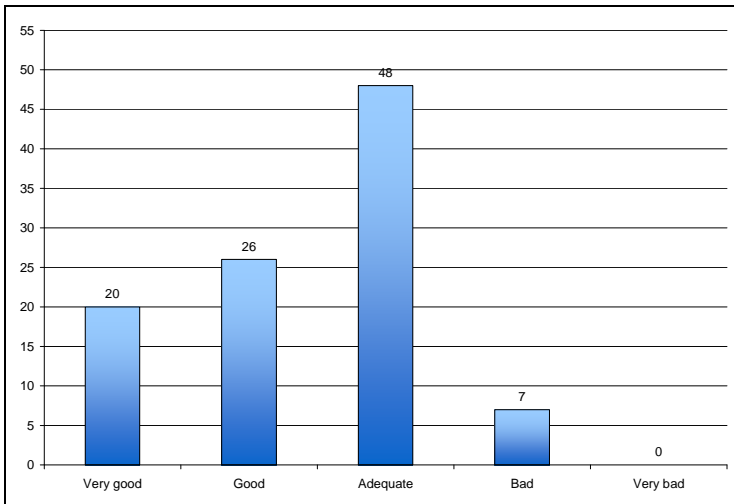
Identification check



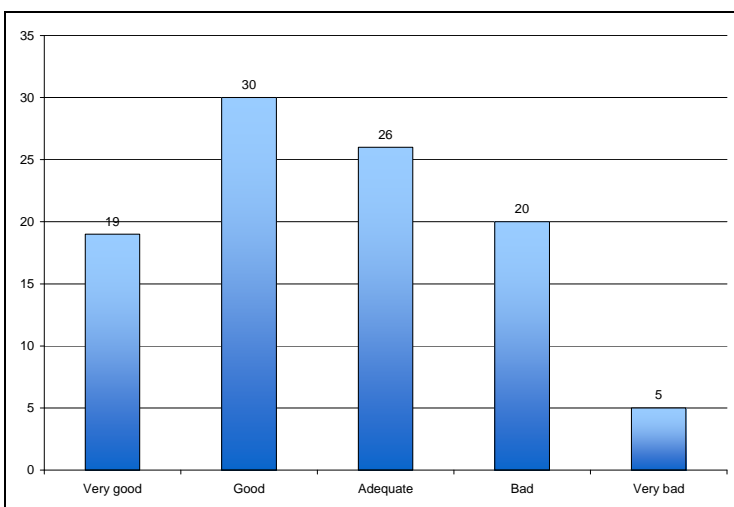
Lighting conditions



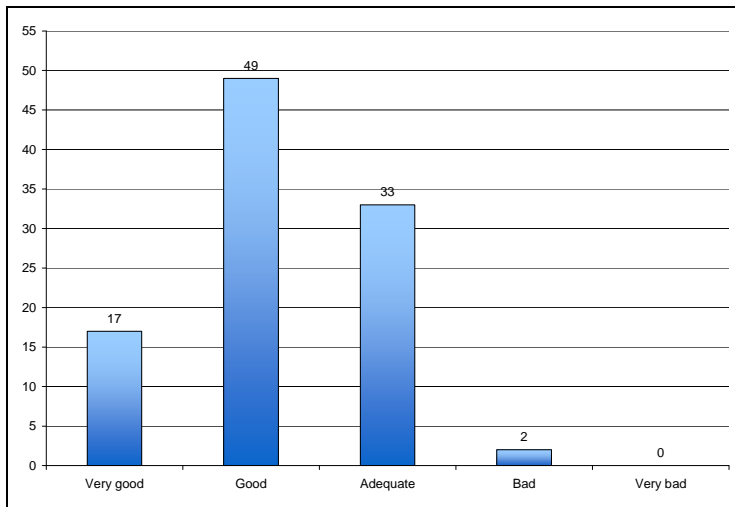
Space for candidates



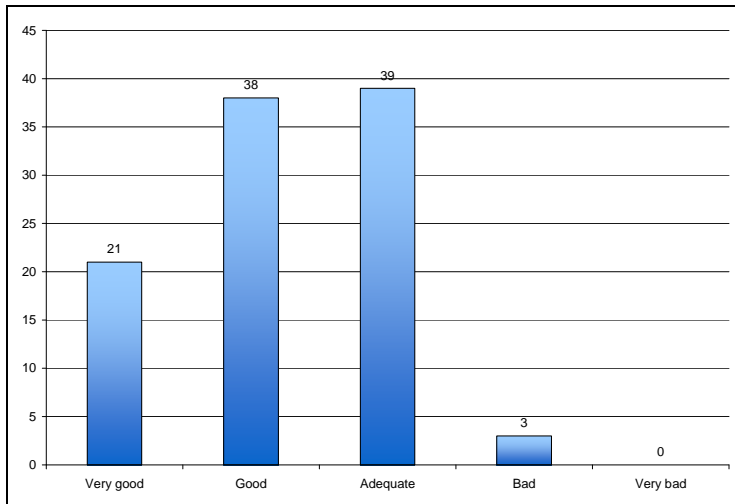
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



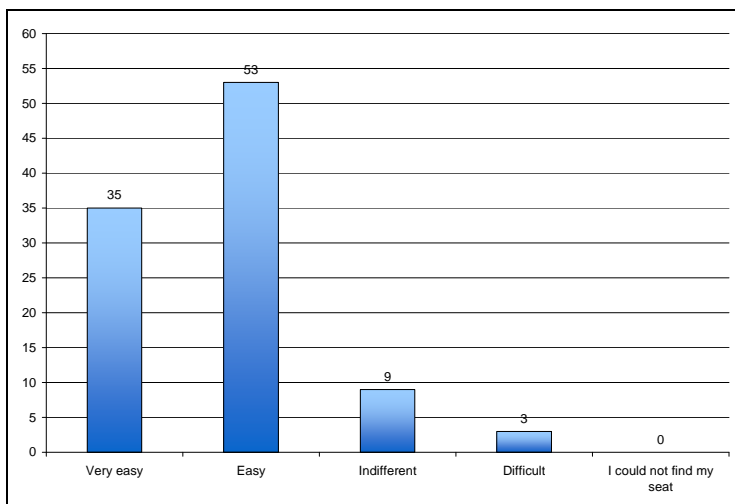
Restroom facilities



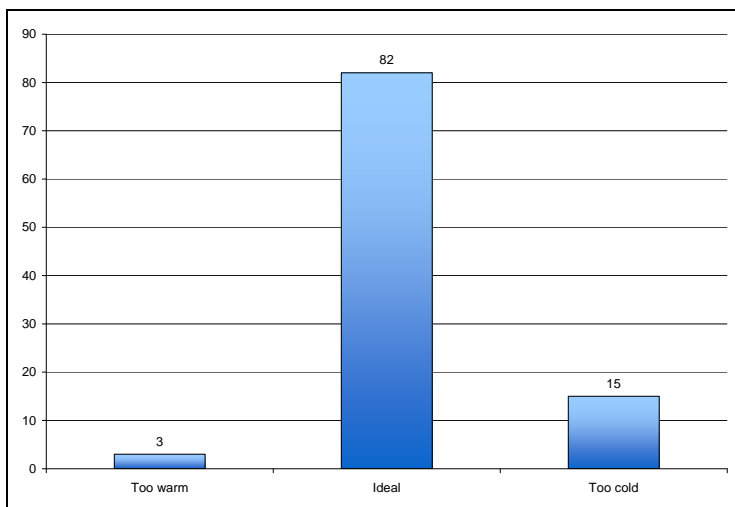
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

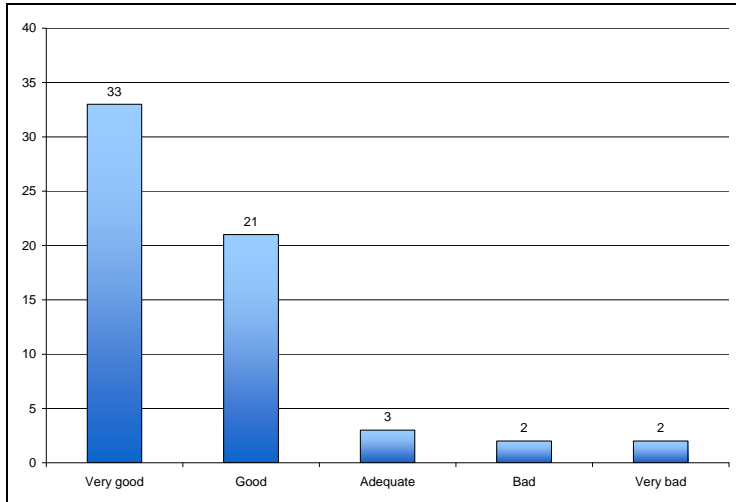
- Lights on the tables were provided, but they gave very limited light. The chairs were not adjustable, and the seating height inappropriate in relation to the height of the table.
- I sat in the row to the right from watching from the front of the hall. This row was very dark.
- As commented in Q5 it was much too cold for sitting still for 4 hours.
- It would be good to have the restrooms within the examination hall, so that you do not have to exit the hall.; When I was at university, in Lund, all the examination halls had restrooms within the examination hall, so I think it is strange that they do not have in Stockholm.; ; The tables are ok in Stockholm, however an even larger one would be better.
- I sat close to a door towards the outside which was not so well isolated, so it was both cold and noisy.
- No signs whatsoever outside the examination hall. You must assume that all the candidates are resitters and know their way there!; ; The entrance door to the hall was almost impossible to close without considerable noise, which was a problem since the restrooms could be accessed only through that door. I have gathered that some candidates were very much disturbed by this. I was not myself, since I had brought earplugs. Maybe earplugs could be provided in examination centres with noisy conditions?
- The entrance door was noisy. Each time a candidate left the hall, all candidates were disturbed by the slamming door. This was the case even last year.
- The chairs were too low relative to the table. Also very uncomfortable for sitting so many hours, knees got stiff. Toilets needed better cleaning - was not done from day 2 to day 3 (do not know situation after day 1). Otherwise, it was a quite nice experience :-)
- Little bit shaky tables. but otherwise good.
- I hope it is the last time I enter the examination hall
- Could not hear the announcements due to bad loudspeaker arrangements.
- The desk allotted to me is not stable and shakes at touch. Suggest to have each desk checked for the next year.
- It was difficult to find the examination hall. A map how to reach the exam hall from public transportation would have been appreciated.
- The door slammed terribly every time a sitter went to the bathroom. This must be changed to the next year.
- Like last year, rickety tables and cables for lamps taped to the floor being a source of nuisance.
- I can't recall seeing any signs outside the hall. This could have been helpful.

- Accessibility was adequate but I saw no signs in the area to indicate where the examination hall was.
- Low illumination by the places by the wall.
- Could have been a few more information signs.
- Too little space on the desks. Warm. I think the people who sat in the end of the rows near one wall had a short ceiling and very crowded.

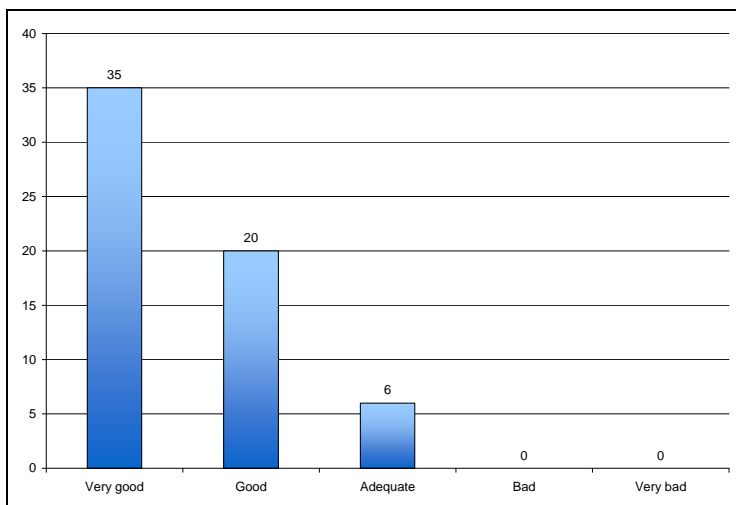
1.11 Taastrup (62 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

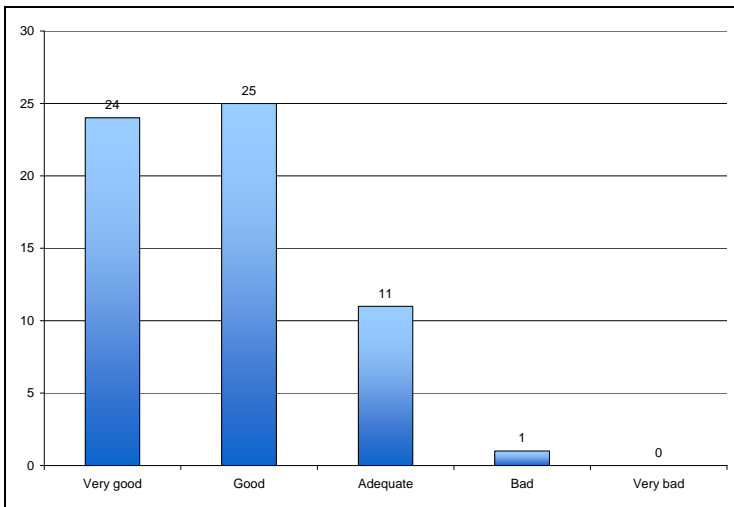
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



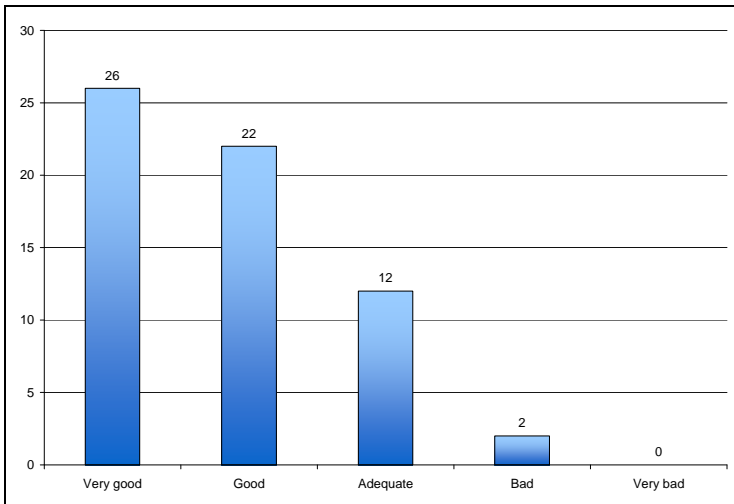
Identification check



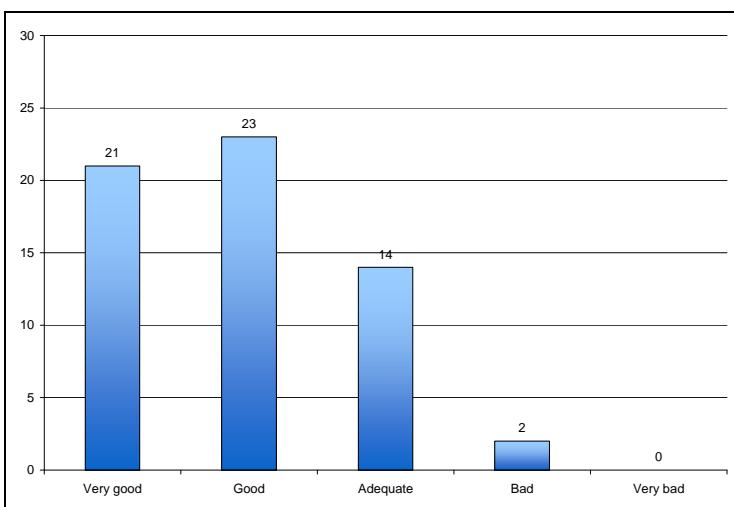
Lighting conditions



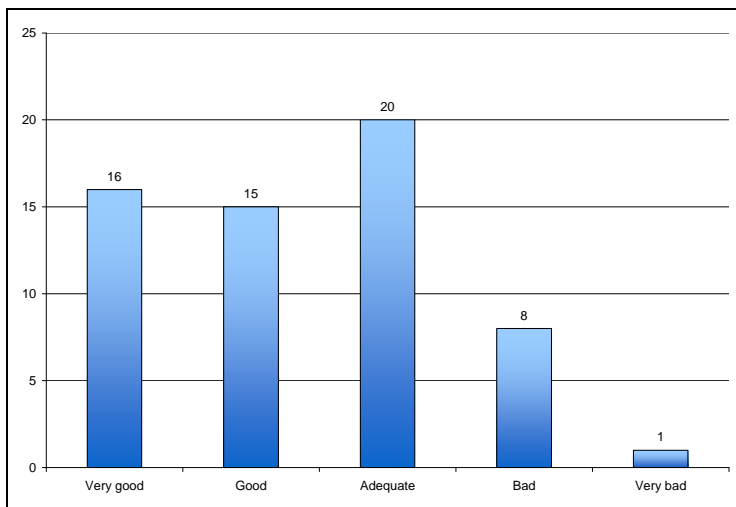
Space for candidates



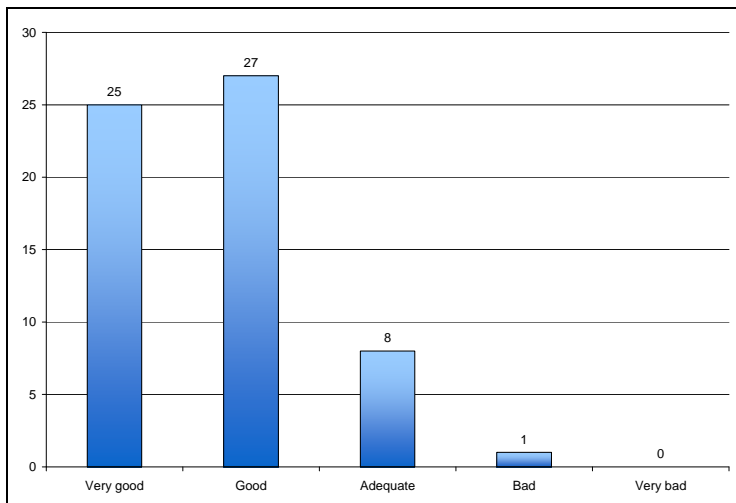
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



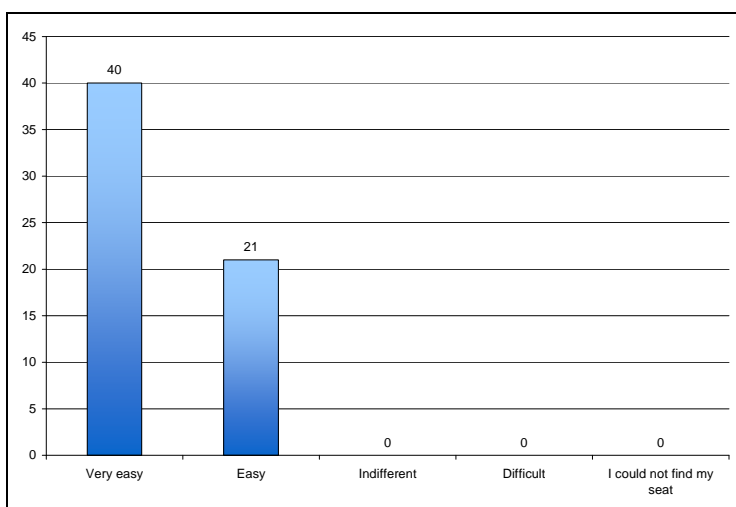
Restroom facilities



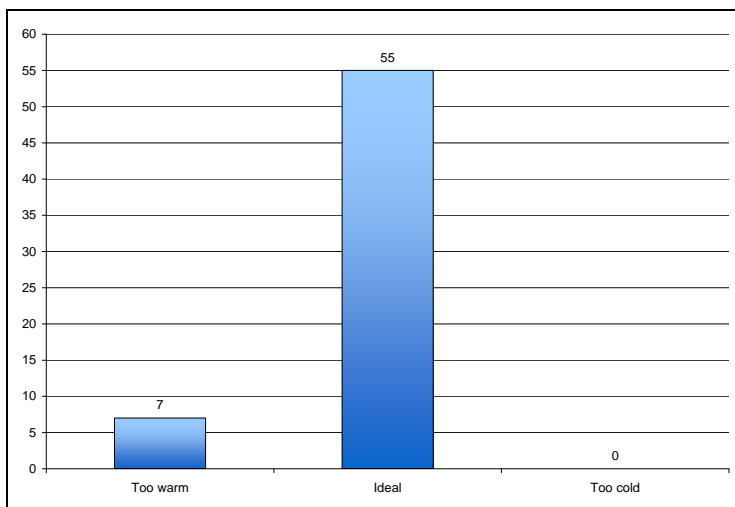
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

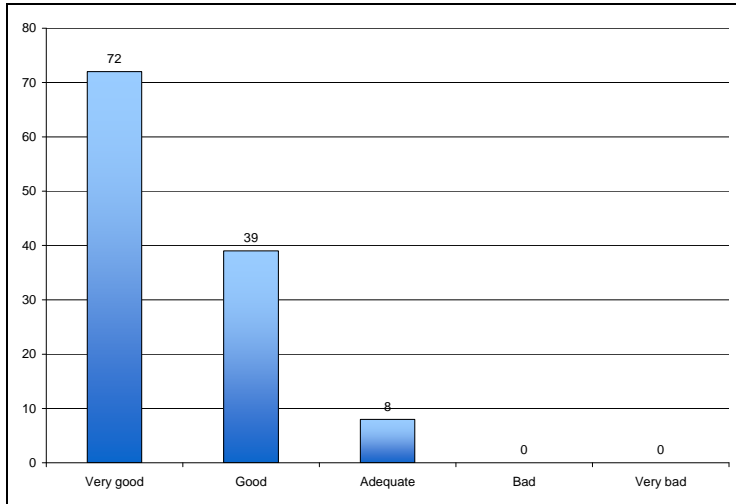
- The examination hall in Taastrup is very good. It was only difficult to hear the invigilators if they gave information and stood in the opposite end of the hall. They should preferably stand in the middle of the hall.
- Hall Temperature was fine during most of the session, but began to become cold towards the end of the session.
- Chair was not very suited for work, an office chair would have been far more comfortable. My back hurt after the exam.
- I would have preferred a larger desk.
- I had a very good seat, next to a window and unable to see the other candidates. My assessment of the exam hall might not have been as good if I had been sitting somewhere else.; ; We had to bring a packed lunch, as it was not possible to buy food. I found this to be a poor service.
- quite hot, because the sun was bright and there are lots of windows (poor ventilation).
- The temperature was OK for most of the time, only the sunshine coming through the windows made it warm at the end of the day.; Four restrooms ought to be adequate, but everybody wants to use the restrooms 15 minutes before start
- From my seat I could not see the person who came with information just before the examination started. Further it was very hard to hear what he was saying
- There is only one toilet for Men. This is insufficient.
- It would be nice if there ere some regulations on people not eating carrots or other "loud" food during the exam.
- The hall in Taastrup is somewhat limited in view of the number of persons which can sit the exam. The hall is very sensityve to sunlight in the afternoon and easily get very warm if the sun shines.
- I am very impressed with the facilities and the hospitality of the Danish Patent and Trademark Office.
- Lack of ventilation for so many people

- Nice with fresh fruits, snacks and drinks available in the hall
- You should define a minimum desk size suitable for the many books etc we are using during the exam :-)
- Restroom facilities: Access to more toilets is required
- No further comments
- No place to buy food or drinks. Tables could be bigger and bathrooms not enough for so many people.
- An extra toilet facility would be appreciated

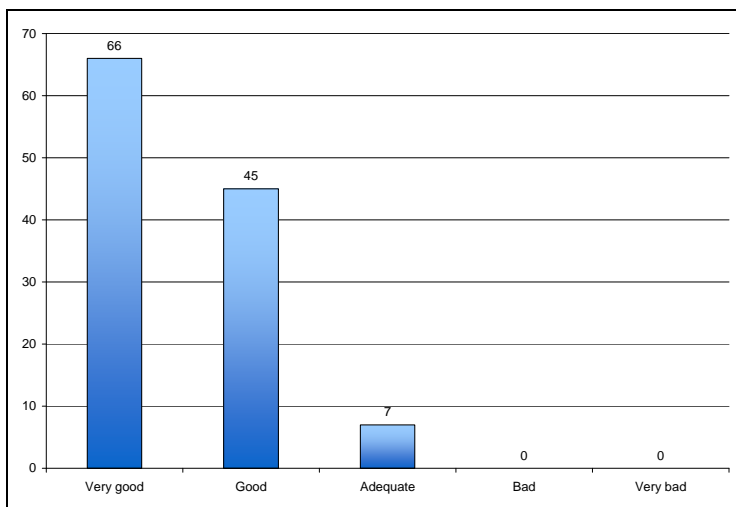
1.12 The Hague (120 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

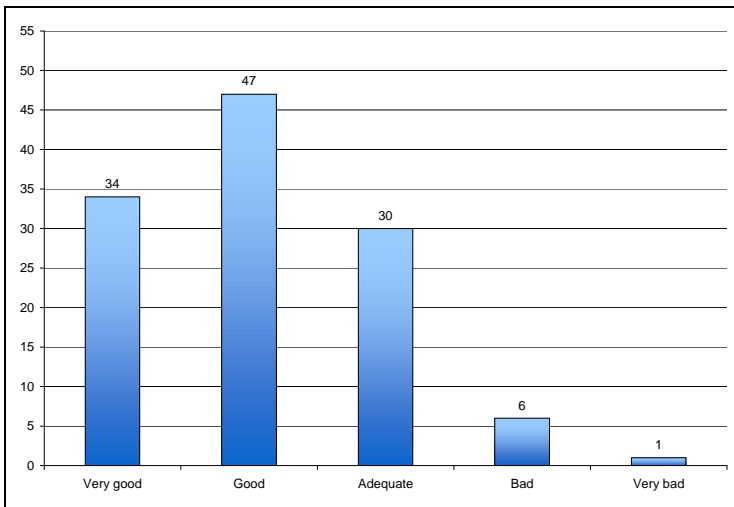
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



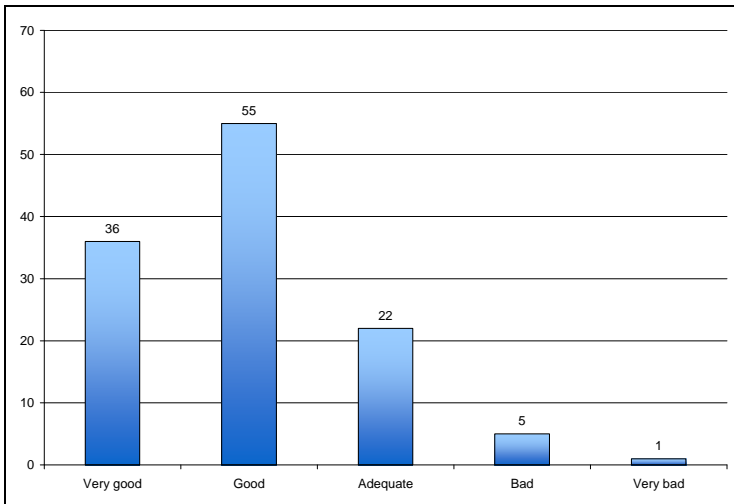
Identification check



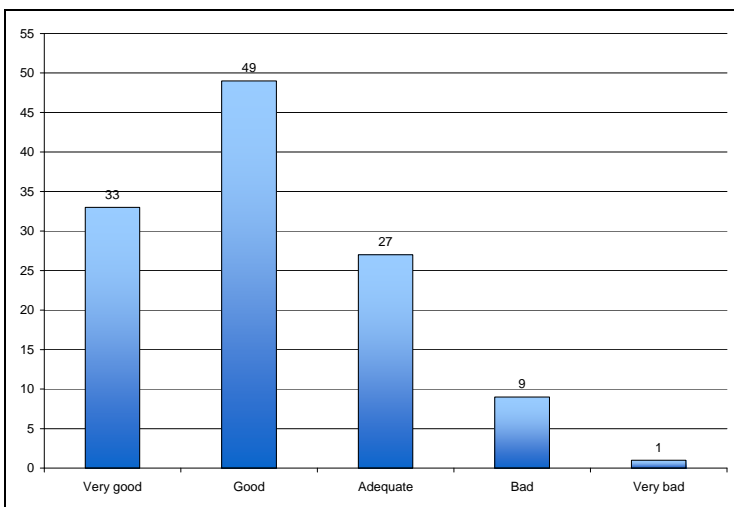
Lighting conditions



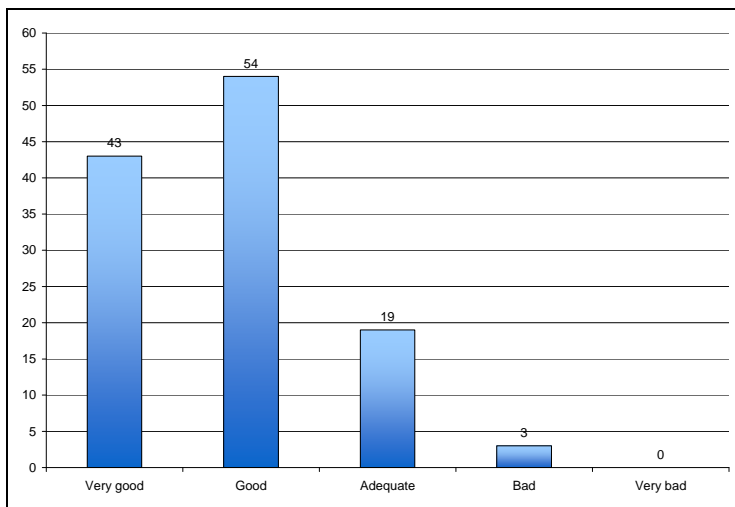
Space for candidates



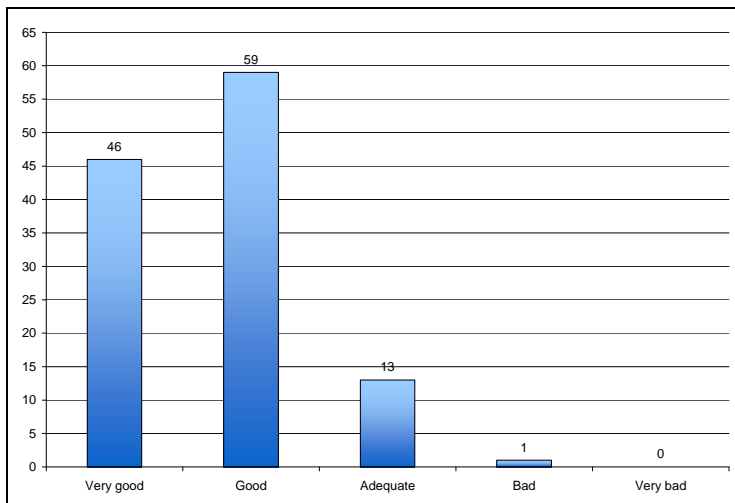
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



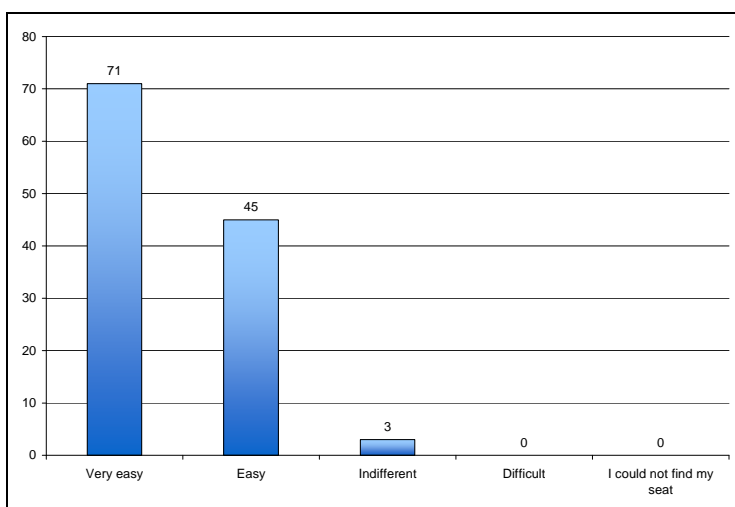
Restroom facilities



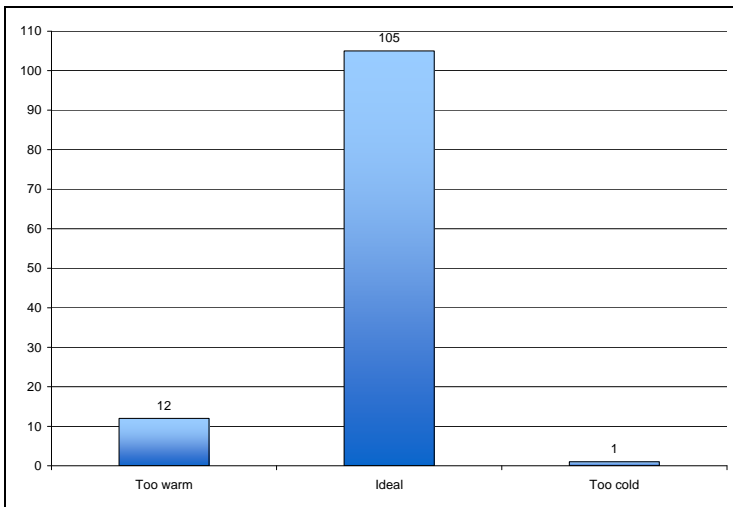
Suitability of the examination hall



Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?



Q5) Hall temperature



Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

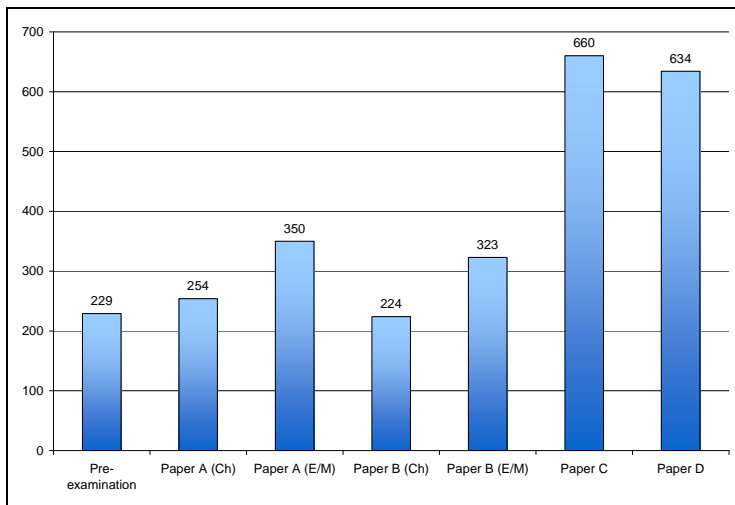
- no additional comments
- The clock that was used was behind some candidates. That was not convenient for them to look at the time and was glad with my seat.
- At some places in the hall one suffers from different shadows from the light on your hand.; Last year sitting I can't remember any problems on that point, but this year, sitting on a different place, I have to admit that it disturbed me several times.
- The depth of the desk on the ring is not sufficient. To compensate for this, it is necessary to provide for an empty space on each side of a candidate, i.e. 3 places per candidate should be available. The present seating only provided for one empty seat between adjacent candidates, which effectively only gave 2 places per candidate.; ; The lack of space was especially bothersome with exam D, in which the candidate needs many books and in exam C in which there are many separate annexes.
- The chief examiner told us to make sure our mobiles were switched off. Then, after the exam had started, his phone went off. Loudly, with a really cheezy ring tone.; ; But I have to say, everyone in the centre, from the Security Guard, onwards was super friendly and super nice.
- There was alot of noise in the hall during the first hour of part C of the exams.
- Regarding the lighting conditions: the different lamps created multiple shadown on my desk.; ; Regarding the space for candidates: the tables in the central area of the hall were not too big at all.
- The only complain is the lighting conditions. Some seats were OK, but some (as mine)very poor
- Wooden floor, noisy when persons went to restrooms during examination,which happened a lot!
- I was overall very happy with the location. I am sitting modular and this year sat A,B & C and initially had applied to sit the Exam in Bristol. My choice could not be met and was allocated to The Hague. I have been happy with the facilities offered and will certainly apply to sit paper D in The Hague next year.
- The examination hall itself and the organisation of the examination were very suitable for this examination.; ; One small practical suggestion : it could be pointed out to the candidates which lunch facilities were available to them, since it was not clear to me wether the restauration in the building was accessible to candidates or to EPO personnel only. It was not difficult to find that out, but it might be given as additional information to the candidates.; ; I wish to express my appreciation for the effort made to make this examination fair to

everyone. I particularly appreciated good lighting conditions since I need enough light to read (I am aged 62).

- I had less space than the previous years
- Hall was too warm during paper B; although this may have been psychologically influenced by Paper B's subject matter this year!
- It should be possible for the invigilators to remove people who make a lot of noise (a person was continuously talking in himself, or laughing in himself) to another room full with noisy people.
- /
- Hall in The Hague is located at some distance from toilets. Would be more feasible (and less stressful) to have an examination center which is close to restroom facilities.
- The lighting was poor, resulting in my own head casting multiple shadows over the table and thus the exam paper.
- The only comment I have is that the examination hall was too warm.
- Candidates were placed very close to each others, in the lateral rows of the amphitheater, without any need for this - there were many seats left.; This is specially important for Paper DI where candidates need often to use many books and consulting material.
- On the second day, the temperature in the morning was ideal, but in the afternoon it was too warm and a bit muggy (maybe too high humidity?); ; I liked that there was much space between the candidates and that the hall seemed to suppress disturbing noises.
- Some candidates brought small typex devices which made a harsh, rattling noise. Very annoying and distracting.
- the restrooms are very far away from the hall, that's why I rated bad.
- Tables are really too small; besides the auditorium floor (Shell Building in the Hague) cracks really a lot when walked upon inducing so a substancial amount of really unpleasant noise;

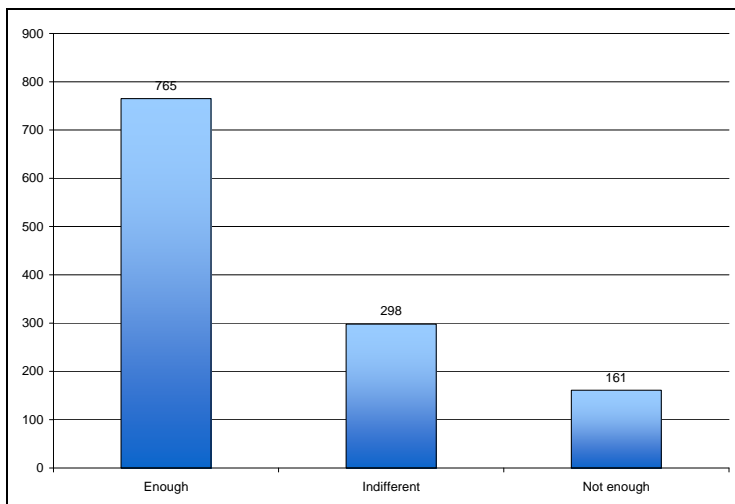
Chapter 2 - Preparation for the EQE

Q7) Which examination papers did you sit?

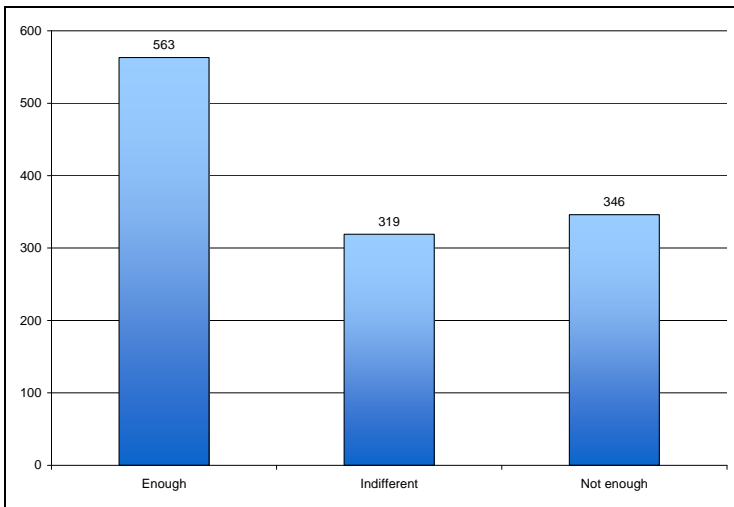


Q8) Examiners' report in the Compendium – rating

Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how an answer should be composed?



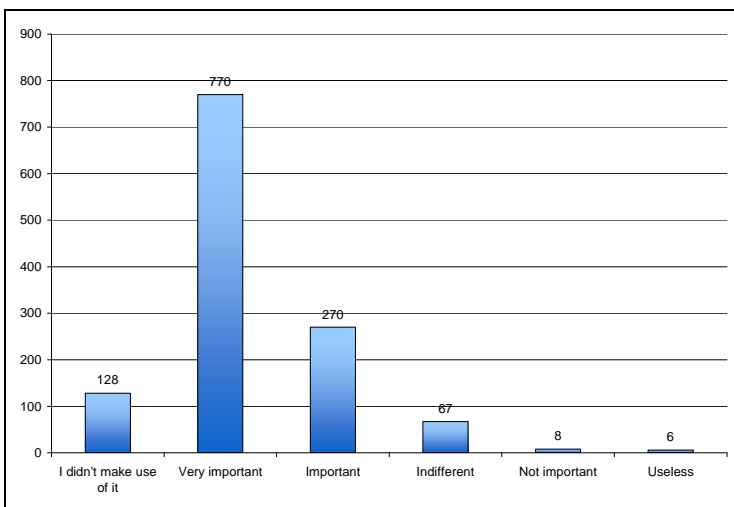
Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how the papers are marked?



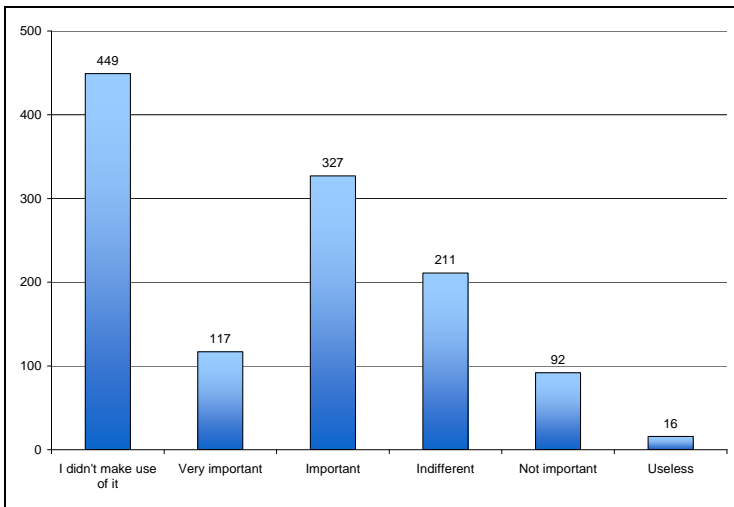
Q9) Elements of your personal preparation

Please indicate if you made use of the following and rate it

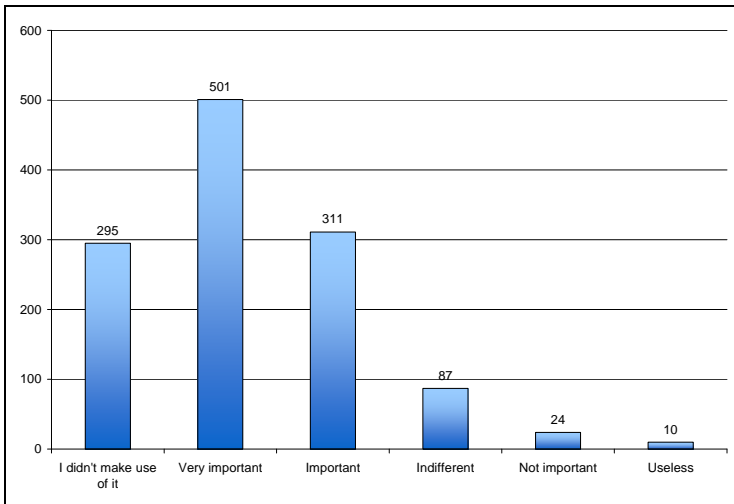
Compendium



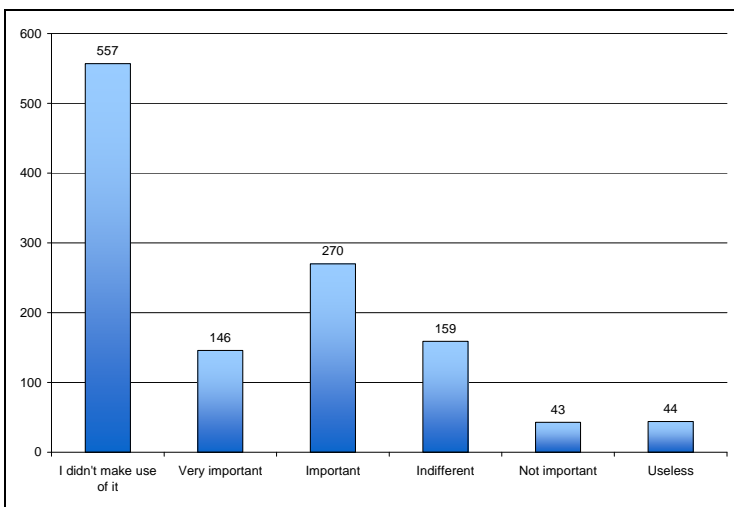
General external courses regarding intellectual property



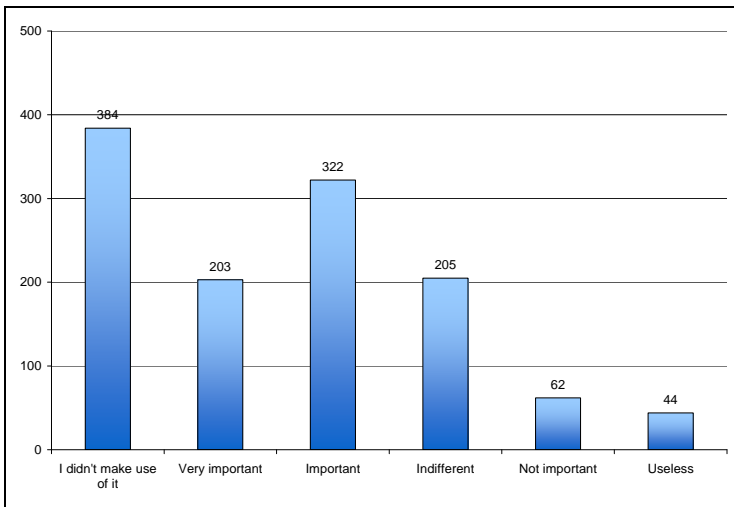
Specialised courses for EQE papers



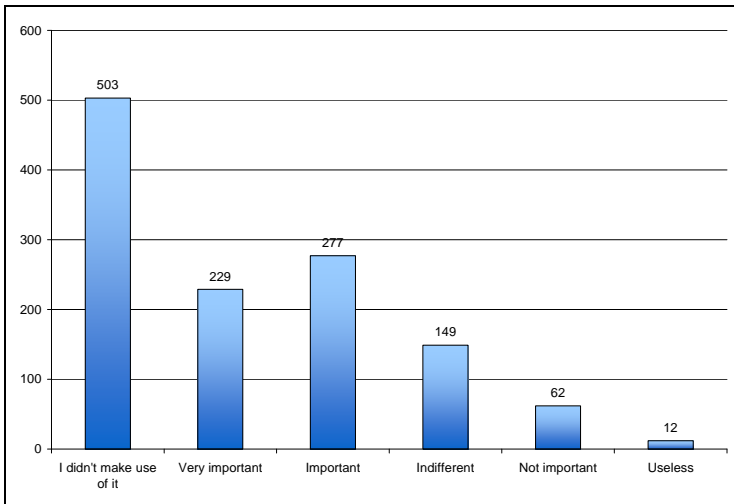
In-house training organised by your company



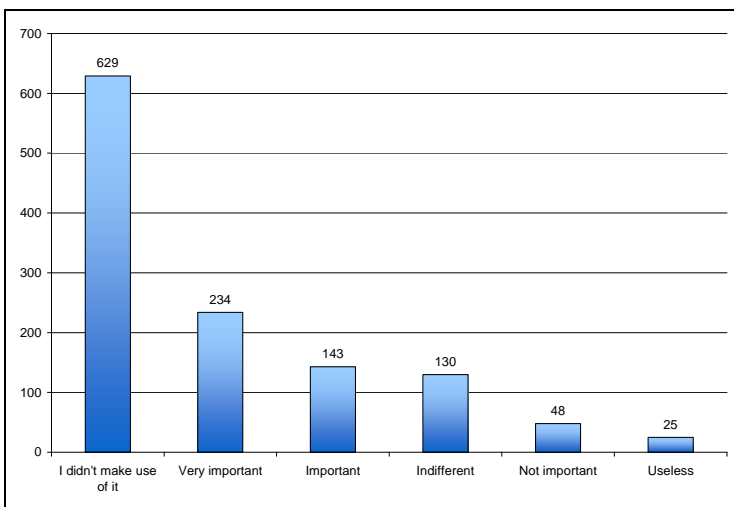
Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in the Art. 11(2)(a) REE



Study in small group with other candidates



Mock pre-examination on EQE website



Q10) What other books and/or study aids did you use?

- EQE Buch
- Deltapatent
- visser
- Delta patents
- The Annotated European Patent Convention
- C-book Chandler/Meinders
- Visser, Cees Mulder
- C-Book, Deltapatents book
- Baque, DeltaPatents
- Delta Patents Exam-related Questions and Model Answers; Hoekstra
- delta D questions, Visser, GL etc.
- Deltapatents paper C book
- visser, delta patents books
- Visser, Annotated EPC; EPO Guidelines; Case law book, EQE Forum
- Hoekstra "references to the EPC"
- C-Book (Ceipi)
- Deltapatents
- derk visser
- Deltapatents handbook
- Visser, Hoekstra
- Kley
- Visser, Cross referenced PCT
- Deltapatents courses and books
- DeltaPatents, C-Book, Visser, Guidelines
- Visser
- Material of DELTAPATENTS COMPANY
- Visser / Kley
- Deltapatents methodology books A+B
- Visser
- Guidelines and compendium
- Kley
- Guidelines, EPC, Watchhorn
- delta patents
- delta patent books
- Delta Patents, Visser
- Methodology for paper C DELTAPATENTS and C-BOOK 3^oedition
- C-book, Baque
- Delta patents
- delta patents
- Baque
- DeltaPatents D book
- Visser EPC book, and Delta Patents Paper D exam questions book
- Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder
- A Complete Guide To Passing The European Qualifying Exam
- methodology C from deltapatents
- Visser; Guidelines
- Visser
- Deltapatents, Online EPI course
- The Annotated European Patent Convention by Derk Visser, everything from DeltaPatents for the Pre-exam
- Delta Patents, C-Book

- Delta patent book
- CEIPI pre-EQE course
- Delta Patents, Visser
- Visser
- C-Book; Delta patent D book
- Delta Patents Pre-exam book
- Visser
- Guidelines for Examination - Part C
- paper d questions, pre examination course
- EPC Guidelines
- Hoekstra EPC Reference
- Kley Kommentar, Guide lines, OJ
- Visser
- EPC Articles and Rules, Official Journal
- Visser, PCT applicant's guide, Veronesse
- Guidelines and Visser
- Veronesse and Visser
- Kley, Gall, Bozic
- Visser. Hoekstra
- Visser
- Delta patents books with D1 type questions. EQE online forum, daily D1 questions and coffee break questions.
- Baque
- Kley, Cross referenced PCT, Veronese Annotated PCT, Veronese Annotated EPC
- Visser
- Visser
- Deltapatents exam questions
- Deltapatents material, Cees Mulder PCT
- Guide Lines and Visser
- Visser, Delta patents
- hoekstra
- Delta patents
- Hoekstra, Visser, Deltapatents methodology books, Mulder (PCT)
- DeltaPatents, Visser, C-Book.
- C-Book, EPÜ- und PCT- Tabellen
- Hoekstra / Visser
- The Annotated European Patent COntention of Derk Visser
- Grégory Baque CBE-PCT, deltapatents training for C and DI DII
- Kley, PCT-Handbuch
- Visser, Mulder, Deltapatents C and D, Coffee Break EQE
- own Skript
- DELTA Patent Study Books for Preexamination and part D, "PCT in der Praxis" (Ole Trinks, 2nd edition, Carl Heymanns Verlag)
- Guide to EQE / PCT tables
- FernUni Hagen
- Visser + Delta Patents
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Book
- Guidelines
- Kley, Guidelines
- Delta Patents
- Guidelines EPO and PCT, Bacque, case law
- Baque
- BAQUE

- Delta Patent D-Questions and How to pass the EQE
- Kley, Deltapatents
- C Book
- Visser, Kley, Deltapatents for Paper D, CEIPI C-Book
- Kley, Singer/Stauder, C-Book
- None
- DeltaPatents C and D books
- EPC, Guidelines, Visser, PCT, PCT Applicant's Guide (International+National parts), Guide for Applicants (EP+PCT/EP), National Law, Ancilliary Regulations, OJ 2011
- None
- DeltaPatents D-Booklets + course
- Visser
- visser
- Gall, EP und PCT in Frage und Antwort, Kley, Delta Patents Pre Exam
- Delta Patents solutions
- Delta-Patents-Questions-book, Kley
- visser
- Hoekstra
- EPC 2000 Guide speich
- guidelines, kley, visser, case law book
- Visser, Compass, Hoekstra
- Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder
- DeltaPatents training and the Hoekstra book
- Delta Patens, EEP
- Delta patents material
- EPC, PCT, GL, Coffee Breaks EQE, Pre-Exam book from Delta Patents
- Deltapatents Compendium, EPO Compendium, Thomson books, Cronin' eqe aids
- Hoekstra and PCT-Helze
- Visser, Cross-reference to PCT
- Reference books for EPC and PCT
- Visser, GL
- Roberts & Rudge and "The C Book"
- Guidelines, Visser
- Delta Patents resources
- Kley, Guidelines
- How to pass the EQE
- EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen (Carl Heymann V.)
- Visser, Delta Patents Question books
- Baque, Delta patents
- Visser - Hoekstra - C-Book - Deltapatents - Mulder - Veronese
- Visser; EQE Coffee Break; EQE Forum
- none nesecarry for A or B (I hope)
- Visser's EPC, Cees Mulder's PCT, Fritz/Grünbeck/Hijazi Case Law
- Visser, Examination quidelines
- Visser
- Guide lines
- BAQUE
- Visser, EPO publication, WIPO publications, EPI online course
- C-book, Visser, Guidelines, Case law book, "How to get a European/Euro-PCT patent", Applicant's Guide (PCT)
- Visser and GL
- none
- Visser, Hoekstra, Routledge, EPO learning centre slideshows on unity,

- Klay
- Hoekstra EPC, Visser EPC, Cees Mulder cross-referenced PCT
- Visser, A guide to the EPC2000
- The EPC and PCT applicant's guide
- Kommentar zum EPÜ2000
- Hoekstra, Veronese and Watchhorn, mulder, visser
- Deltapatents, Singer-Stauder, Guidelines
- Visser, GL, AGs
- Deltapatents C book and D books
- Visser, C book
- EPC, GL, PCT, Deltapatents D books, NatLaw, How to get a Euro-PCT
- Kley, D-Book Delta Patents
- Delta Patents
- C-Book by Chanders Meindler
- Delta patents
- Delta Patents D, Cross-Referenced PCT, Annotated EPC (Visser)
- Visser, Guidelines, Delta Patents
- EPÜ
- Hoekstra and Visser
- Visser, Roberts', C-Book, Delta Patents
- Delta Patent study guide
- books: Gall, Singer, Köllner, questions: Delta, EQE timing questions
- Kley
- delta patents
- Schickedanz: Formulierung von Patentansprüchen
- Visser
- RiLi, EPÜ, Kley, Singer-Stauder
- watchhorn/veronese, hoeksta
- Singer Stauder, Kley, DeltaP,
- Guidelines, OJ, Visser
- Material from Delta Patents
- CBE/PCT de Baque
- Nick Fox Guide to the EPO 2000; Rutley & Rudge Guide to passing the EQE
- Visser
- Visser
- Commented EPC 2000
- Visser, Deltapatents, Cross referenced PCT, Chandler/Meinders
- delta patents course book
- Visser EPC
- Deltapatents Paper D Book
- Visser/EPC&PCT Guidelines/National Laws
- Delta Patents Pre-Examination; EPI Pre-examination course.
- C-book
- Visser annotated EPC, Delta Patents Material
- Visser, Delta patents and EPI online course
- Visser, Delta patent courses and books
- EPC, Implementing reg, guidelines for ..
- Patskills Comprehensive
- Vischer
- Procedural Law Under The EPC-2000
- Kley, Kommentar zum EPÜ; PCT-Guidelines
- Delta Patents, Kley
- Delta Patents - Methodology for Paper C

- Delta Patents D questions, Visser, EPC, Case Law book
- Visser, Deltapatents Basic Questions
- Annotated EPC, Cross-referenced PCT
- Guide to the EQE 2000 (Fox)
- Delta patent books
- How to pass the EQE
- Visser; Hoekstra; Delta Patents D questions books; Mulder, "Cross Referenced PCT"; and Nicholas Fox, "A Guide to the EPC 2000"
- Kley (commented EPC), Trinks (PCT in Practice), Delta Patents Pre-Exam study guide, Guidelines
- DeltaPatents Pre-examination Book
- Annotated EPC Visser - PCT Compass
- Delta Patents ABCD material and model solutions. Meyers Paper C latest edition book.
- The annotated European Patent Convention - Derk Visser 2011
- Hoekstra
- C-Book
- Visser - EPO guidelines - Case law - PCT applicant's guide
- Deltapatents Basic Questions for Paper DI, Visser
- G-Decisions, Guidelines for the Examination
- Nearly any available except Delta's; best: Bozic et al.
- EPC, Guidelines, Case Law book, Complete Guide to Passing EQEs
- Visser, Cross Ref PCT and Deltapatents
- none
- Hoekstra - References to the European Patent Convention, Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book
- Visser
- Kley - Kommentar zum EPÜ, DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Book
- EPI online training course
- Kley
- Derk Visser The Annotated European Patent Convention
- Visser
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- Hoekstra, Cees Mulder, Delta Patents questions
- RL, Delta Patents
- CEIPI
- preparations from former years
- Kley - Kommentiertes EPÜ
- Baque, Delta Patents
- Guidelines, Case Law, EPO website, EQE forum
- Visser, Guidelines, Own prepared mtrl
- Basic & EQE-related questions of Delta Patents
- Delta Patents Pre-EQE book, Kley: Kommentar zum EPÜ
- C Book, Visser
- ABC/D (Brian Cronin), EQE Guide for preparation (EPO), CIPA-advice for passing the EQE (Derek Jackson), P3-paper (for UK exam)
- Delta Patents Ex. Related Questions, Kley KOMmentar, PCT by Köllner,
- Visser
- Visser's Annotated EPC, EPO Guidelines, Applicants Guide PCT, Mulder's cross-referenced PCT, Case Law of the BoA, Official Journal and other EPO publications (e.g how to get, forms, national law tables)
- Visser, Hoekstra, C-book
- Visser
- C-book, deltapatents book
- Audiocasts on SIS on PCT, Visser, GL, AG, etc,

- Stephane Speich EPC guide
- delta patents
- Delta Patents DI and DII books, The C Paper book, Visser's Annotated EPC, Mulder's Annotated PCT, EPC Guidelines, PCT Guidelines, National Law book, Ancillary Regs, Case Law book, Case Law Summary, CEIPI course material for D.
- Visser
- EPC + Guidelines; Deltapatents Material; Visser
- Annotated European Patent Convention (D. Visser)
- "The annotated european patent convention" by D. Visser
- Annotated EPC / GL / PCT / AG / OJ's
- EQE-online training course. Delta Patent's Pre-Exam book.
- Delta Patents Pre-exam study guide
- delta patents preexam questions
- Delta patents questions, Kley
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- Kley; Singer und Stauder; Visser
- Visser, Deltapatents
- Visser
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- Kley
- Visser
- Kley, Bozic-Düwel
- Visser, D1 questiond on www.eqe-online.org
- Visser's book, Mulder's Cross-referenced PCT
- BAQUE and DELTA PATENT
- Kley, Visser, Köllner
- Delta Patent
- Kley, PCT-Handbuch, Guidelines, Case Law
- Delta Patents
- none
- Delta Patents Methodology C
- Visser, Mulder, Guide Lines, etc.
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- Visser, DeltaPatents Pre-exam books
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- Hoekstra, Delta Patents D book, Mulder annotated PCT
- deltapatents D1 and DII books
- Delta Patents study guide for pre-exam
- Guidelines
- visser, cross-referenced PCT, case law ...
- C-book
- Visser, Annotated PCT, Delta patents pre exam books
- Kley; Delta Patents Paper D
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- C-book
- Delta patent, Visser, etc.
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- Die europäische Patentanmeldung und der PCT in Frage und Antwort, Günther Gall ; EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen, Bozic et al.
- C-Book from Chandler/Meinders; Koomentar zum EPÜ 2000 from mfh-Verlag; EPO Rechtsprechung

- Deltapatents
- Visser, Baque, Weiss Tables
- Visser, Mulder books, guidelines EPC, PCT, own developed study aid for EPC and PCT
- Annotated EPC - Derk Visser
- Visser/ Delta patents
- Baque CBE/PCT
- Deltapatents book, C book
- European qualifying examination Guide for preparation
- Baque
- Guidelines and Visser
- Baque, C-book, Visser and Deltapatents to a lesser extent (especially Visser), personal notes
- Delta Patents paper D books & correction of past papers
- Delta Patents Pre Exam Book
- Delta Patent Books
- baque
- None
- Delta Patents (basic and exam related questions), Kley, Course material of a CEIPI course
- EPC + Guidelines, PCT + Applicant's Guide
- Visser, Singer-Stauder,
- Baque
- Derk Visser - The Annotated EPC
- In-house commentary on EPC; "Ole Trinks" for PCT; "Europäisches und internationales Patentrecht, Einführung zum Europäischen Patentübereinkommen und Patent Cooperation Treaty" Verlag C.H. Beck
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- The annotated EPC (Visser)
- RiLis, Visser, Köllner, Kley
- Hookstra and Visser
- baque
- Deltapatents question compendiums
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- Visser, Mulder, DeltaPatents
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- The book from Baque
- Hoekstra, delta patenta
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- PCT AG, Kley Kommentar EPÜ
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- Delta-C-Book, Delta-Questions
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- Directives baques
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- none
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- Visser
- Hoekstra, guidelines, case law
- Deltapatents C-Book
- none

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- Delta patents
- EPC, guidelines, Visser, C-book from ceipi, C-exam book from Delta Patents,
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- Delta
- The Annotated EPC, PCT applicants guide
- Delta patents study book for pre-examination ->very good!
- Delta patent Questions DI
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- Visser, Hoegstra, Mulder, Delta compendiums/books
- Delta Patents book
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- Past papers
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- Delta-Patents, book D
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- BAQUE GREGORY
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- Guidelines
- C book

- Hoekstra
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- Delta Patents, Online Forum
- C-book
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- Visser
- Deltapatents methodology for paper A
- Timelimit Questions, Daily D1 Questions, Coffee Break Questions, EQE Forum, Caselaw, Guidelines, PCT Applicant's Guide, A Complete Guide to Passing EQE (S. Roberts, A. Rudge)
- Deltapatents
- Deltapatents compendium
- C-Book
- none
- Visser and PCT procedures and passage into the European phase by Watchorn & Veronese, Delta patents books I & II for paper D
- BAQUE
- Delta patents, C-book, Hoekstra, etc
- Hoekstra annotated EPC, EPO and PCT applicant's guide
- ceipi courses
- Derek Visser : Annotated EPC; Cees Mulder : Cross referenced PCT; Delta Patents books for Paper D
- the annotated european patent convention (DERK VISSER)
- Complete Guide to passing EQE
- EPÜ Kommentar Singer/Stauder
- kley Skript
- Deltapatents course books
- Visser, Hoekstra, DeltaPatents, Muler - X-referenced PCT
- Köllner, PCT-Handbuch; Kley
- Visser
- Kley, Guidelines
- Gall, EP und PCT in Frage und Antwort, Kley, Delta Patents Pre Exam
- C book
- TGuidelines and the baque
- DeltaPatents Pre Exam Book
- own Scriptum on EPC; EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen by Bozic et al. was extremely helpful
- Visser, Hoekstra, Fritz
- baque / tableau WEISS
- Klei EPÜ Kommentar
- Singer/Stauder; Roberts
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- Delta Patents Paper A methodology
- Kley, Köllner
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Book
- Visser
- Gall, EPÜ
- Köllner, Kley
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- Baque
- Delta Patents D-Book, Kley
- Kley
- Hoekstra
- DeltaPatents D Questions

- delta patents pre-examination study guide
- Delta patents
- Delta Patent Books for Papers DI and DII
- EQE Exam Questions Deltapatents, studying Visser and Case Law Book, working papers B. Cronin (Patskills)
- Guidelines and Case Law
- Gregory Baque
- Högkstra, Visser, C-book, Ancilliary regulations, OJ, PCT Newsletter and more
- C-book (Chandler/Meinders)
- Old answers with good marks.
- Visser, the "C" book
- Visser, DeltaPatents Books, EPC Caselaw, Kley
- D book Delta Patents; C-book; Kley-Gundlach
- EPC (Visser & Hoekstra), PCT (Watchorn)
- EPC, PCT, Visser
- BAQUE
- Visser, PCT, Guidelines, Applicant's Guide
- Visser
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- DeltaPatents Questions D
- Hoekstra - References to the EPC
- Visser
- Deltapatent, Pre-Examination book
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- C-BOOK (CEIPI)
- Delta patents, Baque, Guidelines, How to get a Euro-PCT, How to get a PCT, PCT guidelines, RACBE, JO, Ege online...
- Visser, Roberts, Delta Patents questions
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- Delta patents short questions for paper D, Visser
- DeltaPatents course/material
- none
- Viser, Delta Patent Books D
- Derk Visser, Annotated Patent Convention
- Kley, GL, OJ - EPÜ, Köllner -PCT, Bozic
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- C-Book
- Delta Patents; Peter Watchorn & Andrea Veronese: "PCT Procedures and Passage into the European Phase" and "Procedural Law under the EPC-2000"
- C-Book, Delta Patents Books
- Europ. Patentrecht Gruber, Adam, Haberl
- Guidelines for Examination EPO
- C-book (Heymanns) and Questions for Paper D (Delta)
- Delta Patent books
- Visser
- C-book Blue book
- Delta Patents, Visser
- Roberts & rudge
- Gruber, Gall, Visser
- Baque 2011
- Visser (annotated EPC) + Guidelines
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- Visser, Delta Patents questions
- Annotated reference books
- Visser
- C-Book
- Visser / Delta patents
- Delta Patents Questions and Kley Compendium
- Type C book
- visser
- Hoekstra: References to EPC; Visser, Mulder: References to PCT
- EPO documentation; case law, national law etc.
- DeltaPatents
- Gall - "Die europ. Patentanmeldung und der PCT in Frage und Antwort"
- C-Book, EPÜ-Tabellen, Kley, Delta Patents Questions
- The annotated European patent convention (Derk Visser)
- Visser, Examination Guidelines
- published patents in mechanical field
- Visser, Hoekstra.
- Visser
- Visser, Veronese/Watchorn
- DeltaPatents, C-Book
- C-Book; Visser; Hoekstra; Fox EPC 2000 Guide; Delta Patents Question Books
- Delta Patent Basic / Exam Related
- Baque
- Visser annotated EPC; Mulder crossreferenced PCT; Guidelines, DeltaPatents D & C course materials and references
- Visser, C-Book, Guidelines, PCT-AG
- Visser 19th edition
- Visser
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- books from deltapatents
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- PCT-Handbook, Kley
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- References to the EPC - Hoekstra; Annotated EPC - Visser; The C-Book; DeltaPatents paper D question books; Complete Guide to Passing the EQE - Roberts & Rudge; Cross-referenced PCT - Mulder; EPO EQE study guide
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- Delta Patents -Pre-Examination Material
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- Visser
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- Delta Patents, Hoechstra
- visser, deltapatents
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- Kley, Singer/Stauder
- Visser, The Cross-Reference Patent Cooperation Treaty
- Oh gosh. You actually want me to list all this -- I had 2 suitcases full and this is quite normal! Visser; Mulder's Cross-Referenced PCT; Ancilliary regulations ; The EPC 14th Ed aka the 'blue book'; Case Law book 6th Ed aka the 'white book'; Hoekstra's "References to the EPC" including case law summary Annex; National law (old copy); Watchhorn "PCT Procedures and Passage into the EP Phase", 2nd Edition; Roberts and Rudge "A complete guide to passing the EQE" (yellow version); Delta patents books "Exam-related questions for paper D" and "Basic questions for paper D"; CEIPI C book; Paris convention; REE; EPC 1973 (tourquoise book); Visser 14th Edition (1973 law); Breimi "The European Patent Convention"; Guidelines + up to date national law + London agreement; G decisions: list and full text of all the G decisions; T/J decisions: full text of key decisions; Time limits pack: self-made crib sheet on legal basis for notifications and time limits for the PCT and EPC; Hoekstra's time limit calculator; PCT pack: Arts and Rules; Euro-PCT Guide; lists of PCT contracting states (and when they became members); useful Practical Advice from the PCT Newsletter; PCT AG-IP Annexes; PCT AG-NP Annexes (special version for the EQE); Folder with RFees including Visser's annotations, ADA+AAD folder, Legal advice; Crib sheet pack: language requirements for EPC and PCT and the London agreement parties/non-parties; A3 summary flow diagrams from the Watchhorn
- Gregory Baque
- The Guidelines, Visser - The Annotated European Patent Convention
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- DeltaPatent study material

- Own prepared editions of relevant laws and regulations, official documents provided by the EPO as well as decisions of the boards
- Delta Patents.
- guidelines
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- Standard (C-Book, Guideluines, Kley, Singer/Stauder)
- A Complete Guide to Passing the European Qualifying Exam
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- DeltaPatents, Practical advice in PCT Newsletter
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- Kley, Singer/Stauder, Veronese, GL, CL
- C book, delta course
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- Visser, PCT applicants guide, Veronese, Guidelines for Examination EPO
- "C-Book"; Delta Patents book for part D
- I ordered all relevant study materials from Delta Patents and found these very helpful
- Visser, Guidelines
- deltapatent's books (D-paper)
- Kley
- C-Book W.E. Chandler and H. Meinders
- The methodology books from DeltaPatents
- Delta Patents Methodology Training
- Kommentar zum EPÜ200 / C-Book
- a lot
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- Visser
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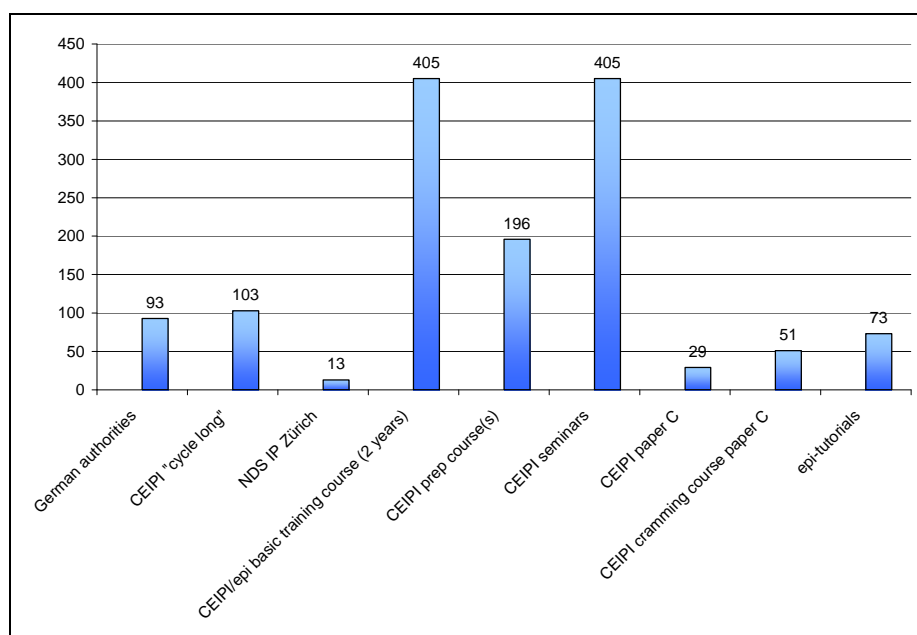
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- C-book: How to Write a Successful Opposition and Pass Paper C of the European Qualifying Examination Ed. by William E. Chandler and Hugo Meinders and Question and answer for paper D by Deltapatents
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- visser, guidelines
- wisser
- Hoekstra, Moulder
- CEIPI / EQE course (DEIPI)
- Deta patents paper A preparation material
- The Annotated European Patent Convention (Visser) -- Basic questions for Paper D (Delta Patents)
- Visser, C-Book, Guidelines, PCT-AG
- Kley, Delta Patents
- Visser, EPO Guidelines, Case Law

- GL, Hoextra, Delta courses
- Baque
- C-book and EPC by Visser
- baque, deltapatent, ceipi
- The Annotated European Patent Convention by Derk Visser
- Delta Patents Basic Questions
- Guidelines, Kley, Hoekstra
- Visser
- Visser
- Visser
- Visser
- Delta patents books
- Delta-Patents, Gall
- Visser, C-book, Roberts-Rudgers
- Hoekstra, Guidelines, PCT applicants guide, the c-book by cees mulder
- Delta Patents
- none
- The C-Book
- Hoekstra commented EPC
- AEPC (Visser), GL, Ref EPC (Hoekstra)
- Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder
- visser
- Kley/Gundlach, EPÜ, Visser, Rechtsprechung, Amtsblatt
- Kley, Delta Patents
- Visser, Deltapatents, Singer-Stauder
- Delta Patents
- Baque
- Kommentar zum EPÜ 200; PCT Leitfaden für Anmelder;
- HAgEn IV Unterlagen, CEIPI Material, C-Book
- CEIPI material, Höektra, Visser
- Visser
- EPC and Guidelines for Examination
- Derk Visser, Annotated Patent Convention
- C-Book
- Guidelines, Visser
- C-Book
- C Book
- Guide to EPC 2000 - Nicholas Fox was my principal reference book.
- Visser, European Patent convention
- Visser, Guidelines, DELTA Questons
- Baque 2012
- Visser
- Deltapatents for Paper A and B
- Visser
- DeltaPatents
- Delta Patents, C-Book
- Visser's annotated EPC, PCT applicant's guide, Delta patent's pre-exam book. Delta patent's Basic questions for D exam.
- Patskills
- Visser
- Guidelines, EPC
- Reference books by Visser and Hoekstra
- Deltapatents Course book paper c

- Baque
- DeltaPatents, Kley
- ceipi training courses, Visser,
- autumn tutorial mock pre exams
- Delta Patents for Paper A
- PCT-EPO-Guidelines
- Visser
- C-Book
- Delta Patents Part D Exam related questions, EPO Guidelines for Examination, EPO Case Law Book, 'Kley' commentary, OJ EPO
- Pre-Exam Book
- DeltaPatents C-book, DeltaPatents- DI questions
- Hoekstra, Visser, Caes Mulder X-ref PCT
- DERK VISSER
- Delta Patents Pre Exams, Delta Patents Exams
- Visser, Guidelines, Delta Patents P Book
- Visser , Guidelines
- Delta Patents DI
- DERK VISSER
- Visser's book
- Hoekstra
- Baque
- Delta Patents Q&A
- BAQUE
- EPC; Case Law; Watchorn/Veronese; Visser; D II book
- Delta Patents material
- Hoekstra References // PCT Guide // Visser
- Kommentar zum EPÜ2000, Kley; PCT-Handbuch; Delta Patents
- Deltapatents books
- C-book, Visser, Guidelines, Caselaw
- EPC Annotated Visser
- Visser, CEIPI C-book
- the annotated EPC Visser
- Visser
- Wisser.Sweet-Maxwell
- Visser
- guidelines, hoekstra, epc, PCT applicants guide, pct, ancillary regulations, national law book, official journals, visser
- Delta patents compendium C and D
- Visser, Guidelines
- REALLY A LOT!!! Visser and others
- Viser; Partners job
- Visser, DeltaPatents part D, C-Book, Art. 13 REE examination syllabus material
- Kley commentary
- EPO Guidelines for Examination; AncReg 2011; Hoekstra References to the EPC; Cees Mulder X-ref PCT; Delta Patents Basic/Exam related questions
- None
- EPC GL, Euro-PCT Guide, PCT law, C - book
- c-book
- PCT- und EPÜ-Tabellen
- books of the firm DELTAPATENTS
- My industry experience and my counsel teaching when working
- Visser, Kley

- Delta Patents Basic D1 questions
- Methodology for paper B (Delta patent), A complete guide to passing the European Qualifying Exam (Simon Roberts, Andrew Rudge)
- D2 Book
- EPC and EPO guidelines
- Derk Visser: The EPC; H. Meinders: C-Book
- visser and veronese
- visser and veronese
- Gregory bac
- none
- Visser
- Visser, Trinks
- C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)
- Pct Fragen und Antwort
- Delta Patent "D"
- Guidelines, Delta Patents C-Paper Book
- Hoekstra, Visser, Mulder
- Singer
- Basic & Exam-Related Questions by Delta Patents
- Visser
- DeltaPatents "C Method."
- The annotated European Patent Convention by Derk Visser
- The Annotated European Patent Convention by Derk Visser
- Delta Patents
- Ceipi Strassbourg
- EP-PCT-Tablets
- Delta Patents literature, EPI course
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Book
- CBE-PCT by Gregory Baque
- Visser and Guidelines
- c-book
- C-Book

Q11) Which course(s) did you follow?



German authorities:

The full eight months' training with the German authorities

CEIPI "cycle long":

The "Diplôme d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle", obtained after completing the one-year period of study with CEIPI in Strasbourg

NDS IP Zürich:

The "Master of Advanced Studies in Intellectual Property " at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich

CEIPI/epi basic training course (2 years):

CEIPI prep course(s):

CEIPI preparatory course(s)

CEIPI seminars

CEIPI seminars preparing the EQE

CEIPI paper C:

CEIPI special course on paper C (re-sitters)

CEIPI cramming course paper C

epi-tutorials

Candidates were asked to specify other training courses which they had followed. These courses are listed below.

- eigene Studien
- e-mail communication with some kind tutors
- Delta Patents
- delta patents
- Delta patents course

- Queen Mary, University of London
- Deltapatents paper C and D courses
- self-study
- Internal EPO course for patent examiners
- DP paper D course
- Patskills
- JDD
- EPO/EPI Online Course
- EQE Papers C and D Early start course, Seminar Michalsky und Hüttermann
- Deltapatent A, B and D courses
- Delta patents Guided Exam
- Delta Patents Pre-eqe full 12 days
- DeltaPatents
- Delta Patents in house training at my firm
- Curso OEPM-UB preparación EQE
- CEIPI/epi basic training course only 1 year
- Delta Patents 3 day course paper D
- Deltapatents basic D
- CPUB
- CEIPI/epi basic training course (1 year)
- IP-akademin (Sweden)
- I am a patent examiner
- DeltaPatents methodology and guided exam in A, B and D
- FernUni Hagen
- Swedish IP Academy D-course
- deltapatents
- ASPI
- ASPI
- Michalski-Hüttermann C+D course
- Delta Patents Course C
- Deltapatents courses in 2010
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam book
- DeltaPatents
- Delta patent paper C 2 courses
- No funds for training from employer
- none
- Delta C and D methodology
- DeltaPatents course
- study cases
- Delta patents methodology A, B
- Bryan Cronin training course in Geneva for papers A and B
- Deltapatent previously, but this year nothing
- Delta Patents basic D course
- EPO L&D
- JDD Courses
- the EQE trainig given by the OEPM
- Brion Cronin C-Part
- CEIPI Pre-Examination preparatory course
- Delta Patents, A/B Methodology
- Deltapatent Courses
- Patskills C Cronin
- VIPS/VESPA mock exams
- Delta courses

- CEIPI cramming course paper D for French speaking candidates
- Deltapatents C and D course
- EPO D-Course
- deltapatents C and D
- Deltapatents 3 weeks course
- specialised courses for EQE pre-examination
- ASPI EQE course
- FernUni Hagen pre-EQE course
- deltapatents course EQE 2011
- Preu-Bohlig in Munich
- Delta Patents
- 2day in-house courses with CEIPI tutors
- University of Barcelona EQE courses
- JDD EQE revision courses, Milton Keynes, UK.
- Courses at EPO premises in Munich
- Training at IP Akademin (Sweden)
- none
- JDD revision course
- Delta
- CEIPI crash course for papers A,B,C,D given at the EPO
- none
- Delta Patents Paper C guided exam
- epi-preexam
- C-/D for Deltapatents
- UK JDD EQE preparation course
- Delta Patent's course for paper A and B
- DeltaPatents Pre-examination course
- Delta Patents A, B, C+D
- 2-days gratis course on Part C; 10 weeks before EQE in a law firm
- None
- Queen Mary Course
- epi online training course
- CEIPI pre-exam course (5 days)
- Ceipi Preparatory Seminar for Pre-Exam
- Delta Patents courses
- EQE preparation, centre patents universitat Barcelona
- Delta Patents Paper D. Delta Patents Basic questions. Delta Patents Exam related questions. All updated Papers from 2005 till 2011. Daily EQE questions on email. Short daily (basic) questions on email
- Patskills course for papers A, B and C
- CEIPI pre-exam course
- Deltapatents A/B + C
- EPO L&D in-house CEIPI training
- Verenigde
- Deltapatents 3 weeks C and D course
- DeltaPatents
- Delta patents C and D course
- Delta-Patents special training course for pre-exam
- DeltaPatents' C and D courses
- Ip academy in Stockholm
- Delta Patents exam paper course
- Dutch Patent Attorney course
- CEIPI pre-examination course

- in house courses at the EPO for papers A and B
- Deltapatent course
- only internal L&D courses at the EPO
- Delta patents pre-exam methodology course
- delta patent
- EQE Pre-examination Course of the EPI
- Deltapatents 16 month full training
- Queen Mary University London Centre for Commercial Law Studies EQE revision course for A, B, C and D
- Deltapatents course for paper C
- CEIPI cramming course paper D
- None
- CEIPI bachotage DI and DII
- Delta Patents Paper D Methodology Course & correction of past papers
- I didn't attend any courses
- CEIPI course for the preparation of the pre-examination (1 Week, 1 1/2 days on claim analysis questions, 2 1/2 days for legal questions, 1 day mock pre-examination)
- ASPI formations
- "HAGEN IV VOR"
- no
- Delta Patents
- MASTER IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY mip OF UNIVERSITY OF MILAN
- aspi
- online epi pre-exam course
- aspi courses
- Delta patents courses
- EPO in house seminar for EPO examiners
- Delta patents
- None
- DeltaPatents 16 months
- none for A + B
- Curso práctico para preparar el EQE. Centre de patents UB y OEPM. Barcelona.
- Delta patents C/D and A/B courses
- Delta patents inhouse course
- CEIPI Pre-examination course
- Deltapatents methodology seminar
- EPO in-house
- Examinatorium Europaeum Teil D
- JDD revision course for Paper C (UK)
- case law seminar by "Danish association of IP attorneys"
- Michalski & Hüttermann
- IP Akademin (Sweden) Paper A & B courses
- deltapatents
- Hagen IV Fernuniversität Hagen
- others
- JDD Consultants course
- Delta patents
- Delta Patents D-course, all modules (about 1.5 years)
- deltapatents 3 weeks course
- information on EQE website, EQE academy
- nothing this year
- DEIPI course preexamination
- epi Mock exams, A, B, D

- Cronin's C course
- In house EQE paper C course.
- DeltaPatents 3 weeks
- Queen Mary, University of London Msc. in Management of intellectual property
- Seminars for preparing the EQE organized by the Spanish Trademark and Patent Office
- Queen Mary EQE course
- Deltapatent's methodology courses
- Delta Patents
- PCT course given by WIPO
- Private practise C and D courses
- none
- EQE training by IP-akademin Stockholm
- Delta patents
- Cronin course
- delta c course
- Delta Patents
- DeltaPatents C & D methodology courses
- EPI Autumn Tutorial - 3 B papers
- Distance learning - delta patent correction paper
- examinatorium europäum Patentanwaltskammer und fernuni Hagen
- IP academy in Sweden
- Delta patents D
- Delta patent C course
- EPO Internal course
- Deltapatents
- None
- Deltapatents A and B
- DeltaPatents D course
- none
- Deltapatents, paper correction, 4 papers
- none
- DeltaPatent 3-day course for A/B paper preparations and 3 day course from Delta Patents for C paper preparation. Methodology courses provided by the EPO.
- private courses
- JDD - Pre exam course with Nicholas Fox
- CEIPI pre-examination course
- Delta Patents - Paper A, B and C Correction program
- Delta courses
- Centre de Patents-Universitat de Barcelona
- None
- JDD Pre-exam course (UK)
- Delta Patents course i Stockholm 2010
- Delta Patents Methodology D, C, A&B
- CEIPE Paper D
- Patskills
- courses organised for EPO-examiners
- JDD courses
- Delta patent moch exam and methodology course C + D
- JDD
- delta-patents pre-exam training
- Preu-Kurs
- DeltaPatents course in NL
- Delta-Patents Paper C

- Management Forum case law
- Delta patents 3-days D and C courses
- Deltapatents 3 weeks course
- In-house seminars by CEIPI tutors for papers A-D
- ASPI (fr) mock exam
- Management forum, EPO case law, BoA case law
- Cronin's patskills courses
- DELTAPATENTS ABC
- Deltapatents C,D; EPO A,B
- Delta Patents A/B and C
- Examinatorium Europeum for Pre-Exam (Fernuni Hagen)
- CEIPI course on paper D, Preu-Kurs in Munich
- DeltaPatents DI/DII and C
- Forum: Mastering Paper D
- ASPI courses
- nothing, yet!
- Deltapatents Methodology Paper D
- Deltapatents
- CEIPI pre-exam course
- C-course Brian Cronin (Patskills)
- Deltapatents A/B course
- IP-Akademics C-course (5 days)
- DeltaPatents Paper C-Methodology
- no course. Since I am a resitter, my employer does not propose any course
- EQE D preparation course (IP Akademin/Trona Patentrådgivning)
- Delta Patents A&B paper examination preparation (3 days)
- delta patents, methodology course for a and b
- DeltaPatents
- Examinatorium Europaeum
- Delta Patents Basic D
- Aspi
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Course
- none
- D-course Delta Patents
- Delta Patents course D
- Delta Patents
- Examinatorium Europaeum Hagen
- Delta Patents correction papers for Paper D
- JDD Course
- DeltaPatents course
- MSc IP management QMUL, UK
- Delta Patents
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam course
- IP-akademin, Delta Patents methodology
- Internal A and C course organized by company
- this autumn/winter - none
- No courses because I changed jobs just before the exams and I was unable to ask either company to pay for the costs associated with an external course.
- in house practice and daily work
- DeltaPatents distance course
- CEIPI seminar for pre-examination
- ASPI France
- DeltaPatents basic D & C courses

- EPO course
- Deltapatents resitters course for paper DII
- None
- EQE course at Centre de Patents de la Universitat de Barcelona
- Queen Mary University of London EQE course
- ASPI
- Delta Patents course paper C
- Deltapatents: Methodology A,B,C,D and guided exam C
- PPR-Focussing-Bootcamp
- EQE-Vorbereitung Fernuni-Hagen
- ASPI training
- deltapatents
- I enrolled for the EQE online tutorial but could not attend any session because of the unfortunate timing (4 pm)
- Deltapatent 3x5 day course on C/D
- Delta Patents A, B, C and D course
- JDD Paper C & D
- deltapatents
- Brian Cronin (Geneva, ABC)
- Deltapatents C/D
- Management Forum on EPO case law and oppositions/appeal
- Deltapatents/EIPEF
- DeltaPatent 16 month full course
- none
- Hagen Kurs für die Vorprüfung
- Delta Patents A/B and C courses
- Delta
- Delta Patents Training Courses A/B Ch
- Delta Patents for D2 and C
- delta patents
- Short Cours @ Michalski, Huettermann & Partner, Düsseldorf
- Deltapatents 3 weeks course for C/D
- Examinatorium Europaeum
- The 2 year Dutch training to become Dutch Patent attorney and ONE year CEIPI training course held in The Hague
- Deltapatent's 5 days methodology course
- Deltapatent Paper D methodology course
- EPREP Klausurenkurs (provided by VPP)
- CEIPI paper D
- I DIDN'T FOLLOW SPECIALISED COURSES
- Patskills for A and B
- MAS-IP HSZ-T
- Deltapatent course
- Delta patents methodology A+B
- EQE course Queen Mary University of London
- Examinatorium Europaeum
- Curso preparacion EQE centre de patents UB-oepm
- Centre de Patents University of Barcelona preparation EQE
- DELTAPATENT Pre-exam course
- course on italian intellectual property law with focus on all common points with EPC, internal preparatory course in my company
- Delta Patents full course
- Spanish Patent and Trademark Office - Practical EQE Preparation Course, Papers A-B

- CEIPI Cours for Pre-Exam
- no
- seminars provided by EPO
- Courses at IP-akademin, partly Delta-patents
- Deltapat for papers C/D
- As above but not this year
- Delta patents, correction papers
- EQE Preparation Course C at the EPO
- both Ceipi seminars and Epi-tutorials just for papers A and B
- internal course VEREENIGDE
- self study
- MIPLC
- JDD course UK
- JDD course
- DeltaPatents seminar
- DELTAPATENTS ABC
- Delta patents preparation
- Delta courses
- Delta patents
- EQE preparation course Centre patents Universitat barcelona,
- none
- DELTA Patents C course
- Delta patents course
- Delta Patent paper C and D
- deltapatents
- PCT Seminars
- CEIPI pre-examination course
- Delta Patents Methodology on paper D
- Preu Course Munich
- JDD Consulatants
- DELTA Patents course on paper C, O,Reilley on D
- Examinatorium Europaeum
- Preparation course held by the Centre de Patents of the UB in Barcelona
- DELTA patents courses
- Examinatorium Europaeum
- U of Barcelona EQE preparation courses
- Hagen IV
- Deltapatents 3 weeks C and D course
- Cronin
- Deltapatent 3-day viruset for resitters
- none
- previously Deltapatents trainings
- Delta Patents Methodology
- MASTER IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (MIP UNIVERSITY OF MILAN); CONVEY preparazione all'esame per Consulenti in Brevetti (ITALY)
- Preu EPÜ Seminar, Hagen Examinatorium Europaeum
- MASTER IN IP (MIP MILAN) CONVEY CPURSE (MILAN)
- non of them
- Queen Mary University of London EQE course
- ASPI tutorials
- EPO-Preparation courses EQE D1, D2
- Delta patents C and D course
- Deltapatents (NL)

- Deltapatents
- Delta Patents
- National Danish Courses
- IP-akademin (in Sweden)
- Tutorials given by people of Vereenigde
- study group with CEIPI tutor
- MAS-IP ETH Zurich (8 years ago)
- JDD courses
- Delta Patents' C & D courses
- None
- Delta Patents Paper A course
- Centre de Patents - Universitat de Barcelona

Q12) Which other elements did you consider important for your personal preparation for the EQE?

- The help of the Examination Secretariat!
- Time to study
- Enough available time and a personal tutoring (analysing personal deficiencies/problem areas) .; It is lacking more training material(questions for DI and DII) as old exams are often not actual due to law change, and I've made all exams for last 6 years twice! Not a good approach, as you remember the answers.; EPO shall provide more "exam like" questions DI with answers for self check and DII "exam like" situations with module solutions - probably late suggestion due to changing exam's format?; ; Even more important to get such material in a new format of exam D from EPO for preparation to the next attempt! Only online training is not suitable as exam is not done online. It shall be "compendium type materail available for free.
- Supportive wife...
- exams from the previous years and related examiners reports
- Training in exam conditions
- Training previous papers and checking with examiners report and possible answer afterwards
- I think it would be very interesting that the Examiners would write books of help trying to explain the basics concepts of the patents. It would be very interesting for the candidates to have books with many examples and exercises of how to redact the claims of a patent, or of how to answer one communication of the EPO indicating them and explain them all the combinations impossible or possible of the claims and its reasons.
- Practice
- Making some earlier papers under examination conditions. Practice hand writing.
- To have enough free time for training but it is quite impossible to manage due to the amount of work and for further family reasons.
- Time, time and time ! ; However, everybody are not equal before free time for training : some people may have training at work, some others are too much busy at work for any training.
- Time is very important
- Time is essential
- Mock exams, Textbooks, Online Course
- Sufficient time
- CEIPI training course
- Everyday working experience
- Relaxation to arrive at the exam not too stressed as last year.
- The 2 year CEIPI Basic Training was the right element to be prepared for the EQE. The teachers there are doing a great job!
- Do a lot of Delta-questions, CEIPI preparation course

- Systematic preparation spread out over a sufficient amount of time, i.e. starting early enough. I prepared my own copy of the law, and added comments where I deemed it helpful.
- eqe forum online
- Delta Patent Pre-Exam Book
- Enough time given by company to study during work hours.; Discussions on EQE online forum were very helpful, the ability to ask questions and receive answers relatively fast.
- make the compendium papers in real time
- Discuss with successful candidates of previous years their methodology and books used.
- EPO preparation courses - very important
- Trial exams
- Experience
- The preparation books from Deltapatents
- Guidelines for Examination of the EPO.; index for the Guidelines
- checklists for each paper
- I attended CEIPI - waste of time
- start early with preparation
- Annotated EPC of Kley with remarks made in light of Delat Patent D-Questions; PCT and Rules of PCT ; ; EQE workshop concerning paper C and D of Michalski, Hüttermann in Dusseldorf was excellent and gave me a better understanding of how to handle paper C and what are the major points of paper DII
- Learning how to find answers to legal questions fast in Visser/Kley based on D-questions (former Papers and Deltapatents books).
- Working on old papers C from the Compendium is essential.
- Tutorials organised by epi
- Reading and practising a lot of old exam papers at home
- EPO web page
- DeltaPatents training material (Paper D Booklets) + 3-day training course
- Working in small group.
- Guidelines: Absolutely important
- practising a number of previous papers
- Sufficient time for preparation from employer (not always easy for re-sits; determined by workload).
- Gathering all documents, and preparing them. ; Writing the paper for the 2nd time, and the 3rd time, my way to manage the time given was much better.
- It is difficult to find time for study when in a busy job and family obligations. It is thus important to squeeze in the study when you perform the daily work. Since the EQE does not reflect what is necessary to be fit for practice in a real world job situation but more what never happens and what is difficult to find an answer for in the law books you can hardly enter a level of knowledge that will be sufficient. You can read and read forever and then because you cannot remember all not be able to find the information when in the stressful examination situation. For C and D it is more a matter of luck and ability in the moment of the examination to see the problems of the paper and the solution. I understand that it is necessary to examine but I still question if the EQE reflects testing if you are fit to practice or not :-)
- Learning from my own mistakes, EQE D paper of 2010
- Wish I had more routine in working with PCT.
- Besides all the discussions and trainings one needs to spend also the required time in front of the material which sounds to me for many candidates the most difficult task to manage !
- The exams from previous years
- Preparation of EPÜ with relevant comments.; Preparation of a own PCT Comment.; ; Most important old Exams under examination conditions, in particular the stretch of consecutive examination days.
- Food & Drinks, enough time to study before (vacation)

- Solving as many legal questions as possible (in Delta Patent Books, on EPO website, in Mock Pre-Exams)
- Drafting and answering Office Actions during my daily work; Solving previous exam sets; ; A much larger support from my current company would have been beneficial.
- Trying to answer as many paper D questions as possible. Trying to make as many paper C in exam conditions (at least 4 or 5)
- Private study
- every day work practice
- Delta Patent Methodology Courses for Papers A/B, C and D; CEIPI prePrep Course for Paper C; epi-tutorials; VIPS/VESPA mock exams
- time to be dedicated to study also at work
- On the job experience, having previously sat UK advanced exams
- Advices/reference material from colleagues who have passed the EQE.
- Mock-preexams
- As I was only sitting A and B, the most important aspects were daily training by doing 'real' work, and doing old A and B papers.
- Delta patents D book essential
- getting through the entire EPC
- individual study time
- personal mock exam on 3 days with subjects taken from the compendium
- Training of high speed application of problem solution approach
- Small group study (e.g. problem solving/past exam papers) with other candidates was very helpful
- Doing the Delta Patents questions and the previous D1 and D2 exams (back to 2007)
- Discussion with candidates, who have passed the EQE last year
- I found the EQE forums helpful
- epi website, forum
- Very important to read in private, and understand how EPC is built up, inter alia understand the connections between Articles
- To get enough time to prepare beside your daily business is a challenge!
- Past papers, past papers, and more past papers!
- I took only the D papers. For preparing the D papers, the EQE Forum was very important for me since the commented answers give hints on marking. For me, it was not always obvious which items need to be in the answers to attract all points.
- PCT Website and EPO Website information
- The Delta Patents Book of Section D questions was good to learning about the EPC.
- Guidelines, annotated EPC
- 3 years of experience are a made minimum - I only felt ready to take the exam after 4 years.
- Information available on WIPO and EPO websites, Applicants' Guides and Office Journal
- Ceipi tutor
- My professional experience.
- self-study
- PCT Procedures and Passage Into The European Phase; PCT Applicant's Guide
- Studying mock exams and case related questions, preparing a cross referenced epc and pct text
- To get time for studies on my own
- Self study, discussions with colleagues, EQE Wiki pages
- To be able to study during working hours and not only in evenings and week ends
- studying previous papers and the examiners' reports
- Everyday work with drafting applications and making responses.
- Do not try to answer legal questions randomly, but study in a structured manner first (applies to Pre-Exam).
- My daily job

- Number of hours spent. This year, I have had six weeks off work for studies. That really helps. (In addition to previous years' study efforts)
- I consider the most important element for my personal preparation for the EQE studying in a small group with other candidates.
- answering previous D1 questions; - exercise previous D2 papers in time
- Delta patents questions
- practice, practice, practice using past papers
- Vacation days before exam for intensive learning
- My total preparation time for EQE was very limited (<
- completing past exam papers under exam conditions was extremely important ; having past papers corrected by peers was extremely important
- Examination Guidelines
- Preparation time which I did not have
- If I pass anything, it is only thanks to Derk Visser's "The Annotated European Patent Convention" including comments to PCT.; ; I also used, for paper C, Jelle Hoekstra "Methodology for Paper C", not because it is good, just because there is nothing else. Revision schedules; Lists of useful revision materials
- sufficient time for studying and training EQE relevant matter
- Discussions with coach/employer.
- ours of self study, making use of materials provided in the courses, mainly by answering questions to put myself in specific situations where the knowledge of the EPC/PCT needs to be applied
- EQE online forum
- Daily work....involvement in complicated IP issues. Thus, experience matters; - Full preparation. Not enough to be prepared, but well prepared.; - Going through Delta Patents Basic questions and then Exam related questions was very useful. Important to answer under time pressure instead of just taking the needed time to answer right. ; - Going through DII papers, also under time pressure and preferably at same time as actual exam, i.e. late afternoon.; - Study groups to discuss older papers DII, without having studied examiners report or other. Many eye-openers.; - Of course, discipline. The most important factor. To be able to study before and after work for a looong period.
- practice past papers, practice past papers, practice past papers!
- mock exams, more mock exams and even more mock exams...
- the daily practice
- National Dutch course covering elements of the EPC / PCT.
- Adequate preparation before the exam i.e. starting early enough
- I personally had quite alot of personal issues to solve the last twelve months and was not really able to prepare myself properly. In my opinion is it really crucial to have a peaceful and quite year in order to prepare and get enough commitment to study steadily over time.
- Time for studies
- Working through the DeltaPatents Questions for paper D and writting as many past papers as possible to get a feeling on time-management and solution strategy
- Taking part in an intensive course focussing on the preparation for the pre-examination
- guidelines for examination
- just to have time for practising, preferably also during some workdays, and starting early enough before the exam
- detailed marking sheets of past EQE papers from where a participant can learn which items of each question (or sub-item) is allocated what amount of points in order to learn to focus on what is expected in detail and not just in overall (such as provided in recent examiner's reports).
- Having a study group was invaluable - use of skype meant we could 'meet' every week.; I thought the pre-exam course run by the EPO academy was useful
- the development of a quick and efficient personal method
- Essential questions in Delta Patents D book

- Solving past papers and studying Examier's report are really sufficient to pass the Exam. But I found also the book from Delta patent useful in checking whether my knowledge covers all articles and rules, as well as important case law.
- Training with independent patent attorneys
- For A and B part I sometimes feel that there could be more explanation given, why features in model claim are essential or chosen that way. I find this particularly tricky for purely functional features.
- Nothing special for papers A and B, case law and real opposition cases at the EPO as well as the internal opposition course at the EPO for paper C, and reading reading reading for paper D
- To have enough time to study a full paper.
- My wife and children.
- mock exams especially for paper C
- Old papers
- increase confidence and optimize and update tools (legal text of reference, guidelines, EPO publications, case law, EPO AC and President notes and OJ)
- experiences of my colleagues; training by using former examinations including studying the solution of the candidates and the examiner's solution
- Personally annotated CBE; Guidelines for Examination; Thematic summaries; Personal training with compedia
- Practice in everyday job.
- CEIPI Course
- Small CBE, personal notes and reminders, schemes to dynamically understand the issues with respect to particular situations.
- Self study.
- Working through the delta patent book. Reviewing past D1 papers. Familiarising myself with the guidelines, National Law Book, PCT and EPC.
- Writing an index referring to the EPC, the implementing regulations, regulations on fees, the Guidelines, Case Law and the Delta Patents Methodology and Training Books. Using different colours for marking claim features, effects and advantages, definitions, teachings away and the like in the paper C annexes instead of wasting too much time by writing these information in analysis sheets. Saving more time by just filling in the respective paragraph numbers of the annexes into the claim feature matrix. Saving even more time by gluing the annex 1 claims to the claim feature matrix. Noting down effects and advantages next to the annex 1 features in the matrix in order to streamline the process of inventive step attacks. Noting down the title and technical field of the prior art annexes on top of the matrix in order to be quickly able to decide which annexes can be the closest prior art in an inventive step attack and which ones can't. Keeping in mind that the technical field may change in a dependent claim relative to the claim on which it depends and choosing the appropriate closest prior art document when attacking inventive step.
- I obtained a back-up in my job regarding my files. One week before taking the exam. It is too short time but it is better than nothing, otherwise I would have been obliged to work until the exam day.
- Discussions with a former EPO examiner on the problem-and-solution approach ritual.
- Compile my own script,
- Applicants' Guide (esp. PCT), Guidelines for Examination
- Lots of self-study. Full concentration on EQE preparation, i.e. not working at the law firm /company during EQE preparation.
- Delta Patents
- Blood, toil, tears, and sweat
- Intense and consequent self-studying
- Material available from EPO publications and website.

- Having a commented EPC, Implementation, fees.; Having enough experience in solving D1 Questions.; Having an indexed list of keywords; The PCT Applicant's Guides - very informative; The European Applicants Guides - well written
- WORKING PRACTICE, ; TRAINING FOR ANSWER PAPER IN DUE TIME
- time
- Delta Patents D-questions
- Daily D1 questions; reading of Visser and Guidelines; DeltaPatents pre-exam course; epi online pre-exam course
- Doing lots of past paper questions
- Studying and training using old exams ON TIME! It is a big difference btw the exam and a real life corresponding situation. In the former it is a drawback to spend time to confirm details of answers, make sure that what you write is fullt correct, used all information, that nothing important may have been missed etc, since the penalty is that you then more than likely need to write down your last answers under extreme stress or not get time to finish them up at all.
- Correction papers corrected by tutor.
- K's Law website
- Practising on past papers.
- Reading EPC and PCT from the first to the last letter. Having a thorough look at previous papers. Trying to find out how the papers "work", i.e. to find the underlying patterns.
- Discussions with colleagues to improve understanding / remove misunderstanding. This was particularly important during the early study phase.; Also, the CEIPI-pre-prep-course in september was very helpful to understand what a great challenge the EQE is.
- I would have liked to go to the CEIPI seminars for the EQE, but I hadn't the possibility this year.
- I think it is quite important not to be too heavily loaded with work during the time you prepare for the exam. I did not manage to prepare as I had wished to, would have liked to start earlier, but did not find time, as I had to create space at work first
- Das Lösen vergangener Prüfungen des Kompendiums
- Personal study, and lots of it. No substitute for teaching yourself, the way you know you learn best.
- enough money to have enough time for study :)
- Training on mock papers.
- Personally generaed index to all topics and solution schemes. Preparing all materials well to have very fast access to topics.
- This was the 3rd and 4th time I sat the papers of the EQE - I only needed 2-3 points more that obtained last time in each paper. The earlier years I participated in some of the activities you have mentioned under Q9 and Q11, but not this year. This year I have focused especially on making past years papers and for both paper C and DII I have made the papers from 2005 to 2011. For DI I especially used EQE coffee break and Daily D1 as well as the papers from 2010 and 2011. Making my own overview of part of the process in front of the EPO has also been important for me.
- N/A
- Hard work. Time.
- Preparing an own annotation for EPC and PCT based on answering questions from the Compendium and the Delta Patent book with exam related questions
- Past papers
- Acceptance by employer that it is necessary to take time of for preparing for the exam - weekends are not enough.; Cancelled my enrolment to the exam papers C and D, in 2009 and 2011 as it was not possible to prepare properly with full time consultant job. Only change of job autumn 2011 provided the right circumstances.
- Support and understanding from my family was the basic for my preparation.

- To do as many past exams as possible, under real conditions, thereafter go through Deltapatents analyses and solution, and Examiners reports. ; To prepare personal checklists for exam, that were revised after each round of past exams.
- study group and CEIPI training; supervisor
- Plenty of hours of personal studying!
- Exchange with other students + training on the job.
- Experience and enough cases at work
- time and motivation
- I used a lot of books dealing with EPC and PCT. I do not know where to start. The list is long.
- for how the papers are marked, A,B,C compendia do contain enough information. as for D, it is lacking.; ; please, in the compendia of the past years, put the date of the examination in the sheets. It's not always easy to figure out, if you are doing for example DII 2009, what is the hypothesis on which day we are supposed to be to answer the paper. In old papers, the date was present. in newer ones, it dissapered
- Practice with questions and answers.
- sharing my doubts with my supervisors and studying with my colleagues
- For me it was important read the G decisions
- Preparation of a real life opposition - review of clients officail letters answers in the EQE style.
- motivation
- answering uestions from Delta patents books
- CEIPI D- course Straßbourg
- Delta Patents
- Begin to study early enough
- The cases I have worked at.
- External marking of previous exams
- none
- EQE Forum;; Delta Patents, Set of Questions and Answers for Paper D (part I and II);; Visser, The Annotated European Patent Convention;; Mulder, The Cross-Referenced Patent Cooperation Treaty;; Hoekstra, References to the European Patent Convention
- Day-to-day work of cases before the EPO, proper training by a senior European Patent Attorney, self study of the law and examination guidelines, reference books, and what the examination itself is about in details.
- Self-study
- I took a 3 weeks leave of absence before the exam
- Self study
- I did not participate in any courses, but bought and used "Methodology for paper C" by Jelle Hoekstra issued by Deltapatents together with "Analysis and model solution" of papers 2003, 2008 and 2009 together with the general "Methodology for paper C" book. These books gave a thorough overview of the the legal aspects and the requirements for passing the C paper
- Delta patents questions,
- Studying gradually, i.e using a little of time every day for the EQE preparations
- the tutor
- Geeting expirience in writing patent applications and replying to official communications.
- Practicing the use of an appropriate EPC commentary in order to be able to quickly find specific information.
- Redoing older papers
- Time; Answer and questions from other / Daily questions
- Enough time for training
- you need to do the most papers you can, compare with the examiners report in order to realize which are the relevant issues and common errors that you have to avoid. You may

try also to organize the information and develop a methodology you can scan all the information rapidly without spending a lot of time.

- it would be interesting to have a broader content on epo academy, as best source of information
- I think Mock-Exam is also a very important element for my preparation.
- Studying the Guidelines; preparing own flow charts, graphs and tables for major procedures
- Past exams
- 6 old C-exams, whereof 1 on time
- To study old papers on my own.
- Time; PCT
- Delta patents questions for paper D, Delta patents material for preparation of paper C
- Discipline, time management.
- practise many old exams
- Doing past papers under examination conditions.
- Most important ist doing at least 4 past exams under exam conditions to optimise time management and to avoid time consuming mistakes.
- Time for training
- Talking to candidates who sat the EQE in the last two years
- EQE Forum; Time Limit Questions; Exam Related Questions; Coffee Break EQE; Set of Questions and Answers for Paper D (part I and II) from DeltaPatents
- time
- Attempting at least 5 past papers and learning from any errors made.
- Material from EPO and DeltaPatents courses on A and B
- Handling prosecution of EP patents/patent applications for clients and dealing with all the issues arising during prosecution
- Doing past papers
- Going over past papers
- eqeonline
- Delta Patents for papers A, B, and D ; C-Book for paper C; Specific book on procedural Law for paper D
- Delta patents books
- Read Guidelines, start work for DI early, discussions with study group, write old exam papers under real-time conditions
- Preparation of reference material for Paper D. A full, up to date and editable electronic version of the EPC in English only would have been useful.
- PCT application guide, EPC Guidelines
- Strasbourg courses
- The info I got from people who already passed the exam
- Reading "The Annotated European Patent Convention" by Dirk Visser and completing and marking the two mock examinations.
- The past papers
- To read the Guidelines for examination and applicants guides.
- Richtlinien des EPA; Applicants Guide PCT ; How to get a European Patent parts 1 + 2
- Working with marked-up paper versions of texts (e.g. not using online/electronic versions, such as the Guidelines, during practical work in the 12 months preceding the exams).; Discussions with recent past candidates.
- View the very little information available for the pre-exam, available information by tutors was helpful to give the scope/extend of examination matters
- Time !
- EPO's website is quite helpful and well structured; information can easily be found.
- early start of preparation; - if an old paper of the compendium is written than a complete writing is helpful to get impression of available time

- Be relaxed when arriving at the EQE.; Exercising several papers and receiving from my tutors a marked version back.; Exercise papers with time pressure.; Study for 1.5 years about 10 hours a week and not studying everything at the last moment.
- Compendium, Delta Questions
- CEIPE courses
- Luck
- enough time (!); - EQE Online Forum (please transmit a thank you for the team, the infrastructure and the tutors make it a very important and good tool)
- For part C especially: Keep calm and relaxed, pay attention to personal well-being (e.g. sport, relaxation methods)
- Very important: Guidelines, G decisions, Compendiums; Discussing complicated topics with my colleagues
- Amount of time available
- Practising past papers and analysing the examiners comment carefully and in detail to ascertain what is sought by the examiners.
- It was very useful to prepare with other candidates as it was motivating and helpful to interpret the examiner's reports.
- My professional work and strategic studies on what gives point and not. The exam is a lot of knowing tactics and strategics on points.
- Practising past papers under timed conditions
- Time schedule given by the ceipi course in august 2011
- sit and write old exams (6 - 10)
- Sitting in exam conditions many of the previous papers.
- CIPA run tutorials
- cf Q10
- training, take care of time (6 hours are not enough to pass C...)
- Annoting the EPC and the PCT for building your own tools.
- Enough time at home for sitting on previous papers in real time; in-house weekly training on basic an exam-related questions
- EQE Forum, DailyQuestions
- Practice
- CEIPI courses and ASPI courses (FR)
- PCT-Handbuch von Malte Köllner, Guidelines, EPÜ Kommentar Kley, Guide for Applicants
- On the job experience
- EQE Exam Questions Deltapatents, studying Visser and Case Law Book, working papers B. Cronin (Patskills), C-course Cronin (Patskills); internal discussion with colleagues, D-course CEIPI in Strassbourg
- time management (work, family, versus preparation of the eqe); eqe forum; time line questions
- at least 800 hours of studying (inkl courses), memorizing the Articles, having fun with it. It became intersting during the period and anoying at the end.
- Reading the Guidelines in combination with studying previous C-papers. Preparing a Template comprising important facts.
- Studying and Preparation of EPO Guidelines; Preparation of PCT material (relevant information from WIPO homepage, preparation of applicants guide, ...); training several papers under strict exam conditions and time pressure;
- It is vital to do past papers so that one knows what to expect and has an idea of the time pressure.
- My own experience and tools, since I have already sit Paper D, with very near chances to pass it. This year I had no real time free to prepare for personal reasons, but I wanted to sit before conditions for Paper D change.
- Familiarising myself with the Guidelines and taking past papers in my own time.
- I found the EQE Forum to be very helpful.

- To have a time table with all the books to study,; To make all the compendiums until 1999 for D1 and until 2005 for all the other papers.; To prepare my own material to use during the exams, and use it before taking the exams.
- My main method of preparation for the first 10 questions was the Delta patents questions compendium mentioned above.
- Advice from friends and colleagues.
- Exercises daily D1-questions ege-online, D-course Delta patents
- Daily questions, ege online forum
- CEIPI Seminars - Pre-Prep C and Prep C.
- EPÜ-Handbuch, Heymanns Verlag; EPÜ 2000; Examinatorium Europaeum Deutsche Patentanwaltskammer
- guidelines indexes, time limit questions
- CEIPI Course in Strasbourg
- Enough preparation time
- do old EQE examination papers
- Working through the compendiums after the Ceipi seminar preparing ege
- Feedback on previous papers
- Have time to start intensive focused study
- Personal study
- Book-a-tutor system.
- well, I would had preferred having a learning group or at least a supervisor whom I could ask having questions. So I ended up learning all my self which makes it pretty though- especially for the claim analysis part. I´d tried to build up my own Skype-training group and using the EQE forum. However, without any help it takes time to understand what you re reading there, and then you can only start using the forum b putting your questions there. I´would prefer if the CEIPI/EPO Pre-exam course has not been so unaffordable since I had to pay it myself, in addition to preparing and making all my learning materials -taking unpaid holidays for learning. I total the pre-exam was expensive for me.
- Enough study time. Time is essential element for preparing for the EQE.
- Epi/EPO online course
- Making a 'mini' annotated EPC which I used for most exam questions, and using an annotated EPC by Visser only for in-depth questions. My own version of the EPC allowed me to focus on the big picture without loosing track due to the many details provided by reference books such as Visser.
- Intensive study periods, Using the compendium
- Delta patents course were unvaluable, because they provide focused and individual advice, and also help to understand how to present the answers
- Exam Training
- training
- Most important was one week studying period without family and oblications relating to daily work. Former Delta C-course (2+3 days) has been very useful.
- Feedback on the way you answer D
- I worked through past papers and worked out an examination technique from that.
- cope with time pressure aspects, get adapted working methods,
- Lots and lots of past papers and questions.
- "Specialised courses for EQE papers" above refers to the CEIPI training course for the pre examination held in Strasbourg in Nov. 2012
- guidelines
- Organising the study material and setting it up in the right condition for easy and fast consultaton during the exam
- PCT Compass which was very useful but I missed some important information in it. If I have to sit again (very unlikely because I hope I have passed... ;-)), probably I will change to other available boock (Deltapatents).
- A lot of practice, looking for a personal, systematic approach and handling of the questions

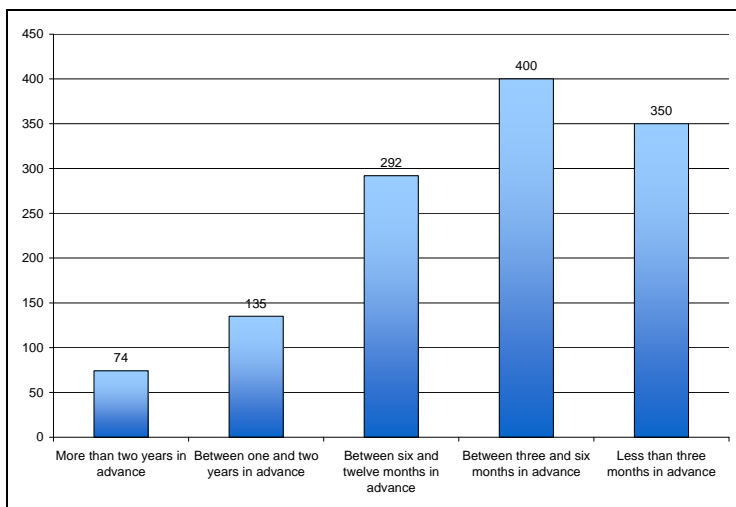
- spend more time in training
- daily work
- Did previous papers A E/M, and papers D and studies examiners reports
- Guidelines for Examination in the EPO; - Time limit questions; - Daily D1 questions; - Delta patent questions in general; - C-Book
- Strong personal involvement and homeworks
- Worksheets with relevant data (some processes, procedures), Short abstract of processes, Worksheets to write relevant things down instead of thinking and just write the solution
- Exercises and work experiences
- Guidelines for Examination of the EPO, especially "Part C" is very important for EQE Parts A and B. ; ; Guideline I ("How to get an EP-Patent"), Guideline II ("Euro-PCT"), ; ; "White book" of the EPO for jurisdiction
- Don't panic!
- Practice and training on the job; continuous learning and improvement in english language and in particular the EQE-legal and technical jargon.
- Apart from the EPC and the Guidelines for Examiners; ; - Annotated Reference Book to the EPC (from Delta Patents); ; - Visser
- Doing the actual work of an attorney, drafting applicaitons and OA responses as well as evaluating our own patents and patent applications from the perspective of an infringement.
- Time and systematic preparation
- Delta Patents and materials provided by them.
- set up a reasonable and doable target for your personal study, get supports from your family, be brave enough to face the challenging
- Self Annotated EPC, G decisions, Case Law Book
- -Exchange/talk with people having (successfully or not passed) recently the EQE.; -Reading real papers with correction of errors.
- doing old questions
- Repetition
- Findability of EPC and PCT Arts and Rules and their explanations/annotations; Sitting a mock EQE the week before; Doing at least 6 past papers for each paper; Studying hard at least 2 months before the exam so you get physically and mentally 'fit' e.g. handwriting, sitting, mental concentration, take 2 weeks holiday from work before the exam.
- Daily work experience in my company is a good basis for A, B and C-Part !
- preparing checklists for every paper, brings a better time management
- mock examinations
- self-study of the EPC, in particular profound knowledge of the structure of the guidelines
- When DII is written in two separate parts, it would be very useful to know how many marks are allocated to each part
- Updated materials, having a structured plan and time available to go trough it with the support from the Supervisor or Manager at work.
- Practicing answering legal/exam-related questions (D-part) and writing prior exams (C-part) in the prescribed time.
- EQE-forum, reading decisions of technical boards of appeal, daily practice
- Solving former paper c's
- Training with a lot of questions relating paper DI and DII, Daily Questions DI by e-mail.
- having alot of past questions of part D; studying the "Kley" commentary
- Perseverance
- Practising the past papers and comparing my answers with those of the Examiners Possible Solution and Candidate's answer is very important. For paper C especially, practising working under exam conditions for 6 hours is an important part of the preparation.
- Delta patents basic questions; getting familiar with commented EPC and PCT
- Study EPC and comments (Visser) + PCT + PC + Rfees, Guide Lines 2010, EPO Caselaw 2010, National Law related to EPC 2010, The Cross-referenced PCT 2011 (Cees Mulder),

Headnotes to G decisions and selected J and T decisions. Solving Paper D I, II and C papers from 2004-2011 under realistic exam conditions using the DeltaPatent methodology.

- Kley and preparation of it
- Time (it is really a problem, when your employer wants you 50 hours a week working on very complicated files directly the weeks before the eqe, as unfortunately was the case for me; you can do your very best then and nevertheless fail...)
- The preparation should start 1 year and 1/2 before the examination day, with a weekly study.; Self-study should go in parallel with a specific training with a supervisor.
- For the past 1 or 2 years, the best candidate's copies published did indicate the full mark, and the points allocated to each part of the question - this is very useful as a complement to the Examiner's report.
- in-house training
- Time lime questions, reading complete syllabus.
- Training with previous papers
- Preparation of Guidelines for examination and the Articles and rules of the EPC
- Lots of time to prepare at home in daytime was given from my employer.
- Remember there is a huge difference between the EQE and daily life, i.e. the drafting of applications and responding to Communications
- A lot of hours 800 approximately- more ex-papers, however not all are relevant to the newest examinations
- Study leave (i.e. time given off work).
- professional experience, personal re-elaboration on issues related to each single article of the EPC
- no
- seminars provided by EPO
- Real-time mock examinations based on the compendium
- C-book: How to Write a Successful Opposition and Pass Paper C of the European Qualifying Examination Ed. by William E. Chandler and Hugo Meinders was fundamental.; Question and answer for paper D by Deltapatents I believe it was very good but I didn't have time to study enough from this book so I cannot comment.; Ege forum and Ege wiki were very good resources.
- Guidelines
- Making my own annotated EPC; PCT applicant's guide; Guidelines; Visser (for quick reference)
- Support from colleagues.
- A lot of hours free from work for studying
- Sharing opinion with other people (regrettably my "study group" was composed by two persons, comprising me); Time dedicated to study-exercise
- A very understanding wife and employer !
- No
- Old papers and hard work
- internet blogs droit européen du brevet, K's law
- Preparation by daily job.
- Time to go through previous papers
- Kley, Köllner
- Lots of exercise using previous papers; Good knowledge of "Examination guide"
- Pre-prep CEIPI courses in Milan and CEIPI C cramming course in Strasbourg.
- Guidelines
- having more than 3 years experience.
- training in office
- epo online
- Schreiben von alten Klausuren
- Repeated training within the given time frame of the pre-EQE , especially regarding Q11-Q20

- Compendium - EQE daily question - EQE forum
- Law and practice accessible on the EPO's website
- be relaxed; take time for preparation; at day of examination have all logistics set
- Time management, i.e. sitting past papers to time under exam conditions
- CEIPI Course was very good; unfortunately not enough time for preparation
- Writing past EQE papers
- Examinatorium Europaeum hosted by Fernuniversität Hagen and Patentanwaltskammer München
- Making old papers
- Discussing with colleagues.
- Personal time (few WEEKS)
- none
- Guidelines for Examination
- Studying the EPO-Guidelines
- Training previous papers
- I think comments and feedback on actual prepared papers is very important.
- enough study time when you can afford it
- The in-house training with my colleagues discussing the EPC, Official journal etc was very good since it forced me to study the material in depth
- A self written EPÜ comment.
- Daily, weekly or monthly study of EPC legislation and regulation
- Past papers.
- Enough Preparation Time (probably didn't have it); Delta Patents Exam Related Questions; Kley, with marking up and additional cross referencing
- marking / annotation of references for ready accessibility; - procuring good writing utensils; - D1 Questions by email / European Patent Academy; - Official Journal
- Make as many previous exams as possible
- patent law reviews on the internet e.g. K's Law-blogspot.; ; Reading a lot of T-decisions
- doing past papers and analysing the answers
- Convention (EPC); Guidelines; DG3 Case Laws; professional personal experience and expertise;
- Exams from previous years
- Developing and exercising a structured approach to the paper;; Sitting previous papers under exam conditions;; Correcting a study colleague's;; Discussing the paper in a study group with an experienced and competent tutor;
- Presentations and notes from the specialised courses for EQE.
- compendium study, time organization, sorting of information
- Time which is hard to have when working in industry
- EPO Website ; - legal texts; - daily D1 questions and forum ; - talking to other candidates
- comment to Q 13, because I am a re-sitter it was ever year the same procedure
- Organizing regular time slices of at least 2 to 3 hours for learning in the weekend.
- Time - which I did not have due to excessive work load on the job.
- Preu Kurs Munich
- Practice!
- Taking at least five previous papers (2007-2011)
- To spend time doing exercises as the Mock exams from previous years and other exercises from colleagues and/or friends
- old papers and professional help in assessing the own ones
- having time for preparing this examination. Starting to study well before the Examination.

Q13) How long before sitting the EQE did you start intensive focused study?



Q14) What was your greatest weakness when assessing your preparation for the EQE and your performance, and how, in retrospect, could you have overcome it?

- I should have started getting ready earlier!
- Having to do a job at the same time as studying for the exam.
- Early preparation
- Laziness;; ; Be more disciplined in finding time to study regularly, leading up to the exam.
- Weakness of preparation- no personal feed back on previous exams, marking the problem areas; a difficulty to figure out what is actually asked and what the answer is expected and how detailed, unclear how the papers are marked - no possible to make "old exams" and see how high/low rate one gets (Exam. reports should give in possible solution - statement and amount of points for it).; Weakness of performance - timing (reading/understanding in non-mother tongue takes longer time) and stress due to the timing. Mixed order of PCT and EPC questions: those shall be separated to make easier to handle corresponding material: first on one law (say EPC), then all on PCT.; How to overcome;; - continue training doing exams on time
- time management during the paper; searching for my own method of dealing with the information contained in the annexes; legal issues, since I did not yet sit Paper D; lack of good templates for the structure of the notice of opposition, especially the claim attacks; don't know how far I am supposed to cited legal basis in the claim attacks
- got tired of reading for the exam the second time, should have passed the exam the first time
- Amount of European patent prosecution work. No easy way to overcome it... File more divisionals? ;)
- no weakness :-)
- I didn't have properly updated material for studying for Paper D until Dec 2011, so time for preparation for D was too short.
- More time for studying. Not possible durring working hours
- my greatest weakness were the writing skills. I'm not longer used to hand writing. I have practiced during the preparation for the EQE writing my daily work documents (memos, draft of patent applications and of replies to OC) by hand writing and then analysing the legibility of said documents.
- Not well prepared for Paper D (lack of knowledge and training). I knew that but I decided to sit it anyway.; I should have started studying earlier.

- Preparation for EQE - having my past papers marked would have been useful; ;
Performance - not making stupid mistakes, which could have been overcome by pausing mid exam to take stock of my answer
- Lack of support of our employer for in-house training. Difficult to overcome, but perhaps with more study at home with our Study group.
- I think I need more time for making the papers because, among other things, in many times I can not understand completely the descriptions of the documents. I am Spanish and my English is more or less. Due to, I think that the Examiners should consider this situation and bear in mind that a Spanish candidate does not have the same advantage than a candidate of a country with any of the three official languages.
- Finding out how to draft the sentences to get the points. Even if i think i have all necessary information, i can't figure out for which aspect points are given. ; As sample solution with indication for the aspect yielding the points, would have been very helpful.
- do not enough to study, have to use plenty of private time to study.
- I do not have 3hrs-4hrs time (in continuous) for performing past papers in "real conditions".
- I took only C this year. The most important is to be aware of the examining conditions and to apply the method you chose strictly. My weakness was that I don't have so much time during my private time to liberate 6h in a row in order to train under proper conditions, but I forced myself to go to my office during the week-end and I think it was of big help.
- Case law, impossible to overcome it because impossible to learn by heart all possible cases that examiners will want to test in order to make D more difficult
- time managing
- lack of interest and support from employer
- Basically, available time is far from being enough for reasonably preparing paper D as it is currently designed, for a full-time worker having notably to take care of a family.
- Lack of time.
- Enough time to study after work
- To much workload to make enough time for studying. That being said significant amount of time was still being spend studying just not as much as one would have liked.; ; Attending courses are primarily suitable for candidates in one of the big contracting states, compensated by personal study.
- Inventive step analysis. With time for preparation
- Dealing with the available time for the paper; Having more time to practice trying to respect time limits
- Not enough information on the content of the exam. Limited to two mock papers, of which only one was provided with in depth information.
- Should have started revising a lot earlier but could not due to family issues - could not have overcome this.
- I have to start learning earlier in advance of the EQE. It takes minimum three month in advance.
- felt well prepared
- Choice of correct closest prior art; speed of writing
- There is not much material for preparation of part A available.; Preparing again the former exams lacks benefits, since you already know the answers.
- Weakness: forget obvious subject matter to claim (paper A) and being too superficial when supporting novelty and inventive step in paper B. ; Hopefully, such weakness has been overcome this year...
- PCT
- Preparation time is always to less. This seems to be normal for such part-time qualification.
- Should have been more self-confident to know the answers, suppose this will be better for the Main EQE
- None
- I have difficulties in not getting misled by the facts given in the paper (for instance paper D-II). Sometimes I don't achieve to complete the whole puzzle

- It is quite difficult to learn how claims should be drafted for A and B parts, especially because the difference between "functional feature" and "claiming of result to be achieved" is considerably small in a number of examiner's reports. It would have been helpful to get more information in previous examiner's reports.
- Time management and structuring of DII. Scored very well on DI, but DII was not so good!
- Planning how much time for each section. Also not knowing to which detail you have to study. It is in general very unclear what the EQE (in my case pre-Exam) is testing, what are you supposed to know?
- Not thoroughly going over the recent changes in the EPC, recent G-decisions.
- My planning I strictly followed was too intense, it stressed me out ...
- Weakness in preparation is time: Full time job and three kids plus a wife having full time job and studying further university levels.; ; Weakness in exam is time/speed, ability to write in hand for 20 hours in three days seems like an odd limit to pass the exam in the year of 2012.
- stress
- Time management: too much time dedicated to the study of the documents during preparation and then during the examination
- Structuring the response to D2. May have been overcome by having more of the previous papers corrected by an experienced person.
- Lack of time available, especially after working the full day on weekdays. Weekends required some relaxation just to be in shape for work the next week, leaving insufficient time for EQE preparations.
- Despite having done quite a few of the old papers I still found myself unsure about one aspect in the Client's letter (Paper B) which I was not sure if it was a trap or a genuine instruction as it was not formulated as an instruction.
- Greatest weakness was the difficulty to restrict myself to the facts given in the questions and to avoid using my general or specific knowledge in the technical fields when assessing implicit disclosure and formulating objective problems.
- Understand in the better way how the pre-exam was. In particular I retain that it was not enough to have only two mocks exam for preparing in the better way. ; The only way to study it was to prepare a good legal part.
- Not having working earlier enough with a good book (Gregory Baque); Not having doing enough exercises
- I underestimated the time pressure, I did not write out fully enough preparation exams
- Sitting all four requires more time.
- more detailed checklists for the EPC rules/art
- More time to practice actual papers. Take off time from work - say 4 weeks
- Not started early enough, only started after admission.
- time for preparation is short - needed to take holiday for preparation, so 3 weeks must be enough
- French : Le vocabulaire utilisé dans les épreuves n'est pas clair. Par exemple "pièce spéciale adaptée à" ne permet pas de déterminer si elle est spéciale en ce qu'elle est adaptée ou si elle est spéciale et, de plus, adaptée.; ; Les compendium peuvent servir à s'habituer à ce vocabulaire générique mais cela ne me paraît pas correct dans la mesure où un défaut de clarté nous serait opposée dans une procédure de délivrance de brevet européen.; ; English : the vocabulary used in the examination documents is not clear. For example "special object adapted to" does not allow determining whether the object is special in that it is adapted to or if it is special and also adapted to.; ; Compendium help being used to that vocabulary but it does not seem correct to me since clarity is one of the requirements when drafting European patent applications and responding to notifications from the EPO.
- legal basis knowledge.
- Less time for preparation due to work, which could be overcome by starting preparation earlier

- C: time management and organization -> writing old papers; A + B: finding the sweet spot of protection -> probably did not overcome it, was always (at least a little) too narrow; D II: finding the way through these mostly complex situations -> organization
- Dedicate enough time for preparation. No way to overcome this, for professional and private obligations.
- For D I felt really well prepared, as I have been doing a lot of old exam papers, however that is no guarantee for passing D, but I am excited to see in August if I passed.; I focused on D this year, so I did not prepare for C. It would have been nice to have had more time, so that I could also have prepared for C by doing a lot of old exam papers, but all my study time was spent on D, as I prefer to pass D first, since that requires more preparation.
- I should have done a few claim analysis cases; I spent nearly all my time preparing for the theory questions (Part I).
- Available time.; No way to be overcome.
- Extreme workload from autumn till January: too much overtime, sometimes I even burnt the midnight oil. Furthermore, a severe disease of a close family member.
- No support by courses. But those are very expensive and I couldn't afford the costs and I did not receive any (financial) support by the law firm I'm working for and doing my patent attorney trainee program, respectively. It was hard to find out all the stuff for yourself.
- D exam exercises. Could have been better by learning how to structure the answers.
- For part C: After doing mock-exams there was no possibility for feedback.
- stress
- Due to increased work load/work assignment, I had very few time to get prepared. I benefited from the former preparation, so that gathering important material got an easy task. I did not have to prepare, but only refresh my knowledge.
- My mentor is a EPA under the grandfather clause and do not know what is needed for EQE. Another weakness is that CEIPI training is of bad quality. Delta training is expensive and thus the company will only invest in the basic methodology training and not the correction of papers. Delta trainers are getting old and more lazy so their original spirit and dedication has vanished and they are more trying to act as smart guys for the sake of money. Still the material is good but maybe too overwhelming. A more brief and to the point material would be preferred. Since it is most also in the interest of EPO to help candidates to qualify I would suggest that the educational part of EPO offered to correct a couple of papers in the category you are sitting the paper in as a part of the enroling to the paper. Still the D part should be reconsidered such that a lot of the basic parts of the paper and questions are changed to real life problems and only a few are exceptional and unrealistic problems such that the exam in a better way filter if you are fit to practice more than fit to unusual problems ;-)
- Equivalent UK advanced papers were taken in previous November. Not enough of a gap between these two sets of exams to allow for sufficient dedicated study for EQEs.; Not possible to rectify unless exams are shifted to different time of year.
- I started my intense studying way too late, but will rectify that this year.
- comparison with other colleagues
- I did not know, what the examiners expected me to answer. The EQE exam is very artificial and has nothing to do with reality. Nobody will ever ask me where to find the answer to his question in the Guidelines.
- The worst was to keep the focus, spirit and momentum high during the study period. Wish I knew how to overcome it.; I read the EPC.; The Pre-Exam book was good as it pointed to the necessary references to read, understand and have printed. Also indicating what you needed.; I used a long time to create a reference-sheet to EPC, PCT, GL (have never seen the Delta? one somebody mentioned) with fees, documents, due-dates, remedies etc. Reason was that I had to look up everything and this way became familiar with the EPC, PCT, GL etc. (But while doing it I was in doubt if it made any sense); Then I benefited from updating the EPC according to the OJ since EPC was published. (But did not have time to update my prepared reference-sheet)

- Fast reading and assimilating information in English. My personal attitude in doing things quite and not under stress condition.
- My greatest weakness is the balance between, on one side the daily work, output and deadlines i.e. being conscientiously, and on the other side acting "never mind - I spent my time to my EQE-preparation".
- I could have exercised more of the old exams under real conditions. Maybe 2 or 3 more.
- Having to study during the weekends, after having worked long hours during the week is difficult and exhausting. ; ; The short time to do the exam papers is a big problem and a big challenge
- Resitter for paper B. No problems at all. Nervosity at the first time turned out to be the problem of failing B in 2011.
- convincing my boss to give me enough time off;; Motivation -> more self discipline, talking to other candidates with the same "problem"
- So far, I think I was well prepared (no particular weakness detected yet)
- A study group would have greatly improved my preparation and motivation; ; In-house training in my company as well as far larger focus and help from my company would have made a huge difference. I have had a spare-time preparation only, which I think will not be sufficient for the D-exam.
- The speed required to answer the exam questions and the particular items required to score points are not clear to the candidates. In particular, the exams are not infrequently inconsistent regarding the discussions expected - e.g. one year discussing provisional protection renders points and next year it may be waste of valuable time to discuss the topic at all - which forces the candidates to cover more than actually needed or to make rather unsafe guesses.
- Too much concentration on D (but still not enough); I underestimate the hell that was the PCT; Not enough mock exams done for A, B and C
- less basic study on Visser/Hoekstra and many more questions for paper D would have helped
- Not enough mock papers for the pre-examination.; In retrospect, could have adapted questions from the Compendium
- every day work hinders preparation - and there is no way out
- My kids being sick in the weeks right before the EQE.; Could have been overcome either by more Vitamin C or warmer pullovers.; ; Not allocating sufficient time for preparations in general.
- better organization of the info provided in the paper; difficult to say
- If I had known sooner that I would be able sit the exam I would've begun to revise sooner. I only found out in December.
- ?
- starting too late.
- Time management during the exam. It is very important to practise old papers under realistic (time-limited) conditions.
- I spent too much time studying too soon. There were too many rule changes between when I began studying and when I took the test.; ; I retrospect, I could have waited for the last month before the test to have started studying.
- Speed, I cannot write faster - otherwise the examiner would not decrypt anything. If it would be clear how deep the examiners want to have the answer, it would be much of help.
- Combination of work/study and family life. Don't see how I should have overcome it. I choose not to sit all 4 papers at once, and that was a good choice.
- Too few time to prepare. Spend more time.
- PCT because we rarely make use of it other than filing a PCT application and then entering the national / regional phases. The CEIPI basic training course did not emphasize PCT much either and the lectures were scheduled only a few months before the exams. The depth of PCT only became apparent to me after attending the 2nd January 2012 course organised by CEIPI in Strasbourg for Paper D.

- Not having past pre-examination papers.; With the mock pre-examination i was affraid that the technical part would be too difficult and would take me too much time to understand it.; ; I assumed that the difficulty would be as in paper C and read the descriptions of past papers C.
- I'll see in August
- more mock pre-exams to be able to assess the amount and level of detail of subject-matter to be examined
- speed of hand-writing
- Exam technique - thinking more about how to prepare and structure answers (rather than simply diving straight in to writing the answers).
- How much to study in relation to the PCT - for example, the syllabus and what candidates are expected to know in this regard.
- I think I was well prepared. I just didn't feel comfortable on that day in the MOC. I guess I had a bad day...
- -
- I feel I neglected papers A and B, having focussed heavily on papers D and C in my preparation.
- Could have focussed on D even more.
- Realy no weakness
- Being able to have more mock exams would make it easier to be prepared
- Because of high workload, I had not enough time to prepare the exam. I should have preserved 1 day of the week for preparing only EQE.
- I should have begun with D preparation from the very beginning the first year. The most difficult preparation is for DII itself. It is simply difficult with only the Compendium as learning source.
- writing training, learning to formulate my answers and ideas in a clear and understandable way
- I'm a Technology Transfer Officer, I don't draft on day day base
- Due to the enormous workload in the department, lack of free time to extensive eqe training. I could not overcome the problem.
- Being able to discuss small questions with others to clarify things. It is better to get things clear in your head quickly just by asking someone. The ability to communicate and explain questions and answers with other people.
- To know, what is necessary to know.; Overcome: just starting, after some weeks it comes clearer.
- time simulation of the papers at home. The time available for reading and writing during the exams is short and one must be very concentrated to exploit it well.
- difficulty to argue inventive step in the very formalized true/false format of pre-exam; ; it would have been helpful to have more mock-examns /examples available
- Limited information available about the pre-exam as were were the first year sitting the exam.
- time for the prep
- I think the Ch papers A and B in the EQE are too artificial – "non-real" situations with all kind of small traps. I would much rather train for real-life situations instead for the EQE per se.
- I did not have sufficient time, due to professional workload, to consider all the past EQE papers. Instead, I had to consider only a selection. In case, I would consider to perform a full analysis of past papers
- Enough preparation, but not smart enough during the exam. A good night sleep and more common sense would have helped.
- I did not have enough time to prepare given my working commitments.
- Geringe Vorbereitungszeit; Mehr Training für handschriftliches Anfertigen von Dokumenten
- Finding enough time to actually study while doing a job. Taking some time off is an unpleasant but effective help.

- Initially too much focus on legal issues. Should have included issues on patentability and arguing for patentability earlier.
- I think my prep was ok. To be honest, a bit of an overkill. I focused on fundamental elements such as filing (EP-direct and PCT), languages, Priority, N, IS, etc, and studied them almost as I would for the D Paper. The literally only browsed the "less" fundamental parts, such as transfer, licensing, etc. The reason for the approach was to maximize the usefulness for next year's exams.
- Available time during working hours as a father to three kids between 5-18 years old and work as a patent consultant with Key account responsibility...
- working at the same time
- I was very busy at work in November December, so I had little time to study. Might be overcome by setting time dedicated for EQE aside from normal work.
- D part II: Even the recent Examiners reports in the Compendium do not provide much information on the breakdown of the marks for various elements of the expected answers. It is therefore very difficult to self mark past papers with any degree of accuracy.
- Trying to motivate myself to study further after having assessed the level of the mock Pre-Exams.
- I had weakness in the A/B part of the pre-examination and I found useful the Methodology DeltaPatents course. I did a Distance Learning course for the D part.
- The fact that this year was the first year the Pre-examination took place. It was difficult to evaluate the required level of knowledge. But the mock exams were very helpful. As there were only 2 available, I kept them for the end of my preparation. I should have use them earlier to assess the real requested level.
- I would have needed more time for studies. Hence, start earlier. Also, I would like a turnkey solution for material needed for the studies - pay and go, such as a kit of books easily available to buy online containing a choice of suitable reference books (Vissers AEPC, APCT, Chandlers C-book) , model solutions, selection of official journals (SE3 2007, SE1 2010, etc.), case law book, PCT-applicant's guide EQE-edition, bonus material (d1-timing sheet, etc.), a simplified 1-page overview of articles and rules of EPC (instead of chapters of rules having useless names, such as "IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS TO PART VI OF THE CONVENTION" having a descriptive name such as "Appeals", after I made such an index, I found it much easier to understand Visser and know continuously relate to the overall structure of the EPC).
- My greatest weakness when I prepared for the EQE and in my performance has been not following any specialised course for EQE paper A.
- Time, I was working until just before the exam
- did not have enough time dedicated to study due to work commitments and having young kids to look after at home
- Methodology for second half of the pre-exam was missed. However, with the notice that the real exam might be different than those mock-exam, one has to improvise. Now we know how a real one looks like.
- Time limitation; no solution; I started focussed study (except the already mentioned 2-days course in December) about 15 days before EQE; 8 days were occupied by other liabilities; so complete study was limited to about 7 days and 10 nights/mornings (including EQE-days ;-)) - preparation material could become better including methods. Very helpful were 20-minuts-question/answer-games about heavy legal problems with a colleague on about 4 days and one week before the EQE.
- Time between finishing UK exams and EQE's was too short for doing enough study for the EQE's. Could have considered doing UK exams afterwards but did not want to wait another year to take them.
- I think I should have started practising past questions (in this case past D1 questions) earlier in the course of my preparation for the EQE preliminary exam. It would have been nice to have further case analysis examples.
- I have comments to paper A/C:; ; The biggest problem with preparation to EQE is that, there is no clear written/given requirements, which a candidate needs to fulfill to pass the exams.

It is also not possible to derive these requirements/rules by analyzing the previous exams. So, in my execution of the paper I had to rely completely on recommendation given on the preparation course, which are actually not an official position on the matter.

- not enough theoretical knowledge, attending courses, studying preparation books
- The biggest problem I struggled, was the limited time for preparation especially for D. The solution of the questions have to be available immediately. Otherwise, there is no chance to pass. Concerning DI, I had also problems "warming up" in the examination.
- My greatest weakness was the fact that I'm working "in house", with no real experience of clients' letters or very tight deadlines. I overcome it (I hope!) by working on past exams and studying the Examiner's report
- Although 6 hours, it is too short and the time is stressful
- I should have started with intensive focused study before. I focused in the preparation of D1 and I now regret not to have practiced for D2. I also suffered from lack of practical experience with the PCT procedure and on the exploitation of IP rights. I will try to find books dealing with IP licensing & deals to improve my knowledge on the commercial exploitation of IP rights area. I don't think this is something we are confronted with during the CEIPI preparation. It would be helpful if a selection of readings is provided to us by the Examining Committee or the EPI/CEIPI.
- The time provided by my company to prepare the EQE.
- Greatest Weakness:; - Lack of feedback from (first) employer/coach, and too high workload. ; - I only started reading the examiners reports quite recently, I relied too much on my (first) coach.
- Paper D seems to require a lot of detailed knowledge. Therefore I spent a lot of time to collect this information.; After all the ability to gain a quicker overview of the "general thematic concept" of each question would have been more helpful, as time is too limited to apply such knowledge.
- Claim Analysis, Extension of claims, 123(2) and (3), put focus more on part A and B type questions, less patent law
- I do not know how I could have improved my preparation.
- For the pre-exam the claims part and inventive step argumentation.; Maybe I could have more pro-active in having discussions with colleagues, tutors or other candidates.
- I should have done more mock examination preparation for the claims section of the pre-EQE.
- time management. I should have practiced more under exam conditions
- Everything boils down to preparation. I regret not having written a couple of lines on issues that I knew about, but somehow just did not write down. In retrospective I should have written a couple of notes on remembering to take these issues into account.; The time pressure is enormous, so it is easy to miss things that you do not usually miss.
- Preparing for paper DI. Finding the exact means of answering the questions. There was a huge discrepancy between the Compendium "model answer" and those given on the EQE Forum.
- Assessment of inventive step. Could have been better prepared by using problem-solution approach more
- time management --> more practice
- no real weakness in the preparation identified - I knew exactly what the EQE - parts A & B - was about. The difficulty is more to identify what the examination committee is expecting from the candidates.
- weakness in performance was a good time management; retrospectively I underestimated the need to perform real simulations (with time constraints) and to have a pre-scheduled timing for examinations.
- None. Preparing for the pre-examination in my opinion is a good way of getting familiarized with the EQE study materials.
- Time planning during the exam. I needed to rush at the end of the exam even though I dedicated the last 2h20m to the claim analysis part. I spent a long time for the legal part

looking up legal basis really thoroughly 'cause I thought I could afford that timewise, which was not the case. It's also hard to tell my greatest weakness since I don't know my score.

- Starting too late on revision and worrying about the fringes of the EQE syllabus rather than concentrating on the core aspects of the EPC.
- Lack of detailed knowledge of epc, writing myself a personal epc comment/guide
- I think I could not produce enough depth to the answers due to lack of overall preparation.
- Lack of experience of giving customer advice and oppositions.; Not easy to overcome. More experience needed.
- Too little time dedicated to study for the examination
- Self-discipline to really work through as many past papers as possible
- Keeping the momentum throughout the marathonal exam intact
- I should have started studying the material about a year in advance, perhaps not intensively but in smaller portions to be repeated regularly in order to keep my knowledge fresh and to build up over a long period, which would have helped to eliminate uncertainties.; ; Also, perhaps most importantly, I should have focussed on exam technique. Keeping to the time constraints appears to be my greatest weakness and while courses like the CEIPI D course are helpful when it comes to expand knowledge and point the students to areas they need to focus on more intensively, no-one addresses the very important factor of exam technique, i.e. what parts to skim and where expansion on a subject is needed or how to read questions efficiently and cut right to the important points that gain marks without losing time.
- Just too little time in Jan and Feb for latest practising; due to extensive other workload. However, my earlier preparation with the courses last autumn went quite well and was absolutely useful. I should negotiate with my boss to give me less "normal work" in Jan-Feb before the exam!
- Speed in answering paper C - could have been improved by doing more past papers and devising a better method to answer paper C.
- Time. Needs a very good methodology
- My lack of preparation was due to an extreme workload at my firm not allowing any time off and taking up a lot of my free time.
- weakness: i don't like to sit between so many people + no time for reading my answer a second time; ; overcome: sitting somewhere alone or aside + more time for rethinking my answer
- Greatest weakness was the unforeseeable workload at the job in between last October until end of January 2012. Due to the long hours at business I had occasionally very little quality time available for learning. However thanks to the long time span of almost 2 years I dedicated to the prep for C and D papers I felt nonetheless OK and quite well prepared. I would have done only a bit more training on older papers and particularities thereof during that period in time.
- Lack of guidance in finding the less obvious problems in C.
- -
- Sometimes I couldn't understand paper C, since it was too mechanic
- Lack of information about the difficulty of the pre-examination and lack of material in the appropriate format made studying very difficult. I don't think that I could have overcome this (I just had to accept that our year group were guinea pigs) - hopefully it will become less of an issue in the future.
- the lack of a clear method on how to deal with papers A and B; - miscalculated the time needed to draft the description in paper A
- I have always seen that I know a lot more than I can demonstrate during the examination, since the time is too short to recall important details to prepare a complete answer, where often a minor detail is likely to be overlooked which gives the impression that as candidate I missed the point of the question. Whereas in reality it is only a matter of sufficient time which allows one to reflect on the facts while taking for a few minutes also a distance. Nevertheless, I believe that the time given for DI is sufficient to solve the questions to a great extent allowing one to pass the Exam as far as DI is concerned.; ; I think that the DII paper becomes more and more complicated, because of the amount of technical information

which has to be collected to correctly apply the legal aspects. Although I am technically qualified enough to understand any EQE paper in every aspect the time pressure is enormous to process so much information within 4 hours without overlooking important issues which are more vital for decision and actions to be proposed. In sum, the DII papers is too crowded. And I think DI type short questions or slightly improved DI type questions can better test the legal knowledge of a candidate. Moreover I am in the opinion that many candidate score better in DI than DII because of the technical details which are time consuming.

- hard to tell before you know the exam and your marks achieved. Finding a study group would have surely been helpful.
- I needed to become much more familiar with procedures (formalities ...) and with case law; ; My work as examiner at the EPO was sometimes a bit annoying for papers A and B, especially A, the way you tackle papers is different than the way you did in your everyday life, you have to become used to give the examiners what they expect and not what you personally find sometimes better
- I'm too old to sit such a complex examination; time for preparing the paper is my greatest weakness.; EQE does not allow you to decide to act as sitter.
- My greatest weakness: I felt that the EQE (especially Paper C) was surreal.
- shortage of time
- Could have used courses in speed-reading and speed-writing, since these two aspects seem to be just as important for an EPA as understanding intellectual property, judging from the time pressure on paper C.
- To much ordinary work and to little time for training
- Though encouraging and supporting my training with paying external courses (CEIPI DELTAPATENT etc) the Employer does not leave me time for a dedicated study during work-time in advance of the examination. Study at home after work is not easy, thus I am waiting for natural encrease of competence and ability making regular excercise and sacrificing yearly my private time all year long.
- No compendium to train for the pre-examination since it was held for the first time in 2012.
- Focused too much on the legal aspect of the exam. Should have trained some A/B papers, although it seems that the claim; analysis part is easier for candidates with an engineering background.
- For the C-examination, it is still not clear whether only one attack is enough per claim or whether more than one attack e.g. novelty followed by inventive step is expected! ; It was very difficult to find an overview of G, T, or J - decisions and to estimate for which purposes they are useful.; ; Spending much time to go through it by trail and error.
- It was very difficult for me to find the convenient way (for me) "to deep" into the CBE.; For a long time, I've hesitated between the following options:; -creating my own basic document by compiling information from the OEB official documents: CBE, Guidelines and Caselaw.; -studying an annotated Convention such as Visser (but, being French, more difficult to assimilate), Baque (not always satisfying according to me); -studying deeply Guidelines.; To sum up, I've not made a clear choice, so I've difficulties ti find information durind D paper.; In retrospect, I would choose to create my personal document.; Then I've begun my preparation too late. I think that it is necessary to bein at least between one and two years in advance.
- I did not study enough the books to grasp the structure of EPC/PCT patent law. I spend far to much time answering exam questions, and from the by the EPO provided answer ,tried to develop my own view on the structure of EPC/PCT.
- Difficult to assess performance without knowing results. I probably could have done more practice papers for paper D earlier on in my revision programme.
- Time management and writing faster ; Practice more past papers in timed conditions.
- Focusing during a lot of time
- Language

- DI - not prepared enough: doing more exercises.; DI and DII - lack of aids precise enough during the exam - preparing more memotechnic aids beforehand.; A, B, C - doing more previous year papers
- I found it most difficult to discover what is expected in Paper DII and how to become better at answering it. I found this paper very difficult to prepare for.
- I could have done more preparation for the claim analysis questions.
- Having children
- lack of concentration, fear of having started preparing too late, illegible handwriting, lack of handwriting practise
- Lack of deep knowledge; Lack of training re mock exams
- I could have worked on my time management better.
- I think I was sufficiently prepared for the pre-examination. I had no experience with divisional applications and thus was not well prepared on respective questions. It would have been recommendable to spend more time on the mock pre-examinations, because for some questions it was discussable wheather an answer is true or false. In some cases there were similar questions in the mock pre-examinations. For example, most likely the correct answer to question 18(1) is true. However, the problem to be solved definded in Question 18(1) contains parts of the solution of the underlying technical problem, which is correctly defined in 18(3) and is thus not the ideal definition of the technical prolem.
- In DI, I have always been way too slow in looking things up in any of these books of primary literature (EPC, PCT, etc.) and secondary literature from the EQE study guide industry.; ; In DII, I have the impression not to be sensitized enough about what issues and in what depth such issues should be addressed.
- With two years of preparation for pre-examination, I was not prepared perfectly. There are small gaps in my knowledge. Genergally, my skills were developed, but I wasn't yet fast enough.
- I should have spent more time making clear summaries and flowcharts of commonly occuring situations (eg, the search process and appeals), so save me hunting around in more detailed notes. Frankly I should have started studying a lot earlier and nibbled away at it rather than really only getting serious about it a couple of months beforehand.; ; I should have just wasted several hunded trees and printed out all the official journals for the last three years. They are very difficult to work through online, each issue being broken into several PDFs. My reticence to do this meant I felt a little more reliant on Visser for recent developments than was ideal.; ; Another weakness was a lack of actual experience. Since my day to day job is largely working with one client, which only does things one way, I didn't get the breadth of experiance that would have helped my preparation. I did try to expand my work, but it wasn't really feasible in the circumstances.
- Adjust the exam time; in real life you have more time to study and prepare real cases. If you want quality, you can't rush. There is not enough time to read and understand perfectly all the embodiments and the state of the art, and therefore I can not prepare a good answer during the exam time.
- not forgetting in the preparation to work A, B and C, when taking A,B,C,D
- No weakness, everything went fine
- It cannot be emphasized enough to start studying in time. This year was the second time for me and I started to prepare for papers A and C 5 months in advance which I feel at this point was sufficient for me.
- Too much "real life" approach initially.
- Time management during the exam.; Time available is not enough when the candidate knows the subject matter and the legal basis and wishes to provide complete and well-argued replies.; I wonder why the speed in writing should be a decisive parameter in the outcome of this exam. ; I was very well prepared, I wished to provide complete answers and yet somehow my preparation and knowledge was not completely reflected to the papers mainly due to lack of proper time to write down the answers.; Please consider seriously the time for each paper in respect to the amount of info and decisions; you expect from the candidates.

- One is innocent what priority is all about, one is naive what the invitations from the EPO mean and how to recognize them from the question/case.; I found that having enough elementary training (like in the kinder garden) about the structure about the question, one can make the transfer; and develop a sensitivity toward key words and associated them with triggers.
- I AM NOT ENOUGH FAST TO FIND THE RELEVANT ART. RULE SPECIFIC CASE LAW PART OF G.L. ; ; HANDWRITING (I AM VERY SLOW TO WRITE IN READABLE MANNER WITOUT COMPUTER) THIS RENDER SLOW MY ANSWER,
- simulating time & psychological pressure at home is difficult (in particular regarding DI and DII papers).
- A/B part for engineers was a bit difficult for me since I am a biologist--would be great to have an option to do a chemistry A/B part
- Generally speaking, there is little time to understand the paper, thinking about a suitable strategy and writing the response.; Less time should be dedicated to reading and considering a solution; after a certain time, one should stop thinking and start writing, whatever she/he has understood up to that moment.
- no time to prepare due to office work load. I had approx. 6 hours preparation in total.
- Stress levels during DII . Not sure how to overcome these.
- Wrong attitude to how hard it is to reach 50% of the marks. Wrong perception of assessment of results. Insider information seem to be very useful.
- I passed the ceipi in 2003, so it was very far ago. It was under EPC 1973!; During my practice at my company, I don't write a lot of application and I have never made an opposition.
- My first attempt on C and D, I studied heavily for quite some long time before the exam but had the extreme unluck to get really sick by the flu with high fever so could not keep concentration up and failed. It was impossible to get as motivated and free time (both with regard to work and family/children situation) to study as intense for the second attempt. Still, did my best and focused equally much on both exams, which was no good combination since I failed with some few points on each. The third attempt this year, the possibilities for preparation were about the same as for the second attempt, but spent more time on C preparation this time to hopefully increase the possibilities for C and anyhow felt like D preparation would benefit more from my previous study efforts than C. It at least felt like this was a correct choice, C felt better than last year and D about the same.; ; I would have spent more time on time management and practicing on previous exams regarding D...if I had the time. Another thing I regret this year is that I did not spend more of my preparation to quicker find information in my books.
- Should have done more D papers under realistic conditions. Time pressure made me miss things I do know....
- Despite having treated the last 4 papers in D1 and D2 in nearly real examination conditions I lacked practice in how to formulate the answers especially with all the required details.
- Information management in D papers. Where to find the legal basis. No good understanding of the presentation concerning divisionals found on EPO homepage - to little explanation what the graphics mean
- My greatest weakness was the lack of speed in finding the legal basis for answers which made it difficult to finish in time. I think this is best overcome by doing more mock exams under exam conditions.
- It was difficult to find an adequate preparation for the claims analysis part. This problem will be overcome in the future as soon as several former pre-examination papers are available.
- Less Time.
- Time management.; More focussed and headword-oriented answering, in order to bring the knowledge on the paper just in time.
- Knowledge of PCT, practice PCT questions of previous years.
- More practice under time stress.; Develop a more focused system to compile the information (both A and B).

- Late registration ==> late admission ==> late start of preparation; should have registered earlier!
- to correct my self in paper A, when I had a wrong idea of the invention. If did not get the clou at the beginning of the reading I never got it during the 3,5 hours.
- Regarding Q13):The 3 to six months relates to preparation of re-sitting paper B.; ; Regarding Q 14) This year I had an accident shortly before the exam which made it harder. I am glad I took a week of vacation in the beginning of February to a study together with a friend (doing old B exams and discussing case law together).
- Not having actually done previous papers under examination conditions.
- Practising past exam papers turned out to be more important than actual studying and learning.
- Time.
- It was changing job while preparing the EQE.; ; I would still do It.; In retrospect I could have cancelled all exams and waited until next year.
- Worked too much. You cannot first do work at the edge of your capacity and then go home and study at full speed, especially not when learning the basics. There needs to be some space so that you can focus the energy on studying and also have time to relax. In the end, I ended up withdrawing from D part. This year I will first study and do questions thoroughly, then in the end practice speed. ; ; To sit the exam was a very good experience for me. When training for A paper (which was the one I prepared the most), It was difficult for me to keep the speed up for the full 3 1/2 hours. By sitting the exam, I sort of found the force for speeding.; ; For B and C I should have practised more how to manage in time. I think this will be easier now that I have experience - think I will have to resit at least C.
- Zu langsames Bearbeiten des Einspruchs (C-Teil) ; - Schreibe zu langsam (schwierig zu korrigieren)
- Long working days and a long commute, leaving little time for self-study; especially when clients routinely instruct on the last day of the term...
- Family
- in past efforts too tired for part c because of other parts just before -> loss of concentration in the 6 hours; this year i concentrated on part c only and plan to do part d next year
- The number of years of experience!
- Workload allowed a limited amount of study hours; there was a limited number of mock papers.
- Time.
- It took a lot of time to update the materials, which I intended to take with me.
- Well one can always study more... ; One challenge is, that the EPO rules/practice change so often, that many of my older colleagues are already outdated and wrong about things.
- Too few legal know how in EPC and PCT, moer studying time would have been better, but was not possible. Hope it was enough though.
- Too little time to go into the details, read the G-decisions, read the Case Law book etc, etc. There's also a life besides patents and EQE, and I don't think I could get more time to read - thats perhaps the reason why I haven't passed all papers yet.; Also the language (I'm Danish) can be a problem. It takes longer time to read in English than in Danish.
- N/A
- 2 smal kids
- Not being fully aware of what was expected in Paper D. Having a better idea of what was expected sooner would have given me more time to concentrate on the most important aspects. This is difficult, however, given that I had UK exams to concentrate on in November.
- An attempt to cover ALL details in each subject, getting far behind with my reading schedule. Knew it to some extend would be a problem, which was why I took 3 weeks vacation just before the exam to catch up. Would do the same again.
- The PCT is the cross of mine ... The reason is the confusing structure with the rules. More routine would be helpful. This means: more self-torment ...

- (Still) not enough knowledge of PCT and of guidelines - there is lack of good material regarding PCT, and for the guidelines, I will have to read especially part C thoroughly.
- Not having an active supervisor in-house. As I am alone in my role at my company, I should have found someone outside who would be willing to actively tutor me.
- German and European training in parallel - beside work and family. No way to overcome it - otherwise it takes too a long time.
- Start preparation earlier
- + questions related to PCT -> focus more on PCT; + technical subjects of part B and part C were too less "mechanical" respectively "electro-technical" and therefore more difficult to handle, because you have to spend more time on thinking about the purpose of the single features -> no idea how to improve it, maybe exercising with the chemical Paper A and B; + deviations in the way of the client's letter compared to earlier papers were quiet irritating (for example no questions of the client in his letter concerning Paper C)
- I underestimated the time needed to prepare for paper D.
- To answer the papers under the examination conditions.
- not enough time to study and prepare exams.
- time! With more time I would have been able to finish everything. Both for D and C exams. I think the time is adequate for A and B.
- None (it went fine).
- time stress and learning to handle this
- I wish I could have had more time to have a more "relaxed" preparation.
- Too high workload. However I did get 1 month and 2 weeks this year for preparation. ; I have difficulties with time management when doing the exams (C and D) in exam conditions.
- I will see when I get the result. it is difficult to say in advance.
- My weakest point was DII, which came in the afternoon having done DI in the morning. DI is particularly nerve-wrecking due to the time pressure. You have only 3 hours to answer 8 questions that can come from anywhere in the EPC or PCT legislation. After DI I was mentally exhausted.; Then comes DII and I could have done this better if I would not have been so exhausted. All in all it went well, and I could answer every question.; A, B and C were not so nerve-wrecking while I was familiar with these types by practicing a few exemples of past examinations in the Compendium.
- staying concentrated along all the paper time; actually i don't know how i could overcome it
- Have started preparing sooner and be able to discuss the law with qualified tutors in small groups.
- time consuming,
- Preexamination : ; - More practical training on claim analyses part; - Starting elarlier reaing of Guidelines
- PCT; Overcome by cross reference book and PCT-praxis book (Ole Trenks);
- The Paper C is too much focused on speed. Acctually, in daily life, a certain speed is important. However, the focus on speed in Paper C is completely overdone. The exam should ensure to third parties, that European patent attorneys can file a proper opposition. In my opinion, instead of 7 inventive step approaches (as in this paper C), 3 or 4 would be enough, to test that a candidate is able to do a proper problem solution approach.
- problems to answer all questions within the time schedule
- Time management : to find 6 hours for training for paper C was really a problem.; I stopped studying for a too long period for personal reasons; Organization in my work for paper D : I have started too early and I began by directly diving into precise EQE questions. I think I 'd better start with general considerations, and then become more and more precise.
- I do not understand the question.
- To involve in other activities that consumed a lot of time. I could have overcome it by not starting renovation activities in my house.
- D2 training
- It is ntr a weakness. It is to find out how the examiners would like to have. the solution.

- Legal questions on the PCT
- As it was the first time to have the pre examination, a great concern is how difficult the pre examination would be. Through the published two mock papers on the EQE website, the question seems clear to me before attending the pre examination.
- I could address only about 75% of the questions, even though I had no difficulty answering the questions I addressed. Thus I have a problem with speed (assuming the candidates are expected to fully answer all the questions in the allotted time), but I do not know how to solve this problem
- More time for study needed. Good tutors
- Lack of time.
- My weakness was lack of legal knowledge (I plan to take the D exam next year). However, paper C 2012 did not contain any legal questions, so that went ok for me.
- Navigation in the EPC and seeing the connections, overcome: reading the guidelines 'Re Scoring Marks', putting all your thoughts/knowledge on paper that earn marks, more exam would have been helpful
- Lack of motivation and time. Lack of motivation comes from the fact that although having over 10 year experience in the field and during that time having handled patent prosecution of numerous cases related to EP applications, still you are expected to learn particulars of the EPC, decisions, guidelines by heart in order to pass the EQE. The exam does not correspond to reality: in real life you have a great support network where ever you are and you NEVER deal with highly complicated issues in such short time limits. Time issue is something that cannot be overcome due to busy times at work and home. Exam committee might like to consider that most people are supposed to do all the studying outside their working hours. The exam shouldn't be so hard that even with years and years of real practice you cannot pass without extensive learning by heart.
- too much time needed to understand the technical issues of the paper, so less time remaining for drafting the answer
- I should have read the PCT and its rules.
- Starting preparations too late. Easy to overcome; start earlier!
- stress, need to write something for reinsurance probably too quickly; solution : ???
- A little to few hours of sleep the week before due to birth of first child.
- Time! Another job position.
- Perform the tests in real exam conditions
- time was missing due to personal situation - also, starting the "studying" the right way came in too late, because i worked alone until i was included in an external group.
- Paper D: Stupid oversights; answering before understanding all aspects of the question; panic.; ; Even though time management is important, I should (and tried to) "forget" about the running stopwatch at least during reading and first thinking about the question - this time is well spent and any mistakes made there can not be compensated later on, independent on how efficient you work.
- Weakness: lack of preparation time
- Too little focus on PCT. Too little focus on the changes in the structure of the D exam
- time
- Evaluating my answer. Would like to set up an exchange where candidates can post their responses and get comments from other candidates.
- late, started 2 weeks before
- To find time to study. It is important to really book time well in advance. For next year I will book more time for studying.
- More PCT training,
- The DII paper
- When preparing for the C paper, time was not sufficient most of the time especially for the side attacks! I am happy to see that legal questions are no more in the papers now.; ; For paper B, I m afraid it is getting more complicated than the previous years.

- I had the impression that my preparation for paper DII was not sufficient. Given the structure of the paper it is in fact very difficult to assess one's preparation. In the end everything went fine and I passed A, D and C when I sat the EQE for the first time in 2011.; My greatest weakness was my preparation for paper B, which I underestimated.
- Lack of time
- Not enough PCT training, since almost half of DI and DII was related to PCT this year. So intensive PCT would have been the key for better marks in D part.
- Finding information not directly part of the EPC (Decisions of president, ...) was hard.
- Training for intensive handwriting
- PCT preparation: It takes a lot of time to get familiar with all the details needed, and I have not come across any helpful and up-to-date commentary ; - Unfortunately, I am not aware of how to overcome it
- More practice on A and B.
- As since the first time of sitting C (and D) the greatest weakness was my physical condition, as the extensive time each test examination takes goes beyond what my body can endure, though since 2008 I am regularly doing specific physical training.; Another issue was that I concentrated too much on the examination strategies, rather than imagining to write a real opposition.; With this imagination of a real opposition in mind the argumentation to convince the real opposition division seemed to become easier.; It also helped to understand that each document stands for one (or) more specific attacks and to read it with this idea in mind.
- could not have done it differently. think it was sufficient what I did
- I had too less time to prepare due to private problems within my family
- Lack of time to prepare. This is mainly due to the fact that the European problem solution approach is different to the UK.
- Time management on Paper C. ; ; Insertion of all the essential features on Paper A. This year was not too much clear what the Client wanted to protect. There was at least two important paragraphs in contraposition between them.
- Lack of time to prepare, due to a hard to find balance between family life, work (as EPO examiner) and exam preparation. I don't see an easy solution for this one.
- ----
- Problem: Time management; Possible Solution: Don't have to work for a living
- How to interpret the last questions of the mock exams (Claims 18-20). ; To overcome it: practice, practice and hoping to have good luck
- Should have devoted more time to read relevant case law ; - Should have practiced more past years' papers
- I had never done the exam before, and did not know how it would be to solve the different papers in a real exam situation. I tried to prepare by doing past papers under time pressure - however, it is not the same.
- I should have started to study before
- Pinpointing closest prior art in Paper C
- I should have done more EQE exams of the compendium, especially for DII.
- PCT procedural law; Difficult to find an overview collecting all relevant information on PCT applications
- I should have started earlier and gone through more thoroughly what mistakes I did when I sat the exam last time and when I trained with the old papers.
- Studied more concerning D-part. lack of time did however not allow it.
- I don't know how I could have prepared for the EQE any better, however I found all papers quite tough. This year's exam was somewhat very different from the last years.
- Preparation time - I totally underestimated the amount of material candidates need to be familiar with, particularly for Paper D. It is important to have the few weeks before the exams available for practice papers.
- I had too many different books and tools with me, I should have made it more compact

- Sincerely, I don't see for the moment. what I could have done to be better prepared... I trained a lot for Paper A (did 15 last papers), always in real conditions (3h30 hours, with scissors, glue, etc...) and this is the exam I completely failed (I think). Maybe, my greatest weakness was to believe the instructor who gave us a preparatory course for paper A, that thought e.g. that disclaimers were not very important
- Limited supply of mock papers to practise true/false style questions. The two mock papers available were very helpful.
- I would start a bit earlier
- Before my first exams I did a lot of reading but did answer too few questions (Delta Patents). ; ; This year I concentrated a lot more on exam related questions.; ; In retrospect, I could preferably have spent even more time on old DII exams to practise on DII methodology under time pressure.
- The control of the time.; ; I tried to overcome this issue making and making exercises but the nerves of the moment do not really help so much.
- To formulate the answers briefly but conclusive in the given short time. I could overcome this problem only by doing more exam related questions and so gain experience.
- Erarbeitung einer Übersicht über alle Gebiete des EPÜ-> mehr Zeit für Vorbereitung einplanen.
- More detailed Knowledge of the Guidelines Part C. I could probably have overcome that.
- Underestimated time required to annotate texts for Paper D sufficiently; prior to practising past paper questions. Accordingly, spent less time practising past paper questions.; ; Other great weakness was applying for the exams 10 months in advance (as required). Accordingly, family circumstances (arrival of another baby) affected preparation in ways not entirely foreseeable at the time of application.
- lack of information with respect to difficulty level of questions. I left MOCK exam till the end, to not spoil them. COuld have had a look in first place to get better picture, but still it would have been questionable in how far the level of the MOCK were going to be similar to the actual exam difficulty
- To visit an external course and to bring my books / compendiums to the examination,
- Too much workload
- time management
- methodology to pass papers A, B, C (I did not really prepare for paper D --> on to do-list for next year)
- time constraints in the exam parts - doing a lot of former exam parts and thus getting routine to get faster at those topics in the exam parts, which repeat over the years
- Getting to know, what is important for paper D. I overcame it by the CEIPI-courses.
- I don't know my final results. So I don't know exactly what I did wrong.; ; I think I was well prepared for the EQE and I found it very difficult to keep all my knowledge and all my experience with the papers up to date of the examination. At a point in time I was ready enough for the EQE and I had to keep the knowledge and experience at the high level for another month, which is not really motivating and often not easy.
- Problème temps avec la charge de travail professionnel.
- Started earlier.
- My technical area came up in 2 of the exams, which is always a weakness because not allowed to use own information. Overcoming: be (much) luckier!; ; I don't think I could have prepared any better for Paper D but still found it extremely challenging - the only thing I would have changed would have been to more religiously cited certain basis for certain points, but then there's only so much of that which can be remembered in the heat of the moment anyway, and it's typically not a useful skill for actual life or work!
- Weakness: Actualized materials too late, start intensive training too late due to a lack of time, weak systematic approach for D2; Overcome: start sooner (take a sabbatical next time)
- The PCT-part.; I do not use PCT in my work sinne none of my clients uses PCT.; I could have studied PCT in more detail on my own.
- time

- Understand which are the essential features, overcome by writing at first the description - defining the technical problem.; ; Clarity, overcome by reading the Guidelines.
- Too much A and B Parts written in a short time. One Part a week is enough, in between extensive reflecting and learning from the faults is important, not the overall number of written parts.
- Greatest Weakness: practical advices to the client in DI+DII papers (could be overcome by more practice but this is hardly possible with regards to the small amount of EP and PCT cases handled by our office)
- My greatest weakness was that my preparation time was short and intense. I only sat Part A. It would have been better to space the material I covered over a longer period of time in order to allow me more time to reflect. In future I would start my preparation for Part B about 6 months in advance.
- PCT procedure. I am not quite sure how I could have improved it.
- The exam requirement regarding the composition of the answer, especially for C, but also for others papers.; The weakness was noticed with the ASPI mock exam in November, and corrected during CEIPI seminars with correction by the tutors of my response.
- Should have started much earlier with the studies for D and have thus probably not taken D and will continue to put in more hours regularly every week from now and to the Exam of 2013. For DII I should have paid more attention to how to gather points for self-evident matters as writing down that fees should be paid when doing this and that etc, further to actually write down every step in the thinking, did not pay enough attention to every small detail.
- Greatest weakness: not realising that a six-hour exam after two full days of previous exams is much more exhausting than a practice exam taken in the comfort of my home, not addressing the timing problem that I had through all practice papers with paper C; Focusing more on compartmentalising parts of the exam to get good results on those parts of the exam that I can finish in time without worrying about finishing the whole exam (I realised that I would run out of time about two-thirds through the exam and was not able to keep my cool to focus on the parts that I could finish).
- Not enough preparation for D2 paper.; It was difficult for me to find adequate paper to prepare it.
- Not enough focus on PCT.
- Difficult to have a plan ready and good enough in order to write the response on this basis.
- differences between real life opposition and Part C of EQE is enormous
- MY GREATEST WEAKNESS WAS RELATED TO THE ASSESSMENT OF THE INVENTIVE STEP IN THE LASTS DRAFT QUESTIONS OF THE PRE-EXAM. IT CAN BE OVERCOME BY DOING AND SOLVING MORE THAN TWO MOCK.
- Intensive preparation should have started earlier
- Had to work, so there was little time to study - will take holidays for focusing on studying if necessary next time
- Despite my preparations I am not capable of writing fast, so I was never able to make a full answer although I knew what to write.
- I would have liked to have more mock papers at disposal.; The older than 10 years papers are not very relevant for the upcoming exam.
- The mock exam for part A and B is longer than 3 hours. After 3 hours of really concentrated work it is impossible to spend still another 1 hour to read also the examiners reports. A better overview in the examiners reports would make it easier to go through the whole process in one go. So I never had the mood after a mock exam to deal in depth with "the master solution". The hints about how the marks have been deducted for wrong answers does not allow a general picture of how the marks are given for the right answers. I see that it is not easy but I think like a list of how many points are deducted for which kind of mistake would help significantly the readability of the examiners solution.
- Getting an overview of the PCT and other topics re not to the EPC
- I guess that professional courses are very important and help preparing the exam. Missing those courses might be ok for the pre exam, but I am sure that for the main exam it should

be absolutely necessary. On the other hand, these courses are expensive and without a employer who pays for the course it is not really a convenient situation, in particular with a salary of a patent attorney trainee....

- My weakness is that I do not take the time to think about the question which is expose in the subject. I always aswer so fast, so that my answer are sometimes wrong. Last year, I have choosen a wrong document, and four of my ten attacks were wrong. And after considering the examiner's report, I noted that my six good attacks were marked only with 49 points (I had 32 points). ; Then, this year, I duly take the time to read carefully the subject... But I did not have enough time to answer well the question. My attacks against inventiveness are not well written - I did not well explain all the expective points of such attacks because I did not have enough time. With the panic, My papers fall under the ground, and I lost 10 minutes to find the claims of A1...
start earlier with test examns on previous papers; prepare material earlier and test it opn previous papers (I did start only roughly 2 months on that...too late, although I could work with it quite good, but did not feel confident about it before the EQE)
- Time management for DI-part, the amount of material to read through is enormous
- Part A
- The "Go" from the EPO not before December 2011
- lack of time
- Le temps pour travailler. J'ai travailler les deux week end précédents.
- I was really nervous the first day when writing part D. I think I could not have overcome that.
- Weakness;; - Transfer of the theoretical principles to the different practical examples.; - Getting the necessary overview especially concerning the complex situation of paper C and realizing the problems under the existing time pressure.; How to overcome;; More training, more examples for the problems of paper C would be helpfull besides to the papers of the last years.
- The biggest problem to overcome is to find sufficient time beside daily work in the law firm to prepare for the exam. It was hard to estimate in advance how much time it would take to prepare sufficiently each of the papers.
- I should have practiced more D2- & C-papers, more particularly, under exam conditions
- A better overview of what had to be studied. I did not find the time to study the G-decisions as throughly as I had planned and wished for. This could have been done earlier and could have been prioritized. I focused on the past papers instead.
- I think I did well.
- I got a marked and commented papers to old EQE exams just one month before the exam. I wish I had done that sooner because it revealed my weaknesses in areas which I wasn't aware of.
- Time management
- I often spent a lot of time in background reading and had difficulties in quickly organizing this large amount of information such that I often ran out of my provisional time table. Retrospectively, a strict and consequent time table would have been necessary in order to overcome this problem.
- Insufficient preparation for D: spend more time!
- For papers A, B and C past papers are very important to understand what is normally expected of one. Practicing the papers enables one to become faster at answering. I did only 5 of each of these papers and felt that I should have done more, especially the C paper.; ; The D papers was my greatest problem preparing for. Under exam pressure, one really needs to be familiar with all the material that you take in. I had been through all my material and flagged it, but this was still not enough for me to find some of the more obscure answers easily. Perhaps more time and more intensive would have been better.
- Pls note that the less than 3 months in advance above under Q13 relates to my paper C re-take only.
- I have a chance to speak with a successfull candidate to EQE 2011, which proposes to me her own tools for Paper DII, and it fits me. Because I am not "synthetic" and I have never enough time for paper DII. And I was generally "lost" in my drafts, and very tired.; I have

never found in the preparation courses for DII, nor in the compendium an efficient method regarding the four hours allowed to this paper DII, and adapted to me, so that I can have most essential information in very few tables, that I could fill while reading. With these new tools I experimented this year, it makes me see better, I guess, where were the issues. I have the feeling to have had more time to write the answers, if not complete, but better than before, with a general guideline of what has to be done.

- Finding time off from work and private family life to prepare.; ; Difficult to overcome if you want to keep job and family.
- No comment.
- Many of the study guides include answers to previous years' examinations (particularly Paper D). It therefore is easy to get a false sense of security.
- To little time to focus my study.
- PCT; Applicants Guide
- My greatest weakness was the stress and tiredness. I tried to fight it by starting well in advance, studying everyting I could, and doing a lot of compendiums.; During the exams, I unfortunately misread some paragraphs, due to stress.. ; I don't think I could have done more during my preparation.; The only think that I could do if I fail is to stay calm during the exam and to answer step by step.
- Finding time at home with two children to study for 3hrs and 4hrs in a single stretch.; Performing a a DI and a DII in the same day is simply not possible in this situation.; ; There is still not an adequete text book on the PCT.; ; Having said all of that, the biggest problem is not preparation for the exam, but the ridiculous time pressure within the exam. I find DII to be an artificial exaggeration of what I do in daily practice.
- Since I did the preexam it was difficult to know how difficult it would be, since this was the first pre-exam.
- time management,
- time management is difficult to improve because a minimum of time is requested to thoroughly reading and understanding the question as well as writing down the answer as complete as possible (what is a complete answer B)
- The stress during the examination is different from that during the exercitation in our proper office.
- I had not the time to work out old examinations by myself as I have five children.; I have to learn more if i failed.
- time during examination
- At times, not enough time available for the preparation; - Some specialised courses are too close to the date of the examinations
- Reading carefully under time pressure; excercise, excercise
- lack of time
- starting earlier with the compendium for mok exams.
- Find the needed time to study due to heavy workload
- Study more but there is no time!
- time to use as "in house" exam simulation
- I had a baby six months before the exam - this did not help as I was a bit busy!
- understanding the mechanic invention- I´m Biologist. So catching the idea is not difficult, however how the claims are written in an (my opinion) weird way, explaining technical effects in a very complicated way which I´m not familiar with. I did all questions in the delata patents book for the pre-exam. However, I safed the compendium papers for preparing the real EQE.; ; Starting with this part in the pre-exm first, and been not ill- helps with focusing and understanding;-)
- Started preparation too late. More time, start preparing earlier.
- The stress was my greatest weakness... Moreover, it was very difficulte to determine, during my preparation for the Exam, what was supposed to be known for the Pre-Exam and what only needed to be known for the EQE.
- Arrangement of all the information available. Over the last 6 months I created my own 'annotated' version of the EPC (if necessary including relevant case law, guidelines

references, OJ publications, etc.) and PCT. However, such a comprehensive overview can only be made in case you have the complete overview of all the information. Therefore, I could have started earlier compiling the information, but would have been difficult by that time.

- taking not enough time for preparation because of too much work in the company, no chance to overcome that in the future
- Time management
- practising the answering technique
- Uncertainty about the required level of preparation. In retrospect, the level appeared to be lower than expected. Given the uncertainty, I over-prepared for the pre-exam given that any preparation is also of use for the main exam.
- Not enough time to repeat. Using even more time.
- understanding the paper ==> training, training, training
- Preparing for such a gruesome exam is not easy for "mature" students, when working and raising a family. Real life scenario and EQE questions are often not in adequation, and usually providing a logic for course of action to a client does not involve explaining the thought process. ; ; Further the PCT questions in DI papers are really problematic, because providing legale basis in the time frame is an harduous task when looking the PCT rules and articles structures...
- Focussing in short answers to avoid time lapse.
- I changed a place of employment resulting in lack of time and motivation. In the future (if necessary) I must focus especially in writing the answers and prefer whole studying days instead of 1-3 hours a day.
- Daily work pressure, november till january are stressing month at the firm. Making work agreements with the supervisor but that is partly wishfull thinking.
- Start earlier with Delta Patent Questions; Do The Daily D-Questions
- During the exam, I became aware that I wasn't particularly paying much attention to the compatibility of the prior art documents for my inventive step attacks. Perhaps, if I had focused on this aspect during my preparations, I would have given it more attention during the exam.
- The definition of english words (individually) and in combination does it describe what I want to express or not?; E.G. In the A-paper for 2012, I used the word reverible. I wanted to express a movement between to positions back and forth all the time (depending on a temperature). The question to myself during the paper was, is that behaviour included in the word 'reversible' or isn't it? This uncertainty often forces you to choose a more complex way to express yourself. ; ; My guess is that this is a problem for all sitters not using their mother tonuge. ; ; So, training of what is really included in the definition in about 50-100 most frequent technical verbs/expressions would have been useful.
- finding time as have a child. Not easy to overcome.
- The time pressure factor. Even extensive training to perform under pressure cannot get me sufficiently prepared, it's not my first attempt so I know this by now. Under normal circumstances when practicing, I can find the answers, but it is so easy to take a disastrous wrong direction during the exam. The exam does not test the skills realistic to a professional.
- Not to know where to start and loosing time doing bits here and there. Prepare a strict time table and stick to it.
- Writing in a foreign language under time pressure, intending to express correctly what is in may head, is something really hard. I guess that it can be overcome with more time of preparation.
- Time required
- time pressure in exam
- not sufficient velocity while drafting the answers
- lack of time in answering questions; may have been overcome by preparing pre-formulated answers to specific topics/standard formulations which only would have needed to be copied
- more work on previous exam questions / compendium

- I didn't cover all possible topics. I could have answered more Qs from paper D, e.g. the Deltapatents Qs.
- Too less preparation time provided by the the employer !!!
- PCT Rules - Practicing more PCT related Delta Questions might have helped.
- Lack of time for mock exams
- Things which are not mentioned in the book of Dirk Visser.
- Weakness: claims structures.; I could have overcome it by having more opportunities to discuss the differents papers I made with other EQE trainees than I had.
- Knowing whether an answer that is not exactly the same as that in the compendium would still have scored points.
- find a balance between work, preparation and live; overcome: don't have overcome it yet; the work have to prepare you to the eqe - this might be a problem
- Starting a intensive study in advance
- It´s all about to learn to write both fast and legible. Next time, in part C, I will start writing at the latest 2h after examination started, irrespective whether or not I have all claim attacks on a stupid matrix.
- Getting an overview of the Regeln, Ausführungsordnung und Artikel, as they are not always organised in a logical, fast to comprhend way. Instead this rulement seems to be very chaotic organised.; I need to build up my own EQE-"Bible" or use a good comment. Or wait until the end of days, until the EPA itself becomes aware of the necessity to clean-up the rule-system and to write it new, in a better organised, "clean" way.
- I realized that I was rarely exposed in the past to real cases to answer to OAs and patent drafting, since I was requested only recently to prepare entirely them starting from skcratch. Having more exposure, under supervision of senior attorney, is surely helpful in learning and assimilating the entire procedure, even knowing that EQE is not real life. In addition I only recently tried to simulate the mock-exam conditions: it would have been better to start sooner, since the time management together with attention to details can be extremely important and in case of lack of time risk to ovelook thinks occurs even if dee study on the EPC requirements has been properly done.
- do not have have enough time to study the reference books, will start the preparation one year beforehand.
- EVen though I do not have the result of my examination I did not feel comfortable with the second part of the pre-examination, i.e., the claim interpretation part. When I was practicing on the Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book I felt good. However, when I did the Mock-Exams I noticed I did not feel I had a clear system or structure to approach these questions. ; However, did not find any literature or book which could help me structure my knowledge on that part with a practical point of view. I guess this part is closely linked to professional experience. In practice we usually deal with 1 or two alternatives for a claim (alternative which in turn is more related to a claim category/format) per case. And I had a problem to keep a clear picture of the 10 (11?) different types of claims (formats) that were given for the "same" invention.v
- The greatest weakness was that half a year before the exam my husband's work situation changed and we had to sell our house and move to another city 600 kms away. Though I was lucky enough to be able to stay in my job and just transfer the location, it was quite a hurdle to sell one house and move with a 1-year old and dog. This clearly had a major impact on my concentration as well as time available for studying.
- My age and haveing been out of study and University for already quite some years.;
- Systematic approach to the learning and taking out enough time before the exam for just doing that.
- It is very difficult to find enough time to study when you have a family with young children, are building a house, have a lot of work in the company,... I mainly had too study late in the evenings. This requires an extremely good physical and mental health.
- Speed/timing

- The greatest problem was, and still is, the ability to react sufficiently fast to something what I have read from the examination papers. By practicing the time management and response routine can not help in this. It depends too much from a daily condition and mental agility.
- More practice for writing the DI answers in the time that is available. This is also true for Paper C.
- do Compendium as much as possible in a real time constraint, focus on one reference book only, spend enough time to study with high efficiency, have enough time to relax before the exam.
- Memorising provisions and especially case law.; Repeated discussion of cases in small study groups.
- That it was not evident how the pre-exam would really look like as it was held for the first time in 2012.
- Not remembering Articles and Rules by heart because I started reading them relatively early and difficult to keep yourself warm with them until the exam date. To overcome it, I would reserve the last one month before the exam to revise the topics.; 2. Solving the DI and DII questions within the time limit.
- 1st: when doing past papers from Compendium, it was somehow easy to think about the paper, write a little bit, and then look at the examiner's report. This is good and helps a lot, but really write the answer thinking of every single word of it is of course more difficult. I should have made more paper fully.; ; - 2nd: Concentration and good organisation over 4 to 6 hours is difficult. Solution: simply looking at a watch more often and plan the paper analysis.
- In Germany there is the parallel examination for becoming a German patent attorney. To do both exams parallel is indeed a challenge but I guess feasible.
- I did not practice the usage of time
- Preparing all four modules in the first year was too much.; In the first year I did the "wrong" matrix for the C module.
- Je n'ai pas eu le temps de faire toute la préparation que j'avais envisagé : il est donc nécessaire de commencer très tôt les révisions (je vais commencer bientôt pour l'épreuve D et dès novembre pour l'épreuve B
- I could have worked on more past papers if I had started doing this earlier.
- More questions, less "general reading"
- Lack of time
- More focus on recent law changes. Should have started studying earlier.; Choosing the closest prior art for paper C -- I am not sure that the CEIPI method is really the best for this.
- To get an overview over the vast field of examination relevant topics.; ; I need longer time
- -
- I underestimated the extent of PCT and started too late studying this in detail.
- I didn't see my EQE-results so far, so I don't know my weaknesses so far !
- could have done more for paper D, in particular more T decision reading
- It is hard to motivate yourself in the evening after a full day of working to start learning again. And also learning every weekend is hard. How to overcome? Just do it or find someone saying to you: now you have to learn! Make a realistic plan on what you want to learn the weekend/evening.
- The time for the C part (one does not have enough time by choosing a way to answer that is not the way chosen by the Examiner...). For D1: general knowledge of case law.
- More time for preparation
- I could not realize my time schedule for study due to very busy time in my work.
- PCT, commencer plus tôt, faire les delta patent et les compendium
- More mock exams under realistic conditions
- Finding the time to practise past exams with the actual time limit.; ; Could perhaps have been overcome by arranging own "mock exams" with other candidates.
- practice more of the compendium (part DI and II)

- Lack of support from manager at work, which reflected in little time available to study and no study plan. I only had time from the company to go to the courses - in a different country, and the rest of the studies were done during my free time, i.e. weekends. It is clearly not enough and very physical demanding; if one was no time to rest it is not possible to learn, even when sitting during many hours in front of books.
- Spend enough time for practicing answering legal/exam-related questions (D-part) and writing prior exams (C-part)
- PCT - doing more; therapeutic & cosmetic method stuff - being less nervous
- Work load intense for regular work + ill personally, family life, limited time for preparation
- Greatest weakness: limited experience of filing applications at the EPO.; Could have been overcome by having more EPO cases, and not so high work load during the last months before the exam.
- biggest mistake: reading the questions too fast and sometimes missing a clue.; However the given time for (reading and) answering the questions is very short.
- Adequate planning of the learning activities that are necessary, and sticking with that planning.
- In all papers - too little practising the actual EQE paper -; I would need more training of EQE liturgy in A and B papers. In D paper I would need a bit more legal knowledge, but even more important was exam technique / time handling. (I spent 45 minutes only to the first question of D-paper I)
- Time management and understanding the claimed technology feature by feature.
- certain types of questions are still not clear too me;; e.g. the questions related to problem to be solved, some novelty questions in the pre-exam; reason: questions/ answers in the mock-up exams are not clear; I do not know how to improve if the EQE group does not provide detailed explanation.
- Participation in the other DeltaPatent courses for paper C and D, and not only in Paper D Methodology.
- Started to study a bit too late.
- To get the correct approach for argumentation and use of information (paper C).
- that I was crawling on the gum just before the eqe because of a peak workload and found no help in these weeks - probably could have overcome that by quitting my job...
- I had not enough confidence with BoA decisions. I had to read very deeply decisions to learn the correct way to reply objections and to understand more deeply the EPC 2000 and Rules. ; Guidelines and comments on the EPC 2000 helped me a lot to understand some specific topics.; ; I didn't take enough into consideration the tales and examples in a patent application, thus exercising with PAPER A/B and comparing my solutions with Examiner's report I could overcome my limits.
- To keep the focus on preparing for the EQE, in combination with daily practice at work.
- I would study legal questions from previous years.
- Needed personal feed back from a tutor on my solutions to previous papers
- Most important are the compendiums, I wish there would have been more EPC2000 Compendiums to practice.
- Save exams till the last 4 months could have been better.
- Knowing what is expected in examination.; Not to be overcome because examination type was changed from past years to 2012.; One cannot know all T-decisions and special cases of the last 10 years.
- Failed A and B in first sitting because I had completed several mock exams in the fall with good points and I didn't revisit these subjects prior to the exam in March. I wasn't in the right frame of mind, see comment above.
- I may have done too much too soon and should have taken a little more time off. Peaked too early... declined a little in the end. I did not focus on the Case Law as much as I should have done, since this was planned in the end, where I declined a little.
- Not knowing how to answer the Questions, especially how the answer has to be made up to achieve the maximum points
- should have started intensive focused study earlier.

- Time management, lots of information to absorb in such a short time.
- investigating depth of case law - have more preparation time
- Paper D2 requires knowledge which I did not have. I should have insisted more on the specific D2 related aspects.
- relatively new member EPC state, so very few candidates and EPAs which have already passed EQE, not having a study group, too little work-related EPC-training
- "Only" superficial knowledge (when compared to the level of the examination) of the EPC/PCT that gets you through 95% of the day-to-day work as an in-house counsel; 2. A certain rigor in answering exam questions in a manner that leaves no doubt (to the corrector) about the candidate's understanding of the questions
- Time management, more training. Deciding more explicit which sort of issues I should prioritize before sitting the Exam.
- With Paper C, it is simply finding enough hours to sit and practice a paper to time. Unless you do past papers in small chunks of time (not ideal), there does not seem a reasonable way around this.
- I had tried too less past papers under real exam conditions.
- I would definitely start intensive study before.; I would find the time every day to dig in legal matters.
- Don't know where the marks are.
- I prepared quite well. More study is always helpful, but I can't think of any real weakness in my preparation.
- My preparation for the pre-exam was adequate
- It is difficult to study and, in the mean time, to work.
- Could have done more past papers.
- Daily shifting from "Examiner's report" to real life.; I could take a couple of weeks of holiday for studying, but it was not possible
- During the preparation of the pre-exam the greater weakness was relative to the legal part.; ; However, at the pre-exam I found more complicated the practical part on the claims. ; Maybe, during the preparation I would have to spend more time to speed up the claims analysis skill, even if such practical aspect should mainly be acquired by the day-by-day working activity.
- My weakness concerns the time allocated to make a paper because I have difficulties to evaluate the details of the response which must be given.
- My greatest weakness is lack of time, but I do not see how I can prepare for that.
- Inconsistent preparation due to unforeseeable work related issues
- Had not prepared for paper D, but sat it. Not good idea. First of all it the difficulties in providing answers and the negative effect of one's mental state. Secondly on day two paper D had already sucked much of my energy. Paper B was therefore difficult to get through. Advice: ONLY sit papers for which you have prepared - do not do anything for just to see how it is.
- Do previous exams in real condition
- I did not start the preparation in advance enough to deepen all the required aspects of the law
- Too less time for answering the questions.; To get more familiar with all study aids
- This was actually the first time to sit D, so it takes time to figure out what I need to do. And to courses was a bit late, so time gets short, unfortunately.
- time management (especially for papers C and D1)
- A paper, I did not understand accurately how to define the essential features necessary to include in the claim.
- The study was too little. For the future I'll spend much more time in studying.
- The largest problem was an overload of other work, such as a full-time job and at the same time childcare and some other unplanned topics. Thus I definitely had less time for a serious preparation.

- Lack of real experience with regards to Opposition and Appeal procedures. Besides, I should have started with the intensive focused study earlier.
- Time to prepare, time to prepare to work fast
- I felt too slow
- arguments on the inventive step - how to overcome? none - even Delta-Patents does not know the proper solution. The possible answers were much too ambiguous and unclear, respectively.
- Paper D - felt I could have learnt more case law by reading through the case law book and generally gaining a better overall idea of how various EPO procedures worked. Could only have been done by spending more time on it. However, I was limited by sitting UK exams in November of the previous year. It took me a while to be able to study effectively again.
- I was not fast enough. The time during the exam was the biggest concern.; In retrospect I would exercise more under examination conditions.
- Staying focused. Hard to overcome when the day to day life requires my attention too.
- PCT and opposition/appeal. Study more.
- Paper D and appropriate answering.
- Zeitmanagement während des Schreibens vor allem der Teile A, B ; Trotz eigener verordneter verschärfte Bedingung (30 bis 45 Minuten) kürzerer Zeit hatte ich während der Prüfung Zeitprobleme
- A and B, more intense preparation of past exams
- It would be better when the EQE is offered twice a year since if you are ill or injured like in my case when I sat the EQE for the first time you will definitely lose a year. That's really bad!
- The application of the PCT and CBE rules and articles. I prepared the D part on the base of specific cases
- My greatest weakness was that I could not predict my workload and the time I would require for preparing for the EQE well enough. In retrospect, I could have overcome it by staying closer to my time plan for preparing for the EQE.
- Assessing inventive step and new matter issues with a two-choice questionnaire! In real life, these notions are not assessable with such black-and-white terms, because there are, in most cases, favorable AND unfavorable arguments to defend or attack inventive step and new matter issues.; I am of the opinion that a correlation of these notions with a true/false choice is a nonsense.
- Time management under stressful conditions; I do not know what to do different
- none
- Lack of time for prep.
- Managing my revision effectively across all of Papers A to D (I was less inclined to prepare for Paper D since I preferred Papers A & B). ; ; A revision timetable helped me to focus accordingly.
- not enough time - but now have one year for preparation
- Writing concise attacks in paper C -- practice.; Coming to grips with the D2 Enigma -- practice.; ; I shall also try and get a look on my own MARKED EQE papers.
- Time management is of utmost importance for tackling paper A and B along with in-depth knowledge of case law with regard to patentability in general, novelty and inventive step (Art. 52-57 EPC).
- Maybe I should have done a few more of the earlier papers as correction papers
- I judge my preparations to be enough. If I had more time I would spend it on PCT.
- Being part of a study group could have helped greatly (no available sitters in my area)
- Performance only known from last attempt in 2010. Not sure how I could have overcome weakness to fail paper A. I am still in doubt that my solution for paper A 2010 (including a disclaimer) should have been penalized so heavily, given that the client's letter clearly said that the applicant wanted to cover other compositions made, but not tested.; Interpretation of what is written in the paper sometimes can really work into different directions and it can be

difficult to clearly the one way in which the Examining division wants candidates to interpret these.

- Time/start earlier
- Time management.
- train & drill
- time, should have taken two weeks of holidays right before the exam
- PCT related questions, we should take more time to study it
- time
- For a lot of A Papers I have a problem with unity according to Article 82 EPC although there was no problem according to the examiner's reports. I took the advice of the Delta Patents not to see said problem too academically. Thus, I ignore unity when solving the A Paper. However, this is not very satisfying.
- Time. Solution: plan every step in advance.
- To much different solutions regarding paper C.; D Complex case.
- dealing with the stress/pressure situation during the Examination itself -> mental training?
- I began preparation later than I would have liked and did not spend as much time on preparation as I should have. However, this was heavily impacted upon by the pressures of my existing workload and participating in the UK qualifying examinations. I have now completed the UK qualifying examinations such that, in the future, I should be able to balance my workload more efficiently and spend more time on preparation for the EQEs.
- Lack of time, and personal tutoring.
- planning, writing answers to the point, more practice
- Started the preparations too late and did not have sufficient knowledge of the EPC, the guideline etc when starting in tutor group where focus was on solving previous papers.
- I should have started earlier using comments or prepare my own comment.
- To find the right way to prepare the material.
- Assessing my preparation was not early enough. Performance due to lack of exercising. Starting preparation for EQE 2013 more or less just of sitting the examination in 2012.
- Practicing more papers to time.
- time
- Not enough time for focussing on preparing the EQE. In retrospect, this could be overcome by spending say 2 full weeks somewhere far away from home, and alone.
- too little practice-writing exam papers under exam conditions; not enough repetition of previously acquired legal knowledge
- Not enough time to study, problems concentrating. Not easy to overcome as I have a family and small children.
- Can't think of any, but may change my view depending on exam results
- More practice on timings required for paper C.
- To understand English and handwriting. I should write more by pencil.
- Started too late to prepare the exam. Obviously should have started earlier.
- I was generally well prepared and expect to have passed all 4 exams
- Started to prepare earlier and attempted more papers under time conditions
- I would have started intensive focused study earlier.
- Didn't have enough time to study and prepare the paper at home. No facilities were offered by my employer. I was alone for preparing this examination.; I will try to have more time next year...
- having made a really stupid mistake last year, I failed to see the point of preparation this year; I did not find it an interesting challenge. of course I do not need to pass the EQE, I do it on a voluntary basis
- Lack of time for adequate preparation; in order to sit for the EQE and pass it, you really need a really big amount of time and energy
- Study more?; More exams?
- The time to prepare for the exam was the major factor for me. Although starting 1 1/2 year in advance, becoming ill in between, quickly run out of time at the end.

- not enough training, should have worked more with the Compendium.
- Finding sufficient time for studying and sticking to the planned schedule - ; possible remedy: find a committed study partner with the same level of ambition also for the early stage of preparation;; ; Keep up the focus over a long time of studying - ; possible improvement of the study schedule: Plan physical exercise and recreational time as a balance to studying
- Doing exams from the Compendium simulating real exam conditions (the whole exam in the required time, without interruptions).
- I have underestimated the PCT-part.
- I was alone for preparing the examination. I would like to know if there is any possibility for contacting with a tutor.
- A, B are not hard and well written then not so hard.; ; C is too long; ; D2 is fine.; ; D1 too long and hard.
- not knowing what level of knowledge will be needed to pass the preexamination; - not knowing how to start preparation; ; - CEIPI prep course was a big support
- structuring the information given in D2 part, especially recognizing the most relevant hidden problems
- Taking the time for completely sitting the exams under examination conditions - the largest difficulty.
- Work overload in the job - take a sabbatical.
- PCT was greatest weakness; Relief: Start preparation/learning earlier
- don't rely on text books
- Found out I should have worked out examples for part "C" in more detail.
- I started intensive preparation too late: in August 2011. Starting 2 - 3 months earlier would have resulted in much more safe feeling.
- The need of time, since after work one is tired to study and has obligations
- too excited
- psychologic pressure is extreme when living year to year basically only for the EQE, this is the most difficult part.
- endurance
- I would have liked to attend the CEIPI/epi basic training course, but 2 years is too long and I had no support from my Company.
- Time management Exercise more under real time condition.

Q15) Do you have comments or suggestions for other candidates preparing for the EQE?

- The enrolment form is the first test, if you get it wrong than start worrying!
- Start early; Do not underestimate it
- It is very individual matter , not able to give suggestions
- Practice doing past papers to time as much as you can
- none
- Use special Ceipi or other equivalent courses to prepare for the papers
- Start doing past Papers in examining conditions at least 2 months before the exam.
- start as early as possible, get used to read official journal
- in my opinion its better to make to exam in two parts
- Find and reserve enough time.
- Start studying early.; Use Visser EPC book.; Use Delta Patents Paper D exam questions book.; Do as many past papers from Compendium as possible.
- Its more important how you present what you know, than what you know.
- Over prepare, there is a lack on information about the exam.
- A lot of exercise is required. Use the compendium, use Delta Patents documents
- Take enough time to prepare and don't stress too much. However, if you are German or Dutch, make plans for an alternative career as e.g. a farmer.

- Do training on performing strictly formalized check of all information provided in the exam at high speed.
- The CEIPI seminars preparing the EQE are very helpful
- Start preparing early.; Spend money for courses and good books.
- Take sufficient time, settle on the approach that suites you best personally, stick to a defined time schedule for preparation.
- Do as much as old papers. They are very important to get practice for the exam
- In my opinion, everybody must follow his own approach in order to prepare for the EQE. However, working with previous exams and with suitable textbooks is certainly a good idea.
- Learn timemanagement!!!
- For the pre-examination: study as if it were for the D1 paper and not a simpler version as was suggested by some people at a CEIPI course. I used the annotated EPC by Visser and although there are a lot of details in there, it is good to have gone through it. Start early because it is a long process. Don't start with the guidelines because it looks at first sight totally not structured but after a while reading the guidelines is very very helpful.
- starting more than six months in advance and make the compendium papers in real time
- Study, do trials, make d-questions till you tilt
- perhaps it is better to read the documents only once and to waste too much time on items in respect to which few marks are awarded.
- Practice writing exams under exam-like conditions only. Do not take any shortcuts.
- Start studying sooner than a few months before the exam, unless you are not having to manage employment as well!
- Do as many papers from the Compendium as possible
- Use up-to-date material and questions; it is dangerous to use the Visser from two years ago, or to use tables prepared by friends two years ago, because - without being aware of it - the legal circumstances and the case law might have changed.
- Make CEIPI course to understand how to face the pre-exam.
- starting to study earlier as possible with a right book (Baque); doing a paper sheet comprising all the titles of rules on one face, and all the titles of articles on a second face for studying. ; Stamp the guidelines in a small format (2pages on one side recto verso + stamp an index) and bookbind it; doing exercises of delta patents or compendium
- my primary suggestion for paper A and paper B is to try solving at least two or three past papers in exam conditions during the weeks before the EQE; during the EQE, pay attention to time as it is critical
- If you sit all four papers in one go, work your way up slowly from the summer before the exams, doing past papers of A, B and C regularly. D needs most of the study time!
- The DELTA patent questionair books are extremely helpful to force yourself to study the whole EPO and PCT and not just the common legal norms
- everyone needs to find his/her best way
- There are so many suggestions how to prepare the best way for the EQE, but it is not a "one size fit's all" Believe on your own experiences from exam studying at the university. We all have different approaches for studying, choose the methods and the study material that is suitable for you!
- Skip CEIPI, Get through all aspects of EPC, PCT fast, then at least one year before the exam attend Delta Patents Method courses. Then practice exam for a year and focus 3 months before. 1 month off before the exam.
- The EQE only can get harder, because all questions are publicly available in the Compendium.
- start early, Delta-patents questions for part D!
- Take more time for preparing paper D
- Start early with legal questions (DI + DII), but do not underestimate the time for C and A+B.
- Start early enough.; Join preparatory courses, e. g. CEIPI.; Work with old papers.; For C: Study C-Book.

- Do a lot of old exam papers and study the examiners report to see how much you should actually write to get points.
- It is important to gather the exam materials early, including: EPC, Guidelines, Visser (or other EPC-commentary), PCT, PCT Applicant's Guide (International+National parts), Guide for Applicants (EP+PCT/EP), National Law, Ancillary Regulations, OJ 2011; ; At least read Guidelines (esp. part A) and the "Guides for Applicants (EP+PCT)" and do lots of Delta-Patents D questions.
- Be sure you will have time available for studying
- Less overtime at work. The disease of my family member was, of course, unpredictable.
- Do convince your law firm/employer to support you with courses like CEIPI etc.. Its hard to accept, but still a fact: Without these courses it is very hard to even get a clue about what you have to learn, not to speak of getting all the stuff in your head!
- Study intensively on how to properly structure the answers to the questions.
- Attend CEIPI-courses for at least C/D. Start preparing in time - it does take time to become familiar with the exams. Required answers must be considerably more detailed than what is required for normal advice to clients. Do not sit the exam too soon - it is better to be properly prepared and pass than to take a chance and face a re-sit. With every re-sit, motivation and client related workload will become a problem.
- Invest time in studying the material you are taking with you: preparing the material so that looking-up for details becomes quick (marking pages/color coding passages).; Try to see how answers are linked to the questions/the passages of the papers: almost every single line of a subject can be used to formulate your answer.; ; Be prepared in every paper, including DI and DII, to paraphrase the law/passages of the paper to make your answers more precise. ; Try to understand how the concepts are used for the exam, do not hesitate to write statements that you think are trivial/self-evident, those still might get you some points.
- Ask for colleague who has passed the exam to plan out how the studying is timed and follow that plan.
- Please forget everything of real life and concentrate on what the EQR examiners want to read.
- Give it the required time !
- The exams do not simulate real-life situations. Becoming a good patent attorney and passing the EQE exams are two different things. Studying for the EQE will make you a better attorney, but being a good attorney is not good enough to pass the exams. In order to pass the exams, you need to know what is expected from you and what the "rules" of the exam are. This you can only get from practising previous exams. Practice as many as you can.
- Practice the old exams. Try to figure out how to identify the pieces of the puzzle, features, effects for the amendments, IS reasoning. It's all written in the paper.
- you need to practise and more practise, some hours of reading the guidelines and a good tutor.
- Definitely to stay calm. There is always a solution. Simply take your time finding it. Consider the exam (at least parts A, B and C) as a big challenging puzzle.
- start early!
- Start early, continuously occupy yourself with the EPC / PCT and legal questions about it (leads to several repetitions of the same topic, has better effect than just reading a book (e.g. Visser) from beginning to end).
- When family, children and other obligations play a role, I will recommend to sit the EQE modules in separate years, except A and B which are well suited to take the same year.
- Make sure to find a reasonable tutor that is up to date with the efforts required for passing the modern EQE.
- Do not try to pass the four exams at once: 20 1/2 hours of exams in three days is too tiring and too depressing when one of the exams didn't go well. And the preparation time will be shorter: spending 6 months on this only to have a bad feeling at the end of the week is depressing. It would be less so if you only have to forget your life for 3 months or so. Of course I'll change this advice if I pass the exam.; Find the good writing pen, it is life saving.;

Do not underestimate how well you must know the law for D. You must know everything. ; PCT is a horrible, atrocious messy thing. You have to know it thouroughly.; Do as many mock exams as you can, especially for A, B, C and D, and do them fully: do not stop in the middle saying "yeah I see where this is going and how the answer will look like" because you can't do that during the real exam.; Don't expect the exam to even remotely look like any of the (hundreds) of mock exams you did (otherwise you'll be surprise with a C exam wihtout a priority claim and a 10 words client's letter and you'll lose 15 (precious) minutes trying to be sure you had all the pages and nothing was wrong with you), be prepared for anything, don't take wathever the tutors said to you for granted, nobody knows what the exam will look like so be prepared for everything.; Try to be in shape and well rested for the exams (wrist tendinitis will not help you).

- use handbook study to integrate exam questions / papers and not vice versa.
- Don't give up!
- try to do so many european applications in every day work as possible to get used to the way of thinking
- Stop at least two days before the exams to learn and relax. It is of no use to show up being completely exhausted and overtired.; Have some (alcoholic) drinks in the evening after the exams.; Wear compression stockings and do regularly the same gymnastics as you would do on a long-distance flight.
- Start preparing early, make exams under exam conditions, rest well before the actual exam.
- start early!
- don't underestimate the time consuming job of classifiing and choosing what to bring on the day between the documentation available; - one great advise from a colleague: "Relax (at least try) the couple of days before the exams, in order not to be fed up with IP and have the motivation and the desire to deal with the papers"
- Do training on performing a strictly formalized check of all information given to you in the exam.
- The key to passing the exams is less about knowing and understanding the law and more about how to answer the questions (in an efficient, structured manner).
- A lot comes down to the performance on the day. No matter how prepared you are, tiredness or mental fatigue can result in missing an important part of the question. Of course, the most important thing is to learn the law and practice drafting/amendment/oppositions, but being at your best on the day plays a significant part. This is especially important for the later papers, when exhaustion begins to set in.; ; Frantic last minute revision, or past papers, should be avoided.
- Do the examination papers of the previous years under conditions which are as close as possible to the examination conditions, for example a group of candidates writing a previous paper at the same time in a conference room at the office in the real time frame of the examination and subsequent cross-correction of the answers given.
- to my oppinion best practice is learning by doing (compendium and real applications)
- -
- A,B,C is about practising, D about learning; invest most of the time in D
- write test examinations in real time, no stopping of the time between start and end
- I belive that future Candidates should try to study the connections between EPC Articles and Rules such as R 146 vs rule 14 and many others
- Practice might be the most important single factor
- EQE Forum was very important for me since the commented answers give hints on marking, i.e. which items need to be in the answers to attract all points.
- Prepare it convinced. Begin with DI and as early as possible in order to assimilate the huge amount of information slowly. Take your time to reconsider issues at least twice. Repeat those questions you have done wrong a couple of months after (DI). Be very aware of DII: it is probably, together with A, the most difficult one.
- If you prepare for the pre-exam by trying some of the paper D short questions in Delta book, you will be fine.
- Start early!

- i would suggest to follow the timeline and topics suggested in the Guide for the EQE exam, that i found very useful
- Stay focused, provide what is asked.
- Take all papers at once, what you learn for one paper is useful for the others. If you fail, it is still a good experience to build on.
- I am happy with my preparation as stated above.
- Focus on the basics/fundamentals and make sure you know them. Also, you need to be able to find stuff in the reference material as quickly as possible - so good indexing is very important. Make use of all the study aids and guides. Take your time reading and understanding the questions. 4 hrs for the pre-exam is more than enough time so relax, don't stress.; ; Also, it was unbelievably hard to find a pencil sharpener - nobody uses pencils anymore. If you have a girlfriend, steal her eye-liner sharpener. Make sure you give it back, or else she will get annoyed.
- Try to get at least 20 days of working days plus evenings and weekends for study from your employer besides any attendance at methodology courses...
- Make a plan so that you have time both for "normal" work and EQE preparations.
- I experienced the Pre-Exam to be quite fair, even though it was conducted for the first time. At least for this part of the EQE as a whole, the lurid tales you encounter in the previous surveys do not apply. However, focused studying is necessary. So try to strike your own balance between the extremes, but do it actively.
- More mocks available of the pre-examination
- Study Delta Patents paper D Basic and Exam-related questions to get a good overview of the EPC. Study the indexes of all books, to get familiar with their contents, such that you know where to look for the answer of a question. Possibly produce a 'master index' covering all books.
- I consider the most important element for my personal preparation for the EQE studying in a small group with other candidates.
- none
- see Q12
- Use PCT applicant guide international part, visser. Practice DI-type questions a lot
- Do not prepare too long and too much so that you are exhausted and brimful of information at the day of EQE. 2) Concentrate on basics first and then only learn about very few extremely intricate legal problems or cases. 3) To express oneself in writing and the gift of logical thinking along with speediness cannot be taught at the age of the participants in a few months. You already provided the basis for these capabilities in your young days to the extent to which you are limited. 4) Any participant can make it 5) Keep cool! 6) It's a really hard job.
- Do as many past papers as possible and be well rested when it comes to Exam week
- get time to prepare
- Start early, do as many past questions as possible.
- For paper D, Derk Visser's "The Annotated European Patent Convention" is a comprehensive, good written book. It helped me a lot with paper D.; I wish something like that existed for other papers A/B/C.
- Focus on writing Problem - Solution on inventive step with combined documents and on partial problems.
- Make exercises from the compendium, and correct them in detail (!) using the examiners reports.; - Start soon enough, so that you can do at least 5 A-exercises and at least 5 B-exercises, AND correct them in detail.; - for B: find out EXACTLY (!) what is allowed under Art 123(2), and what is not. What is the difference between "broadening the scope" and "added subject matter"?
- When preparing for paper D, focus on recent changes to the rules and procedures, which seem to be quite over-weighted as compared to general knowledge of EPC, PCT and procedures.; When preparing for paper A,B and C make no less than 3 test examinations each using the compendium.

- Start early, try to do as many Delta Patents questions as possible, by doing that update you material. By doing that you will get to know your material and find out which pieces you are missing.
- Practice the mock (pre)exams in real time, it will help you when sitting the real exam to organize the time, to be aware of the drops in energy level, and to feel confident.
- Do as many mock examinations as necessary.
- Prepare in good time and remember that the exam is not a real life situation particularly for DII. It is exam-land.
- practice, practice, practice
- Organise and annotate your materials you are going to use in the exam
- exercise many compendium examples and discuss them with others --> learn from your AND their mistakes.
- Take the time to do several mock exams. The more the better in order to have a chance to identify each time the problems posed and how to select an acceptable solution. At least 5 previous exams should be done, of each category.
- My experience relates to A and B papers: make extensive use of Compendium. It was very important for focusing on what is really expected from the examiners.
- Use the Hoekstra EPC reference book.
- use claim matrix attacks; for paper c
- It is important to be familiar with the reference materials that you use
- Try to get as many experience in past papers as possible
- No
- DeltaPatents courses are very good; almost an absolute must at least for Finnish candidates. I don't however have experience on CEIPI's special training courses.. Also an early start in the rehearsing is a must for passing the exam papers.
- Try Questions as soon as possible, dont read books on theory!
- Yes. Start preparing on a regular basis very early if you have ; a) family; b) work in a very demanding environment; because of unforeseeable circumstances that may prevent you from intensive learning for some time.
- Try old Exams - over and over
- -
- Work out what material you will take to the exam and make sure you are familiar with it.; Read the Guidelines.
- try to complete the examen at least 30 or 15min before the finish, so that you have time to have a look at it again and correct trivial mistakes before submitting it
- It is important to start preparing to the Examinon as early as possible. To obtain sufficient confidence in applying them to the specifci case given in the questions.
- For A and B do past papers and check carefully with the Examiner's report. Find a small study group
- Do past papers.; ; Kley is very helpful if you do the examination in German.; ; Find your strategy for paper C. It was on the day of paper C that I learnt that there are alternatives to the matrix method.
- mock exam training mock exam training!
- Bring earplugs to the examination!
- make some good course (CEIPI excellent Deltapatent superlative)
- start training as early as possible if your daily work gives you the oppotunity.
- To begin preparation as sson as possible.; To study all the official OEB documents (CBE, Guidelines, Caselaw) in view of creating a personal and single document.; To prepare summaries on key topics and typical responses to classical subjects.; To make compendia not necessary in real time conditions.
- Above remark under Q14.
- The more important element is to practice with previous exams.
- No comments

- Go to the very core of things to apprehend the complexity of things the earliest possible during preparation.; Have in mind the completion of an EQE examination paper, with a time limit.
- For Paper DI, do lots of questions from the Delta Patents books and start at least 6 months in advance. The answers provided are up to date (legally) and therefore more useful than the answers in the Compendium.
- Write your personal index referring to the EPC, the implementing regulations, regulations on fees, the Guidelines, Case Law and your favourite Methodology and Training Books. Use different colours for marking claim features, effects and advantages, definitions, teachings away and the like in the paper C annexes instead of wasting too much time by writing these information in analysis sheets. Save more time by just filling in the paragraph numbers of the annexes disclosing the features into the claim feature matrix. Save even more time by gluing the annex 1 claims to the claim feature matrix. Note down effects and advantages next to the annex 1 features in the matrix in order to streamline the process of inventive step attacks. Note down the title and technical field of the prior art annexes on top of the matrix in order to be quickly able to decide which annexes can be the closest prior art in an inventive step attack and which ones can't. Keep in mind that the technical field may change in a dependent claim relative to the claim on which it depends and choose the appropriate closest prior art document when attacking inventive step.
- Try to anticipate changes of the exam structure: Paper DII changed since 2010, which now need to be prepared also in a "type A/C paper" style (and including all the legal requirements of former DII papers)
- When you work in a law firm listen to what paralegals / patent attorney assistants discuss on the floor. Ask them questions whenever possible. Most paralegals would be able to answer the legal questions part of the pre-examination within a coffeek. Use their knowledge and learn from them.
- Given that there are so many previous exam papers, it seems that answering previous exams may be the best.
- Work through the compendium. As you do each question, spend a decent amount of time understanding the full detail of the given answer. If you got it wrong, or missed an aspect, don't just move onto the next question without taking the time to read up on the details so that you properly understand what you missed. Then update your personal index/notes to indicate where and how you found the answer. I regularly found that Visser and the Guidelines referenced information a little differently to how it popped into my mind, so I annotated Visser's index extensively to incorporate my own thoughts and shortcomings. For example, "Authorisation" has a note beside it to look at "Representation", and vice versa.; ; Also, I added cross-references to the Guidelines and within Visser so that I could quickly find my way from one to the other. I think you need to choose a single "key" that becomes the reference to everything else. For me, that was Visser, but it could just as easily been the Guidelines.
- Do EQE as early as possible since a lot of luck is necessary for passing all papers. Consequently, it seems best to sit the exam as soon as one is prepared well enough to have a reasonable chance of passing. More attempts = more possibilities for passing.
- No Panic
- Read well all the technical features of the invention and the state of the art.
- See under Q14
- For A, B and C, get dedicated courses and do the compendium as much as possible. For D, know your books!
- Make as much questions as possible, every day. Have a highly indexed collection. Learn to learn.; ; Try to make the preparation capable to do just solving in the deep black space of the more than the absolute impossible.; like using unknown technology for night flight questions of the type "you just can not know"; remembering the poem from Donald Rumsfeld "the unknown" - i.e., a totally unknown field of questions; can be explored in relatively short time with sufficient correct answer. Than your preparation is good !
- **START INTENSIVE STUDY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

- in particular regarding DI and DII speed is extremely important. Write as many mock exams for DI and DII as possible (compendium and delta patents) and put high time pressure on you.
- start as early as possible and have a strong background in legal questions
- Go through as many past papers as possible
- Prepare minimum for three years in advance on a regular basis.
- to prepare at least six months in advance, to make a lot of mock exams with the real time given for each paper.
- If difficult to free up time I would advice to select one exam at a time regarding C and D. D1 requires more of a strategy than one may think. Use strict time management from the first day you start to practice on exam questions. And do this a lot during the month preceding the exam, test yourself and measure using previous exams.
- Study together, discuss!!
- Take a "candidates" answer with you for having a guide on structuring your answer
- Writing mock exams under exam conditions will help you to finish your exams in time.
- Start early, ; learn in small steps continuously over time,; prepare your personal copy of the EPC
- Prepare an individual procedure-sheet with hints on time available for each step.
- It is good to make 2 or 3 DI Questions each day
- make D-questions and if you think you are finished, make some more!
- Force yourself into a "mock" EQE for parts A and B.
- Start your preparation early because it's so much material to study!
- find out which method fits to you the best. Especially for paper C and A you need a personal concept to work with.
- Have a good look at the legal texts, most of what will be asked is somewhere in there. Practice writing by hand.
- It is necessary to understand that in the EQE, in particular in part D, there is virtually no time to look things up.; Therefore, one cannot practise enough the DI-type questions (e.g. from the Delta patents book) in order to become faster.; ; When practising at home, one should try to be faster than the actual time allotted during the EQE (e.g. 2.5 h for DI, 3.5h for DII). I had the feeling (and I also heard it from others) that in the stressful exam situation, time passes more quickly than at home.
- Starting to study in advance.
- To start early, and to do questions, but also some reading. The questions makes you realize things that you do not notice when just reading, makes you able to apply the law. That is fun! ; ; It can be difficult to get yourself working intensively for 6 hours when it is not for real. This is however no problem when you are at the exam. But you need to have a feeling for how to move through the paper in the time given.
- ich habe diesbezüglich keine Vorschläge
- One or two weeks of vacation to study intensively at the start of the preparation, then marathon-training weekly (with past papers) and daily (a few DI questions), then another week of intensive study before the exams to consolidate. Burns the year's vacation allowance, but does mean you go into the EQEs relaxed and focussed.
- Do not use the preferred method suggested in the C-Book. Use the matrix method.
- Understand the spirit of the paper you want to pass. Compendiums are really reflecting this spirit and as such should be considered as a powerful tool.
- The Ceipi seminar for the pre-examination is fundamental.
- Prepare the EQE by learning all aspects of the EPC and the PCT, by writing old exam papers, by using the compendium and by attending specialised EQE courses, such as the CEIPI courses.
- Use delta patents course material.
- It is very important to begin to learn very early in the year, and to practice to answer questions. If it is the second sitting it is important to find out what went wrong.
- You need to work daily with EPO activities (filing, prosecution etc.)

- Steady working is a good way.
- Prepare by using the compendium and especially focus on using examiners reports to figure out whether the paper was right.
- Work hard. Spent at least two month fulltime in advance.
- Practising mock-exams, either the official ones or ones created for instance by CEIPI, is most useful.
- start early enough to answer D-I related questions and prepare your own annotation based on an Excel spread sheet or a Word document (or use an Open source software); the annotation from Mr. Kley "Kommentar zum EPÜ" can be used in addition; ; using only the annotation from Mr. Kley is difficult, because every six months Mr. Kley exchanges more than 100 pages of his annotation and if you have added further annotations it takes too much time to amend the new distributed pages with your own annotation
- Go to a training course for each paper. These courses focus on the things you need to know, so you spend less time on things that are less important. The courses also teach you about exam technique, which can be just as important as the required knowledge and skills.
- write your own annotation for example by using an Excel spread sheet or a Word document, which can easily be amended if new rule or decisions arise
- Consider well what works for you when studying. Look back on your years from university studies, in order to choose your method. Many recommend to do a huge number of questions, basic and exam related. But if your the type that need to read the material first, you will only get frustrated by doing a lot of questions, where you cannot answer half of it. Be ready change your study method before the time is running out.
- Past exams are very useful to do, once you have gone through all of the OJ and the legislation
- Start your preparation as soon as possible - it is very important to gain a routine for solving the presented questions; ; PCT is a very unattractive part of the EQE - but the question often are getting in some details which are seldom in reality. That means: Be prepared for this and collect the important marks.
- Work through at least the last 5 years of old exams and learn what is expected from the student in the exam. Discuss with a group of others. Write at least 2-3 exams fully in order to get a feeling for how it is to actually write, not only "imagine" the answers. Use the Daily D1 questions.
- The best preparation is in being able to practice during your work, such as drafting papers, drafting responses to Communications, and actively participating in real cases. However, one also needs to realise that the EQE is a special case, as it is streamlined such that specific elements are needed for good marks and all the information needed is in the paper itself. Do not try to be clever by adding your own views or ideas. Practice past exams, and study the Examiner's reports carefully to learn what is required in the answer.
- Start early. Work with other candidates. Be active.
- Do exams of preceding years and then carefully review compendium examiner's reports and candidates answers
- expecting the worst...
- Answer test questions (mock-exams etc.)!
- learn to use as much time as possible for the analysis before writing any solution
- Attend a suitable course and start the revision as early as possible.
- Do a lot of exam-related questions. I noticed that just reading the law is not enough to fully understand everything. The exam questions really focus you on a certain topic.
- Start preparing early.
- My main advise is :; - you MUST make yourself familiar in detail with the ; How to tackle paper A ; How to tackle paper B ; papers from the E P Academy : these proved to be extremely valuable to me.; Also, develop a method for paper C. Start making a matrix table immediately from the claims of the paper to be opposed, and add for the other papers every feature that is also present when reading for the first time. In the end, you have a table that shows you clearly novelty impairing or inventivity impairing documents for each claim.; How to tackle paper D can probably not be written : there is too much material to know.; ; My

other advice is ; ; make sure you have rested well before beginning. Don't study the last day - just rest. The examination is physically and mentally very demanding and if you are not well rested you don't stand a chance.

- doing all the past papers under time pressure in order to manage it the best.
- try and pass when 30 year old
- CEIPI course is an excellent preparation for preexamination ; material provided is superb
- For Germans EPÜ 2000 comment by Kley; a lot of practice for C-part; best 5 to 10 times in real time (6h) for better time management
- Speed is everything.
- Start studying between one or two years in advance.
- see 14)
- To take care of their health when the exam approaches.
- Attempt previous exams with time pressure.
- Proper work experience in this profession for at least two years;; Have the basic skills of a patent attorney, such as how to prepare a proper response to an EPO examination report, and priority and how it works etc.
- A lot of self-study
- practice, practice
- Start early enough. Preferably more than 2 years before the exam.
- In my opinion, the most difficult aspect of the C paper is time management - you don't have sufficient time to read through the documents as thorough as you would have liked, therefore teaching yourself methods for working efficient through the annexes is crucial. The abovementioned Deltapatents material was of great value for me.
- First thing: Read the guidelines and the Ap Guide (PCT)
- Do all compendia between 2000 and 2012 more than twice
- If you are working as a patent attorney, do the exam as soon as you can when entering into this field, before the amount of work grows too high and limits your time.
- no
- Practice the use of an appropriate EPC commentary in order to be able to quickly find specific information.
- Start early!
- Study some recent previous exams under realistic conditions.
- The Ceipi-course (2years) was very helpful, because you get an overview over the EPC and by answering the questions in preparation for the lessons you get used to quickly finding an answer to any legal question relating to the EPC.
- start early, get with others to find out information and ask recent succesful candidates how they worked.
- personal mock examinations
- Make a serious effort. Preparation will take you lots of time. Try to get away from work about 8 weeks before the exam and concentrate on your studies.
- Practise in time condition; Do not rush to solution before a thorough consideration
- Do start with thinking waht you are doing and what EXACTLY the legal basis is for everything you are doing during your daily work. But do not start the focussed learning too early - you may find in the exam that you have already again forgotten a number of things you where familiar with some months ago - it does not matter whether or not you would be ready for the exam 6 months before - the only thing that matters is being prepared when the exam actually takes place.; ; The questions are designed to be doable in the given timeframe - so don't panic!; ; Papers, A, B, C: Don't spent too much time and effort on training a particular method: Several methods seem to be an "overkill" and may take more time and confuse you more than they actually help in the end. Besides some formal tools (e.g. for assessing the effective dates of the claims and the prior art documents in "C") the papaers are doable with "common sense" if you read carefully and don't try to be too clever - just be precise and straight-forward.
- start early, do the entire compendium

- don't start too early, boredom will kill u
- Simulate at least three papers for each kind (A, B) and have them corrected by an external person. This is very useful.
- Study old papers.
- Practise more DII papers
- Start early enough and do not overestimate yourself.
- Concentrate on understanding the Articles and Rules:
- Understanding the philosophy of the exam is as important as studying the matter, as it is quite remote from real-life situations
- The best way to prepare for D is answering questions, don't spend too much time on reading articles, rules, decisions, etc. in advance
- Invest more time on self-studying.; 2. Combine the study with daily work by dealing with each client's request as an exam question.
- practice under time pressure
- Write as many examinations as possible, but not only under examination conditions. It is also very helpful to write without time pressure or repeat the writing of attacks, as this leads to more and deeper understanding to really get to the point.
- To write the EQE before to start with a family. The EQE is not family friendly.
- I sat the EQE course for papers A & B in November before the March exam and would have preferred to attend the EQE course much earlier.
- Trying to automate e to speed up the various steps during the exam
- Don't think it is impossible. It is just as any other exam. Train as many past papers and you can. Take sufficient food and beverages to the exams and then just relax and do it.
- ----
- Save enough money and time to prepare
- Take enough time for learning and practicing.
- Analyse and solve past papers, Examiner's reports and model answers to understand what is required for each paper.; Be involved in prosecution of several EP applications/patents in order to practice different aspects of the law; Start preparing for papers A, B and C 6 months before the exam and intensively 4 months before the exam for paper D
- Solve past papers and lots of D-related questions
- Take it easy, with lots of time, and do a lot of past papers.
- There is no longer a need an annex in a foreign language. So for the past paper Compendium, could all of the annexes be translated now?
- Study Case Law and read the guidelines for examination at least two times.
- Start at least 6 months in advance, if you are sitting all four papers
- Find a study group / go to courses to find out about how the papers are marked (no sufficient information in compendium)
- Start revision earlier to get familiar with the EPC (and part C of the Guidelines for Papers A, B and C) so there is time for plenty of practice papers before the exams.
- Make a lot of good summary tables and be aware of transitional rules, make sure you know in detail in which communication is what amendment to the Article or Rule, I had a bad tool
- Don't do the EQE when you have a little baby that do not sleep through the night...
- No
- To answer a lot of exam related questions (DI and DII) under time pressure and really get familiar with your study material.
- A course for Papers C and D seems like a good idea
- Ensure all practical preparations are taken care of well in advance: the exams are stressful enough without worrying about locations of exams, exam regulations, transport, accommodation, food, etc.
- see Q14
- Focus on prepare yourself by doing exams (the exams seems to become more and more a test of how to do the exam than actually achieve relevant knowledge to be fit for practice !)
- practise papers

- Use the Compendium; talk to other candidates and successful candidates!
- in regard to D-papers, start early enough with PCT, since PCT questions can be answered completely out of the PCT itself - if you are sufficiently familiar with the articles and rules
- Go to a good course which forces you to study and to make questions / papers.
- Good luck!
- Start early enough, focus on D2 trainings
- Start to prepare for the exams early!
- see point Q14.
- Practising past papers is essential, start with preparation for the legal part early.
- My way was to refer everything in only one document and Everytime I read or learnt something I added some notes in my document; This document was "Le Baque"; It is mandatory to note everything you learn in the same document.; I even stopped working when I had not this document with me
- If you are not prepared, then do not sit. I sat all of them although I didn't prepare for C and D, but only A and B. I decided not to do so 3/4 year before the exam. However since I was enrolled for these papers, I thought, I would try and sit them. This was not a good idea. I used so much energy the D-day that I was already tired A and B the next.
- Take at least 3 months before the exams to train almost daily the modules in exam conditions, if all 4 modules are attempted at once.
- Anyway visit one of the preparation courses. Do as many exams as possible.
- start preparation one year before the preexam; - use the book "Köllner, PCT-Handbuch" for PCT-related questions; - attend CEIPI training course on the preexam
- Start a bit earlier than what I did :-)
- Just as always: Start in good time before... take it seriously... etc....; ; and: make use of professional courses if you (or your employer) can (is willing to) pay for it...
- not real suggestions... training and training again...
- Try to build your own tools, for example, by annotating the EPC and the PCT.
- intensive training should start 1 year before with preparing the material intended to be used for the EQE; look around what books are available and borrow them for a first intense check if you can work with them or not. Too much books are not helpful; focus on just two or max three of them.
- Preparation for papers A,B and C is too unrelated to the preparation for DI/DII, so if you can afford it don't do them in one year.
- Practice
- Take at least 3 days before the exam without studying
- Study hard. Do not try to apply any knowledge except how you think the committees want you to answer the paper.
- Start early! Do not just "study", but PRACTICE former exams (compendium), questions from D-Book etc.
- For the pre-exam, I would recommend the CEIPI course.
- One should start with preparation as early as possible, so pre-examination one year before the main papers is a very good milestone.
- practice papers under exam conditions
- Try to study until you are really sick of it- then you know that you have done just enough to maybe pass and can relax at the exam. I tracked every hour I spent on the exam-preparation during the last year- this gave me the confidence that I did what I could have done and that the result could only depend on the daily form.
- The EQE must not be underestimated in terms of coming up with a good solution under extreme time pressure in very different fields of patent law. A longterm preparation (basic preparation over at least two years and intensive preparation over 6 - 12 months focusing on detailed problems, questions and past papers) is essential in my eyes. The examiner's reports are very valuable for getting an idea how to tackle each paper. But a well prepared candidate needs not to be scared to never pass the EQE. So don't panic and concentrate on

the exam. And just a few days before the exam stop learning - your head is stuffed enough then - and rather relax and sleep enough.

- Don't start too late!; Even if you feel that the D preparation is difficult too far in advance, start to do the questions in the D-book (Delta patents) so that you know what you don't understand. Then do them again because it is guaranteed that you will not remember.; Pay attention to the PCT because in practice, you will need this almost as much as the EPC. ; Do more questions for D.; Do past papers for A, B and C. get the C book! Attend courses that are meant for exam technique. The panic sets in when the buzzer goes and if you can't keep the "training" in mind, there is the potential to derail.
- Find the tools adapted to one's own mind, by training on former papers and inquiry among former sitters, of how they have done it.
- Use the compendium of past papers extensively, focusing on the most recent. Write at least 2-3 papers in real exam-like conditions.
- No.
- Be very familiar with whatever reference material you choose to use.
- I think it is important to start well in advance, to be well organized, and to study the more you can.
- For the preexam: since I am a chemist I sometimes find it hard to do the claim-related questions which often make use of example from mechanics. I do not have the vocabulary for this in English so I brought a Swedish-English technical dictionary.
- Study and exercises on past papers.
- own detailed notes to important topics with related articles and rules
- Start studying the law with a focus on answering the questions in Paper D; - Learn your own method and technique to tackle the exam; - Do past papers to time
- Don't start working on previous exams too early.
- Start early especially Training for paper D and C; this Part is very time consuming
- start early!
- For paper D; - start studying in advance, at least in August.; - choosing a single book where writing all information in order to be able to use it during examination; - if you are planning a marriage or a child please wait a bit because work + family + study is quite impossible, above all if you are a woman!
- Focus on analysing your responses to old exam papers. It is absolutely essential to understand what you are doing wrong. Just briefly checking the Examiner's report is not sufficient.
- No.
- I think everything has already been said by other people and once a candidate starts preparing he/she will do a good job- I'm sure. I haven't met any person who was not well prepared
- No
- Do make your own 'annotated EPC' version, do not rely solely on available annotated versions only.
- training, training, training
- I really recommend the Delta patents course, and the Ceipi D seminar, which help to identify weaknesses and provide answers.; The week in Strasbourg was great, but the levels disparity and the tutors "pedagogy" was such, that discussions on "basic" issues were time consuming, and from one tutor to another, the explanations and views were different, without much time to spend.
- Focusing in short answers to avoid time lapse.
- You should take the exam as early as possible and have an ege-EPA as a boss.
- In my opinion, practising past papers during your preparations is essential. Having said that, in the 2012 C paper, there were no legal issues to answer, there were no priority issues, and no Art 54(3) prior art to complicate matters, yet many of the past papers from the last 10 years had these issues to some extent.
- Prepare well in advance, especially for paper D.

- Attend courses to learn the fundamentals of your work to become a full fledged patent attorney, but think twice or more before aiming for the exam. Despite your best efforts, you may never reach your destination. If you have a family or is planning to, don't start. Instead of practicing on the unrealistic exam, use all time available to master the study material under real life conditions.
- Take past papers and write them as you'd do in the exam
- Although initially daunting, study the "ACTUAL" PCT text, not just the applicant's guide or the bit in the back of Visser.
- Plan your study!
- Start with paper D as soon as possible. Do not be lazy to start with it.
- Answer old EQE papers, Qs from Deltapatent or others.
- Never give up
- Start early and try to study in small groups, especially when making moc exams discussing them with others is really useful
- It's important to choose the good persons to work with from the beginning.
- For A/B/C, practice as many past exam papers as possible.
- use christmas-holiday for doing some old exams; discussion of answers can show what other answers can be - problem what is right or wrong; most difficult: writing relevant things down, instead of thinking of it and only write the solution; CEIPI Strassbourg Preparation Course just show what is expected - it don't show the solution (nevertheless it also should be attended) - Deltapatents Course is more helpfull for the solution - but a own style have to be developed - even after those courses
- Make all exercises
- There is almost no time to think, start writing as soon as possible.; 2) Learn to write both fast and legible
- Don't panic!
- Study well in advance and mimick time-stress conditions well in advance primarely if you are sitting in a language that is not your mother tongue.
- prepare as early as possible, pay some attention on official journals
- Start with time to prepare for the EQE... the preparation for the Pre-Exam covered a lot of material, and it is important to allow yourself enough time not only to study the law but to digest all the information, among others by practicing a lot. ; ; This is in particular important when you do not have a pure "candidate" position but rather a full-time job and somehow you have to prepare parallel for the EQE.
- Do as much actual drafting and claim analysis work in real life as possible.
- Practice, practice, practice...
- Practice.
- start preparation as early as possible, pay more attention on official journal, try to get more useful suggestions from your colleagues who have passed the exam.
- Start early enough with balanced workload
- Paper D requires lots of preparation time when compared to Papers A, B and C which I think is unfair because all the papers should in principle be on the same level and for Papers A, B and C you know what your expected to know (draft claims, amend claims, interpret prior art documents and application of problem and solution approach. However, for Paper D one never knows what you are supposed to solve at the exam. ; Therefore, start your preparation early and go through all the materials at least once and solve as many past papers as possible.; 2. Choose your material early and stick to it.; 3. There is no substitute for preparation.; 4. Be disciplined in your preparation and sacrifice.
- don't stress (takes time and energy)
- start early with paper D, do old papers.
- Answer questions and compare your answers to solutions provided by the EPO or other available material (books, etc.).
- Using delta patents ad C book, take enough time, Work on a personalized comment book (e.g. Kley) and make as much of the old examen papers as possible, it's a good training

- Use the Compendium.
- See Q14
- Yes, loads. There is not enough space here.
- Give yourself a lot of time for learning since a lot of things you learn are forgotten up to the exam
- Study the PCT articles and rules.
- I used MEMO techniques for memorising articles and rules of the EPC. This is helpful during reading of any text containing references to a specific article or rule as you do not need to look it up. Allegedly, it should be stored in the long-term memory, thus making it easier to remember if you need to sit Paper D again... time may tell if this holds true.
- Making the 2-years CEIPI course, to get a basic understanding/an overview of the complete EPC.; ; Work very much with Mock-examinations from the compendium at home under examination like conditions and study the examiners reports and the expected solutions carefully. ; ; Make a "roadmap" for the preferred working technique on a single piece of paper for each paper A,B and C and checklists for the most important points/mistakes, which happened during mock examinations.
- Easy entry into learning is the "Leitfaden für Anmelder, Teil 1 und Teil 2" provided by the EPO. Make a plan with other people on how fast you will go on. Studying in small groups is much better than alone. But try to choose well your group. Not everyone fits with everybody.; Start quite early to answer questions provided e.g. by Delta Patents. For PCT learning I recommend the Visser. Prepare your own sheets for opposition/appeal, term/loss of rights/re-establishment etc. ; Sit old EQEs under "real conditions": have a look on the time, switch off your phone etc.
- Be strong!
- Start preparing well in advance.; Practice claim analysis.
- Old exams and Examiners Reports and Candidates Answers were quite valuable. Couple of times I went thru whole exam first doing one part of exam and then checking how Examiners Reports and Candidates Answers had explained/answered that. It showed clearly where I was weak.
- Faire les révisions de façon progressive, il faut tenir sur la durée
- More mock exams under realistic conditions
- For A and B; attend specialised courses for the EQE and practise past exams.
- starting to acquire knowledge of the guidelines as early as possible.
- Use the Delta Patents question and answer books
- see Q14
- Employ your strategies from courses into daily work
- Do a lot of past exams: 6-7 exams of the past years for each part
- Do not remain focused on details all the time during the preparation, but also view every paper from a distance from time to time. So you don't lose the overview.
- Write the former three to four EQE's and analyse the technology how the Examiner likes to have the answer.
- For pre-exam.; Just do basic questions and some mock-up exams that is sufficient as the requested levels appears quite low
- Participation in preparation courses; Training for about two months full time in setting EQE papers, and; Revise the syllabus several times
- Start well in advance, time is scarce.
- good learning groups (for example best same as for national [german] exam)
- see, that you have time several weeks before the eqe for really focussing on the exam - and then do your best
- You really have to start early with preparing for the EQE, otherwise you will run out of time.
- Study legal questions from previous years.
- Compendiums.
- Save exams till the last 4 months
- Good Luck - it is a game!!

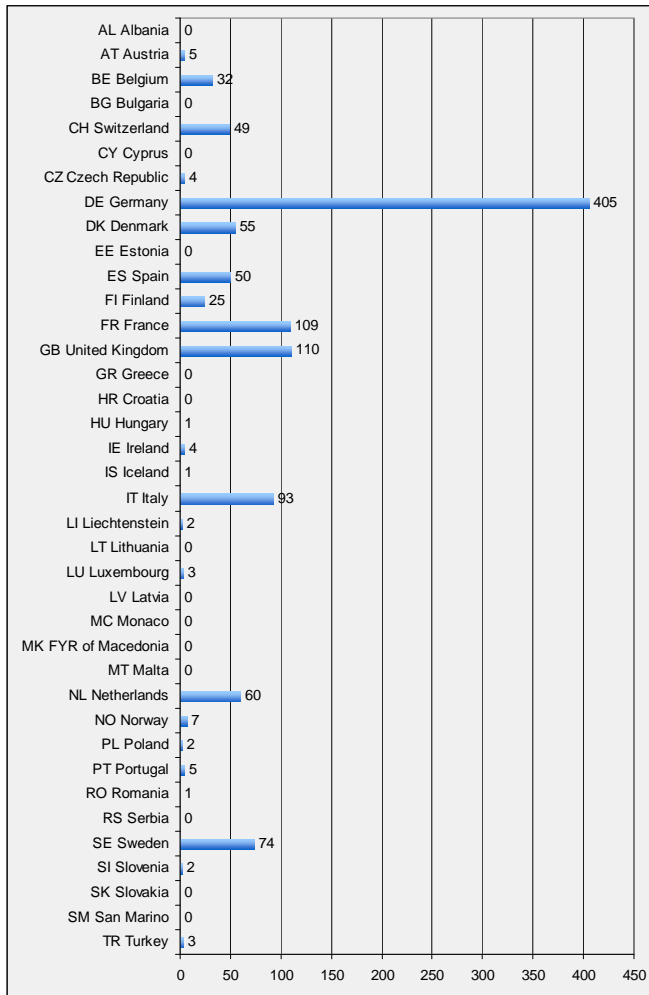
- Make sure you "peak" at the right time for all papers!
- Don't give up!
- start preparing in time, make use of good courses
- Study in a problem-oriented way rather than just learning the paragraphs. Study often and in short sittings well before the Exam.
- Answer every day to a short legal question. In this way you will have the possibility by the time of the exam to have a deep knowledge of legal matters.
- Get rid of fear
- Make at least two old exams under time pressure for each paper you sit.
- start as early as possible
- To study compendium and examiner reports
- To well study EPC so as to quickly respond to the questions related to the legal part. ; In this way is save enough time to focus on the more complicated claims analysis.
- When resitting the EQE, focus on the format of the answers to be given.
- No
- Start your preparation at least one year before sitting paper D
- Concentrate to hand-write in a very fast manner
- Six months before is not early enough. Start early and do exercising continuously
- Compendium for A paper shall better explain why a characteristic should be or not in claim 1. I found the Examiner's report did not give detailed arguments (for paper A)
- None.
- It is very important to be familiar with the materials you take to the exam. Earlier in the preparation process a choice should be made of what is going to be the basic legal text, i.e., an annotated EPC book, such as Visser or Hoekstra, or the Guidelines for Examination.
- Start early.
- Start early and make breaks (over a couple of weeks) if your head shuts down.
- Read Gall for general understanding of the EPC.; Then, work through Delta-Patents for Pre-Examination.; Use Kley (or the EPC, works well, too) and make mark-ups and links for rapidly finding the rules.; Buy the Köllner, which provides you with all relevant answers regarding the PCT. ; Read the Nationalization Guides of the EPO and the national Office (DPMA) and mark it up. ; ; Stay within your language: The different terms in English and German are highly confusing. However, some "problems" on equal terms in English do not exist in German for there are used different terms - and the other way around.; ; Take all the prepared material to the examination - though you need an extra suitcase - it might decide about passing and not passing the examination. ; ; Do not worry too much about the "claim"-part. If you have done it in your office, you already have the feeling for the right answer. If not, you should not take the examination, because it is much too complex.
- No
- Exercise, exercise, exercise.
- Make a good arrangement on the home front
- Try to learn and experience as much as possible on daily work. Discuss as much as possible with Tutor.
- Alte Klausuren schreiben unter verschärften Bedingungen
- Start with learning as soon as possible.
- Start the preparation as soon as possible
- Study hard
- none
- Find time - cancel life 6m prior to sitting the exam
- Start preparing early, particularly with respect to the D paper.; ; You should dedicated approx. 50% of your revision to Paper D.
- go one year in advance to the CEIPI seminars, then prepare yourself
- Importance of exchanges with other candidates ; Not staying alone with the questions without having any response
- Correction papers are essential

- Start in good time. Study a little every day during a long time instead of studies during the last months.
- Do past paper. Do plenty. Spent at least as much time in trying to understand deeply where you went wrong and why. It is easy to assume 'I almost got it, in principle I had it right' but on the face of it to lose a significant amount of points!
- train & drill
- to be familiar with one guidebook, take more time to study the guidelines for examination, if possible, make your own guide book
- As in Q14: plan every single step in advance.
- Starting preparation six months before the EQE (for one part)
- Try to get personal tutoring, get time reserved for preparing to the exam.
- start studying as early as possible
- **START STUDY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**
- Start as soon as possible. Start with a comment.
- Start early approximately one year before
- **START STUDY AND MAKE COMPENDIUM PAPER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**
- Long term studying is important and should be done at least in part be in groups with other candidates.
- Pay attention to the examiners' comments on past papers.
- Start early with the exam related Delta Q&A
- see above
- Start early.; Start by learning articles and rules by heart, this makes all subsequent exercises easier (esp for paper D)
- Prepare handwriting.
- Prepare something every week.
- Don't neglect the PCT.; ; Form a study group early with persons having the same level of ambition as yourself.
- Start intensive focused study in time!
- Try to make the compendium in real conditions and correct it with other people.
- Try to find time enough; really not that easy
- Don't attend to Paper A and Paper B the same year, 8 hours more or less!!; ; At the end of the second paper (Paper B) I was exhausted (headache) ; ; Study, luck!!
- The pre-exam will likely help to start preparing for the EQE-main exam earlier and my recommendation is: Plan sufficient time for preparation in advance.
- Start out in good time building up a good basic knowledge of the law; Keep checking the law for EVERYTHING we do in your daily work as you go along - that helps getting the understanding under your skin. To pass the EQE it is not enough to have the law in your head: you have to absorb it under your skin, in your finger tips, and in your spine as a reflex
...
- For me, the greatest problem was the time. It is really important to simulate real exam conditions.
- Find time to prepare the exam which remains for most of them accessible and interesting.
- Preparation of preexam.; Making and following and if so adapting of time schedule for preparation; Using material from epo homepage as well as preparing courses (like CEIPI course); Talking to other candidates and supervisor; Solving A and B papers and basic D1-questions as early as possible; Training with Mock-exams under real time conditions ; Giving self appreciation for own effort and achievements ; Reading and working with EPC and implementing regulations to get a full and direct understanding of the legal basis (instead of annotations and case law) as well as working with the Guidelines for examination; Preparing good material for the exam to support a fast finding of answers that are not known by heart
- using the focussing method for identifying the hidden problems of D2
- Go for it!

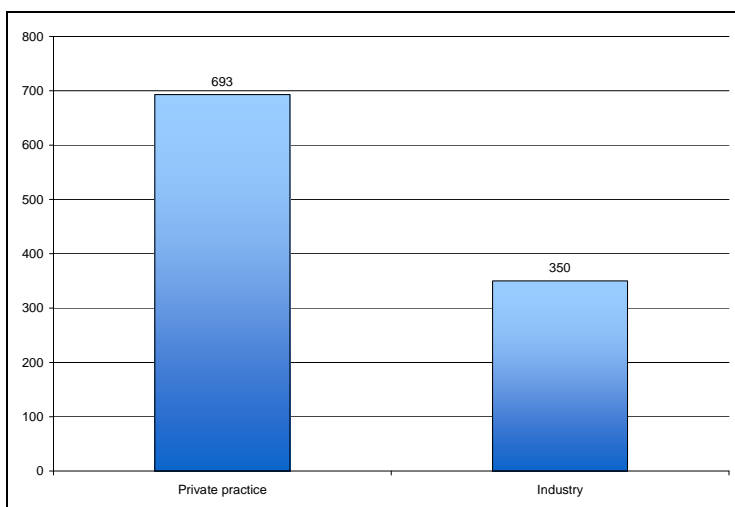
- Make sure your employer grants you at least a month of vacation (paid or unpaid) for preparation.
- Begin early! At least 4 months!
- see above
- Start preparing your material in time; Take several test papers in the last 3 weeks before the EQE; Write everything down
- Start early enough! Use some pre-defined studying process, e.g. that disclosed in the Basic Questions for Paper D by Delta Patents.
- Prepare it with time and a good mentor
- sufficient preparation when trying the EQE for the first time
- regularly working, studying each day if possible.

Chapter 3 - Training/Employment under Article 11(2)(a) REE

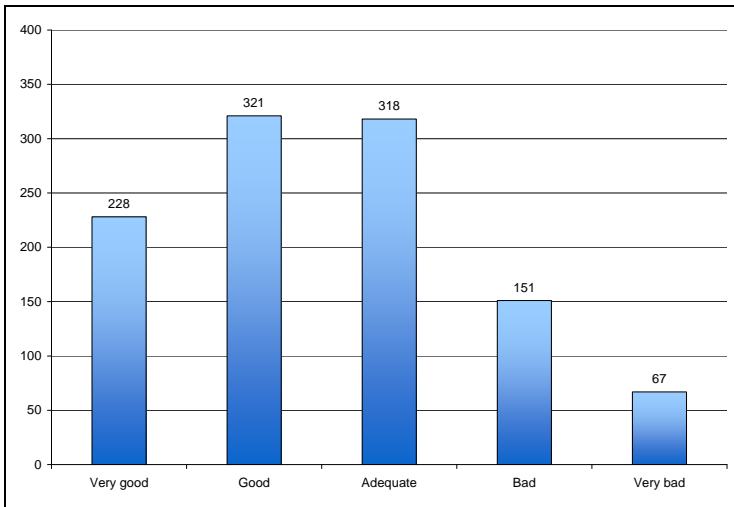
Q16) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training according to Art. 11(2)(a) REE?



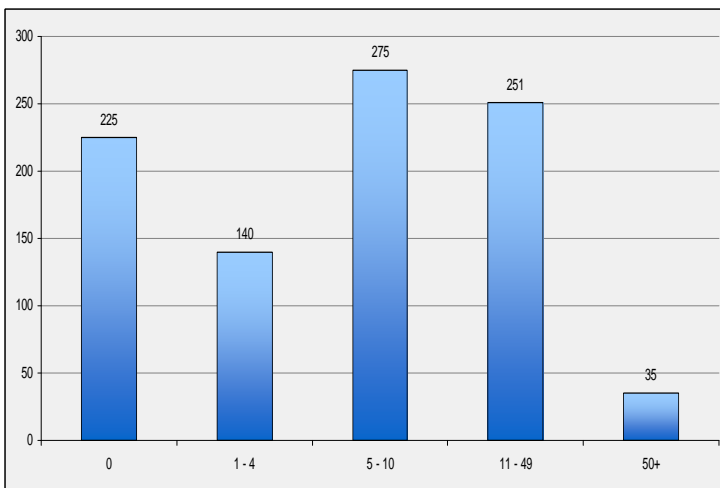
Q17) I completed most of the training (Art 11(2)(a) REE) in



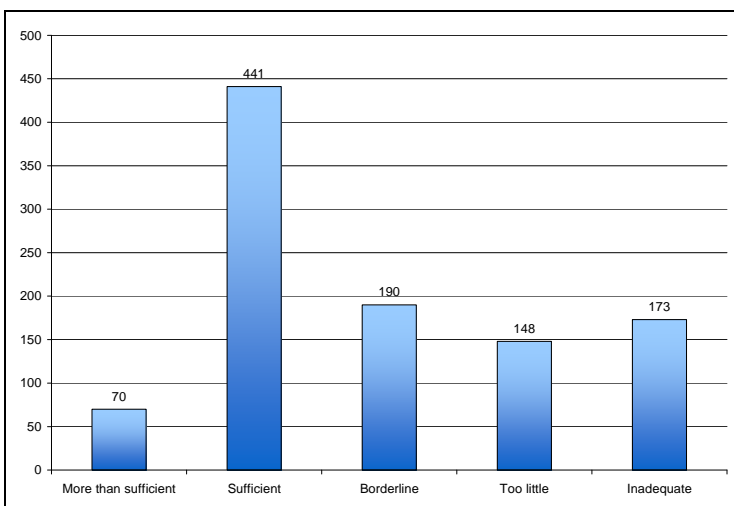
Q18) How would you rate the support of your employer in view of your preparation for the EQE?



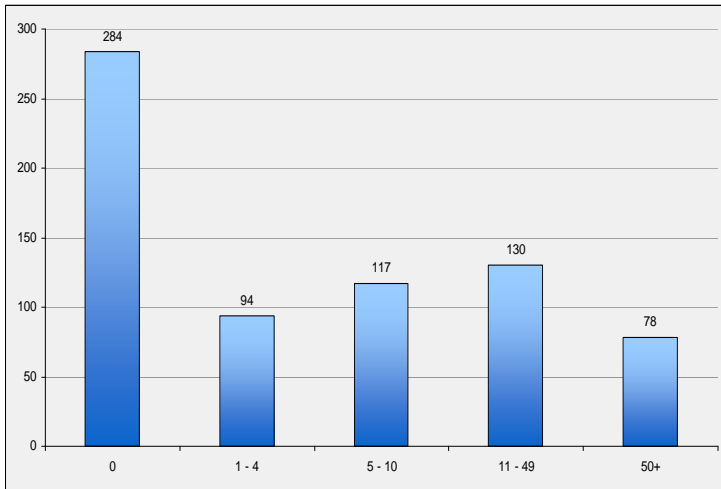
Q19) How much time did your employer allow for attending courses for your preparation for the EQE?



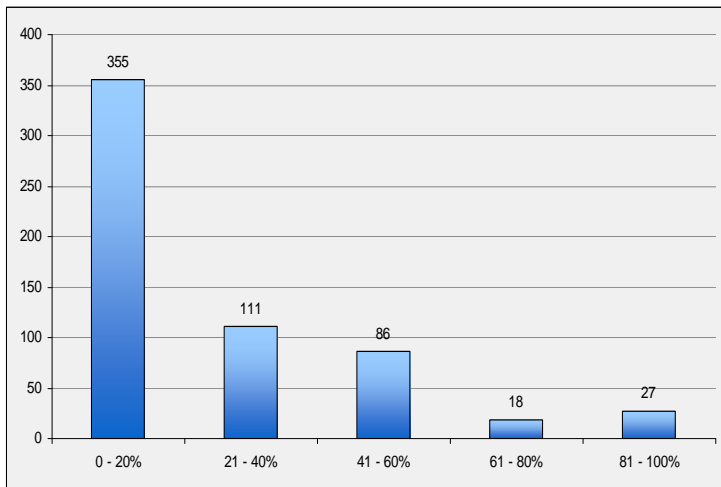
Q20) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your employer for participation in courses?



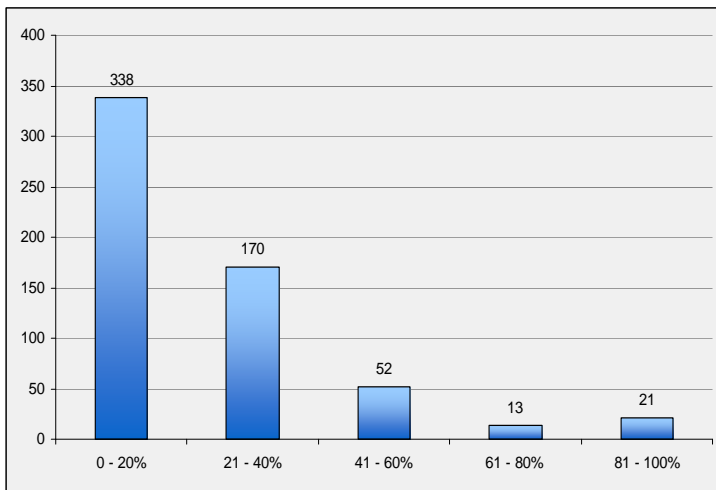
Q21a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art. 11(2)(a) REE (i.e. the person who signed your Certificate of Training or Employment)?



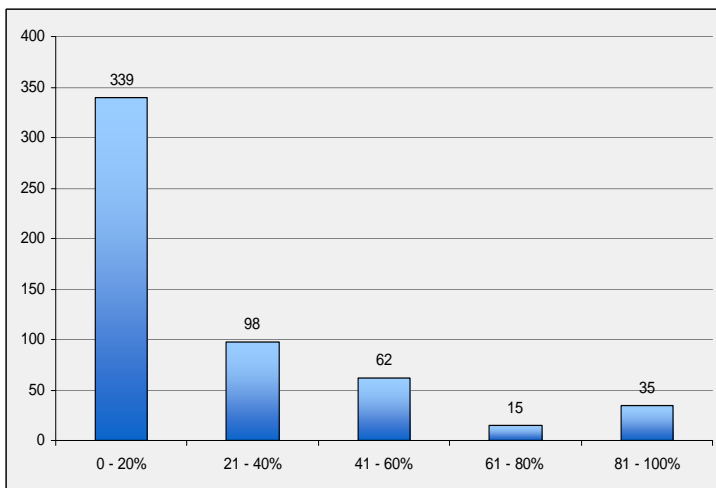
Q21b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the first year of training?



Q21c) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the second year of training?



Q21d) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the third year of training?



Q22) What would you suggest to supervisors in order to improve candidates' preparation for the EQE?

- Start taking candidates seriously and help them out!
- Personal feed back for failed exams - to show where the mistakes /missed point
- Encourage sitting past papers to time, and mark answers
- nothing
- If there are sufficient training possibilities en courses that you can have, the supervisors contribution for preparing EQE (- which is different from becoming a patent attorney with good experience) can be set to a minimum.
- That they offer supervision
- Our employer, besides being a EPA association in private practice, does not provide the candidates with specific in-house training.
- I find it hard to answer these questions. My supervisors have helped me a lot with patent drafting and replying to communications in general, but not "dedicated EQE training".
- give different kinds to work to candidate to allow them to be familier with the procedure of the whole system

- partial working period if possible
- to give them time
- allow time off for preparation
- Start early by basic stuff; ; Then intensify the trying after the second year, probably first year now because of the pre exam.
- I left the company a few years ago so it is difficult to remember how much time I spent with my supervisor to prepare for the EQE. In fact we discussed problems at any time. Practically my entire work concerned files relating to the EPC.
- I cannot imagine that there is any law firm giving WORKING TIME to prepare for the EQE. Where ever you are working you have to generate turnover. Even, it seems to be a great sacrifice for employers to grant enough holidays to prepare oneself for the EQE. Same applies for industry.
- Give extra time off for personal study. I had to do essentially all my preparation in my spare time (i.e. after normal working hours), apart from the time I needed to travel to the CEIPI basic training course (the course itself started at the time I normally end work for the day, and I could leave earlier to catch a train to attend the course).
- Supervisors should; - dedicate time to candidate's training; - learn candidates how claims should be drafted in EQE-Style; - provide more cases to candidates with difficult legal aspects; ; The EPO should provide for an official control of supervisors. Many European Patent Attorneys simply "train" candidates in order to have cheap personell, without dedicating enough time for real EQE-training. Candidates should have the possibility to rank supervisors, so that the EPO gets informed about a nuisance and can take appropriate action, e.g. depriving the attorney's right to train candidates.
- Solve D paper in exam conditions. Discuss with the candidate.
- @ EPO: Please value examiners taking the EQE!
- Challenge their study efforts in time, not two months before exam
- Better supervision
- N/A I am a EPO patent examiner
- writing 2-3 mock-exams (e.g. A in the first half year, B the second, etc.) and taking the time to discuss them based on the EPC (EQE) requirements. And following pointing out ways how to improve the skills.
- Provide access to study materials, including;: EPC, Guidelines, Visser (or other commentary), PCT, PCT Applicant's Guide (International+National parts), Guide for Applicants (EP+PCT/EP), National Law, Ancilliary Regulations, OJ 2011
- I suggest them giving time within working hours for preparation
- People who intend to become supervisors should provide evidence to the EPO that they regularly deal with ALL aspects of patent law, i.e. not only with drafting and filing of applications and responses to office actions, but also with oppositions, appeals, and nationalisations. Otherwise it might happen that a candidate passes all EQE papers without having ever dealt with an opposition or appeal in real life. This is very disadvantageous if the newly-qualified European Patent Attorney intends to apply for another job and / or actually has to represent a client: passing the C paper is difficult, but it is not a suitable substitute for real-life practice in oppositions. Thus, supervisors should not only be fully qualified, but also "fully practicing". - Training courses for supervisors on a regular basis in order to make sure that their knowledge of patent law is up to date might be an option as well.
- For private firms - allow time with qualified consultants, for instance for discussing the result of mock exams.
- I am an examiner. I think the eqe let examiners become aware of many aspects that do not pertain to the daily job, but might give them an overview of the law and help them to understand how to apply it in a much better and efficient manner.
- If they can't do the job they should offer the candidate help from external training partners such as Delta
- Be active with the planning of studies in good time before the exam.
- to be more present
- I have 10 years of training, why the percentage is not 100% over the three first years.

- Structural agreed planning when to spend how many time.
- My employer is the EPO. I did all the studies in my own time. Although the EPO does benefit directly from my studies, it does not provide for any free time or budget. It is extremely hard to study for the EQE in addition to a full time job.
- I'm an EPO examiner
- Share some of your time with them!
- I have no experience, I had no dedicated training.
- The pressure of debeting hours really leaves none or very little time to prepare for the EQE, except during nights and weekends.
- EQE is not(hing) like real life work.; Practice with the compendium, that's what counts and not how many (official) notifications you answered during your preparation
- It is difficult for people used to "real life" to train candidates to the somewhat artificial situations of EQE; specialised courses (CEIPI-Deltapatents) are inevitably more efficient. So training is important for profession, but not excessively for exam.
- Discuss real cases
- give EPO-work to the candidates
- to care at all
- Questions 21a)-d) were targeted at trainees who spent the required trainig period with the same supervisor, i.e. with the same employer. I've had 3 employers in my first 3 years of training, so I could not accurately answee these questions.; Sugestion - employers should be more committed towards their trainees!
- I did not answer question 21 : to difficult to evaluate and separate usual work and dedicated training
- Problem questions and case law search
- Allow the candidate to get February off (for example unpaid leave)!
- -
- I am not clear what is meant by "dedicated training" - during my first and second years of training I would often spend an hour or so reviewing a case with my supervisor, discussing such issues as novelty and inventive step, but I would not say there was any training specifically focussed on the EQE examinations themselves.
- Show them where they find the compendium, recommend them some books and let them practice and study for themselves. Much more important than the supervisor's learning support is the workload support in the last weeks before the exam.
- Let the candidates read following three books:; - EPA Guide for Applicants Part 1; - EPA Guide for Applicants Part 2; - Guidelines for Examination; Then let them begin to practice according to the EQE Forum
- The exams need to be spaced out better - a couple of weeks our months in between papers c and d in particular would be helpful.
- I would suggest to supervisor to think that the everyday working practise in office is not a indirect training for EQE.; EQE needs time to be prepared, better if scheduled with persons, like patent attorneys, that know how to organize the preparation.; I would suggest to let the trainee to follow specific eqe courses.
- Training through daily work is not enough. You also have to include training that is specific for the examinations.
- to spread out the studying over at least two years, may be even three years if all parts A-D are to be attended thereafter...
- Work and EQE preparation are often very diffent. It is therefore helpful if EQE candiadates are not too busy in the run up to the exams, so they have the mental space to devote to exam preparation.
- Do not ask the candidate random questions, i.e. when something noteworthy happens to apply to one of the files currently worked on. Give a detailed study plan and motivate for structured studying from the beginning.
- Due to my personal experience, wherein my supervisor, Mr. Ungria, had no time to dedicate to my training for the EQE, and had only aloud my to follow one course from the CEIPI

institution but had refused to pay any courses specialised for the EQE, I would make mandatory to demonstrate or justify a minimum time and money to prepare candidates for the EQE. ; ; I think that my supervisor had no special interest in my preparation for the EQE, and had only allowed me to present me to the exam because of my personal insistence.

- structured schedule for candidates
- Most of the candidates are being smashed by their supervisors in law firms and only work on a preferably unlimited number of files. For candidates in the industry the situation is diverging. Preparing of candidates for the EQE and the job is a difficult thing to do: Supervisors and candidates need to focus on a maximum of speed at a maximum of accuracy. For me the main basics are: Working atmosphere (best to work alone) and hard workout for recreation.
- N.A.
- Involve as much as possible in EP work as opposed to national and foreign work
- If they do not know today's exam situation they actually cannot help.
- Use the Delta Patents Pre-Exam book and meet once per week to discuss a chapter.
- (Note: I changed jobs in December 2011, insufficient support from first employer, good support from new employer/coach, but too late ...); ; Good supervisors support their trainees, help to plan what to study when, discuss with them border-line cases, give them 1/2 day per week study-time at work.
- Focus on basic concepts before attempting to launch into esoteric aspects.
- Encourage preparation well in advance. Encourage use of study groups
- Focus more on the D papers. The papers A, B and C can be readily prepared from attending courses and with the supervisor correcting the past papers the candidate has done to time during preparation.
- My preparation was 95% spare time
- Being a patent examiner in the EPO, I find it a shame that training for the EQE - the available training the closest to the work done in the EPO - does not fall within the possible "further training" category and is in fact specifically excluded from it. So to the EPO "supervisors", my only advice would be: give some training time!
- Revision and discussion about the Compendium
- Depends on the candidate.
- Advise on specialised courses for the EQE
- Allow work-free time for individual preparation (e.g. one half day per week in the last year prior to exams)
- We have had only joint sessions with all the candidates of our firm, with the experienced tutor present. Once a month, normally. No other real supervision personally by the supervisor except e-mail answers to some tricky legal questions which occasionally pop up..
- When answering these questions, I am relating to paper C. I did paper A and B last year. It was my first attempt at paper C so I marked that it was my first time at the EQE.; ; At my firm, you get no time during working days, you have to do all training on your own spare time.
- -
- it would be good to achieve information not only on a particular solution but rather to achieve more general knowledge to be better prepared for similar cases. ; E.G. the examiner's report usually solely refers to the best solution on the examination but does not provide general knowledge
- To spend more time with the candidates not only in the "real life" but also for the specific exam training.
- In Spain is not common that supervisors seat with candidates and is not common that the employers give time for studying the EQE
- I am re-sitter and I do not remember the answers to questions Q21a-Q21d.
- Accept that they have a huge workload for that, encourage them.
- I was given 2 days' leave per paper and I took almost 3 weeks' holiday on top of that in order to prepare. It was a huge relief not to have to worry about work for the last 5 weeks before the exam.

- Questions Q21a to Q22 could have been answered for former years, not for 2012 exam.
- Although my employer did not help with the eqes directly. I believe the practical experience I gained under my employer's supervision helped a great deal to prepare for Papers A and B
- Regarding the above mentioned questions: I can't answer them. Training with the supervisor was always combined with discussion of daily work. Therefore i do not know about the amount of time spent. For attending courses I used some leave days. For further learning i used christmas and further leave days. However, i was always allowed to study on legal questions which raised in context with my daily work. Whenever legal questions appeared I did not only investigated that exact questions but also neighbouring questions.; ; Regarding this question: Im quite sure most Supervisors in law firms exactly know how they could improve preparation of their candidates for the eqe. However, the quality of the preparation seems to be dependent on the law firm. Some large law firms (not the law firm i work for) seem to use their candidates for answering office actions only. Candidates from such law firms seemed to be not well prepared. One candidate from a large law firm asked the other candidates on the CEIPI course whether they ever wrote a patent application on their own...
- Find out all kinds of ways to get the candidates started on doing old exam papers.; ; Motivate candidates to apply/practice the problem-and-solution approach in daily practice.
- Give up on the three-years employment criterion and replace it by a stricter pre-examination test.
- Nur Leute, die selber die EQE miterlebt haben, können die notwendigen Anforderungen nachempfinden.
- I'd rather not say!
- being aware of the difficulties of this exam
- More support and more time given to prepare for the EQE.
- Supervise the supervisor. They block the preparation, because they are uninterested that someone passes the exam.; I personally was blocked so deliberately that I think passing the examing is more than impossible.
- Grant much more time for studying, analysing special cases and performing simulations of the past papers. ; The cases performed in real working are very different from the papers of EQE so the mere working is not enough to be prepared for the examination
- Allow more study leave
- Do it in an appropriate way or donot do it at all.
- to be more involved in the preparation of their candidates, to allow free days to cram the exam and/or to give seminars on specific points of jurisprudence or case law.
- Most of the work was directly related to EQE potential questions. It was constantly referenced at all times
- to discuss more details
- Q21 is difficult to tell, as I am working full time and regularly have EQE-relevant discussions with my supervisor.
- To encourage study by correcting the exams from the Compendium done by the candidate.
- during the first year, I recommend, that candidates do several A and B parts without time pressure and discuss the mistakes with the supervisor
- To dedicate more time.
- Not to load the candidate with too much work.
- Viele Kanzleien / Firmen bieten keine firmeninterne Vorbereitung für die Zulassungsprüfung an. Eine solche vorbereitung wäre sehr hilfreich.
- Make funds available for resources and courses - the training providers assume that firms will fund, so price accordingly. If the firm will not pay, it is not realistic for the trainee to pay, especially since the pay rises come on qualification and not before.
- I do all of the preparation in my spare time.
- Make group of trainees and candidates who recently passed the exam. But this is possible only with large companies or private law firms.
- Delta patents courses for all candidates.

- As I sat EQE for the first time in 2005 I don't consider the above questions relevant. I were dismissed last summer and therefore have had more time to prepare for the EQE next to looking for a new job.
- Give them more time away from day-to-day work to concentrate on the exams.
- let them write in the second year of training at least two papers of A, B, C and D of the EQE compendium and make a correction of these papers by your own to see, what is missing in the knowledge of the candidates
- acknowledge that taking courses is not enough, time of from work to focus on the studies is needed.
- Involve student more into "secretary" stuff, because this is what takes most of the preparation time later (D-I).
- Allow the candidate to draft applications and responses before going through them together.
- There was no dedicated training; everything was done "on the job". There was no time limit - he was available all the time.; - I just prepared for the Pre-Exam.
- practise and specific real cases
- make time
- Have a plan ready and see to that candidate(s) follow it on a weekly basis. ; Indicate due dates for deadling with parts of the EPC and PCT.; Start intensive preparation 6 months before the EQE i.e. after that the result have been presented and in case, of course, the candidate fails.
- llow time for taking dedicted EQE preparation courses.
- In many countries are not available qualified EPA.; ; Seria importante apoiar mais os candidatos dos países nestas condições.
- supervisor must be more involved
- I changed employment during the training years and cannot indicate percentages or working days;; One exam A and B of the Compendium have been corrected by supervisor for training.; Introduction in case law book.; Providing books and materials e.g. for PCT I'm not sure to understand the meaning of "dedicated training" because I believe the practice is the training that my supervisor gave me.
- Allow them to spend a lot of time in individual studying at home or in office
- It is expected that you get prepared for the EQE in your free time (i.e. on holiday, evenings and week-end). The CEIPI courses were paid by the company, but it was necessary to take these days off. This system is tough but fair.
- Comments to the above: I am already an EPA due to "grandfathers clause" Art 134(3) EPC. Supervision time is therefore not relevant
- Motivate Motivate :)
- no suggestions
- Comment for questions Q21b to d : all time spent for preprataion was NOT during working days but during all week-ends and evenings !; For question Q22 : be more aware of EQE evolution, time is flying and the examn is not the same than 15 years ago. Update himself on legal and methodology questions. Dedicate time for training. Be more consious of the time required for the preparation and the examn level.
- to be in stricter contact in order to help and to check the progress of the candidate-employee
- shall you consider that your own training with your supervisor was "light", do not hesitate to improve it for your candidates, not to copy it!
- Let people who have actually sat the EQE be in charge of the training
- Give feedback, review their practice papers
- Unfortunately my supervisor is grandfather so no experience for the EQE and she couldn't help me for my exams.
- Above questions do not apply to EPO examiners
- Help out!
- Let them assist in preparing for and accompany them to Oral Proceedings.
- This section does not apply to me: EPO examiner

- Supervisors should involve candidates in pending opposition procedures, if any.; Supervisors should find model cases and help the candidate understand the issues involved; Supervisors should correct past papers solved by the candidates
- Supervisors should take an active interest in the progress of their pupil.
- Start as soon as possible to learn procedural law. The supervisors should provide at least one text for the candidate to learn.
- Availability for assessing performance in practice papers - all mine was done outside normal working hours.
- Give time to revise...
- To give more opportunities to learn in the office and to participate courses.
- Kandidaten in sovieler Fälle einbinden, wie nur möglich.
- Do the Delta Patents Basic Questions properly in the second year with Visser, EPO Guidelines, Applicants Guide PCT so at least you have an idea of the amount of Knowledge expected in the exam. Its unlikely that anyone will do this but it definitely helps.
- Make candidates use paper materials (the only type allowed to be brought into the exams).; Make candidates practise compendium past papers for the last 6 months prior to EQEs.
- Do more paper c-exams and less actual cases ! the exam is actually quite different from real cases and many times hard to translate the real practice to be useful for the exam !
- reply to office actions of the daily work with a proper 'problem-solution-approach'
- If a supervisor sends a candidate to a good course, there is not much to do for him.; If a supervisor really wants to assist in the dedicated EQE training, he should spend every year time to analyse the EQE exams, and he should continuously study the law, the case law, etc.
- Very difficult to answer these questions about time spent - such a long period to be covered and of course discussing cases is training, but whether it's "dedicated" training is another matter!
- Take your role as supervisor!
- My comment is directed to the employers rather than supervisors. Having worked at a couple of companies at their IP department, it seems that the EQE is only relevant at the point of hiring. Not seldom is the interest to support you, gone at the moment that you are hired. Maybe not gone completely, but the interest is not there any longer. Since you as a person has to put in a lot of hours of your own private time I think for the IP-sector it is vital to ask itself do we really want to have people with the EQE? If the answer is no, we do not want, nor pay for this, then they should be honest enough to admit it. If they want to have persons with the experience they have to realise that this will cost them in both time and money. My opinion is that they want to have it, but that someone else should pay for it. There are companies where you are not allowed to use one single hour of work time (except for the actual exam) for preparation.
- Less work, more education
- EPO examiner therefore Q21 does not apply
- Be aware of current exams how they are and what is required, as most of the supervisors have passed EQEs some time ago and ever since have not followed changes in the examination, and therefore, not in the position to advise candidate what to expect, where to focus how to tackle etc.
- yes
- arrange intensive discussions on writing applications and answers to examiners reports (and writing appeals); - recommend Kley and Köllner as literature for preparing the examination; - recommend CEIPI training courses
- Well...it would be nice to get the chance to visit professional courses...
- leave the candidates training EQE one time a week, during the working day...
- start early enough with getting the candidate into the field in a step-by-step way and by working on real cases; take them to the EPO for real oppositions and appeals and let them do them at the EPO on their own: frightening at first, but boost a lot of energy to comprehend the stuff

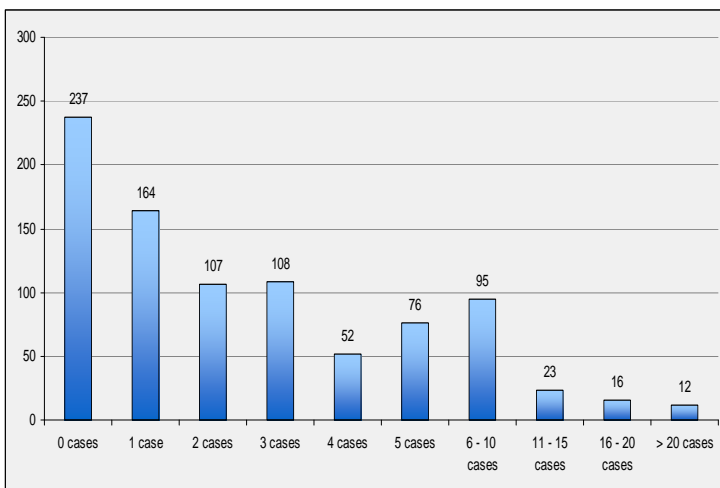
- Make themselves aware, what the candidate knows already, in order to avoid useless repetitions.
- stop thinking logically
- Depends on how long time ago it was they took their own EQE. For grandfathers, do not even try to teach others about the EQE, because you do not have a clue.
- For the pre-exam, on the job experience is of really usefull. I had the chance to go to oral proceedings on several occasions, work together on various cases with various legal issues. I could recommend it for any supervisor. A separate training session does not seem necessary for the pre-exam.
- Consequent weekly meetings ("Jour fixe") with the candidate for discussing problems, questions, etc...If suitable supervising the candidate in taking papers under exam conditions; correcting and discussing these papers.
- Supervisors should during the 2 years before the exams expect candidates to submit past EQE papers for feedback. This feedback is vital. It is almost impossible to start doing past papers for feedback a few weeks before the exam.; Not only will the past papers help for daily practice, but also for the exams.; Set time for doing D questions once a week. Sometimes the answers are very tricky!
- The most important thing is to give people real work to do. There is no substitute for personal experience.
- I am unsure about the amount of dedicated training time I have received. Most of the training I have received is mixed in with work and so is not dedicated training for the EQEs.
- The supervisors must have a real knowledge of the papers, which is generally not the case. They usually think it is a formality, and therefore do not understand the need to train you when you have a lot of other specific preparations (Ceipi, Aspi...); Some of them took the exams a long time ago, and don't really realize how difficult it has become.
- I am an EPO examiner so no answer for the questions concerning Art. 11(2)(a) REE.
- I had no supervisor as I had to learn everything in an autodidactic manner.; I had to train six years (old way).; Learning by doing.....
- More compendium based questions as "homework"
- All my training with my supervisor was "on the job" - but then I do most of my work on European cases.
- allow at least half a day per week for studying for the EQE /case law and/or preparing the EPC
- More mock exams...
- No suggestions.
- materials not only in english, also in other languages (e.g. index for the guidelines)
- Dedicate more time, but this is not easy since a company needs to work and is not a school
- You need eqe-epa as a tutor.
- Workload of the supervisors is very decisive in how much support you get.
- Dedicate some (any!) time to assist the candidate. The emphasis at the firm where I worked was very much the exams are your responsibility.
- To continue to help them and discuss specific topics.
- There was little time I could take off, because other candidates, who were longer in the company, had priority. Hence I prepared for the EQE mainly on my own to successfully do at least A and B this year, so that I have a chance to finish in 2013. Otherwise I would have had to start in 2013 with the pre-examination that would have cost me at least one year.
- Ensure time with the supervisor as defined by Art.11(2)(a) REE is dedicated, it may help considerably together with courses.
- Give students the afternoon off on some week days. Allow students to attempt past papers (particularly the 6 hour paper C) on a weekday every now and again.
- Have students do previous papers, evaluate in plenum if possible. Add other questions: Previous papers cover some topics, but new papers have new Qs and topics. Advise on exam strategies.
- More time

- Discuss important points on language used in the exam and time-keeping
- I never had time to make statistics, rather, I had to work.
- Supervise, instead of thinking of earning money all the time.
- Proposing an example of planning with the different steps before the exams. ; Suggesting one (or more) week out of the office for training before the exams.
- Follow the candidate starting from the beginning with continuous feedback in order to indicate appropriate steps to be taken to improve.
- Have them to do the work and just guide them. Be demanding and don't allow second quality work even if it is just the first OA response, the more you demand perfection from the beginning, the better. But, don't do the work for the candidate, just guide them.
- It is of course a question of also how much time a supervisor has to spend on specific EQE training with his candidates.; E.g. I had support to organise and do my own learning, but very little time to specifically address EQE questions with the supervisor.
- Be prepared to answer 'stupid' questions! Sometimes 'stupid' questions need an answer to put everything in the right place!
- provide opportunity to deal with real opposition cases
- The candidate should be exposed to a wide variety of work if supervisor wishes the candidate to have the well-rounded knowledge required for passing the EQE. This means regular exposure to preparing opposition notices and FTP work, not just drafting and prosecution.; Very important is ensuring that trainee's work (drafting, prosecution, opposition, FTP) is in good and proper style such that only small adjustments need be made for the exams. For example: Ensuring that a proper 5 step problem and solution approach argumentation is ALWAYS written; for the novelty section in opposition notices, utilise the exact wording of the claims and state where this part is and why it is the same in brackets after each claim feature.; Recognition is preferably made that a supervisor who passed the EQE a couple of years previously is a much better supervisor vis-a-vis the exam technique/style needed for the EQE, than a supervisor who, whilst much more experienced in EPC practice, passed the exams a number of years ago. What is needed in practice and what the EQE demands are different.
- Weekly meetings, give strict orders
- Intensive training at the beginning of the employment under consideration of current legal practice of the EPO/boards and, later on, practical application of the gained knowledge.
- -
- to have all the approbation from their employer and to ask time
- give them their old preparation work
- Motivate candidates to start early with studying the "guidelines for examination" oder the Case Law - Book. Make dates to discuss the topics with the candidate. The second year is a good starting point for this. If there are several candidates and supervisors in a firm: make a fixed date (maybe once or twice a months) in which toppics are discussed.
- Organise biweekly internal seminars with talks given by every candidate; Have an internal course/lectures held by the supervisor
- Send them on the Delta Patents courses
- EQE is a very time demanding task and therefore work and studies must be very carefully planned.
- To strengthen awareness of the particular examination requirements in order to have a good chance to succeed in the exam. In other words: To be aware of the kind of questions to be answered in part D and of the way a notice of opposition is required to be drafted in part C of the examination in order to succeed.
- use compendium
- Not only courses but implement, exemplify
- Discuss more questions concerning the EPC and especially the PCT with your candidates.
- Don't scare the candidate too much. It's a tough exam, but do not exaggerate.
- write opposition cases

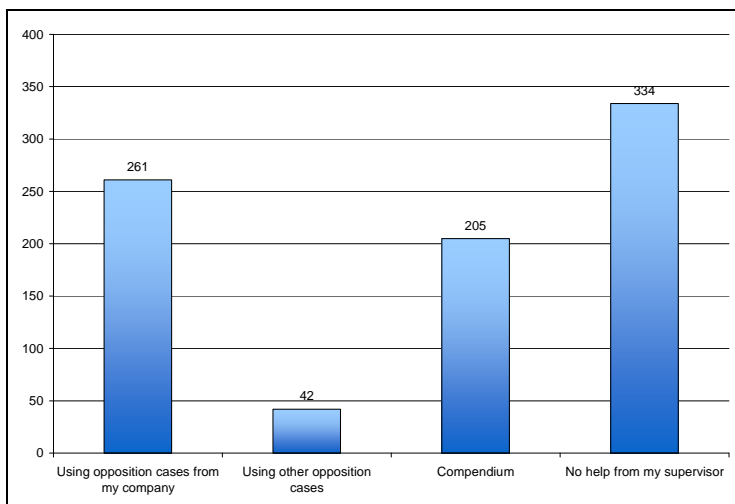
- give them time to study and keep their backs free in the weeks before the eqe - it should be your aim that your candidate passes
- Supervisor could dedicate 2 days a month for specific EQE preparation.
- Spend more time with the student
- Group compendium training
- NA
- Pay for private preparation courses
- I am an EPO examiner. I think that the office should provide time for preparing the EQE, especially paper A and D2, which are those we are less acquainted to.
- There are mainly grandfathers for the time being, supervision will change if more EPAs have passed the exam
- Be up-to-date in relation to what is required in the EQE examinations today, and preferably have sat them themselves rather than gained qualification through the Grandfather clause.
- Let them some time to study, even in the working hours and not overload them with work.
- Give more time
- Study leave; Financial support for examination, books and, if possible, courses
- Enrolment in CEIPI courses
- To spend more time, even if as a matter of fact are very busy.
- Read Art.11(2)(a) REE
- Time schedule and enough time
- Dedicate more time with the candidates to the EQE.
- Use the offers by the EPO (coffee break questions) and bother your candidate with it each week once.; Go through the main aspects of the Convention once a month.; Then it will be easy to learn and the candidate can work more independently - with higher quality.; Do not always look on the single input/output-ratio of your time - it will be an investment worth to be made.
- a systematical training scheme to be followed.
- Take more time to discuss with candidate; use practical daily work for discussion.
- Zeitnehmen für Fragen des Kandidaten
- Give them the most out of their experience and support as much as they can!
- send them one year before the eqe TO ceipi COURSES
- Ad Q21: I spent much more time with qualified colleagues and fellow candidates
- Giving more time to the candidates
- Take it serious to have a Trainee working for you and take a lot of time explaining stuff, both related to problems encountered in daily work life but also try to make sessions with specific topics, where you also come prepared with the changes to the rules and regulations. You will yourself benefit a lot!
- let candidates have a look in all the formal things!
- I did not spend any time on dedicated training for the EQE with my supervisor. My training for the EQE has consisted entirely of performing the work of a European Patent Attorney under the supervision of my supervisor, with a few in-house tutorials provided by other EPAs, and working through past papers.
- I think in private law firms it is not desired that the candidates pass the exams, because they won't work for the same money and may probably leave to the industrial section.
- Discussing and preparation of D1 questions and D2 cases together with candidates
- As a multiple resitter I can give precise information regarding Q 21a) and b) any more. Presently working in my own private practice, I have no supervisor.
- Be involved in your trainees' training.
- No suggestions
- A supervisor should be involved from the beginning and throughout the training he/she should give assignments to the candidate (besides drafting and prosecuting applications) dedicated for learning the EPC. Time should also be spent on personal feedback on these assignments so that the candidate will identify problem areas, or strengths in his/her knowledge of specific areas of the EQE.

- Give time at work for the preparation of the EQE...
- Give more time
- More courses, more classes of Qualifyin0g European Patent Attorney (QEPA)
- Elaborate a study plan together; follow up on the study plan together;; Even though my supervisor did not give me any dedicated EQE-training in-house, I profited from teaching and support through frequent discussions and feed-back from my supervisor and other colleagues in my daily work
- or me my supervisors was always present and we learn each days because of the level of workload which was always high
- supervisors should be aware of the recent publications and training material available
- Well, help candidates, not just use them as helping hands in daily work
- Training on the job is okay for papers A and B, provided sufficient feedback is given.; Paper C requires some special considerations - and 'speed training'.; Paper D cannot really be prepared on the job. Any kind of studies (even self-studies) could do, provided sufficient time is granted.
- Train and discuss previous EQEs with candidate
- none

Q23) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-years training period?



Q24) How did your supervisor as defined by Art. 11(2)(a) REE train you for paper C?



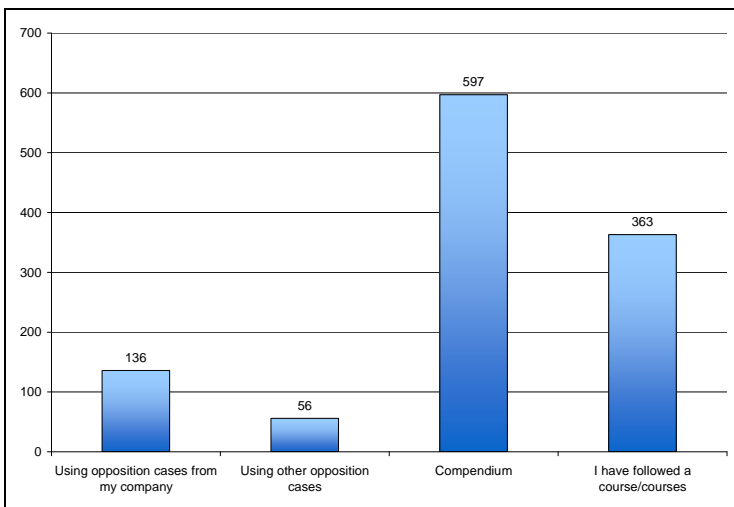
**Candidates were asked to make comments concerning Q24.
The comments are listed below.**

- I have not sit paper C
- not applicable yet
- I did not attend paper C
- Not passed yet
- Only Pre-Exam
- I did the pre-exam, so maybe N/A
- N/A I am a EPO patent examiner
- I had no supervisor in that sense
- Did not take paper C
- Didn't sit paper C yet
- did not take C
- I have not yet trained for Paper C
- Not applicable
- Does not apply
- Pre Examination
- Not applicable - sat pre-exam
- Delta patent
- preparing oppositions
- This does not apply to Pre-Exam candidates! Please check the survey!
- I am not training yet for paper C
- Responsible colleague of first supervisor: very helpful practical advices! Second supervisor: Confidence that I do the right thing (Great!)
- did not sit paper C
- Didn't take Paper C
- N.A.
- N/A - as I have not sat paper C yet.
- Not applicable
- (I plan to do C next year)
- Not applicable pre-EQE
- n/a
- N.A. in the EPO
- Not applicable for pre-exam
- not applicable for pre-exam
- discussing particular key issues of real oppo cases and past papers
- Not sitting paper C until 2013
- member of opposition divisions at the EPO
- I took the pre-exam only
- not applicable
- Not applicalbe (pre-examination)
- Oral proceedings
- Beyond that absolutely no help, hindrance.
- only took papers A and B
- I only took the pre-exam.
- changed Jobs during last trimester
- our patents opposed by others
- No help because he is american!
- Another partner of the company did 1 day of very good dedicated training
- N/A
- Not applicable

- Attending ASPI seminars in Paris
- No training
- upon request
- No supervisor
- No particular help from my supervisor, with exception of commenting on and correcting real oppositions and FTO analysis written by me
- Already EPA
- not the case as I did not sit paper C
- only pre-examination done so far
- Did not sit paper C
- i didn't try this paper yet
- Question does not apply to EPO examiners
- open for any discussion
- did not sit paper c
- not taking paper C yet
- Haven't sat it yet
- N/A - I did the Pre-exam
- N/A (Pre-exam)
- N/A
- Mock Opposition OPs, based on a company case, with teams of opponents, proprietors and OD
- books on paper C
- pre-examination
- a tutorial
- not applicable for me, I did the pre Exam
- Haven't sat paper C yet
- See above, practical training totally useless for passing EQE.
- Pre EQE
- n/a (pre-exam)
- Not applicable
- I didn't sit paper C
- Not applicable, I only sat paper a and b
- I have not started paper C preparation yet
- Pre-Exam...
- books
- On the job training only
- pre-exam
- Pre-exam so no paper C
- NA
- N/A (Pre-Exam)
- Internal training (with other EU patent attorneys)
- He bought the C-book
- let me attend Deltapatents/CEIPI C Course
- Real cases
- Preparing and participating in opposition cases from the company
- follow some examination training courses
- Proper application of Problem and Solution approach

- No specific training for paper C, yet
- Did not do paper C yet
- Old Papers
- I was asked to develop a novelty table to be used as basis for an opposition case
- Participate in opp cases
- not been to exam C yet
- na
- I sitted the pre-exam, no training on paper C so far
- UK paper P6 practice papers
- I have not sat paper C
- Delta cources
- did not sit C
- literature
- Not applicable
- didnt sit C
- c-Book
- had none
- Past papers
- not applicable
- N/A, I only sat paper D in 2012

Q25) How did you prepare for paper C apart from the training you received from your supervisor?



Candidates were asked if they prepared in other ways for paper C. Their answers are listed below:

- no other preparation
- Delta patents
- DeltaPatents C book
- C-book
- did not start preparing yet
- I have not sit paper C
- c-book
- not applicable yet
- I did this all after the 3-year training
- I did not attend paper C
- Will attempt this paper next year
- Did not yet
- Not yet
- Delta Patents book
- Book on passing Paper C
- Up until 2010 - followed courses.
- Using "The C Book"
- Did not take paper C
- Didn't sit paper C yet
- did not take C
- daily work at EPO
- I have not yet trained for Paper C
- Not applicable
- deltapatents
- C Book (very important, not only for C)
- I did this after the 3-year training
- Internal tutorials with recently-qualified attorneys
- Optimized my own systemetic approach.
- reading the book of william chandler
- Pre Examination
- C-book
- Not applicable - sat pre-exam
- This does not apply to Pre-Exam candidates! Please check the survey!
- I am not training yet for paper C
- 2-days cours in a law firm (mentioned)
- did not sit paper C
- Didn't take Paper C
- no time to prepare
- N/A - as I have not sat paper C yet.
- Not applicable
- I have not yet real trained for paper C at this time (will be for 2013)
- not applicable (pre Exam)
- Not applicable
- read deltapatents books
- n/a
- not yet done
- I haven't sat for paper C
- Not applicable for pre-exam
- not applicable for pre-exam
- using detailed Delta Patents model solutions

- Studying Delta Patents Methodology
- Not sitting paper C until 2013
- not relevant yet
- I had followed a course 5 years ago
- See above
- not applicable
- Not applicable (pre-examination)
- Deltapatents C-book
- paper C of the past years
- CEIPI course
- C-book
- C-Book
- only took papers A and B
- I only took the pre-exam.
- C-Book
- not jet
- The C Book
- Focussing-Training
- dedicated training
- N/A
- c book
- Not applicable
- Cramming Course in Straßbourg
- Literature (C-Book - great for preparation!)
- I hvae not trained specifically for Paper C yet
- Not yet sat
- ceipi
- Delta Patents
- Delta patents books
- CEIPI seminar on paper C in Strasbourg
- Delta Patents C Book
- no preparation
- only pre-examination done so far
- methodology for paper C delta patents
- personal mock examinations
- No training
- Did not sit paper C
- i didn't try this paper yet
- Self-taught from books
- C-Book(CEIPI, Meinders)
- paper correction program Deltapatents
- not taking paper C yet
- Haven't sat it yet
- N/A - I did the Pre-exam
- N/A (Pre-exam)
- N/A
- Delta Patents books
- C-book
- As with, paper A and B, practise, practise, practise applying the Problem-Solution Approach.
- I studies the C-exam book of DeltaPatents
- pre-examination
- Discussing past papers with study group
- books

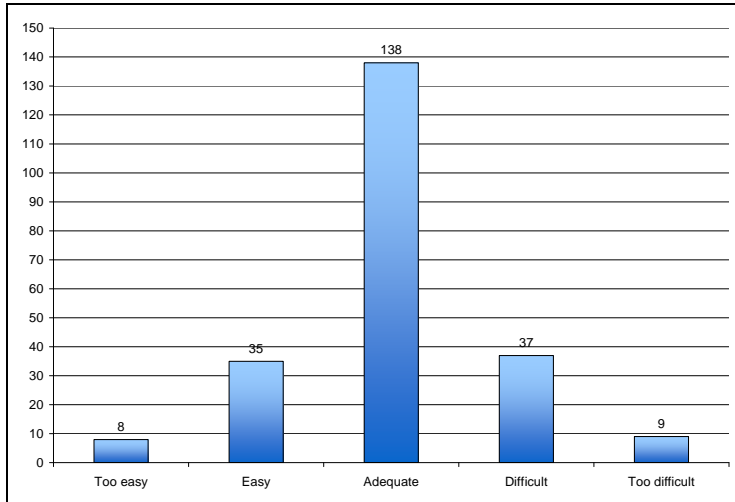
- C book
- Practised solving many old C papers
- cf. Q 24
- courses of last year
- Haven't sat paper C yet
- n/a (pre-exam)
- I did not prepare paper C but only the pre-exam
- Reading cases in European patent register
- Not applicable
- I didn't sit paper C
- EPO in house course for 1,5 days
- Drawing on experience as EPO examiner
- CIPA tutorials
- Not applicable
- See above
- Pre-Exam...
- I "passed" C with compensation in 2011
- Book C of Delta Patent
- Using Paper C book
- pre-exam
- Past papers, C book
- Pre-exam so no paper C
- NA
- N/A (Pre-Exam)
- 5 years and several oppositions within industry
- C-Book
- C book
- CEIPI course
- I prepared oppositions, my supervisor checked
- "C-Book" and hints from colleagues
- Deltapatent C book
- Compendium is invaluable, Part C of Guidelines (Edition April 2010)
- C-BOOK
- No specific training for paper C, yet
- Did not do paper C yet
- C-Book, Compendium & Cramming Course
- A Complete Guide to Passing the European Qualifying Exam
- Vorprüfung
- DeltaPatents
- C-Book
- Error: did not sit pre-exam see q26
- Ordered and studied the relevant books (Delta Patents) and attended an opposition as a member of the public
- old EQE cases
- DeltaPatent Paper C Methodology book
- old c papers and books
- C-book
- Have not prepared yet
- C-book: How to Write a Successful Opposition and Pass Paper C of the European Qualifying Examination Ed. by William E. Chandler and Hugo Meinders
- practice old exams
- I sat the pre-exam, no training on paper C so far
- UK Paper P6 practice papers

- paper C book by Cronin
- I have not sat paper C
- I have not yet (pre-EQE)
- did not sit C
- followed a course during my vacation
- C-Book
- C-Book by Chandler/Meinders
- Not applicable
- i did many past papers
- did not sit paper C
- didnt sit C
- c-Book
- Only sit PRE EQE
- Past papers
- C-book
- I didn't prepare paper C
- C-Book
- N/A (I only sat paper D in 2012)
- C-Book
- Selfstudy
- My job work load didn't leave any spare time.
- Delta Patens C Book

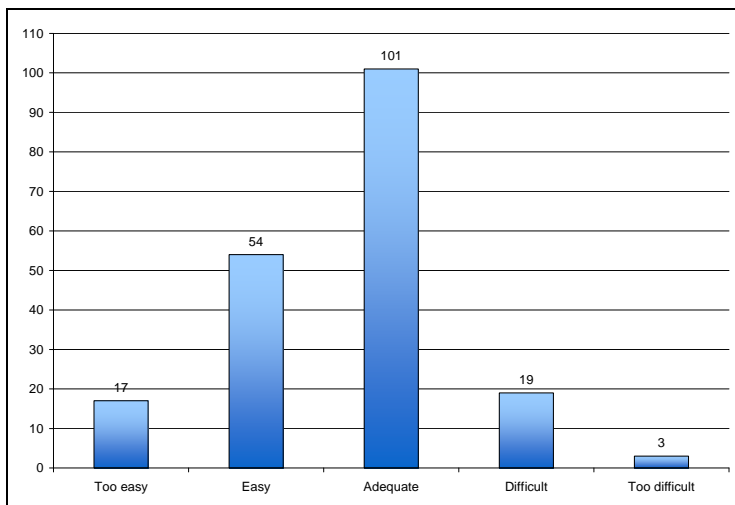
Chapter 4 - EQE papers

Q26) EQE papers - Please rate the difficulty of the examination papers you sat in 2012

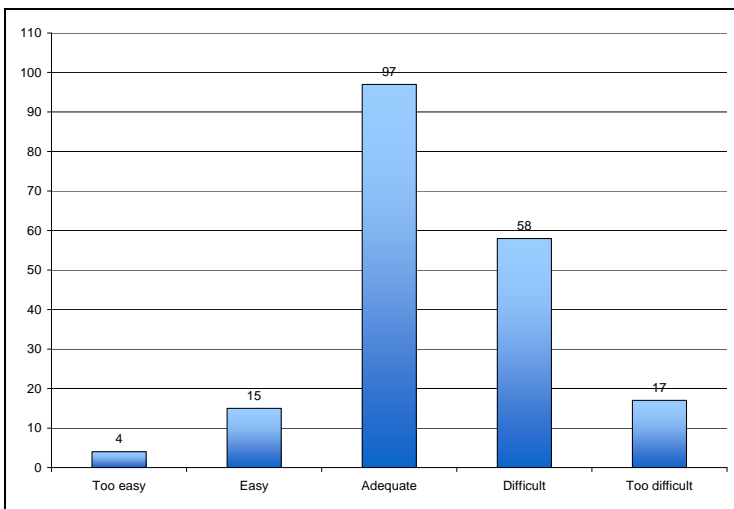
Pre-examination as a whole



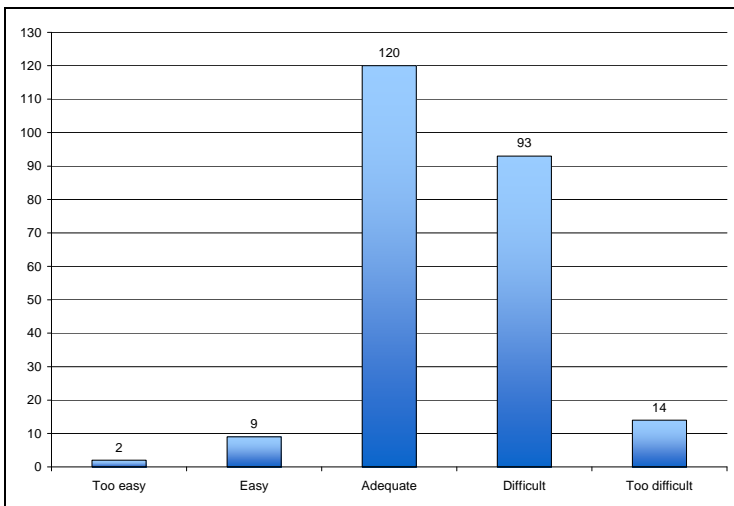
Pre-examination (legal questions)



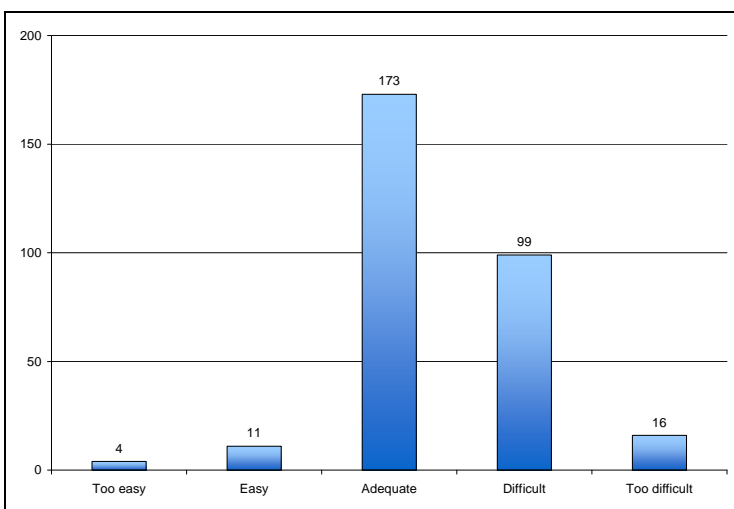
Pre-examination (claim analysis)



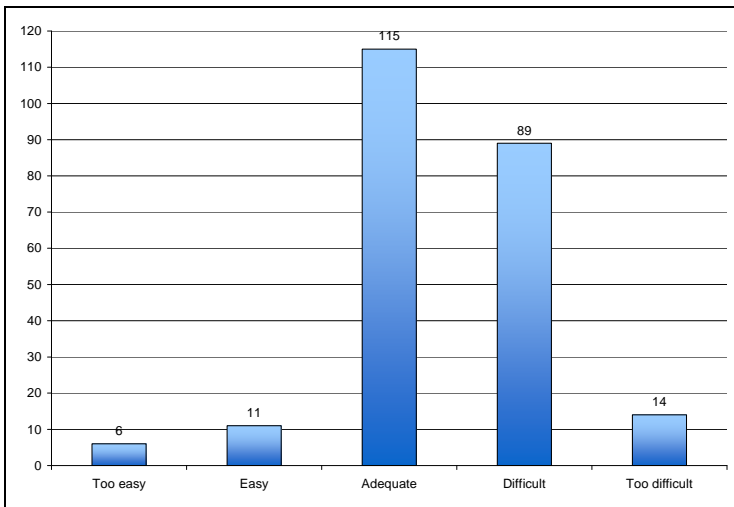
Paper A (Ch)



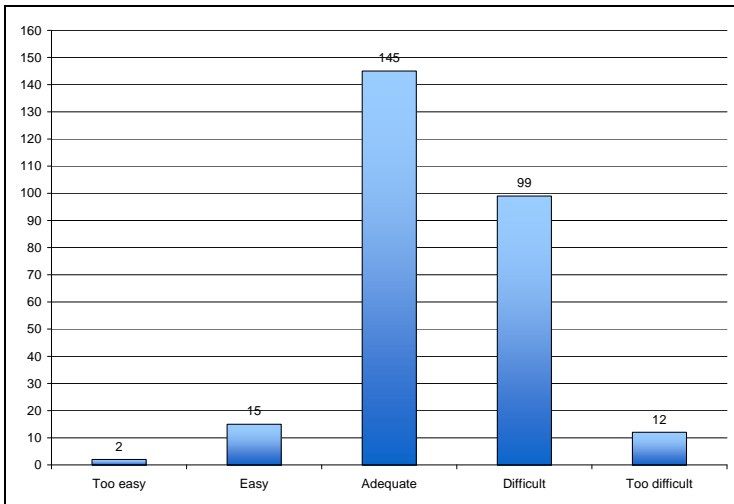
Paper A (E/M)



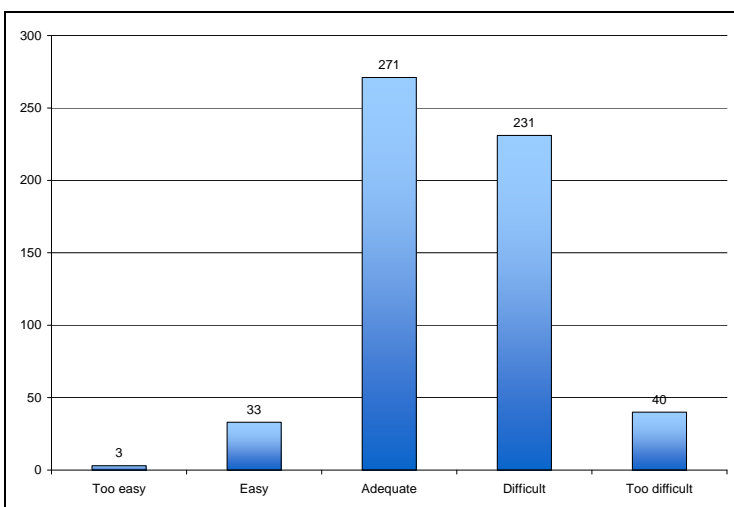
Paper B (Ch)



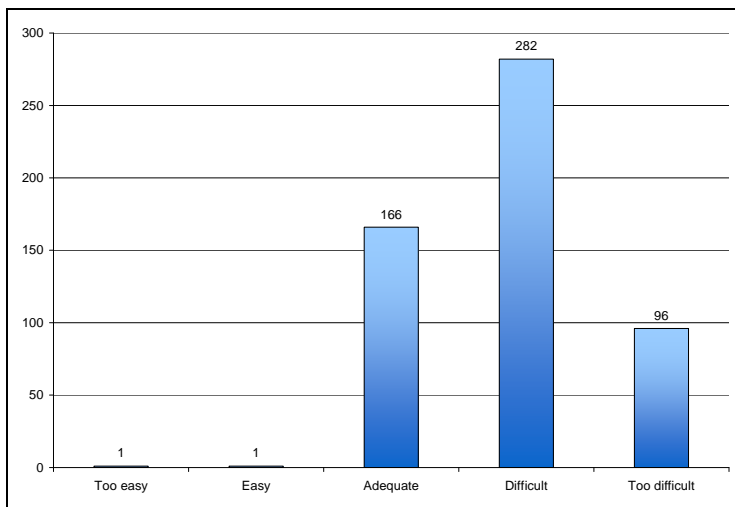
Paper B (E/M)



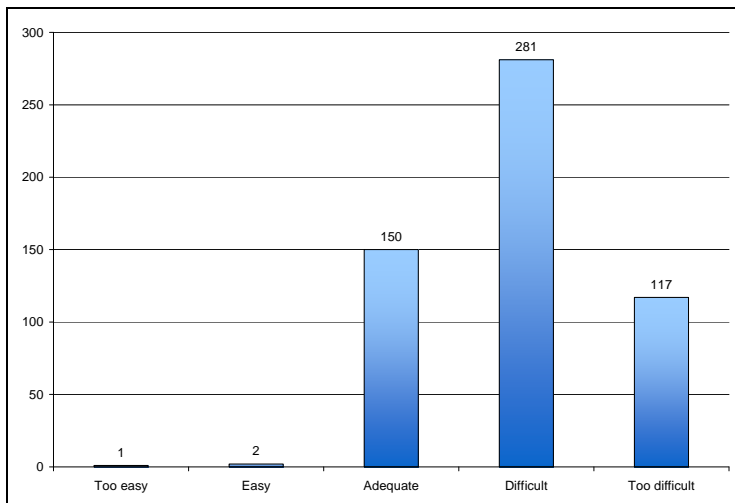
Paper C



Paper D I



Paper DII



Q27) If you sat the pre-examination:

Q27a) Please indicate your technical background (e.g. biotechnology, chemistry, electronics, mechanics, physics)

- Pilot
- lawyer
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- mechanics
- mechanincs
- Mechanical Engineering
- physics
- physics
- chemistry
- electronics
- mechanics
- electrical
- Electronics

- Chemistry, Biology
- chemistry, biology
- Electronics
- electronics
- biology
- aerospace
- Mechanics
- electronics
- chemistry
- physics
- physics
- physics
- electronics
- mechanics
- physics
- physics
- physics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- Biotechnology
- biotechnology, chemistry
- chemistry
- chemistry
- mechanics
- Physics
- chemistry
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- mechanics
- mechanics
- physics
- biotechnology
- biochemistry
- pharmaceutical chemistry
- chemistry
- electronics
- physics
- electronics
- Chemistry
- biotechnology
- physics
- chemistry
- Mechanics
- Electronics
- physics
- Biotechnology
- Electronics
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- Biotechnology
- chemistry
- biotechnology
- optics

- Electronics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- Biochemistry
- chemistry and some mechanics
- Biomedical Engineering
- physics
- Biotechnology
- Mechanics, Physics
- biochemistry
- electronics
- electronics
- Electronics
- Electronics
- biochemistry
- mechanics
- mechanics
- physics
- mechanics
- electronics
- Mechanics
- Physics
- mechanics
- materials engineer
- biotech/nutrition
- physics
- Industrial engineering
- biochemistry
- mechanics
- chemical engineering/polymer science
- mechanics
- Electrical engineering
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- electronics
- Physics
- physics
- chemistry
- Chemistry
- N.A.
- Chemical Engineering
- Physics
- electronics
- chemical engineering
- machanics
- biochemistry
- electro-mechanics
- physics / mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- chemistry
- Physics
- biotechnology

- PhD chemical engineering
- Biotechnology
- electronics
- biotech
- mechanics
- chemistry
- Mechanics
- Mechanics
- Chemistry
- physics
- physics
- chemistry
- physics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- mechanics
- mechanics
- Biochemistry
- chemistry
- physics
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- physics
- Chemistry
- Electronics
- chemistry
- biology
- electronics
- physics
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- Biotechnology
- biotechnology
- veterinary medicine
- Pharmaceuticals
- Physics
- physics
- physics
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- chemistry
- biotechnology
- physics
- electronics
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- CHEMISTRY
- electronics
- Biology
- chemistry
- electronics
- biology
- Physics

- physics
- physics
- physics
- physics
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- Mathematics
- electronics, mechanics, physics
- chemistry
- Chemistry
- food-engineering
- Mechanics
- biotechnology
- electronics
- Materials Science
- mechanical and electrical engineering
- chemistry
- Physics
- electrical
- Chemistry
- Mechanics
- physics
- physics
- mechanics
- physics
- physics
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- electronics
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- Pharmaceuticals
- electronics - mechanic
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- chemistry
- physics
- Chemistry
- biology, biochemistry
- Electronics, mechanics
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- chemistry
- Physics
- mechanics civil engineering
- mechanics
- physics
- physics
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- chemistry
- electronics
- electronics
- mechanics

- chemistry
- Mechanical
- mechanics
- electrical
- optics
- electronics
- biotechnology
- Electronics
- chemistry
- electronics
- biotechnology, chemistry
- physics
- electronics
- Chemistry
- Environmental studies
- mechanics
- engineering
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- chemistry
- physics
- Mechanics, Physics
- Physics
- mechanics
- Mechanics
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Physics
- Physics
- mechanics
- mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- computer science
- chemistry
- Biotechnology
- physics
- environment
- physics
- electronics
- chemical engineering
- Biotechnology/chemistry
- electronics and mechanics
- mechanics
- mechanics
- Physical Chemistry
- Biotechnology
- chemistry, biochemistry, biophysics
- mechanics
- physics
- Mechanics, physics
- chemistry
- mechanics

- biochemistry
- electronics
- Mechanics
- physics
- chemistry, materials science
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- physics
- Biochemistry
- process engineering
- physics
- electronics
- physics
- Chemistry
- Chemistry
- physics
- chemistry
- Biotechnology
- Physics
- Telecommunications and electronics
- food engineer
- mechanics and chemistry
- biochemistry/biology
- Chemistry & mechanics
- Biotechnology, chemistry and cosmetic
- biotechnology
- botech and chemistry
- physics
- Electrical Engineering
- Electronics
- mechanics
- physics
- Chemistry
- chemistry
- Physics
- physics
- chemistry
- electronics
- physics, electronics, mechanics
- Biotechnology
- electronics
- mechanics
- electronics
- Electronics
- physics
- biotechnology
- biotechnology
- physics
- chemistry, engineer
- biotechnology
- Biotechnology
- chemistry
- biotechnology

- chemistry and biotechnology
- chimie
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- electronics mechanics
- Chemistry
- chemistry
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- mechanics
- physics
- biology
- mechanics
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- Engineering
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- chemistry
- Electronics
- mechanics
- Physics
- physics
- electronics
- chemistry
- physics
- mathematic
- computer science
- Chrmiistry
- Biology
- Physics
- electronics
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- pharmacology
- chemistry
- biotechnology
- mecaniochs
- Mechanics
- chemistry

- chemistry
- mechanics
- Electronics
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- mechanics
- chemistry
- Physics
- electronics
- Electronics
- electronics
- chemistry
- Mechanics, physics
- electronics
- physics
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- electronics
- Mathematics
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- Physics
- biology
- mechanics
- electronics
- mechanics
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- electronics, mechanics
- telecommunication
- physics
- electronics
- physics
- "mechanics
- physics
- physics
- electronics
- Chemistry
- physics
- physics
- mechanics
- mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- information technology
- chemistry
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- Mechanics
- Electronics
- Physics
- mechanics

- physics
- physics
- physics
- chemistry and physics
- chemistry-biology
- Physics

Q27b) Comments concerning the instructions to the candidate, marking scheme, the answer sheet, the proportion of time spent on legal questions/claim analysis

- Clear but one has to get used to it!
- The subject matter of Exam C matched my usual practice in the field of pharmacy and chemistry. However, provided that the subject-matter of the rest of the exams in the compendium is more mechanical-related I find that the present year exam might confuse candidates with mechanical background.; ; I found useless to write some of the parts of the opposition, for example usability of the documents (in 2012, where not priority was claimed by the opposed patent and all of the documents were part of prior art). In such a time limited exam as C exam I found that focusing on attacks and information analysis would be more objective-directed approach in an exam so time-limited.
- The claim analysis section is especially difficult to get right given it typically deals with subjective questions. In particular, I would have liked more guidance on answering these questions in a T/F manner.
- None - it is fine as it is
- Much clearer than mock examination questions, timing seemed about right
- instructions were clear, marking scheme is tough, since one false answer already leads to a loss of 2 points, time legal/claim was 1:2
- I had finished legal questions after 1 hour, the whole pre-exam after 2 1/2 hours (first pass), then carefully checked legal questions again, and attempted the same for the claim analysis, but found I was already quite exhausted and couldn't focus properly anymore on the documents. ; ; Instructions were clear, I found it difficult to properly erase a wrongly filled circle on the sheet with my rubber.
- Clear instructions. However, the relevance of using HB pencil was not clear.
- Instructions to the candidate seemed to have been missing in this year's papers!
- scratch everything graphically on the material if you are thinking visually
- For a chemist too much mechanics - rather difficult to get the important facts and differences
- no practice in mechanics at all
- (none)
- Paper D I: The maximum marks available for each question are given on the paper, therefore the marking scheme is not surprising. The model solution / examiner's report gives a good impression about what was expected.- Paper D II: It is really, really difficult to estimate how many marks will be awarded for each question. The marking sheet shows how many points would have been available, but neither the marking sheet nor the model solution / examiner's report make it clear how many points were awarded for which remark or sentence of your answer.
- No legal questions in part C 2012 = more time to write a proper opposition. Although 6 hours seems a long time, it is always a rush in getting everything down on paper.
- Several of the questions in the D1 was very vague formulated in such a way that it was difficult to understand what was behind the question and what the examination board would like to see. Still the questions does not reflect daily life problems (fit to practice). Another difference is that in daily life you can use searching tools on the computer. This means that during exam it is crucial to have very good and detailed indexes to your reference books. It can't be true that an exam result is mainly based on your ability to use indexes. In the D2 it was difficult to find a cure for the problems since all provisions seemed not to apply. I know the exam has been tested on... people but still it should be people that are fit to practice and

this might be a person less experienced than a chairman of the enlarged board of appeal. Please don't raise the bar any further before I have passed :-)

- too long papers compared with time
- Claim analysis takes much longer. It would be good if the proposed invention (incl. D- Documents) is rather short.
- none
- Instructions, marking scheme and answer sheet were clear and easy to understand.; The proportion of time spent on legal questions was about 40%; the proportion of time spent on claim analysis was about 60%.
- Be prepared that the paper might be completely different to format of previous years.
- I knew the instructions and marking scheme by heart. I spent 1.5 hours on the legal Qs and 2.25 hours on the claims Qs. The answer sheet took me 10 minutes to complete (this is too long)
- This years Paper A and B did not have an instruction to the candidate.
- Instructions: ok; Marking scheme: no opinion; Answer sheet: not too easy to fill in when you are nervous; Time: I spent around one hour with the legal questions and 2,5 hours with the claim analysis
- true/false does not indicate whether too much of thinking or not enough of thinking took place.
- A Separation into mechanics/chemistry would be fine.; It is not entirely clear how to mark the circles. The black one indicates correct, whereas a grey one indicates not correct. How would you mark black with a HB pencil? Furthermore I was and still am worrying about the accurateness: I haven't used too much pressure. It is clearly visible, but the "marking schemes" let you fear about that issue.
- Instructions to candidates, answer sheet and marking scheme all very clearly explained.; ; I spent around 1:45 on legal questions and around 2:15 on claim analysis. I found the claim analysis questions took longer than the legal questions as the claim analysis questions involved more reading.
- Very difficult to get the DII organised and very messy information. A very long paper. Difficult not to know where to focus and how many points each question contributed with.
- claim analysis more time consuming than legal questions
- I would have appreciated receiving the instructions to candidates by regular post before the exam...
- Relation during the preparation for the pre-exam: 80% legal, 20% claim analysis.; Relation during the actual pre-exam: 20% legal, 80% claim analysis.; ; The claim analysis part is harder than one would expect, since often a reasoning is included in the statement to be marked. This is severely harder than coming up with a reasoning oneself: The provided reasonings allow for much interpretation. I took for granted that the proclaimed aim of the Pre-Exam was not to fool us, but to test our general knowledge. So I expected to encounter some pitfalls but no booby traps, so to speak.
- An important part of the claim analysis questions relate to issues not encountered in the field of chemistry. It is therefore quite difficult for candidates with chemical background to assess what is actually expected as an answer to these questions (2-part form, amendments, technical problem). Such candidates can only rely on the Guidelines and not on some acquired experience, which results in spending much more time on these question and not feeling comfortable with the given answer. Where paper A is divided in chemistry and mechanics, it might be worth thinking about splitting also the claim analysis part of the pre-exam in two technical fields.
- Most of the time spent on claim analysis (all mostz 3 hours)
- Great job!!! (Any part!)
- There were no instructions to candidates included with this years questions papers which made matters very confusing! For instance, it was not clear to what extent the description had to be drafted in B, or whether a completed notice of opposition was expected to be included in the answer for paper C.
- N.A.

- Instructions to the candidate were clear and easy to follow. A greater proportion of the time (2.5hrs) was spent on the claim analysis questions. The marking scheme is weighted in such a manner that candidates need to get over 50% of the questions correct in order gain 50% of the available marks (depending on the distribution of the answers). This eliminates chance, but could also potentially make it quite difficult to pass the exam. The answer sheet was easy to use, if a little time consuming to fill in - smaller circles would have been quicker.
- Everything was clear, approximately equal time spent on both parts, time allowed was more than enough.
- I received no candidate instructions in my package for papers A, B and C and I was really surprised by this. By being familiar with past year candidate instructions, I could carry out my exams normally.
- It was okay. ; ; Next time let the candidates know when they can expect the results of the pre-exam.
- Being a scientist I find the claim analysis part of the Pre-Exam difficult. As for the EQE Part A exam, there should be offered a chemistry based claim analysis part in the Pre-EQE. Otherwise engineers are in an advantageous positions compared to scientists.
- 1h40 legal; 2h10 claims; 10min read through the answers; answer sheet was okay, ; candidates should be advised to sign the paper
- OK
- there were no instructions to the candidate.
- The instructions about the pencil were ambiguous, i.e. black, medium soft HB pencil. I just used an ordinary HB pencil and hoped that it would be adequate.; ; I spent roughly the same amount of time on each of the legal questions and the claim analysis.
- -
- HB Pencil is not sufficiently dark (black) to fill in the circle on the answer sheet as indicated.
- Information was sufficient regarding the marking scheme, and adequate time for both legal and claim analysis
- claim analysis was not as easy as in the mock-exams, some features could have been interpreted in two ways. Legal questions were (too) easy.
- very good
- -
- The legal questions were very straightforward, and only took around 1 hour to complete. ; ; The claim analysis questions were more difficult and take longer (took me about 90 mins). The true/false format seems less suited to the claim analysis questions (and it is annoying not to be able to make any comments to the examiner).
- Legal questions took me 1 hour 15 minutes, going very carefully and slowly and looking everything up. Having spent the previous week doing all the essential questions in the Delta Patents "D book" I would have guessed the same answer for 95% of the questions without using my books, and in that case could probably have done the legal questions in under half an hour. The claim analysis questions took me about 1 hour 45 mins. I was pleasantly surprised by the simplicity of the mechanical invention as I never do mechanical work and had found the invention in the mock exam a little tricky to get my head around. Overall I thought the pre-exam was so easy there was no point to it beyond kick-starting my revision for paper D - if you're a native GB/FR/DE speaker with 2 years experience including EPO prosecution work then if you can't get over 50% on that paper, open book, in 4 hours I don't know how you haven't been sacked yet. If you're not working in your native language then I imagine you'd need closer to the full four hours, but if you're only scraping through the pre-exam I doubt your language skills will improve enough in a year to pass the main EQEs.
- Where was the legal questions?
- The instructions were clear enough.
- Time was sufficient. Time spent on legal ~1.5h, time spent on claim analysis ~2.5.; Answer sheet, marking scheme, instructions were fine.
- No comments
- I was aiming to allocate 1 1/2 hours for the legal questions and 2 1/2 hours for the claim analysis questions (based on the additional reading required for the claim analysis

questions). However, in the exam I spent 1hr 45min on the legal questions and 2 hours on the claim analysis questions which allowed me enough time (15 mins) to review my answers.; ; The marking scheme, although unusual, seemed fair. The answer sheet was easy to use and the instructions where quite clear.

- questions re paper C not relevant in my case as I took only paper D
- Too easy/few questions for the time... Had 1 1/2 hours left after answering all questions. The answer sheet was strange, because it was indicated that the circles (for True or False) should be filled black and not grey. However, a HB pencil should be used.
- The instructions were alright. If the questions stay that easy, the pass-mark should be raised to 80%.
- I was unsure if it was sufficient or necessary to sign the answer sheet with the pencil
- If one makes enough training with the compendium the guiding and help appears sufficient.
- It would be helpful to be told the division of marks in DII
- It appeared unclear to me as well as to other candidates how you can mark the circle with a HB pencil so that they turn completely black and do not remain grey.
- time proportion: legal questions 1,25 h / claim analysis 2,5 h; - the structure of the exam was rather "predictable" as it closely kept to the September 2011 mock pre-exam
- None
- Claim analysis of chemical embodiment would be easier to handle for me than of technical ones, but the technical embodiments in the pre-exam were adequate, even for chemists ;-)
- N/A
- I spent: 1 hour on legal questions; 1.5 hours on claim analysis; The rest of the time I used for checking and correcting.; It seems that 4 hours is more than enough time for the 20 questions.
- The paper as a physical means was OK. Not so the paper as an intellectual vehicle (see below).
- legal questions: 1-1,5h (was largely enough time to read it very carefully...); case study for claim analysis: 0,5h; answering claim analysis questions: 1-1,5h (careful reading and control...); filling the annoying answer sheet: 0,5h (annoying, as you get a couple of examples how you should not fill it, leaving the impression that your ability for filling small circles and the capability of the machine to recognize it correctly will decide on your success...)
- I spent around 40% on the legal questions and 60% on the claim analysis.
- spend most of 90% of my time studying D1, D1 compendia and delta patents D1
- One error on the summary of the documents for B paper: "drawing A3" instead of "drawing A2" this should not happen.
- Spend one third time on legal questions and two third of time on claim analyses parts
- Probably too much time is needed for reading the specification and the prior art of the claim analysis, which results having less time concentrating on the claim questions.
- no comment
- legal questions: 1,5 h; claim analysis 2 h
- The legal questions were quite easy and took me about 40 minutes to answer. The claim analysis was a bit more difficult. I very much appreciated that there were not so many state of the art documents to read, e.g. as in the mock-preexam of september. The claim analysis part took me two hours.
- very good
- I spent 30 mins on the legal questions and the rest of the time on the claim analysis and struggled to finish on time. Most of this time was spent weighing up whether I was happy to answer True/false to questions that involve a level of interpretation and understanding of key words. I didn't think that the subject matter tested by the last 10 questions could easily be assessed by the pseudo multiple choice scheme adhered by the exam. Perhaps it would be best to have a combination of true/false questions with a series of short, one line answer questions on inventive step.
- I spent a great deal more time on the claim analysis section as I felt less confident on these questions. Some of the questions were quite subjective, so it took me a while to decide

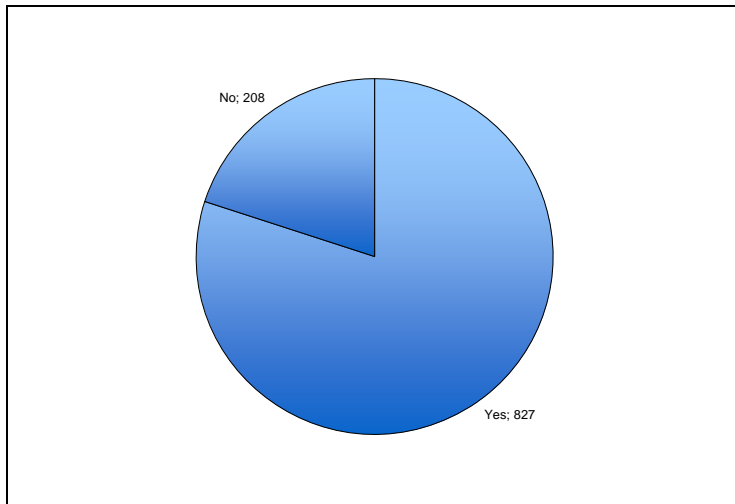
whether, on balance, the answer was true or false. I felt a little under time pressure but I think 4 hours is enough time for the pre-exam.; ; One aspect that is still very unclear is when the results of the pre-exam will be released. Since the papers will probably be marked by computer, the general consensus is that it should not take too long but we are yet to hear anything about this.

- A marking scheme for DII should be given to better plan the time for each question.
- The marking scheme could be clearer for the D paper
- Four hours was more than sufficient for the examination. I felt that there was quite a lot of spare time available.
- Fragen waren insbesondere in der Anspruchsanalyse teilweise erst nach mehrmaligem Lesen klar zu verstehen.
- Don't leave out any points be quick and have something to eat in paper C. Don't for a minute think there's enough time.
- D2 too complex for 4h time
- C exam unusual due to the client letter reduce to minimum.
- claim analysis: 2.5 hours; legal question: 1.2 hour
- Everything was fine WITH THE EXCEPTION that it is not really fair that chemists have to do the same claim analysis than the rest.. Admittedly, the subject-matter was not too hard to understand, but still it is not fair. In any case, a chemist is not used to figure analysis and so on.. I'm quite sure that I needed some more time to review the subject-matter properly (at least I hope that I reviewed it properly...;-)) than candidates who are used to such subject-matter... Then, if considering the time pressure, it IS not fair anymore...; ; it would be very interesting to see how it would work out the other way around....what would happen if you give all candidates a "very easy" chemical subject-matter...!?!?; ; In particular, the second mock exam (that with the computer keypad) was too hard by far!!! That should be considered in the future!!!
- no comments
- What I didn't quite get from the instructions was what I had to hand in after the exam (only the answer sheet); I started off with the claim analysis part and spent about 1h45mins on it; The rest (2h15) I spent on legal questions.
- Good
- It all boils down to the marking scheme. Will there be any marks awarded for attacks other than the attacks preferred by the committee? Will there be zero points for all claims other than the preferred one?
- I spent two hours on legal questions and two hours on claim analysis
- Marking scheme could be more detailed
- Strange that no instructions in part C: is A101b) still forbidden?
- Why did the paper not include the instructions to candidates.; Perhaps I did not see it but it would have been useful to have the date on the paper.
- I would like to see the marking schemes for papers A and B to be a bit more transparent.
- As mentioned, I find it a challenge to solve the technical questions (claim analysis) since I have a biotechnology background.
- Adequate instructions.
- was nice and short
- Plenty of time
- The PCT legal basis is a nightmare
- This year, no instructions to candidates were provided. No info that this year no legal questions were part of C.
- The paper itself was adequately difficult, if given sufficient time to answer.
- None
- It's the same game every year: too little time for too much questions/examination. This is a guarantee for the EPA to earn a lot of money.
- for paper a i spent around 50/70 hrs

- The instructions were clear as well as the marking scheme. The mock pre-exams were a very good guidance to the actual paper and there were no surprises. I spent half of my time doing legal questions and half of my time doing the claim analysis. I was ready 10 minutes before the end of the exam, so I thought the time available was just adequate, not too much but not too little either.
- ok
- Preparation with the aid of the Sept 2011 Mock was very helpful.
- ok
- Il faut garder du temps (plus de la moitié) pour la partie analyse de revendications, qui nécessite une lecture attentive des documents.
- The instructions were sufficient.
- The claim analysis part is not a good idea, since I would like to support my answers with an argumentation, as may be seen from the EQE-Forum, even experienced Tutors say that some questions could be marked, depending on the interpretation of the wording of the claims, as well with true or false.
- time was sufficient for the pre-examination
- When DII is written in two parts, it would be helpful to know how the marks are allocated for each part
- Where were the questions in paper C??? That was really confusing. I checked my paper 3 times, until I started with the real work...
- legal questions: 60% (chronologically, first focus); claim analysis: 40% (remainder of time)
- very good
- Comments clear enough, it is just down to how individuals process large quantities of information
- I put my answer sheet on the adhesive of the envelope and I was terrified I could not remove it. I did it, but maybe another answer sheet available for the clumsy anxious sitter might be useful.
- I have spent about 1 hour for legal, 2 for claims analysis and 1 hour for a final check and filling the answer sheet.
- The instructions are sufficient, the marking scheme is understandable. In the legal part all questions were well formulated and good to understand. I finished this part faster than the claim analysis part. The possible answers in the claim analysis part sometimes seemed ambiguous, making it hard to select whether it is true or false.
- claim analysis was ambiguous and unclear. At least it was not possible to clearly decide between true and false. However, there is no buffer for guessing. There should be made more effort from the EPO or free textual answers - which, however, might not be the desired solution...
- Too less time for Paper D.
- The marking scheme appears to be opaque to candidates, at least during the exam.
- Specially DII, C, and B have already been at least partly adopted to 2013 Examination. This was not clear to the candidates such that it was confusing.
- Instructions sufficient. 50-50 of time spent on the two parts.
- good
- I prepared blank answer sheets for every question. I prepared a claim matrix. I started with the claim analyses because I am more concentrated in the first two hours. Because I was prepared very well in the legal questions I could do them in one hour and according to Delta Patents I did not make even a single mistake.
- I knew that there would be no legal questions in paper C 2013, but had not been aware that there would be no legal questions in paper C 2012.
- I find it very difficult to judge how to divide the time between the questions in DII. In DI, there are clear indications, in DII, one cannot really judge before having spent a lot of time. A slight indication would be helpful.

- Marking results with pencil is not document proof. It would be better to give candidates 2 Minutes at the end to mark their results with a document proof pen.; Otherwise it might be a delicate situation if a candidate argues his/her answers were changed afterwards.
- Instructions to the candidate: OK; the proportion of time spent on claims analysis is larger than on legal questions
- Perfect instructions
- none

Q28) Did you feel time pressure during the examination?



Q29) Comments concerning the difficulty of the EQE papers

- language is difficult! Papers are too tricky and should focus on core activities of the european patent attorney daily work!
- 2012 paper C had no legal questions (I may have missed something of course?) which was a blessing for me. However, this was more than compensated by a longer, more divergent claim set.
- Papers A, B are adequate for well prepared candidate.; Paper C is rather far away from the real live/praxis - rather artificial.; D paper is the most difficult due to the way the questions are drafted (difficult to understand what is situation/what is asked).The same applies to DII. ; As papers are not limited only to convention, a lot of material (National Law, PCT annexes , Guidelines, many other specific sources to be brought to teh exam as one never knows what it will be about. Thus people had to carry to the exams 15-20 kg of literature. It is not a mental but a physical training! Do not forget that exam takes place not in our working offices.
- Ridiculously difficult, nothing during my extensive university studies comes even close. Completely unrealistic time pressure. Considering the number of well prepared candidates, all of which usually have at least a Masters degree, a pass rate of about 20%, as it often has been, just illustrates my point. Get real!!!
- I thought Paper B(Ch) and C were quite fairly set this year, even though both papers were quite different from previous years.
- difficulty is OK, but I did not have time to write everything that I knew and everything that I saw in the paper C, DII and DI
- For me the limited time was the main difficulty
- Time is always critical for me, especially in Paper C when a great number of information have to be digested.

- Anderer Prüfungsstil in den Teilen A, B und C als in den vorherigen Jahren. Dies führt unter dem Prüfungsstress zu einer enormen Verunsicherung, die schnell zu unnötigen Fehlern führt.
- I don't feel equipped to pass sensible comment on the difficulty of the papers when I don't know how I did in them.
- Structure of Paper C 2012 diverged markedly from previous years: no legal questions, no priority issues, no 54(3) annex, no added subject matter, no exceptions from patentability - this was challenging to the methodology that I had practiced in preparation.
- topics are very broad, time pressure is so heavy for paper D and paper C.
- Paper C was quite different as usual. On one hand it appeared easier as it had no legal questions, no Art. 123(2) EPC, no priority issues. On the other hand there was a lot of inventive step argumentation to provide, nomenclature to explain between the prior art documents and the patent to be opposed and enough to do in the 6h. I think the paper was adequate.
- Due to the lack of time, it cannot reflect the real conditions of good work. No client would make such a time pressure that may introduce lots of risk on his IP portfolio.; Especially by DII the description of the content (description/claims) of patent documents is not clear enough and may be provided over separate sheets like real patent applications or publications.
- DI was strange this year : the questions was quite different from the previous years. A lot of questions was analysis questions, like patentability study. DI questions were like "small DII questions".; The previous year, when we had a well prepared CBE, it was possible to answer to each DI question. This year, it was not possible.; Furthermore, one question was helping people working in biotechnology and disadvantaging other people (patentability study in medical domain).
- no legal questions, no prior art problems, more chemical than mechanical, no drawings, completely different than my expectations
- B: conseils du client déconcertants car les conseils correspondaient à ce que je voulais faire.; Gros doute sur la forme de U: mieux pour le client de pas le mettre en R1 mais problème A123(2)?; Doute sur "uniquement sur le côté du fût" car cette expression pourrait également être considérée comme peu claire (si on retourne le fût, où est le côté?); ; DI: questions 1 difficile et question 7 déconcertante ; ; C: déconcertant car pas de question juridique ni de problème A54(3) ou A123(2) => répartition du temps ne correspondait pas à celle préparée en entraînement. Par conséquent, j'ai eu trop de temps, j'ai donc fait des attaques subsidiaires. Je pense qu'il aurait fallu plutôt de meilleures attaques uniques, mais elles étaient rédigées donc difficile de revenir dessus.; ; A et DII: je n'arrive pas à me rendre compte
- Too much information to understand and analyse before starting to write the answers.
- It is unhelpful that D2 does not include indication of points available for each question.
- DI was very difficult for the time allocated.; ; B - CH was also rather tricky; ; However its hard to comment on the exams before receiving markings as with the exception of D1 the markings for each item are not specifically defined.; ; Missing instructions to candidates, and copies to cut/paste. Caused problem once the only copy had been copy / pasted especially in A. Rather fruitless endeavour to make people copy/paste items by using scissors and glue as this has little bearing on professional life.
- Paper D seemed very difficult; Paper C: I was surprised to see there were no legal questions,
- It should be possible to use pencils or a computer
- No formal difficulties, many substantial patent matter difficulties inside the patent documents.
- Time pressure during paper A; - Very difficult questions 1 and 5 (especially 5b) in paper DI; - Surprisingly no legal questions 54(3) or priority problems in paper C; - In my opinion unclear claim 7 in paper C
- Legal questions in my opinion ok (though I haven't received my results yet, so I may be wrong).; Problem with claim analysis: In my opinion, some terms in the documents are open

to interpretation. The answer to a question depends on such an interpretation. I was aware of that before and therefore focused on the legal questions in the hope to get most of my points there.; The problem with the interpretation of terms in the claims is probably unavoidable.

- It would be very helpful if questions would be clearer: "How would you advice your client" or "Explain the legal situation" in DII can lead to a misinterpretation regarding the intended scope of the answer, which is quite frustrating in an examination that is conducted under extreme time pressure.
- As to paper A being too easy - perhaps I missed the critical point, I'm not too sure about that ...!
- DII was quite surprisingly very long, I trialled 3 earlier papers in the weeks before and made all within the time limit, but I was under exceptionally high time pressure during the exam, which came as a surprise, but maybe I was the only one
- Adequate.
- Since there was a rumor, for example at CEIPI, that the Pre-Exam was similar to September Mock with respect to March Mock I found the paper a little bit difficult both in legal part than in the claim drafting part (probably not difficult as March Mock).
- the structure of this years papers, e.g. paper C was very different from prior years, so that my approach prepared for the exam was not suitable/ applicable
- It is extremely unfair that the second half of teh pre-examination is just mechanically. Biologists/Biochemists/Chemists have a significant disadvantage because they have problems in understanding teh claim format, phrasing and technical drawings. This should be improved (e.g., by creating two separate pre-exams).
- No questions on chemical and/or biotech matter while the claim analysis was almost completely dedicated to "engineer" matter.
- French : Le vocabulaire utilisé dans les épreuves n'est pas clair. Par exemple "pièce spéciale adaptée à" ne permet pas de déterminée si elle est spéciale en ce qu'elle est adaptée ou si elle est spéciale et, de plus, adaptée.; ; Les compendium peuvent servir à s'habituer à ce vocabulaire générique mais cela ne me paraît pas correct dans la mesure où un défaut de clarté nous serait opposée dans une procédure de délivrance de brevet européen.; ; English : the vocabulary used in the examination documents is not clear. For example "special object adapted to" does not allow determining whether the object is special in that it is adapted to or if it is special and also adapted to.; ; Compendium help being used to that vocabulary but it does not seem correct to me since clarity is one of the requirements when drafting european patent applications and responding to notifications from the EPO.
- C 2012 was very different from previous years. Seemed to be easy to adequate on the first glance, but I was left with the feeling that it was not clear where the focus (also with regard to marking) would be this year, possibly on argumentation?
- The EQE papers are difficult, and they should be. However, the C exam is for 6 hours, which I find to long a time for an exam. It is very difficult to be focused in an exam situation for 6 hours! It would be better to make the C exam for maybe 5 hours and then with less annexes. It was fine this year that there was no legal questions in C, as this can be tested in D.
- thanks for not making the first pre-exam more difficult than the practice versions on the EPO's website.
- Paper D I got slightly more difficult during the last years because the number of open-style question increased. Several years ago, D I comprised much more "closed" questions which makes it much easier to estimate how much you should write. First of all, D II got more difficult during the last years, see Q 32.
- Time pressure is the most difficult issue in all exams
- This years technical field was a bit unusual. Most people working in mechanical engineering would have problems with the "use for"-claims, as they are very rare in e.g. vehicular technology. A perfect exam for chemical engineers. :)
- It is for the D part difficult to estimate what should give you marks. Just answering a question is not enough. I was sometimes surprised that some trivial comments would get

you marks, and that some references (e.g. PCT applicant's guide) that were very precise did not attract any points.; As to DII, the interpretation of the text laws made puzzled me (A 83 in 2010, "long list" of 4 elements in 2011 ?).; Similar to C paper 2007, I think the compendium should make some statements when a solution is/might be controversial.; These rather "negative" comments should however not be misunderstood: the papers are all very well drafted, and I realised how precise each sentence/question is drafted in the paper to point to a particular solution. My overall impression is that the papers are drafted so that anybody who wants to pass has to study the law carefully. The negative part is that it might be just as important/decisive to study the structure of the papers to pass. As to DI, I think the sole difficulty is the time constraint & the way points are given to "further" statements, not directly linked to the answer, whereby luck plays a greater role than knowledge.

- Sitting the paper in a foreign language it is hard to understand every detail which is needed for solving the puzzle. I suggest that more languages are introduced in the papers again such that english, german and french candidates are handicapped to our level.
- I feel C and DI of 2012 were appropriate. However, the crucial issue (with the "essential" feature) in DII of 2012 was in my opinion of too much importance, whereby 45 points could be lost by getting one thing wrong.
- I think that this exam should verify if the candidate knows the concepts of drafting and answering to communication (for A and B), so even a simply case could help to understand the competence of the professional. Difficult cases request more time
- I had created a time schedule that I followed. I challenged, but would have had difficulties without the plan.
- Too much difficult. It is not designed to prevent preparation needed to cut people!
- It appears that the exams A, B and C are becoming easier compared to the previous years.
- There shouldn't be a single point on which you can fail, like the combined features in B (E/M).
- It's hard to keep the concentration up for four hours and NOT to oversee a plural or a "not" or something.
- As my papers have not yet been marked, I beg for the forgiveness of "Nemesis" for my answer of Q26....
- In DI, realising the answer is often (but not always) rather feasible, but the time required to collect the required articles, rules and other needed support (G-cases, T-cases and Guidelines etc) makes it difficult to formulate a complete answer in time.; ; In DII, the difficulty normally lies in losing time while sorting all the information, not in making fairly proper conclusions once the information has been collected the various well-featured inventions and all the required fees and time limits etc has been calculated and checked.
- It feels like everything is a trap and sometimes you can picture the smile of the writer thinking of us losing our minds on this.; This year some things looked to easy and it was even more disturbing and time consuming.; Time pressure is created by the said traps and you doubting which way to go.
- EQE papers are difficult because they are supposed to be. Good preparation is mandatory but not sufficient due to the high amount of information to process and the time pressure
- Difficult
- In Part A finding out the broadest formulation of claim 1 is very hard, reading the "mandant's letter" and finding the little hint was tricky, so I messed it up. I think reason is that in real life the claims are aligned with the mandant and contain in the end the things he really wants.
- difficult = combination of time pressure and heaps of tricky non-standard questions; ; All papers were in general "fair" and many topics somehow predictable from recent case law decisions.; ; The substantial volume (number of pages) to read in D2 and C, time pressure was hefty and thus difficulty substantially increased.
- It wasn't clear what was actually required for some of the questions given after the information on the situation in paper D1
- as always, too many hours to be concentrated in the same day

- I'm not sure a patent attorney should know the work of a search examiner. The claims questions re: searched subject matter were a bit far removed from the job. I couldn't even find a definitive answer in the guidelines.
- Time pressure is enorm, especially for DII
- the time allocated for the exams is not commensurate with the difficulty of the papers.
- disturbing (because unusual) and difficult in DI : no short question (2 or 3 pts); - very difficult to start with Question 1; - disturbing (and difficult) in C : no priority, no A54(3) document = no possibility to gain points on these well prepared parts of previous C papers
- No formal difficulties, many substantial patent matter difficulties inside the patent documents.
- Not really possible to say how easy/difficult the paper was until the results etc. are available.
- The papers should be difficult; that is fine. I don't think I could complain that any of this year's papers were too difficult, although the fact that DII was split into two parts, and the candidate did not know what proportion of the marks were allocated to either part is a bit unfair - it is a law paper. It is not there to test the candidate on how quickly he/she can determine how long it will take them to answer the question.
- D1 had some really "sciologic" questions: is a patent attorney better if he knows that WIPO publishes FR abstracts of all PCT applications?!?!? Please, that was really a stupid question, just for the nerds...; Question 8 was also somehow difficult for non native speakers: the question in itself was a good one, one to test the competence of an attorney, but it was formulated in a difficult way....for a non native speaker it was difficult to spot the "in itself" (and its important meaning) under the time pressure of the exam... I had to read the question several times before realizing that the it did not contain a contradiction...
- Many different embodiments. It was hard to find something combining all of them by using words found in the client's letter.; For me it was not the problem of time.
- Q26: il did NOT sit Paper B (Ch), but it is not possible to remove the erroneously checked box anymore
- All in all (and before knowing the results) the level seemed okay and especially the clarity of the exams (what do they want to hear) seemed good.
- time pressure spoils good quality; no time for reflection; time pressure is an artificial difficulty, not realistic
- I thought it was difficult to understand in how far the disclosure of the mixture to prepare the copolymer in D1 could be novelty destroying for a cosmetic composition and also how to interpret the sentence regarding R1=higher alkyl.
- In 2012, I took paper D only: ; ; 1) Difficulty in paper D1 was OK, but time pressure is very high. The 4 min for each point leave just enogh time to (carefully) read the question and immediately write down the answer. Thus, even candidates with good knowledge tend to get into trouble.; ; 2) The same in Paper D2: The matter is complex (8 pages full of detailed information) and the candidates are expected to give a complete summary of the clients and/or the opponents situation (not only to deal with the clients difficulties). - I had no time for question 4, even though the way to go was perfectly clear to me (probably my fault due to bad time management...)
- I found DII definitively very complex: a lot of information to digest in two hours with two more hours to write. I am not really sure that that kind of approach demonstrates how much a candidate knows about the issues asked.
- There is always a problem with special chemical expressions which I do not understand from the very beginning, and which thus lead to irritation.
- Under time pressure, it is more likely to make obvious errors during the exam which should be tolerated by examiners.
- It was close to the Mock exams, I would say this is very good.
- The DI paper had very open questions and it is hard to identify how to get the points. It can easily be an answer in the wrong direction. For DII it is impossible to know where to focus as it is not known how many point each question is given. For the last question it is a completely new analysis and situation thus it takes time to get into the new legal situation, thus relatively long time is spend on 1 out of the 4 questions without knowing if it contributes

to more than 25% of the DII points available. If it was indicated how many point each question will give, then it will be easier to manage the time. In DII the description of features was very hard to get an overview of, it was unclear how to analyse in relation to the questions. In paper A, B and C the features are described in the prior art or patent and not like in this DII were is was a description of features being disclosed in a description/ claim etc. - very un-clear. I never managed during the 4 hours to understand how these features were, there was not even a figure to support the description.

- not difficult but easy to fail for lack of concentration on the day of the exam.
- For D II part, points should be indicated for each question. Otherwise, time management is difficult.
- too little time...
- Paper A is always very difficult to handle in 3,5 hours. In my point of view, 30mn more would be fair taking into account the amount of information that has to be digested in the paper and all the alternatives that have to be protected.
- see comment to Q27b)
- I found this year's Paper DII inventions/claim objects very difficult to structure in a reasonable way.
- the usual ... not enough time in the end. hand writing is quite difficult nowadays.; I would have liked the language requirements (at least one other language) to stay in the C exam. Taking it out provides an advantage for FR, DE, GB members compared to candidates from other member states. It also lowers the quality of the qualification considerably.
- Make them under pressure is difficult to see the cases with clarity.
- It's a hard job on an everyday basis and to pass EQE. EQE is(/was?) very helpful for me. My first attempt and I nearly enjoyed it. I think the difficulty was adequate.
- Timing and the amount of information you get. Especially in Paper C & DI & DII.; ; It is not doable even with extrem long and good preparation!
- The exam was at a level similar to that of the two available mock papers. The paper was not too easy, however, as it would be easy to miss an important point or misinterpret a question if you haven't read it properly, which could potentially cost all the marks in that particular question. Claim analysis questions sometimes seem a little too subjective to answer in this format (T/F) as you can't indicate/justify your assumptions.
- The difficulty of the pre-exam seemed appropriate for a pre-exam.
- At C exam was no reasonable time to put the attacks on paper.; There was too many definitions (i.e., the same features named in different ways). To show the link between the features of prior art and the opposed patent too many explanations and citations were required. The choice was to make few attacks carefully or many but very inaccurate. Probably none of these options contribute to a positive result. ; ; I was trying to analyze what could have been done differently on paper C, but any option narrows down to the fact that there is a certain physical limitation how fast you can write and move. For example, I would like to spend 15 min on attack. To do that I need:; - to place visibly relevant 2 documents (without messing up all other documents on the table!); - write the attack (at least one page in handwriting!); - check definitions (references for definitions) from another 1-2 documents (without messing up everything on the table!); - store finished pages on the floor; - look for needed pages on the floor, when I want to cite the argumentation used for previous claims.; ; All these activities take 20 or even 25 minutes.
- In line with standards set in previous years.
- Paper B was weird because it was very unusual compared to previous ones. It was very destabilizing which made me loose a lot of time.; Paper C was also awkward as no questions were asked by the client in its letter. It seemed it was already next year's paper C. It was therefore in contradiction with the fact that a letter to the client was to be given.; ; DI was difficult because there were only 8 questions each with 4 to 6 points. There weren't any classic questions of procedure.
- I found paper B 2012 difficult.; I wanted to find the "ideal" claim 1 with broadest protection, while satisfying all customer wishes, but had some troubles with Art 123(2);; what is allowed, what is not. ; E.g. I knew that U-shape was not required to get the technical effect, but the

Fig only showed a U-shape; E.g. I knew (client said so) that the full height was not required to get the technical effect, but the Fig only showed full height.; I wondered if the client mixed up when saying that one of the chambers was not required to be full height.; Anyway, I messed claim 1 up, ran out of time, and will probably fail B.; --; It would have been better to go for a less ambitious claim 1, probably too restricted, but clearly New and Inventive. ; Then I would maybe lose 20 points on claim 1, but I would have had sufficient time to write the problem-and-solution approach, and catch the 35 points.

- I still find it hard to answer questions relating to the problem solution approach without the possibility to comment in a multiple choice format.
- A large amount of the difficulty with the A and B papers was the extra time needed to understand/read the chemistry. I am a biologist.
- I thought the claim section of the pre-EQE had some questions that were difficult to answer true or false.
- Paper C is too long. It is impossible to concentrate for the whole 6 hours of paper C. In particular this year, the amount of information to be analysed required the use of all 6 hours.
- DI and DII difficult. ; Time pressure is enormous and one can always get caught off guard.; Even though you may have a feeling that things went well and despite being well prepared, one might well have missed an important issue and followed the wrong path during the exam.
- While the pre-exam paper was similar in format to the mock papers, it was perhaps slightly easier than the mock papers, certainly with regard to the legal questions. The problem with the T/F format for answering claim analysis questions is that there often is no objective black & white answer. I expected less subjective questions in the inventive step portion, but the paper contained several questions where there was an argument for answering them true or false.
- 2012 appeared difficult in comparison with the exams of the compendium I did (from 2006 till 2011). I do not know if the difficulty comes from the stress of passing the "real" exam instead of a mock one, but I had the feeling that the technical background was not so easily understandable as the previous years and that the instructions from the client were not straightforward at all (particularly in the B paper).
- I considered them of adequate technical difficulty
- For the pre-exam, some statements regarding "valid" arguments for inventive step are really subjective in my opinion. Where is the limit where an argument is sufficiently good to become valid? It appears that EPO regard more statements to be valid arguments than what I think is the case.
- DII was too long. Paper C was quite unexpected being related to "chemicals". Paper B Ch: apparatus --> quite strange, the text was not so clear since the client suggested a narrower protection than what he could have obtained.
- C was surprising that there was not priority problems or 54(3) docs nor any legal questions by the client but still there was loads of work in the novelty / inventiveness attacks. I was surprised that I managed to do D1 and D2 to the end in the given time. Lots of chemistry this time, but I think the issues were understandable even for the electronics guys..
- Paper C was surprising - patch containing an active substance for a use was not trivial to be dealt with in a time-limited exam with stress.
- As to paper C it was very hard to maintain the overview of the very nasty and dense prior art with abundant sidetracking information and tons of additional embodiments scattered on many pages.
- The selection of correct closest prior art is overrated in the Exam
- -
- time pressure is the biggest concern; - paper C involves heaps of manual writing
- So far, the examination was always very much focused on mechanics but rarely on electronics
- The main difficulty is the time pressure.; For C and D, topics very far from my daily working=> therefore, very difficult papers for me.

- This year paper C was not fair, meaning that it included issues too much specific for the chemical field, so that this was an advantage for candidates with technical skills in the chemical field, while it was a disadvantage for candidates (like me) which have technical skills in electronics or mechanics fields. For this reason I propose to suggest to the Examination Committee to allocate few marks for this chemical issues.
- L'EQE 2012 avait un format atypique. L'épreuve DI était très différentes des années précédentes, et peu en adéquation avec les formations
- Due to my background as chemist/biotech, EQE paper C appeared to be easier than in other prior years
- Papers A and B are difficult because one is heavily penalised for not getting the right answer spot on.; Paper C is difficult because of the time pressure.; Paper D is difficult because, although one is expected to make more comments than those that are specifically called for, marks are not scored for relevant comments if those same comments are not on the marker's marking sheet.
- I felt they were an appropriate degree of difficultness. Although I felt the scope of the questions were not particularly broad.
- The idea of giving someone the answer for the amendment for B is farcical
- I agree that in order to assess fitness for practise that a candidate should prove his ability to tackle a complex problem. However, particularly in the case of paper DII but at least in the previous years in paper C the available time was too short. In reality a good European Patent Attorney has to contemplate his cases attentively but not in a hurry comparable to the exam situation. This is probably even more of a problem for non-native speakers of the official languages of the EPO.
- Difficulty is significantly increasing.; Nowadays, paper DII needs skills relative to paper A, B and C.; ; Need to think quicker than in the past.
- The pre-examination was a lot too easy. I do not think the concept of "Milstones not Filter" does work. I believe the first 1-3 years of pre-examinations, the participants will learn because they do not know too much about the exact difficulty level of the exam. After that time, the amount of time people spend on learning will be strongly dependant on the percentage of people which fail the exam. When nobody fail the exam (it seems, this is intended by such easy questions....) most people wont learn.; ; However, when evaluating the results of the real examination next year, the pass rate will be higher than the previous years, because this year, the candidates who took the pre-examination did not knew in advance how easy the pre-examination is. Please do not regard this as prove, that the pre-examination is effective. After some years the pass rate will most likely be as it was before the pre-examination was introduced.
- In some exam parts (DII and C), there has been an tendency to add difficulty to the exam by just providing a lot of simple bits of information.; ; As a result, about 1/3 of the entire "challenge" of these exams has been to "be organized and prevent any confusion on your desk" and use all kinds of methodologies.; (Such as in a boxing competition where you get extra credit for putting on the gloves in record time and where you make sure your pants dont slip.); ; To my great (and pleasant) surprise, this year's EQE papers DII and C did not include much of these extra hurdles.; Part C was focussed on "real" issues: problem-and-solution approach, partial problems, etc.
- DI, as always in my opinion, often looks too far outside the day-to-day work candidates are likely to actually have done in their first three years. It, even more than the others, seems very artificial, and unlikely to represent a candidate's fitness practice.
- D I: Difficult because it was never completely clear on which specific aspects of each questions the focus was expected to be put. To be on the safe side, answers thus had to be very long and cover various aspects. This of course costs lots of time and results in a lack of time for answering all the questions of paper D I. It should be noted that in particular answering the PCT-related questions is very time consuming.; ; D II: Again, very difficult to figure out on which aspects candidates are expected to put focus on.; ; --> D I, D II: Question should make it clear what has to be answered by candidates in order to score full marks.

- DI : very difficult ; in general, a lot of time pressure during each paper (the analysis of the documents has to be very quick in order to finish the paper, so it leads to mistakes)
- This year I actually enjoyed paper C as this related to something that was understandable for me as a chemist and allowed me to focus on the elements that were to be tested instead of trying to understand the back-ground technique.
- Speed of writing should be eliminated from being a decisive parameter for the outcome of the exam
- D2 is very difficult to estimate if the answering is right.
- THE TIME FOR REPLY IS NOT ADEQUATE TO THE REQUIRED LEVEL OF DETAIL THAT IS TO BE SUBMITTED, THIS LEAD TO HURRY THE DRAFTING OF THE REPLY MISSING IMPORTANT ASPECT I NEVER HAD THE TIME TO READ WHAT I WROTE SO I CANNOT HAVE THE POSSIBILITY TO CORRECT MISTAKE OR TO ADD SOMETHING THAT I MISS WRITE. THIS TAKE MORE IMPORTANCE ESPECIALLY FOR CANDIDATES THAT HAVE NOT A EPC OFFICIAL LINGUE AS MOTHERTONGUE THAT PHYSIOLOGICALLY NEED MORE TIME TO REPLY
- time pressure is extremely high. Sometimes mistakes occur that wouldn't happen if one would have some more time. The EPO believes that candidates are not fit for practice if they are not able to answer questions in time. However, in practice one almost always has more time to consider complex cases. Thus, the examination is an artificial situation.
- Three days in a row was exhausting. It felt like an endurance rather than knowledge test. It would be fair to have them every other day, twice a year.
- It is very difficult to hit perfectly the solution which would gain 50% or more marks. Only one solution is accepted, other suitable solutions are not acknowledged.
- Paper D2 of 2012 was very much like 2011. Compare the success rate of 2011 compared with 2010 and you will have a good indication of the difficulty of that paper.; ; In D2 there was too much information to digest under time pressure for Q1-Q3, a lot of details about different alternatives of the inventions not really needing knowledge of patent law, but simply a clear head. ; ; The second part (Question 4) was a good subject for D2 paper.; ; In my opinion, the first part of D2 (Q1-Q3) is not the appropriate subject to assess knowledge in patent law of the candidates
- time pressure rather than topic
- legal questions too easy - claim analysis questions partly not clear
- In general the difficulty would be OK if there would be more time for writing.
- I found the pre-exam well-made. Although the claims analysis part was sometimes difficult, the legal questions appeared to be fair, although not too easy.
- The EQE papers are very sophisticated, but clear. I had (in my opinion) good points that in some sessions I have had no time left to prove.
- paper D was difficult
- An underestimated difficulty of paper A was for me that there is quite a bit of choice how to solve the problem and there is not enough time to really sort out the best solution, resulting in a sub-optimal claim structure (and possibly also scope).
- quite difficult, because very detailed knowledge about the EPC, the Case law and the Guidelines is required
- to do things in less time as in normal life and without any thinking pauses.
- easiest B and C in the last ten years. A also easy. D adequate.
- One cannot really comment on the difficulty of a paper until one knows what was expected and what was the correct answer.
- well, it seems that this year, DI, DII, B and C didn't look like any of the examinations of the past years.; questions 7 and 8 of D1 were strange.; DII, based mostly on proceedings and not on law/traps/foxiness was strange.; B, with all usable text of the application to defend in 1 page was also strange (either too straightforward or not enough); C; with no priority, no 123(2), no 54(3), no question from the opposant, was a bit too focused on the problem/solution approach. And as all docs were of very close domains it was a hard and repetitive work to mount the attacks: all the points focused on this and no point that could be gained by finding the traps as there were almost no traps.

- A: Have found a strategy that works for me, I liked to analyze this paper. Not too difficult. Wondered what was meant by the comment regarding the drawings at the end of clients letter, assumed it was a hint that reference numerals were to be included in the claims. Did not have time to check the wording of claim 1 properly for novelty against closest prior art (D2), pass/not pass will depend on whether I included "in response to temperature changes" in the right place in the claim. Think I wrote D2 where I meant D1 at end of summary also. Did not have time to write dependent claims although I knew what would have been good fallback positions.; ; B: More difficult to analyze, probably because I was more uncomfortable with the cooling barrels technology. Also wondered if pages were missing, because description ended so abruptly. Was looking for some priority problem because of the wording in the examiner's communication, but did not find any. Amending claim 1 took long time, had to go back and change. Had a problem with the word "surround" in claim 5, because in the figures the adsorption chamber did not fully surround the evaporation chamber, as it did not go around the top portion. Considered using language about insulation from the description instead, but realized that when looking at the threedimensional barrel, you could actually say "surround" in this case. Decided to use language of claim 5, as examiner had not objected to "surround". Ran out of time, but knew how to argue inventive step. Think I might have indicated D1 instead of KB as closest prior art, just as a misprint under the time pressure. ; ; C: Was confused by the short client's letter and by the medical subject. Looked for attack under Art 100 (c) but did not find any. Did not have a good strategy for sorting the information, realized that I would have needed a feature map for this paper, to select combinations of references. At first I made a novelty attack with A4 on claim 1 and several dependent claims, arguing that a patch/dressing implicitly comprises an adhesion layer, but did not feel comfortable with this, so I decided to go for an inventive step attack with A4 and A2 instead, think I discovered a subtle "support" effect of the textile layer. Ran out of time, but I did not find this paper difficult. Knew how to attack all claims.
- Einspruch (C-Teil); - Generell ein sehr schwieriger Teil; - Sehr hoher Zeitdruck / es wird ein sehr hohes Durchhaltevermögen verlangt / sehr hohe konditionelle Anforderungen werden verlangt; - Aufgrund des sehr hohen Zeitdruckes können bei der Analyse leicht fehlt auftreten, so dass dann keine Angriffe auf die Ansprüche möglich sind. An diesem Punkt angelangt, ist bereits schon sehr viel Zeit verstrichen und eine nochmalige Analyse der Dokumente ist nicht mehr möglich.
- DI, DII and C were each a bit out-of-the-ordinary, compared with past years, in both style and selection of subject matter. The client in C forgot to ask any legal questions, for a start, despite this being a traditional part of the paper, and the expected "core" issues of opposition (analysis of entitlement to priority dates and effective dates, and therefore the classification of documents in terms of their utility for attacks).
- There is too much information to be analyzed in part C: A to A6 is too much. Although I do understand how to attack the claims and do so in practice, time is not enough for analyzing A1 to A6 and after that formulating an adequate opposition.
- part c seems too long, 2 IS + 3 N-attacks and 3 to 4 reference would be OK
- None
- Very open questions in D1.; Very much substantial issues in C exam (i.e. only novelty and inv step), no formalities at all. More information packed in among the annexes, makes it more time consuming and difficult.; Very much substantial issues in D2 exam as well, no document issues, thus even more difficult.
- Several DI questions were construed like "small" DII questions. The cases of DII were so complex that it was very difficult to come to the answers, for example "addition of a generalized claim" and earlier published catalogue. It was difficult to decide whether the second EP application had to be kept or if it would be better to reestablish and regionalize the PCT-1 for Europe and whether it would make sense to file an additional application in the US. ; The C exam had special difficulties because the inventiveness attacks had to be made with changing nearest state of the art documents. In addition to this, it was not clear whether it was possible to attack different claims with novelty-reasons. It took a lot of time to plan the different attacks and to write them down. This is the reason why the time ran out

before having finished. Although the C-exam seemed to be easy at first glance, the analysis of the documents made it very difficult to succeed.

- NOT ENOUGH TIME TO DO THEM
- This time Paper C presented some strange topic - I think nobody expected this. For this reason everybody was confused because all of us looked for the hidden mantraps.
- This year, in particular, the DI-questions covered mostly areas that were different from ALL last papers. It was almost impossible to gain a number of marks by "simple" things such as calculation of time limits, answering "simple" questions where the answer would be one of two G decisions, things where bad situations could be saved by e.g. restitution and so on. Almost no question was so that you knew at least part of the answer right after reading the question. This was always the case in earlier papers, and helps a student to work at the beginning on the two or three questions that he can answer right away, which gives one a feeling of working his way step by step, having "a good start".; There was no "easy start" this year, what I personally found very frustrating. No 2- or 3-point-questions, and no "easy points" (which don't save the entire paper, but which help you getting into the right flow.); ; Regarding DII, I personally found that information could not easily be put together. There was absolutely no "path" that one usually sees when reading, nothing that catches your eye. There were also no points that could be gained "isolated", e.g. by means of questions directed to things like "no fees were paid" or "we missed the priority date, is there a way to save it". Such questions can give you at least some points, and they can be the "glue" to put the puzzle pieces together. I did not find any glue, and I practiced a lot with all the old papers.; ; Paper C was very unusual, and I find it somehow mean that proper attacks are based solely on the question whether the student thinks "a means for something" is "a means suitable for something" - decision on this question was vital for the proper attacks, and I very much wish that also "wrong" attacks will be rewarded at least a few points, as long as they are not in the "mad region".; Furthermore, not everyone has much experience in therapy/medicine claims. I am a mechanical engineer, and I never would work on a case like the one of paper C this year - there are other experts for medical stuff. Please use subjects that everyone is used to (or offer an extra C paper for chemistry folks).
- As I don't know the results yet, I cannot say for sure, but it seemed that both Paper A and B were easier this year, without as much text to read (less prior art, less embodiments, and not much tricky requests from the client) as past few years, and not as many tricky parts. But, as I said, I might have missed something...
- The difficulty is in the time and in the marking criteria
- D and C are too difficult (read: too much work) for that time given. I think the difficulty level is actually ok regarding what we are supposed to know, but too little time to handle it. Most people are used to use computers nowadays. Just writing everything in hand makes waste a lot of time you wouldn't have spent in a real/life situation.
- From previous exams it is clear, that the maximum of points for the first independent claim is only given for the one answer that is considered by the EPO to be the best then the points drop off very fast. I doubt that this is always fair and reflects claim phrasing in "real life"
- Especially, most of the questions in Paper D1 were very special and have nothing to do with being "fit to practice". At no time in practice I need to find out in less than three minutes if an application that is filed in Chinese is published in French at the IO. This question stands exemplary for most of the questions. For being fit to practice I have to need to know for example the important periods and the remedies and what I need to do for that....
- So many things have to be studied for paper D, so much time has to be spent...! I think it's not very fairplay for women because of the family life
- It's hard to say if it is difficult, as I do not know my results yet.
- DI was a difficult one and I unfortunately did not have time to deal with all 8 questions.; DII was also difficult but it is helpful to deal with two different problems which are independent of each other.; ; However, after a couple of ours focusing on the first part of DII, it is a bit difficult to reset the brain and switch on again to deal with the second part of DII.
- I had trouble with timing on D1 and A; ; finished D2, C and B with 30 min margin

- The EQE papers should contain a degree of difficulty high enough to test your ability to practice. Sometimes I saw in the previous papers in the Compendium the introduction of very far fetched problematic difficulties, which go beyond what one could encounter in real life and which had in fact a discouraging effect on me.; ; I must admit that for the papers 2012 that I had to solve, I did not have this feeling, but it may still be that I simply have not noticed potentially hidden traps. I'm anxious to see the verdict on the examination in August !
- the most difficult paper was the paper B chem since the presence of an apparatus claim...maybe the amended required was not so easy to do for people that didn't have a preparation for paper C.; ; paper C was too different from those of the past years...I was completely confused by the short client's letter without no legal questions and hints on, for example, problems with effective date of claims, file inspection...ect.
- This year papers were apparently easier than other years but were more tricky.
- preexamination was fair !
- C-paper for someone used to physics difficult since not a lot practice in medical background
- See above. Focus on speed is too big in solving paper C. There is no relation for such a focus in daily attorney's practice. Less state of the art documents and less claims to be attacked would also give enough basis, to ensure, that a candidate is sufficiently prepared for daily practice and to file a proper opposition using proper novelty and inventive step attack.
- Too long; Not in line with every day practice; Biased against mechanical arts and electronics practitioners
- Stress!
- The difficulty has become completely artificial without any relation to reality. The 10 step problem-solution approach is a fiction of the EQE. Giving points for arguing that silver is a metal by reference to one of the annexes is silly. I have more than 20 years experience as an examiner, including Chairman in opposition.
- Ridiculous to give contradictory statements on feature essentiality in the D2 description. That does not test whether the candidates are fit to practice, in my opinion.
- The biggest difficulty is the lack of time. Even knowing the correct response, you have to check it in your books and give an appropriate legal basis. Moreover, for non-native speakers the time used for each response is longer.
- it seems to occur about once per D-paper (throughout the last years) that one question is either unclear or misleadingly formulated.; This time, in D1 there was a question about the draft of a scientific paper which was filed as patent application. It was nowhere mentioned whether this draft was ever published although this sounded so, at least in the German version.; In my opinion this leaves too much and unnecessary "guess-work" on the side of the candidate.
- The papers are not too difficult, but they are all extremely challenging for me, since I'm a slow reader and a writer.
- no comments
- I wonder whether it makes sense to answer questions in a multiple-choice test that somehow allow a certain degree of subjectivity (e.g. questions regarding an inventive step). Furthermore, I think that sometimes there are different possibilities to answer one question, however only one answer is regarded as "correct".
- C : not as usual, no legal question, no priority or A123(2) or CBE 1973 issues. Difficult to know what was required.
- only scarce time
- I am wondering how candidates who do not work with their mother tongue can actually pass the exams (given the time pressure even when you write in your language)
- D is far too long, in the evening you are very tired and make mistakes that you normally would not make. C is more adequate.
- D I was confused this year and differed substantially from past years. There seemed to have been more "open" questions where it was not clear how detailed the answer should be and what aspects should be discussed in the given timeframe - this is particularly tricky

because virtually all you have for the focussed preparation , testing your time management etc. are past exam papers.

- I found the D paper to be very different from past years and thus the preparation using the compendium to be somewhat a waste of time
- the time pressure especially in the DI part is very high. It is especially difficult when you get nervous.
- DII was too long
- Time-pressure in D-II !!!!
- I cannot rate them until I get the results !
- B and C have changed compared to the papers of the last year: I don't think that the papers were more difficult than the years before, but given (a) the change of the structure/content, (b) that there was no indication of the change prior to the EQE, and (c) the enormous time pressure during the exam, it was very difficult to get used to the new structure/content.
- Difficult to assess before the receiving the results.
- adequate
- It was confusing to find the examination structure already changed as only expected in 2013. All preparation for legal issues were useless, and the strategie to find the correct documents by specific technical effects was clearly more difficult than in the year before. The preparation therefore was not of much use.
- I think that the papers are difficult but fair and are good preparation for becoming a more proficient EPA.
- About DII: Is it a test of knowledge or of finding the right decision under time pressure?
- The last 5 questions, in perticular the last 2, were too difficult and ambiguous to complete via true/false. I wanted to write why I had come to the answer I had and back it up with arguements, like I have been trained to do.
- Physical stress for writing so many hours.
- I felt the level of the pre-exam was adequate.
- hard to judge at this point because do not know the answers yet.
- Some questions of paper DII were not sufficently clear.
- In Paper C I found it difficult to assess whether some terms were synonyms or different, if they were synonyms, there would have been a novelty attack for the respective claim. However I did not find any clue for that anywhere in the paper, and was not sure to which extent it is allowed to use your own knowledge. ; ; In Paper D II there is a lot of information to "digest". ; In Paper D I there were many open questions that could not be answered with a clear yes or no. ; ; In Paper A and B you never really know how narrow the claims have to be. The most narrow solution would ready for grant but not satisfying for the client.
- The principal difficulty is mental exhaustion, which is particularly bad in Paper C. I would suggest that a shorter paper with fewer claims to attack would be equally capably of assessing candidates' ability.
- Well, I found paper A (Ch) was really much more difficult than the other later one: in particular the description of the application was very long, as well as the two prior art documents. There was a lot of information in both documents for each type of claim categories, which in general is not the case... there were many possibilities (too many ?) for the "structure" of the chemical compound that could be claim, and I therefore lost much time to decide which one I wanted to claim... There was also a sentence whose meaning was not clear (at least in french) concerning the fact that alykle radicals in C6-C20 were not removed with water. It was very ambiguous whether it should be considered as an advantage or a disadvantage.; ; Concerning Paper B, I still don't understand why there was so many information about priority and inventors. When you decide to write paper B, you don't necessarily prepare yourself for paper D, so that you are not always able to answer such questions (in particular about the inventor and the US application, the first person who "had the idea"). I think, it was there only to confuse candidates. Well, why not, but I am still convinced, paper B should remain as it was (writing an answer to the EPO) and not be mixed with some doubtful questions more or less linked to paper D...; ; Concerning Paper C,

I found it good that there were no legal questions, since as set out above for paper B, when you choose to write paper C you don't necessarily seat also for paper D.

- The pre-examination seemed quite straight-forward.
- D1 and DII had a good level of difficulty. I only experienced problem with too little time for each of these exams; ; C seemed easier than usual, but a lot to write, so you had to stay focused to be able to write everything you wanted down within given time limit.
- The difficulty to solve DII is to know appropriate case law!
- Es ist fraglich inwieweit eine objektive Beurteilung von subjektiv zu beantwortenden Fragen Sinn ergibt.
- Paper C always fits perfectly, which in time every candidate will probably realise, but it takes a lot of practise to bring it all down to paper in time without missing point. So even if you see what solution is expected, don't celebrate yourself and bring it all down to paper. Meinders / Chandler C-book helps a lot. Lots of points for use of information in Novelty attacks, not the attack itself. Quote where you get it from, ie why words are equivalent. Interpretation not expected unless it's totally obvious, ie in the figures. Also lots of points for the problem/solution approach. Do the problem/solution approach properly using only information in the exam. Objective problem and solution are always somewhere in the opposed patent. Usually plenty of pointers.
- Disappointing that the officially announced changes for EQE 2013 appeared to have largely been incorporated in EQE 2012. For example, the brevity of the description of the invention in paper B (effectively limiting possible amendments); and the absence of priority; A54(3); or A100(c) issues from Paper C.; ; Unsure as to whether the subject matter of paper C (e.g. a known composition - for use in a known product) was equitable across all fields, or unfairly suited chemistry candidates.
- The paper C was better without the letter concerning legal questions, there still quite a lot to do within the time limit of the exam.
- 'non-difficulty' of C-2012 and 'difficulty' of B-Ch-2012 was caused by addressed topics, which are personally felt as 'uncommon' - thus it is hard to tell whether they are really difficult / easy or just uncommon and hence surprising
- Although the papers were difficult, with a good preparation it should be possible to get 200 mark equally divided over the papers.
- Too Chemical...
- Paper D1 very time pressured and some quite unusual questions in there. It's often difficult to ascertain what the question is actually asking for too, certainly in view of the time available.; ; Paper D2 is made much harder by not knowing the marking breakdown at all - I felt I answered the second part quite well, but if that's only worth 5 marks (rather than a quarter of the marks available; 15) then that was a lot of wasted effort.; ; Paper C seemed to have moved to a slightly different format with slightly different expectations versus what preparatory courses had prepared me for.
- D1 was somehow fair, D2 too complex for the time
- Sitters not having any of the EPO official languages as a mother language should have another hour, because doing it in your own native language is such a great advantage, just look at the statistics! at least for paper C.
- D paper had too much focus on PCT, too many things to do in very short time.
- Requirement to develop the expected answer.; Marks are lost too fast.
- too much problem solution approach !
- D1 was unusually hard compared with compendium of previous years.
- This year a large quantity was required in the same amount of time, compared to previous 4 years.; The lack of the letter with questions in C-paper, took away the chance of scoring by priority analysis or answering short legal questions, shifting all the weight on writing as many attacks as possible.
- There was no prior warning of changes to the format from previous years.
- Pre examination seemed to be between adequate and difficult (however: I have no result yet)

- The EQE 2012 was quite different from the previous years - in particular paper C. However, whether that was a good or bad thing, I cannot yet comment on.
- I think that the subject is not in adequation with the subject matter : maybe 4 or 5 documents would be enough - 6 ou 7 documents to study are too much for 6 hours.
- seemed at first glance to be easy (except D1), then realized that it was an unusual EQ (especially D2, C) and was therefore then unsure if I missed some important detail...
- very intensiv and difficult
- Several questions, especially part A, were not clear. They could have been answered with false, when and true, if.; Furthermore, at least one question was insofar not clear, if it is to be understood exactly for the (filing) date or in general. I asked a supervisor a (written) question, but received the answer that he is not able to respond.
- DII paper was very long and complex case.
- Obviously, the mother tongue issue is still very much present. Note I do not advocate leniency and/or extra time, just that exams should not be too long or, if using special vocabulary, a short dictionary definition should be enough. Remember FLUX in C2011? In how many languages is that a false-friend word for FLOW?
- The papers per se are not difficult, it is the rigid marking of the papers that make them difficult. I have previous years once received zero marks for an independent claim in paper B, wherein the claim had a scope of protection that was identical to the model solution and that was supported by the description. Appealing is of course meaningless.
- DII: some information was ambiguous; ; DI: some questions did not give complete information, which made answering difficult
- Papers A and B (E/M) felt easier than earlier exams. Though it is difficult to say how easy the papers were before they are marked...
- For C, too many available combinations of documents from which only a few led to the right, complete answer.
- EQE is always difficult. But from preparation I feel a tendency in Paper D being more and more difficult over the years.
- D1 was more difficult than in past years.; ; C was not necessarily more difficult but there was more analysis because all documents were relevant. I was not sad to see no legal questions!
- This question should be asked after knowing the answers - what might seem easy now is maybe wrong and therefore was not as easy as it appeared!
- The problem in DI and DII is time pressure. No time for rereading what you wrote. No chance to detect an error, something that has been missed : you find it after when you are back home. When you are a resitter like me, it is discouraging, because, you know you could have given a better answer.
- B-paper 2012: I had difficulties in understanding the mechanism and the invention. I mixed the adsorption chamber with the evaporation chamber because I had not heard of the included type of layers before. It took me some time to figure out how it worked, and time is something to care about at these exams, so I was very short of time when I finally realised what the invention was...
- I thought, on the whole, that the papers were fair.
- Due to the lack of previous papers it was hard to assess the level of difficulty in advance.
- Paper C = Time management
- the difficulty this year was that D1, B and C this year were different than the other years.; Indeed, for paper D1 there were only 8 questions, each having a lots of points, so there were no "easy" questions. Furthermore, there were no "basic" questions, such as opposition grounds, language problems, taxes to calculate, London agreement...; For paper A, the independent claim was very functional, which could lead easily to a clarity problem, so it was quite difficult too, whereas the invention was not difficult to understand.; For paper B, there was very little in the description about the invention, so it was very different from the other years, whichj create doubt in a lot of minds, and doubt means losing time and stress..; For paper C, no legal questions, which was contrary to what all the tutors during the ceipi or the aspi preparation told us "make sure to pass paper C this year because after you won't have

any legal questions". It was also strange that all documents were A54(2) and that there were no priority problems. These facts took generally around 20 points easily obtained (legal questions + determining effective object dates + determining the prior arts). It was very frustrating to realize that all points were in determining the opposition attacks.; The subject of paper C (therapeutic/non therapeutic) was also difficult for persons having a mechanical background.

- Please show us how many points are available for each question in DII. Without this it is difficult to discipline myself during the examination and not write too much on a subject I am comfortable with, for which there may only be a few marks.; ; Time pressure, time pressure, time pressure.; Is that really what determines whether I am fit to practice? It seems to be the biggest criterion for people failing.
- I only felt time pressure the first half, until it was obvious that I had enough time to answer all the questions.
- D1 Q2 was directed to a specific transition rule only valid in 2010 when the 24 m period for filing divisionals (R 36 EPC) was introduced. If you did not recall the 6 m period for filing divisionals ending on 1.Oct.2010 you probably lost marks. However, it does not make any sense to ask candidates in 2012 for a specific historical transition rule, which could only be applied 2 years ago. This is not important any more for a practitioner in 2012.; ; D2 was qualitatively difficult at least as every year but additionally significantly longer (8 pages, 2 parts) than in previous years: 2008 (5 pages including 1/2 page questions, 1part), 2010 (6 pages, 2 parts), 2011(6 pages + 2 questions on the 7th page, 2 parts). ; This means that the given (concentrated) information was increased by 60 % on the 2008 base and by 30 % on the 2010 or 2011 base. The time provided, however, was not increased it was 4 hours as every year. This was a completely unfair treatment of the year 2012 candidates in comparison to previous years` candidates. Because 30 % of 60 marks means 18 marks, the responsible eqe examination stuff should give all 2012 candidates 18 extra marks in Paper D for compensation (NB: candidates in 2007 were given 10 extra marks in Paper C for compensation, because of the unfair C paper in that year)
- Ich fand es interessant, dass EQE die Wertigkeit des PCT angehoben hat und in DI mehr als eine Frage zum PCT gestellt hat. Sehr gut.
- The biggest problem was that the C part did not at all relate to the structure it had in previous years. The issues shifted greatly towards arguing inventive step and other important issues (priority, 54(3) prior art, etc.) were completely dropped. The exam did not at all reflect the complexity of preparing an opposition in full scope.
- This year Paper C was very different and you had to look for little words being definitions or indications for being closest prior art among very similar documents.
- For a non mother tongue person it is quite difficult to be as fast as a mother tongue person!
- My specialised subject area is biotechnology. Therefore neither the (Ch) nor (E/M) papers are really in my field of practice. This means I am not familiar with either the specialised case law or the technical terminology used. Since there is so much specialised biotechnology case law and knowledge, and biotechnology cases are so popular and common, it seems strange that the EPO does not have the ability to test based on that knowledge.
- The second part of the pre-exam is too much questionable, and as there is no way to explain yourself when you answer to it, it is very difficult to choose between yes or no sometimes.
- No comments (yet).
- difficulty would have been appropriate if there had been less time pressure
- The legal part of the pre-exam seemed very easy. The claims part was somewhat more difficult due to ambiguities in the questions. However, the substance of the claim part (interpretation of the prior art, etc) seemed relatively easy.
- The time pressure is key to the difficulty, if you have more time, the jigsaw puzzle can be solved, but unfortunately when the time is up, it is up!; there is sometimes a feeling that there are traps, when considered after the exam do not seem like it at all
- too time pressure
- There is quite a lot of variation.

- Questions were in general not too difficult.
- I thought that DI was particularly difficult in 2012 compared to previous years.
- there was time pressure during Paper A, but no time pressure during Paper B
- The C paper this year was rather boring - no interesting issues like A54(3), A123(2) etc.
- Paper DI and DII are more and more IQE (International Qualifying Examination) than EQE because of the increase of PCT related questions.; Paper DII is far away from reality. Any good attorney will spend only 4 hours to work in a complex case like this...; And also the language problems for non EPO official language native speakers... not for understanding the papers but for answering them in a correct way.
- These papers do not reflect reality, i.e. they are not at all a reflection of how a patent attorney handles cases in real life (content wise they are okay but not being able to complete these papers does not prove that a person is not fit to practice)
- the difficulty seemed realistic; however, not the time allotted for the papers
- Q 5.2 had a double negation. I believe this was intended to test our ability to read the Q as well as testing the knowledge - useful.; ; In the claims analysis: Polyester in two different layers is very close to common sense in real world. Very good.; ; The difficulty was, in my opinion, adequate.
- Paper C : too much inventive step, long to write
- I sat Paper C. Paper 2012 was different from the last years and we were not aware of it. There wasn't any legal question and any issue to gain some points (priority problems, use of documents, an easy added subject matter attack, etc). I prepared the exam with the Compendium among other materials. I didn't have problems with the last exams 2002-2011. I successfully guessed the attacks. But the exam 2012 was solely based on understanding "the inventions" of the prior art documents. They were more complex than last years. So the organization of the information was essential. If I had known it, I would have prepared in depth for it.; I consider that Paper c 2012 had sufficient changes to alert the candidates of it, in order to adapt the way of studying.
- I believe the difficulty was similar to that of previous years
- It wasn't easy to find a solution (not to say the right solution). The topics were understandable. The prior art were close to the inventions, so not easy to find a way. There are a lot chances of doing something wrong.
- Too long paper, few time
- There is no time to think, and the main thing which should be learned by the candidates is to write fast and legible by hand. Great.
- Very difficult to do all papers (A, B, C and D) in 3 days only, because of lack of concentration (tiredness).
- Language; interpretation of client letter and time pressure that jeopardized the quality of answer. Even the hand writing was a challenge, since we are not so used anymore.
- I thought the level of difficulty was good. The questions should not be too easy but the questions were not impossible either if the candidate had adequately prepares and studied for the exam.
- Time is clearly the limiting factor in fully and correctly responding to the papers.
- In my opinion the exam as a whole is way too difficult and far away from real life. I don't have a suitcase full of books in my office, I look up everything on my computer with automatic search options which makes it much easier to find things back.
- Lack of marks per question in paper DII made it difficult to allocate time between each question.; Too much information in paper C to tackle adequately in time.
- The EQE favours candidates who are able to react very fast. If you are not so fast, you are always in the middle of problem because of time no matter how well you have practiced. The EQE also favours candidates having English/German/French as a native language.
- the style of the paper D has changed, do not have enough time to finish DII due to the fact that a considerable time has been spent on analyzing the patentability issues of the case, which is quite different than former D exam, so easily to lose some easy points. En/De/Fr is not mother language, therefore read and understand the background of the case will take more time which results in a further limitation of available time.

- All the papers (Papers A-D) of 2012 were equally difficult in their own sense. Be it identifying the subject-matter to claim in Paper A/EM, be it the amendments to claim in Paper B/EM (Art. 123(2), leave claim 4 or not?), be it the claim interpretation and prior art interpretation of Paper C (lots of technical effect and it was all over the place), all were equally challenging to Paper D.
- I didn't have enough time to write down everything I wanted, in particular DII.
- The examination is unfair for non-EPO language speaking people. Paper C involved a lot of claim interpretation, which is of course more challenging when not in your own language. Question 8 of D1 was very unclear and difficult to understand.
- Paper B was quite different from last years
- Lol. How can I answer this if I have not had the results yet....?
- Time pressure over several hours is very bad for the quality of the given answers. Concentration is getting bad when working so long under such time pressure.
- Les questions de la partie analyse des revendications sont parfois sujettes à beaucoup d'interprétations. Ce n'est donc pas évident d'y répondre par vrai/faux dans un QCM, alors que pour certaines questions la réponse nécessiterait d'expliquer un peu les choix que l'on a fait.; ; La partie légale est correctement formulée.
- I believe the pre-exam does not apply any pressure on the candidate. However, as a first glance and an overview of the material covered by the actual EQE the pre-exam is an excellent first step. Personally, it allows me to (hopefully) adequately prepare for the EQE.; ; I expect the difficulty to raise in the upcoming years. However, the raise of difficulty and/or given time should not be adjusted too greatly without proper communication to the candidates. The ease of the first pre-exam and the mock pre-exams might fool candidates into neglecting intense study.
- There is no time enough for finish at least the 75% of the paper.
- The time pressure was the most important factor in making the exam difficult. In particular, with respect to paper DI and DII. I find it ridiculous that well-prepared candidates fail due to this.
- I'm looking forward for the D part 2013. ; It would be helpful, to have details about the new structure of the D part as early a possible.
- its very little time to fulfill all the checks for the Examiner, e.g. in paper B to name all the text passages in which a feature is disclosed etc.
- DI was more than several small DII examinations. There was hardly any question in which "only" an article/rule had to be applied. It was a lot of reading and analysing claims necessary before one was able to start writing the answer. Thus, there was only little time for the writing left. The first question of DI was horrible - a very bad and unmotivating start into a three days examination. The question with the French translation of the PCT was unfair. Even with a good preparation one is not able to know every specific rule connected with every PCT contracting state. What comes next year? Something special with India? Taiwan? ; In DII it was good, that explicit questions have been asked, making it easier to structure the answer.; In paper C it was surprising to have such a short letter of the client - without any questions. There was no priority claim and only 54(2) documents. This meant a lot of time for writing down problem-solution-approaches. It was a lot of writing resulting in a high time pressure and thus (maybe) in making errors.
- Wording of questions was unclear in some cases. Answer possibilities were unclear as well in some cases. Both resulted in confusion whether the question/answers had been understood correctly.
- DI and DII appeared to me to be on the same level as last year. DI on higher level than DII, both not easy. C appeared more straightforward since it did not contain any legal questions, neither any priority problems. Probably due to the prospective change in the structure of paper C for the shortened version next year.
- This year the Exams C and D were difficult but feasible. The main comment is that they were extremely hard-working.; Ex. the first DII case was very complex, the information along the Paper was very dense with a big amount of issues to discuss and thus much time and attention was required. It is very difficult to maintain such high level of focusing during so

much time. The ratio "complexity" vs "time" was not well balanced and I believe that increasing time is not an adequate solution because it becomes unrealistic to evaluate the candidates abilities when the level of tiredness is too high.; Paper C was incredibly hard-working.; In the end I felt that my physical capacities were being tested at a same rate as my knowledge and find unfair this over-ratio for the physical part. ; It seems that the main purpose is no longer testing the Candidates knowledge and ability to practice but testing the Examining Committee ability to deliver very nice and complex cases.

- DII: as being slightly under stress I noticed "the" solution, i.e. the text portion needed for the suitable amendment, a bit to late; C: I was irritated since I did not see the need and the requirement to apply the problem-and-solution approach: According to my understanding novelty attacks could be used throughout. But, based on the compenium... EQE should press on applying right P&S approach.
- No legal questions!? Why!? Surprise. What, no priority or 54(3) issues, surprise?! Simply novelty and inventive step in different aspects. Further, all claims were basically weak, please include a little more reality into claims, too much of a construct by now, many term interpretation issues.
- This year the papers C, DI and DII have been quite different (in style) from past years.
- Part C was easy in a sense; but difficult in another sense, because you had to do many attacks based on inventive step, almost all of them starting from a different document. So you had to write alot (I wrote for over 3,5 h), so the time (6h) was very short and your hand was aching quite heavily in the last hour on the last day.; ; First question of part D I was surprising; very extraordinary question. In my opinion, the first question of an exam should be a more normal question.
- They can be (very) difficult from time to time, but the exams are clear and unambiguous. So the difficulty is fair (in contrast to e.g. the Dutch exams, which are of much lower quality).
- They very difficult, particularly for those having non-EPO language.; ; The foreign language takes at least 20 % of the exam time, i.e I would have 20 % more time in mother language.; ; Fortunately the English was quite easy - however there were many parts which need extra time for the foreign language
- I get more and more the impression that the wording of the features gets longer and longer and the material is getting more complex.
- The difficulty of Paper C is mostly due to the very long exam - it is very arduous to work under exam conditions for 6 hours - more a test of endurance than analytical ability.
- some questions appear to be unclear; it appears that some questions leave too much room for interpretation and could easily be clarified with some more words in the questions, the proposed technical feature in the claim or the description of the claim analysis part of the pre-exam
- Their difficulty is by definition adequate, as they test "fit for practise" at the EPO and by the EPO! However the difficulty of the papers varies a little from year to year (with very few exceptions, such as paper C 2007). So the question is not to ask for more difficult or easy papers, but how the candidate adapts to the difficulty of the papers by training.
- Paper A had indeed many pages to read (both client's letter and prior art).
- C was totally different; B has questions about US patent law; both unexpected
- Paper D was more difficult than usually. I really had no problems doing last years DI papers, seemed as if I would always would have gained most of the marks and never had time problems. Unfortunately in the exam, it was different. And DII: I also managed those of the last years quite well, although not as good as DI (have compared the compendium solution with mine), but: In the exam I really had problems. And although my mother tongue is one of the EPO languages, I had problems in assessing, wether the features means this and that (important for priority and claim possibilities). I had to think about it, then got under time pressure and besides, if you draw a wrong conclusion at that point, the whole thing goes down, I suppose...And that is really hard, if you spend much time on the D-preparation and felt well prepared...
- I felt time was not enough to review my answers.
- 30 min extra would be helpful.

- I were happy if the examination would concentrate in checking the candidate's knowledge of and ability for professional work instead of trying to be "tricky", giving linguistic miracles, asking for very special situations which cannot be known commonly.
- The papers are very "constructed" if you don't see the light / teh single solution - you're not going to pass. There are no single solutions in daily life.
- Paper D1, which was very atypical and confused me a lot relative to the compendium.
- Adequate difficulty
- Claim construction analysis part of the pre-examination are much more difficult for the candidates without mechanical/electrical background.
- Too much information to be managed in DII paper with respect to the previous years
- Paper D seemed harder this year
- the high time pressure makes the exams more difficult than necessary
- I must say that real life Oppositions that I have been involved with bear no resemblance to those of Paper C. When I have been to oral proceedings, the procedure of looking at the Opposition is nothing like the strict regime that seems to be required for adequately passing Paper C. I feel this examination is totally artificial to the real world experience I have had at the EPO. I know that to some extent an artificial situation has to be created, but there seems to be little or no flexibility in the way the examiners mark the papers; which does not reflect actual Opposition proceedings at the EPO.
- Time management. I was a bit confused because this year the Papers appear quite different from the usual papers in the compendium.
- Adequate
- The pre-exam is intended as a kind of barrier for those who did not study. It is.
- It is difficulty for an Italian person to think and answer in an other language. We feel time pressure mach more than a German, English or frech candidate.
- The time pressure and ... the time pressure!
- A lot more difficult than those of the previous years. I practised past papers from the compendium and - apart from two exceptions - they are easier. And not only because practice is not as the real exam. Paper C and Paper DI of this year in particular have nothing to do with those up to 2011.
- Too tangled and artificial
- papers are difficult, but seems to be necessary for real life
- Paper B 2012 included a letter from the applicant.; ; The last paragraph of the letter read as follows:; "If you need to amend the application in order to obtain a patent you may do so. It is expensive to purchase carboxylic acids, and in particular formic acid, from chemical suppliers at the scale at which we will operate. So if you have to amend the claims, make sure that they cover processes which do not need the carboxylic acid to be bought in".; ; P.S. The "underlines" and "bold" are mine just to draw your attention to the fact that the first "carboxylic acids" is plural and the last one is singular, preceded by the word "the".; ; 1. This paragraph was essential to get the claim right according to the wishes of the applicant. But this sentence is so badly written that it is impossible to know what it is actually requested.; ; 2. Does the client request to have a process that does not cover any carboxylic acid? Or, does the client request a process that does not cover only the formic acid? Or else? Impossible to know, or, at least, it is far from being straightforward.; ; 3. This is an exam made for English speaking candidates but also for non English speaking candidates. It is hard to accept that the examination committee writes sentences that are not clear!; ; 4. The exam committee cannot expect candidates to be able to understand sloppy sentences and make sense of them under huge pressure during the exam! The Examination committee may say that this sentence does not influence the results, but it does! Even if people get the claim right they still spent time trying to understand the meaning of the sentence instead of spending that time working on the novelty or inventive step!; ; 5. I spent 20 minutes trying to make some sense of this sentence and in the end I gave up. I simply could not decide what it meant. These 20 minutes were essential to make a good inventive step argumentation. So, not only I may have missed the right claim but I also lost points in the argumentation I didn't have time to finish. And, like the cherry on the top of the cake, I didn't have time to

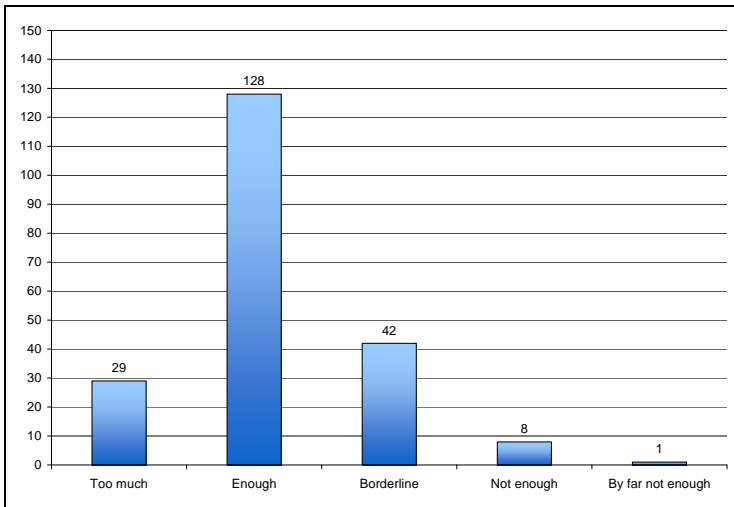
add the dependent claims I wanted to!; ; 6. In a desperate attempt to understand the sentence, I made the mistake to turn to the French version:; “Si vous devez modifier la demande pour obtenir un brevet, vous pouvez le faire. A l'échelle à laquelle nous opérerons, acheter des acides carboxyliques, surtout l'acide formique, auprès des fournisseurs de produits chimiques revient cher. Par conséquent, si vous devez modifier les revendications, faites en sorte qu'elles couvrent des procédés qui ne nécessitent pas l'achat d'acides carboxyliques”.; ; P.S. The “underlines” and “bold” are mine just to draw your attention to the fact that the first “acides carboxyliques” is plural and the last one is also plural.

- please see above comment on the claim analysis.
- I think they would seem less difficult if I studied more, as is always the case.
- Paper A: to find the most general claim that was still new over the given prior art; Paper B: to provide good arguments for the inventive step
- I do not know if it was difficult, but it was "strange": no priority problems, no added subject matter, no partial problems.
- Time pressure was key, in combination with multiple possible routes one could take in DII. For DI papers it seems the exam committee is not testing whether you are fit to practise but whether you can solve the most exotic, unrealistic problems that might occur in practice. Thus: exam is not a realistic reflection of everyday practice.
- Paper DI was pretty difficult.
- It was hard to find out which model solution was expected in paper A (E/M).
- Unfortunately I had a feeling that some questions had a flavour of being "trick questions". I assume the was not the intention - but never the less the was how I felt. For example, I believe Q6 of D1 (I may be wrong about the number as I have not checked) was formulated in a confusing way by mentioning that the two inventions from the earlier IT applications were unitary. I found the information confusing and if your aim was to confuse me under the stressful exam conditions you succeed. Even when reading the question after the exam and when following later discussions on the internet, I still believe that this question was unclear and misleading. ; ; I also found Q1 of D1 quite difficult and wonder why you had decided to place such a question as the first question the participants meet in the D1 exam. I understand from several other participants that they all found it difficult and hard to answer without using too much time on it.
- Overall, I felt that that the papers I sat in 2012 were challenging but fair.
- too little time
- Q28 YES indeed
- Specially DII, C, and B have already been at least partly adopted to 2013 Examination. This was not clear to the candidates such that it was confusing.
- adequate
- Whilst on first impressions I think the difficulty of the papers were adequate, it is difficult to make an accurate assessment until I have received the results and have had the opportunity to review the Examiner's report for the papers I have sat. In particular, whilst I think my answers were appropriate, having done a number of past papers and compared my answers to the Examiner's report, I do have some concerns that the Examiner may take a different interpretation and will not thoroughly consider why an alternative answer may be equally appropriate.
- it is the high time pressure that leaves little room for thinking and phrasing
- In paper DII I was very much in doubt how the information relating to a very specific embodiment mentioned in the description should be used. Apparently other sitters had the same doubt and DELTA patents mentioned specific this issue in their evaluation of the exam
- FOR CANDIDATES THAT ARE NOT MOTHER TONGUE IN A EPO LANGUAGE THE TIME IS TOO LITTLE.; 2) THE TIME FOR REPLY IN EXHAUSTIVE MANNER THE PAPER D IS TOO LITTLE, IF A CANDIDATE KNOWS THE ANSWER COULD PREPARE IT IN AN ADEQUATE TIME, HE CANNOT DO IT SINCE THE SCHEDULED TIME FOR EACH ANSWER FORCES HE TO PASS TO EITHER ANSWER. I HAVE NOT THE TIME TO READ WHAT I WRITE.

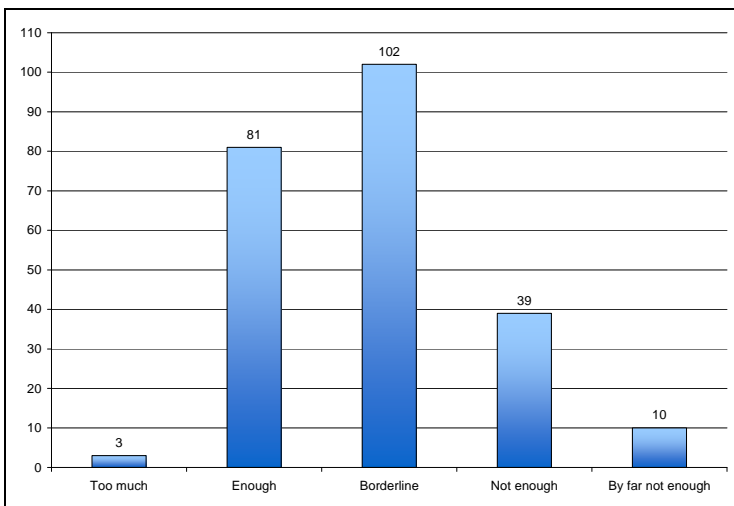
- I think the claim analysis was too difficult. But maybe that is because there were only two mock exams. I think in 10 years or so this should be better. Legal questions are not very difficult if you take about 300 hours for preparation like I did.
- Obviously I have difficulties presenting my answer to the D II paper questions in a way the examiner accepts. Proper legal analysis and presentation of facts, shortcomings and steps to be done to my understanding may be deemed not sufficient in order to accumulate enough marks. I have got the impression, that I have to present my answer exactly in the way the examiner wants me to write it.
- Paper C 2012 was too complicated. The volume of information for analysis in the prior art was too large. There were too many different combinations of prior art to consider, with different teachings to apply.
- The D1 paper this year appeared to have at least two "D2-type questions", e.g. Q7. A bit confusing & time consuming trying to figure out what a possible answer might be.; The D2 paper was too long, 8 pages!
- C paper focused on "suitable for". Little opportunity to compensate elsewhere if one failed to cope.
- Very short time to complete the questions, in particular on paper D I and II.
- lots of documents, lots of information mixed, few time, solution most of the time not obvious !
- Time pressure is really very very strong; you cannot afford losing one single minute or you fail; with more time would be much easier;
- They were adequate, I told you after August!!
- I needed more time for completing the papers, specially in paper A.
- The little time.
- As mentioned previously everything is accessible except D1 which is the hardest one and C is too long
- D2 part comprises, from my point of view, too much (hidden) problems
- The difficulty of the EQE papers is, that, esp. in A-Part, it is not recognizable what Examiner wants to read..and, if the drafted claim does not go into the right direction, it seems, that already a minimal deviation from the desired solution drives the result to fail. I regard the A-Part as completely intransparent. Apart from that, I regard D and C as adequate.
- Some questions were not formulated with sufficient precision. There was some ambiguity and too much room for interpretation.
- Questions in paper DI were not always clear and comprehensible
- Layers, layers and layers in the claim analysis part made the comparisons very difficult. It was needed to read the descriptions and the the claims several times because the elements were not distinguishable by the shape or names, there were so many layers that were just distinguishable by the used material for the layers.
- D1 contained problems dealing exclusively with PCT which I considered not to be adequate.
- D Paper was too much (and not the really relevant issues) of PCT
- knowing old papers by heart already, the time pressure is still immense. The anticipated solution is too narrow and seems to be made for easy marking only.
- Not enough time.

Q30) What is your opinion about the time available for each of the examination papers you sat in 2012?

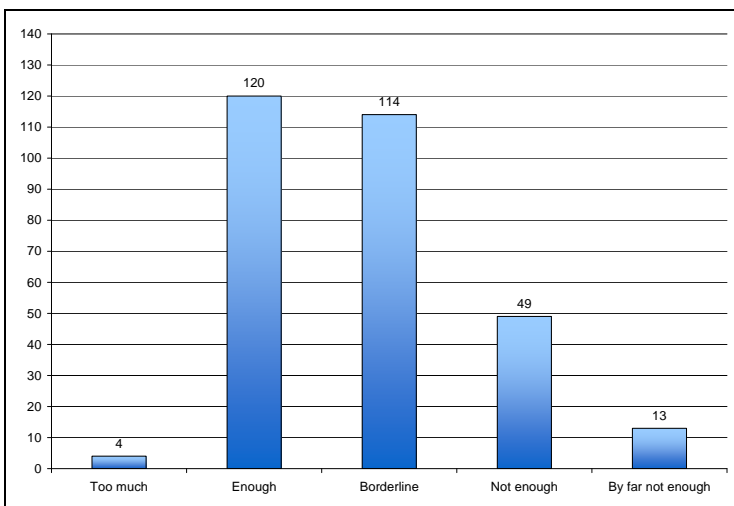
Pre-examination



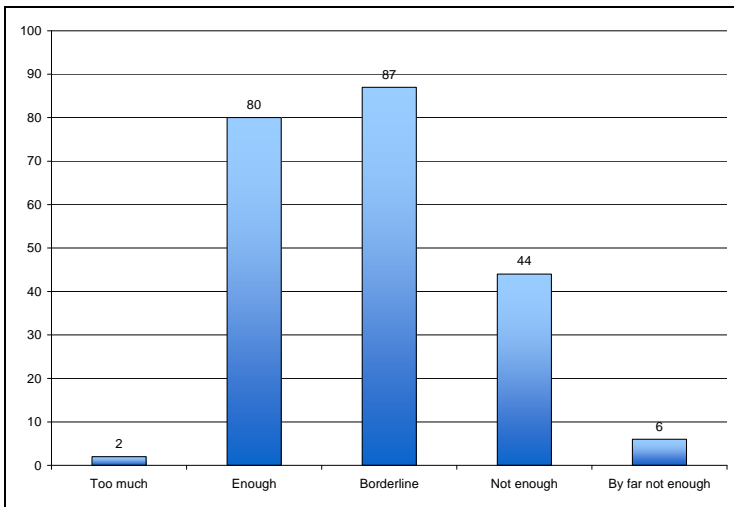
Paper A (Ch)



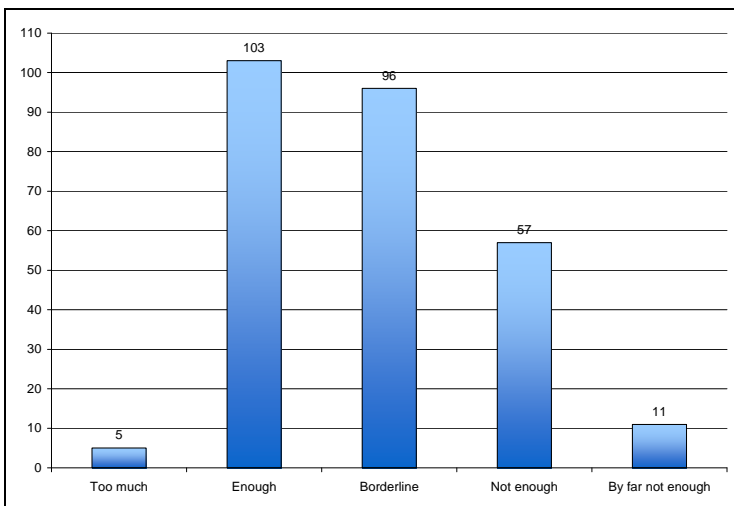
Paper A (E/M)



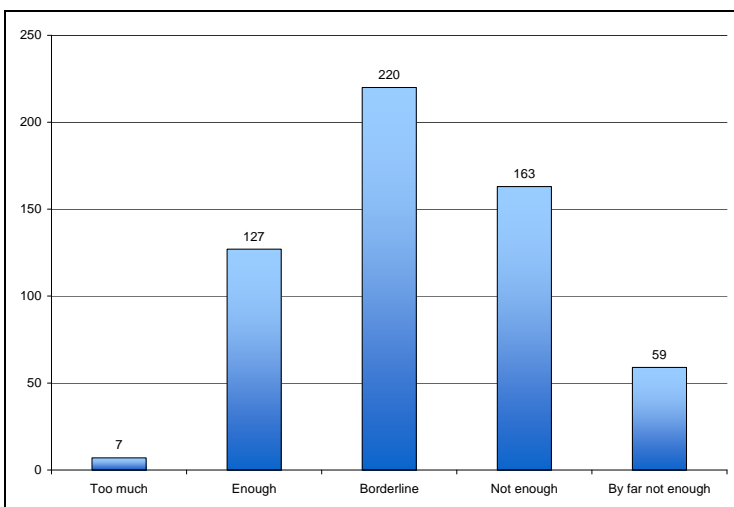
Paper B (Ch)



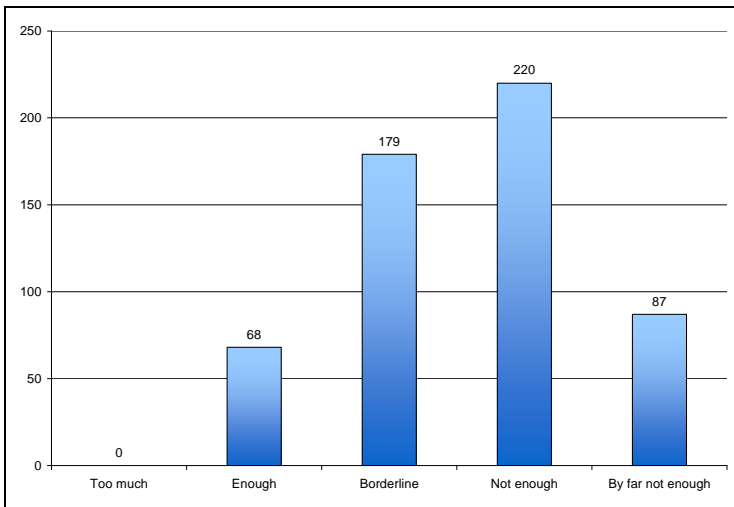
Paper B (E/M)



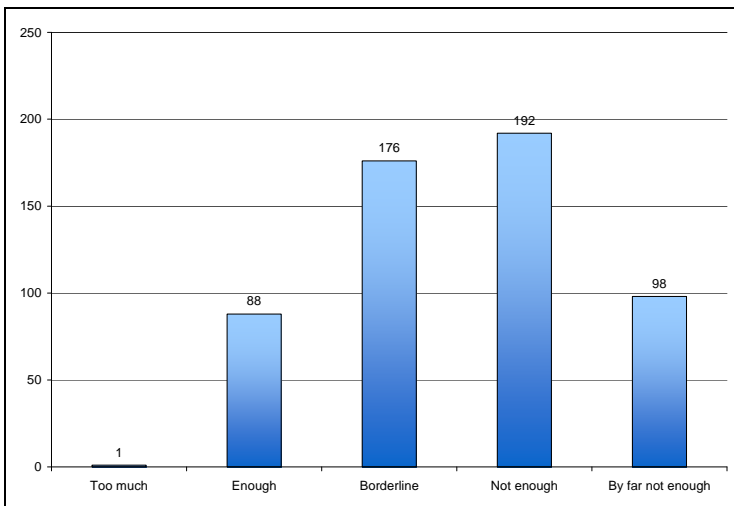
Paper C



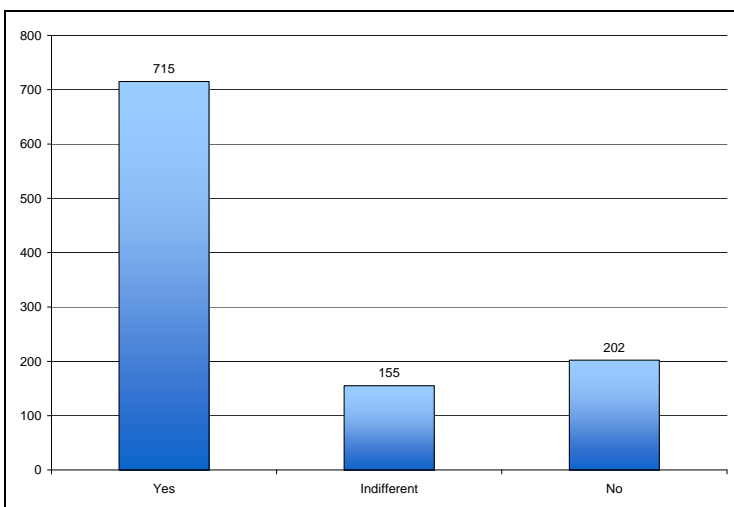
Paper D I



Paper D II



Q31) Do you think that more time during the examination would have improved your performance in the examination papers you sat?



Q32) Do you have comments concerning the time available for the examination papers?

- It's toooo long....
- Too little time for D I; 30 min. more would be better.
- See comments above, for people sitting exam in a foreign language timing shall be different from the native speakers of EPO languages.; Either less questions for the same time or more time for the same amount of questions.
- Less information to sort or more time. Seems the amount of information to sort has increased every year...
- I finished both papers this year, in the last minute of time... It will be very interesting to see what changes are made for EQE 2013 when both papers are an hour shorter. I think paper C in particular will need 1 less/annex and/or fewer claims. Paper B(ch) won't be as affected, because it takes well over an hour to find the amendment anyway (more like 2+ hours).
- I did not have time to describe everything what I spotted in papers C, DII and DI :-)
- I had half an hour to spare on A, I had an hour to spare on B, I had an hour to spare on C, and I felt enormous time pressure during D-I and insane time pressure during D-II prompting stupid errors which I would not have made without the pressure.; ; In my view, paper D is not balanced with the rest of the exam, as there just seems to be insufficient time to address all of the important issues. This holds in particular for paper D-II.
- Time pressure is a drawback when taking the EQE in another language than your mother tongue.
- really request very fast handwriting and have to make decision fast as well
- see Q29.; ; For DI and DII one hour more would be nice. As well more than 4 questions could be proposed to give more guidance on a better limited scope of questions/answers.
- DI was really too long.
- C : pas de questions juridiques ni de problèmes A123(2), A54(3), donc difficile de répartir son temps car cela ne correspondait pas aux entraînements.
- I do not understand the need for time pressure in exams. It tells the examiners nothing about a candidate's ability to apply the law; it just tells them about the candidate's ability to answer quickly.
- DI was way too hard for the time allocated
- I am not used to the mechanic part and need more time to read these things, maybe once you are used to it the time is sufficient, but I need another hour at this stage.
- If the time available for the examination papers is shortened it will be more difficult to answer the papers completely, which - in my opinion - directly affects the results adversely.
- More time for paper A (description) would be appreciated
- Time should take into account the possibility to make a break and go to the toilet or take a refreshment without being in a hurry. This will not influence the capability of the candidates to practice as EPA.
- I would appreciate an official break for paper C ...
- Since non-native A14(1) language speakers in general would use longer time simply reading the papers, long papers with loads of text in my opinion biases the time pressure towards an advantage for the native speakers, fair or not fair I don't know but biased yes
- It is important to make sure that not the entire paper can fail by merely by one single misinterpretation of a technical feature (e.g. a feature deemed to be disclosed implicitly) or a legal condition (e.g. priority valid / not validly claimed).
- no time enough for a good reflexion, working in urgency increase the risk of stupid mistakes and omissions.; One hour more should be useful
- more time to think and analyze would have made a major impact in the quality of my papers
- 6 hrs for C is a long time from a physical point of view. Very hard to do concentrated work over the whole period, which is essential for time management.
- The exam should not be for more hours, there should be fewer annexes and less time in C.

- The time for D I seems to get less from year to year because the number of "open-style" questions has increased which makes it difficult to estimate what and how much is expected in the answer. This is even worse with D II: It is never clear how many marks will be awarded for each question. Furthermore, the text of the D II papers gets longer and longer from year to year. As it deals with an exam paper and not with a fiction novel, the increasing length significantly increases the workload. So, the time available for paper D II decreases from year to year, at least relatively. I think it's quite unfair.
- For people writing answers in non native language additional time should be provided.
- See Q27b. The physical writing takes a toll on hands/fingers. This year there was just enough time to oppose all claims, but no time to re-read and correct or add comments.
- D1 is a never ending story. Once you have answered a question, you could always add more details, e.g. discuss fees when filing in extenso, add case law, etc.; As to DII, it is still difficult to know in what direction an answer should be expanded. The priority analysis is usually not difficult, still it attract much points, and is very tedious to draft in the way needed to attract many points.; Further, D2 is often composed of 2 independent parts, like in 2012. Having an idea about how many points might be gained (e.g. up to X points, up to Y points, where X+Y might amount to more than 60 points (65 ?) would help people to manage time more carefully. Another option would be to have 3+1 hour or some other way. It is frustrating to deal with the second part, not knowing at all whether this will pay off in the end.
- Maybe the time is ok if it should not be shorter, but then again the paper should be less complicated or shorter.
- I think the time could be ok for shorter documentation provided. Too many docs to analyze
- Paper C was not difficult, but it took a lot of time to neatly write out all the attacks. I did not make mistakes, only wrote one attack per claim and still barely managed to finish writing.; ; Paper D1 was also not so difficult. I knew where to find the answers for all questions without hesitation, I did not write unnecessary text and still I did not manage to finish the exam.
- Time is a crucial issue in the EQE. However, more time is not of any use if this means that the complexity of the exam will increase in the same amount, e.g. (DI) odd events never or very seldom occurring to an ordinary EPA in Europe has to be sorted out, or (DII) numerous of events and numerous inventions with numerous features where all features has to be analyzed in view of potential prior art.
- Time to answer questions was adequate but not enough time to check answers. In real life, there is more time to check answers.
- There was too much substantial information to read and analyze for papers C & D2.
- The main difficulty of the EQE compare to other exams is that there is no sufficient time to answer properly without to have to make quick choices. There is an enormous time pressure on the candidate which I think goes way beyond what is really necessary to determine whether one is fit for practice for real life.; To my opinion, the time pressure is clearly one of the main factor used to "mark" the papers.
- There should not be more time, but less in the exam paper. Concentrating for such a long time is difficult.
- the time for Paper C was too short considering the number of complex issues that were required for a 'pass' answer
- cf 29
- Whilst I think the general scope and content of the exams is appropriate, there seems to be an unnecessary amount of time pressure which is not relevant to real-life practice and simply forces the candidate into making mistakes which don't represent their true ability. As a result, the exams are biased in favour of people who excel in exam conditions, and against people who are not so comfortable in exam conditions.; ; A person's ability to sit an exam has nothing to do with how capable they are as a patent attorney in real life. Allowing a candidate to answer questions without the additional time pressure would provide a far more accurate assessment of the candidate's abilities.
- Despite numerous people telling me that you have plenty of time in paper C, I did not. Maybe it is just me, but every other candidate I spoke to agreed. Moreover, I would rather

see less attacks, and more complicated problem/solution (i.e. like real life) than lots of attacks and easy problem/solution, which is a bit unrealistic.

- One less question in D1 and a bit less intricated situation in D2 with less combinations of inventions...
- -
- I considered the time pressure for paper D1 to be quite unrealistic - the purpose of the EQEs should be to assess if a candidate is fit to practice, but I have yet to encounter a situation in the real world when you have only 10 or 15 minutes to look up a point of law!
- DI is all about time. With double the time, it would be very easy to get a very good result. Other parts seemed okay.
- it is impossible to change the way you once worded the claims, if you find a mistake
- Exam papers and real life work are complete different.
- The papers are getting very long, and for those of us sitting in a foreign language the length of the paper is very important for the time pressure. Also if it gets very un-clear as the DII paper this year, it gets into a language test as well as a DII paper.
- adequate
- Die Zeit reicht im DI-Teil definitiv nicht für differenzierte Betrachtungen der Sachverhalte. Eine mögliche Verbesserung wären weniger verschiedene, aber dafür umfangreichere Sachverhalte.
- but better preparation would of course give more points even though the time is tight...
- Exhausting to make both paper A and B in the same day.
- there is never enough time, but I understand that the EQE has to draw the line somewhere.
- (Learn-) Part D I and II are the crucial parts: Having a good quick-reference beside legal texts would be very desirable. ("Bozic" is not sufficient.) If you don't have time to prepare for months then you have to recall every remark someone has made. Looking up the problems in the legal texts is time-consuming and defective during the EQE. Part A, B and C were also difficult - C more like a puzzle this year. Even if A and B were "borderline" it has to be clear: Working conditions are not really so different.
- Timing and the amount of information you get. Especially in Paper C & DI & DII.; ; It is not doable even with extrem long and good preparation!
- no
- I think that the time allocated was perfect for the exam, I did feel time pressure and I didn't have time to double check all of my answers, but if the exam were longer then people would not have to do as much preparation work for the exam. I went through the entire paper consecutively, marking my answers on the answer sheet after every 5 questions. I flagged up two questions that I needed to spend more time on and came back to these at the end. I also spent 5 minutes ensuring that I had correctly transferred my answers to the answer sheet. Several people finished before the 4hrs were complete and left the hall after 3.5hrs, but I appreciated the extra time.
- I think, if I fail paper C, it is only due to lack of time.; I did not put on the paper 50% attack I wanted to perform.
- Too little for paper C, lack of time gets you writing without thinking enough about what you are writing. The result is that even good ideas on how to attack a certain claim are often not written out as a candidate would want or would do in real life
- I don't understand the rationale for such a time pressure. Some people read slower than others, some people write slower than others.; ---; If you immediately the desired solution, then there is probably sufficient time. (I had 30 minutes spare for paper A).; But if you don't immediately see the desired solution, you have a big problem, because YOU KNOW that you will run out of time.; So you are forced to take an early (wrong) decision, and errors will accumulate.
- The time pressure would seem to favor those with a native tongue in the language of the paper (which I have).
- I only felt time pressure in the pre-exam claim section, which I think more preparation under real exam conditions would have alleviated.
- After 4 hours concentration inevitably decreases so it would be useless to allow more time.

- Some issues one knows about are not written down because of time pressure.; ; It is interesting that a considerable industry has emerged on learning tactics on how to pass the exam because time is such a precious commodity...; ; Certainly better answers will be given if there is less time pressure.
- I had enough time generally for the pre-exam, but more time would have allowed me to devote more time to the inventive step questions.
- Time is adequate but does not allow the candidates to hesitate much...time is definitely part of the difficulty of the exam.
- I would prefer to have at least an additional half an hour
- The time for DII was too short!
- It is quite tight regarding the time management but not impossible. The hurry creates physical symptoms at least for me, ache to the neck and lower head area, but luckily it started just after the exam..
- -
- the time for paper A was insufficient
- See Q14
- too short
- 6 hours for paper C are not sufficient. I understood that from next year (2013) you are going not to include anymore the legal questions (like this year) and to compensate this by reducing the time available to 5 hours. In my opinion this is not a good idea, meaning that I suggest to maintain 6 hours like this year (I can't complete the paper in 6 hours since 2007, thus I can't imagine how I can complete the paper in 5 hours!).
- Since English, French or German are not my mother tongues, I would like to have had one additional hour
- The time pressure is extreme. I did a lot of past papers under exam conditions in order to be cope with the pressure during the actual exam.
- I agree that in order to assess fitness for practise that a candidate should prove his ability to tackle a complex problem. However, particularly in the case of paper DII but at least in the previous years in paper C the available time was too short. In reality a good European Patent Attorney has to contemplate his cases attentively but not in a hurry comparable to the exam situation. This is probably even more of a problem for non-native speakers of the official languages of the EPO.
- Of course, different exam formats are advantageous for different types of candidates.; ; The pragmatist-type may be happy with a huge amount of simple questions where speed is rewarded.; ; The perfectionist-type may be happy with less, but tougher questions where more time-consuming in-depth reasoning is rewarded.; ; However, I believe that the mix of exam papers A, B, C, DI, DII is fair and suitable to most candidate-types in between the above extremes.
- DI is far too short. For at least three questions, there was a part of the question that I definitely knew the answer for, but I just couldn't find the support for it in the time given. It is a simple fact that some people do not react well to heavy time pressure of this sort, and as such the exam becomes a measure of how efficient you are at accessing materials within a very limited amount of time. I think that is deeply unfair.
- Half an hour more time for D I would be great.
- I think that increasing slightly the time available would lead to a better quality in the technical analysis
- See previous comments
- The time is sufficient, and it is a matter of organisation of the participant. It is a very difficult subject.; One could let the time 1 whole day for answering and the outcome would be probably similar, ; but one would have to test it.
- see above
- Especially for parts DI and C more time should be available. The time pressure of the EQE has nothing to do with regular work in praxis, so nothing with being fit for praxis.
- too short in general; not in adequation with the diary practice.

- Time is mainly a issue on D1. I think the open questions this year in combination with time pressure was very stressing. I missed some very basic things that I do every day at work....
- For D2, leaving out question 4 would be the appropriate lenght to deal with in 4 hours
- About one hour more for each part would be useful in order to finish without to much time pressure and a cramping hand.
- The time slots are adecate, but the quantity/compexity especially of paper DI could be adjusted or the better: Give clear limits for answers expected.; In other words: the more a candidate knows, the more time he can spend with each single answer - and at the end of the session he may be surprised by the announcement "you have five minutes left..", recognising, that he may have answered just 60% of all the questions.
- For me, time pressure was the most important stress factor, at least for paper A, but also for paper B. Where is the benefit of only having 3,5 hrs for drafting a new application?
- For paper A one more hour would be usefull to have a chance to rethink the chosen solution again.; For paper C it would be helpfull to have less documents.
- Time is very critical. If you dont start immediatly, or have to think or look up something for a longer time, you wont make it. If you take the wrong turn early in e.g. DII, you do not have time to correct that.
- In DI and DII, time pressure is highest.
- It was soooo long for paper C. Not enough time for reviewing the grounds of opposition
- I think the time is too short. The speed at which people can write becomes a too important factor deciding whether you succeed or not, instead of the knowledge that you posess. As it is, you may easily mix up the prior art notations or happen to leave out a word just because of the speedy writing, although if you had had time to check you would immediatly have spotted it as a mistake.
- Für den C-Teil steht viel zu wenig Zeit zu Verfügung.
- Part C: I had identified further valuable attacks, but unfortunately time was not enough. My "disadvantage" is needing more time for reading through the papers, thus having not enough time for formulating a proper opposition.
- No
- Could have really used another half hour on C. D1 and D2 are always extremely tight.
- DI: The questions were very differnt in comparison to former years, that it would have been necessary to have more time to write down the answers.; DII: The compexity of the cases let the time run out without having finished.; C: The need to notice that different nearest state of the art was needed for solveing adequate could-would-approaches took a lot af time and the question whether different novety attacks of the depending claims were possible or not took a lot of time. This is why I could not finish.
- It is sometimes not known from a D 1 question, what information in which detail is expected; if I write all the information I know, the time is by far not enough; if I write only reduced information, then it can happen, that information is missing for which are points allocated; ; The time pressure in D 2 is too high to use all information given in the sheets. I think nobody would do this in his normal job in such a short time, because otherwise he will make mistakes, which are not good for the clients!
- When not having either English, French or German for your native language, it takes considerable time to write in English. You have to consider spelling of each word and how to put the sentences together. I know that it is possible to write in ones own language, but this would just make i worse, as expression from paper, and ofcourse EPC etc are in English.; ; My problem is time, not subject - not to sound arrogant - but 15-25 min longer and I would not round out of time. Allways out of time by 1.5 inventive step attack in C, and this not because it is not identified or understood. There is just not enough time to write.
- If you discover that you have made a mistake, there should be at least enough time to fix it. Writing a new matrix for paper DII takes at least 45 minutes, and one or two attacks in paper C at least 30 minutes. This time should be added so that people that can do the job but where accidentally on the wrong track have a chance to "show what they can". We are not talking about 3 more hours here, only 30 minutes or so. That would significantly increase the number of passers - and this is what we all want!

- Since the examination is written by hand, I find it absurd: ; i) to spend time copying and pasting excerpts or ; ii) repeating references or ; iii) citing arguments already discussed ; n-times, especially in C-exam.; ; General comments in C examiner's report include:; 1. All relevant facts and arguments should appear in the notice of opposition; 2. Marks for identifying relevant information and using that information in an appropriate way. The specific reference in the relevant document has to be cited.; 3. When comparing a claim with prior art, if a feature uses a different terminology, it should be explained why it has the same meaning.; 4. All the steps in the problem and solution approach.; 5. Failure to indicate some aspects (advisable to use Form 2300) to make sure that all information for an admissible opposition is given results in marks being deducted.; 6. Legible handwriting is advisable.; ; If you try to determine whether a candidate is able to file a notice of opposition to a EP (Annex 1) attacking said patent having 5 documents (A2-A6) as ammunition:; a) I do not see why all formal matters (filling out Form 2300) are considered in C-exam. I find these aspects are administrative or clerical matters that have no relevance to determine a candidate's ability to draft a notice of opposition.; b) If the exam has to be written by hand, the copying-pasting and referencing task also consumes time that in real life is performed in computer. When time is a constraint (it always is but in an examination is a factor that should be carefully considered by the examiners) and there is an artificial burden that does not exist in real cases, I do not see that this factor (how fast and how clear can someone write) should be considered to evaluate a candidate's ability.; I understand all factors play a role during the examination, and that time spent on some tasks cannot be used for others (hence the fastest to think have longer to write and then, the fastest to write can write more): this is the game, these are the rules. We play following the rules. Are the rules fair? Do they have sense? Could some aspects in the exam change for better (both for the candidates and the examiners)?
- see previous comments
- Time for D1 and D2 was (concerning this kind of special questions) not enough. The time is enough for more easy questions and questions concerning the practice, but not enough for those exceptional cases in most questions.
- it is very difficult to do the claim-attacks in a convincing way due to the little time
- Yes, I find it very stressful since time is an issue.; If I fail the C and D exams I am not certain how to succeed the exams of next year because if the time to do C will be reduced by one hour and also 1 hour for EQU D part.
- only on D1 and A
- I understand that a time limit is necessary to assess the capability of the candidate. If there is unlimited time, one could always solve the questions by consulting books without proving that you know the material.; ; I completed D1 within the time limit, but the pressure was so high, that it caused me to be too exhausted for the test following immediately after it, for which I had enough time but possibly not enough mental alertness.
- People whose mother tongue is not one of the Convention are impaired.; ; I spent about 10 minutes in the paper C in the dictionary. Suffice a Glossary to help these people, besides being slower to read and write
- I would have needed 15 minutes more in C
- See above. Focus on speed is too big in solving paper C. There is no relation for such a focus in daily attorney's practice. Less state of the art documents and less claims to be attacked would also give enough basis, to ensure, that a candidate is sufficiently prepared for daily practice and to file a proper opposition using proper novelty and inventive step attack.
- The C-exam is basically a writing test. Less than half of the exam is an intellectual exercise, the rest is copying problem-and-solution approach standard phrases into legible handwriting. Training is required merely for the non-intellectual exercise. This is silly.
- It is possible to finish the papers within the time frame provided. I consider it, though, very unfair that so much pressure is put on the candidates concerning the hand-writing. It is simply not possible (for many people including me) to write so much within three days and write as clear as normal, without the time pressure. All people have already successfully

passed their academic studies and therefore many people at the respective universities were obviously able to read the hand-writing of each candidate. Therefore, the designated sanction of not marking everything which is not nicely written is unfair. The people who mark the paper can absolutely be expected to really try hard to read everything. I personally marked a lot of papers at the university and, although it is sometimes tough, I was finally always able to read and mark the answer.

- The biggest difficulty is the lack of time. Even knowing the correct response, you have to check it in your books and give an appropriate legal basis. Moreover, for non-native speakers the time used for each response is longer.
- See comments above
- For paper C: 6 hours and no legal questions is ok. 8-10 attacks then should be possible ; 5 hours and no legal questions: 6 attacks should be possible
- This exam should be about thinking, not about speed. Thinking fast is important, of course, but this should not be of crucial importance. In EQE papers not only you must think fast but you also have to write fast. I am totally against that.
- The problem of time is not only connected to the candidate ability, but it is also a partial indicator. A candidate not enough fast in managing pieces of information could be skilled enough to attack with success a patent (referring to paper C but the matter could obviously be referred to each paper) in a bit more time. In other words the time is not the only parameter that makes a good representative.
- If I were to advise a client in my daily work in a situation such as that of paper D2, I would spend about eight hours of work, most likely spread over two working days...
- see above the comment about time pressure and language used.
- time for C and DII is adequate, for D1 not. DII is too late in the evening, the D-exam day is too long.
- The papers could have been much more difficult and still passable, if the time pressure was not so important. This would give a much better assessment of the candidates skills. Today the test is very much on very fast handwriting.
- D1, D2 not enough time
- Time pressure and the intensive handwriting were more challenging than the actual subject-matter of the exams
- I am of the opinion that if you are prepared you can write the paper in the given time. If your preparation is not sufficient, more time would not help.
- The time for A and B is OK.; The time for D1 is not enough: as a Swede doing the paper in English, time pressure does not allow reading the questions sufficiently to fully grasp the questions and what is asked.; The time for D2 is enough where the paper poses more specific questions, in other case there is not enough time to write all the possible answers to broad questions.; The time for C is not enough: with the current time limit for C the key to passing C becomes time management and answer techniques.
- adequate
- After 4-5 hours I usually get tired, and lack of concentration regularly leads to errors or lack of finding the facts together.; Therefore the option of more time is not really helpful. To my opinion it is a very good decision of the examination committee to reduce the duration down to 5 hours which to me seems the maximum one can keep track.; And after every C paper I had inflamed right arm muscles. It regularly takes me quite a time and plenty of physical therapy to get back to normal muscle functionality - I heard also other colleagues mention similar problems, though not as heavy as with me. (I am above 50 years).; So I regard the amount of required hand writing also a great challenge.
- in retrospect. time could probably have been spent more efficiently
- Time was not sufficient, in particular for paper D1
- The time is rarely an issue when it comes to real life work. To read and extract and invention from a description and to read prior art and formulate an application within 3.5 hours is not realistic. I don't know why time should be a limiting factor for passing the exam. A candidate's lack of ability to read or write fast should not be limiting his or her chances of passing.
- At least for paper C a bit more time would be very helpful (like 30 minutes or so).

- The time pressure, particularly in Papers B, C and DII (mainly because carefully thought-out arguments are required), causes poor handwriting and poorly considered and reasoned answers, which aren't necessarily a reflection of a candidate's ability.
- EQE is difficult because of time pressure and gives a panic as a result and bad performance as result
- No
- The quality of the translation in french was quite poor, and increased difficulty: curing in french should definitely not have been translated "durcissement" this has a totally different meaning in the present context!
- For Paper A, I would have needed more time, because the amount of information was really huge compared to the last years... (when I trained, I always managed to do the papers A in less than 3h30. I know it was without stress, but still, I think this year, it was simply much too many things to read and too many possibilities...; ; Could you make it CLEAR if it is allowed to use a stapler. After having read the exam rules, I understood it was not allowable (too noisy), so I did not bring mine. But a lot of candidates used one for stapling documents at the beginning of each exam. If I would have known I would also have no scruples and used one!; I would like also to add something about the general organisation: I found that the people supposed to watch were not very rigorous: the woman sitting next to me has always written after the end signal, which I found scandalous! I'm sorry, but for paper B, she had time for example to add "signature of the representative" at the end of the paper, so that she will not lose 1 point! The guy let her finish, that put me off! And for paper C, 2-3 minutes are enough to end a novelty or inventive step attack...; Also, during the exam, a mobile rang!!! ; These are minor things and I don't think that at the end it will change much, but for "fairness" between the candidates, I would like to know if I can use a stapler, come with my mobile (1st) and let it switched on (2nd), and write after the end signal without consequences...
- Time pressure with DI just as last year. I felt well prepared for DI but had trouble with time. I answered all questions but I am still unsure whether; I answered the questions as expected.; ; It took a lot of time to write down everything I wanted in DII. I experienced time pressure was a bigger problem with DII this year.
- In general, there is no time to review the answers.
- The only difficulty of the DI paper is time pressure. DI can be good done in rather 4 hours.
- If more time for the papers is granted, papers will become more difficult. So that is no solution.
- Seems odd to provide less time for paper A than for paper B. In paper B, the amendment possibilities are very restricted; whereas in drafting paper A, there is much more freedom to prepare language for claims.
- keep the time restraints as they are - otherwise, the addressed topics will get more difficult if more time is provided - at the end of the day, some distinguishing features between the candidates have to be introduced in the examination papers
- I understand the need for some time (or other) pressure, but it seems that the extent of time pressure currently provided risks disadvantaging people who just can't write as quickly as others, or making them write faster (hence less legibly, leading to penalties), rather than being a fair test of legal skill.
- Sitters not having any of the EPO official languages as a mother language should have another hour, because doing it in you own native language is such a great advantage, just look at the statistics! at least for paper C.
- Paper C was extremely challenging because on the face of it, most of the annexes were relevant for inventive step. In past years, at least one, sometimes more annexes could be excluded because they were 54(3) prior art or not even prior art or were only applicable for some, but not all claims due to different priority dates. This was not the case in this year's paper.; ; Paper DII was challenging in terms of time management because it was not clear how much time one should allocate for the second part which was independent of the first part. I allocated too much time to the last part (1.5 hours) because I ran out of time when practising the 2011 DII paper and wanted to make sure to have sufficient time. However, I was unable to use the time left at the end productively to improve the first part of my answer.

Since it is never clear how many marks are allocated to each question, it makes time management very difficult.

- With such a time constrain candidates ability to practice is not measured, it is more like writing contest. In the real life you never draft anything in 3.5h based on single letter from your client. Also non-native speakers are in totally different position compared to the native speakers, I needed to check few words -just in case from dictionary to make sure that I have understood everything correctly- I am wasting time on that, whereas native speakers can use whole time on reading/writing no need to check language things. Same applies to writing, even I have good command on english, nevertheless I am not native speaker, and hence, under exams conditions I am writing slower and hence the time constrain is bigger for me.; ; With this time frame I was able to finish papers A, B, and C but not check my answer, last dot was put in place when they told us stop writing. D I was not able to finish completely.; ; Please ignore Q30 A E/M - there should be option to remove dot if you accidentally add it to wrong section!
- Paper DII should have had another hour.; DI another 30min.; B another 30min.; C another hour.; A should have been 30min shorter.
- I do not understand why should people have the burdon of 3.5 hours for Part A. With half an hour more a good draft of the introductory part of the description could be possible. I can not imagine that in real praxis attorneys spend only 3.5 hours for drafting a set of claims and the mentioned description. The speed of writting should not play such a big rolle for the quality of the result.
- not enough time if you want us to motivate our choices and choose the good attacks.
- C-part is too long: difficult to keep concentration: it is unrealistic in practical terms, because nobody would work for such a long time on an important issue such as opposition without any break.
- Selection between candidates by time pressure does not correspond the practice. Clients do not wish quick answers, but well-founded ones.
- The time is short to finish on time the exams.
- Excessive time pressure creates a differential difficulty for non-mother tongue EN/FR/DE speakers.
- The shortening of Paper C to 5 hours will presumably not decrease the time pressure, so the six hours should be retained.
- I don't think more than six hours is realistic for paper C, though.
- I finished very few papers.
- If I had understood the invention in the B-paper (Mek) I would probably not have any problems in finishing in time...
- I think the time available for the exams is fair. However, having extra time to thoroughly review answers would be very useful.
- I think the time lacks essentially for D. Even 30minutes more could make a difference.
- Time pressure, time pressure, time pressure.; Is that really what determines whether I am fit to practice? It seems to be the biggest criterion for people failing even when they have prepared well and are very good at their daily practice. There is something very badly wrong about this situation.
- Pre-Exam: Not too little and not too much.
- D2 was qualitatively difficult at least as every year but additionally significantly longer (8 pages, 2 parts) than in previous years: 2008 (5 pages including 1/2 page questions, 1part), 2010 (6 pages, 2 parts), 2011(6 pages + 2 questions on the 7th page, 2 parts). ; This means that the given (concentrated) information was increased by 60 % on the 2008 base and by 30 % on the 2010 or 2011 base. The time provided, however, was not increased it was 4 hours as every year. This was a completely unfair treatment of the year 2012 candidates in comparison to previous years` candidates. Beacause 30 % of 60 marks means 18 marks, the responsible eqe examination stuff should give all 2012 candiadates 18 extra marks in Paper D for compensation (NB: candidates in 2007 were given 10 extra marks in Paper C for compensation, because of the unfair C paper in that year).; ; If not a reasonable compensation will be given a series of appeals will have to be expected.

- Time too short for paper C.
- D II should be 30 mins longer.
- More time needed for Paper C or less documents.
- 3 hours for paper D I is insufficient
- I felt just the right amount of pressure - but then I don't know if I passed yet!
- while the legal questions have been simple- the claim analysis part is unfair for people coming not from the field of mechanics. I do strongly recommend to change this practice!! Either more points can be obtained for the legal questions for (Bio)chemist (5 points) or two different claim analysis parts like in the real EQE.; ; Still, I know it is tough to prepare a new exam type.
- No.
- It might be feasible to split paper C into two different paper C exams. One paper C in the morning (4 hours) and a second one in the afternoon (also 4 hours). Different fields can be tested in such a way and also different claim-situations can be tested as well. Additionally, candidates have a chance to pass the exam although maybe one of the subjects of the papers is not their 'piece-of-cake'. Furthermore, candidates can have a break in between.
- the enormous issue is really D I, since the stumbling aspect is providing the right legal basis...
- since it's way too little, intelligibility of handwriting is affected
- I think that present time is rather ok. You are in a hurry and able to answer but usually not to revise your answer.
- D I; transitional provisions require to know the different versions of the law. This is for me not the case. I need to check back the exact wording and meaning of previous law and that consumes time. D II; time for analysis is rather large, then you need to start writing. In general the amount of knowledge required increases year by year. From my years doing EQE there has been a change from knowing by heart to know where you can find it. The total set comprising the D knowledge has increased this year to almost 3000 pages A4. This is much more than what can be known by heart. So you need to look it up, and that costs time. Methodologies and schemes for fast finding information has become the key to success in D.
- Dass ich letztes Jahr beim Teil C und D durchgefallen bin, ist u.a. auf Flüchtigkeitsfehler und eine etwas oberflächliche Beantwortung zurückzuführen, was mglw. nicht in dem Maße passiert wäre, wenn der Zeitdruck, insb. im D I-Teil, nicht so groß wäre. Letztlich sollte m.E. der "Sinn" der Prüfung darin bestehen, Wissen abzufragen, und nicht darin, eine Frage möglichst schnell zu erfassen und die "Zugriffszeiten" in den mitgebrachten Unterlagen zu minimieren.
- short time = more unforced errors. ; More time = You would have more time to think and possibly correct your answer.; ; Still, there is a challenge in having a rather short time that could be good.
- I think that for D I in particular the questions are longer now so much more looking and checking of the answer needs to be done. Also there is just so much that a candidate today needs to know and understand compared to early days of EQE exams. In fact I find the sheer amount of information overwhelming and the amount of books, statutes, guidelines ect that are needed for the exam is just too much.
- There was enough time for Paper A, though during the last check of the claims I realized a mistake in the claim construction and there was barely enough time to fix it.
- Again, I think the time pressure is totally unrealistic, at least for all papers except C. The time pressure affects some people more, causing failure despite sufficient knowledge under normal time constraint.; ; I am not used to rush through things at work, but the exam really tests candidates skills to through out as many statements as possible to score points.; ; Given the criticism I hear from numerous candidates each year, I cannot understand that this issue is not dealt with more seriously.; ; The time constraint for the C and D papers are particularly severe. A suggestion for Paper D would be to maintain the number of questions, but spread out on two days and. A suggestion for Paper C would be to skip the legal questions, move these to a separate day or include in Paper D.

- In paper DI I didn't even have time to go to the toilet, which was quite painful at some point. Maybe one could skip one question and would be a little bit more relaxed to answer the remaining questions (and have time to think and not just write down facts and don't be able to think for 1 minute).; Maybe it would also be helpful to change the order of the papers. Paper C could be scheduled on Wednesday, so candidates are more fresh to prepare this paper. I think paper C calls for more thinking than papers A and B. Also the time for paper C should be planned on how many inventive steps attacks are expected. 6 hours are not quite enough to think all attacks through properly and write them down as is expected by the examiners. ; Papers DII, A and B are good to handle in the given time and you can even re-read what you have written down before handing in your paper. It would be very helpful if this would have been possible in paper C.
- There's not enough time to do paper DII
- Seven hours time for an exam seem to be enough... but it is not. And less for a non EPO official language native speaker.
- Not realistic
- the main problem was a lack of time for properly assessing the situation and formulating proper answers; this is in stark contrast to reality where the emphasis lies on taking an appropriate amount of time to assess the situation and decide on the ideal course of action
- Usually the time pressure is felt at the end of the examination, when no final check is possible
- difficult to say; I choose a time spending analysis - but I couldn't speed it up (then I miss to many things and doing more wrong than right).
- t is not enough time, but that's the game, EPO need money and candidates have to bleed
- half an hour more for the same ammount and difficulty of questions. As it took me around 20min. to check if I marked the answers true/false correctly, regarding that I could have used the wrong line or cell itself. Plus it takes time to fill out these circles in such way as wanted by the EPA (black enough!). So next time please take this time into account, too, as this is not done in a minute.
- To me it feels that the time available is enough for those who have the knowledge needed to practise as an attorney, so I see the time as a good way of testing how prepared the candidates are for the real life.
- I don't understand why the time pressure is so high during the exam. No one is working under such a time pressure in real life.
- More time, or less info, otherwise aspects of analysis must be done superficially, reducing accuracy.
- It would help to modify the answer and to make checking at the end of the examination.
- DII is very time constraint. Moreover, DII is held in the afternoon and it takes 4 hours, so very exhausted in the last one hour, thus the quality of the answer and the speed of writing is dramatically reduced.
- Amount of text in each papers are increasing and it is very apparent when you "see" the paper. I do not know the rationale behind having more text when compared to past papers. Having in single langusge could not be the valid reason because a single person (for example writing in English in 2006) would still have to read within the same given amount of time more text in 2012 (Paer DII had 8 pages for example whereas in 2006 he would have to read only 5 pages).; ; Examining Committe's defence that you need only 50 points is not convincing. You would still have to read all the text to "understand" the paper before writing. In principle one needs to write as much as possible (with the goal of achieving 80 points) to score at least 40 points.
- I spent more time on claim analysis than on the legal questions
- People who are not using their own language in the examination should be given more time than native speakers. The system is discriminating.
- Avec les sujets des 5 dernières années, pour l'épreuve B, la solution pour les revendications m'est apparues quasi immédiatement à chaque fois ce qui fait que j'avais suffisamment de temps pour argumenter. Cette années, je me suis posé trop de questions sur ce qui découlait sans ambiguïté des dessins pour un homme du métier et, de ce fait, je n'ai pas eu

le temps de traiter l'activité inventive. ; Cependant, je pense que la durée est tout à fait correcte.

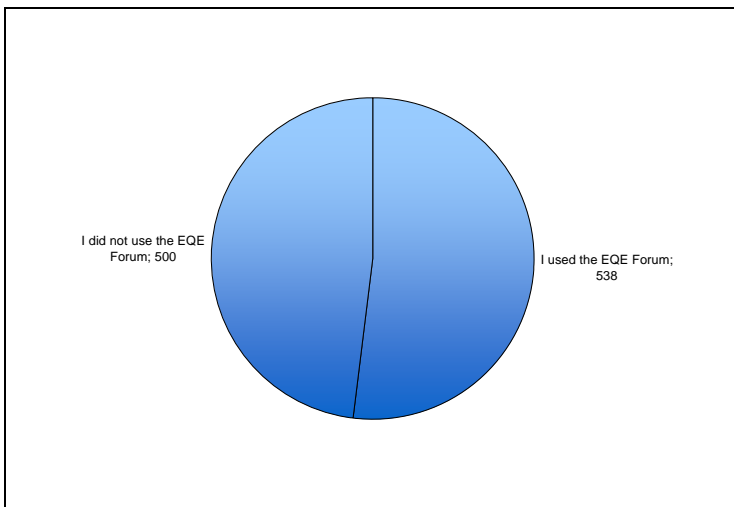
- -
- Not enough time, especially for Paper D I and II. The Examiners report in the compendium always mentions that several candidates did not realise some important aspect. However, I believe that some of these candidates would come to the right conclusions if the time pressure was not so immense. In particular, for me as a candidate not having one of the official languages as native language, an additional amount of time for understanding questions and writing is necessary in order to provide well-founded answers.
- If having more time does not mean to have more questions asked/topics to be dealt with, I think that especially paper C would be easier to handle if there had been more time. But here 6 hours are already very long and the concentration is in the end not as good as in the beginning. Therefore, here it would be better to reduce the number of claims to be opposed and also the number of documents being available and let the time as it is.; For paper DI also 3.5 hours might be helpful.; I think it would be better to reduce the amount of questions/topics in the exam than extending the time. 20.5 hours of examination is really enough. And the third day, no one (writing all papers) is really fit and concentrated any more.
- Time was sufficient.
- D'un point de vue temps l'épreuve DI est la plus difficile
- I ran out of time in both A and B, so my answers were not complete. There was no time to check the answers, which could have avoided unnecessary mistakes.
- DI still very short amount of time. However, this is meaningless in view of the upcoming changes for the combined paper for next year.
- More time is not the solution to reach the end of the Papers because I was already too tired. ; In fact, if more time was available I could have improved my performance but not significantly, particularly not in terms of quality.; It could have worked for DI Paper but certainly not for Paper C (6h is already too long!) and for Paper DII.; Paper C had 7 claims and all the 6 documents of prior art were usable, which makes the amount of information large and the exam extremely hard-working.; In Paper DII, with the high complexity level of the first case, all the 4h should be assigned only to this part, i.e. no second case should be present in Paper DII.; Again, my main comment is that for EQE 2012 there was not an adequate balance between complexity of the cases relative to Paper DII and C and the allocated time also taking into consideration that the intellectual performance decreases with the passing time.
- I've noticed, that time will be reduced starting 2013 :-)
- Only sat c
- It is very difficult to stay focused during 6 hours (paper C), so the main problem is that you are exhausted afterwards.; D II: difficult to have that many embodiments to go through in the beginning and then have sufficient time to solve all other issues!
In each part I only had about 15 min to 25 min to read the stuff I have written after I've finished writing; this is not enough time to read more than 10 pages I have written thoroughly; this is especially true for part C.
- For paper C, a bit more time would certainly have helped (but after 6 hours one is worn out anyhow). For A and B this less the case.
- Make it less complex in wording!
- For Paper C I do not think it would be possible to work for longer than 6 hours, and yet there was considerable time pressure to get through all the sections.
- Paper C and especially paper D II is rather complex, and time is needed for analysing attacks in paper C, and time for analysis and presentation of the best solution in paper D II. I think there is a need for 15-30 minutes more for both papers in order to answer the papers optimally.
- DII consisted of two parts but there was no indication of the weighting of marks per part therefore it was difficult to allocate the correct amount of time per question. As a consequence there is a tendency to unnecessarily rush part one of DII.

- Absolutely does not reflect 99% of real life scenarios - also try giving some electrical/electronic type papers, see how the mechanical guys cope
- time should not be a primary selection criteria to qualify
- time pressure is the most difficult aspect of the exam.
- Time management is an important part of the EQE. I think everybody could improve their marks in D1, D2 and C if they had one or two hours more time. However, I assume that the limited time available for each exam is deliberate. An EQE candidate is tested on time management and working under time pressure.
- It is difficulty for an Italian person to think and answer in an other language. We feel time pressure mach more than a German, English or frech candidate.
- Globaly too short!
- It is a pitty that the quality of our answers is more dependent on time (or the lack of it) than our actual knowledge and abilities.; ; All Papers represent a highly artificial situation, which is LIGHT YEARS away from our real life as patent attorneys.
- Putting so much time pressure on candidates really makes little sense to me, especially for papers C and D. I know that this is an exam, not real life, and that these are the rules of the game. But due to these rules the exam tends to get further and further away from real life, which - in my opinion - is always undesirable.
- None.
- Yes, I have a comment.; 1. Either you give some extra time for the candidates who don't have French, English or German as a mother tongue,; ; OR; ; 2. All the candidates would have to sit the exam in a language which would not be his/her mother tongue.
- It is just ok.
- Please add more time for D1.
- half an hour more for paper B would have been adequate.
- Leave more time for Paper DI.
- 15 min mehr Zeit hätten z.T. ausgereicht; - Sinnvoll ist eine Ankündigung nach der Hälfte der Zeit , 30 Minuten vor Abgabe und 5 Min. vor Ende
- It would be helpful if D2, which is already split in two parts could also be written in two parts, preferrably on different days.
- one additional hour for DI, DII is OK
- SEE ABOVE
- There is plenty of time in the Pre Exams because you dont have to write anything.
- IS TO LITTLE EXPECIALLY FOR NOT MOTHER TONGUE CANDIDATES
- I think more time for papers A and B would have undoubtedly improved my performance.
- Even though there were no legal questionsin paper C 2012, the volume of prior art to work with was too large for the time available, compared with the past papers from the previous 10 years.
- Time was very short for DII
- No
- C is always too hurry. If you consider too much, some attacks will not be produced. if you rush, some attacks are erroneous.
- D I is borderline with regards to the time allocated due to the expansive legal compendium that must be used to answer it. C was OK this year.
- Very short time to complete the questions, in particular on paper D I and II.
- More time would obviously help me becaus I had a solution that I didn't manage to write on my paper for lack of time...it was really frustrated !
- I don't think the relevant point of proving that one understands patent law is in finding the answers quickly, as presently is the case. profound understanding would only be shown by answering complex questions, in which the candidate has enough time to study and reflect, not when rushing through a set of questions and completing them if extra time is available.
- Far too short; you really need to run very very fast or you fail; therefore you need to write your answers very very quickly; difficult as nowadays nobody writes by hand anything anymore; typing is now the rule and hand-writing the exception;

- 15 minutes more please!!
- The time needed is relative because it greatly depends on the difficulty of a particular paper.
- The time for papers is generally a borderline even at good time organization - i.e. still enough stressful.
- The time for the papers A and B is not enough.
- C too long the same for D1 for these 2 paper not enough time
- Time for DI is by far not enough. Answers may not reflect real knowledge but are - given adequate and suitable preparatory material - mere copying of prepared answers (e.g., from Delta Patent questions)
- Yes, then I had enough time to grasp the differences between the layers to compare it with suggested claims mentioning other layers compare them as good as possible.
- more time would help.

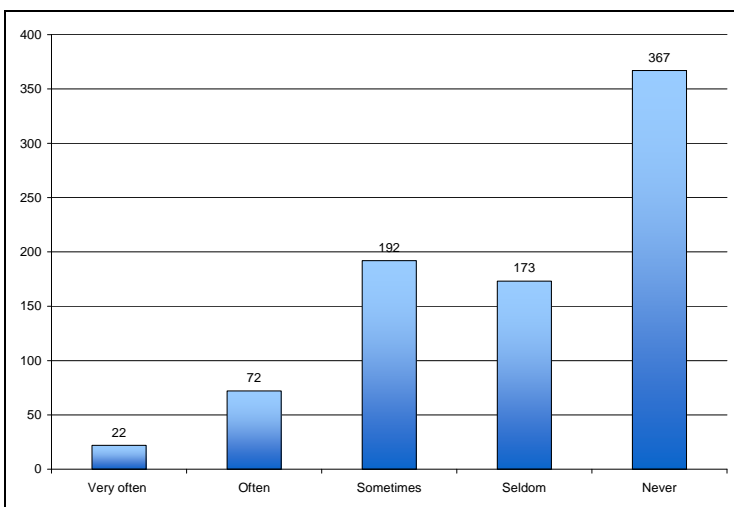
Chapter 5 - Training from the European Patent Academy

Q33) EQE Forum of the European Patent Academy and online services

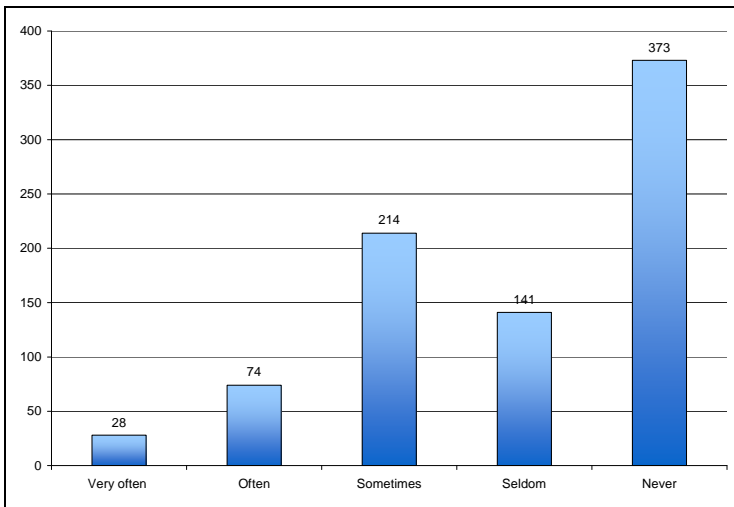


Q34) How actively did you use the following services?

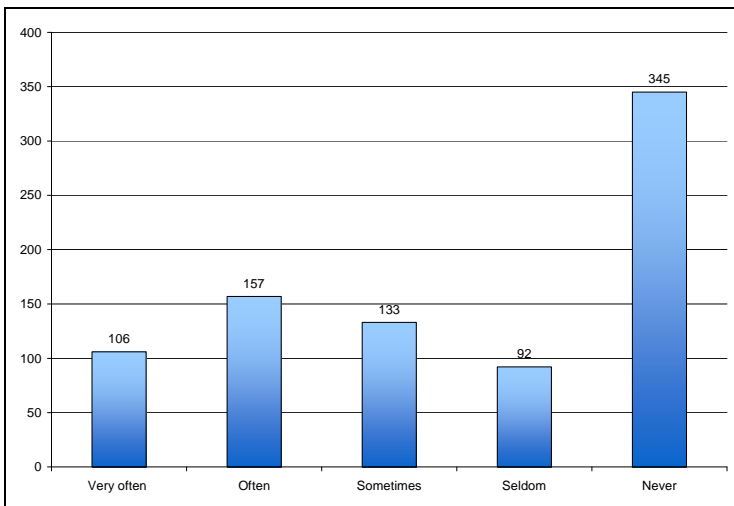
Discussion of general topics



Discussion of Examination Papers

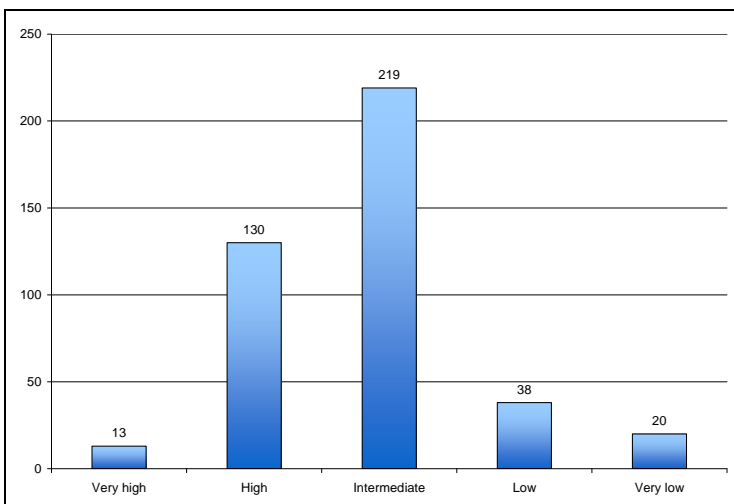


EQE weekly exam type questions

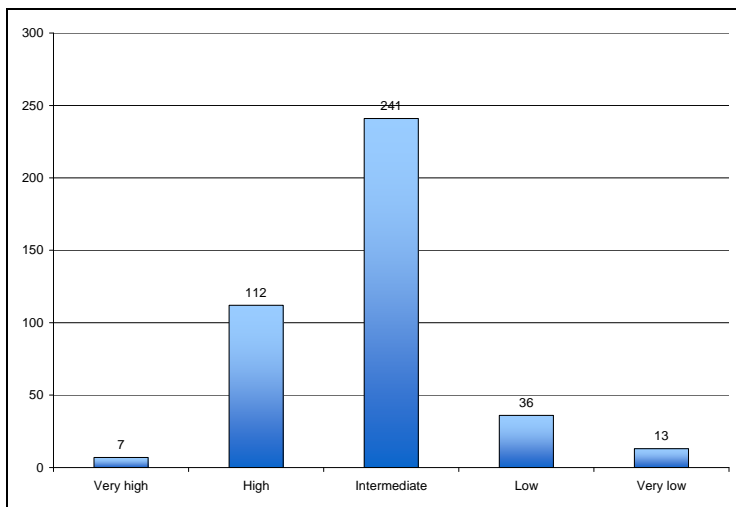


Q35) Please rate the following sections of the EQE Forum on a scale

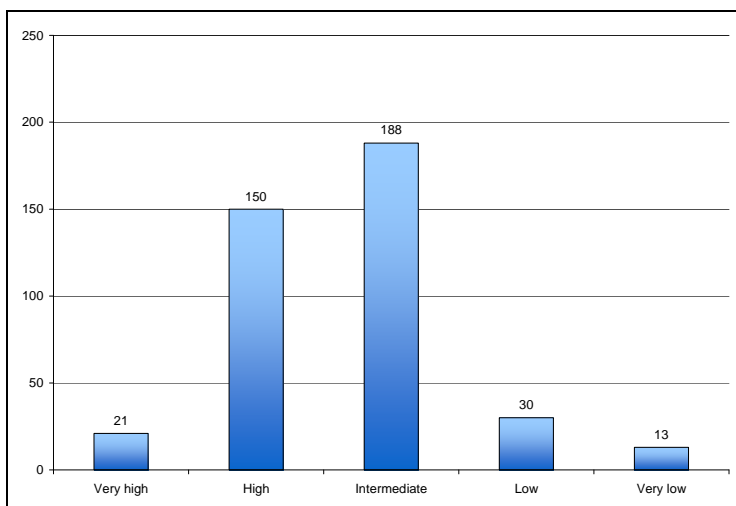
Discussion of general topics: General usefulness



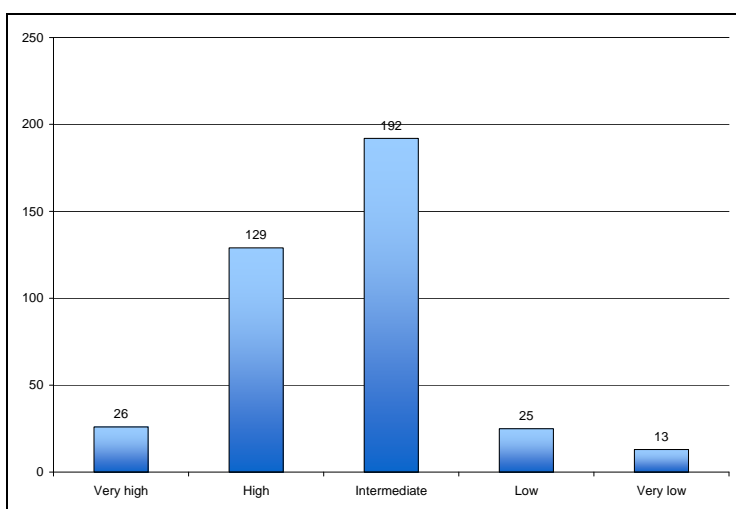
Discussion of general topics: Quality of material



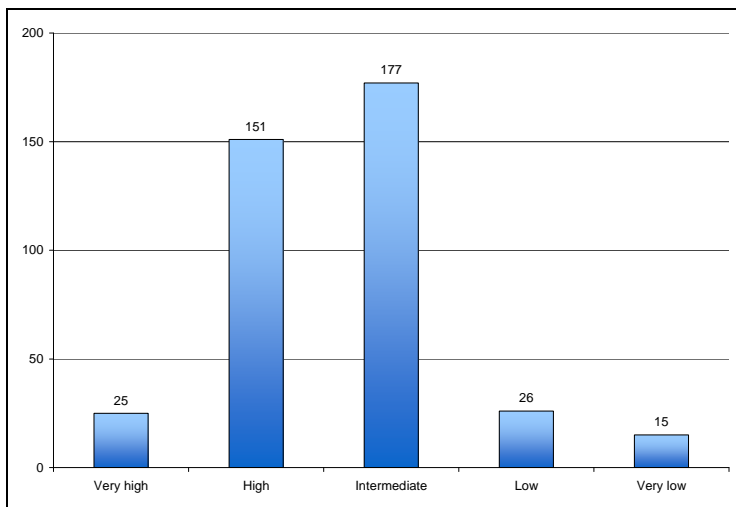
Discussion of general topics: Quality of responses to questions



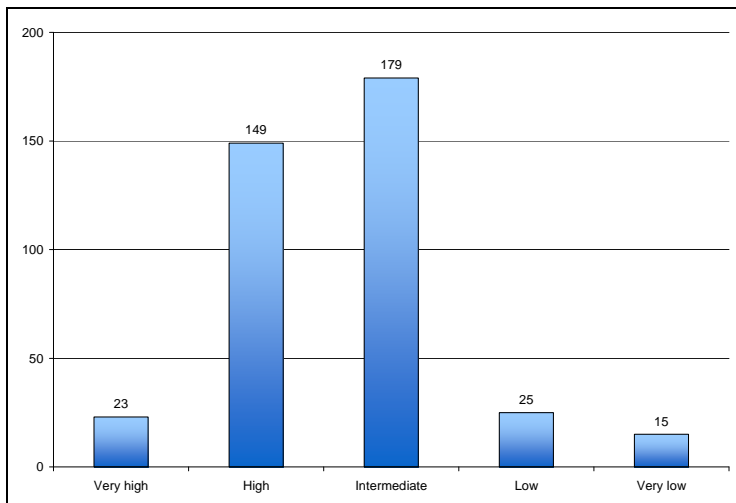
Discussion of general topics: Timeliness of responses



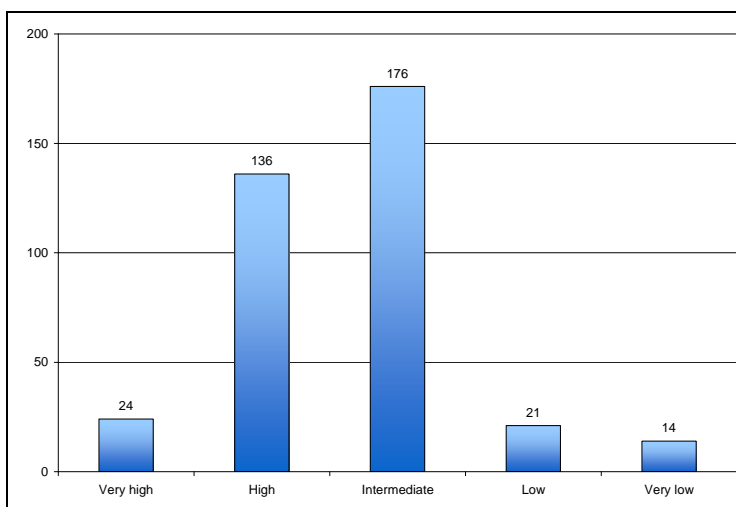
Discussion of examination papers: General usefulness



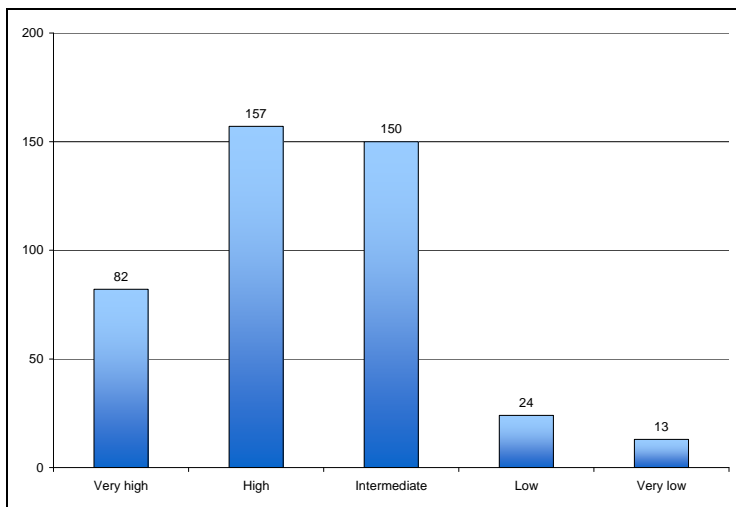
Discussion of examination papers: Quality of responses



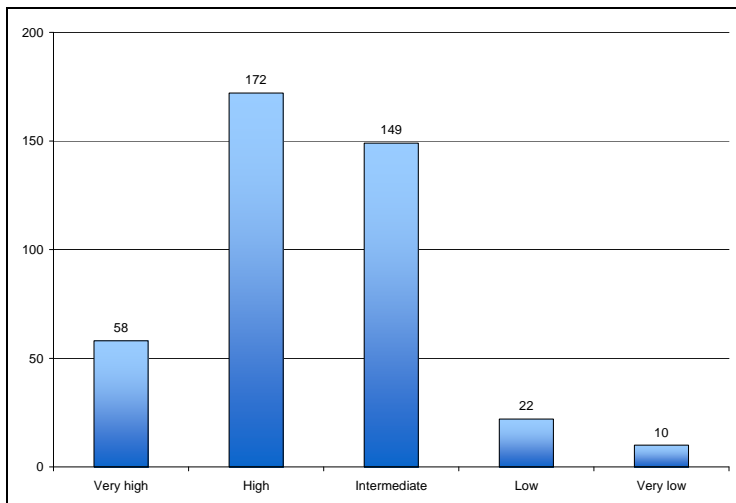
Discussion of examination papers: Timeliness of responses



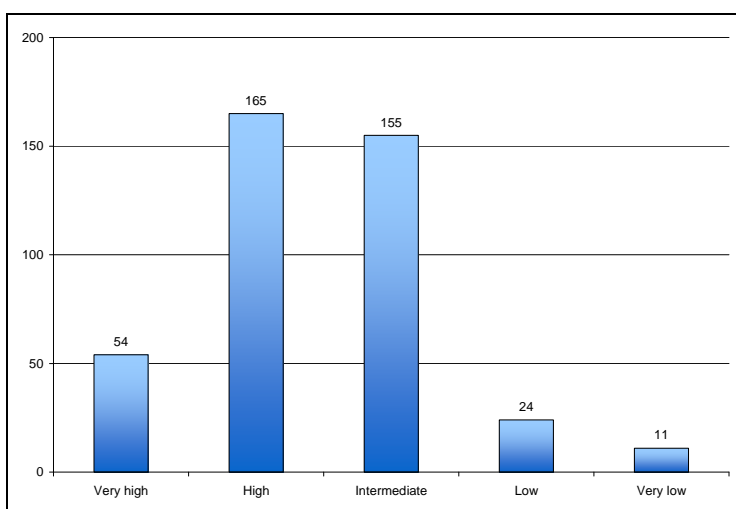
EQE weekly examination questions: General usefulness



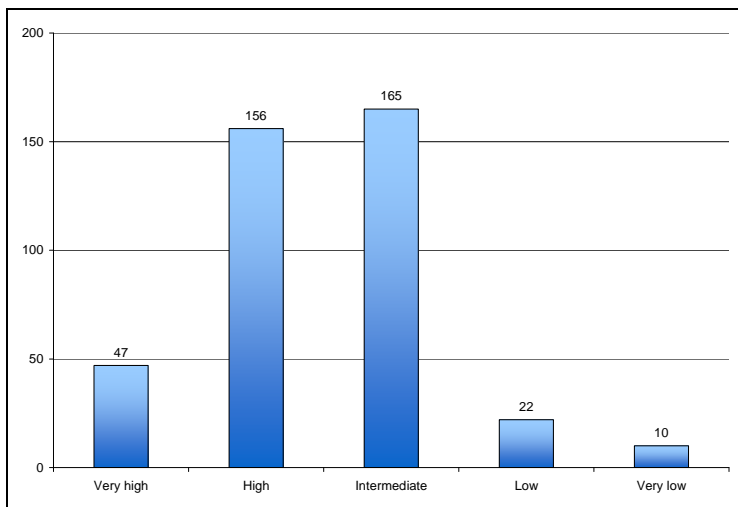
EQE weekly examination questions: Relevance of the covered topics



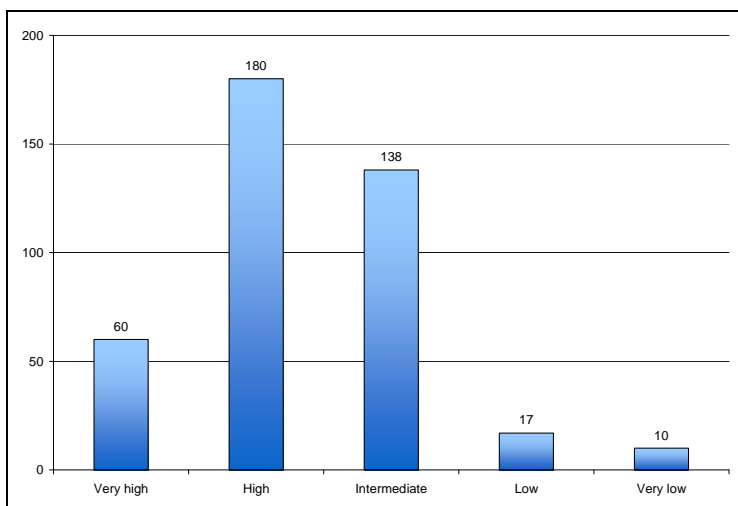
EQE weekly examination questions: Ease of use of the forum



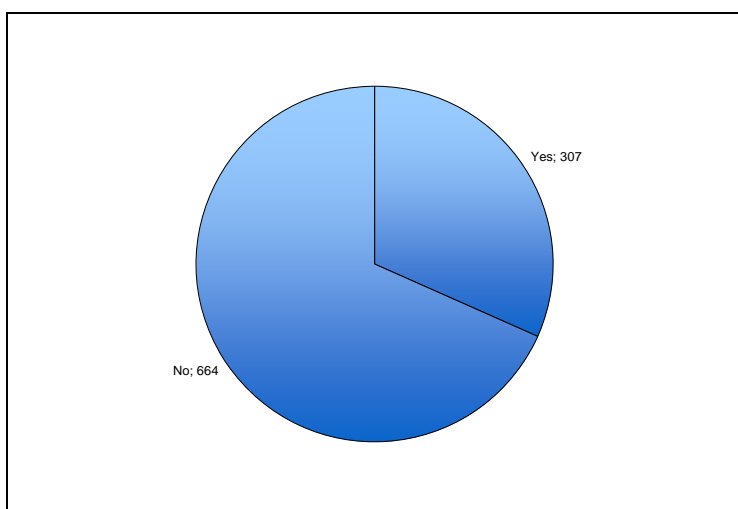
EQE weekly examination questions: Time schedule of the exercises



EQE weekly examination questions: Quality of the model answers and comments

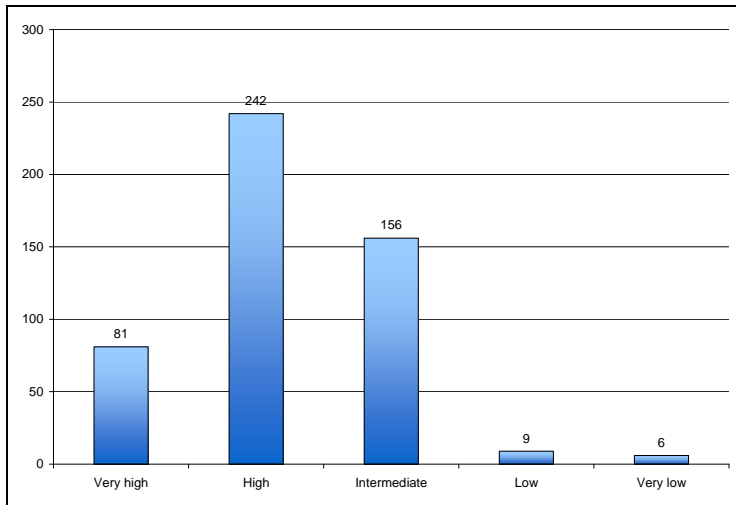


Q36) Are you aware of the programme "Praktika Intern - Internships for patent professionals" directed at present and future professional representatives?

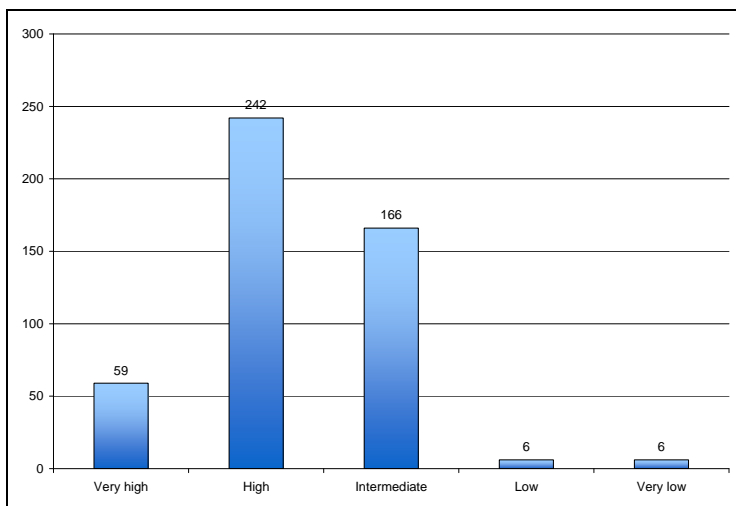


Q37) Please rate the online service on a scale

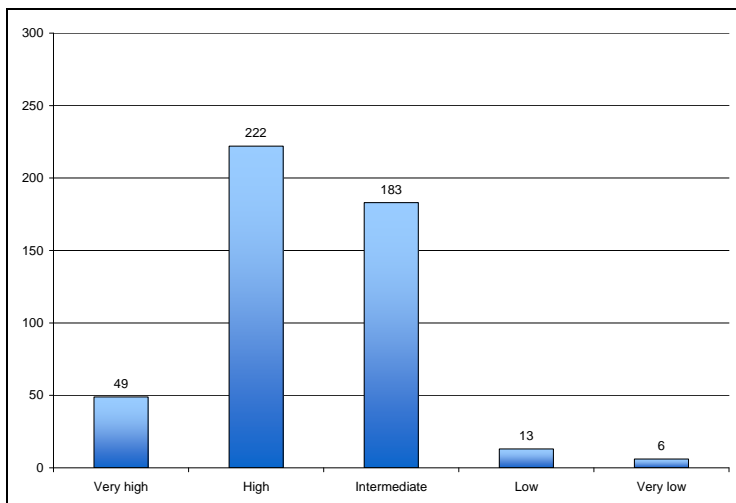
General usefulness



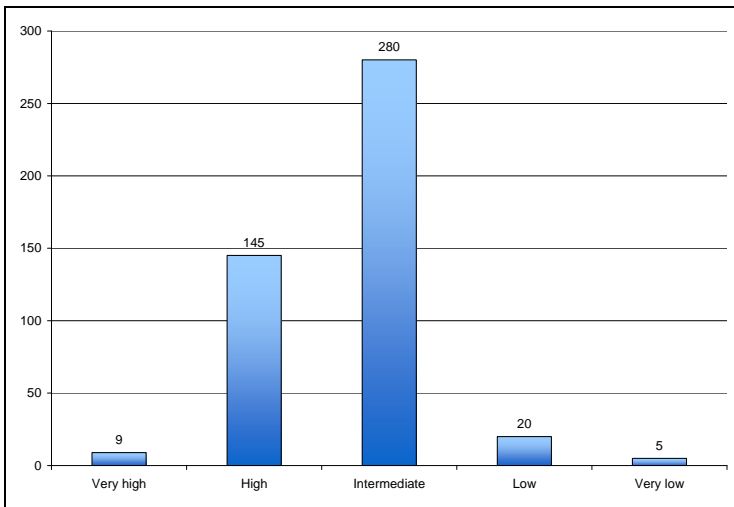
Relevance of covered topics



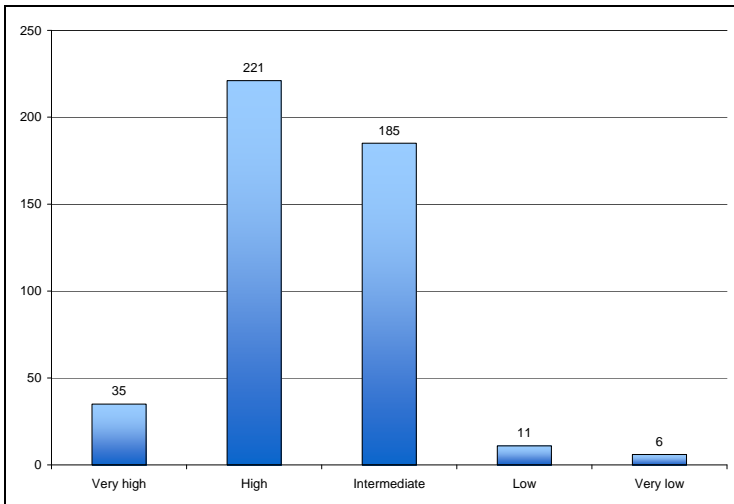
Ease of use of the tool



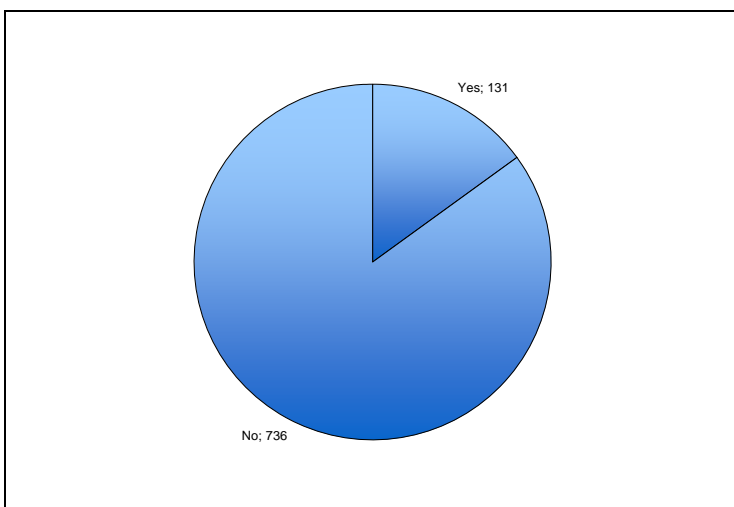
Level of difficulty



Quality of the model answers and comments

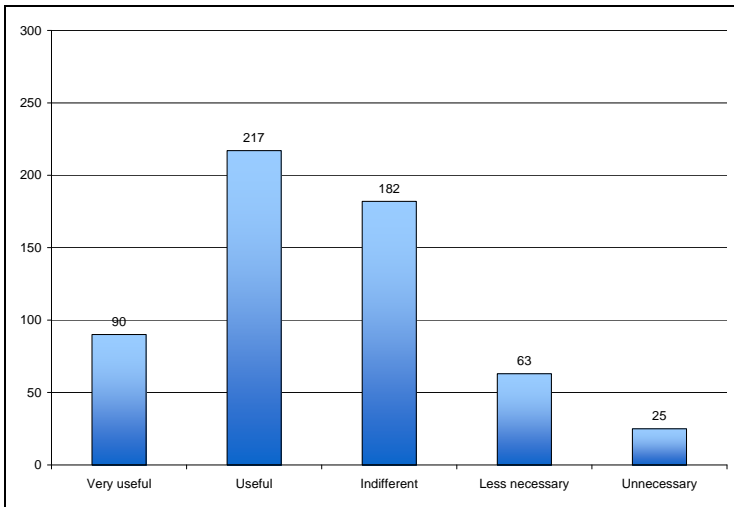


Q38) Did you discuss any of the EQE online exercises with your supervisor/tutor?

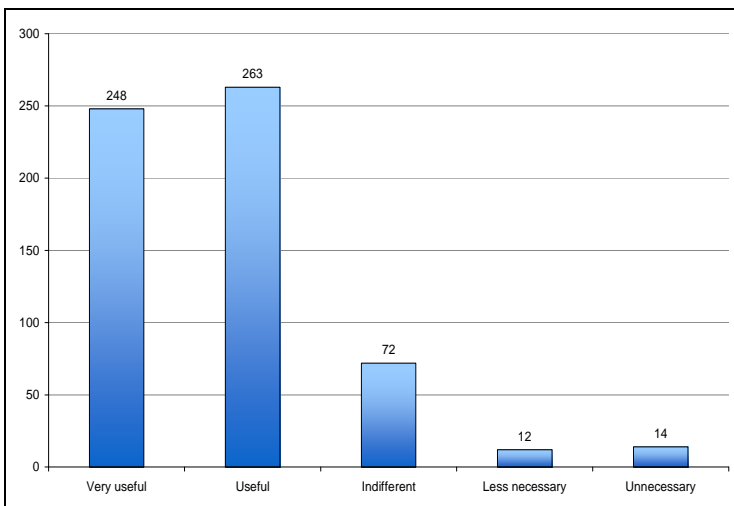


Q39) How could the EQE online service be best integrated into your preparation for the EQE?

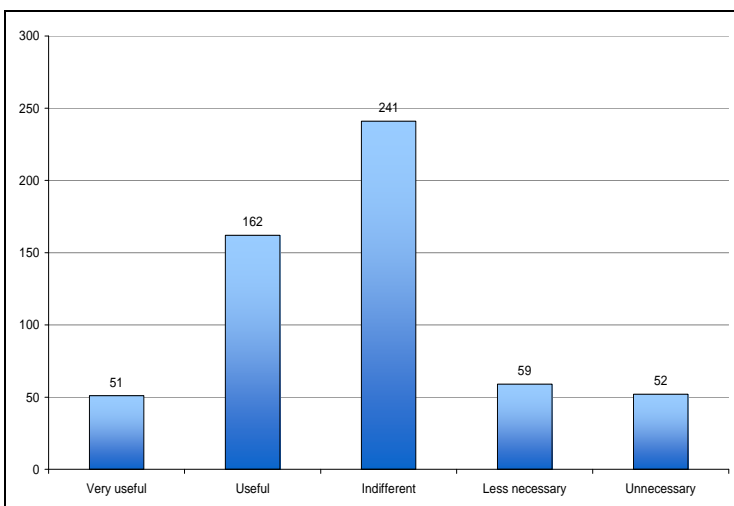
Providing last minute help on a broad range of topics



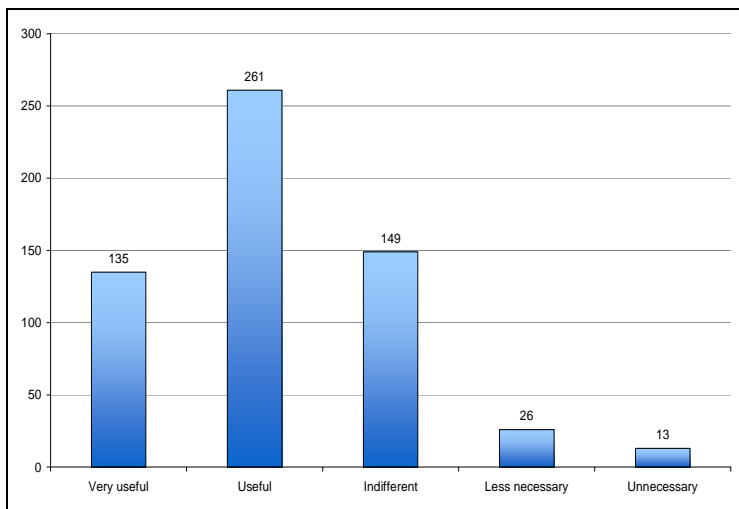
Providing tutorial-like exercises with model answers and an opportunity to discuss



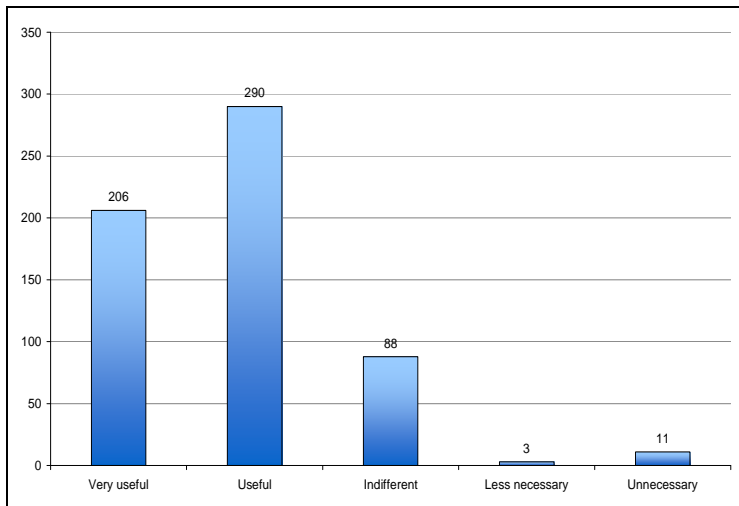
Serving as a basis for discussion with your supervisor/tutor



Time schedule of the exercise



Quality of the model answers and comments



Other, please specify:

- Have a real program which should be spread over 2 years at least
- Online trainign is not efficient as exam is not online
- none
- detailed marking sheet
- -
- Lots of example questions
- The emailed questions provide a useful tool to encourage early consideration of exam-type questions
- online quiz modul covering all fields (like the time limit questions) for reactivatew my knowledge and memory
- I got to know this forum only a few weeks ago (I am a last-minute person)
- -
- I used the coffee break question which was very good
- How can I access to those services?
- like this year, a broad last minute questionnaire
- not sure

- I liked the multiple choice questions for the pre-exam due to the immediate feedback provided. I didn't even sit the pre-exam and will not, so such practice questions are useful for all.
- langue
- Guidance for updating materials
- Provide weekly/biweekly questions/answers during the whole year
- links to other online resources, e.g. deltas PCT guides

Q40) Do you have any suggestions for how the EQE Forum or the other online exercises might be improved?

- Be more transparent, I could not find the relevant topic for me on the academy web-pages!
- For me EQE Forum is time consuming and useless tool, only chat and others mistakes, do not have time to spend on it.; Online exercises are good for one having possibility to sit in front of computer for training. For full time workers - not possible option, not the same as writing the papers on exam.; As above, I'd prefer a publication of "exam like" new questions free of charge with model solutions as EQE preparation compendium (not old exam that had been done a many times - not gives a real picture of timing for reading when you know the matter by heart)
- no
- Will be happy to use the EQE forum weekly examination questions in preparation for D paper
- Maybe the candidate and the supervisor should register as a unity to be "obliged" to discuss together...
- I posted some questions, but in many times I got answers from tutors that were not very helpful. They were rather new questions or simple references to Guidelines or other material which I read myself, but which does not contain the relevant information. I was not aware of either the EQE Forum or the Online services
- Sorry, was not even aware of the EQE Forum.
- I have only taken part in the EQE Forum in 2010 and 2011, but not for the preparation of the EQE 2012, thus I don't know whether my following suggestions have already been implemented: it might be useful to provide detailed marking sheets for the question and comments on whether a specific answer / a specific sentence in your answer gains full marks, half of the points available or no marks at all. This might help candidates to find the correct wording for their answers.
- Advertise the service better. A mere e-mail notifying people about its existence may not be sufficient. Possibly an e-mail with a link to an advertising page showing examples of possible assistance available? If used properly the service could be extremely useful.
- The main goal of the EQE online services need to be channeling the information which is really needed and provide them in a good concept. Not diversity of information. ; ; A corresponding paper copy for everything should be made available, at least downloadable.; ; You have to bring together the relevant knowledge for EPÜ and PCT, which is needed to pass the exam. ; ; Its nonsense, only to rely on private courses provided by a mafia industry with phantasy-hedgefond-moonrates (i paid 1300 € for two days). The EPO as public authority is responsible to promote equality of opportunities which can only be achieved when the information needed to pass the exam is provided from the authority itself FOR FREE. The english culture of availability of education in dependence of the purse can be no way for a european institution.
- Structure of threads could be clearer, especially threads for the pre-examination.
- more guidance for the pre-exam - it was impossible to get accurate information as to the difficulty level and curriculum for the exam. Most people reverted to saying that you should know everything that you would for the full exam, this is not practical advice.
- I don't think it is available in French, even though I used Delta Patent in EN, compendium and candidates copies both in EN and FR, I think it really makes a difference to prepare in

the language you are taking the exam.; If the Forum is available in the 3 languages, I apologize and ask you to better advertise this fact.

- -
- Overview of case law.; ; More PCT
- more weekly questions over the whole year is very useful even if already qualified. It is a constant refreshing of past knowledge ...
- no
- It would be nice if there was more information on the preliminary exam - many of the discussions were directed towards the main EQEs. This was the first year of the preliminary exam and it was a bit daunting that there wasn't a lot of up-to-date information about the exam, particularly as we weren't able to ask colleagues about the exam. There were some discussions in relation to the mock papers which were very useful.
- More exercises, please.
- I was not aware of such online exercises and I did not make use of them.
- no but I hope I will after the C & D papers!
- My answers may give the wrong idea. I have heard from colleagues that the EQE online service is great when studying for paper D and I will make use of it as I will study for paper D now. Since I only took paper C this year and papers A and B 2011, I have no opinion to give on the EQE online service.
- I feel that sometimes people get nervous and their questions are reflecting their nervousness very much. I would appreciate, if some moderators could calm nerves or restrict visibility of too nervous comments...
- None
- Not yet.
- more daily D1 questions
- I think the forum is good, and the more questions are provided the better it is.
- GIVEN A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE OF MARKING THE SINGLE PHASE OF THE ANSWER OF A CANDIDATE OF COMPENDIUM
- I requested information about the online training course for the pre-exam by e-mail but never even got an answer!
- sorting questions and answers according to several topics
- I only used the EQE Forum in the study week together with my friend, when acutally she posted our questions.
- Although I did not so far use this very much, I think it is and excellent tool, and I intend to use it more when preparing for D. Had problems responding to Q35 and Q37 because I so far did not have much experience from them. Found no suitable response alternative.
- keine Kommentar hierzu.
- From my point of view the layout is confusing.
- No
- Please contact candidates as early as possible, on an individual basis if possible, and point out to them the possibilities on this EQE Forum at an early stage of their preparation. This could take the shape of a personal e-mail e.g.
- Questions D1 could start early and take two days for each answer.
- I used the EQE coffee-break questions (weekly questions), which were quite useful.
- General model time schedule on how to solve paper C and more advice about the most common errors in treating paper C (not legal problems, practical problems!)
- Have a place where candidates can upload their practice papers/exam papers
- I didn't use the EQE Forum, except for the subscription of the EQE-coffee break questions. Note however that I did not sit the D-paper
- A tool to rate the most helpful answer so that it appears first in a thread. Mostly only the comments of the tutors helped.
- Well. I was not very convinced so I did not use much the forum... ; I found it difficult to retrieve the info I needed.; Yet, I found (by pure chance) some very useful documents: the Index of the Guidelines, and some Guides for the PCT from Deltapatents... but I'm not sure I

could retrieve them today again...; So, I think there is "potential", but the headings could be clearer (and the discussion are often too long, so that one lose the strain of thought)

- More questions relevant for DII preparations would be great
- It can be probably usefull to define different fields of quesions, like application, examination, search, opposition and so on.
- no
- at Daily-D1-questions, it was sometimes hard to discover that at some of the questions the discussion restarted again after the official model answer was posted
- I made the 100 timelimit questions at the EQE online page. These very very usefull and the answers had a high quality. Such services in which you can immediately check you answers are very usefull.
- The questions of the different years are very similar, greater variety is better; - The timelimit questions via the EPO interface do not fit to to EQE forum and provoke a least detail answer; - a D2 dedicated exercising would be helpful; However, the quality, enthusiasm and dedication of the tutors is extraordinary and very much appreciated
- The design of the page should be changed. The first yellow segment should be presented in another way. The first couple of times that I accessed the page I got confused and did not realise that the interesting parts were to be found by scrolling down.
- Better communication on matter to find on the forum.
- Might be good to have section for supervisors and there tips and hints for them how to supervise preparation for EQEs.
- No suggestion, I would only like to point out that I only made use of the time limit questions on eqe online.org and that these have been very helpful, thanks for that..
- Frankly, most of the time we did discuss internally with our supervisors, our candidates group. So the EQE Forum was of very limited importance because the support in-house is great.
- It seems that the forum in 2011/2012 was not as up to date and active then the years before. May be this does not apply to all topics, I was focussed on Paper C topics and got this impression.
- German language
- The problem with the EQE Forum is that most of the posters on it are fellow students, some of whom are on the ball, some of whom are very much not so. It's far more informative to be able to discuss things one-on-one with an experienced tutor who knows and understands the answers to questions than to try and follow a debate between two candidates, both of whom might actually be completely wrong.
- None
- Provide a list of case law, decisions of Pres, Fees, etc that have changed since last year's EQE.
- Generally, I think the EQE online is not so well structured. It could be easier to use. ; ; At the EPO homepage it is always very difficult to find the relevant information. Usually I have to search around for quite a while before I found information. ; ; I was not aware of the existance of EQE online until quite late, because the EPO homepage does not even provide a link to EQE online. Not one that I found at least.
- Haven't tried it yet...
- No
- No suggestions.
- The online exercises frequently contains typo's or smaller errors.
- I really appreciated the daily D1 questions, not for the answer, but rather for the debates and insight from various person
- It seems to me very overloaded.
- paper-like exercises with solutions
- I would like to print out sets of "selected questions", make them by one sit using paper and pencil and then have the model answers in same place i.e. simulate the real examination as much as possible. There already are pre-selected sets of about 40 marks but you had to do them one-by-one.

- Unfortunately the use of this wonderful tool is used very little for the candidates. Would be much better with an increase of participation. How this can be done?. ; Would be also good to provide with more exercises with model solutions for all papers.
- Other mock paper A (Ch) and B (Ch) with proposed solution will be helpful, to have other examples different from the past exams
- it may help if more mock exam papers can be provided
- I read the Coffee break questions. Very useful.
- NB: I have answered above such that the weekly examination questions are NOT the same thing as the daily D1 exam questions. I have not heard of weekly exam questions.; ; Suggestions:; More multiple choice style questions with immediate answers. The time limit questions are AMAZING. More please.; The tricky part of paper D1 is getting exposure to a wide range of topics, including obscure topics, in sufficient difficulty.; To help generate a large database of questions and answers, D1 questions and answers could be anonymously sent to the forum by forum users. The questions and answers would then have to be checked by a number of professionals and corrected and then could be ranked for difficulty.; In this way, patent professionals that come up against obscure topics in their daily practice are able to share their experience with others.
- -
- I find the EQE Forum an excellent tool particularly to the ones with little in-house support.
- Thanks to the Europ. Patent Academy and the tutors, responding and commenting in the eqe forum!; ; It is difficult to identify interesting questions/answers in earlier/other threads. Perhaps, an interactive map could help surfing within the forum...; ; I found the Indexes provided for the 2010 Guidelines for examination ... very useful, also for daily practice; It would be great, to have a new Indexes to the coming 2012 Guidelines for examination ... earlier / as soon as possible.
- More activity in 2012. 2011 was almost dead on c questions
- More detailed information about the scope and more mock exam related exercises for pre-examination would be appreciated.
- no
- I did not use the Forum for preparation for A and B, but I will use it for C and D. Thus I cannot make any comments at this time.
- Provide weekly/biweekly questions/answers during the whole year
- Einzelne Topics sind z.T. schwer im Forum zu finden. ; ; Angabe der Bewertung einzelner Punkte in den Lösungsvorschlägen
- scheduling in advance exercises such that one can plan/prepare and enrol for discussions; at this moment it is still very ad-hoc which is helpful for providing last minute help, but brings no structure or general guidance.
- I'm not sure if there are consultation-hours in Munich. So I would be there every week to find out on how to deal with the exams.
- Some general topic issues were hard to find, e.g. the abbreviation list,
- no