

# **Survey**

## **European qualifying examination 2013**

**Examination Secretariat**

# EQE Survey 2013

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## Introduction

On 1 March 2013 candidates were invited to participate in a survey concerning the European qualifying examination 2013. 1279 answers were received by 8 April 2013.

Among the candidates who participated in the survey, 575 took part in the EQE for the first time, 679 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 2013

### 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 2013?

please select

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

### Q3) Examination centres - rating

	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 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 any 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 or 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-year 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 2013

	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	<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, answer sheet, 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 any 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 2013?

	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	<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"/>
Commented answer papers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper D 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"/>
Paper D questions: General usefulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE Commented Answer Papers: General usefulness	<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 eqe-online.org website 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?**

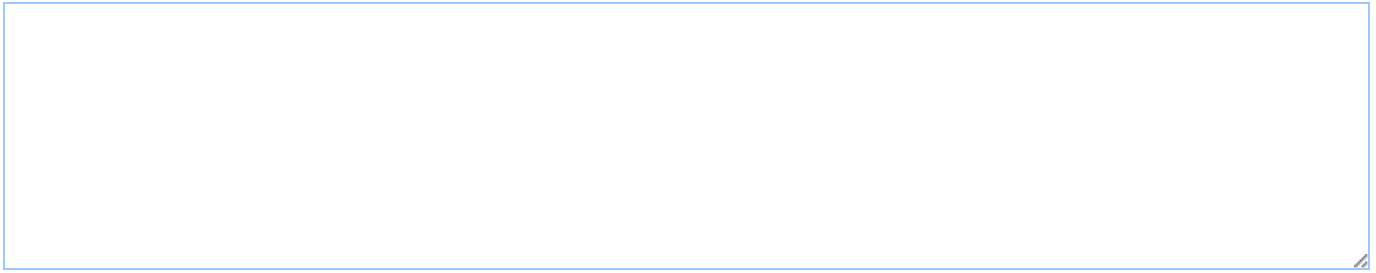
Please rate on a scale

	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 or name things you liked?

Please specify

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin blue border, intended for the respondent to provide their suggestions or list things they liked. A small blue arrow icon is visible in the bottom right corner of the box.

## End of survey

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

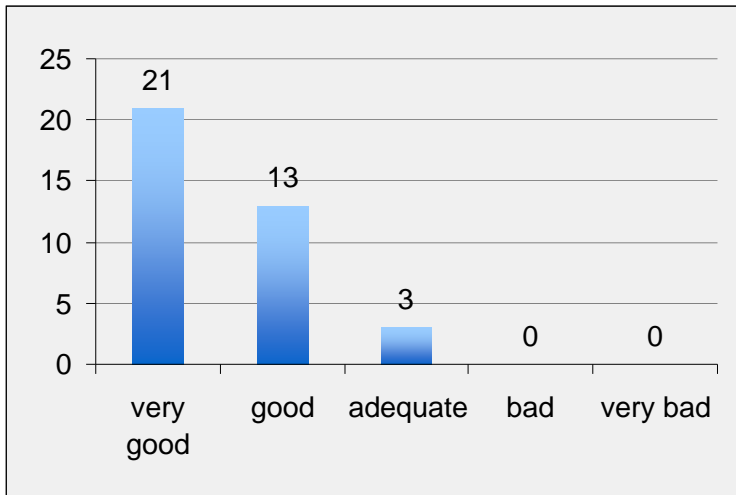
Thank you for participating in the survey.

# Chapter 1 – Examination Centres

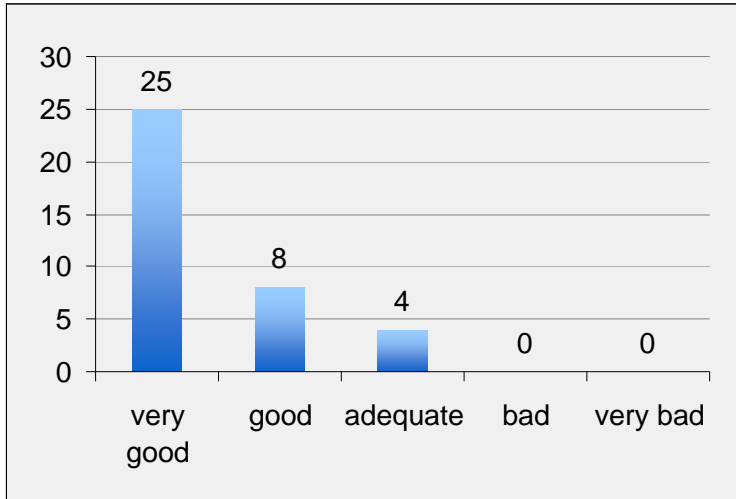
## 1.1 Berlin (37 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

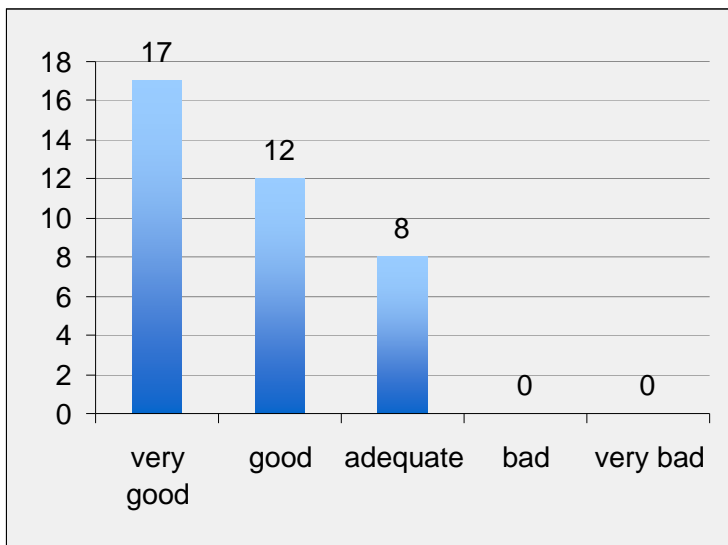
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



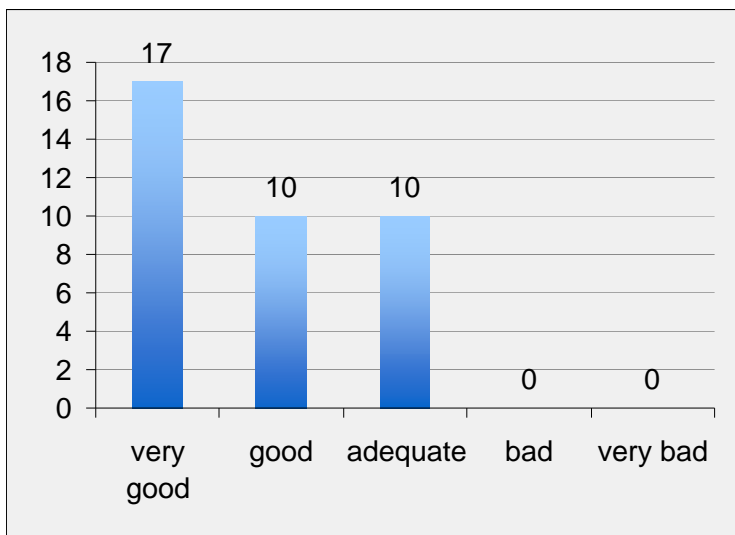
Identification check



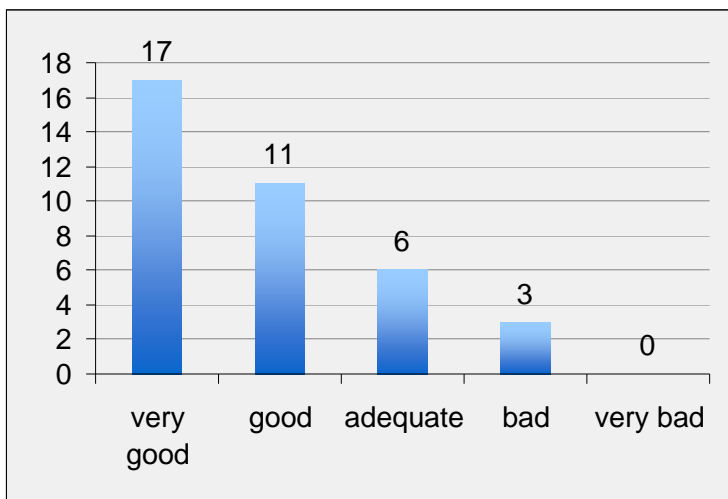
### Lighting conditions



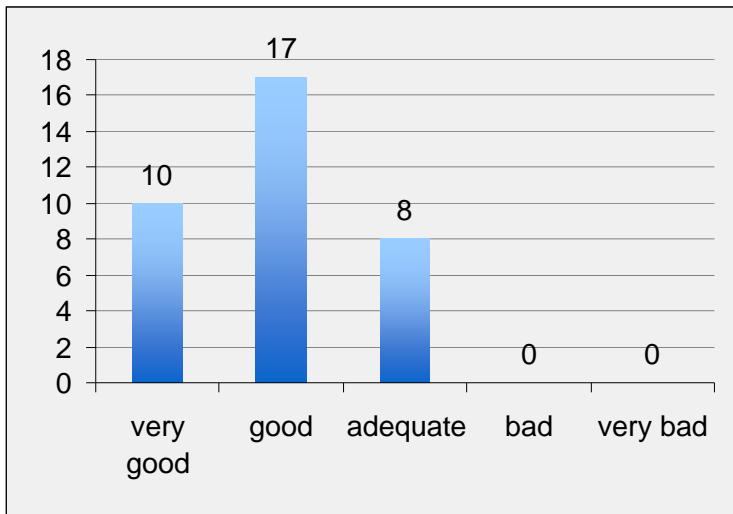
### Space for candidates



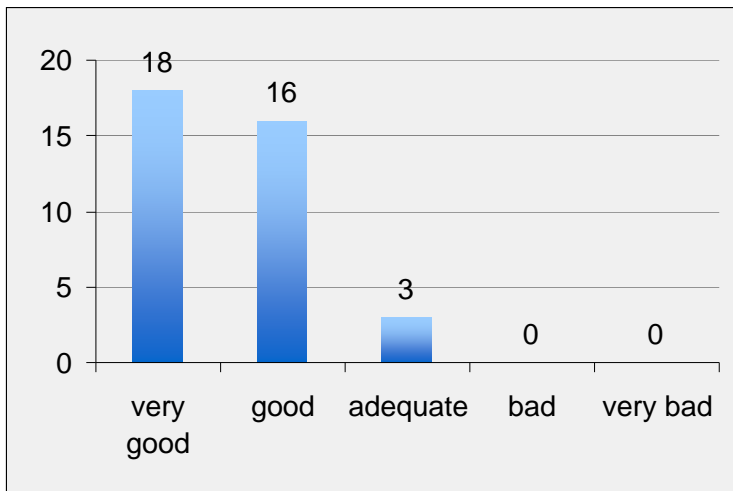
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



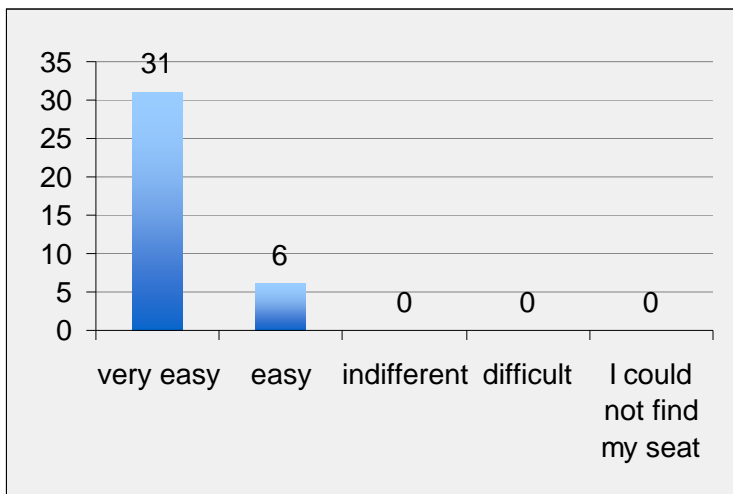
### Restroom facilities



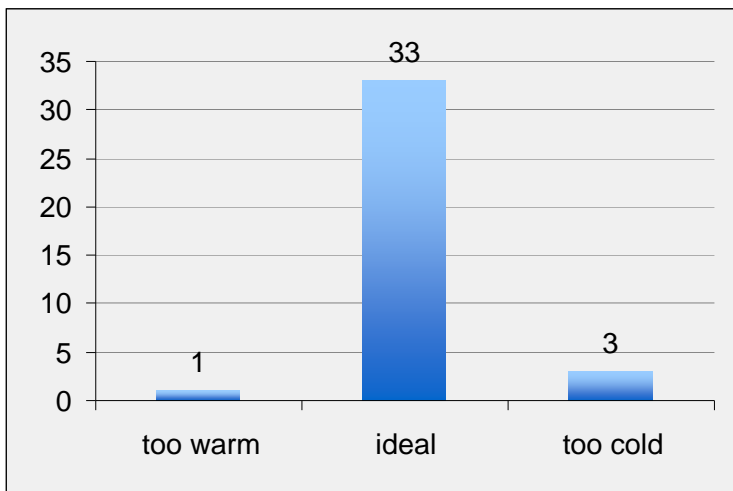
### Suitability of the examination hall



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



**Q5) Hall temperature**



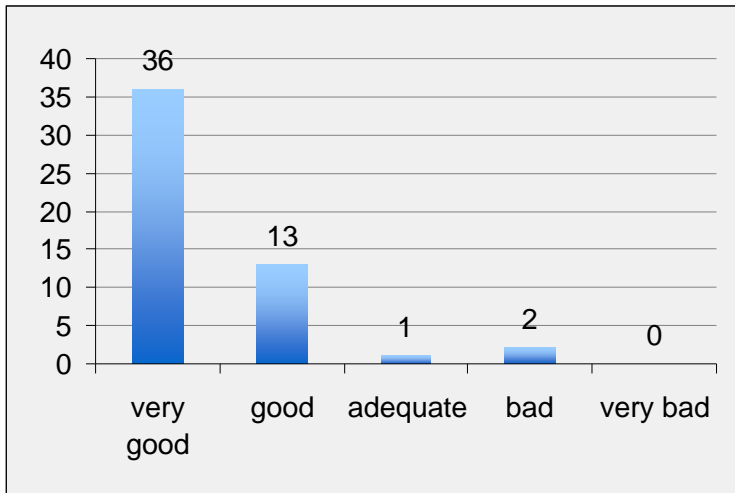
**Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.**

- The light above my seat was broken. Since the seat next to me was not occupied I could use that seat. However, if more students took part in the exam, the condition of the lights would have to be checked more crucially in my opinion.
- In the corridor, in which the examination room was, there were signs assigning people to be quiet. However, a nearby door lead to a stairway, and in the stairway no such signs were placed. In one of the exams, some people kept talking for like 15-30 Minutes in that stairway (i suppose it was there). It was so annoying i even thought about briefly going out and tell them to be quiet. On the other days, the accustic condition were good
- It was as good as it can be. No complaints just praise!

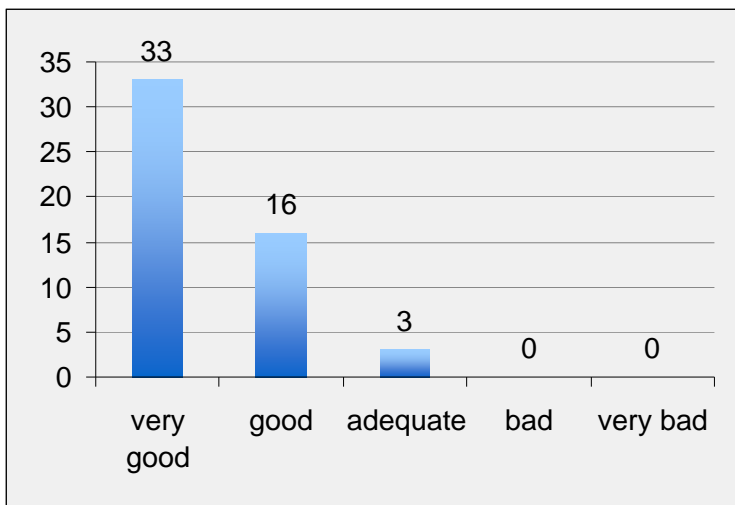
## 1.2 Berne (52 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

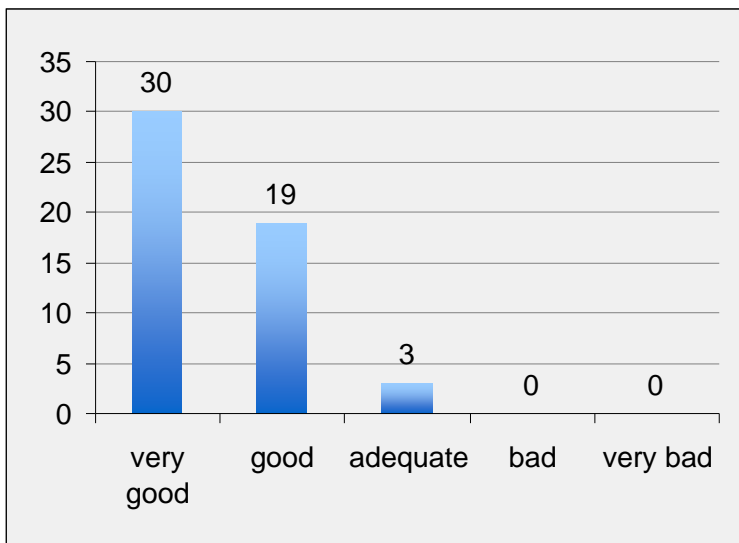
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



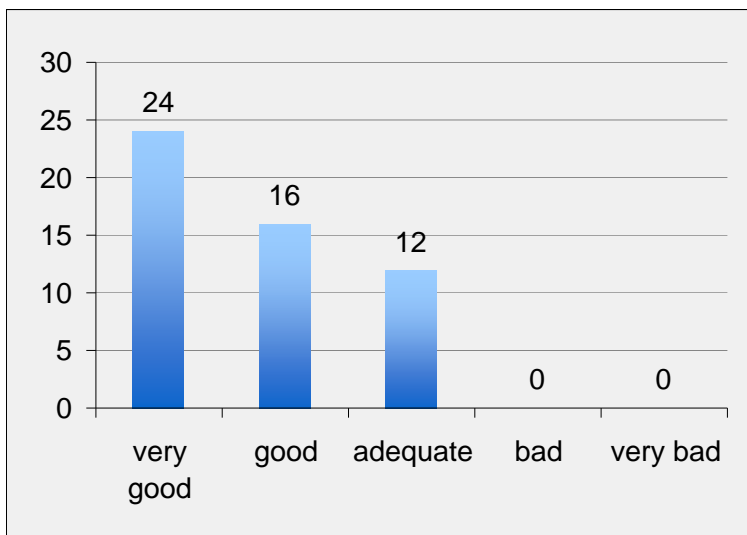
Identification check



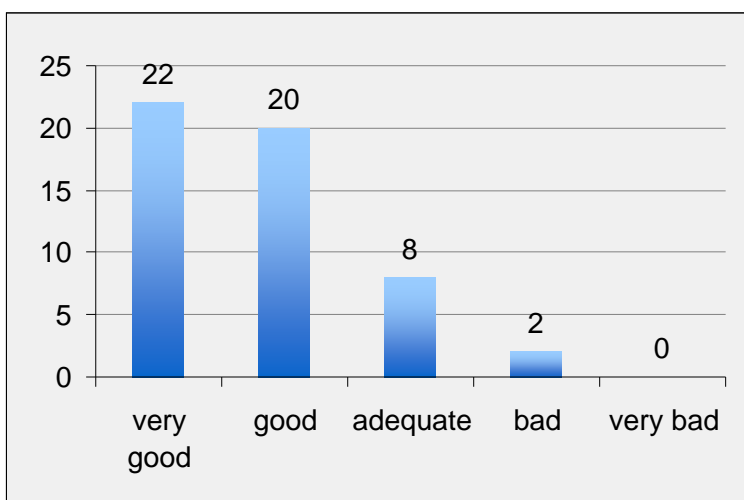
### Lighting conditions



### Space for candidates

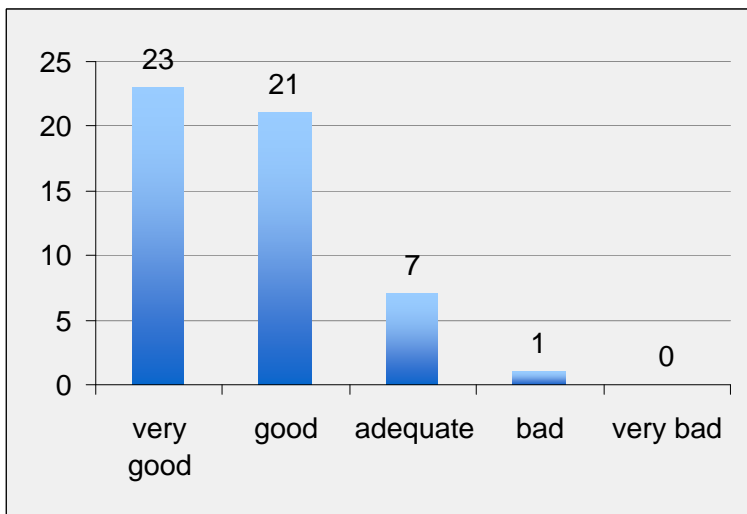


### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

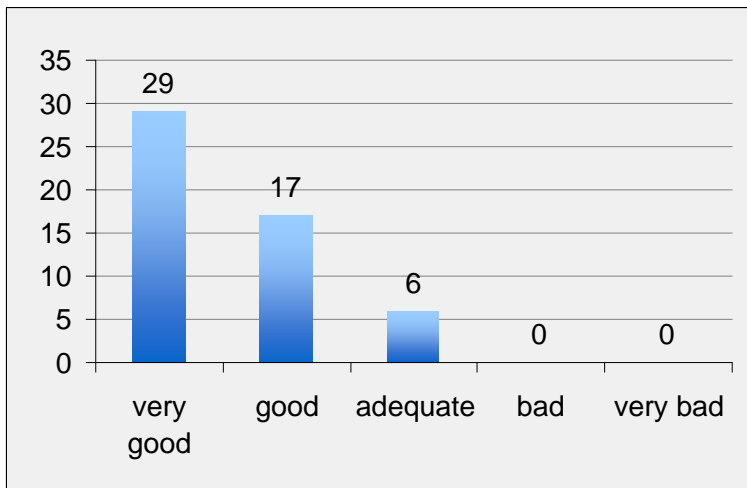




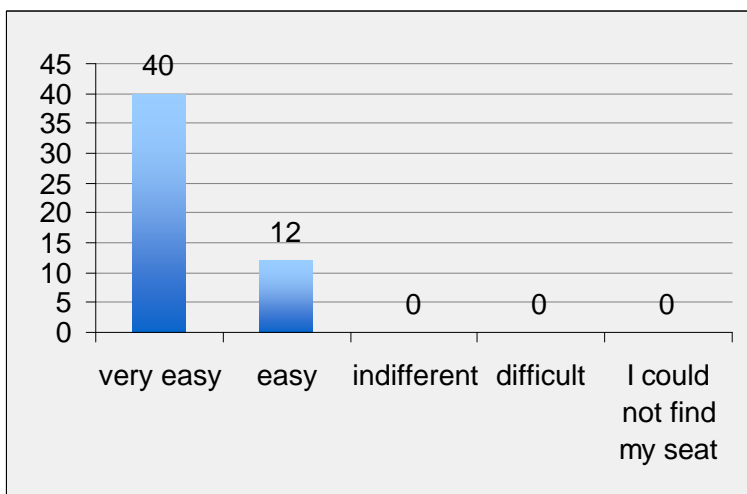
#### Restroom facilities



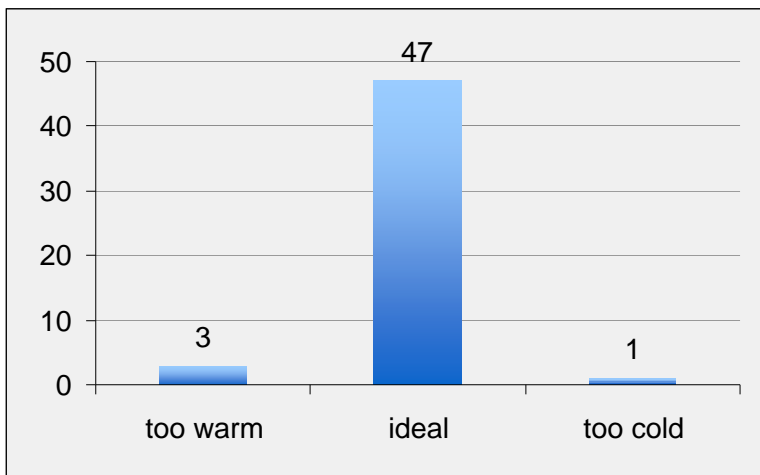
#### Suitability of the examination hall



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



**Q5) Hall temperature**



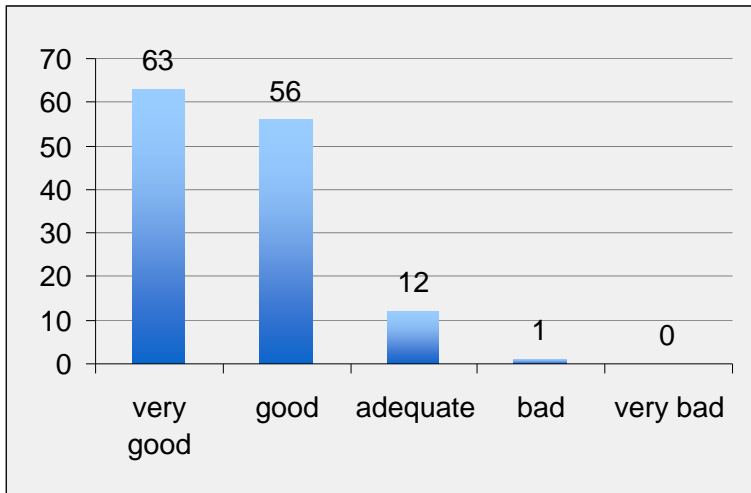
**Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.**

- About 12 tables out of the about 80 tables were significantly smaller (at least 10%) AND positionned against pillars in the room giving significantly less space to the poor candidate sitting at these tables. This is absolutely unfair since all candidates should have as much as possible similar conditions. It can be extremely frustrating to seat there, and create tension before the start of the exam. Having see there is plenty of space in the room, It makes not much sense to provide smaller tables just for the sake of keeping a perfect block structure
- Do not change something for Berne this is perfect
- Everything was very fine except the fact that it was very cold when seated just beside a window. (It was -6 in Bern that day, nevertheless I don't believe that it is the case every year...)
- the table was low compared to the chair... resulting in a back pain after 5h of examination
- Examination hall/hotel was a bit out of the center of town but altogether easy to find, well suited, and the receptionists were very helpful and friendly...
- Keep the same place it is the greater place ever to pass an exam

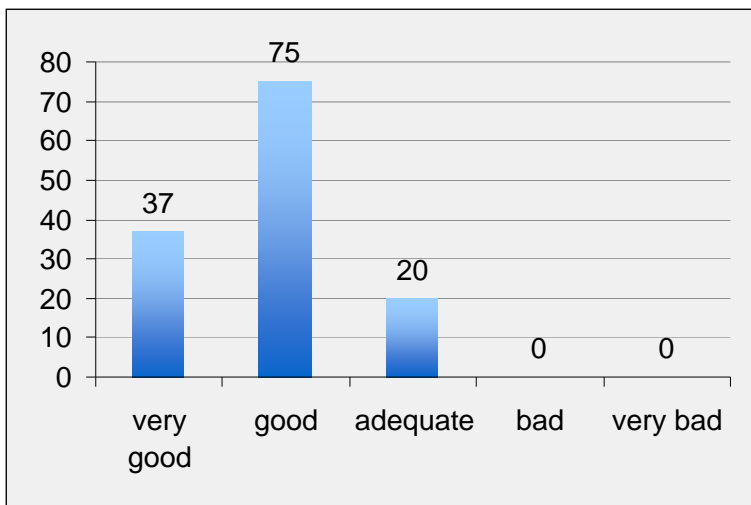
### 1.3 Bristol (132 answers received)

#### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

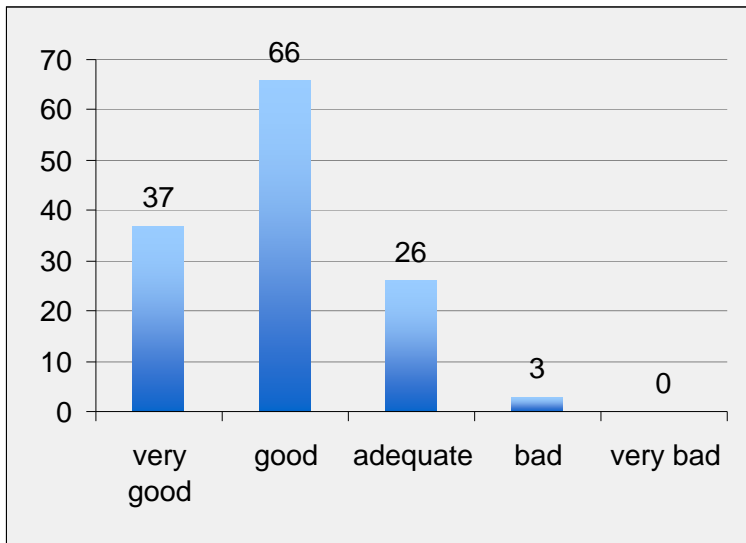
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



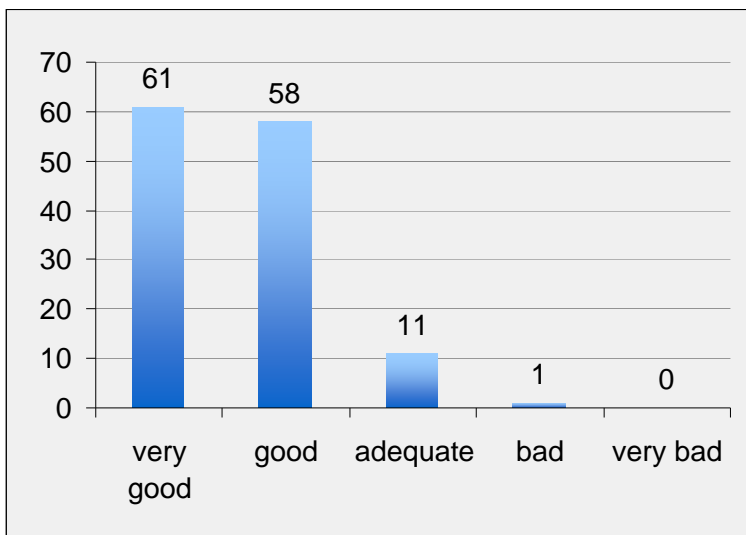
Identification check



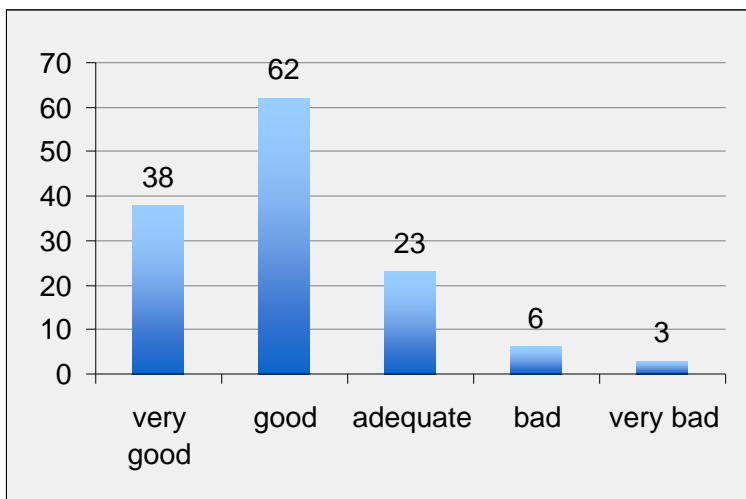
### Lighting conditions



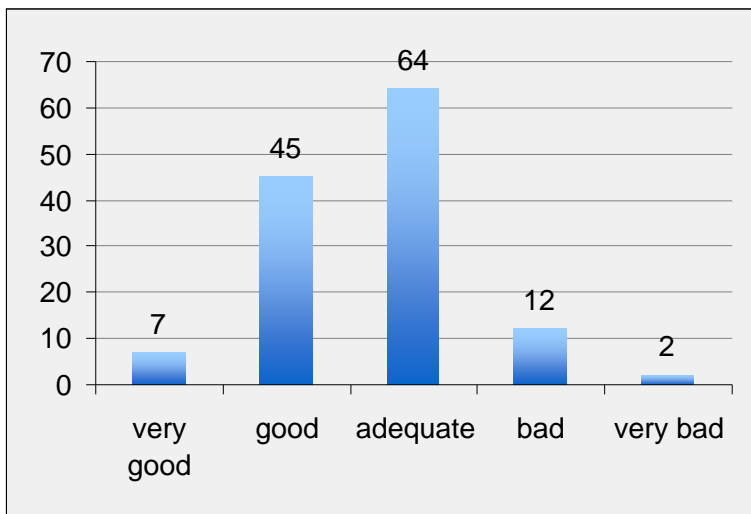
### Space for candidates



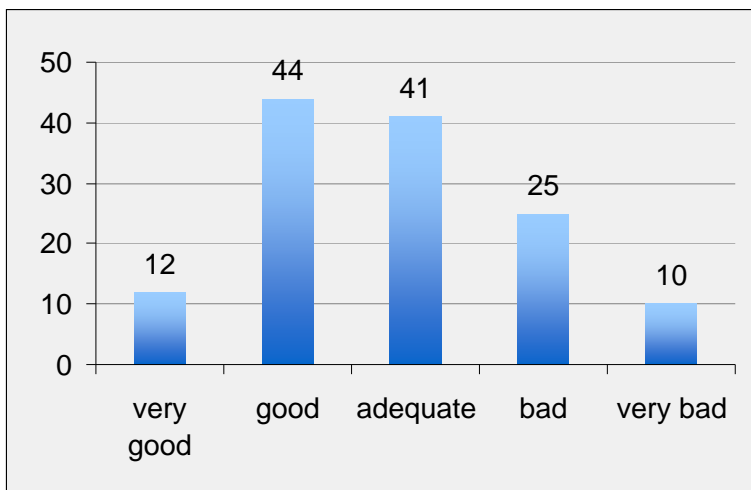
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



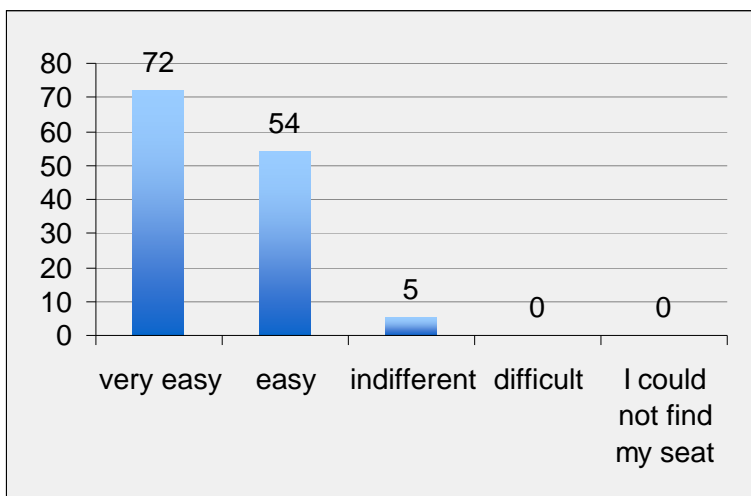
#### Restroom facilities



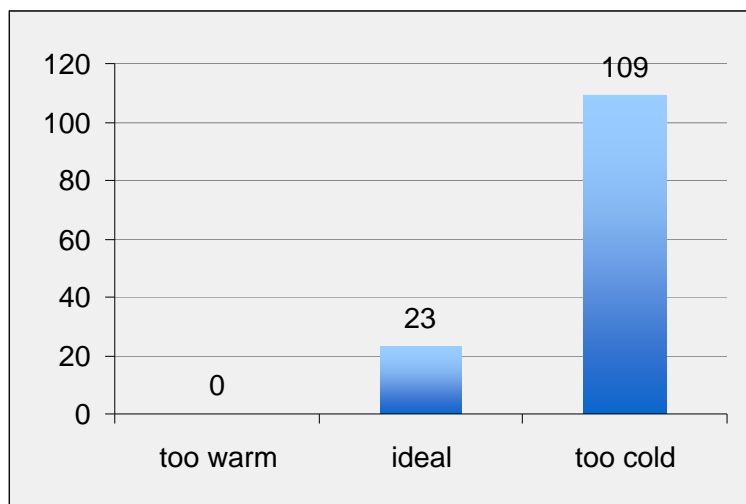
#### Suitability of the examination hall



#### 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 exam hall was exceptionally cold with no provision for heating. This made it difficult to write under such conditions. I would suggest that better heating is provided in the future.
- The examination hall was so cold (even with a jumper on) that towards the end of my first exam I was struggling to concentrate and my writing hand was shaking with the cold. The experience was so bad that I had to purchase an outdoor winter fleece so that I could get through my next exam. Concentration and ability to write severely affected. Not impressed.
- The examination hall for the pre-exam was not an acceptable temperature. I was aware that the exam room had been described as cold in previous years, so I was wearing several layers of clothing in preparation for this. However, it was so cold that I had to sit for the entire exam in my coat, scarf and hat. I continued to be cold throughout the exam and was shivering frequently. I found the level of coldness in the room very distracting. I believe almost all the candidates in the hall were wearing their coats for the majority of the exam. I do understand that it was a particularly cold day on Monday, but the venue has plenty of notice to prepare the hall to be an acceptable temperature.
- Very cold - especially for paper A.
- ABSOLUTELY FREEZING! It's outrageous that candidates are expected to sit for 4 hours in those kinds of temperatures, let alone be able to focus enough to answer an exam well.
- Plenty of clocks, slightly too cold (especially after 3 hours)
- The only bad point was that the room was very cold.
- The hall was insufficiently heated - it was very cold indeed which made it difficult to concentrate.
- Exam hall was freezing. Coldness interfered with concentration and with writing answers. Caused shoulders to seize up. Hall seriously requires heating. On the positive, invigilators were very friendly and helpful, exam hall is well located and easy to find.
- I have been to the Bristol venue in three different years. It is impossible to heat the current Bristol venue to an adequate temperature. Please ask the University of Bristol whether they have a venue available that would be more suitable, in particular warmer?
- It was extremely cold in the hall, to the point where I had to wear hat, scarf and gloves throughout the exams (and many layers of thermal clothing!). This isn't great when you are sitting still for 5 hours. Other than that, the hall was a very good venue.
- Hall was very cold indeed. Less than 16 degrees (which is below the legal minimum for a workplace). No space heaters were used. Ludicrous.
- I would recommend to any future candidates - take extra pairs of socks, a THICK jumper and a warm coat. It is very cold in the exam centre, especially bad on the first day.
- Very noisy traffic or central heating noise made concentration very difficult

- The exam hall was very cold.
- It was far too cold. I had to put on my winter coat, scarf and hat.
- The exam hall was much too cold. I had to wear my coat throughout all the exams just to be warm enough.
- Temperature was an issue. I'd worn a number of layers as I thought it would be cold, but it was so cold I kept my winter coat on throughout! My legs and hands were very cold.
- The hall was definitely too cold for Paper D, but it seemed to be better for Paper C on Thursday.
- Unacceptably cold during the pre-exam. I ended up leaving an hour before the end of the exam as my fingers had gone blue while being seated next to the window. Wore scarf and coat but still terrible. Please fix this for next year. Very good tables; appreciated the space given. Also, it was useful having the exam hall located so close to station and hotels. But still, far too cold.
- Exam venue is far too cold - I left an hour early mainly due to being too cold!
- I understand the hall was very cold for the pre-exam. By the final day when I sat my exam the temperature was good.
- The examination hall was very cold, to the point where it became a serious distraction. Despite wearing a jumper, coat, hat and fingerless gloves, I still found myself shivering during the exam.
- There were bright lights available. However, since a very bright light was right behind my shoulder, I had to put up with half of my books/question /answers being very bright and the other half very dark shadows caused by my head/shoulders throughout the exam. The exam hall is far too cold. When not writing, I had to keep my hands in my pocket to keep them warm.
- The hall was definitely not freezing but could have been a tad warmer
- The Examination venue is close to the main taxi rank outside Bristol Temple Meads station. The sounds of honking car horns could be heard at various points during the examination. As in previous years, the examination centre was generally too cold - many people commented on this during the examination.
- The examination hall was so cold that many candidates were wearing hats and gloves!!
- Absolutely FREEZING. You need to put two jet heaters in there for 2 hours before the exam starts to warm the hall up. There was no difference between the temperature inside of the hall and the temperature outside.
- The examination hall was unacceptably cold. The outdoor temperature was 2C and the hall had no heating whatsoever. We were therefore sitting in a room at 2C for four hours trying to do an exam! furthermore, the restrooms were also freezing and had no hot water, meaning that we were forced to wash our hands in ice cold water. For such an important exam it is unfair that candidates have had to overcome the hall conditions as well as the challenge of actually answering the exam paper. Given that this feedback is similar to previous years, why has the EPO done nothing to address these issues?
- I liked the hall's roof, it is amazing. I was too near the women's toilets and there was thus a distracting flow of women walking past my desk all the way through the exam.
- Examination room very cold
- It was very cold. Even though I'd wrapped up well in anticipation of the cold, I kept my winter coat on throughout, and my legs and hands were very cold.
- It was well located but very cold. I had to put my hood up on my hoodie.
- The hall was extremely cold
- Cavernous hall, was a bit cold. Otherwise, an ideal location: better desk spacing and lighting than EQE 2012 in Den Haag.
- Excellent location, very easy for transportation
- It is unfortunate that such a lovely building containing such a high ceiling results in it taking far longer to warm up than was allowed before the exams began. Many people were wearing gloves, scarves and hats, which is not really on in an examination. The administration was excellent and everything prior to starting straightforward and good, however it was so very cold I was highly distracted by literally shivering. I would urge all

candidates to make sure they take many layers of clothing to this venue.

- Personally, the only problem I had for EQE venue (Bristol) has always been the temperature. It is just too cold. I had to wear scarf and coat inside. My hands were icy cold that on occasions I felt as though I couldn't write properly. It's pretty cold because the drinks seem like they were just taken out of a fridge even though when I first took it in it was lukewarm.
- It was very, very cold in the examination hall. I was physically shivering throughout my exams, which made writing clearly and quickly extremely difficult. I feel that this had a significant negative impact on my sitting of the exams.
- Generally speaking, the examination venue and conditions were good. However, the issue of temperature within the examination hall must be raised. Thankfully, the pre-exam is nothing more than a check-box exercise, which is fortunate given that my hands had frozen after the first hour. I would hope that, in future years, more effort would be made to ensure that candidates are adequately warm, especially given the length of the exams.
- It was colder inside the hall than outside when we arrived. I sat the exam wearing gloves.
- Noise from outside was quite distracting - taxis beeping their horns, drilling...
- Exam hall was fine with the exception of the temperature, which was far too cold.
- The Bristol exam centre has an excellent location next to Bristol Temple Meads train station for easy access.
- It's quite difficult to carry a heavy suitcase up two flights of stairs and the lift only has limited capacity. Exam hall often started off slightly too warm and became increasingly cold as day went on.
- There was no heating. After one hour into the exam, I started shivering and I had to put my coat on. I was already wearing a sweatshirt and a jumper before I had to put my coat on. Sitting an exam while cold is not ideal!! Thanks
- my only comment is that it was freezing in the exam hall
- The Examination Centre in Bristol was far too cold. I sat the exam wearing a parka, hat and gloves.
- The hall was exceptionally cold, I was wearing two coats yet still shivering by the end, it made it difficult to concentrate on the exam.
- The exam hall was so cold that even with three layers on, my hands were so cold it was difficult to control the pencil! This is the sole reason why I have rated the examination centre as 'very bad'.
- that former hangar was indeed meant to house trains and not to be a 'room' as such; too cold and noisy, poor lighting conditions!
- Easy access from the train station and nearby hotels. Spacious, good sized desks.
- The place so cold that I had to put my gloves on during the exam and I was not the only one (there were other people wearing gloves)... I have read complaints from previous year's feedback about the freezing temperature of the examination hall. It is disappointing that the situation has not been improved despite the feedback. Next year, please make it warm enough to be suitable for exam (not very easy to write/turn pages with the gloves on!), please...
- Examination hall was very cold.
- It was far, far too cold. Lots of people were wearing coats, hats and gloves, and even with these I was still distracted by being cold.
- The exam hall was distractingly cold. I wore gloves and a jacket through the entire examination.
- The examination centre in Bristol was very cold. In fact, I initially felt embarrassed at the need to put on my coat, but it was only when I looked around that I noticed a number of other candidates had done the same. Some candidates were even wearing gloves.
- Staff were helpful in finding seats.
- The exam hall was extremely cold.
- The Exam hall was far too cold. After sitting still for a couple of hours it was really uncomfortable. My hands were so cold by the end, it was hard to write properly.
- Too cold. I had to wear my coat, in addition to a jumper.

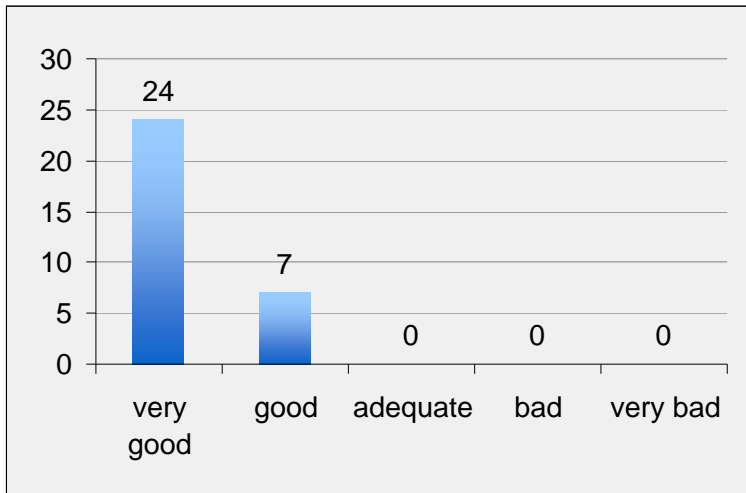


- Everything was very suitable apart from the temperature - it was VERY cold :)! On the plus side it was however very easily accessible from the station and nearby hotels. It would be nice to have a centre further north if practical though, many of us are not based in London and Bristol is not particularly convenient to get to.
- The hall was far too cold, to the extent that I had to sit on my hands to warm them up. There were also a number of loud noises coming from the rear of the hall.
- The Bristol exam hall was excellent except for the temperature. It is very cold. If the exam hall could be warmed up it would be an almost perfect setting for an exam.
- Exam centre was very, very cold - to the extent that it became difficult to think!
- Candidates were warned well in advance that the examination centre would be cold and so I did bring warm clothing. However, the examination hall was so cold that it was getting difficult to write.
- The temperature in the hall was ridiculously cold. I understand from other people who have previously taken the EQE in Bristol that this is a recurring problem. It was a very cold day outside but the hall, if anything, was colder - by the end of the exam I was wearing two pullovers, an overcoat, and a scarf and was still too cold to concentrate properly. As I was sitting the Pre-Exam there was not much writing involved, but if I had been sitting the EQE I think the temperature would have severely limited my ability to write quickly and legibly. The lighting conditions were only just adequate. The hall obviously had some heating in place but the benefits of the heating can only be felt by those fortunate enough to be sitting directly next to the heating conduits. It is effectively a train shed which it is difficult/impossible to heat efficiently and if an alternative venue can be found I believe this would be welcomed by all.
- The examination hall was absolutely freezing! There appeared to be no heating at all. I was wearing 4 layers of clothing and I was still shivering. Many people had hats and gloves on. It was totally unacceptable!
- The Bristol examination venue is perfect except for the lack of heat. It was so cold in the exam that most people wore scarfs, coats, hats, etc.
- 'cold' is not the proper adjective to describe the hall temperature in Bristol - my hands were freezing, I could barely write (or think), I was struggling to stay alive
- I found it difficult to see the time on the wall clock in view of sunlight streaming in from the windows.

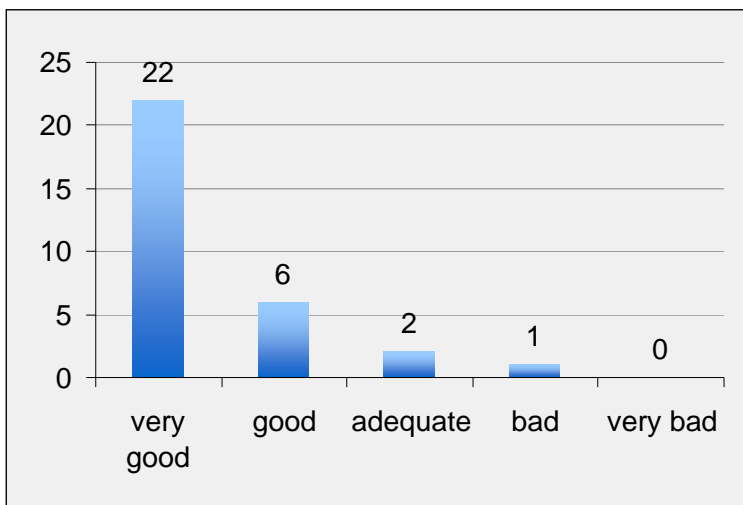
#### 1.4 Helsinki (31 answers received)

##### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

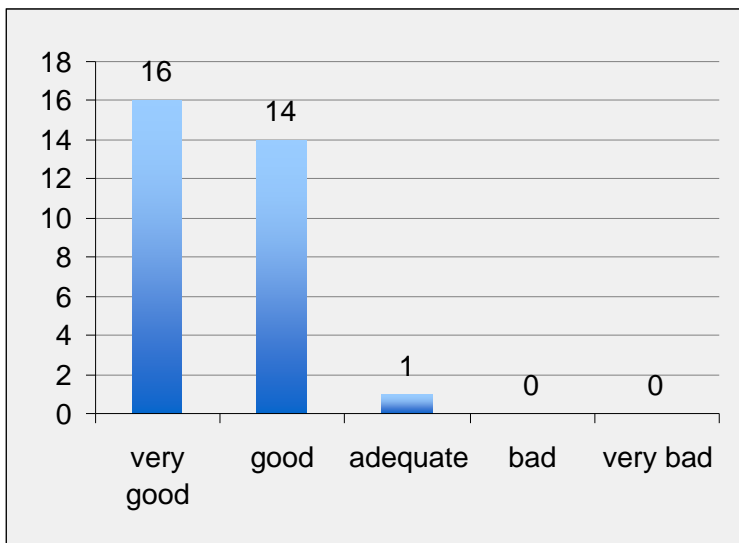
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



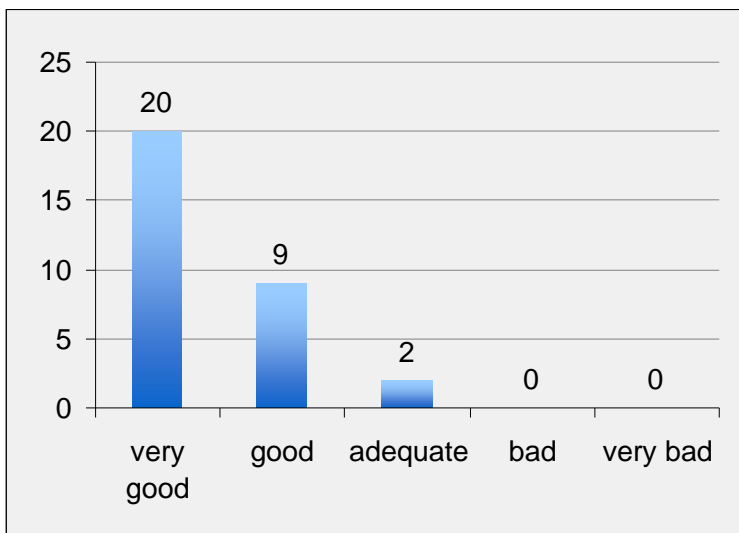
Identification check



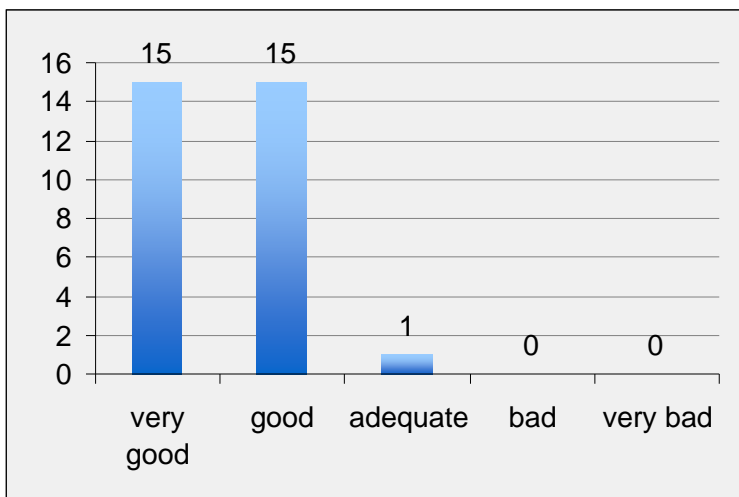
### Lighting conditions



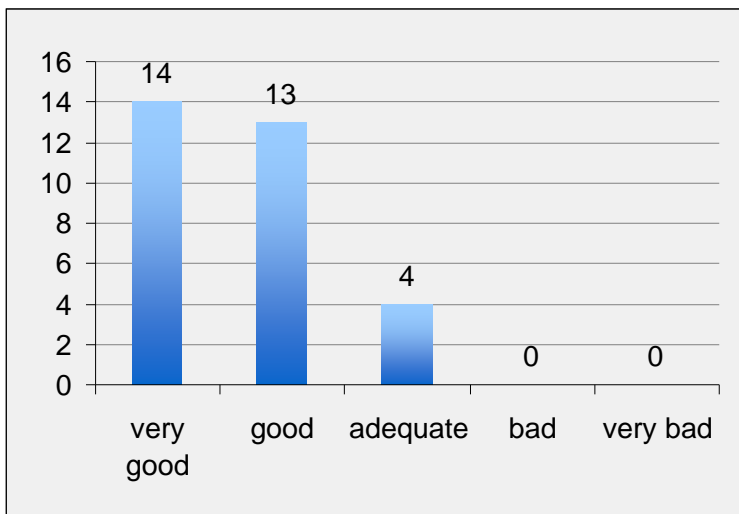
### Space for candidates



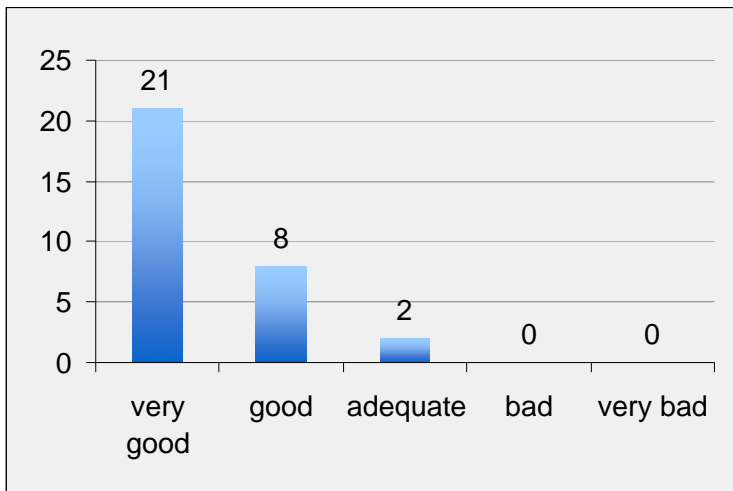
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



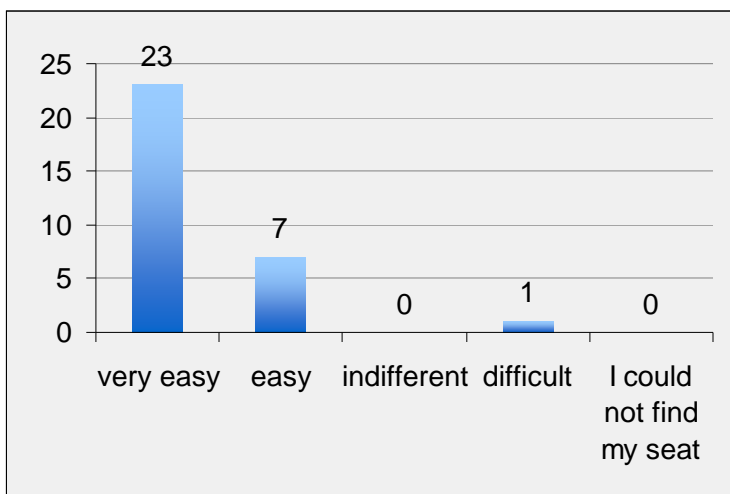
### Restroom facilities



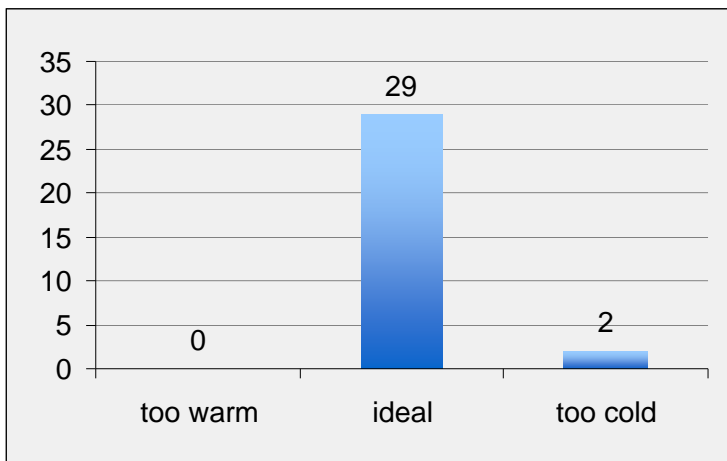
### Suitability of the examination hall



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



**Q5) Hall temperature**



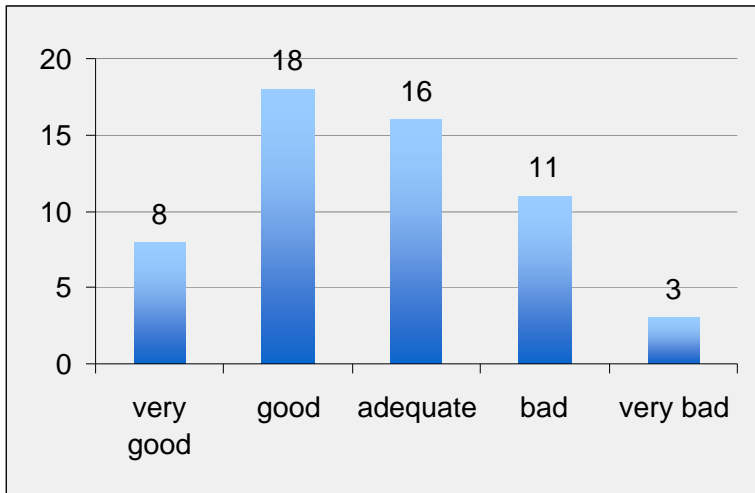
**Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.**

- The table was quite unstable. It swung a little bit when writing! Please check always the stability of the tables when preparing examination hall and make the necessary tightening measures for the feet of the tables. I don't have Leatherman with me in the Exam => Thank you.
- Very good location, easy to reach by travel, accommodations nearby - helps preparation and concentration on the exam.
- For Finnish candidates very good location and accessible by bus, metro, train or own car.

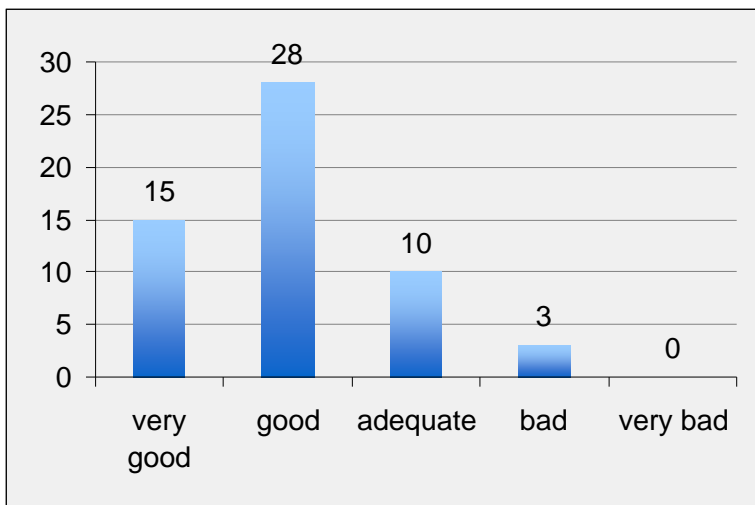
### 1.5 Madrid (57 answers received)

#### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

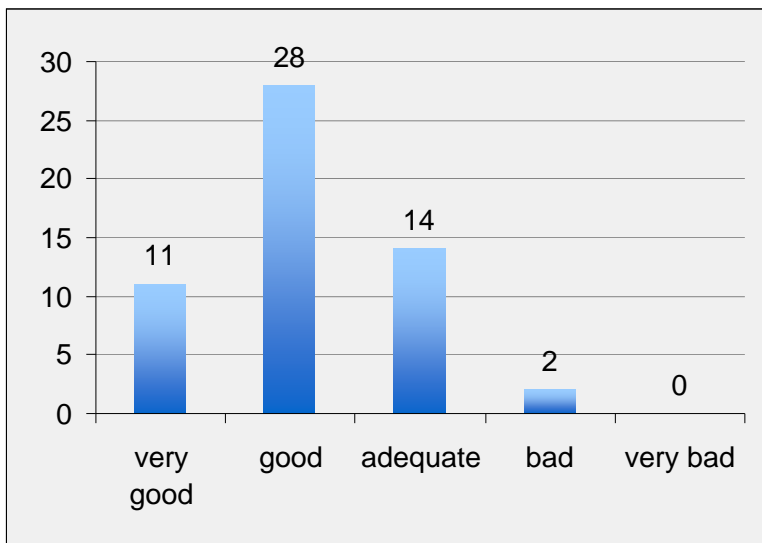
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



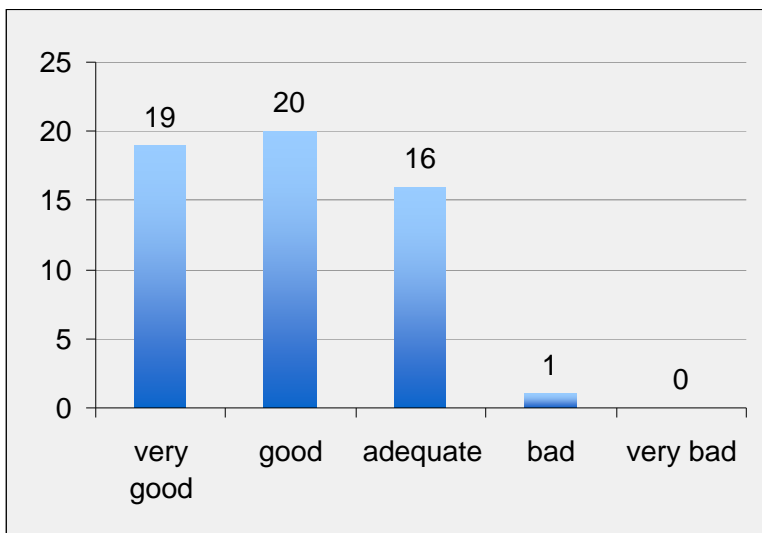
Identification check



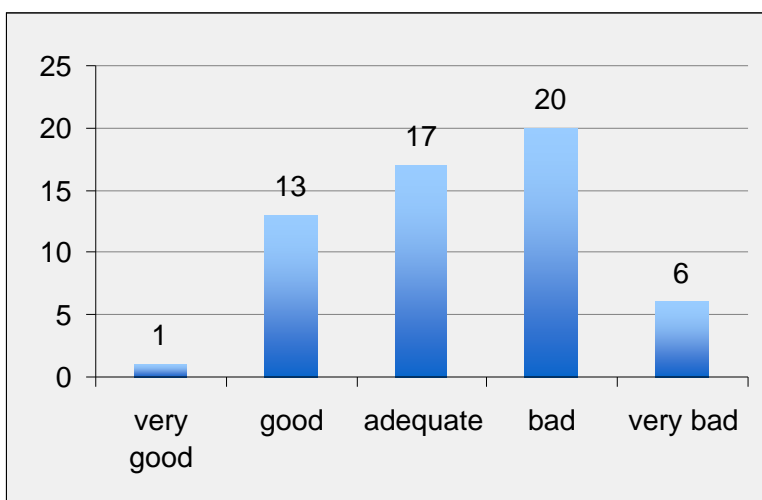
### Lighting conditions



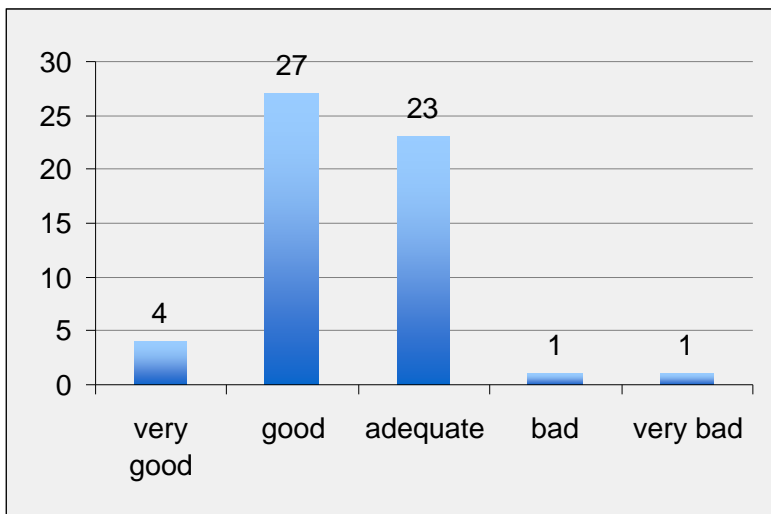
### Space for candidates



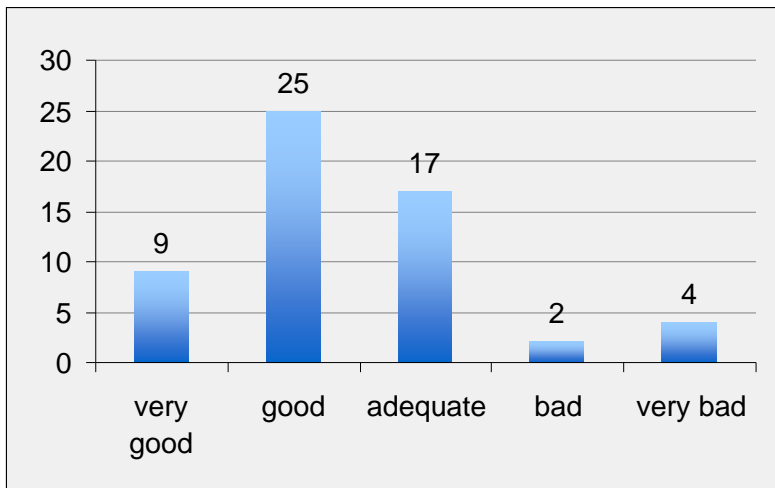
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



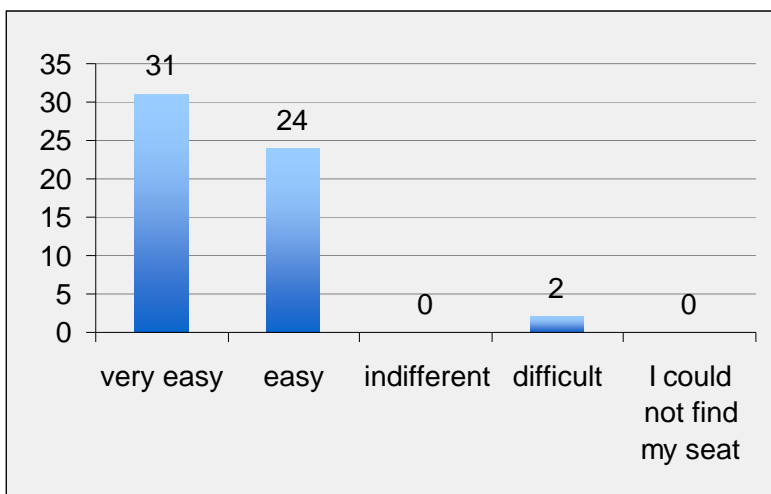
#### Restroom facilities



#### Suitability of the examination hall

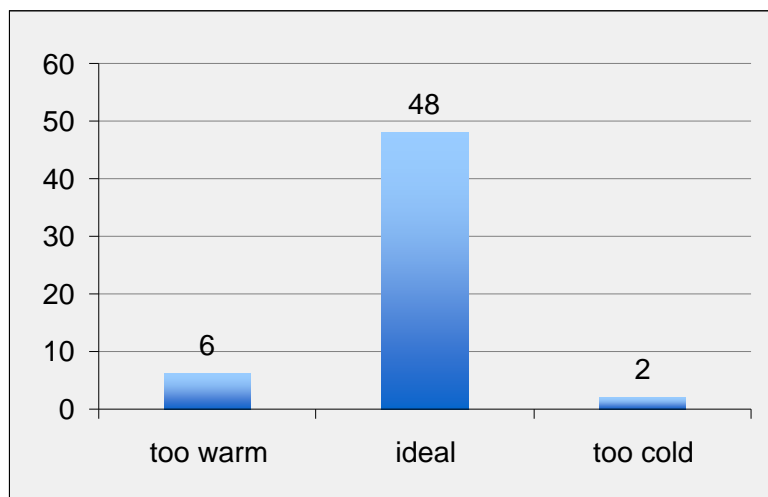


#### Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?





#### Q5) Hall temperature



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

- The Examination started 15min late and we did not have a glass of water. Only the bottle but not the glass
- I don't think that there is a good idea to have a glass water bottle without closure on the table...
- the table was covered with a tissue and it was not easy to write because it was soft
- Very easy and comfortable to get there by train as the hotel was is within the same train-station
- To reach the examination hall, there was no lift and stairs had to be used, with the corresponding heavy weight of carrying a luggage full of books for D-exam! The D-exam started 15 minutes late, though we had the proper time at the end. I could not hear properly the invigilators.
- Bad site this year. Problems to start the examination (it started later) which was not so good for our nerves waiting while solving the problem.
- I think that the hall is too larger for only one clock. People sitting in the back of the room may have had difficulties to see it.
- Under my point of view the tables had a strange shape. Too long and very narrow, definitely not comfortable. I would prefer something wider where you would not need to move along the table.
- I was sat in the last row and the audibility of the invigilators was null. After complaint one invigilators moved to the end of the hall and repeat the explanations there. Tha tables are long but not so wide.
- The tables were large enough but not wide enough.
- We had problems caused by the noise coming from the hall of the hotel and from the train station placed under the examiantion centre (Husa Hotel).
- You could hear a lot of noise from the hall of the hotel and from the nearest train station.
- The table was too narrow. It is uncomfortable to write on the paper having a tablecloth below, so I would remove the tablecloth from the table. I want to thank a lot the kindness of the invigilators.
- There was no lift for accessing the very last part of the stairs, until the examination hall, which was problematic for carrying the heavy material for D-part. However, luckily, the kind employees from the hotel allowed us to use their non-public lift for going up until the examination hall.
- The hall was on the first floor and there was no lift to get in there. Difficult and inappropriate when carrying heavy luggage as it was the case.
- Our invigilator spoke too low and could not really hear him (and I was sitting in the front half

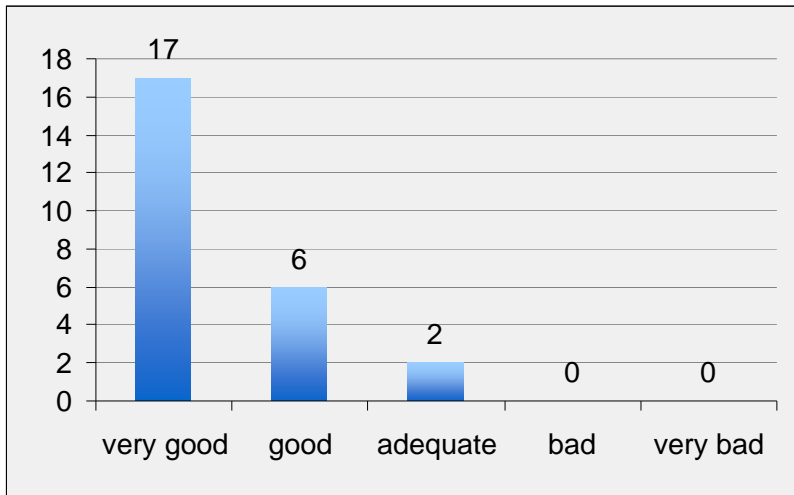
of the room). The tables were big because they were quite long, but they were too narrow. And they had some sort of cloth covering them which was not the most appropriate surface for sliding a pen/biro when you are in a hurry.

- I was sat at the end of the examination hall and I could not hear what the examiners were saying
- I would desire natural light.
- I would suggest not to put glass water bottles without cap on the table, just in order to avoid any kind of annoyance. Thanks very much
- The late change of the examination center caused that prebooked hotel close to the initial examination center could not be changed and extra time had to be used to move to the new examination center and carry all the material for the exam (books, manuals...). To avoid this hassle a hotel close to the initial examination center was booked well in advance, which was in the end useless. The examination room for Paper D was open late, which did not give enough time to calmly prepare and arrange the materials, consequently Paper D started late, but we were allowed extra time at the end of the exam to compensate the late start.
- A chair was uncomfortable, especially for 5-hours C-exam
- The table was covered with a velvet cloth that was too warm on the legs; I suggest removing it in future examinations. Otherwise, the size of the table surface, the height of both the table and the chair, and the space between participants were good.
- The table was covered with a velvet cloth that was too warm on the legs. I suggest removing it in future examinations. Otherwise, the size of the table, the height of both the table and chair, and the space between candidates was ideal.

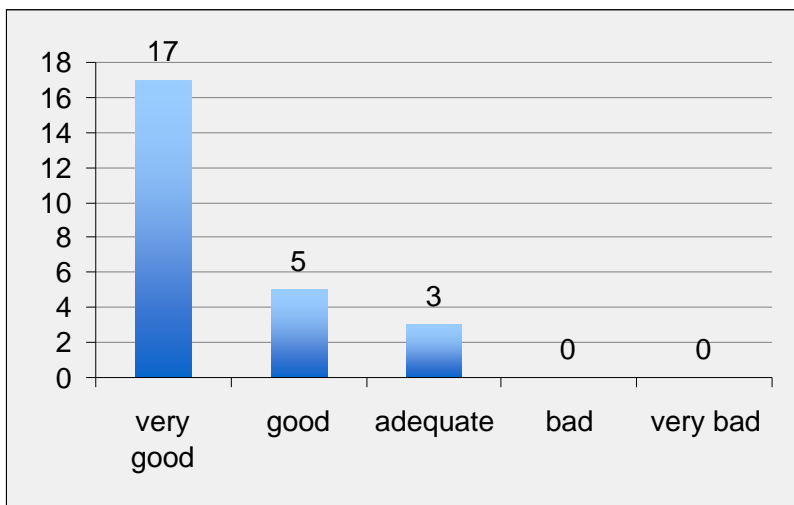
## 1.6 Munich DPMA (25 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

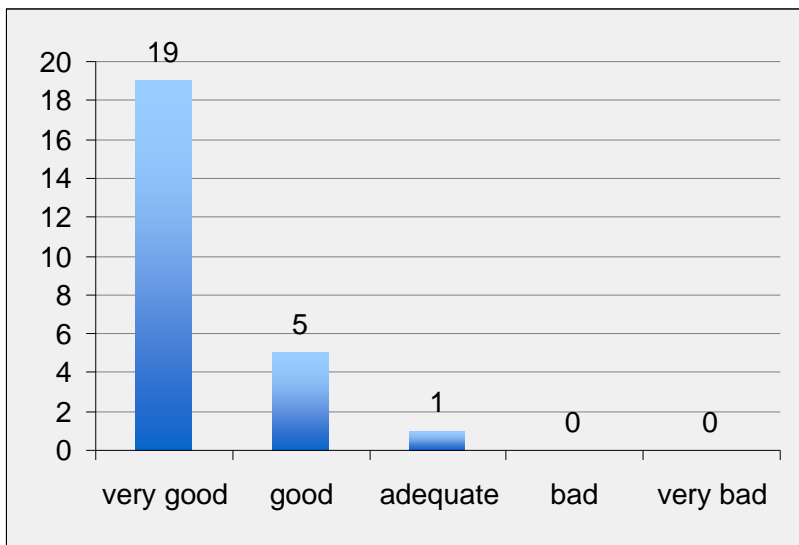
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



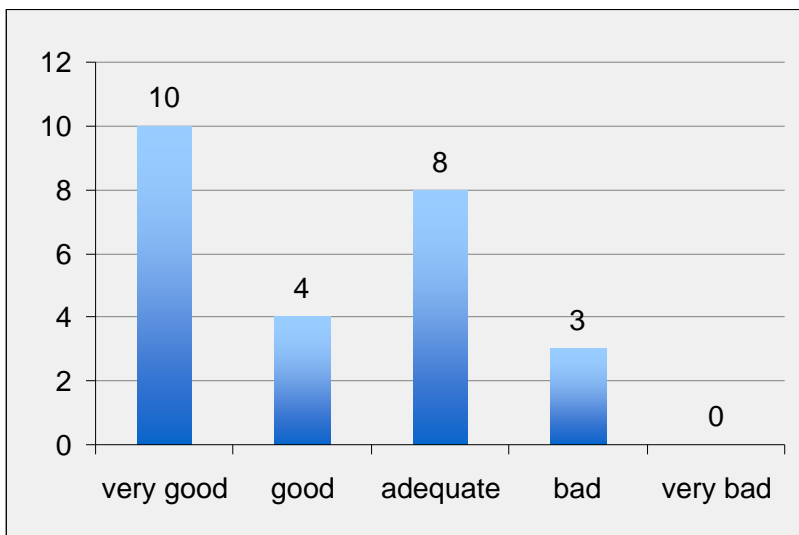
Identification check



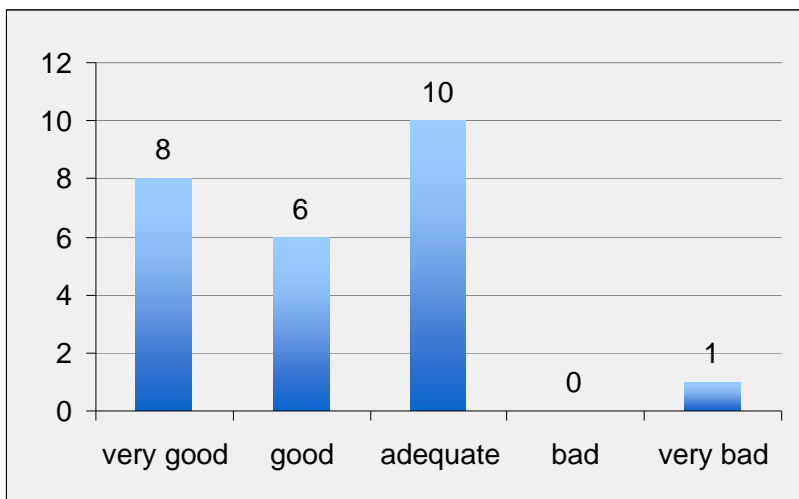
### Lighting conditions



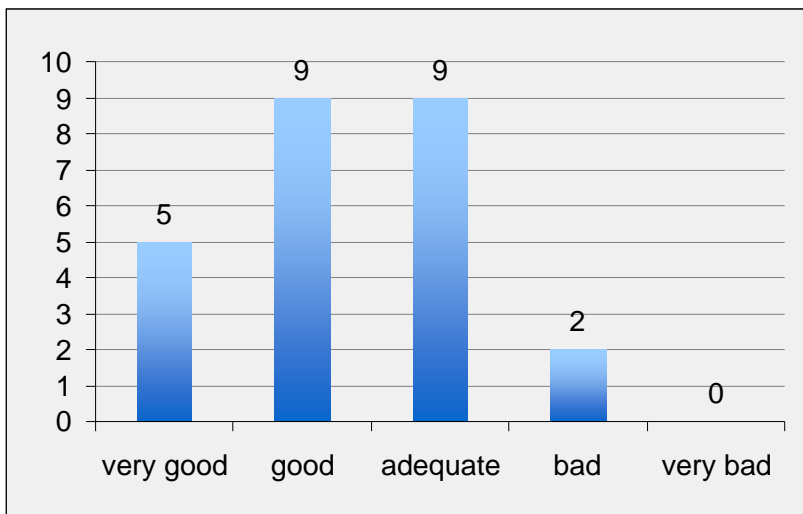
### Space for candidates



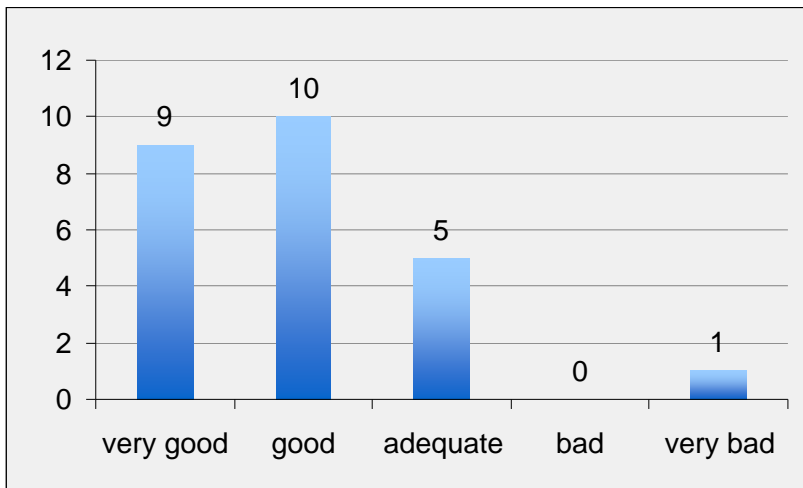
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



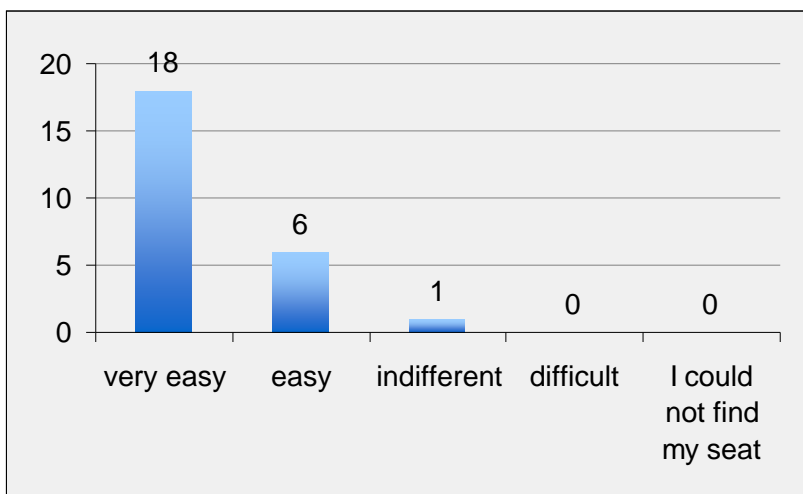
#### Restroom facilities



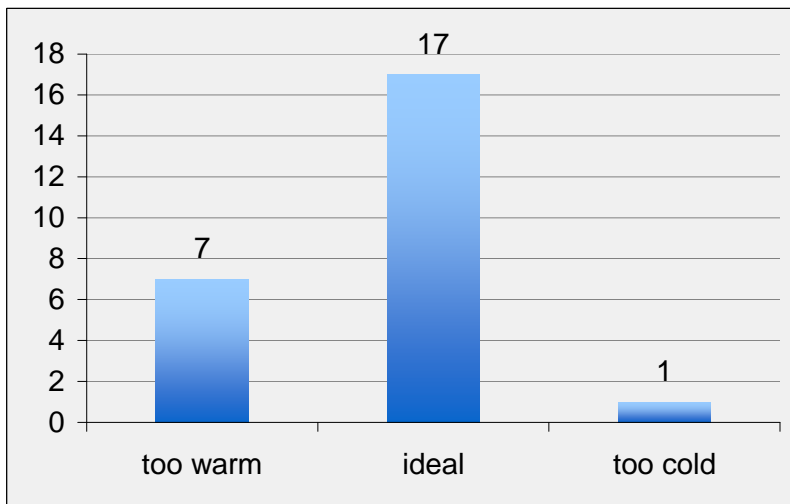
#### Suitability of the examination hall



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



**Q5) Hall temperature**



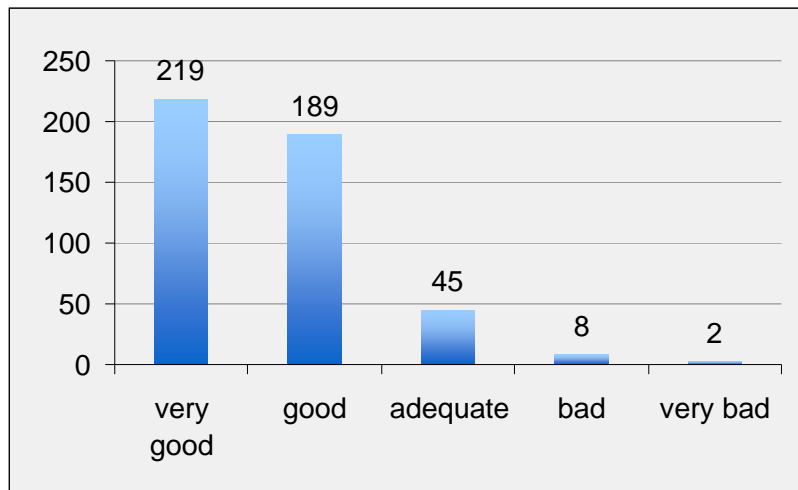
**Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.**

- Aircon is very loud!
- Der Raum ist optimal. Vielen Dank, dass es die Möglichkeit gibt, das Examen beim zentral gelegenen DPMA abzulegen und man sich dadurch den Weg zur Messe sparen kann.
- The ladies restroom did not have an electrical outlet. It is important that an electrical outlet be provided in the ladies restroom, because some of the examinees (for example, me) are nursing mothers, and during the 5-hour exam periods it was necessary to express milk with an electric breast pump. (Next to the ladies restroom was a cleaning supplies closet which was unlocked and had an electrical outlet. This is a less than ideal solution.)
- The hall was opened very late on the first day. Only 8 min prior to start of the exam, which I found a bit too late.
- Before the exam (paper D), we were told to put our ID's on the desk. When the invigilators came to my desk, THEY ALSO ASKED FOR MY SEATING CARD AND ENROLMENT PAPER. I had already showed these papers at the reception of the DPMA. These papers were in my bag so it took some time to find them. Besides, I lost focus from the question. Instructions must be given as to which papers shall be inspected. I should have reported this incident but forgot it since my thoughts were on DII after the exam.
- Invigilators should also turn off their mobiles!
- Invigilators were very helpful, calm and friendly. This helped to create a fruitful working atmosphere.
- DPMA is great place to take the exam
- DPMA is a great venue to take the exam
- All in all it was a very good atmosphere and I hope I can have my next participation (maybe just for the missing D-part?) once again in the DPMA-building! Thanks for all! Sincerely

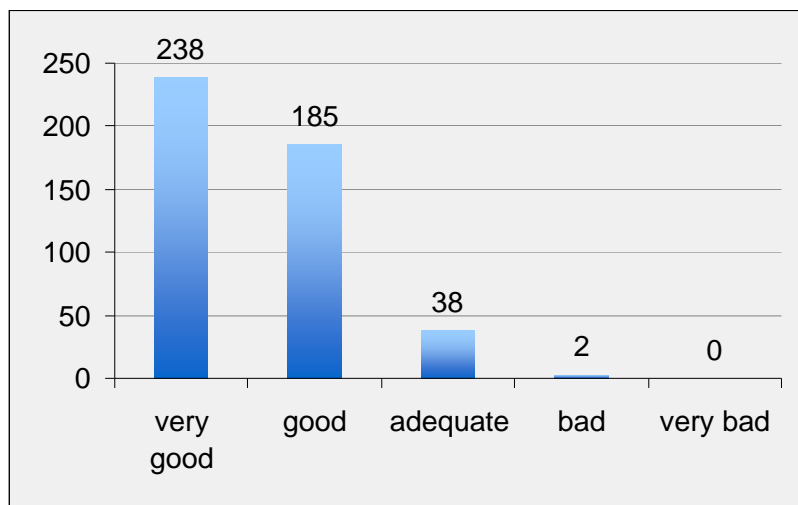
## 1.7 Munich M,O,C (465 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

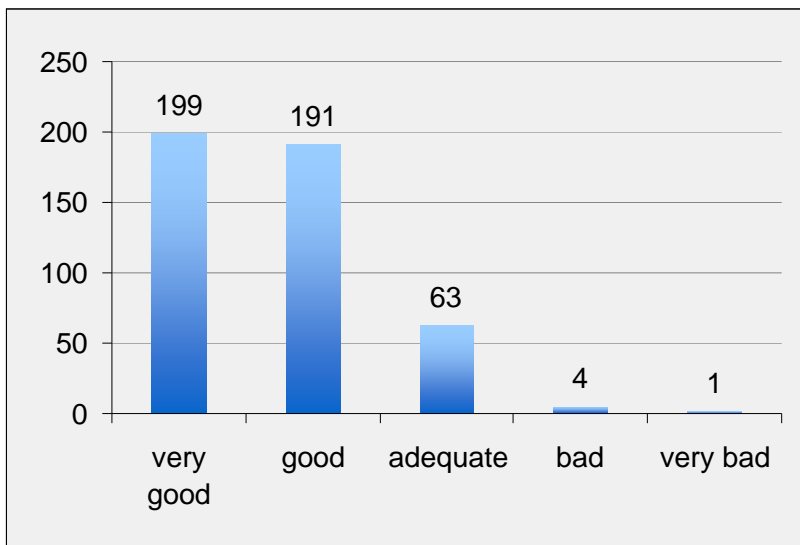
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



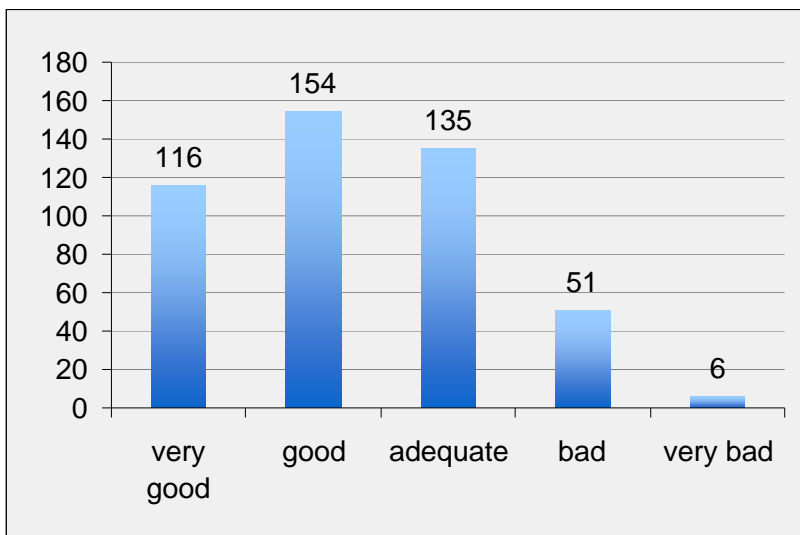
Identification check



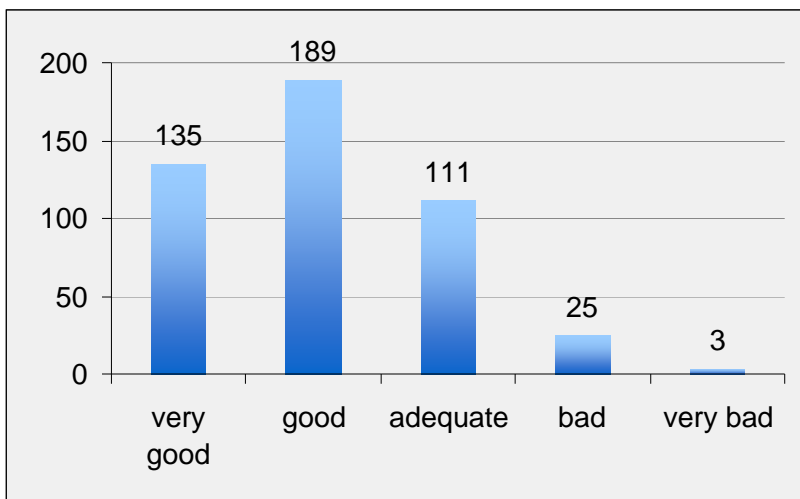
### Lighting conditions



### Space for candidates

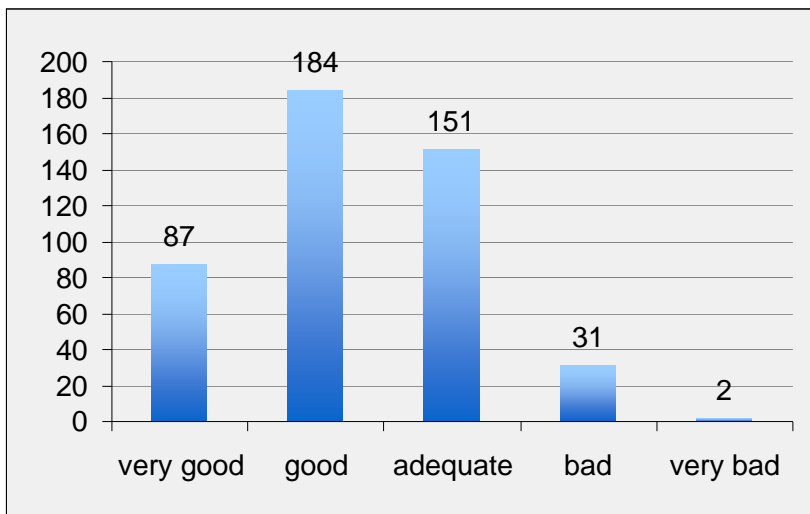


### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

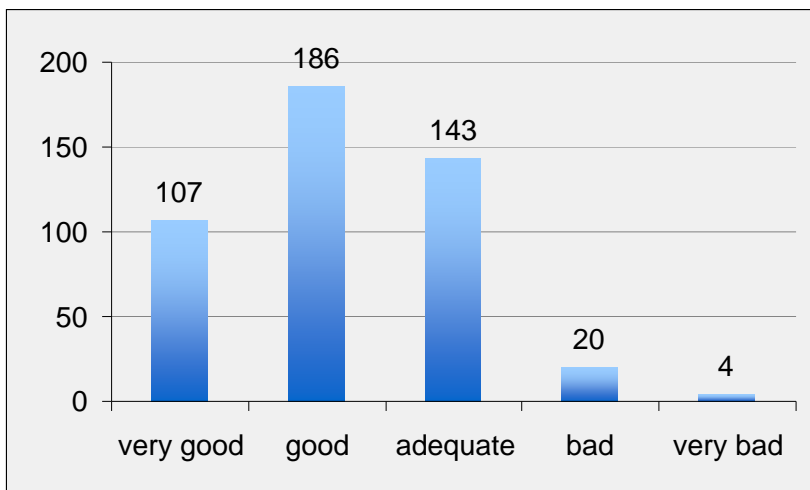




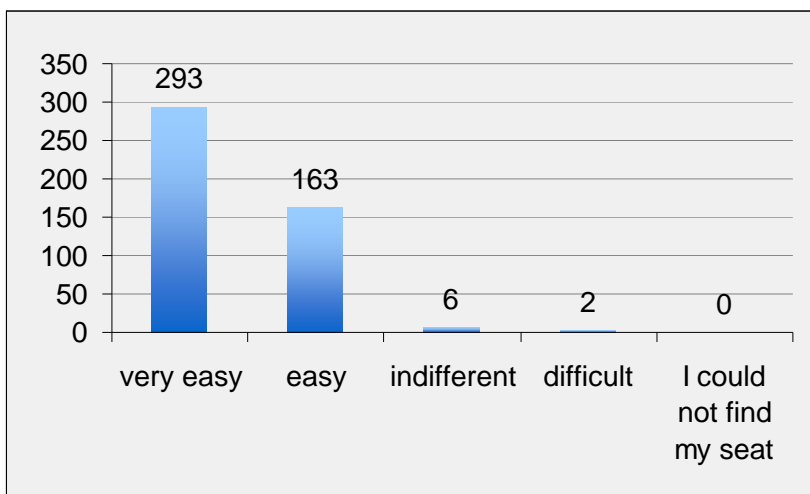
#### Restroom facilities



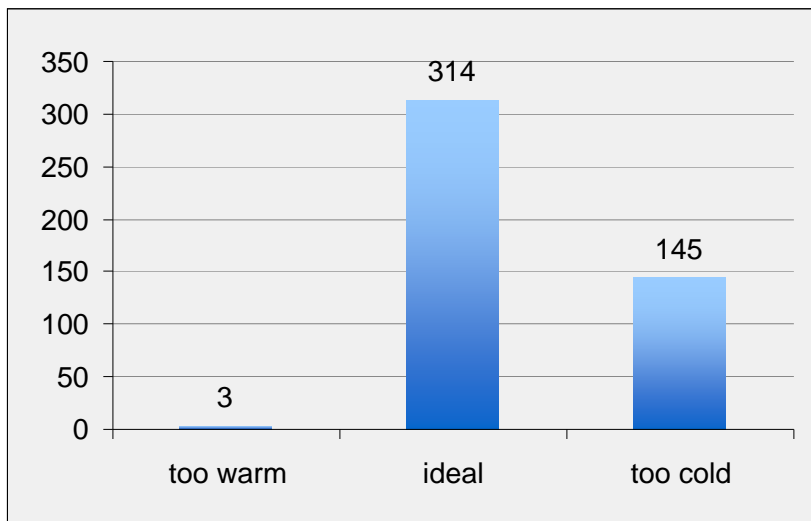
#### Suitability of the examination hall



#### 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.

- -windchill effect in the hall should be eliminated (or at least temperature raised)
- - the big hall was too loud (many people were coughing), taking the examination in a smaller hall would be much better
- overall: excellent conditions this year
- The available space on the tables (the table size) is rather limited.
- Good organisation.thank you.
- Something I really do not like: there is no control to the access to the restroom. An unlimited number of people can go in there. It would therefore be extremely easy to cheat if someone wants to, specially for this kind of exam with multiple choices questions.
- The table was quite small - would have much preferred a larger table - especially for part C.
- I could not see the clock from where I was sitting in the zone A4-A5 of the hall.
- Very very friendly people working for the epo and supervising the exams
- Postives Feedback: Trotz der schlechten Lichtverhältnisse im MOC, waren die Linien des EQE Papiere gut vom Kontrast: Bitte beibehalten.
- Very cold
- The hall temperature was too cold!
- The first day, Tuesday, the temperature was ideal. Thursday, the second day for me, I was freezing.
- From my position it was not possible to read the time of one of the two clocks I could see. It would be very helpful to ensure that everyone is able to see what time it is.
- Doors to hall should be opened earlier. Cloakroom would be helpful.
- It was very cold. There was only enough space, because for the pre-examination not all desks were occupied.
- Electric lighting could be better (brighter).
- Not enough space to put folders and material. Did not know that you were not allowed to put it on the table next to you -> got told off and had to take all the folders off the table again. Would have been easier and nicer, if I had known from the start that the table next to me was supposed to remain empty.
- The hall was quite cold. Particularly after about 2hrs of sitting and writing it got colder and colder so it was getting harder and harder to keep concentrated. No good conditions for an examination as demanding as the EQE...
- It seems to me that the temperature in the mornings was ok - yet, in the afternoon (i.e. on the second day) it was significantly colder
- Official clock are not visible for all students in the hall, and seats create unfair condition .

- Nicht sehr leicht erreichbar.
- You Need to provide clocks on the walls that are visible. Time constraints in the exams make this essential.
- Too difficult to reach MOC due to traffic.
- Pleeeeeeease more clocks. There was only one over the entrance, and it was not possible to read it from my seat, which was close to the wall. These days, many people do not wear wrist watches, and since all the other devices that are normally used as a clock are prohibited at the EQE, that is a real nuisance. Time management is crucial, especially with the new format of part D, and it would be great if you could support candidates on this issue.
- Visited all three days. First Day has been too cold. Let me explain the main problem for participants. The problem is not the cold room itself, which is for many perhaps inconvenient. But this problem is solveable by thick clothes. The most disadvantage is the cold table. Working for hours with your arms on a cold table is absolutely out of the question, especially for woman with small and tiny hands and which are not able to compensate the loss of temperature with their bodies. Therefore it is important to heat the room one day earlier at least, to allow the tables to warm up properly! Perhaps it is possible to allow the participants to provide themselves with insulating tablecloth?
- The room was MUCH too cold!
- The hall was much too big, so the noise conditions were very bad. Also the size of the tables is too small, especially for D-test, for work with the literature.
- small room (K4 section), was perfect
- at the end too loud by many people having finished and leaving the hall
- The temperature was between okay and too cold. At leest at the feet it is very cold. Additionally, in the break there is hardly any possibility for lunch around there.
- It would be helpful if the invigilators would walk around with paper more than they did. For D and A it was good, but for C i had to get up and get some paper myself.
- I was sitting in K4. On Wednesday, in the late afternoon (paper B), the lightning conditions became bad, as the daylight went away. The temperature was changing from paper to paper from very warm to almost too cold. I suggest to dress like "onion skin" for the exam to be able to deal with all conditions. The invigilators were nice, friendly and had a good sense of humor: I really enjoyed hearing "Eye of the tiger" when entering the room the room on the last day (paper C) - very nice, thank you!
- Hall was drafty and cold. Too little space on the desks, not enough to spread out materials. Had to use floor.
- Would be good for the organization to tell the taxi call center that exam ends tuesday 4.30pm. They would then send a certain numner of available cabs there.
- Seats too low to use depth of desk - provision of cushions to make sitting for 18 hours more comfortale
- The table spacing (left/right) is too dense. Restroom capacities are marginal.
- I would strongly prefer separate dustbins for paper and other (food rests etc.).
- Very good organization - thanks
- It would have been helpful to know that the doors open only 15 min. before and that the ID checks are very quick.
- Die Tische sind zu klein; der Abstand zum Nachbar ist zu klein, so dass man auch kaum Unterlagen auf dem Boden neben dem Tisch plazieren kann.
- too much people in one hall, very cold and an impersonal atmosphere
- From Block A5 it was not possible to see a clock. This was very inconvenient for a good time management.
- There was only one restroom in the large examination hall. The paper tissues dispenser for drying of the hands was on all days nearly empty or empty, the electric dryer out of order.
- The organisers were incredibly helpful
- The floor was quite noisy, meaning moving chairs caused noise
- The tabels could be a little bit wider. Moreover, the tables have been placed very close to the neighbours (20 cm ?), so that even an open folder can lie partly on the neighbours table

! Due to the cold season, there were a lot of people loudly due to a cough or a cold.

- Hall, especially the concrete floor, were very cold.
- This time it would have been better, if the tables were larger.
- slightly too cold, a little bit more light would have been nice (but was ok). A little more space would also be great, but the space so far is ok is well.
- Too difficult to access by public transportation. As there was a lot of snow on the pavements, it was difficult to carry the trolley bag with the reference material. A mini van from the nearest U-bahn would be a great improvement. Temperature was sometimes too cold, sometimes too hot. It was not constant.
- It would be nice, if the tables had more space.
- answers refer to block K
- die Halle war im Fußraum zu kalt
- Die Halle ist groß und laut, insbesondere wenn man in der letzten Reihe sitzt muß man auch noch ertragen, dass die Kollegen nicht gerade leise zu den Toiletten gehen. Es wäre schön, wenn Stolperstellen abgedeckt wären, so dass man nicht immer wieder durch das Stolpern von Vorbeigehenden aus der Konzentration gerissen würde. Darüber hinaus war es sehr kalt, so dass ich während der Prüfung meinen Mantel tragen mußte.
- Die Bewertung entspricht meinem direkten Vergleich zwischen Den Haag (2012) und MOC (2013). Die Bedingungen in München sind akzeptabel, aber jeder andere Prüfungsort ist vermutlich besser/angenehmer.
- Very well chosen venue. Very good environment for exam.
- none
- a long distance from metro station to MOC
- I had cold feet due to the lack of a carpet at my table. Considering the long time of sitting, the stone floor does not seem adequate. The whole appearance of the hall leaves an impression of George Orwell's novels. Hundreds of tables in rows and columns under neon lights is a depressing sight. I understand, though, that smaller rooms and a more comfortable atmosphere are an unrealistic desire for this kind of examination.
- It was appreciated that the desk was not "miles away" from the rest room.
- Other than a slightly cold temperature conditions were ideal for sitting the examination
- The air temperature was o.k., but the floor temperature was much too cold.
- It is very hard to reach the examination center when using the U-Bahn, particularly since the candidates usually are carrying a heavy case with the books and the weather is not always the best in this time of the year. It would be useful to have special buses to take the students from Kieferngarten U-Bahn and/or from Freimann U-Bahn to MOC.
- In the past there were metal plates at some places in the floor, which were noisy when someone stepped on them. This seems to be no longer the case. They are "silenced" now in some way. Very good.
- The clock is invisible from the seat where I was seated. (A1, row 11)
- Signs leading from the underground car park to the examination hall could be improved. Free adjacent tables were not allowed to be used to "store" books etc. Some candidates had to return the examination question, others had not to do so. The latter is preferable.
- The big hall "A" was very cold the first day (Part D, Tuesday). The desks were too closely positioned with too little space to walk through the rows when candidates were sitting.
- There was not enough place between tables. Last year there was more space for Stufe.
- At my seat there was a light but constant chilly wind.
- I was in the smaller conference room K3, not in the main hall. At the first day it was much too warm, but they reduced heating on the following days.
- Uneasy atmosphere due to so many people going to the restrooms (clacking shoes), thumbing through books, coughing,... It may be good to use kind of dividing walls to form sections. The main "walk way" through the hall should at least be separated from the sitting rows by walls. In particular it was quite disturbing when the people started to leave and hand back the examinations paper to the respective invigilators sitting in front of the rows since some of them started arguing why they are not allowed to take their specifications sheets home. It should be announced in the beginning that leaving the hall earlier means not to be

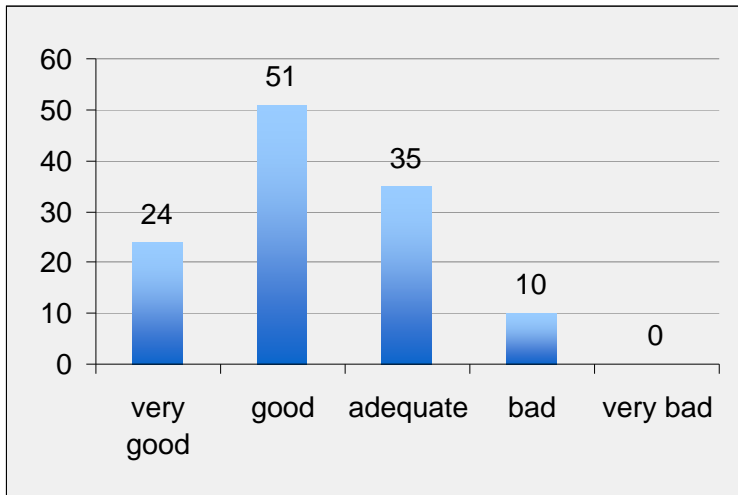
allowed to take the specification sheet home. It may also be good to establish a central station where to hand back the examination paper which is a bit separated from the sitting rows, since otherwise the "front row sitter" are disturbed.

- It was a good idea to bring warm tea because it was cold in the hall.
- Maybe a bit too cold There should be more possibilities for buying snacks and drinks available
- too much people in the same hall
- Candidates who left earlier created a lot of noise. Especialy during the last 60 minutes.
- It was really possible for candidates to communicate between each other. The pre-exam is a multiple choice exam, and for example nobody had even a check to what happens in the restroom.. It would have been so easy to discuss the topic with another person (everybody knows a least 10 other persons in this kind of exam), or even to exchange a small piece of paper with the answers. When I went to the restroom I really listened some other candidates discussing about how difficult the exam was. In front of me (at least) they didn't exchange answers, but they were discussing freely about the exam.
- Ich war im Konferenz-Raum K3, da ist es sehr viel besser als in der großen Halle. Am ersten Tag war es viel zu warm, an den folgenden Tagen war es gut.
- Lack of public transport (and difficulties in getting a taxi after the exam) make the MOC not ideal
- Due to the large number of people in the hall, the noise level due to coughing etc was quite high.
- no additional remarks
- As several persons in the room were ill - especially a person next to me - I caught a terrible cold (ie rather a real influenza) due to the circulating air (AC), and was ill for several weeks.
- The tables where a bit high.
- It was really too cold.
- examination centre was very cold, got cold feet
- zu Q5) Vorschlag: Keine Platzvergabe vor Durchgangstüren, die ins Freie führen. Leider hat es an diesem Platz gezogen, somit war die Temperatur zu kalt.
- The carpet on the floor of the smaller rooms was good to keep the feet from the cold floor and the room silent.
- One of the invigilators requested that I not use the roller glue because it was too loud. It was the only glue I had with me, so I had to wait a few minutes until she came back with a quieter glue. I would suggest that in future, invigilators should procure a substitute before asking candidates to cease using an item. I noticed later that other candidates in the hall could continue using the type of roller-glue which I originally used!
- seats in the rear area of the examination hall were draughty
- No clock was close by to my seat. Could not check time during witing the exam which was really bad
- There were two tables per candidate but we were only allowed to use one which somehow was not necessary.
- Much too cold; I had top put on my winter jacket. Possibly, the hall, which has been designed for trade fairs and exhibitions that do not require "cosy" temperatures, is not suitable if it cannot be decently heated.
- I suppose, chairs used were designed to be used as desk cahirs in the first place.

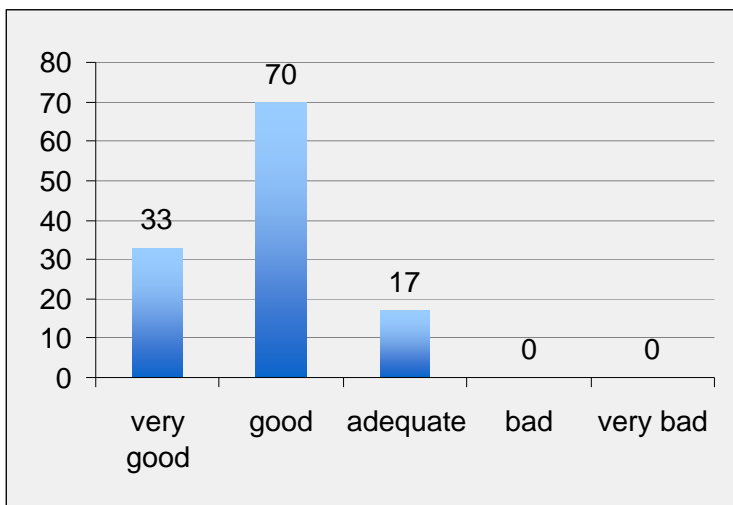
## 1.8 Paris (121 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

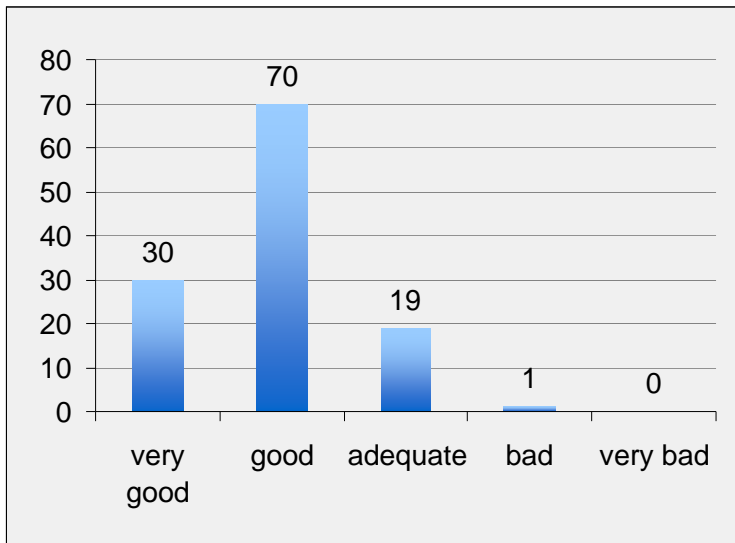
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



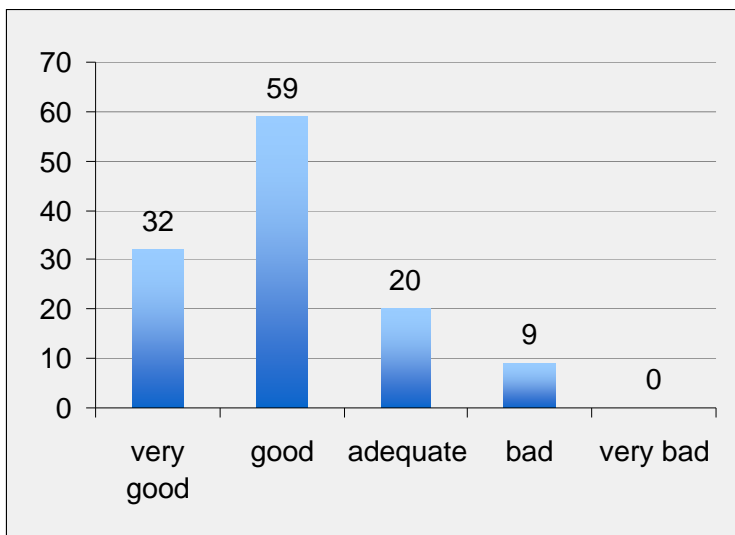
Identification check



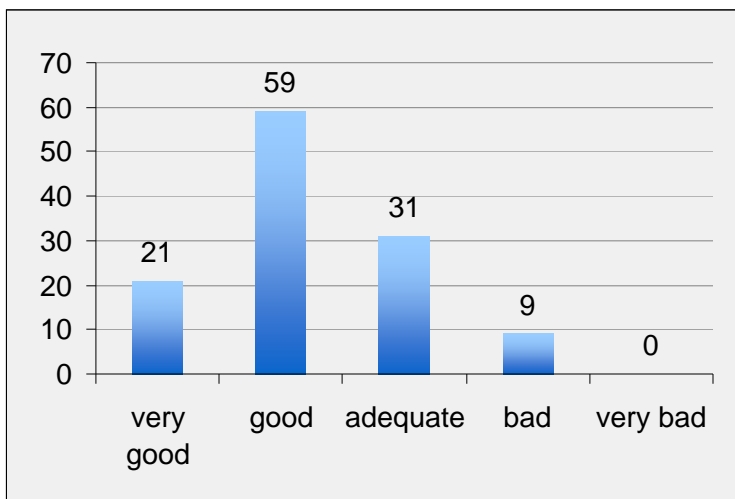
### Lighting conditions



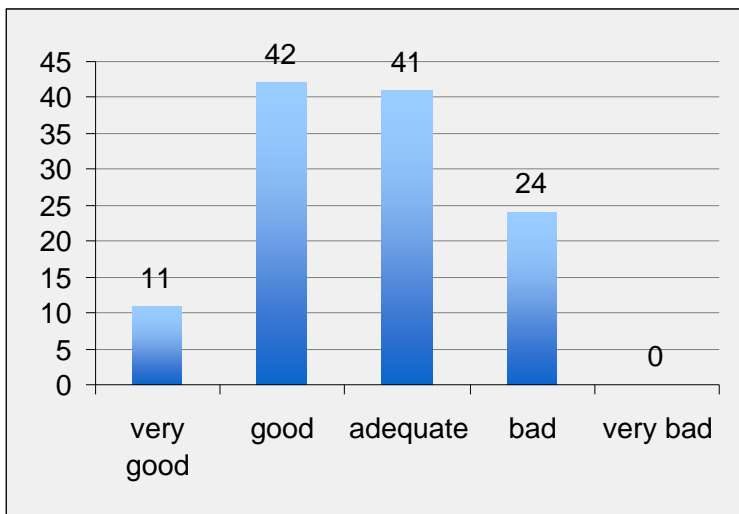
### Space for candidates



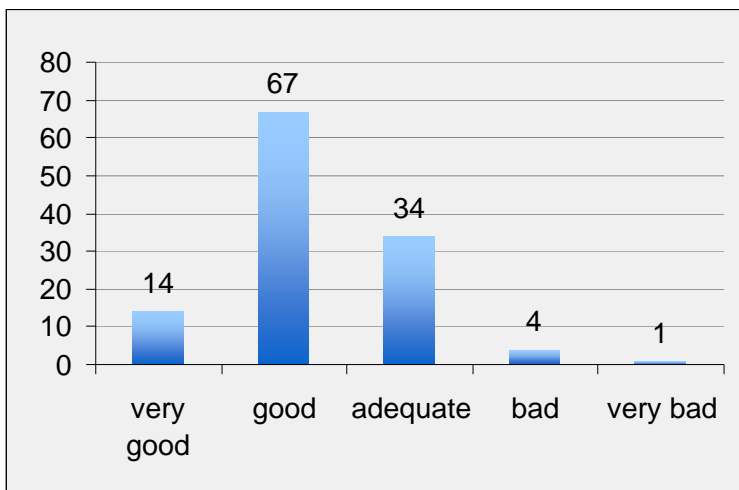
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



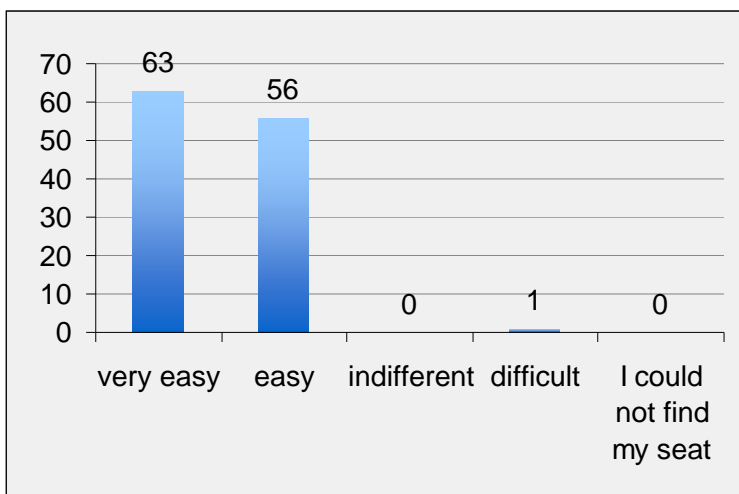
### Restroom facilities



### Suitability of the examination hall

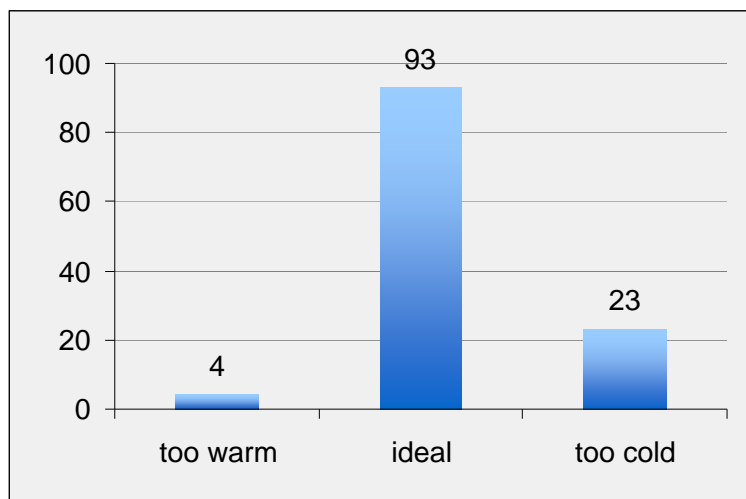


### Q4) Was it easy to find your seat in the examination hall?





### Q5) Hall temperature



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

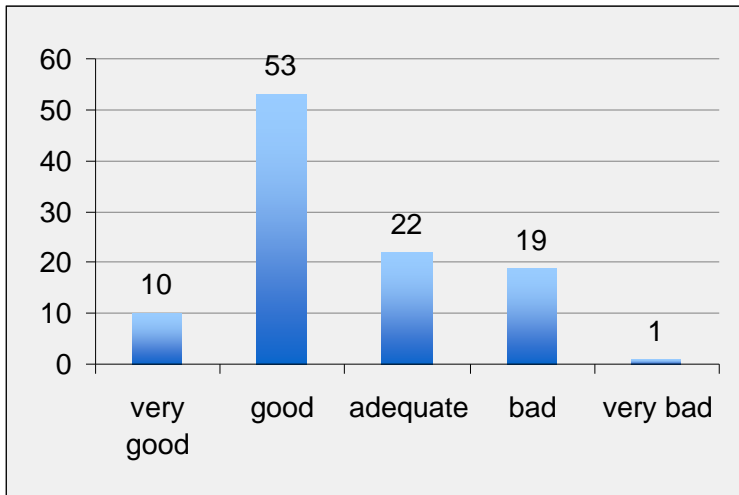
- Saint-Ouen n'est pas Paris. L'accès en transport est compliqué surtout avec une valise bien chargée. Trouver un centre intra-muros ou au moins à proximité d'une station de métro est-il si compliqué/coûteux ?
- a little too "far" from Paris, in a suburb which is not very safe... but the hall itself was good and the tables were large enough
- To far from the Center of Paris
- larger table will be better
- Noisy invigilators sitting right next to me, with a mobile phone ringing during the examination - should at least have been on silent mode !
- The location of the examination center is not ideal. It is far from the subway. It is far from any decent hotel. There is no decent restaurant by the examination center. This part of Paris is not great.
- An examination hall in the centre of Paris would be great.
- For a short but noticeable period I did smell cigarette smoke from someone smoking not very far outside the doors.
- None
- Nevertheless, the examination hall is far from any metro station, in the outskirts of Paris, in an area where you would not like to get lost...
- creaky desk, disturbing for me and neighbors
- There is no parking. It is a real problem.
- Nothing particular.
- Very well organized.
- Examination hall located far away from Paris center, 20 minutes walk from the closest subway station, on a crowded line. Hotels in the area seem rather creepy. Restroom facilities appear to be rather limited. Overall, Examination hall is pretty convenient for the pre-EQE as a one-day facility, but for the main EQE, you gonna need to choose between decent hotel and area (then locate in Paris center but you gonna endure Paris transportation twice a day) or a possibly more convenient closer hotel (but located in a remote depressing area).
- Too warm on tuesday Too cold on thursday
- Not easy access: Far from Paris center, 10 mn walk from metro station No direct connection or not easy to catch Airport (only sud) or TGV Gare de Lyon.
- centre d'examen excentré de Paris. Une seule ligne de métro (bondée) + 10-15 minutes de marche depuis la station de métro. Vraiment pas pratique lorsque l'on est chargé ! peu de commodités (restauration, hotel) à côté du centre d'examen

- It was too warm on tuesday 26th February and too cold on thursday 28th February.
- i think the tables were a little bit too small, in particular for paper C. The temperature was better the third day.
- Site not easy to reach
- not enough free space in the building for lunch time noisy table (once again)
- I was sitting next to the wall where there was a very unpleasant cold draught air, otherwise the room was pleasant and there was enough space.
- Ma place était tout à côté d'une porte de sortie de la salle d'examen et à un endroit de passage. Les entrées, sorties et les passages ont été gênants pour la concentration.
- Neon light was not the most appropriate to read and write for several hours. The space between the candidates and the place to spread the documents was correct

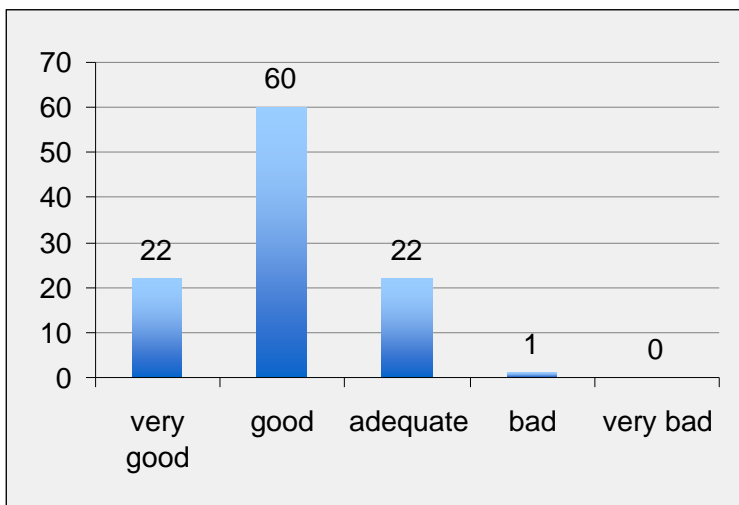
## 1.9 Rome (105 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

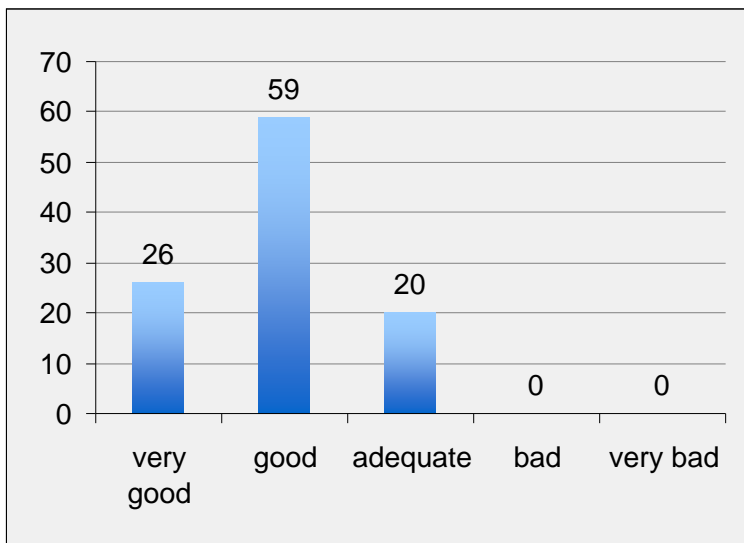
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



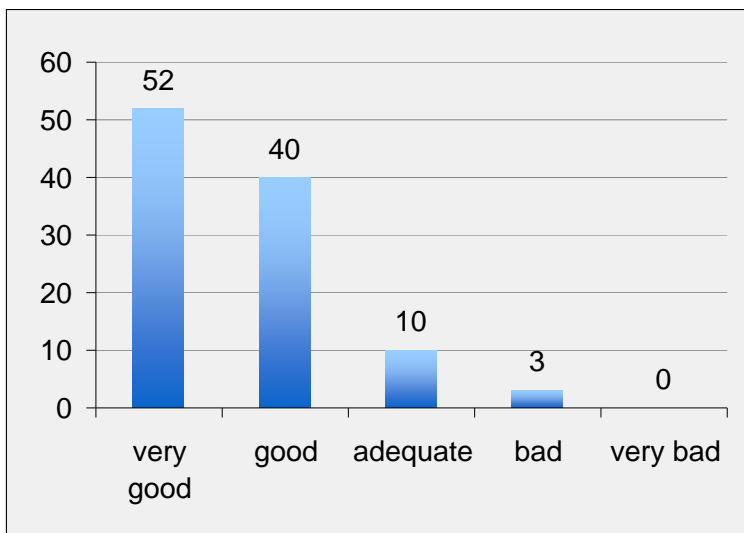
Identification check



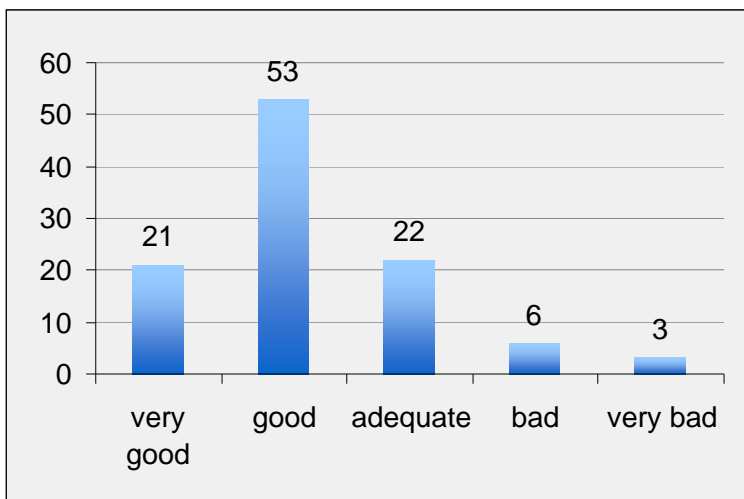
### Lighting conditions



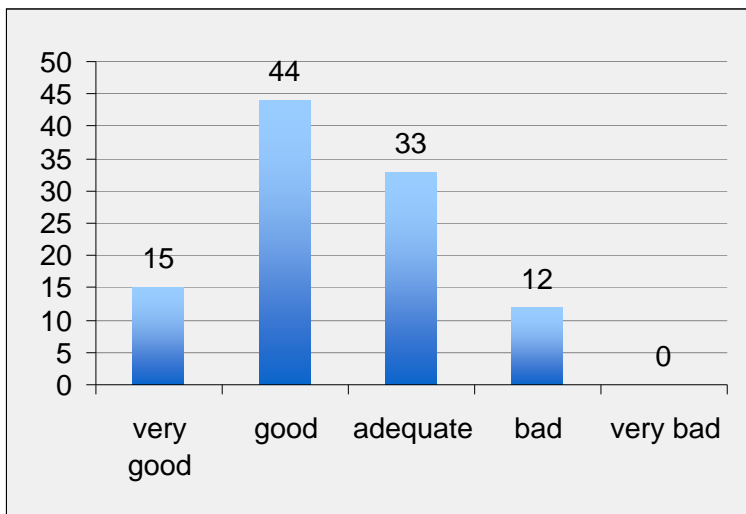
### Space for candidates



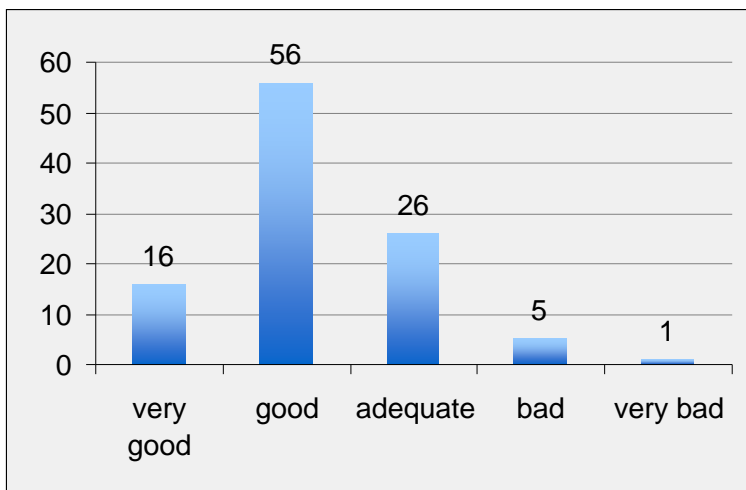
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



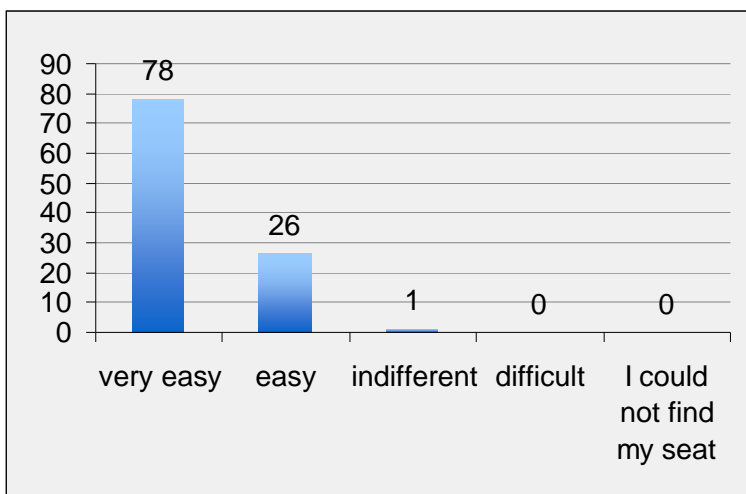
#### Restroom facilities



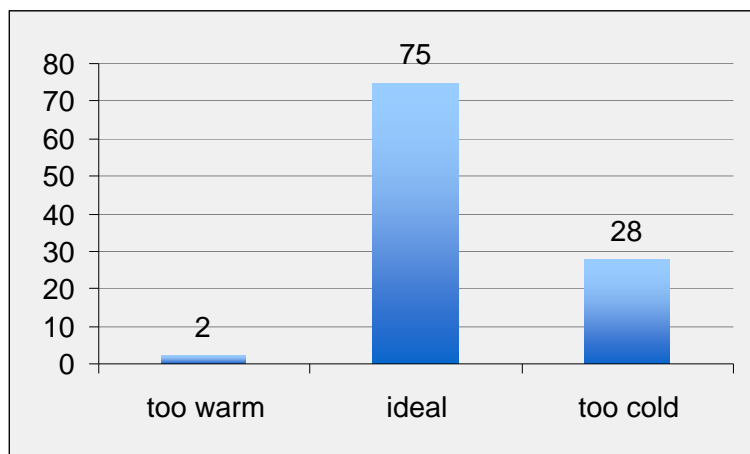
#### Suitability of the examination hall



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



#### Q5) Hall temperature



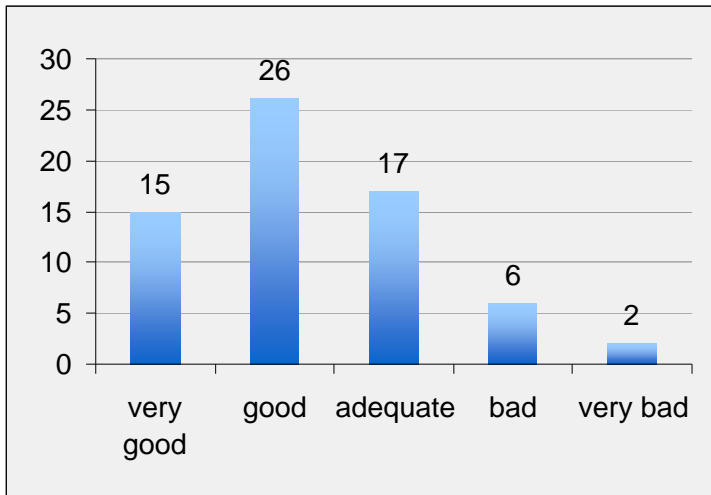
#### Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- this is only for test purpose
- I already stated last year my negative feedback on the examination hall. The facility is old and the hall is only accessible by stairs or by ramps not easily viable with weighty suitcases full of books. The accessibility to the hall is therefore extremely difficult for disabled people or pregnant women.
- On February 28, a spreading noise (coming from the microphone amplifiers?) intermittently disturbed the examination
- Too much noise due probably to an interference with the microphone system
- the place is very old and dirty - full of spider nets
- Many many stairs to take, rather hard with a bag full of books for the D paper.
- I put "ideal" in Q5 as an average for the "too cold" in paper D and "too hot" in Paper C Bad smell!!!
- About the room temperature, at the beginning it was ideal, but after more or less 2h and a half I began to be cold.
- The watch only (the only one! located on the top of the wall behind the Commission) was too small and too far in order to have optimal vision from the bottom of the room.
- The access to the hall is through a long stair, and there is no elevator. With a heavy suitcase it is quite annoying. And I suppose that someone with a wheelchair or with a broken leg would have quite a hard time getting in.
- No elevators
- There was a problem with the audio system and a noise out of the speakers was audible during all the duration of the Paper C. Very boring.
- As always the access for those who cannot use stairs was difficult; this year in particular I could not carry bags because my right shoulder was injured; I used a trolley and tried to reach the hall using the garage ramp, but the doors communicating with the ramp were closed from inside (one was broken). Very uncomfortable. Luckily enough a colleague came from inside and bumped on the emergency door until it opened.
- The stairs to reach the hall made the access not easy.
- To gain access to the hall, we had to go down at least 4 flights of stairs with heavy bags and then go up at the end of the exam by the same stairs or by a ramp. Not so easy and comfortable
- Just a little cold.
- Temperature in the toilets is very cold and the washbasins haven't hot water but only cold water.
- On the whole, very good conditions

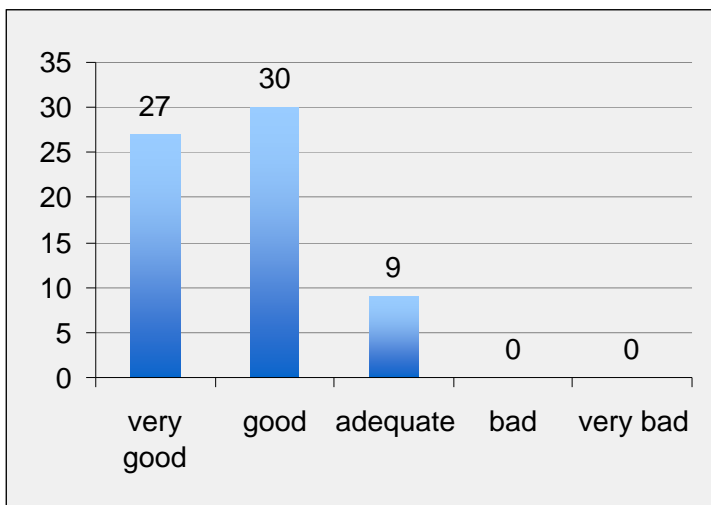
## 1.10 Stockholm (66 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

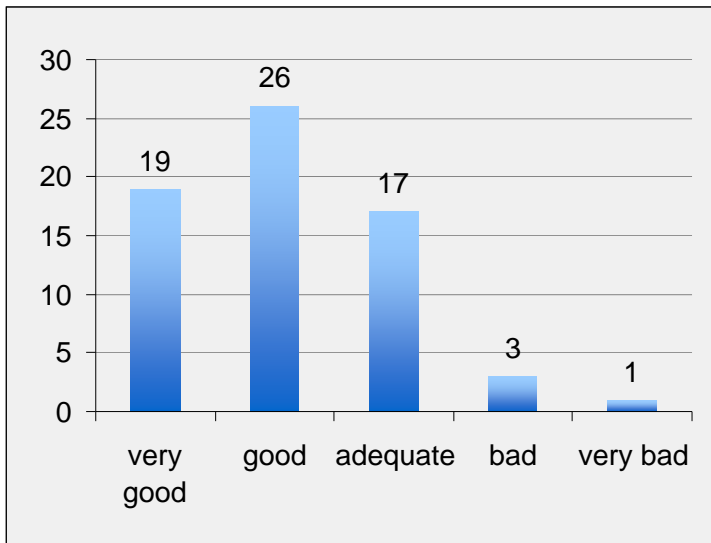
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



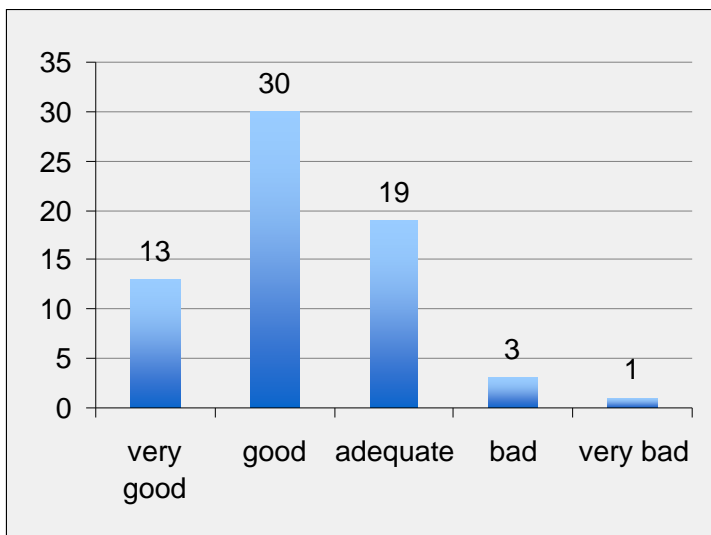
Identification check



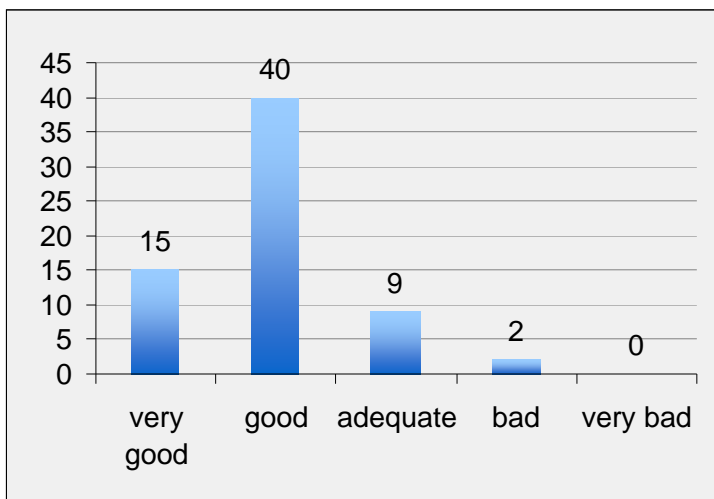
### Lighting conditions



### Space for candidates

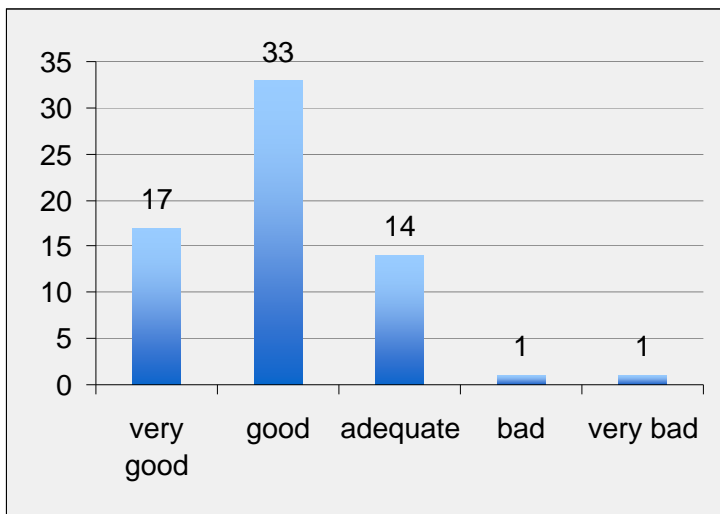


### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

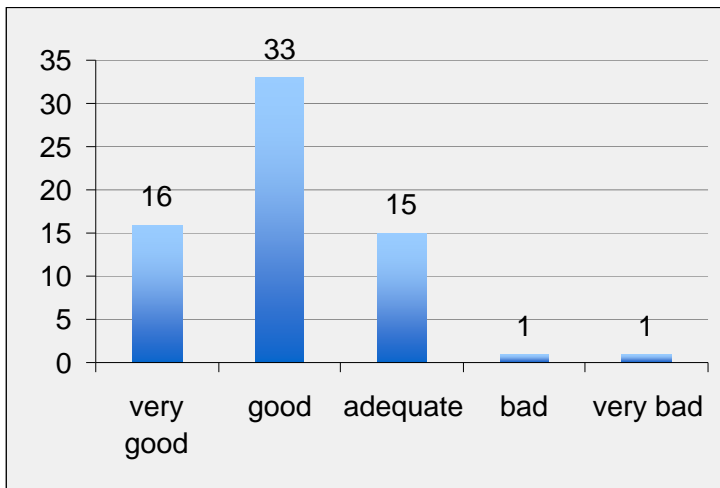




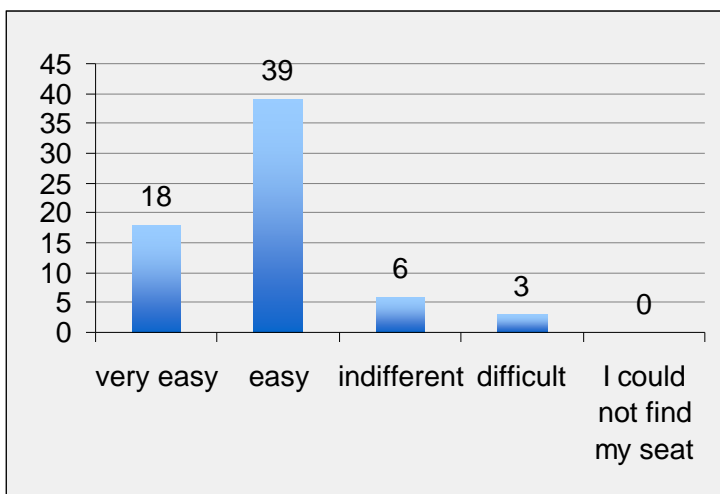
#### Restroom facilities



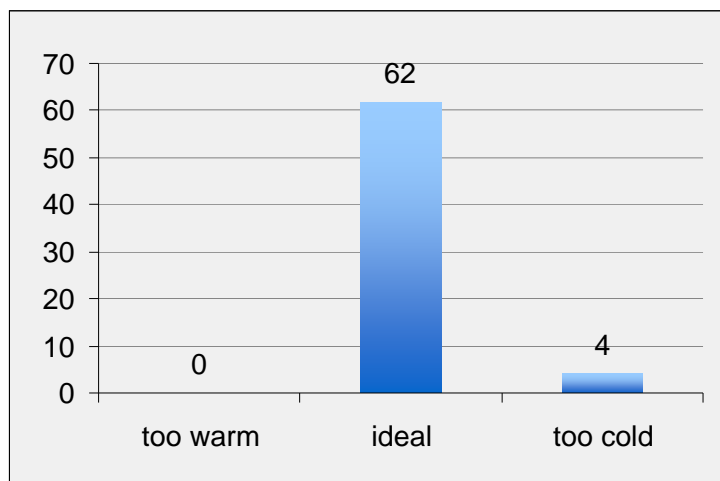
#### Suitability of the examination hall



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



#### Q5) Hall temperature



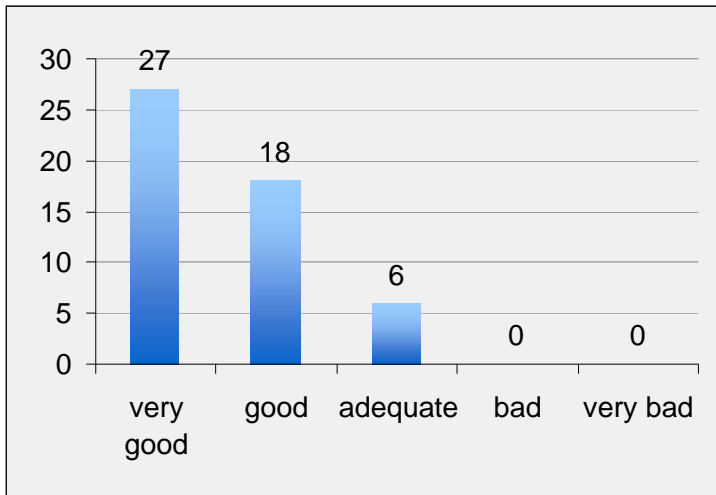
#### Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- I think that it should be possible to at least put out a sign or other information signs for finding the examination hall. When I arrived at the conference center there were no indication what so ever on where to go and I meet other people who also wondered around until we eventually found the examination hall. I think this is something that could be easily fixed and improve the experience alot for any first sitter.
- There were not signs. Many of the test takers were waiting on the wrong floor of the building.
- Hard to find the right room at the conference center (I also noticed that this complaint was made in 2012 so it might be a good idea to start to listen to the candidates)
- Terrible chairs.
- Disturbed by some kind of alarm during D exam.
- Not difficult to find to the examination centre, however difficult to find the examination hall within the center. No signs outside the examination hall.
- Rather low chairs relative to the tables, not comfortable seating during 5 hours.
- I would prefer a more central examination centre than Kista. The air in the examination centre gets very bad after a few hours and the room does not have any windows. The tables and chairs are very old and makes noises.
- Some signs could help first time sitters to find the hall.
- I had adequeate lighting conditions, but I believe that it was darker along the walls. The chairs are far to low for the table, at least for normally sized and small persons. I had to sit on the edge of the chair during the entire exam to be able to reach my material and to be able to write.
- There should have been a sign indicating which room to enter!
- The tables are very old and a bit wobbly, and the chairs are not that comfortable. But other than that, pretty ok.
- The tables where very unstable, making it hard to try to read a text at the same time as taking notes. Also there were no signs at all outside the examination hall. I found it because I had asked colleagues before were it was.
- I sat in a small stream of cold air.
- Very bad chairs.
- The tables were too small and the lighting conditiond quite poor. Furthermore, some of the candidates were sitting on a scene such hat those not sitting on the scene were looking at them.

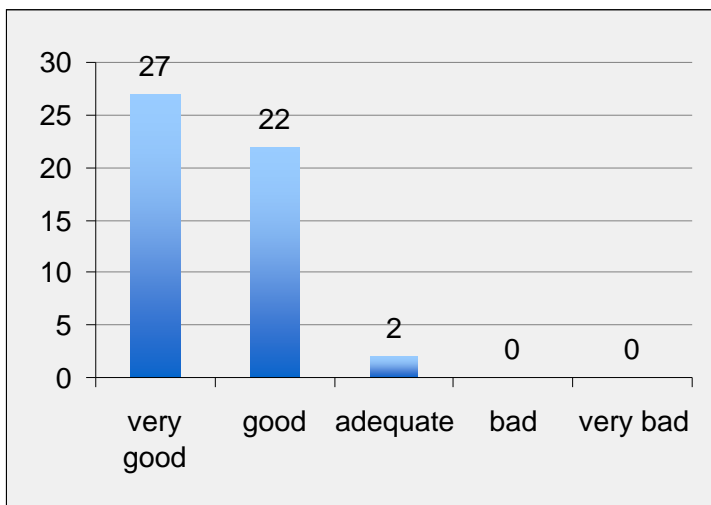
### 1.11 Taastrup (51 answers received)

#### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

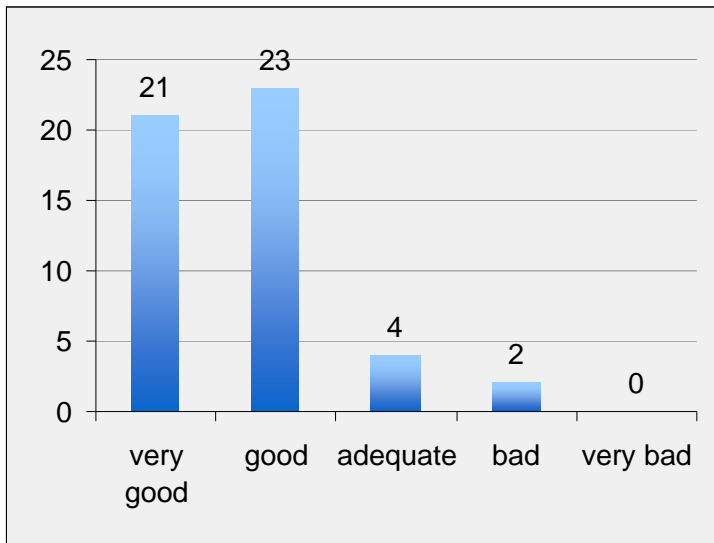
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



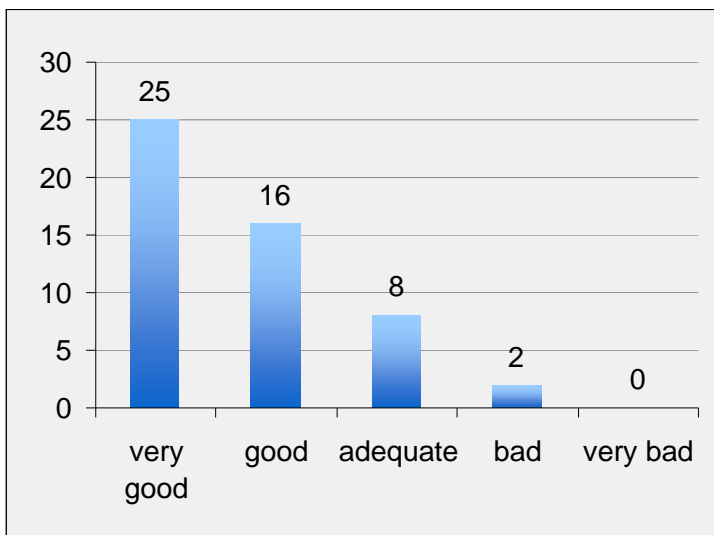
Identification check



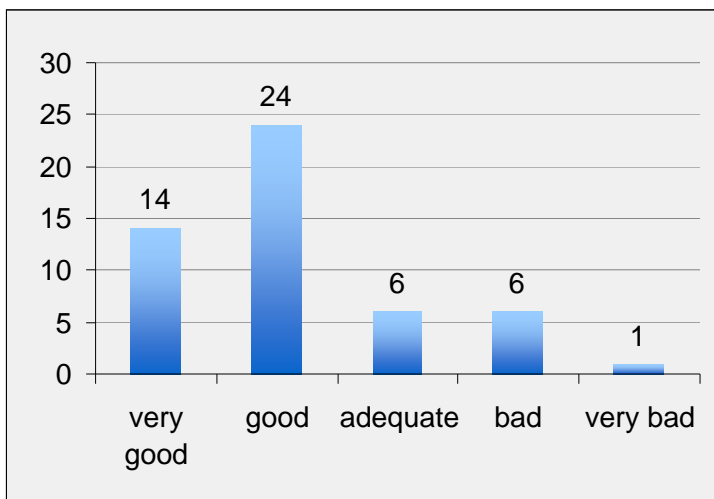
### Lighting conditions



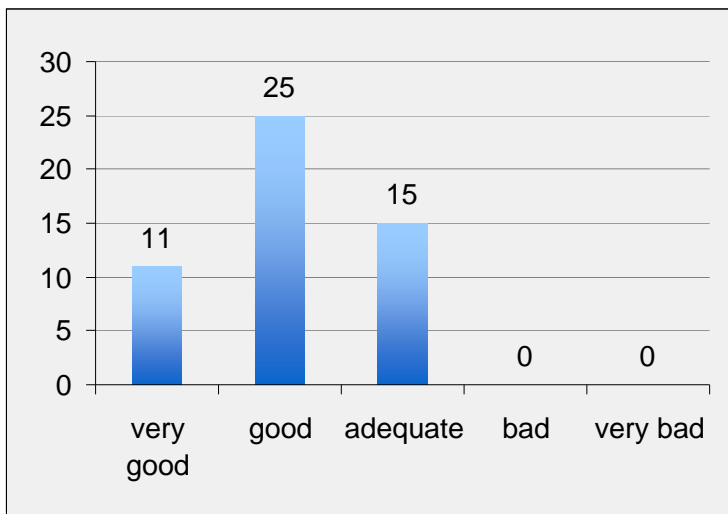
### Space for candidates



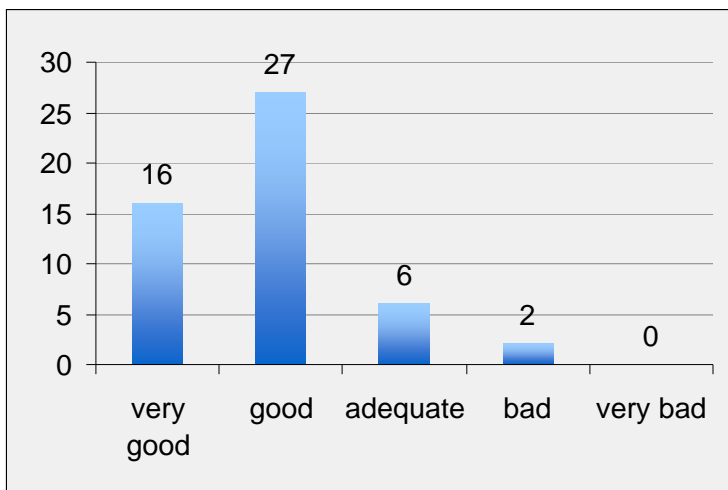
### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



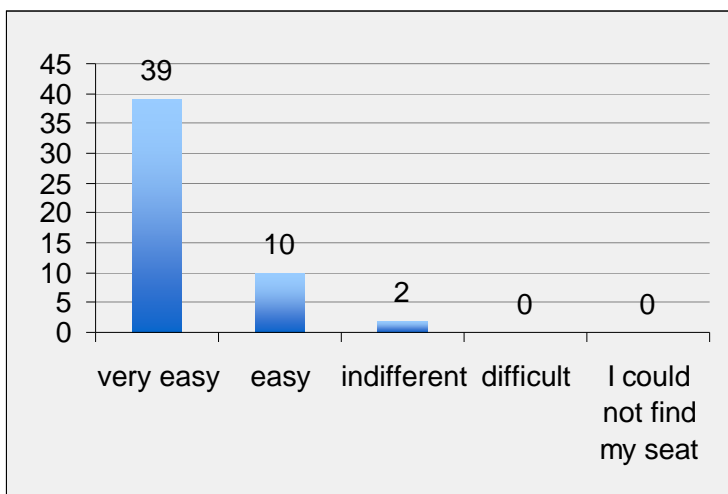
#### Restroom facilities



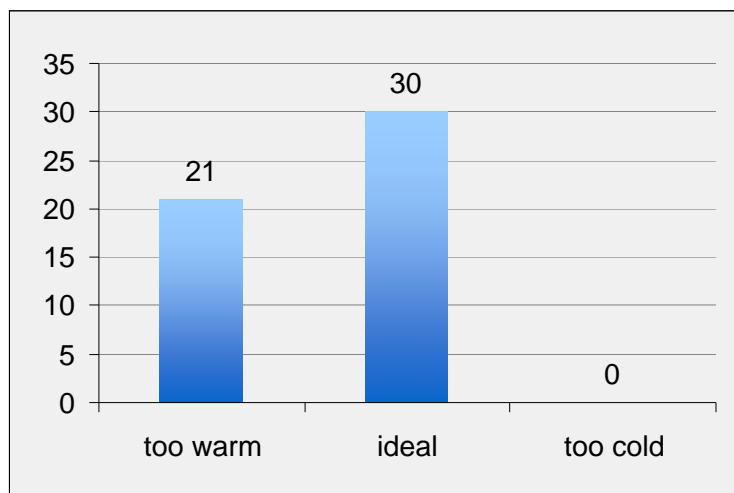
#### Suitability of the examination hall



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



#### Q5) Hall temperature



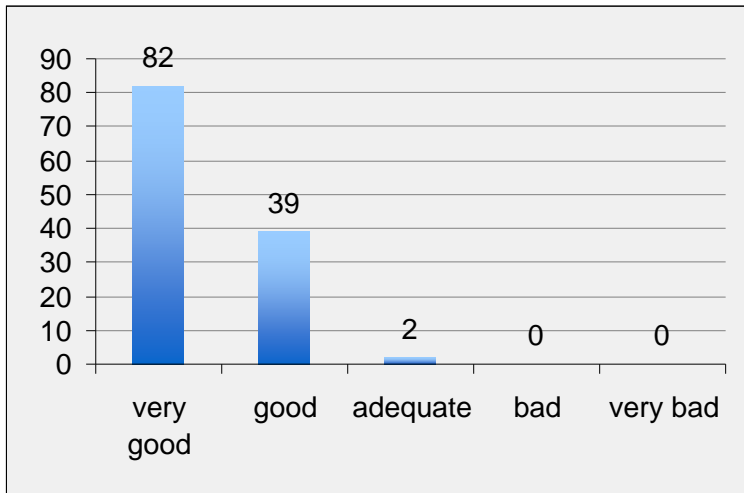
#### Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- The invigilators did their very best to adjust temperature and light conditions. Thanks!
- Due to sunshine the curtains were used which resulted in a very dark room with no natural daylight and a very high temperature in the room.
- Very suitable, but too little desk space!
- It was far too hot and the indoor climate was not good.
- Lightening is almost perfect.
- It was very very very warm.... (not only because of the examination situation)
- I sat the pre-EQE and we were only 6 people in the room, so I guess the conditions were quite different than for the main exam (much larger tables and quiet)
- Tables far too small
- Tables a bit too small, but that may be a difficult wish to accommodate given the amount of books etc to be used
- In the afternoon on sunny days, the hall gets extremely warm.
- The Examination Centre is (still) far away from everything and difficult to get to without car/taxi. Around midday the sun hits the panoramic windows, the invigilators were very quick to pull the curtains, so we at least could see. However the temperature kept increasing and by the end it must have been close to 30 degrees celsius.
- I was seated near some large floor-to-ceiling windows and even though dark curtains were drawn the afternoon sun irradiating the windows heated up the area such that it was close to being uncomfortably warm.
- it came far too warm/hot during the examination, with people taking clothes off and sweating. Very uncomfortable, as it does not help one's concentration to be too hot and have a headache.
- We were only six candidates
- Bad ventilation.
- They should indicate clearly that parking fees are suspended for the examination period, but it is of course very nice that they are :-)

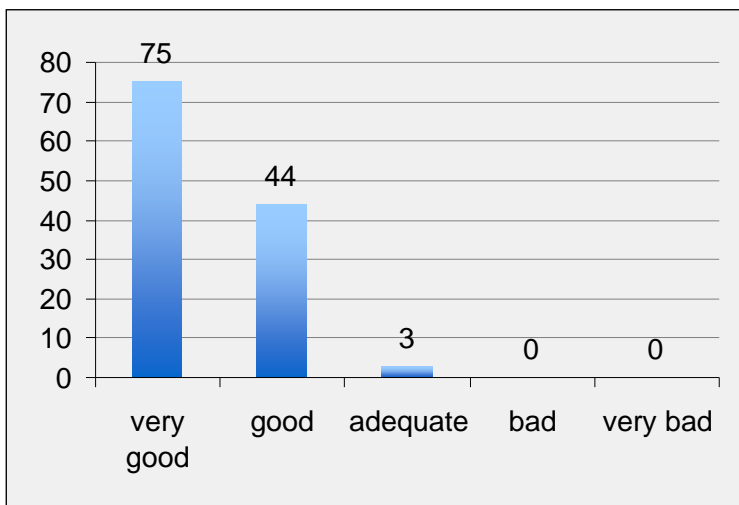
## 1.12 The Hague (123 answers received)

### Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

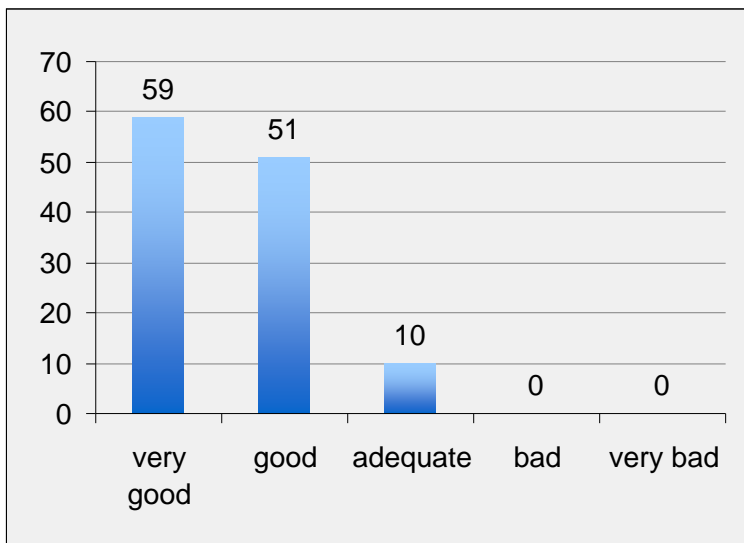
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



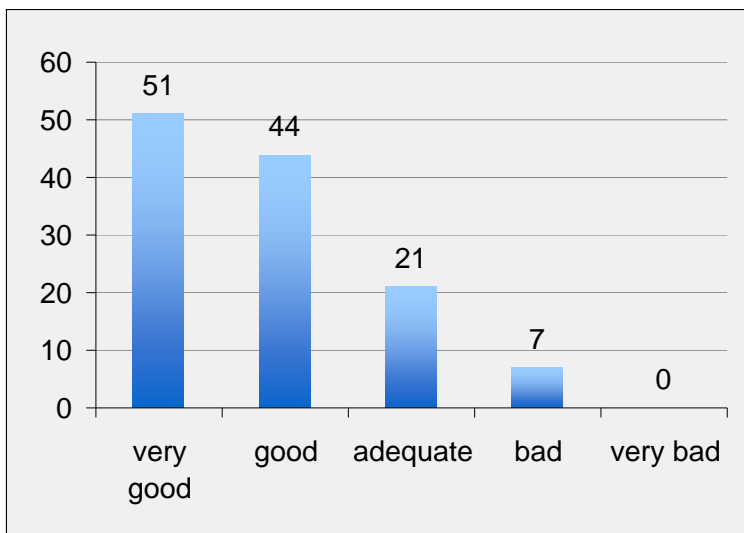
Identification check



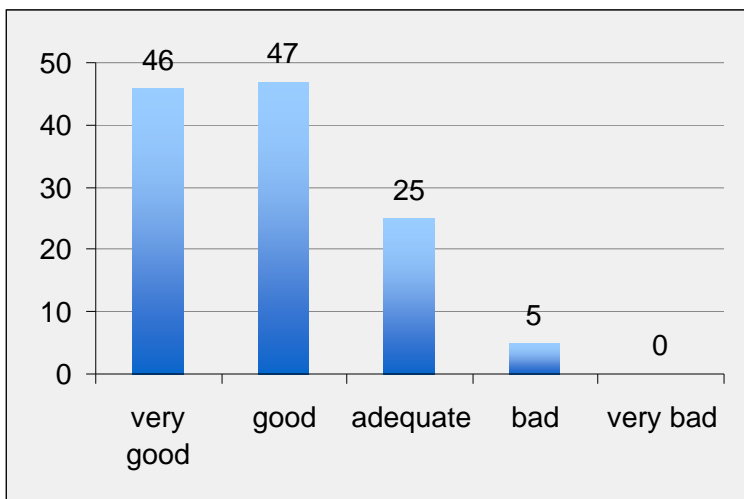
### Lighting conditions



### Space for candidates

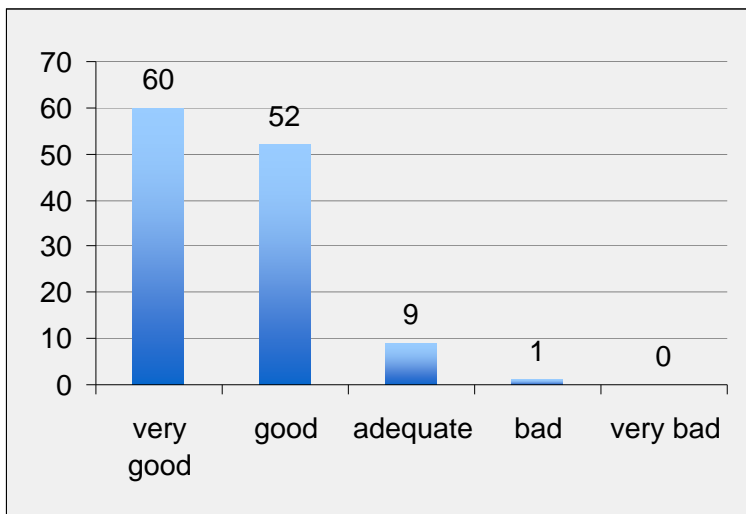


### Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

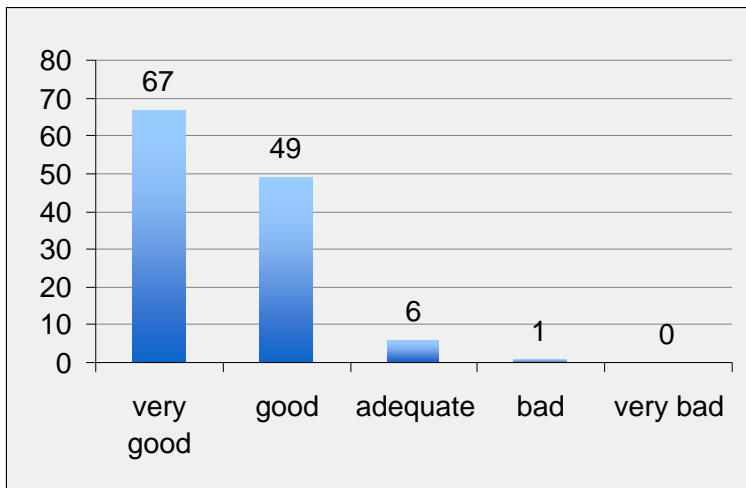




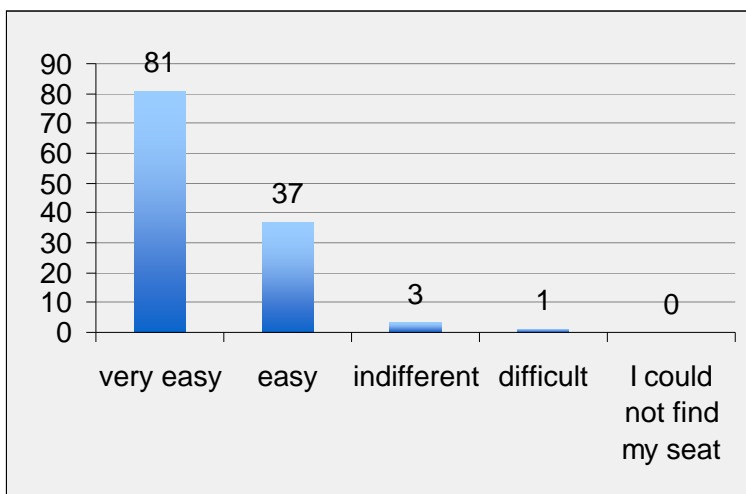
#### Restroom facilities



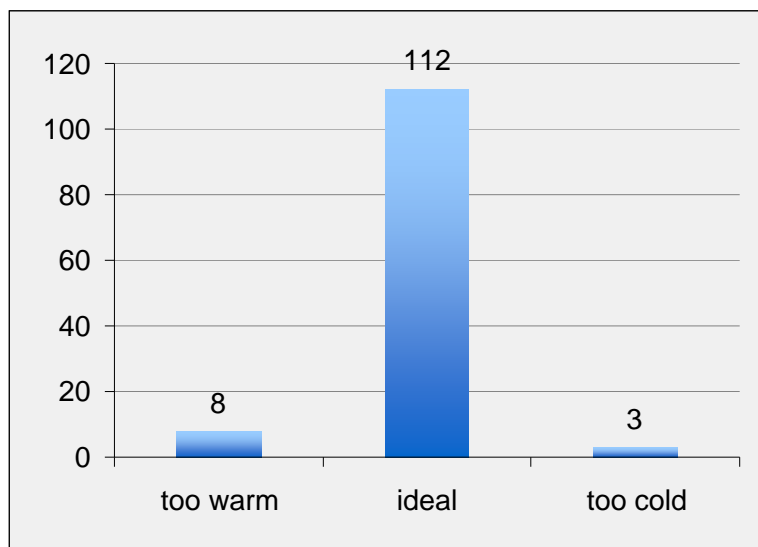
#### Suitability of the examination hall



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



#### Q5) Hall temperature

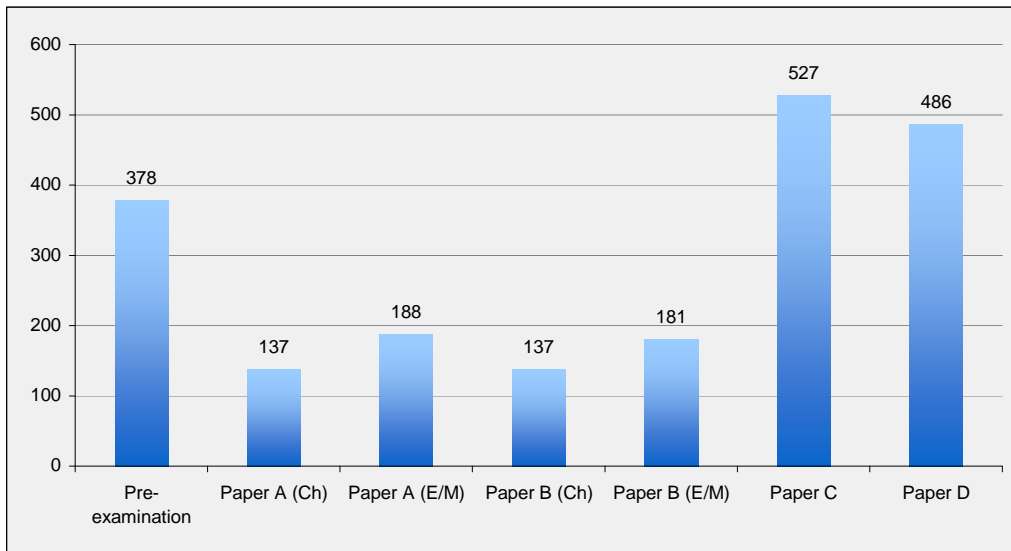


#### Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Lighting could be somewhat better - I had distracting shadows on my desk from my head blocking various lights.
- -The individual tables were a bit small for accomodating all the materials and at the same time the answer sheets that had already been filled in without creating a bit of chaos. Under the examination conditions and the fact that the ordering of the sheets and numbering is of crucial importance, this created confusion, unease, and stress.
- Acceptable reduction of background noise (page browsing)
- It was sometimes difficult to have the attention of the invigilators during the exam for paper.
- none
- During the B-exam, the examination hall became a little too warm.
- No further comments
- No additional comment. The organization was perfect !
- /
- I was lucky to have a seat on the large circular wings, and not be located in the center of the room at one of the tables added there. Those tables had apparently much less room available.
- no further comments
- Audibility of the invigilators: quite low (i could hear because I was sitted at the first line.
- really good, professional, comfortable
- Someone in the hall was clearing his throat obsessively every 1-2 minutes during the last 3 hours of the exam (I sat the pre-exam). This disturbed me a lot and from the looks of other candidates I suspect I was not the only one. I do not understand why the invigilators did not interfere, I thought it was their duty to interfere if someone disturbs the other candidates.
- This year was the first year in which the C-exam was carried out in 5 hours. In my opinion, the C-exam was not properly adapted to take this into account. I found myself in the situation that I ran out of time to carry out all of the attacks necessary for the exam. In all the practice exams that I had done of the previous years exams (8 in total), I never had this problem.
- Good location
- Personally, I would prefer more daylight in the examination hall.
- perfectly organized!
- The restroom is far away form the examination hall. You loose a lot of time to get there.
- Table too small

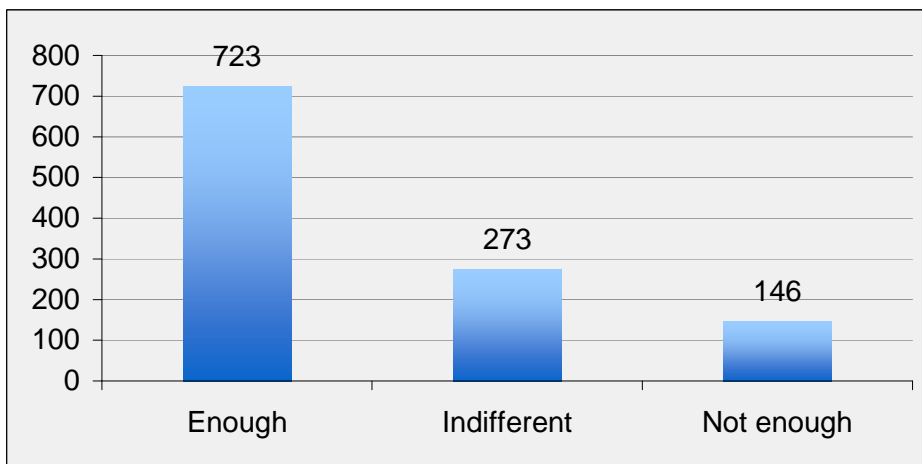
## Chapter 2 - Preparation for the EQE

**Q7) Which examination papers did you sit?**

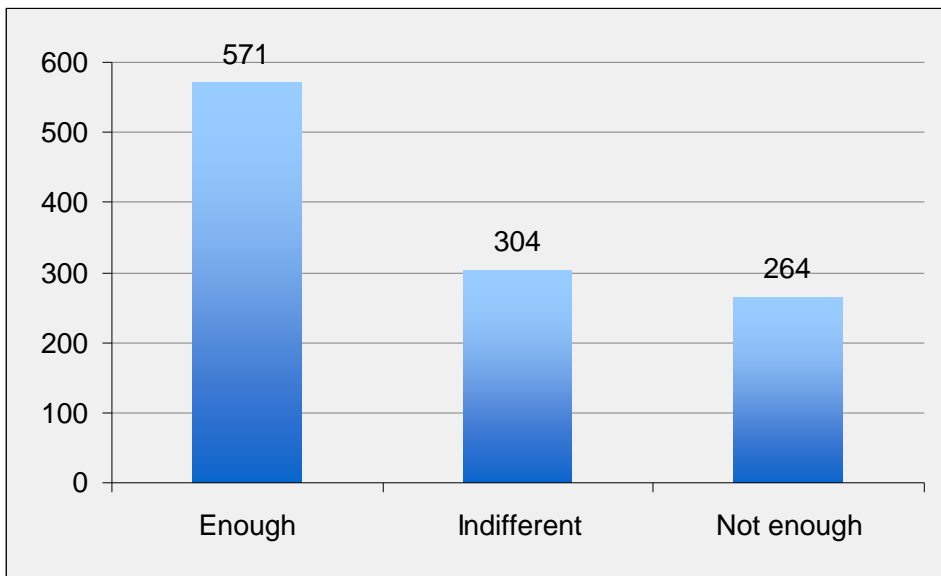


**Q8) Examiners' report in the Compendium – rating**

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



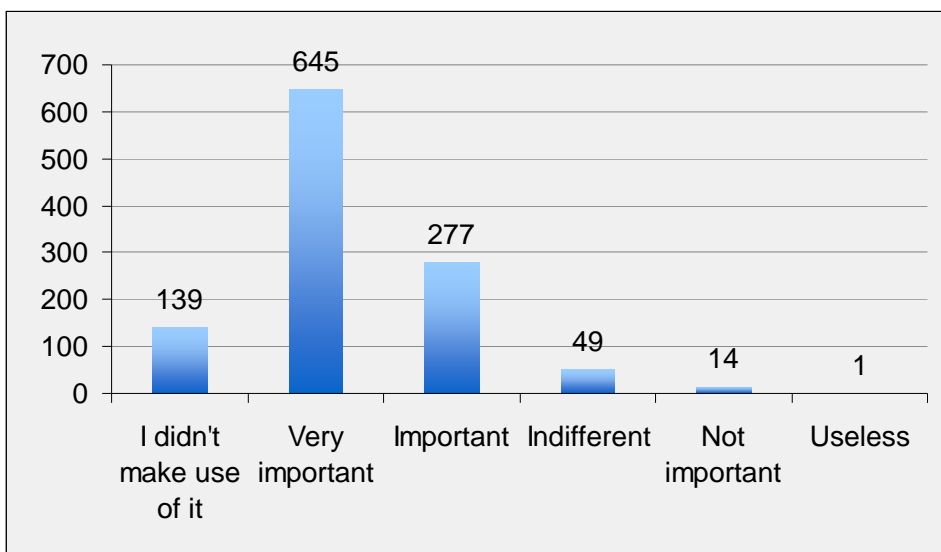
Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how the papers are marked?



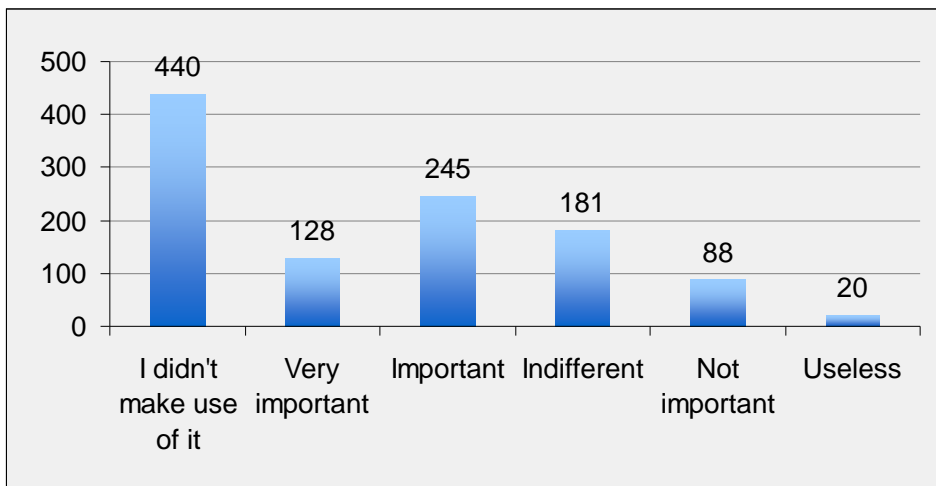
**Q9) Elements of your personal preparation**

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

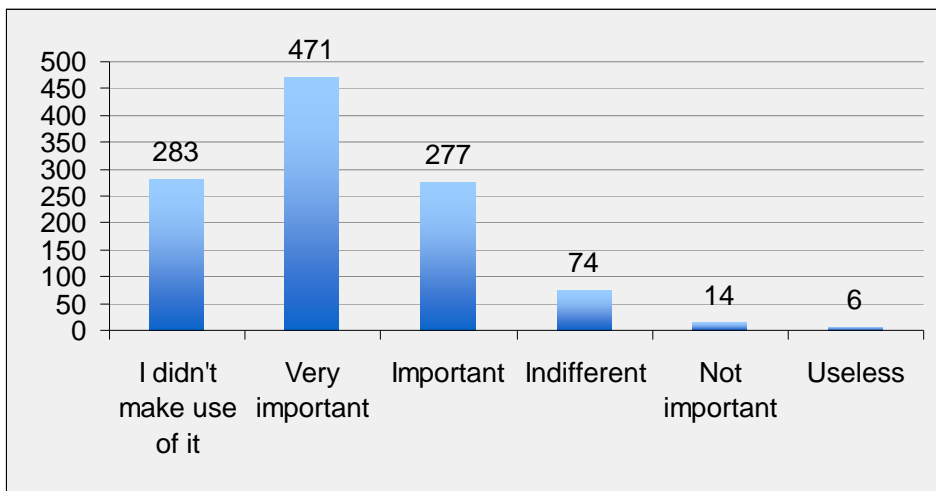
Compendium



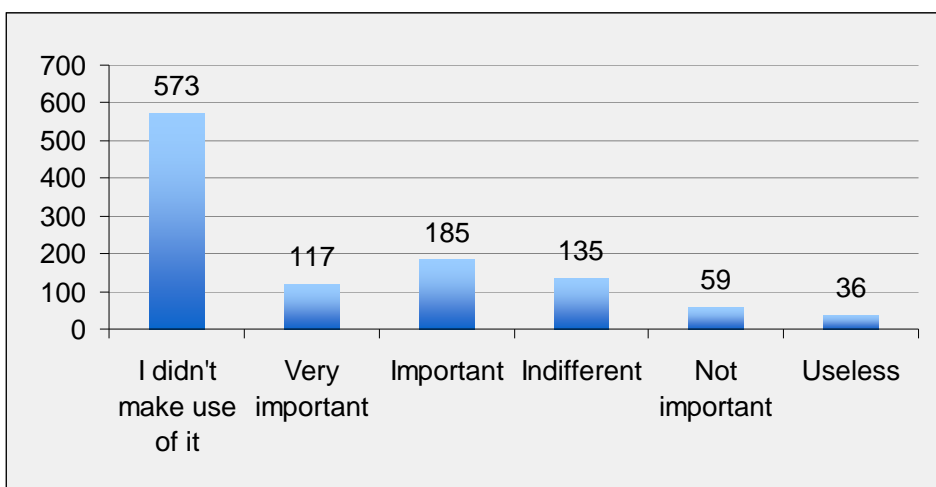
### General external courses regarding intellectual property



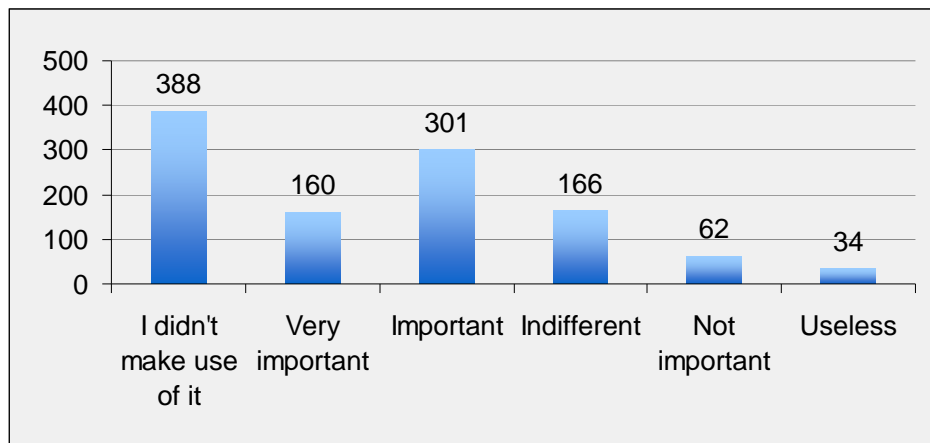
### Specialised courses for EQE papers



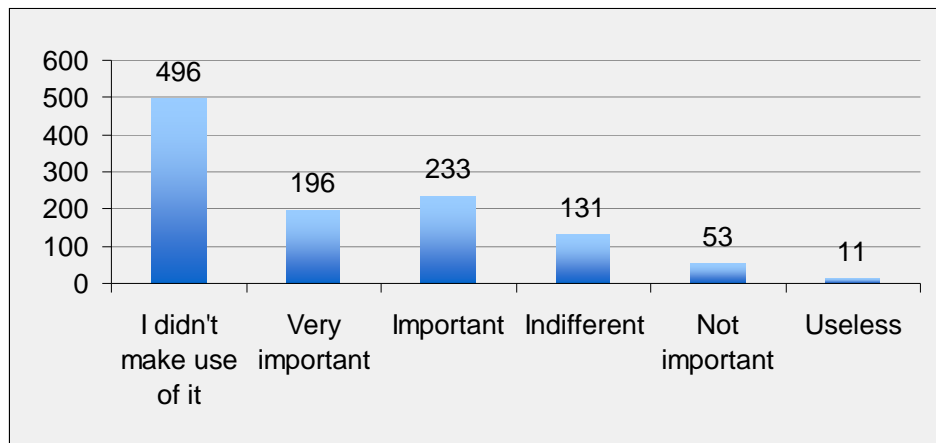
### In-house training organised by your company



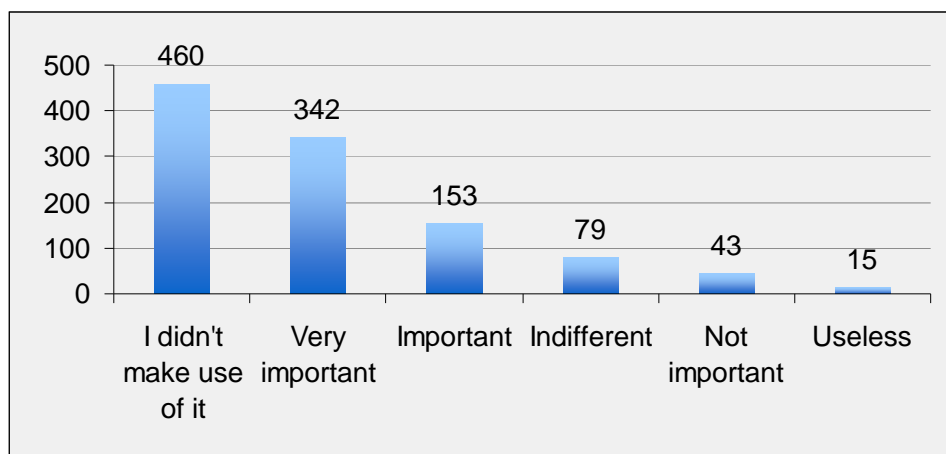
Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in the Art. 11(2)(a) REE



Study in small group with other candidates



Mock pre-examination on EQE website



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

- none
- Visser
- C-Book
- Delta patent books
- none

- Visser, Hoekstra, EPO guidelines
- DeltaPatents
- none
- DeltaPatents books and courses
- Books: Kley, Mulder, Köllner, Deltapatents material
- Visser, Annotated EPC
- Visser, Guidelines, Applicants guide
- DeltaPatents material, Visser EPC book, PCT reference book by Mulder
- Visser; Hoekstra; Deltapatents pre-exam book
- Delta Patents D questions
- C-Book + BAQUE + Delta Patent
- Stephane SPEICH
- Hoekstra, References to the EPC, DeltaPatent material and courses
- Deltapatents Preexam Book
- Methodology Delta patents
- Delta Patents, Visser, Hoekstra
- D questions DeltaPatents
- Visser
- Slides DeltaPatents, Book Derk Visser, PCT Book Cees Mulder
- Visser
- Kley
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam
- Delta Methodology regarding C
- visser
- epi online course
- EPC Annotated
- Deltapatent's books
- DeltaPatents course and material
- Deltapatents, Visser
- Visser
- Deltapatent
- Visser, Case Law, Guidelines, Cross-referenced PCT, PCT Applicant's guide, G decisions
- How to pass the EQE
- Visser, Delta Patents Pre-Exam book
- Visser book, OJ publications, PCT Newsletter,
- D. Visser, Delta Patents
- Visser, Deltapatents
- The Annotated European Patent Convention (Derk Visser), Delta Patents pre-exam book
- visser
- Pre-exam online course EPI/Europ. Pat. Acad.
- Visser
- Visser
- Visser
- Delta preexamination book
- Guidelines
- Visser
- 1. Derk Visser: The Annotated European Patent Convention; 2. Gall: Die europäische Patentanmeldung und der PCT in Frage und Antwort, 8. Auflage 2011; 3. Bozic / Düwel / Gabriel / Teufel: EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen, 1. Auflage 2012; 4. Cees Mulder: The Cross-Referenced Patent Cooperation Treaty; 5. DeltaPatents: Main-Exam Questions for Paper D
- Visser
- visser
- Annotated EPC by Visser, Delta patents book

- Visser; DeltaPatents study guides 1 and 2; How to get a European Patent
- Delta Patents Books, Blue C book
- C-book, cross references to EPC, case law book, Visser, Guide to passing EQE (for A and B)
- C-book
- Deltapatents
- EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen, Bozie/Düwel/Gabriel/Teufel
- Delta patents EQE pre-exam guide
- C-book
- Visser
- Hoekstra, deltaPatents, Giacobbe, Ceipi presentation A paper
- Delta Patent Books, Visser Commemntary
- Delta patents books
- Visser, Hoekstra
- deltapatent, C-book
- Delta patents pre-exam
- Deltapatents, PCT-Handbook
- Delta Patents Study Guides and past papers, EPC Derk Visser, Applicants's Guide to PCT, Mulder PCT, Guidelines to EPC
- Visser/Hoekstra, Delta Patent's pre-exam book, Online training by epi
- I've read the Guidelines for Examination 2012
- Delta patents training books
- Baque/C-book/Guidelines
- Hoekstra ref. book
- Hoekstra
- Hoekstra
- Visser, EPC user guides, C book (Meinders/Chandler), Delta-Patents questions, Prisma EPC (Andrea + Peter), Prisma PCT (Andrea + Peter), EPC Jelle Hoekstra
- guidelines
- C-Book
- CBE-PCT by Baque
- Visser, Guidelines, Case law
- Hoekstra, Delta Patents Questions
- Visser's annotated EPC
- Deltapatents Methdology B/C
- DeltaPatents C book
- Visser, C-Book, EPO Caselaw, PCT Applicant Guides, EQE tools (Deltapatent & CEIPI), Deltapatents D-Questions
- Visser, Hoekstra
- Visser/deltapatents C-book
- Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder
- Delta Patents pre-exam training book
- EPO Guidelines - Delta patent Books
- Visser, Guidelines and PCT Applicant's Guide
- Deltapatents
- Hoekstra
- Kley - Kommentar zum EPÜ, EQE Pre-exam course
- The annotated european patent convention
- Kley
- Alpha Book
- Nicholas Fox
- CEIPI courses
- deltapatents



- Online Legal Resources
- C book
- almost all recommended
- Visser, Guidelines, epc, pct
- Visser, EQE Forum
- Annotated EPC by Visser
- Pre-Exam online course // Kley
- C- Book
- Deltapatents D questions, Daily D1 questions in eqe forum, C-book
- Baque
- Delta patents D main exam questions
- baque, deltapatents
- Singer, Bozic, Hoekstra, Applicants Guide
- Visser
- Hoekstra, Visser, Mulder
- visser
- delta-patent preexam book, Visser annotated EPC
- C-Book Chandler/Meinders Kommentar zum EPÜ Clay
- Annotated EPC (Visser)
- Guidelines
- CEIPI Delta Patents
- Kley's EPC, Koellner's PCT
- the Annotated European Patent Convention by Derk Visser
- Delta Patents' pre-exam book
- Visser, PCT applicants guide, National Law relating to EPC
- C-Book
- visser, guidelines
- Delta patent questions
- Visser, Hoekstra
- G. Baque
- Visser and Hoekstra
- Delta Patents D book, Hoekstra and Visser
- C Book by Chandler-Meinders, References to the EPC by Hoekstra
- C-book
- Kley, Gundlach, Jacobi, Kommentar zur EPÜ 2000; Köllner, PCT-Handbuch
- book: Baque
- Visser, Guidelines for examination
- Visser, Singer/Stauder, Trinks, Köllner
- Visser, Simon Roberts
- Baque
- Guidelines and C-Book
- Gautschi, Singer/Stauder
- Visser
- Hoekstra, X-ref PCT, Visser
- Vissar
- All
- Delta Patents
- C- Book, Kommentar z EPÜ ( Kley, Gundlach, Jacobi)
- Singer/Stauder: EPÜ, Bozic et al.: EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen, Trinks: PCT in der Praxis
- EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen
- Hoekstra
- Guidelines, Deltapatent book and EQE forum
- Guidelines for Examination, EPC with own comments, Singer/Stauder EPC, EURO-PCT

Guideline etc

- Visser
- Visser, Guidelines
- epi online training course for participants of pre-examination (very helpfull)
- None
- Deltapatents questions Paper D
- C-book & Delta Patents C book
- Hoekstra, Delta Patents questions
- Visser
- Delta D-Questions, C-Book, Kley
- Hoekstra cross-referenced EPC, Guidelines, Cross-refernced PCT, PCT Applicant's Guide
- Visser, Guidelines 2012
- delta patent pre-examination
- Visser and Delta Patents
- visser
- None
- commented EPC by H.Kley et al; X-referenced PCT by C. Mulder; Comments on EPC by Singer/Stauder; epi-info; annotated EPC by D.Visser; PCT in der Praxis by O.Trinks
- Annotated EPC, PCT applicants guide, How to Get
- M. Singer, D. Stauder "Europäisches Patentübereinkommen - Kommentar" and C. Mulder "The Cross-Referenced Patent Cooperation Treaty"
- Visser
- delta Patents questions
- Deltapatents C book, Visser, Guidelines
- Visser, Watchhorn, Guidelines, Applicant's Guides, Delta Patents Questions
- Visser, Delta Patents Pre-examination books.
- Veronesse
- Nick Fox Guide
- Hoekstra, Visser books
- visser
- Visser
- delta patent / Baque
- the epi course, and the Delta Patents book
- hoekstra, EQE forum
- Delta patents
- Mindmaps of the EPC, Carola Jacobi, Visser's EPC, Mulder's PCT
- Veronese and Watchorn book
- C Book -Chandler
- C-Book, Guidelines,EPC, Kley
- Delta Patents Study Guide
- Delta Patents practice questions
- Deltapatents
- visser, delta patents
- Visser
- Gall, Die europäische Patentanmeldung und der PCT in Frage und Antwort
- Hoekstra, Visser, Mulder and PCT Applicant's Guide
- Deltapatents paper C book
- Delta Patents; C-Book
- Delta
- Delta Patents pre-examination study book
- kley
- Visser - Hoekstra - Helze (X-PCT)
- Kley, Delta Patents (for C and D)

- Kley, Köllner
- Annotated European Patent Convention Visser, Delta Patents Distance Learning Course, Cross-Reference..Mulder, Guidelines for examination, C-Book Chandler-Meinders, Cross-Reference..Hoekstra
- Visser
- Visser; EPC Compass
- EPO Book
- Delta books
- Divers compendiums on patent law
- Deltapatents mock exam.
- baque
- Hoekstra + Visser
- My main study book was Visser. My main study was doing the past 6 years of past papers for each of the exams and then marking them critically.
- EPO Directives
- Kley, Gall, Singer/Stauder, EPO-GL
- visser
- Visser
- Viser, Veronese, GL, AG
- Visser
- Kley
- A Guide to the EPC 2000
- EPC (with regulation), Guidelines for examination, Deltapatents pre-exam book
- Deltapatents pre-exam book, Visser
- EPC - PCT - Comments of EPC
- none
- Mulder, Visser, N. Fox
- kley script, köllner annotated pct
- baque
- DeltaPatents
- EQE Comprehensive
- Guidelines, PCT Applicant's Guide
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book
- Visser
- EPA Online Course for EQE Candidates
- C Book
- Kley
- Delta Patents
- Baque
- DeltaPatents and C-Book
- Deltapatents Exam book, PCT procedures & Procedural law EPC (Watchorn & Veronse), annotated EPC (Visser)
- DeltaPatents
- Visser, C book
- Baque
- A guide to the EPC 2000, The Annotated European Patent Convention, PCT and PCT Regulations, PCT Applicants Guide, Case Law
- none
- Anotated EPC
- Visser, Hoekstra, Guidelines
- Delta Patents Basic Questions for Paper D, Visser, Kley, EPO Guidelines
- GL
- Visser, delta patents C and D books

- epo on line training materials
- Delta patents handbook
- Delta patent courses
- DeltaPatents, EPO Pre-examination online training course
- DeltaPatents Books, Singer Stauder, Kley Gundlach
- Delta Patents
- Visser, guidelines, Guides for applicants
- Visser
- Deltapatents, Visser
- Kley, PCT Guide
- Guidelines, Visser
- Malte Köllner, Delta Patents, Kley
- Guidelines, Kley, Delta Patents D book
- Deltapatent, CBE-PCT Baque
- Deltapatents pre-examination book
- Delta Patents D Book
- Visser, Delta Patents
- DELTA PATENTS (A-B), CEIPI courses material
- Visser, Fox, Mulder
- Visser; Hoekstra; Fox; Paper C book
- DeltaPat D-book, Helze's annotated PCT, Visser
- Visser
- Visser
- None
- C-books
- Kley, Singer Staude, Guidelines, Delta Patent Questions, Time Limit Questions, Coffee Break Questions
- C book
- Chandler
- C-Book, Watchorn
- CEIPI, ASPI material
- C-Book + Baque
- Visser's book, Cees Mulder's book, Pre-examination Online course organised by epi
- Hoestra, Visser
- Visser, Ceipi C-book
- How to pass paper C and write a successful opposition
- Visser
- Delta A, B, C, D
- Visser, Guidelines
- Delta patents and C book
- Kley EPC; Köllner PCT; Delta Patents Exam Related questions
- Guidelines;
- C-Book
- EQE FORUM, EPO GUIDELINES
- C book
- Delta Patents Pre-exam Book, Visser, Nicholas Fox Guide to the EPC, past/mock papers and answers
- Visser
- Bozic, Gall, Kley, DeltaPatents, Coffee break questions,
- PCT/Köllner, DII/Exner, Europ. Patentrecht/Dybdahl-Müller
- Visser, Delta-patents
- Rili, Kley
- delta patents

- Annotated EPC
- Kley, Guidelines
- delta patents paper D questions, C-book chandler/meinders
- c-book
- Deltapatents
- C-Book, Delta Patents
- Delta patents
- Deltapatents
- Delta Patents methodology books and other training material
- Visser, Singer-Stauder
- Gregory Baque
- c book
- Delta Patents Model Solutions and Methodology; Ceipi C Book
- Visser
- Self-prepared condensed EPC and PCT from the authentic sources (EPO, WIPO), case law, the new Guidelines, OJ, Annotated EPC and PCT books
- None
- guidelines, delta patent
- Kley
- Delta Patents
- Delta patents
- EPO Guidelines
- delta patents
- Hoekstra
- "D questions book" of DeltaPatents, HTG II, Guidelines, EPC book of Jelle Hoekstra
- kley, köllner
- Visser, GL, NatLaw, Cross reference for PCT, PCT applicant's guide, HTG-II, PCT seminar material, OJ
- Ceipi support
- EPC, Guidelines, OJ
- Books from DeltaPatents (good for D, rather not important for A, B, C)
- legal text and case law available on EPO website
- Daily D1 Questions, standard EPO books
- C-book
- Visser, C-book
- EPC/Guidelines/Baque
- Roberts & Rudge; Visser; GL
- Baque and the european Guidelines
- Delta patents methodology
- Delta Patents and Ceipi
- "CBE-PCT" Gregory Bacque
- Deltapatents and Ceipi materials
- Visser2011
- Delta Patents D-books
- Visser, delta patents compendiums
- Visser, Deltapatents Exam questions
- Hoekstra, DeltaPatents paper d book, chandler c-book
- guidelines, case law book, compass books
- Delta Patents Study Guides
- Delta Patents Pre-EQE books
- delta patent; kley
- Delta Patents D; Kley Kommentar
- Hoekstra, Visser, Mulder's PCT

- Hoekstra Visser Mulder
- D. Visser "The Annotated European Patent Convention", Delta Patents "Training for the European Qualifying Examination. Pre-Exam 2013 edition"
- Pre-EQE Online Course, Kley, Visser
- Kley, Köllner, Delta
- Visser, Köllner
- EPO Guidelines, Case law book
- Kley comment to EPC
- Deltapatent's books
- delta patents
- APEC by Dick Visser
- Delta Patents
- Singer/Stauder EPC Kommentar, Delta patent questions
- Visser and Cees/Mulder (PCT) as reference books and paper D preparation from Delta Patents
- none
- Delta Patents Paper C
- Pre-exam study books from Delta Patent. Online training on the EPO website regarding time limits.
- EPÜ-Kommentar Kley et al
- Kley, Malte-Köllner, how to pass the EQE examination
- Delta Patent Questions, Bremi, Kley
- Delta Patents methodology compendium
- Kley; PCT Applicants Guide; PCT Handbuch; PCT in der Praxis; Gall; Deltapatents
- Visser
- EPC, Guidelines, PCT
- Deltapatent
- visser
- delta patent
- epc pct köllner, Gruber, Gall, Benkhard EPÜ, Applicants Guide EURO-PCT, Interantional and national
- delta patents, guidelines
- Visser
- Ole trings
- Visser
- Delta Patents Exam-related questions
- Delta Patents Books
- Delta Patents Books
- C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)
- Kley Kommentar
- Visser, DeltaPatents training book for pre-exam
- Visser
- Wipo handbook, Kley
- visser
- Kley, PCT applicant's guide, PCT seminar,
- all Daliy D1 questions and a DII paper on the Forum
- Ton Sterken - Methodology for Paper A
- Paper C MEthodology - Delta PATents
- Delta Patents Paper D
- Baque / Delta patent / C-Book
- Kommentar zum EPÜ 2000 von Kley
- Visser
- Visser, Gudelines, Delta Patents

- EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen
- Derk Visser, Annotated European Patent Convention
- Delta patents model answer 2012
- Referenced PCT Guide Delta Patents
- C-Book
- Delta patents study book
- Visser, Chandler/Meinders C book
- Delta Patent
- Delta C method, Ceipi C-book
- EPC/PCT Tables, C-Book, DELTA materials
- c-book, Deltapatents
- Delta Patents
- delta patents book
- None
- Hoekstra, Delta Patents books
- CEIPI, Delta-Patents for A, B ,C , D, EQE-Online forum
- EPC comment: Baque
- Guide to the EPC 2000
- Delta Patent C Methodology
- delta patent's pre-exam course 5 days
- Visser, Cross-refereced PCT Mulder
- Delta Patents Books, very important
- Visser
- EPO Guidelines; Visser Annotated EPC
- Delta patents books
- Visser, material from DeltaPatents
- Visser
- C Book / Visser
- Delta Patent books
- visser
- Delta patents questions with answers
- GUIDELINES, EPC
- eqe-online.org: pre-examination online training course, coffee break questions, daily D1 questions, time limit questions
- Visser, delta patents compendium
- C book
- hoekstra, delta c book
- The annotated European Patent Convention - Visser
- Own notes
- Visser, Delta Patent-Pre EQE, Applicants Guide for PCT part 2
- Delta Patents Course Material, Visser: Annotated European Patent Convention, Guidelines
- DeltaPatents Paper D Book
- DeltaPatents pre-exam book
- Guidelines and Delta Patents Paper C
- C-Book, Hoekstra, Delta Patents Basic Questions,...
- H.J.Kley, Singer-Stauder, M. Köllner
- Kley, Kommentar zum EPÜ 2000; Guidelines
- Visser's Annotated EPC
- Deltapatents training material - Cronin training material
- Delta Patents D1 Questions, Visser (The Annotated European Patent Convention)
- J.Hoekstra
- Europäisches Patentübereinkommen, Richtlinien für die Prüfung
- Deltapatents Model solutions

- C-Book
- Visser, D., Annotated EPC, 20th Ed. / Mulder, C., Cross-referenced PCT / Guidelines 2012 / PCT Applicant's Guide / How to get a European Patent, part 2 (Euro-PCT)
- Guidelines and Delta Patents Course Books
- Delta patents Pre-exam book
- Delta Patents Book
- Delta Patents courses
- Baque
- Kley
- Official Journals, Case Law Books, Guidelines
- Delta Patents Training material
- Visser and Hoekstra
- Hoekstra Book; Delta Patents Questions
- Annotated EPC (Visser)
- Vissers, Deltapatents exam related questions
- Visser
- Delta patents guide to the EQE pre exam
- Visser, Hoekstra
- EPC-compass by Veronese/Watchorn
- Visser
- Visser, Guidelines, PCT Applicants Guides
- Visser, Delta, Patskills
- Speich EPC 2000 Guide
- EPI-CEIPI sessions
- Daily Questions D from EPO
- epi training for the pre-exam / Visser
- Delta Patents Paper C methodology, C-book
- Pre-examination online training course (EPI))
- Visser, delta patents, Hoekstra
- Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder (PCT)
- "Delta Patents" Question Book
- Visser, paper D delta patent
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam book
- Delta Patents pre-exam books + Visser book
- EPÜ: Kley et al.: "Kommentar zum EPÜ 2000", Singer et al.: "Europäisches Patentübereinkommen". PCT: Köllner: "PCT-Handbuch"
- Guidelines, Kley, Delta Patents books
- Visser; Procedural Law before the EPO
- Visser/created my own Paper B template
- ceipi C-book, delta patents part D
- Goll, ceipi training course
- Delta patent and Gregory BAQUE book
- Hoekstra comment to EPC, EPO Guidelines, "How to get a European patent" parts I and II
- Annotated European Patent Convention of Derk Visser; daily D1 questions
- Deltapatents Mail Exam book
- Delta patents, Chandler C book, CEIPI
- Visser/DeltaPatents Pre-Exam book
- C-Book, Visser, Singer, Köllner, Trinks
- Visser, Guides C & D of Delta
- Referenced EPC and PCT
- C-Book
- C-book (Chandler and Meinders)
- Jelle Hoekstra



- Visser
- Visser, Paper C (by Chandler)
- The Annotated EPC, Guideline for Examination in the EPO, The Cross-Referenced PCT, PCT Applicant's Guide
- Derk-Visser
- Delta Patents, C-Book
- C-Guide; Brian Cronin study aids
- Visser, Mulder, Deltapatents material
- c-book
- EPA Prüfungsrichtlinien, PCT Applicant's guide
- delta patents books
- Visser; Delta Patents for D part
- Visser & Pre-Exam Online Course
- Visser
- Visser, DeltaPatents course Material, DeltaPatents Questions and Answers, Ceipi Syllabus
- EPÜ und PCT Tabellen
- Visser, Guidelines Case Law
- Baque
- Visser EPC Book, Paper C by Jelle Hoekstra + Deltapatents model solutions to C Papers
- The Guidelines, Visser, PCT, EPC, PCT Applicant's Guide, case law book, National Law book
- Methodology for paper C, november 2012 edition, delta patents
- methodology on papaer C - Joelle Hoechstra
- Kley, Delta books, Visser
- no help for paper a
- Kley Comment
- Baque, C-book, Brian Cronnin
- EPI / European Patent Academy Course, Visser, PCT Applicant's Guide
- Kley-Commentary; all relevant laws and guidelines; decisions..
- Visser
- Delta patents course
- DeltaPatents
- Visser annotated epc
- EPO academy pre-examination online course
- Visser, Nicholas Fox' EPC 2000 Guide
- Hoecstra, Delta Patents
- Annotated EPC
- Visser/C Book
- Delta Patents
- EPC (Visser) and guidelines
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Questions Book
- Visser, References to the European patent Covention by Jelle Hoekstra
- Keley, PCT-applicant's guide, Cross-referenced PCT, ...
- Visser, PCT applicants guide
- BAQUE
- delta patents, d2-book (by exner), kley/gundlach, pct applicant's guide, pct-handbuch (by Köllner) )
- Baque
- Hoekstra - refs to the EPC; excellent for EQE purposes
- Delta Patents ERQ
- The annotated EPC by Derk Visser
- Kley
- Visser, Hoekstra, EQE Tools

- Annotated EPC by Hoekstra and Delta Patents D-question book
- Visser, Delta Patents exam questions
- Delta-Patents
- DeltaPatents C and D, The C Book
- A Guide to the EPC2000, Visser, Delta Patents
- Visser
- "The Annotated European Patent Convention" DERK VISSER
- Delta Patents
- Fox primarily with my own annotations, Visser, Cross-ref'd PCT, Delta Patents D book, past papers, other EPO material
- Visser / Mulder / Hoekstra / DeltaPatents
- CEIPI courses
- Visser book and DeltaPatents Pre-Exam book
- Kley (EPC), Köllner(PCT), Guidelines for Examination, Applicants Guide
- Coffee Break EQE, epi tutorials, Visser and other reference books
- Visser, Cees Mulder (PCT)
- C-book, Visser, Stephane Speich, Deltapatent DI questions
- Paper C book from Jelle Hoekstra
- Guideline, EPC, PCT, Cross- reference PCT, Visser (Annotated EPC), OJs,
- none
- baque 2012
- DeltaPatents
- Visser commentary; Delta patents books
- DeltaPatents
- Visser
- Chandler/Meinders "C-Book"; Delta Patents (Exam related Questions for D)
- DeltaPatents book on Pre-examination
- Questions for paper DI and DII deltapatents
- CEIPI C-book, DeltaPatents A, D books
- DeltaPatents methodology. Guidelines.
- Baque
- Gregory Baque and C book
- Visser
- Jelle Hoekstra
- Annotated EPC - D. Visser, Annotated PCT, Cees Mulder
- Visser
- Annotated EPC by Vissers & The Cross-Referenced PCT by Mulder
- HOEKSTRA
- Hagen Course Script, CEIPI papers
- The EPC, Guidelins and Hoegstra, for D last year I practised A LOT of Deltapatents questions from their D books
- Viser
- C Book CEIPI
- C-book Cheindler Meinder
- Pre-examination books (Delta Patent), EPO Guidelines, Applicant's guide, EPC....
- Visser, National Law, Guidelines, Applicants guide
- Baque
- Deltapatents Preexam book
- Visser, Kley, Hoekstra
- Visser, Guidelines, Delta Patents books
- Hoeckstra
- Visser
- EPC/PCT commented edition

- Delta-Patent Questions for Paper D
- Deltapatents, Visser, GL
- Methodology books paper A/B/C Delta patent
- Visser, Delta Patents Methodology Books
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book, EPÜ und PCT Tabellen
- Delta patents
- Visser, Kley
- EPC, Guidelines, Singer-Stauder, Kley
- The C-book (CEIPI)
- Deltapatents A+B
- CBE-PCT, Grégory Baque, Delta Patents
- Visser, Hoekstra, C-Book
- Delta patents questions, Visser
- Delta Patent's book, Derk Visser's book
- Delta Patents books/ C-book
- delta patents
- c book
- Candidate Support Project & EQE Online training Course
- None
- Deltapatents Paper B book
- Kley commentary, Delta Patents pre-exam book
- CBE commentée + Directives
- Visser, Delta Patents material
- Fox/Visser/Guidelines 2012
- Delta Patents Questionnaire
- only compendium and guidelines
- Delta patents methodology book
- BAQUE
- ASPI training (PARIS)
- Paper C and D, Delta Patents, Annotated EPC, D Visser
- Visser
- The Annotated EPC (Visser)
- Hoekstra, Mulder, Delta Patents D book
- Kley-Gundlach, Visser
- Procedural law under EPC2000 / PCT procedures and passage into the European Phase
- c-book
- Visser
- The Annotated European Patent Convention (Visser), C-Book How to write a successful opposition and pass paper C of the European Qualifying Examination (Chandler-Meinders), Exam-Related Questions for Paper D (DELTAPATENTS)
- C book
- Delta Patents, Kley
- C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)
- Visser
- Derk Visser, Annotated EPC
- Visser, Guidelines
- Visser, EPI/EPA online course, CEIPI basic course, Guidelines
- none (for A)
- Kley, Guidelines
- Deltapatents Questions
- DeltaPatent
- PCT applicants guide, WIPO presentation
- Visser, CEIPI

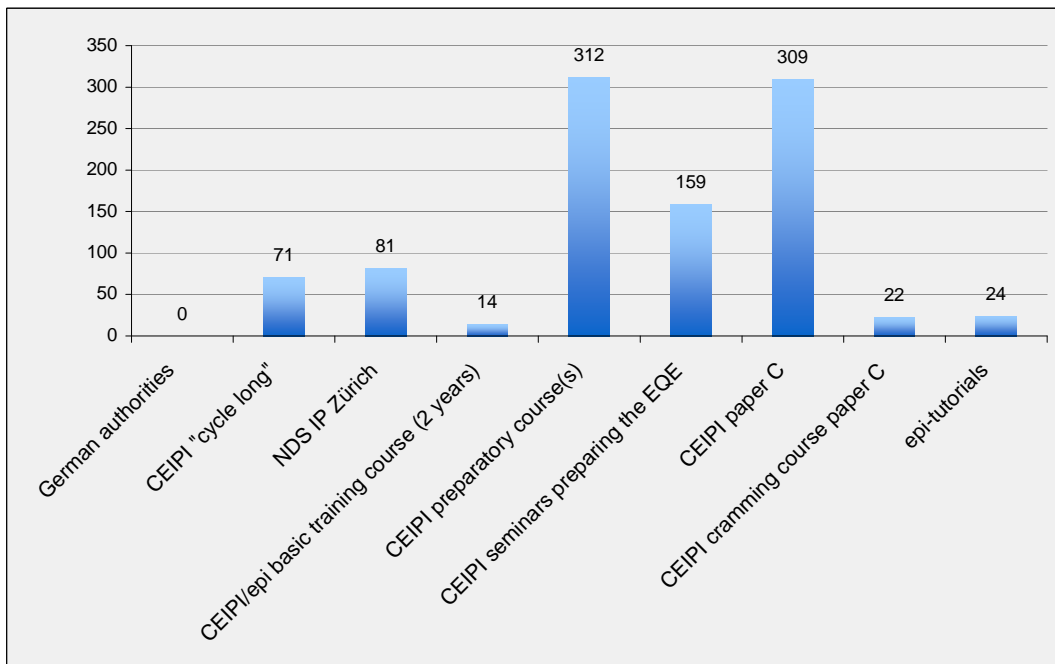
- VISSER, PCT CROSS-REFERENCE
- The annotated EPC
- DERK VISSER,
- deltapatents
- deltapatent book
- Visser, Hoekstra
- Visser, The annotated European Patent Convention; Main-Exam Questions for Paper D von Delta Patents; Bozic et al. EPÜ- und PCT-TabellenChandler/Meinders C-Book
- The books by Hoekstra, Singer/Stauder, Visser, and Mulder
- Kley: EPÜ; EPA-Guidelines; Ole Trinks: PCT in der Praxis; DeltaPatents: Exam related Questions
- Delta patents series
- visser
- Deltapatents and ege online forum questions
- C-book, Baque
- Epi-ceipi + Baque
- Visser
- EPO Guidelines for examination, EuroPCT guideline, WIPO PCT Guide, Hoekstra book
- Annotated EPC by Visser, Deltapatent
- Guidelines, Visser, Cees Mulders PCT Book
- Kley comment, Delta patent course for pre-exam
- Delta patent pre-exam book
- kley, koellner PCT
- Visser, Guidelines
- Delta patents
- EQE Forum
- Guidelines for Exam.
- Gregory Baque
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Book
- Visser
- Grégory Bacque
- Deltapatents C and D books
- Schulte, PatG/EPÜ
- Annotated EPC - Visser, The Cross-Referenced Patent Cooperation Treaty
- C book, Delta patent
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam book
- Kley EPC 2000; Delta Patent Training Books
- C-Book
- Delta Patents
- guidelines
- C-Book, Guidelines
- The Annotated European Patent Convention (Visser)
- Visser, DeltaPatents Model solution, course books
- Deltapatents
- Visser
- C-paper book of Delta Patents
- Deltapatents D-book, CEIPI C-book
- Deltapatents handoutd, Derk Visser
- Delta Patents books; CEIPI course; C-Book
- A Complete Guide to Passing the European Qualifying Exam and qualifying as a European Patent Attorney
- visser
- no

- Delta Patent book, Visser
- C-Book
- Delta patent pre exam books
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book
- Die europäische Patentanmeldung und der PCT in Frage und Antwort, Günter Gall; Kommentar zum EPÜ 2000, Hansjörg Kley und Harald Gundlach
- EPC, Applicants Guide, Guidelines
- Mulder + Hoekstra
- Delta patents and Visser
- Delta Patents Pre-examination books (Volume 1 and 2), EQE pre-examination training
- BAQUE 2012
- d-Book
- applicant's guides part I & II
- Malte Köllner PCT-Handbuch, EPÜ/PCT-Tabellen, Richtlinien für die Prüfung im Europäischen Patentamt, Delta Patents Pre-Examination
- Deltapatents books (methodology + model solutions)
- Visser, Mulder
- Baque 2013, Livre blanc JP OEB, CEIPI cours préparatoires
- Delta-Patents-Fragen; Kley-Kommentar zum EPÜ; Köllner - PCT-Handbuch, Trinks - PCT in der Praxis
- C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)
- Visser
- Kley EPÜ Kommentar, PCT Handbuch Köllner, Delta patents
- Delta Patents
- deltapatents pre-exam book
- Referenced guide to the EPC. Cross ref PCT
- Visser
- Visser
- Delta Patents
- delta patents, Kley
- C-Book
- Gregory BAQUE 2011
- Delta Patent
- too many other books to be listed here...
- Delta Patents Pre-Examination book
- Visser, Delta Patents Compendiums
- Visser, C-book, Hoestra
- Derk Visser and Delta Patents Books
- Delta patents compendiums
- C-Book, The Annotated European Patent Convention (Visser)
- Delta Patents' book reg. EQE C
- Delta Patents Pre-EQE
- EPÜ-/PCT-Tabellen; Kley
- Visser, Guidelines, PCT Applications Guide, EP Applications Guide
- External training with patent attorneys
- C-Book
- Delta Patent
- delta, epc, guidelines
- Delta Patents' Pre-exam book
- DeltaPatents pre-EQE study guide
- old exams
- Visser
- C-Book

- Selfmade handouts
- DELTA PATENTS, VISSER
- Visser, GL2012
- Visser
- CBE-PCT (Grégory BAQUE)
- deltapatents
- Delta-Patents Pre-Exam Book
- Visser
- Self prepared material
- Delta Patents Pre-exam book
- Delta Patents Material
- Vissers
- Delta Patents
- Delta Patent Pre-Examination book, The Annotated European Patent Convention-Visser, Guidelines
- Delta Patents study material
- delta patent
- Guidelines for Examination
- Baque
- Visser, Hoekstra, EQE daily questions
- References to the EPC Jelle Hoekstra
- EPO Case Law and Visser
- The C-book, Delta Patents C-course
- Visser, Mulder
- Visser, Part of the C-Book
- None
- Pre-exam book, parts I and II
- C- Book & Delta Patents D1 Questions
- Delta Patents Part D
- EQE/EPI preparatory material
- Guidelines for Exam. in the EPO; EPC; PCT; OJ
- Delta patents
- none
- Visser, The annotated European Patent Convention
- internet
- Delta Patents
- Visser, Chandler and Meinders
- Hoekstra - Refs to EPC/ Mulder - x-ref'd PCT
- Visser
- DeltaPatents, Visser
- DeltaPatents, C-Book
- delta patents books
- The Annotated European Patent Convention (Derk visser)
- BAQUE(France)
- visser, delta patent D book
- Visser
- Visser
- Kley Ordner
- d-book delta patents
- Visser, delta-patents compendium, epo Guide- lines
- CBE-PCT Grégory Baque
- Delta patent
- Delta patents D book

- Kley
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book, D1 Book
- Delta Patents Pre Exam Book
- diverse
- EQE pre-examination online training course
- C Book
- delta patents
- Question Compendia (like Delta Patents)
- DeltaPatents Exam-Related Questions
- Guidelines
- Visser, CEIPI material, EPO training material, DeltaPatents D1 questions
- Kley
- EPÜ/PCT Handbuch
- CBE-PCT, Baque
- C-Book
- Visser annotated EPC
- C-Book; Guidelines EPO
- Delta Patents
- Visser, Guidelines etc
- Visser, DeltaPatents
- visser
- Visser, Baque
- delta patents questions
- Visser, PCT-Handbuch (Köllner), Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book
- Visser, C book
- Visser, Hoekstra
- Anotaded version of the EPO from Visser; Delta patents course materials and questions
- Visser, Kley
- EPÜ- und PCT Tabellen von Bozic Düwel etc.
- EPC and guidlines
- Delta Patents
- Visser, CEIPI C-Book, DeltaPatents Paper C / D books
- Gall, Bozic, EPC
- delta patents
- Kley, DeltaPatents, Examinatorium Europaeum (Fernuni Hagen)
- BAQUE
- C-Book etc.
- Visser, HTG I and II, AG-IP, AG-NP, Guidelines, NatLaw
- Visser's annotated EPC
- Visser and A Guide to the EPC 2000 by Nicholas Fox
- Delta patents compendium
- CBE-PCT : G. Baque
- Gall, Gruber/von Zumbusch/Haberl/Oldekop, Deltapatents Questions Paper D, Delta Patents Methodoly Paper C
- The Annotated European Patent Convention by Derk Visser
- none
- Kley, Delta Patents
- Visser's commentary on the EPC
- Delta patents questions, Nick Fox, Mulder, Visser, Guidelines
- Kley, EPA-Leitfaden
- delta patent
- Kley
- cbe

**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 preparatory course(s)

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.**

- Bachotage organisé par CEIPI
- delta
- Examinatorium Europaeum Uni Hagen
- DeltaPatents
- DeltaPatents A, B, C and D courses



- Deltapatents D trial run Munich
- DeltaPatents pre-exam course
- Delta patents
- DeltaPatents A-D
- delta patents
- Delta Patents
- DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Course
- Delta Patents course guided-exam
- pre-exam course by the european patent academy
- DeltaPatents courses on Papers A, B and C
- CEIPI pre-exam course
- Delta patents, CEIPI D-exam training Strasbourg
- delta patents
- Pre-exam online course EPI/Europ. Pat. Acad.
- Deltapatents
- DeltaPatents Courses
- Due to monetary reasons this was not an option for me hence I carefully studied and employed the methodology in C-book and Guide to Passing EQE
- JDD
- DELTA courses ABC
- NONE
- Delta Patents Methodology courses
- Deltapatents
- none specific for the pre EQE, I did follow courses for the Dutch patent attorney training on legal matters
- deltapatent training for EQE
- Claim interpretation course at Centre de Patents UB Barcelona
- Deltapatents methodology C Paper
- selfstudy (this Year)
- JDD pre-exam course
- Master 2 droit de l'innovation technique Paris XI
- candidate support project
- Pre-Exam online course
- Eigenstudium
- EPO Internal Training by L and D
- EPI EQE Pre-examination Training
- Deltapatents course for A, B, C and D
- Deltapatents course: D trial run
- None of the above
- Delta patents courses D and C
- QMW EQE Course, London
- ASPI
- delta patent course C and D
- Deltapatents C/D course
- EPI pre-examination course
- EPA Pre-Examination online course
- DeltaPatents C paper course in Helsinki, autumn 2011
- Deltapatents Paper D course
- None
- JDD courses (Milton Keynes, UK)
- Delta Patents course
- Delta Patents C and D
- EQE Pre-exam online course

- JDD course
- delta patents courses
- Delta Patents course
- Deltapatent C course for resitters
- internal EPO courses
- None
- Deltapatents C D course
- Barcelona patent center course
- none
- JDD and Queen Mary Courses
- Deltapatents course
- Preu EPÜ Seminar (A, B, C, D); Michalski & Hüttermann (C, D)
- Deltapatents main exam distance
- CEIPI Strasbourg ABC and D courses
- EPO in house
- cours interne par l'EPO
- delta patent
- CEIPI Part D in Strasbourg
- Delta Patents D course (whole year)
- JDD pre-Exam Course
- DeltaPatents
- Deltapatents Methodology course on D-exam
- DeltaPatents Paper C methodology and guided exam
- ASPI Paris
- Pre-EQE EPI course
- My own:-)
- JDD course
- Delta patent
- JDD
- None
- I prepared independently
- none
- EQE online course by EPI
- JDD Pre-exam course
- Online training course provided by the EPO academy/epi
- DeltaPatents pre-exam preparation
- Forum institut
- Delta Patents 5-day courses for C and D
- Delta patents course
- Pre-EQE online training course
- Deltapatents C-D course in 2011
- Delta Patens 3 day resitter course
- delta patents paper D, methodology
- epi/EPO Pre-examination online training course
- ASPI course
- Curso Práctico para preparar el EQE. Centro de Patentes-OEPM. Barcelona, Spain.
- JDD 2012 EQE courses
- Delta patents paper C course for re-sitters
- Deltapatents resitters D
- Brian Cronin, paper C & D
- michalski huettermann eqe preparation course
- No courses this time, but previously participated in prep seminar in Strasbourg
- training course of Centre de Patents de la Universitat de Barcelona Papers A y B

- private tutorials
- Preu-Kurs
- Delta patents D
- Delta Patents pre exam course
- Delta Patents
- deltapatents legal cramm course
- Deltapatents
- online epi training course for pre-exam
- delta Patents paper hand-in
- Preu Kurs EQE Munich
- EQE Course at Fernuniversität Hagen
- in house EPO course Paper C
- Self-Study
- JDD
- Delta C methodology
- QMUI EQE Revision course
- EQE-Online D1-Questions, Coffee-Break Questions
- "Master of Advanced Studies in Patent und Markenwesen" at the Fachhochschule Zürich
- DeltaPatents Pre-exam course
- Delta Patents Courses on C and D
- Delta Patents C + D
- Ege Akademiet, Stocholm
- Distance learning courses from Delta Patents
- Delta patents
- DeltaPatents D course
- pre-examination online training course, CEIPI pre-examination cramming course
- Delta patent course
- in house course for examiners in the EPO for paper C
- delta c
- DeltaPatens
- Delta Patents Methology
- Course preparing Paper C and D (Centre of Patents Universty of Barcelona)
- Delta Patents D1
- Home made homework
- Delta pre-exam course
- delta patents
- EPA Pre-examination online training course
- Delta courses
- DeltaPatents Methodology and Mock Exam courses
- DeltaPatents preEQE course
- Delta Patents Methodology Course
- In-house training course
- None of the above
- IP-akademin in Sweden
- DeltaPatents
- Deltapatents EQE A methodology (2011)
- EPI/EPO online course, Deltapatents question books
- Praktika Intership Module 1
- Deltapatents pre-exam methodology course
- DeltaPatents training courses
- Pre-examination online training course (EPI))
- Queen Mary University of London EQE course
- Delta Patents 10 times 8 hours pre-exam preparation

- Deltapatents pre-exam training
- Delta Patents paper A + B course
- Delta Patents C and D courses
- JDD Paper B course
- IP-akademin "EPC avancerad" and EPO online-course
- delta patents
- delta patents
- Brian Cronin course in Geneva
- delta patents D-course
- DeltaPatents methodology course and guided mock exam for paper C -
- DeltaPatents courses
- CEIPI/epi basic training course (only 1 year)
- JDD course
- EPO in-house courses for paper B and C
- Deltapatents C and D courses (past years)
- Delta patents EQE training courses
- Nothing
- no courses followed
- DeltaPatents Legal Cram Course
- on-line pre-examination course
- DeltaPatents Paper D (located also in Copenhagen, easy access)
- Delta Patents Paper D course
- pre-exam online training from EPO
- Daily DI questions
- CEIPI Paper D Course, Strasbourg
- JDD EQE Courses in Milton Keynes, UK
- DeltaPatents course D for re-sitters
- JDD for A, B, C
- Delta Patents
- 3-days for paper D Deltapatents
- Delta Patents methodology
- epo/epi patent academy online pre-exam course
- deltapatents courses for resitters
- In-house course by my company
- Deltapatents
- Deltapatent courses
- Deltapatents Courses A+B and C
- On my own and other EQE coueses
- Delta patents Preexam
- Other
- Deltapatents Methodology A+B/C/D, Guided-Exam D
- Delta Patents courses for C and D
- Personal training
- Delta Patents courses
- Delta Patents C-Course
- Deltapatents C methodology course
- VIPS/VESPA course (Switzerland)
- Deltapatents C/D
- Delta Patents C Course
- book-a-tutor
- online pre-exam course run by EPO
- Fernuni Hagen Examinatorium Europaeum
- CSP

- IP Akademin
- Mock-Exam offered by Preu-Bohlig
- no extra courses
- Delta patents methodology course
- ASPI
- Deltapatents
- epi/EPO Pre-Exam Online Training Course
- JDD January revision courses
- Delta Patents C/D
- none
- Preu-Bohlig Course Munich
- EPI / EPA online training for pre-examination
- Delta patents course
- EPI/EPA online course
- none (for A)
- pre-exam course, Univ. Hagen, 3 month
- DELTA PATENTS COURSES
- Pre-Examination On-line Course
- Delta Basic D/Inhouse EPO modules
- delta patents
- M.Cronin's conference
- FU Hagen
- VIPS VESPA Tutorium
- Delta patent course for Paper C 2012 (1 day); Management Forum EPO Oppositions and Appeals: The Case Law (1 day)
- DeltaPatents course legal cram
- Delta Patents preparatory EQE all papers
- Queen Mary University of London EQE Course
- Deltapatents pre-exam course and training
- EQE-Pre-Exam Online Course by European Patent Academy
- delta patents
- Examinatorium Europaeum Feruni
- Delta Patents Paper C
- DeltaPatents methodology and guided exam courses
- Delta Patents
- Deltapatents
- Distance learning Delta Patents
- delta
- Delta Patent book
- EQE pre-examination online training course
- nothing
- Kanzlei Hüttermann C/D-Kurs
- Delta legal course
- CEIPI pre-examination course Strasbourg
- Delta Patents
- inhouse courses
- Delta Patents
- IP Akademin in Stockholm, 4 day-course paper C
- Examinatorium Europaeum at Hagen
- deltapatents
- CSP
- EQE pre-examination online training course
- Delta Patents C and D-courses

- EPI online course
- Delta-Patents pre-EQE course
- Delta Patents
- Delta Patents C-course
- Delta Patents methodology C and D
- I did not attend courses
- pre examination training /Europeac Patent Academy
- JDD Courses run in the UK
- Delta Patents
- Grup CIEF EQE Preparation Course
- epo online course
- delta prep courses
- ASPI (FRANCE)
- self-study
- Delta patent C seminar
- Delta-patents
- Pre-examination online course
- EPO EQE inhouse training courses
- DELTA PATENTS
- Practique course for EQE-C of Centre de Patents UB (Barcelona)
- Preu Kurs (EPÜ)
- Swedish IP academy
- other courses for european/national qualification
- non
- Delta patent seminars
- Daily D1 Questions
- Delta patents distance course for paper D
- Internal preparation
- EQE courses organized by agencies of professional representatives
- JDD (C and D)

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

- nothing to declare
- Time
- Enough time, start early enough
- past exams and usual material
- It was difficult to judge how timings would be managed as these were the first exams under the new timing regime. Therefore it was difficult to practice under timed conditions that would be appropriate for the exams. No firm indication of the split for paper D, nor of the effect of the reduced time on paper C was given to my knowledge.
- Prepare some checklists for each paper; let Deltapatents correct older paper to find solutions to do a better approach to get some marks for the writing
- The support of my family!
- Self-studies/re-sitter repetition started well in advance before the exam.
- Attended CEIPI course in london, whihc was useful. Used Visser and Hoestra books for EPC strudying. USed PCT applicants guides for PCT studing. thought delta patents pre-exam book was very useful.
- Past papers under exam conditions (although due to change in format/timing for B, C & D this was not as helpful as it might have been).
- doing as many past papers as possible and doing as many exercises as possible, and checking the answers
- spend time to do simulations of paper c

- My every day practice
- EQE test questions Coffee break, guidelines
- step by step solutions that look over
- Practise of old papers
- epi online course was very thorough.
- Substantial on-your-own preparation
- I found a list of deadlines questions on either the EPO website, or perhaps somewhere like EQE Online. They were a useful exercise.
- EPO Guidelines, EPC National Law, EPC Case Law, PCT law, PCT applicant's guide.
- EPI online training course, Visser, Deltapatents
- I did almost all the online questions / review questions of the pre-exam online course. I learned by answering the questions.
- [http://www.eqe-online.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.eqe-online.org/wiki/Main_Page) <http://www.epo.org/law-practice/case-law-appeals/eba/number.html> [http://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal\\_de.html](http://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal_de.html)
- Considering relevant aspects of office job (mainly European prosecution)
- Carefully studying the Guidelines along with the EPC and case law book. practicing lots of past papers, making notes from EPC and Guidelines for quick reference during the exam along with notes/ methodology to tackle papers A-C
- C-book
- Time, well prepared documents
- Taking timed examinations
- Enough time, which I didn't have. It would have been important to have more (old) C and D exams to practise on. there are few from 2008 onwards and at some point, you know them so well, they don't help in preparing for another round of EQE exams.
- CEIPI EPO in-house courses
- To fit my "preparation agenda" even when motivation was not there or when too much fatigue (i.e. 4 hours each morning of Saturday and Sunday and 2-3 hours per evening, except a break each Friday). To prepare my own annotated EPC with the help of the Guidelines and of the case law, using the other tools only as a support depending on the subject.
- Doing questions from past papers in the exam compendium
- I think a good tutor is very important. I was lucky in that my tutor was so helpful. She motivated me to study plus she answered all of my questions very well. I kept my reading documents in minimum since the subject is the same and there is no need to read it in 5 different books. It's just time consuming and may confuse one's mind. My main source was epi online training. I annotated my own epc while reading the articles on this online training. If I need additional reading I used Visser. By this way I've completed most of the topics related to the legal part. Then for the claim analysis part I studied the mock exams and pre-exam 2012. Read the answers carefully. That was one of the most important things. I have solved some additional cases from the Delta Patent's book and ceipi's notes from a training. Actually it's better not to trust your memory and find everything on the books during the exam. So I've not tried to memorize anything, I've concentrated on finding them during my study. Just label the books, underline important parts with different colored pens and take notes to the articles.
- EPO Guidelines
- Time, time, time
- Claim analysis during prosecution of actual patent application
- D paper legal questions as preparation, trying to develop legal reasoning as a preparation for the 'big' exam.
- questions on EPC topics and answers with comment; EQE coffee break
- Making a lot of exam papers from previous years and studying the examiners reports afterwards and discussing the papers in my study group with our tutor.
- Guidelines for examination in the EPO (very important)
- Applicants guides for PCT and Euro-PCT.

- delta patents correction papers
- Dedicate enough time in January-February for heavy D training
- DI Exam Questions DeltaPatents Coffeebreak Questions
- In-house training organised by my company Dedicated training given by my supervisor I think It could be helpful for candidates to provide in the compendium also the answer of the worse candidate which has passed a specific paper
- Experience in your company
- time!
- annotations
- Work Experience
- Trying to forget my real life experience
- European Academy Pre-eqe online course
- Start early and slowly building knowledge instead of rushing close to the exam.
- Kley & solving questions of the Pre-Exam online course
- Time for preparation
- Delta Patent Questions and preparation courses;
- Delta Patents Pre-Exam book
- enough time to study
- Past paper questions
- Training to speed up time of analyse, to do exam in time.
- Lots and lots of past papers. Reading Visser thoroughly
- plenty of past paper practice. It was not clear from the Examiner's comments or the candidates answer what would be considered a satisfactory 'pass' paper and what you needed to get 50% or above.
- Past papers.
- Deltapatents Pre-exam book
- Guidelines for examination
- Mock-exams in real time
- Eeq-online.org forum.
- I participated in a CEIPI training that was excellent.
- Broad general knowledge in intellectual property
- Solving old EQE exams.
- PCT Applicant's Guide EPO Guidelines Deltapatent's Paper D questions and answers
- Deltapatent pre-exam book: structure and clear explanation in one
- This time I really did not have time to prepare due to excessive workload at the office. I just tried to handle the exam with the work done 1 year ago and the DeltaPatents course back then.
- Past papers are very useful. Since there were significant changes to the B and D papers this year which impacted time management, a mock paper for these exams would have been helpful in order to practice timings.
- Personal time for studying at home, even if it is very hard with a family and little children!!!
- Doing plenty of past exam papers. Although it was made harder this year by there not being any past papers which reflected how Paper D would be.
- EQE forum, daily questions very useful
- diligence
- Deltapatents course Doing past exams
- Delta Patents Question very useful for practicing Watchhorn very good procedure book. Slightly better for EPC than PCT. Guidelines because of reform Visser annotated EPC is very important.
- file review of applications and patents in epoline. You see all communications and understand how the process to get an European patent works
- Having papers corrected. Personal index/overview with references into material.
- I can have only personal preparation For personal and private reasons I have in fact no many time for this. I regret that the change in the EEQ rules had not been retroactive, since I



would have passed the Exam then. I work on my own based on my own compilation and experience on the former exam I passed and try to have all my books I used at work up to date.

- The most useful thing was to do the past paper and mock exams and to read the Examiner's comments or mark scheme to determine what was required.
- Doing lots of past papers to time using the compendium
- Mock examination practice
- Personal time spent studying
- Putting in enough hours for revision.
- Bozic, EPÜ und PCT-Tabellen, Workflow-orientierte Verfahrenshandlungen Rechtsprechung der Beschwerdekammern Very broad education by the supervising European patent attorney within 2 years
- DeltaPatents Main Exam Question Book
- experience
- Self-Written Comment dealing with the EPC Self-Written Comment dealing with the Fees A list in an alphabetic order dealing with all decisions ever mentioned within the office journal
- practical experience, "learning on the job", I did not really prepare for any of the exams, which so far was good enough to pass A,B and C with some luck also for D in 2013?! fingers crossed!
- Exam-related questions of Deltapatents
- Time management
- Handle specific legal cases in practise like appeal, opposition etc.
- Read the guidelines for examination and the exchanging of experience and opinions with other students.
- The time that always miss
- Going through past papers. The more detailed the Examiner's comments, the more useful this was particularly for years where Examiner's gave an indication of the number of marks for each question (for Paper A in particular)
- The tip that you should quite early decide which reference book to use, and dedicate to that decision. I chose between Visser or Hoekstra.
- Delta patent questions Past papers
- Doing the last 6 years of past papers. Reading through Visser annotating, highlighting and tabbing it. Practising Delta Patents questions.
- The "Daily D1 questions" were very helpful, but tend to be a little less complex than the "realistic" D1 questions (but maybe the impression is a bit distorted by the examination stress).
- Keeping up-to-date
- I received the EQE coffee break automatic emails every 3 days, I find it very useful. I also spent some time on the EQE forum, and read some G decision. Some experts blog were also useful (such as [europeanpatentcaselaw.blogspot.com](http://europeanpatentcaselaw.blogspot.com))
- Working through past papers and critically marking against model/examiner answers
- Timing schedule for each paper.
- CEIPI Course in The Hague
- Study myself for about 5 weeks and doing nothing else in that time...
- CEIPI D-week in Strasbourg, ASPI course in Paris, CEIPI "bachotage" in Paris
- EQE pre-examination online training course
- Regular attending to Ceipi Basic Course, Mock-Preexam, Ceipi Preexam Preparation Course
- The examination study guide for structuring my revision
- I did not have supervisors, so that is not easy for preparing examination.
- Former exam papers
- enough mock examinations to adjust to the style of questions and to learn the epc interactively by answering questions and comparing them with answers
- We didn't have enough information on how paper D will be this year. So you went blind to

the exam.

- EQE forum
- time
- Üben, üben, üben
- Guidelines DELTA Patent Questions
- EPC, PCT, epo web site
- Compendium and preparation of own material for the exam.
- DeltaPat D questions & answers!
- Training on past papers.
- Having done it the second time
- It is important to train in real time conditions.
- I am currently studying at CEIPI and preparing the CEIPI exams. This provides a de facto and almost timely preparation on the EPC as well as on the PCT. In retrospect I don't feel there is a need for any additional preparation course.
- Help of the epi tutor
- EQE forum
- Ege acadamy with daily questions
- Stick to timing of questions, which seems to be more important then expected.
- Guidelines
- Guidelines (most important), AG-IP, AG-NP, LfA-2, Nat.Recht, Delta Patents/ Basic Questions D
- Practical training and making strategies for improving the workflow.
- It is important to do at least one of each paper under "real-life" circumstances, i.e. with copy and paste actions and doing the whole writing as one would do in the exam. Apart from that: training, training, training. all papers, especially D, are won at home on the desk in the months before the ege
- More training on effectively marking definitions, effects, field of the annexes.
- Preparing previous papers under exam conditions.
- Studying past exams and model solutions from Delta Patents
- practics
- Working experience
- Stress management
- Feedback from tutors (in-house and epi tutors) on the earlier exam papers I practiced is the most important source for understanding what I should train and learn more. This cannot be achieved from Examiner's reports only but also not without the Examiner's report.
- excercises of previous examinations
- Booklet with previous years d questions (deltapatents) For pct: Mulders cross referenced book and Euro-PCT guide part II "How to get Euro-PCT"
- For e dry moca it si vero important to find the comment ed examiner's solution
- make many, many, many D questions, especially of D1 type.
- training hard time pressure and handwriting lots of beers
- Everyday working on new EP filings, prosecution, opposition Have a look in EQE forum for specific questions
- personal involvment. Extra time given by the company Time to study (no working at the company the 4 weeks before the examination)
- PCT, Case Law
- It was excellent to have the pre-examination a year ahead of the main examination. This effectively ensured that I started preparing for the main examination early enough.
- I would have preferred less workload in my office to allow time off before exams; instead of working at the weekend prior to the exam to enable days off to travel to and sit exam.
- To begin early to work for D. It's the most important. I begun in August 2012 and it was really necessary.
- Current work in-house.
- physical adequate rest, handwriting, collection and organization of information

- As time is gold, especially in the EQE, I typed a detailed schedule for each of A-B-C part including timing and what-to-do accompanied by a template for a model answer. Then, I trained myself using the schedule and the compendium. During the exam, the typed schedule and the key words for a model answer helped to regain time lost on initial reading. As a non-native (English) speaker I struggled with a speed of reading and the vocabulary, sometimes too tricky for foreigners.
- time management
- Taking enough time to write old examination papers in full under exam-like conditions and time restraints
- Model answers by Deltapatents
- Delta Patents Question books
- the Official Journal of the EPO, G decisions of the Enlarged Board of Appeal, PCT
- self-studying
- relaxing night sleep before the exam
- practicing at home with Compendium under exam conditions
- Do MANY old exams. I would say at least 10 per paper.
- Epi tutorial for correcting and discussing answers to papers
- Time to familiarise with the topics
- none
- To study and make up a study plan together with colleagues.
- EPÜ und PCT Guidelines; Rechtsprechung Leitfaden für Anmelder Teil I und Teil II Nationales Recht
- Daily D1 questions, eqe-forum
- The online Training Course was an excellence preparation.
- Daily practice
- start in advance, do lot of old papers and do them alsways under exam conditions
- Time.
- Delta Patents pre exam Book
- Guidelines
- Attending to the CEIPI Paper D training course and having the opportunity to exchange with other candidates. The EQE forum was also very useful for consultation purposes.
- Start early. Practice as many old exams as possible. Prepare "template" answers, so you do not have to think about/look up standard statements, e.g. concerning deadline calculation etc.
- Time management, time management and again time mangement which can be trained by mock examinations.
- the forum on eqe-online is useful to see typical mistakes and the logic behind correct answers
- D1 questions by email
- All questionnaires and paper examples you can prepare as you did for the EQE Forum D1 Daily questions. I did not see any questionnaires for paper A and B, which would have been a help. I did all Daily D1 questions and one paper DII exercise from your website. This helped very much. Moreover, I could put important questions to a EPA I know. All was very important for my preparation.
- The discussion of Paper A2009 with Mr. Francis Leyder was very important to me.
- A good mix of tasks in the law firm i work (legal studies, responses to Office Actions, Patent Applications, Oppositions
- Listing of all elements to be learned before examination
- Very important to understand how to figure out the problem solution attack in relation to formulate the objective problem
- Examination Guidelines, How to...parts 1+2
- C-Book, 3rd edition showed the first time very clearly, where one can collect points. Before this, it was not clear, where I lost points, which could have been gained easily.
- attempting past papers.

- Problem solution is king. The trouble is that you can be fit for practice but not be informed that EQE papers should be solved in a very precise way to attract marks and you will fail. An oral exam would be able to determine if you understand how to apply the law. Thus if there is something blocking your opening of the exercise this would not automatically close the party before you started. If you are not native english, german or french you also fight the language and the puzzle is not that easy to assemble. Thus you spend more time and might not be able to collect the necessary number of marks. Native speakers of the three official languages should have a higher bar...if it should be fair, but I understand this is not supposed to be fair.
- Former papers and examiners reports
- Visser, Guidelines, PCT Applicant's guide
- Practical experience.
- Past papers, courses taken
- CEIPI courses
- I did not have enough time to study due to personal situation in my family
- I sacrificed a chicken and spread its blood on my chest.
- Guidance from senior attorneys, who have themselves passed EQE
- As I do not deal with those questions at work at all, I need more free time from the job for preparation that I never get .
- Time
- Doing old exams.
- Setting aside enough time for studying, and having and carrying out a "plan" for how to do this: assimilating information from classes and books to my own 12 sheets of distilled information. Then taking a lot of practice exams with those sheets and the delta patent C and B books for looking up if necessary. Taking exams under what turned out to be much more than realistic exam stress with same time restrictions, and small children not understanding what mama was doing frequently making a lot of noise and trying to get my attention compared to this, the exams were calm. So I was so "drilled" from all the practice exams that I just followed my routine, and did not get nervous at all, strangely enough.
- The process of thinking, whether it came through old exam papers, real-life work or training. I found that the most important thing for me was to understand the way of thinking that is to be applied.
- Delta patents methodology and guided exam courses
- Blank exams
- training.
- making old papers and using answers from DeltaPatents and the Examiner Reports
- Starting early enough: at least 6 months before the examination. Constant training by the online course (timeline). Early training on questions (parallel to learning EPC-basics). Lots of training on time limits.
- epi tutorial
- Self study
- Timed solution of previous years exams and commenting by tutor
- Preparing an index for all resources that I'm planning to use in the EQE. Bringing the "National Law relating to the EPC" turned out to be very important this year.
- time to study
- The Guidelines
- Self organized "Mock exams"
- Writing the exam papers in the time frame given during the examination was important for me.
- Hoekstra's EPC is the best!
- practise mock exams and exam questions (see course below)
- Preparation and keeping up to date of personal version of EPC, PCT, etc. Structured preparation over the course of the past years.
- Self studies

- sufficient time and dedication
- Writing my own comment based on DeltaPatents and Compendium questions and answers, i.e., not using Kley, Visser, etc.
- Enough and regular time for preparation.
- General discussion with colleagues who had previously sat the exams.
- Preparation of my own version of the EPC, PCT etc. with comments. Early start of preparation. Structured approach.
- Given that the pre-exam is still in its infancy, my supervisors, who did not themselves did the exam, did not feel in a good position to be advising me as to the likely content of, and how to pass, the exam. Consequently, the vast majority of my preparation was done by self-study, or with a colleague who was also sitting the pre-exam. Having spoken with numerous other candidates prior to the pre-exam, almost all were uncertain as to the level at which the exam would be pitched most having recognised that the pass rate for last year's exam was very high, suggesting perhaps a much harder exam this year. Having spoken to these candidates after the exam, many thought this to have been the case. It is understandable that, when introducing a new exam, it is initially difficult to decide on which level to pitch the exam, and the level of difficulty may indeed fluctuate for a number of years until a suitable level of difficulty is reached. However, in this situation, it would be nice if the EPO would make more past papers/exam exercises/general information available to those candidates sitting the exam during the first few years so that they are not unduly disadvantaged for being exam guinea pigs.
- Rest, time-management.
- Delta Patents, Applicant's Guides
- timing management
- Pre-examination online training course (EPI): The questions related to each chapter of the course help to understand correctly the legal texts.
- Answer feedback available from the Examiner's comments for the mock pre-exam and in the Delta Patents book
- Excellent support from the employer plays a major role in success. Being in contact with other candidates helps enormously.
- Making exercises provided by Deltapatents on my own was the most important element of my preparation.
- Sitting enough past papers
- EQE-Forum, Daily Questions, Pre-Examination Course for repetition
- Some case law. Delta Patents Pre-exam question books.
- Time management.
- Practice
- Delta patents course
- language skills
- taking previous papers under exam conditions
- Practice, practice and practice the past papers to time.
- check EPO website latest news
- To start one year in advance with the preparation
- The most important and difficult was to find free time to prepare. I could only do it by reducing working time and taking unpaid leave.
- Comfort food, relax before taking exam
- spending as much time as possible studying and preparing, every evening and weekend for months in advance of exams. doing as many past papers as possible, preferably having them corrected by a colleague if possible.
- Delta Patents Courses
- old papers
- Reading the EPC articles and rules over and over again helps to have a first hint during the examination. I believe this to be even more relevant than secondary literature. People tend to read commentaries and guidelines only and lose contact with the actual articles!

- Real life practice
- All Information in connection with the EPC and PCT on the EPO/WIPO websites.
- Personal experience in patent practice and reproduction of examining conditions before sitting the actual exam.
- Detailed reading of Guidelines and Applicant's Guide
- Practicing answering questions with correction by specialists (specialists who knows well how to pass the EQE)
- The "supervisors", in my experience, do not help the candidates to past the EQE. They are focused on improving their business and nothing more. You cannot study at work but only at home during your free time and also during the weekend. During my preparation, I had missed more collaboration from the supervisor. I think that the EPO should do something to improve this improtant issue.
- I used the Hoekstra and Visser EPC books and Mulder for PCT.
- The fact that had already studied for the Italian qualifying examination
- Doing old exam papers especially Paper DII-part (to train its structure and what is expected in an answer) EQE courses to motivate and educate Having colleagues who also studied for paper D feeling like I'm not the only one having a busy winter ;)
- Suufficient time to study!
- Questions on <http://www.eqe-online.org/tools>
- Past papers and the Deltapatents study guide were the most important. I preferred the Fox EPC guide and filled it with my own annotations and notes, referring to case law, Guidelines etc. Did not use the EQE forum at all.
- Enough time for study.
- I used Visser and DeltaPatents Pre-Exam 99% of the time. I had a look at Applicant's guide, Guidelines for Examination and National Law when answering DeltaPatents questions, Pre-exam 2012 and Mock-exams, but almost everything was on Visser.
- EQE Online course of the EPA Academy
- Self-study
- Time!
- Directives
- Study with a supervisor and with other candidates.
- Old exam papers.
- Study in small group (2 persons) with other candidates
- high level of relevant knowledge in my department
- allocate enough times to prepare and do some compendium papers.
- trying old exam papers under exam-like conditions
- Start early in the preparation.
- Write previous years papers in "exam conditions", a first time with no time limit, then, if duration overshooted during first time, 1 or 2 more times until paper finished on time ->> time management ! Preparation of partly pre-filled in templates Insertion into the Annotated EPC by Vissers of my personnal annotations and of the up-to-date law, case Law, president decisions etc material as of 31.12.2012
- COMPENDIUM AND OTHER CANDITATES EXPERIENCES
- time and practice
- Home study Workplace study
- gutes Durchhaltevermögen und hohe Frustrationstoleranz; gute Gesundheit
- eqe online forum
- Annotated EPC (Visser), Guidelines and training during the professionnal practice
- Guidelines
- discussions with my closest colleague
- Reading the relevant sections of The Guidelines for the claims questions.
- EQE Forum Daily Questions Delta Patents
- Candidate Support Project
- Some experience acquired over the years. The first years having been taught and surveilled

by an experienced EPA.

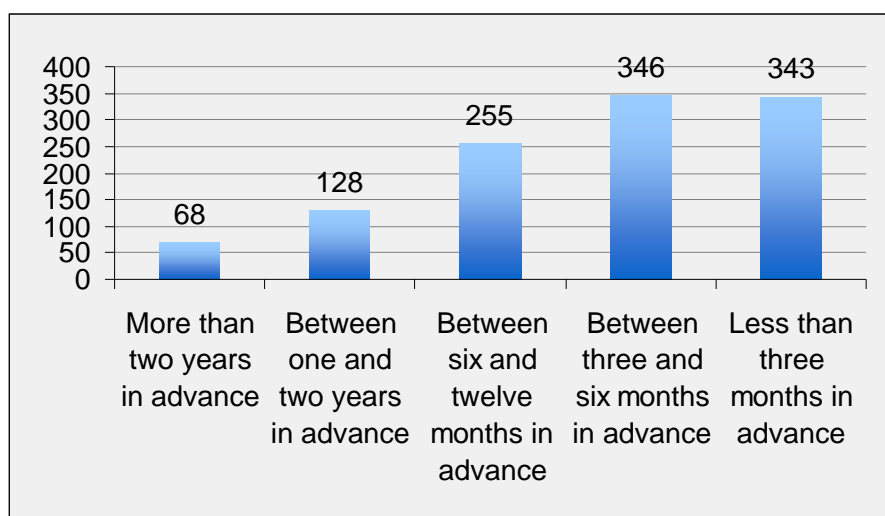
- Write previous papers under exam conditions, develop a personal strategy containing steps to perform during exam, lots of work practice writing responses to Office Actions.
- European Patent Academy Online-Course for Pre-Examination
- Possibility to use some time for studying at work
- Past papers
- Most important is to have enough cases in daily work this personally for me has been lacking as our firm (ZBM-patents) has been hit severely by crisis and we have not enough clients.
- Practicing old exams
- Practical experience
- the Compendium
- Personal time.
- Practice the actual drafting of solutions (esp. C and D)
- Daily D1 Questions provided by Delta Patents
- Reading the Guidelines was very important.
- Deltapatents Questions
- In-deep studies of EPC and Guidelines
- exercising with D-like questions
- Study in small group
- A LOT OF EXERCISES USING DELTA PATENTS BOOK
- Freistellung in der Kanzlei über mehrere Wochen zum Lernen
- Discussion in study groups!
- For me it was very important to adapt the known methods for the exam to my own style. And then to develop and prove my own way for handling the different exam parts. A further important aspect is not only to solve old exams from the compendium but also to read the examiners report in detail and to analyse what you did wrong and what was the hint to the correct solution.
- putting more time and filling holes in knowledge i.e. improve on what i did wrong last time.
- Work experience
- reading EPO OJ and applicant's guide
- Every day practice
- Time to study in working hours
- Very important was discussing with other candidates and European patent attorneys
- self-discipline
- I consider of extreme importance the support of the company for in-house training and/or for external training and even to incentivate the creation of study groups. Unfortunately, in my case it was not possible to benefit from these. Therefore, the emphasis lays on the self-education based on the Compendium and EQE Online/Forum making all the preparation process too hard. However, because the Papers of last years are deviating from the traditional trend in the Compendium this difficulty is even more increased, despite being the only source of practicing for the EQE.
- Make the former papers in time, at home and discuss about correction with colleagues
- Doing a lot of practice questions (i.e., a lot of self-study) combined with experienced tutors from Delta Patents grading these and giving individual feedback
- Time limits questions on eqe-online.org site. Very good coverage. Complete answers and explanations.
- Answering past examination questions Becoming fully familiar with my reference texts, the EPC and the rules
- Answering legal questions
- Nachbereitung der Prüfungen
- Individula intensive course at IP-akademin, Sweden
- Delta Patents Questions
- Correction of previous exam papers

- Guidelines and other official docs
- daily practice
- Time enough in my company
- I think it is very useful to start the study with the aid of EQE pre-examination training and to implement the informations with the other books like Guidelines, How to get, PCT applicants guide, Blue book...
- Well know his study book and annotated it correctly.
- A good group to study with.
- Annales en temps limité
- Rechtzeitig anfangen, sich einen Überblick zu verschaffen und Unterlagen zu preparieren/markieren. 2) Prüfungsaufgaben aus Compendium bearbeiten. Danach Examiners' Report studieren und nachvollziehen, was man falsch gemacht hat und was der Hinweis im Aufgabentext auf die richtige Lösung war (ganz wichtig das dauert oft nochmal so lange wie die Prüfung selbst zu schreiben !!!) 3) Vorgehen in der Prüfung für jeden Teil als Fahrplan aufschreiben, ausprobieren, anpassen. 4) mind. 4 Wochen vor Prüfung freinehmen und intensive Schlussvorbereitung
- practicing part C with original papers luck in general (several times only few points (2, 3) missing) luck to select the solution intended by the examination committee and neglecting other possible ones
- Good knowledge and understanding of EPC and PCT laws and regulations. Lots of exercise. Good time management.
- Delta Patents Pre-EQE question book.
- eqe forum
- Practice questions via Delta Patents.
- Training
- Answering as many practice questions as you can.
- Time to study, time management on Exam.
- The working experience
- Online forums and studies with colleagues
- CSP support project
- Reading the guidelines Studying the annotated european patent convention of Derk Visser.
- EQE forum on the pre-examination and the "paper D type questions" available through this forum.
- Guidelines,EPC,PCT (EPO )
- EPO Guidelines, g-decisions (headnotes), EPC (EPO edition with references)
- Regular daily study
- Every day practice
- Putting aside enough time to sit mock examination papers.
- Most important prepare by resolving prior exams, and training in order to be able to follow the "problem solution approach" required.
- EQE forum and daily questions
- DeltaPatents materials in preparation for Pre-EQE; intensive self-directed study of the Annotated EPC (Visser), EPO Guidelines and cross-referenced PCT (Mulder)
- The study made at home.
- enough time to learn, old questions of former years
- Practice questions, set by tutor/question setters, to get a feel for their style of writing and the expected answer.
- work hard
- Most important: DeltaPatents
- -
- I tried to prepare the exam in continuous form, by working a little bit every day. Then to work in real time during the weekend, this seems necessary to control time for D and C parts
- person fiche per subject
- Guidelines



- Personal preparation
- For Paper B: real-life office actions
- Compendium in real time at home.
- Having to pass the pre-exam (and to prepare for it)
- Practising past papers within time constraints.
- Personal study and exercises on past year examination papers (in conditions similar to the foreseen examination conditions)
- The best courses was the CEIPI cours in Strasbourg.
- PCT Guidelines, EPO Guidelines
- Past papers. It is necessary to understand what the test is about.
- Legal questions in EQE forum.
- Individual study with a number of practice papers.
- Did not use else than above.
- Daily D1 Questions; Coffee Break Questions
- Doing past papers to time.
- Answering previous exams
- Practising lots of questions using the Delta patents books, and doing past papers
- Start preparation early!
- European Patent Academy EQE pre-examination online training course The written material and the online questions were excellent, I did not make use of the video presentations

**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?**

- ???????
- More time to study is needed. Difficult when you work every day.
- The biggest problem was too less information in advance on how Paper B would be amended. The claims given by the client are confusing and it is better to ignore it completely. In the past, one was trained that the wishes of the client should be fulfilled, so what to do if a client suggests a claim which is novel and inventive but too narrow? It is absolutely unclear if one should then ignore the wishes of client and broaden the claim or not. Bad information policy!
- no time for focussed preparation of an inevitably artificial exam
- I need to study more intensively well in advance, but personal circumstances made this difficult this year.
- Time it is close to important to get time off for the preparation.

- Difficult to understand what is expected in paper A.
- less time to prepare (didn't overcome yet); getting a check or correction for the used methods (part overcome: correction by Deltapatents); a right analysis of examination report and developing a method for the approach of the paper
- Speed under new exam conditions, especially in view of shorter time for Papers B, C and D in 2013. Maybe I could have overcome it by using bullet points rather than sentences.
- -Studying too hard the last week. -Should have spent more time on training on D-II strategy
- none
- The new timing for C was really tough I don't see how I could have prepared for this though as there was no past paper available to be done in 5 hours. Taking notice of the clients suggested claims in Paper B (I found these misleading) I should have ignored them and done the paper in the 'old' style. No idea how much to write for D1 questions again, this is due to the change in format of the paper, so there isn't really anything I could have done about it. I work full-time and have two school-age children. This inevitably meant that I couldn't spend as much time preparing as I would have liked.
- The time pressure of D. It's impossible to simulate during studies.
- Legal provisions
- I should have done more exercises and practised more on past papers under time pressure
- Level of details required in the answers Enormous time constraint Broadness of required knowledge
- Not enough time to finish all paper C. Spend more time in simulations
- time management, balancing study, work and private life.
- I only passed the Pre-examination paper. I found my preparation sufficient.
- my laziness, and I would be thankful to know how to overcome it
- little spare time
- Depends very much on the specific paper tested. Results did not depend at all on general knowledge, but on the specific issues expected by the examiners. Impossible to assess the performance and outcome. In many cases, the issue of lack of unity was not addressed by the examiners report, even when lack of unity was obvious for several candidates. This issue is sometimes not mentioned, while in other years, many marks were lost. There needs to be more consistency of this issue or more possibilities to overcome it (e.g. recognising better arguments of proposals for divisionals in notes to applicant/examiner).
- claim analysis, I need to study more on claim analysis part
- epi course was very thorough. the claim analysis section was slightly harder for candidates with chemical background. This could have been overcome with more case studies to practice on/more day to day training at work.
- I should have studied more intensively and not let anything lie from one week to the next.
- none
- My greatest weakness was that mechanic is not in my area of expertise. Thus some problematic concerning notably terms interpretation was not easy for me.
- Perhaps I did a bit too much plain reading and too little practice with model questions.
- Knowing more legal basis by heart without having to double check (but double checking this is part of how I work... so difficult) too tight in time: this caused stress, reading too quick, not showing all intermediate steps of my reasoning, Could be overcome by writing shorter answers, not willing to answer the whole paper but what I answered doing it better...
- Claim analysis. I didn't not spend enough time on this part.
- I think that for the pre-exam, for me, it was a good strategy.
- This refers to the EQE in previous years. When preparing for the EQE 2013, I already made the necessary changes. a) My greatest weakness was that I did not practice enough previous papers C, DI and DII from the Compendium before attending the EQE. I have underestimated the need for practical experience with these papers. I did not practice enough past papers because I felt I needed to acquire more legal knowledge first. b) Practicing past papers is an essential part of the preparation. A minimum of four past papers

should be done for each part of the exam under exam conditions, i.e. under the same time pressure.

- For me, it is always difficult to answer legal part (old D-II) because to be organized, in general, is difficult for me. Next time (i don't think i passed this year paper) i am going to search somebody that corrects my exam in order to know what i have to improve
- Writing down answers properly to get enough marks.
- I would have preferred to have done even more past papers I believe you can never practice enough past papers although the earlier past papers are more difficult to mark as earlier Examiners reports are significantly less detailed.
- Time management. I should have trained more in speeding up the document analysis.
- Not enough exams in the Compendium, I already tried them all. They are good, but some more would be useful.
- Possibility to prepare several hours in a row,
- Time management taking more practice examinations under real conditions.
- This was my second try and I have now very good view on the subject. I had no difficulties to understand relevant issues, but my speed was not adequate. Now I think that just 50 hours more training would turn me to other side "pass".
- Balancing between EQE preparation, work and family. Only way of overcoming: Start preparations at least year in advance!
- Deciphering the Pre-exam claim interpretation answers in the mock exams. Legal answers are to the point, it is T/F. Claim interpretation answers are some times not so T/F (like when asked on whether an amendment complies with 123(2) T/F and the amendment is unclear, you do not know what you are expected to reply: A very strict F or a if I just remove the unclarity it complies so T).
- Weakness at start: knowledge of the PCT; overcame (not completely because still not so obvious) simply by reading several times not the PCT but the cross-reference PCT from Cees Mulder + applicant guide
- Sitting and studying. I always find it difficult to just sit to a chair and concentrate on a book. So that was my weakness. Luckily I love the profession. That helped a lot. For the times that I didn't want to read I tried to answer questions from Delta Patent's book. Learning by being much more active is better for me. Reading the questions, answering and checking the correct answers and taking notes to my book.
- My greatest weakness is the difficulty of studying regularly with a full time job. In the aim to overcome this weakness, I will study almost every day, during lunch time and after work if it is possible, to prepare efficiently the "real" EQE exam.
- Time management
- The time. It is not the difficulty of the Exam itself, but time management. Not any more used to write with a readable writing in a short time.
- The C-paper contain too many details that have to be cited in order to achieve high number of point. The feedback from EPO when rating the rating paper C is very limited in comparison to paper D => to give score on each claims which the student has answered
- It is difficult to revise when you have a new baby a small flat! Could be overcome by moving house...
- It is such a HUGE amount of information to digest.... Weakness: I only did basic D1-questions, not D1-exam-related questions. I started doing my first D2-compendium exercise only 10 days before the EQE.
- Time pressure due to the new 5hr set-up of the exam. Difficult to train for the new set-up, as all old exams are geared for 6hr sessions, so not so sure it was possible to prepare accurately for this particular problem.
- Lack of previous pre-exam. I could not have overcome it.
- It was an eye opener to see that it involves much more work than expected to prepare well in all areas. The greatest lesson for me from doing the Pre-eqe is that I need to start early to be able to cover all material for next years big exam.
- I should have spent more doing practice papers too time and thoroughly checking my answers against the Examiner's comments

- To little time to spend on studying for the EQE due to work. Should have completed more previous exams in more detail more similar to live conditions (i.e. using time pressure)
- If i had had more time for studying i could have made more papers from previous years which probably would have prepared me better for the exam
- the claim's analysis part is more difficult to prepare because we are missing training papers, such that it is quite mandatory to follow additional courses.
- 1 st year i tried to go for all 4 exams, while having full budget at my consultancy, i.e. no time off to prepare this was a mistake. Am now taking it in pieces.
- Knowing by heart all key Articles and rules of EPC and PCT ==> Still takes too much time to find the information in exam conditions
- Claim interpretation regarding inventive step, which I could have overcome with more training.
- Due to my Job not so much time for preparations as necessary.
- Not writing down every relevant thought which came in mind when reading the questions.
- Time management.
- Real time training
- My greatest weakness is based on time I studied very hard during my week-ends
- my real life experience
- I was too slow and not dealing well enough with the pressure; when I left the building, I came up with improved answers quite easily. More preparation with strict time constraints.
- not enough time
- Should have done more mock exams
- I underestimated the amount of material that had to be prepared
- Greatest weakness: I used to tend to use my own knowledge in exams, I overcame this by practicing with compendium. I used to have a hard time understanding the inventions of different fields, I overcame this by analyzing the features without trying to understand the invention.
- Legal part. I have tried to overcome it by studying the material provided by EPI during the "EQE Pre-examination Training" course.
- Study PCT earlier
- Work study life balance
- A lot of work in the office. Difficult to change.
- Trying to learn everything at once, rather than taking it in stages or by topic.
- working under time pressure was difficult, I got calmer the more time I spent with preparing for the EQE
- Greatest weakness was in claim analysis inventive step arguments. It was not really clear to me what the examiners exactly want to hear.
- Time management. More training to speed up time for analysis.
- No mock papers of the recently changed B, C or D papers were given. They were a complete mystery. Some of the material on these papers was not expected. Timing. It is a LOT tighter than expected.
- Knowing exactly what the Examiner's were looking for and an indication of what statements got which marks.
- I could have started intensive study earlier. Time pressure was the biggest issue with the exam and I should have tried to do more past papers in the required time.
- Lack of comments on mock exams: this is why I did ASPI course wherein dedicated comments are given on the mock exam copy.
- Being motivated to study at the weekend. To overcome this I did lots of work in the week after work.
- Working with the theoretical parts (part D) which i do not deal with in everyday practice The only base to judge practice based on previous exam papers is the examiner's report. This presents a very focused solution and does not allow to judge if a different answer could be good enough.
- a big frustration because I had not enough time to work at home in addition to work and

family. I would have like to attend more courses, on general topics and exercise in real time.

- argumentation/usage of information in paper C
- Lack of competent colleagues
- Should have put more focus on the Guidelines for Examination.
- The pre-examination 2013 was not that difficult. So, no major weakness became obvious.
- Running out of time. Solving more previous exams under examination conditions. However, preparation in this aspect was difficult because of the new time frame of many papers.
- Adrenalin rush due to too much time pressure during the exam Could have trained more within the given time period however, previous papers are not suitable for the extra time pressure the new exam form puts on the candidates
- Preparation for D, should have start earlier as when you start to have a good feeling for it you understand better the best way to prepare...but it is too late!
- Greatest weakness: no time to prepare this year!! I'd have overcome this by changing the whole workplace, or by having more support from my current boss somehow!
- Having a 3 month old baby. I would overcome this by not sitting them again after having baby.
- Writing down the arguments in a quick manner. Don't know how to really improve it, because one can only write as fast as he can. Doing a lot of mock-exams helps, as I have done.
- Having UK exams in November made starting revision for the EQEs soon after quite demanding
- Start with preparation earlier.
- I didn't succeed in ending the program.
- It was tricky this year with the big changes to the Guidelines etc. I only got my hands on a good reference in December as the new updated version was only published then.
- understand before to intensive study compendium
- When beginning to select a learning strategy and the relevant documents.
- I think that the main issue was to find the balance between personal family life, studies and job... I assume that I could have overcome this issue by starting to study earlier in the year.
- too few time left in the final phase (timing was about 2 weeks too short)
- Studying in between training days to keep up with the pace. And the preparation 1-2 months before the actual exam
- My weakness was on DII part of Paper D. I could have practiced more on previous papers and attend some specific seminars.
- Timing, stricter moving to next question
- I did 6 past exam papers, maybe I could have done more.
- Time management between normal work, family life, private obligations. Start early enough
- No weakness.
- Bad time distribution according to question marks. I spent too much time in questions that, at the end, did not give many points I should have support my arguments with more legal basis
- Unfortunate timing after UK examinations delayed my start on the EQE work.
- Time management training
- I need to practice more on D1 "bachotage". Delta books are useful for this I could not have time for this for this session. I have the knowledge but I did not go fast enough . I forgot to make my checklist and I forgot scotch to make an A3 sheet for D3 and the ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS: too bad
- no weaknesses in preparation
- I started too late with answering questions for part D out of Delta patents. So doing defined questions would have been better to be done in parallel to reading. For paper C I did what could have been done.
- Time, since I had to work for 8 hours a day at the same time.
- finding time for quiet study
- speed of analysis

- PCT national phase law
- More practice with past papers.
- Some of the answers in the legal questions part of the pre-examination were based on words like e. g. "only". That kind of answers do not really test the examinee's knowledge but only how he understands the answer in combination with the question. Next time, I would focus my studies a bit more on identifying those pit falls rather than gathering knowledge.
- I lost focus on my revision in mid January as was beginning to get bored. In retrospect, I should have taken a break around December and then restarted in January.
- the preparation in real conditions of time
- Dealing the A, B, C parts is very hard at the beginning, because it slightly differs from the daily practice. I practiced all parts since 1997 under real time conditions (A= 3,5 hours; B = 4 hours, C = 6 hours). I wrote the answers fully down and therefore needed 1430 pages of the official exam paper.
- Focusing.
- Too little time to prepare at all. As I don't know the performance of the instant exam yet I cannot comment on this point.
- PCT procedure
- I do not know as I do not have the results yet and judging this from my gut feeling would not be appropriate as experience has often proved it to be incorrect.
- Questions regarding paper D; Training with CEIPI seminar and preparing D-papers
- Daily pressure of own case load makes that you can only with great difficulty plan 2 weeks absolute no work to focus on study, and two weeks are by far not enough. So remaining is to use weekends if they are not occupied with preparation of cases. Workload at firms is extreme high. I can not see how this could be solved.
- Free time for studying.
- Not leaving enough time to have detailed study for every topic. This was mostly due to sitting the UK examinations in November, which left not enough time for intensive EQE preparation (especially as the EQEs were earlier this year)
- -
- None. I made a study plan and followed it through.
- Dedicating time to study, and using it to study. Way of improving: electro-Shock? Metempsychosis? Tutor one on one?
- Timings. Although I think this year because of the change in exam format there was NO opportunity to practice this. Especially for Paper D.
- Knowledge of little used (in daily practice) parts of the EPC. I could have overcome this more effectively by reading through the EPC/Visser at an earlier stage and by starting to do random Delta Patents questions at an earlier stage.
- the time to prepare in an industrial environment (dotted line)
- ???
- start earlier
- A concise analysis of the information in D2 paper.
- Preparing for more time.
- I would try to spend more time on answering questions from previous years. I found the D exam divided into two independent parts separated by a break much more convenient (less fatigue and possibility to get some fresh air in between)
- Time is not enough.
- I knew only a few basics on the EPC, the ones I may use for my work. So legal questions were definitely my greatest weakness (and probably are still so)
- Lack of motivation & lack of free time. Attending an earlier preparatory course with multiple candidates might have increased my motivation instead of studying at home by myself. Parental leave may give me more free time to prepare instead of only being able to study in the evenings and weekends.
- Insufficient time spent on practice papers, under the time limits of an exam
- The fact that in spite of my English is very good, I cannot read as fast as an English. And

like me, all non-official languages candidates.

- Should have found an efficient way to keep track of open ends in the D2 paper, so as not to forget about them midway through the exam. Should have done old D2 papers more systematically.
- my company did not offer me some dedicated time for the preparation for the EQE. It was quite hard to conciliate work/preparation/ private life.
- Not enough time to prepare papers A and B in "examination conditions"
- Claim analysis questions are very difficult to prepare with only three "case " exams. Taking into account that answering claim analysis questions on the basis of multiple choice questions takes some getting used to, it would be advisable to produce more mock exams.
- Difficulty in learning and overviewing PCT due to unclear structure of PCT EPC has good structure for learning
- Not enough practice with case study. I should start the study earlier and practice each topic with relevant case study.
- Difficult to assess one's own answers. Might have been overcome by asking colleagues for help.
- I should have trained D1 and D2 more under real time conditions!
- Probably some more exercises on D1 would have helped.
- Start training the past papers earlier during the preparation, especially the "compact or telegraphic style" of writing for D, otherwise not enough time to finish D.
- Trying to give a complete answer for the D questions while not overdoing it.
- correct interpretation of questions and answers was in some cases difficult, but by attending Ceipi Seminar and by practicing Mock-Exams you get a better feeling for the correct interpretation
- Linguistically, to be more familiar with the exact meaning of words for being able to QUICK understand the essence of a task and to write quicker. Possibly one wants to express something but uses "too simple" words that your thought expressed might be unclear.
- The biggest problem is the lack of correspondence of the exam with the day by day practice. Furthermore, the opposition procedure is not used by clients in countries like mine. The reduction in time has been a bad surprise. I am wondering why not to give partial qualification: passing papers A, B and D it can be possible to deal with all but the opposition, passing C + D, it can be possible to deal only with oppositions
- Timeliness. I should have done more real time exams.
- I think the greatest problem I had was with the ambiguity of some of the legal questions and the claim interpretation questions. One or two of the legal questions were not clear as to what was actually being asked. The claim interpretation also rested on the candidates being forced to "guess" what the examiner would want the candidate to choose as there was more than one interpretation possible. I think it is unfair that the legal questions should have any element of ambiguity as it could mean that the preparation of candidates is rendered useless.
- Time needed to study is hard to combine with busy work and family
- did not exercise enough D questions (old compendium questions not useful there) and thus could not compress enough information into my answers --> lack of time in D
- my biggest weakness was that I had spent too little time in preparing together with others, since I lack learning groups
- How to deal with paper DII (I didn't have enough time to prepare it)
- Bad time management in part C, too few knowledge in part D -> exercising C including writing everything down, start learning for D early enough
- More intensive preparation of the topic "representation under PCT"
- My greatest weakness was in the claims analysis. I could overcome that focusing my personal study much more on this part. It would be very helpful to find more exercises on claim analysis.
- Greatest weakness was drumming up the motivation to study as the subject matter is somewhat dry
- Time, I should have had simply more time besides my daily work, which was simply

impossible.

- The nature of the amendment in Paper B (E/M) was not as I had expected. In particular, it was not clear whether we were expected to argue for the broader scope desired by the client, or restrict to a safe but limiting amendment. A mock paper would have been helpful.
- The EQE 2012 was only two weeks after the German Exam. Thus, there was the problem in motivating myself to start learning immediately after having finished an exam. Additionally, it was not so easy to change from National Law into European Patent Law. Anyway, it just helped to make a plan and stay on it.
- I didn't think that being 8-9m pregnant would heavily impact my ability to concentrate well and to study. (I know -there is plenty of evidence to prove that the end of a pregnancy is challenging. But it had been so easy up to 8 months that I assumed I would be fine all the way through.) Since the publication of the new GL and the 6th ed. GfA-II coincided with the end of the pregnancy, I had to familiarise myself with the new versions around the time my baby arrived. I have never worked so hard in my life.
- Difficulty to reproduce the time-constrained conditions due to lack of enough consecutive hours to perform the past papers.
- having not printed out national law
- Under time pressure I make mistakes; I have a rather slow (and unreadable) handwriting.
- Speed. Better knowledge of the articles and rules, in order to avoid wasting too much time leafing through my reference documents.
- I had a very big problem with finding the time, I had a lot of work. For the main parts I will try to take holidays.
- Weakness: Time management Solution: Test Compendium under realistic conditions
- Dealing with timing !
- Learning EQE practise how the answers should be.
- Could have done more practice particularly in exam technique.
- To focus on the most important books and literature due to the fact that there is a huge selection of books and literature available. It is not useful to cover as much as possible but to focus on some most important ones (which might be an individual question). To overcome this problem I listened to different persons with experience in general and in EQE and then choose some books and literature.
- underestimated the time needed for preparation
- personal health and enough spare time
- Too late PCT-Training, resulting in a late recognition of the real value of the commentary planned to be used. Thus, resulting in a late search for a substitute.
- should focus more on problem solution approach; I should have used a more effective analysis method since the beginning
- My answers were not concise enough. Needed too much time. How to overcome: Deviate very much from what is required in reality and adapt to laboratory EQE style of answering.
- started too late
- I did not start early enough to study for the D paper. In case I failed, I will start studying immediately for the D paper 2014.
- had to make more exercise with old examination papers with proposed solutions absolute time problem
- Achieved full potential but could improve language skills as i am not native speaker.
- The amount of material for the D paper is something that is not easy to predict beforehand. I had difficulty going through it all in time, as well as organizing my learning so that I could access the information at the exam.
- the time limit for answering the questions in paper D
- Understanding of claim interpretation questions related to mechanical engineering. I believe that there should be separate questions for chemists/biologists and engineers/physicists as in the main exam.
- More time to study
- For the resitting part, (this year D and B) for the second time, i started studying as of



September 2012.

- lack of time due to workload in company
- Time management and understand what they want me to write. I started practising with questions very late. I thought it was better to have all topics done before starting. I now think that going on in parallel should be preferred: only reading does not help in focusing on issues.
- The QCM approach is "deconcerting". How we have to interpret the proposition ?
- Lack of time, due to extreme work overload and pressure in the company. As the situation in the company cannot be changed I could pack in my job and go with Hartz IV.
- lack of time
- starting studying the PCT rather late for paper D allocating most of the time to paper D and starting preparing for paper B too late
- Lack of time for intensive preparation due to work overload. Difficult to overcome it.
- Lack of time: baby and toddler; and excessive workload due to understaffing in office. Could have taken job offer at other company!
- Time management. I don't even know if you can really be prepared perfectly to manage the short amount of time available for the new version of D...
- Lack of time given full time work commitments and Family commitments. No way to Overcome these Difficulties
- Time management
- Main weakness were lack of specific preparation before the examination. To overcome it this year I could have take 3 months of non-paid holidays prior the exam.
- in-depth study starting studying of a part of the law e.g. the Chapter of EPC The european patent application and going in depth: articles, rules, G-decisions, Guidelines, other regulations of the EPO, other case law this organization would have given more in depth understanding
- There is certain psychosis around the EQE. My weakness was listening too much to the experiences of other people that blocked me. One should set up the own schedule with the compendium, work along the compendium to find the own way to tackle each paper.
- Time management
- Poor disposition of time during exam
- training for DII questions and paper C under exam conditions by practicing a lot
- I could have done even more old practice papers
- Illness, medical treatment and a thereof resulting lack of sleep the weeks before and the days of the exam.
- Need to practise how to write short answers, but still with enough info. I didn't have enough time to write everything down during exam even though I believe knew the answers and didn't hesitate on the questions.
- Did not do many papers to time. Would have needed more time to prepare but don't have!
- PCT start earlier using PCT guidelines, handbooks, etc.
- I have been extremely nervous when I sat D the first time; this year I was trying to be more relaxed.
- This time I only attended the A-paper, and for that I had to practice a lot, but I did not notice a special weakness
- My greatest weakness turned out to be easy mistakes because I did not read the possible answer precisely or wrongly calculated due dates. Next time I will try to read the questions and possible answers more carefully and also consider the attached calendar for weekends and holidays.
- Slow reading. It's very important to fully understand the given scenario in the papers. For me as a non-native English speaker, this steals a lot of the available time. Don't know how I could have improved it. Just scanning sections quickly without fully understanding the technical information is not an option. Paper C in particular felt like it contained more text than usual that was of no use.
- Handwriting is too slow. Therefore it was not possible to study the examination paper with a

in-depth analysis. It was necessary to start writing soon after the start signal.

- Well, as you know this is not an academic exam. Hence, the greatest weakness is the EQE itself. The EPO must be aware that holding the exam only once a year is a waste of life time and money of the candidate!!! Change it to at least twice a year or better four times a year since failing of one paper costs you at least an additional year or even more when you are sick on that particular day!!! This is a waste of time and money...
- Time management, should have trained more under realistic conditions
- It is a bit difficult to sort out which information you really need at the beginning so many books, so many courses, etc. Of course, you know better what really helped you afterwards!
- too less practical experience
- For the pre-exam: To study a bit more claim analysis cases.
- time management
- Had not enough time from the firm I work for.
- I did not know, how to express and structure the answer and how much background I should give. I hope to have overcome this by seeing the answer strictly from the outcome and giving as much information as possible in the given time.
- Time Management: Zeitliche Beschränkungen durch Beruf und den privaten Bereich
- Adapting to a central European mindset for passing exams, which places emphasis on numerous aspects of the subject matter which would not normally be an integral theme of an exam in a Danish context
- time pressures; take time off work
- learn to write down while being nervous all the information you know to obtain the "simple points" not only focussing on the main problems, allow yourself to repeat all DI knowledge two weeks in advance
- PCT procedures. I overcome my difficulties by reading the applicant's guide.
- Time management.
- I started studying a bit too late Difficulties in finding specific items within the Guidelines Bad Cross-reference Index
- Not enough time.
- time management has to be optimized
- I had to hurry in the end of my study time, I studied too much in depth for the pre-exam and had to skip some material. On the other hand, I am better prepared now for the main exam on the parts that I studied well.
- Time management Private issues, we got our first baby 3 days before exam
- Surgery close before the EQE, unfortunately nothing to overcome this
- weakness: technical questions, could have been overcome by more training with A and B papers' compendium performance: legal questions
- Better knowledge about case law and how to interpret case law
- It not been possible for me to start before around end of October 2012, but I have since that day spent about 4 months on reading Visser, Mulder's Cross-referenced PCT, Patent Convention, ADA, answering all Daily D1-questions following the reading, trained problem solution approach, and a few paper DII, paper A, and C and one paper B.
- lack of time could have been overcome by better organizing the time and other activities
- PCT Questions. I could have spent even more time on learning PCT stuff, however I would not think that this is a good strategy. I preferred to learn only the more easy PCT Questions (Like Q6 D1 part) and didn't learn more exotic stuff (like Q5 D1). Instead I focussed more on the learning European law. Therefore, I could answer Questions 1-4 quite fast and thus saved time for questions 5-6.
- To let the professional work aside
- The language (I am not a native speaker in any of the EPO's official languages) and the management of time. I think I can overcome it doing more mock exams.
- I only did the pre-examination, which was pretty easy. Probably the greatest "weakness" in my preparation was that I wasted too much time preparing, since I probably would have passed the examination just as well without any focused study at all. On the other hand, in

view of the main examination next year, the time spent studying was hopefully not completely wasted.

- Structurizing the answer to the paper with proper English.
- Simply that the Pre-Exam is relatively new thus it is hard to know what amount of work is required, and how much breath of information is needed (eg T/ G decisions) in addition to the law.
- legal part: study more deeply into PCT law start earlier to study intensively \* claim analysis part problems with interpretation of claims and prior art do more A/B main exam questions from curriculum to know better what is expected
- A and B was easy to be done only with training on the Compendiums. C was much more difficult and complex, and C-Book 2nd edition gave no information on how important it is to give information on where to find information in the documents that are provided in the exam. See comment above.
- Lack of past papers with which to practice-attempted to overcome using delta patents book. Difficulty in trying to answer subject claim analysis questions with either true or false, when there were often plausible arguments for both answers. The claim analysis section seemed more about trying to guess which answer was required, rather than assessing legal competence.
- Workload and no tutor. To many people stretching their hands out to get money if they should tell you the secret of how to pass the key hole. Ceipi should offer correction of papers as a part of the enrolment to exams. Thus you will know what to change before sitting the exam and spending huge amounts of money and wasting the time of the people looking at your delivery at the exam.
- The largest problem (probably for most of the candidates) is learning after a full working day (and after kids are in bed), thus usually not starting preparing before nine or ten o'clock in the evening. Only chance is reducing time with family, what is realistic only for about three month before examination. Overcome: Keeping on track.
- make more exercise on problem solution approach and how to define the objective technical problem
- Becoming more familiar with the deadlines. More studying.
- Too little time spent on really reading material. Easy to overcome, simply by reading more.
- At the end of the preparation I had the feeling that I should have started ~1-2 months earlier, especially needed for more in depth preparation for D1 and D2. Furthermore, I would have appreciated if one or two mock exams of Paper B (new style) would have been available in advance.
- Not enough practice at work
- I did not study enough and I did not practice the paper enough
- The claim analysis part I did not prepare as well as I could have. It would have been very useful if more mock exams and other similar exercises were available. In my opinion, the pre-exam claim analysis questions are difficult to study for without the mock exams nothing else really prepares for the T/F type of exam.
- Reading more and starting the preparation earlier would have helped.
- The most difficult is a timing as EN is not my mother tongue, it takes longer time for me to read/understand, sometimes I interpret questions wrongly. Lack of daily practice, as I'm not working with these matters at all. For performance at the exam my nerves is a problem when stressed I cannot understand what is written in the questions. Major problem are the stress and the lack of time: the same questions I do at home better and quicker.
- Hard to find enough time for preparation.
- Lack of time between work and family
- Time. Always time.... and only way to overcome it is taking practice exams.
- The greatest weakness was not doing enough timed past papers. The biggest reason for that is that I had intensive and rough time at work which included having to move my family from one city to another and on top of that I have a small child, who still needs quite a bit of attention from me. This meant that it wasn't very easy to get enough sleep and be able to study while taking care of an infant.

- It is difficult when the employer expects me to work 100% at the same time as I was going to study for the EQE.
- Time management and be able to formulate my response in structured manner
- Dedicate more time for the personal preparation difficult together with a professional and family life!
- Making more DII papers and trying to understand better on how to get points in DII. More thorough analysis of own questions.
- I should have followed specialised courses on EPC and EQE preparation. Time is never enough.
- Lack of time was my hardest problem. I tried to overcome it by starting early with the preparations and studying constantly chapter by chapter. The online training course was very helpful giving a timeline and helping to study chapter by chapter. Studies were possible at flexible times even at night.
- Not enough time. New and different format. More stress-testing.
- Very hard to study after work.
- time after work and on weekends wasnt enough
- Should have been working to a larger degree under real time pressures.
- Almost no time given by my employer. Not in my power to overcome it.
- Memorizing legal provisions and references to decisions of the (E)BoA is hard. I tried to prepare to such a level that I was aware that there are legal provisions and/or decisions regarding the legal problem in question and what the answer roughly is and then use my tediously prepared index to quickly find the exact article/rule/decision reference.
- Despite having solved several papers from the compendium under (approximately) realistic exam conditions, the time pressure at the exam had a larger than expected negative impact on my performance. In retrospect, the test should have been made under 100% realistic conditions.
- The methodology; there're so many different ways to perform and exam, the steps you should take and how to use the information and analyse it.
- There is a great lack of knowledge for D-type questions, what part of the answer gives points and which parts of an answer are expected. Sometimes points are given for trivial basic informations, that are useless, and sometimes much more part of the answer are expected than have been asked. E.g. if there is an opposition proceeding pending according to the question, sometimes (and if the necessary informations are given) it is expected, to calculate the time limit and how that it has been met. It is furthermore pointed out, that at the preparatory course from Ceipi in Strasbourg, no sample solutions are given (at least in this year) and the sample solutions in the Delta-Patents books are too detailed (as indicated in the Delta-Patents books itself). So I based my answers primarily on the model answers in the compendium and hope, that this worked. Of course I still don't know ! This big uncertainty together with the short overall time makes it very difficult, to give exactly the informations in the answer, that give points.
- Not much practice with exotic case constructions during daily work -> partly solved by complete study of the Guidelines.
- None
- A cross-reference of legal texts. I could overcome it by elaborating from the beginning a cross-reference text. I think of EPO should edit a cross-referenced text similar to J. Hoekstra book.
- not much weakness at all: I made 8 complete C-parts of old EQE in advance (up to 2 months in advance of EQE 2013) to get into speed: It worked out very well: I made each paper with usually only one "wrong attack" (according to examiners report) and was finished usually within 4,5 hours...
- My greatest weakness was time management. I could have overcome it by doing more previous exams under exam-like conditions.
- I practised solving old EQE exams, but had increasing problems assessing my performance the further my solution differed from the Compendium solution, leading to one central problem: gave a different problem solution approach than the Compendium solution still

some/several points if well argued? And the related, probably most important question: should I use more or less of the sparse time for recognizing the closest prior art (CPA) (especially with the change from 6 to 5 hours) making sure to get the exact Compendium solution for each attack, but probably running out of time, or risk using an inferior CPA because an information was overlooked but finishing all attacks, possibly losing some points? E.g. in this year's exam I recognised two documents as possible closest prior art for attacking the subject matter of claim 2(+1), leading amongst other things to the question if a valve has to have a "shut" state, which I thought was what defines a valve (suggesting one of the documents), but wasn't sure, since I couldn't remember having read clear hints for or against it, or is it also a valve if it can only increase a stream of gas that's already present (suggesting the other document)... having an idea how many points the inferior solution may still give would have hugely helped to better assess how much more time to invest for finding information makes sense to get the right CPA. This could have only been overcome by starting practising earlier, having finished several mock exams before the CEIPI course in Strasbourg and asking the tutors for their opinion. Maybe more extensive studying of the Compendium solution may have given some hints as well, as to how much impact the wrong CPA has on the points awarded (I only remember that last year's solution concerning CPA included a general remark along the lines, that the argumentation was sometimes not convincing when using the wrong CPA).

- hard to say w.r.t. preEQE
- I should have started paper D with part 2, and afterwards picked the questions from part 1 I felt comfortable with. My preparation as such was alright, I think.
- During the year, there has not been much time for preparing because of the work load. I could only take intensive time from January until the exam but i would prefer a well distributed time over the year.
- Underestimated the psychological pressure when doing the exam.
- not enough time to spend in intensive studying, due to workload; cannot say how to overcome
- Finding the closest prior art --> doing old C-papers Legal questinos --> Doing the DeltaPatents
- Writing short answers. Training older papers on a fixed time base.
- I did not feel comfortable with the knowledge of Ancilliary and Case Law. I know about the most important and common decisions and OJ's but I knew that I would not have time to look for or revise a new one.
- I should have started paper D with part 2 and then picked those questions from part 1 I felt comfortable with. My preparation as such was quite alright, I think.
- The time pressure was the biggest concern. Even though I was well prepared it was difficult to answer so many different questions under such time pressure. Things that in general is rather trivial can be very difficult to answer under such time pressure.
- Quick access to reference material. Better indexing and organisation.
- I am generally very happy with my preparation for the EQE pre-exam. Although outside of my control, I would have liked to have been able to better evaluate my progress with more past papers, but these were far from in abundance. The exam-style questions in the Delta Patents revision guide were useful, but were by no means a substitute for more past papers.
- legal and time-management
- Finding time to study
- Time management. I think I was able to answer all questions, but I did not have enough time to do it.
- time limit
- inventive step discussion, more practice is the solution!!
- Time management, between activities linked to my company business, family time and time dedicated to training
- For specific questions, it was hard to find the answer because not explicitly cited in the articles and rules. I overcome this difficulty by using case law books, but still have some difficulty with a few remaining questions.

- More practical exercises for the analysis of claims part
- Time management I think the only way to overcome is to practise, practise and practise.
- Time pressure. New exam format didnt have past papers so hard to judge timing. Think DII should have been cut down more than it was, felt that the same amount of info needed to be digested as before for the 4 hour paper, but we were only given three hours
- Please ask this question after I have received the results for the paper.
- Assessing progress was limited by the minimal amount of mock/ past papers for the pre-exam. I attempted to mitigate this using the practice questions in the Delta Patents study books, which was helpful. Preparing for the claim analysis questions was particularly challenging, as there were often plausible arguments to support both true and false answers, but as there is no possibility to submit arguments, it sometimes felt as though the claim analysis part was testing the ability to "guess" which of the two arguments was the "correct" one, rather than assessing legal competence per se.
- Family obligations.
- Time management. By studying more continuously.
- I can't say, I think I did pretty well in the pre-exam. I followed the course by Deltapatents from April to September (or October, I forget), did all the homework, then took a break of a couple months in studying and the re-started studying approx. 1-2 hours per day about a month before the exam.
- Weakness: actualisation des connaissances juridiques (théorie et pratiques de l'OEB)  
Performance: bonne compréhension des problèmes d'Activité Inventive grâce à ma pratique professionnelle
- Too less spare time for learning beside the job and family. Candidates without any responsibility for the own family may have an advantage.
- I underestimated the amount of time it takes to actually write out a full answer regardless of whether that answer was correct or not.
- Lack of EPC law and how patents are examined differently to the UKIPO
- Mein Problem war es, eine systematische Einführung in das EPÜ zu finden. In meinem Fall war der zweijährige CEIPI-Kurs schon zu lange her und der fünftägige CEIPI-Kurs in Strasbourg fragt im Grunde eher das Wissen ab und gibt ergänzende Tipps, als dass er eine systematische Einführung gibt (was in den fünf Tagen natürlich auch nicht möglich ist). Das Buch von Günter Gall, "Die europäische Patentanmeldung und der PCT in Frage und Antwort" geht in die richtige Richtung.
- Balancing work and study. I think this would be difficult to overcome without a reduced workload
- Speeding my answers to the legal questions while keeping highest score possible. Going through the DeltaPatents questions (plus questions from ege-online) helps facing diverse legal situations and facilitates further recovery of any answer within all sources.
- Das zu bearbeitende Stoffgebiet ist sehr umfangreich und es scheint alles gleich wichtig zu sein. In der Prüfung ist keine Zeit, wirklich etwas nachzuschauen. Man muß es wissen und kann nur noch zur Bestätigung nachschauen. Das macht schon während der Vorbereitung nervös.
- Writting and explaining myself in English. Starting practice earlier.
- Brought an arctic coat.
- My weakness is the time limit. I need time to analyse the problem and then I have not enough time to write the solution.
- weakness: i don't write fast enough. i don't know how to overcome that
- UNDERSTANDING THE PROBLEMS AND IDENTIFYING THE SOLUTION WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT. IN OTHER WORDS, TIME MANAGEMENT
- my preparation was fine, it was the exam stress which was a factor in my failing Paper C in 2012.
- Hand writing is the main problem.
- Lack of time. More exam paper practise in paper C and paper DII.
- Dies war meine fünfte Teilnahme. Auf eine Vorbereitung habe ich weitgehend verzichtet, lediglich aktuelle Unterlagen habe ich zusammengestellt.

- Even though I always trained with the compendium within the time limit allocated for the papers, I was still surprised during the exam by the amount to do in such little time.
- A great difficulty is to manage time and concentration under stressing condition
- Time management
- Lack of time for preparation for exams. In order to overcome limitations: Starting with extensive studying at least 6 weeks before exam. Start using EPO online training facilities at least 3 months in advance.
- My greatest weakness has always been claim drafting and therefore paper A. I still do not fully get the line of argumentation followed by the examination committee on that paper.
- Greatest weakness was use of functional attributes in order to achieve a broad claim and still fulfilling the requirement of clarity. This weakness was (hopefully) overcome by doing many past papers of the compendium.
- The limited experience that I have in drafting documents and forms for complex procedures like opposition and appeals could have compromise my ability to expose concepts that are clear in my mind but I am not able to correctly expose. Not being an English mother tongue is another issue because the ability to understand in the short time available the content of the documents is one of the main issue in the EQE particularly for B and C papers
- I am rather good when difficult question but not for elementary (basic) one. Review basic EQE principles, representation, language...
- Other distractions (work & private) can make it difficult to complete exercises in one go. This year I took two weeks off before the EQE to prepare, during most of which I did not check work e-mail or make social calls. When I did the full sit last year there were more distractions.
- Not having anyone to study with, compare notes, ensure I am on the right track etc. Not having enough people to correct a C paper for me
- I think sitting mock-exams in exam conditions at the same time as someone else (e.g. group of people) on a regular basis, followed by discussing the papers would have been useful for a better preparation of the C-exam
- Did not realize the level of details needed for justifying the equivalence between terms (i.e. Nylon is polyamide because it is stated somewhere else, so evident that I used not to justify
- Too little focus on decisions. Too much focus on commentaries.
- I have not enough time to finish the exam. I spend a lot of time in preparing tables, managing information, analysing, etc, and then there is not enough time to write the complete answer. Another difficulty is the language because I spend more time than another candidate which mother tongue is En, Fr or Ge.
- time pressure
- Lack of time for preparation in general and, in particular, for doing previous exams within the prescribed time.
- I had a lot of experience in actual claim analysis and interpretation, but was slightly short in terms of legal knowledge. I should have spent more time on it!
- Too much of my time was spent on the EPC and not enough on the PCT. I also think I should have spent a few more minutes on the questions I found easy, as in a couple of cases I believe I made a silly mistakes despite knowing the correct answer.
- National laws for contracting states. I studied the past papers and picked up the most important points to learn.
- Improving my legal knowledge. I think that the pre-examination is a good idea.
- Not enough time practising the "Claims" questions. Would be helped by more practice papers being available for the Pre-Exam.
- Did not foresee a strategy to tackle the huge array of subject-matters to be studied and gathered for the exam. Solutions: Start with the guidelines and build up your material from there. Start doing exercises early enough (at least 6 months) so that you force yourself to keep studying. Take a course ca. 6 months ahead of the exam.
- Spent more time for legal question training
- My weakness was that I had to be more sure on myself since I changed wrongly some claim analysis questions, some questions I knew the answer but the way it was written did not

appear straightforward to me immediately so I did not answer correctly. Finally I had to do some deeper legal study on Visser.

- Time management during the examination paper
- Not having enough time to prepare having a full-time job and two small kids and a husband with career goals. Easier to study earlier in life when time was your own to master. To overcome: get practical help, take your time, cancel social life... Not knowing how to 'attack' paper D; proportion of reading vs doing questions and compiling relevant easy-access material (I felt a marked improvement and overall understanding during the last two months of studying, which could possibly have appeared earlier). To overcome: close dialog with previous sitters and scanning their material and getting tips'n'tricks. Starting earlier I believe the pre-exam may be good for that purpose!
- Organising my knowledge so that it was easily accessible. You can always study more.
- Time management was difficult and the reduction of time available for papers C and D was not commensurate with the supposed reduction of complexity of the papers.
- I should have spent more time doing legal questions
- Spend more time familiarising myself with parts of the PCT, and be familiar with deposit account regulations!
- Time management (study planning & consistency) vs other (family) obligations. Being involved in a serious bicycle accident followed by several stays in hospital and revalidation only few months before the exam of course didn't help much either.
- Lacking time for study
- Reading Visser takes a lot of hours. I read fast some of Visser chapters when the exam was approaching, just to complete the book. A little more of time would be OK. Nevertheless, what I read and how I read it was more than enough to pass the pre-exam.
- PCT, just make your own x-reference and you understand the relationship between articles and rules.
- Answering technique and time management
- If I had had time, I would have learnt more in advance how to use my preparation aids.
- Time! It is extremely difficult to find enough time to prepare. Not easy to overcome! However, I think it is very important that a patent attorney also has a life outside the patent world.
- My supervisor is a grandfather and in the company I am the first one who is preparing for the exam. Also in our country there are few who passed it. So not much people or study group to work with... I did not have a free time from work to study EQE.
- trained too little claim analysis
- I think that having 1 month, before the exam, all day used for the preparation of the EQE without work, my performance could be better.
- Honestly, I do not understand the time pressure during each exam (A, B, C and D) and during the 3 days for the EQE. I did A, B, C and D in 3 days and the last day I was really exhausted... And I'm conscient that the strain has prevented me to do a good C exam. Suggestion 1: what about to spread A, B, C and D in 4 days instead of 3, one exam per day? Suggestion 2: what about test first the legal knowledge of the candidates, and secondly the ability to manage the time? It seems to me that the EQE now tests first the time management and secondly the knowledge of the candidates. Please note that during the daily work, the time management is of course important, but it is less important than knowledge...
- self-confidence and time management
- It seems very important to take part in a trial exam preparation courses, such as CEIPI 5 days course for paper D. Because it is a good place to exchange opinions with tutors and receive useful information regarding the latest changes of laws.
- -
- Lack of time. Ideally, one should not work and only focus on studying for the EQE. I understand this is not possible for the majority of candidates.
- still some holes in the Law, Case Law etc ... hence too slow to answer the questions ....hence not all questions answered time management problem!



- MORE STUDYING
- PCT legal questions, working with Kley and PCT-HAndbuch/Malte Köllner
- dont know. Passed D last year mainly by doing a lot of DeltaPatent questions and old D2 papers. This year I dont know if I have passed anything, but I manly focused on doing old papers and much less reading (went for A, B and C this year)
- Claims analyses. There was only one prior pre-examination. More examples of claims analysis questions would have been useful.
- Not enough time to study.
- started too late, too much focused learning instead of continuous learning
- I should probably have taken a course in speed writing. I had the things in my head but could not write them down fast enough. Moreover a relaxing break the week before the exam would have been a good idea instead of learning.
- Assimilating the sheer amount of material required.
- PCT is always difficult strange question which for oneself never will be relevant and the exact pinpointing to the correct paragraph. If required, I will dedicate even more time studying PCT.
- abnehmende Aufmerksamkeit vor allem gegen Ende des Durchlesens der Angaben, weil man dann leicht in Panik gerät wegen der Zeitknappheit. Da hilft nur sich dazu zu zwingen, cool zu bleiben.
- I had not enough time for learning. Can't change anything. Very difficult to find the time to learn at home with small children.
- The rapidity for carrying out the exam. Difficult to manage time when the exam time is decreased and the information load given during the exam is increased compared to the preceding years.... No idea (although during the preparation of the Exam at home, time for sufficient.
- finish the papers in time
- time availability
- Difficult to find 5 or 6-hours time to perform some mock papers
- I spent too much time and mental resources on reading and not sufficient time for solving D1 questions
- I used too many resources to study from, and it took a while to determine what I should focus on in my studies (this is mainly due to the fact that my firm had asked me to try several approaches, to recommend a study plan for next year's students).
- My greatest weakness was an identification of the books which are necessary for preparation for the exam. For example which book is for what. There are lots of books to prepare or to use while studying. And also for the further exam papers, which books I need for each paper.
- Time. The day of the exam time simply flies. And your handwriting becomes worse as time passes. So when there are only 15 minutes left, your handwriting becomes almost illegible. I had not really practiced with the scissors and the actual cut&paste, and that indeed helps: do not underestimate it and practice a bit before the exam.
- I didn't have enough time for the preparation. More time would have been very helpful...
- Disorganised study plan
- Marking DII Don't know.
- Not enough experience and practice in issues being typically for law firm business (e.g. change of representation, fee calculation, ...), because these are topics being not typically handled by inhouse counsels in industry.
- Greatest weakness is lack of daily practice and not enough cases. Overcoming is O don't know, I have to wait until the crisis is over and patent business will increase again?
- Time management.
- I should have trained more on claim analysis
- Lack of commented PCT, like Visser for the EPC
- Greatest weakness: organisation of all papers of Annexes of paper C and time disposal. How to overcome it: more practice and in real time / conditions

- My greatest weakness was the management of the time during the examinations.
- To not spend enough time for the correction of the compendium.
- Practice even more the actual writing down of the solutions, including all relevant information (e.g. D1: start with EPC articles; D2: analyze the involved patents in full, ...)
- Starting earlier, more weight on problem-solution approach, always make notes when learning, otherwise the information get lost very soon
- Keep motivation high -> learn with others.
- time to study next to work and having a family
- Fitting preparation work into my schedule out of office hours was difficult, but this can be overcome with careful planning.
- To spend time for learning after work and to reduce my time with my family.
- Discipline. Learn in other facilities, however, since a lot of books and study material is required, it is hard to transport it. It would be better, if the exam would only allow a certain, defined amount of material (e.g. specific books)
- Remembering the number of EPC articles and rules when knowing the content of the same  
The only way to overcome it was to read and read
- English is not my native language
- THE TIME FOR WRITING ALL THE RESPONSES WAS VERY FEW. THE LACK OF A WELL STRUCTURED INDEX FOR SEARCHING THE LEGAL BASES IN THE BOOKS.
- My weakness was that I was mainly focus on legal questions and the pre-exam has also a lot to do with the claim analysis, I mean, paper A should also be taken in consideration, not only D.
- We will see about the outcome when the solutions is published... And more important we will see about performance during the "real deal", i.e., the main exam...
- I was a little bit late with learning about PCT. I focussed too long only on EPÜ.
- Better exam technique. More thorough DI knowledge.
- balancing work with studies
- not enough jurisprudence references in my tool for paper D. A deeper exploitation of the "white book" would have been better.
- Not relevant for pre-eqe
- Case law study
- By starting the studies earlier and by working part-time to cope with the exhausting studies.
- too much work load in office
- I studied alone most of the time. Working in a group would have made it easier.
- Time, difficult when working flat-out in small dept. with huge workload
- Because my preparation was mainly done by self-education, more time to study could be useful. On the other hand, study in groups and changing ideas about the possible answers would certainly be an added value.
- I only sat paper B thus less preparation needed compared to D or C.
- Poor knowledge of Jurisprudence and appeal procedures. I could have overcome it by reading issues of EPO
- Time pressure,
- I feel I did not have as much time to study as I would have liked. But I think I managed reasonably well, considering that I have a job and 2 small kids, so I would not have done anything differently.
- Claims interpretation. More reading of examiner's reports on papers A and B would have been useful, but time was short.
- I believe that this will be a common comment I needed to begin intensive revision sooner and, in retrospect, I should have completed a greater number of examination papers under examination conditions, i.e. to time. I believe that I should have prioritised this aspect over other parts of my preparation. I would like to comment on the date the examinations are held however. I am a British candidate and necessarily also need to sit the British national exams. These are held, normally, in the first week of November. This date was chosen because, at the time, the EQE was held in April and thus the exams were spread out, as far

as possible, across the year with an, approximately, six-month gap between them. In recent years the date of the EQE has migrated from April and is now at the end of February. Necessarily, for candidates such as myself, there is less time to intensively prepare for the EQE. I found it difficult to study for the two sets of examinations simultaneously and needed to delay preparation for the EQE to accommodate study for the British exams. This would have been less necessary if the EQE were held in April as it used to be. Therefore I strongly suggest that the date of the EQE should not migrate further towards the beginning of the year as this will further disadvantage candidates. Ideally, the date of the EQE would return to April. I believe that this week-by-week 'creep' of the date of the EQE towards the beginning of the year is making preparation for a difficult exam that much more difficult.

- Understanding legal questions Answering legal questions
- Claim interpretation part is my weakest part, more practise with mock exams, could have been beneficial
- As to paper C and DII it is not transparent how the Papers are marked. Particularly DII has explicit and IMPLICIT questions, thus it is not sufficient to address the explicit questions and it is not clear which implicit queries are raised. Therefore it is crucial to address as many implicit issues as possible, and writing the corresponding answers is time consuming. The time is not enough to organize the data and have an overview /insight into the paper and and put the answer in writing. So I exercised in past C, DII papers and tried to figure out how the papers are marked. This time I had an in depth knowledge but the examination time was again too short
- Doppelbelastung Beruf Prüfungsvorbereitung
- To have a relevant estimation of the time required
- Mass of information regarding the case law.
- Time pressure and inserting the correct reference to the Legal Basis (especially for the New Guidelines)
- Difficult to see how to correct own mistakes another time. Compendium often just show one solution but why is the one I chose so wrong?
- Full time work as an examiner. Not this year.
- time-management, quick handwriting, condensing my answers so as to be able to a) adequately address all issues and b) score enough points could have been overcome it by doing more mock-exams for paper D
- Too few past exam papers it would have been beneficial to have a number of other papers in which to assess my development during training.
- greatest weakness: The legal part. Making mock pre-exams and legal questions from pre-exam books.
- I was only preparing the pre-exam
- PCT was somewhat novel to me. I used a commentary (Trinks) to prepare thereon, but it should have started earlier to feel more safe.
- To have time for study. No time given by firm. Had to take time off and vacation for study.
- Time to study
- Considering the first part, legal questions, I did careless mistakes because I didn't verify all the dates in the EPO calendars. Considering the second part, claims analysis, I did few mistakes with the inventive steps and article 123(2) and I could overcome by paying more attention.
- The time allowed for each paper.
- Greatest weakness was understanding that interconnected air channels can also be seen as one channel.
- The success rate of the pre-exam didn't motivate me at all. My greatest weakness will be that I haven't really prepared the EQE itself, because the pre-exam (with its actual form and success rate) does not give any motivation for it.
- Epreuve A Faire plus d'annales en temps limité, apprendre à réfléchir à un jeu de revendications (pas d'apprentissage spécifique hormis le travail) rédiger plus de demandes de brevet (trop peu).
- Ich habe etwas zu spät mit PCT angefangen.

- knowing the right answers or luckily choosing them for part C
- For C-part: more exercise in fast reading and sorting of information.
- coming from practical work is not helpful for the EQE (part C) I should more focus on EQE requirement
- D questions more experience
- Too little time to study, too much work to do.
- The amount of information that one has to deal with is perhaps in my opinion the most difficult thing, basically because one has to work and study, many things to keep in mind.
- studied more old exams and examiners reports in detail
- Learning is an iterative process the learner is not always conscious of. Once one understands why it is an iterative process, it is generally too late to go back to the past and re-do the preparation.
- No support from employer.
- I have difficulties allocating time for studies. This I am afraid is not very easy to overcome. However, I believe it was a good strategy to only go for the C-exam this year and sit the D-part next year, which I did.
- prepare under real-time conditions
- on-line training for EQE pre exam was overpacked at the end and i could not follow the speed. i started in October instead of September/August.
- The greatest weakness was a lack of experience in basic law science, because a lack in legal skills prolongs the preparation time.
- in re-sitting the exam not much practice material is available, because I made the old exams last year. It would be helpful if additional practice exams would be available. In order to overcome this problem I made even older exams, but these were marked quite differently.
- Time management for D1 questions was critical. I tried to solve as many questions (questions of earlier examinations, questions given in Deltapatents-book and the Daily Questions) as possible under examination condition.
- Very few past papers available to do practice questions. There is no way to overcome this. The compendium will be built up over time.
- Practising writing standard phrases.
- being too far away from Europe for attending in weekend seminars, or to sit with German candidates together to share questions, but I was very much supported from the coaches of the Candidate support program
- Lack of time. I was too busy at work. However, this year I only attended paper A which does not require so intensive preparation as D or C, for example. And, I have attended paper A also earlier, so I knew what was going to happen.
- PCT. The knowledge was fine for the pre-exam but more in depth study is needed for the main exam.
- Too much work too little time for studies
- handling the time
- The limited time due to an optical handicap
- Underestimating B when having passed the other Exams
- Time constraints on the new format papers. Difficult to assess how papers would be as there was no precedence.
- I am a chemist and the exam questions were not on a chemistry subject. This was for me the most difficult part
- Did not have proper knowledge of case law should have remembered G2/10, which might result in that i fail?
- Time management; this is hard to practice.
- Difficult to say without knowing the result, but I'm satisfied with the way I prepared.
- lack of experience in legal issues. I certainly have clarified many issues for myself while preparing for pre-exam.
- New formats of C and D part. No way to overcome this.
- Preparing for the Pre-EQE is tricky as there are so few past papers and it is therefore

difficult to know what to expect. I found that this year's exam was significantly more difficult than last year's paper, and even more so compared to the mock examinations.

- My biggest problem was the nervousness in the beginning of the pre-examination.
- time limit
- Focus too broad Not enough old EQE pre exams available yet
- The Pre-examination being a MCQ made it difficult to judge how best to prepare and the revision material detailed in the statute gives little indication of what will actually be required in the exam. In retrospect I overprepared which may be good practice for the finals. I overcame the lack of specific information about what material would be required in the exam by taking everything listed in the statute.
- Two different approaches: one to learn the material, one to succeed in the exam. The second one suffices. I still need to learn the material.
- Always not enough time to prepare D. Hard to conciliate D and work in an in house firm
- The inability to neglect clients' needs in order to steal more time for the preparation. There is no way to overcome that. Some of us simply have to earn money every once in while, and when the clients comes up with a case, you will have to perform. Performing suboptimally is not an option for a patent attorney.
- work harder to understand examiners' expectations
- In paper C, it is very important to work very quickly. You can try to solve the past C papers as quickly as possible. But at the exam day, your speed depends very much on whether or not you understand the technical exam topic.
- Probably with a better preparation of my work material, for example by preparing fact sheets allowing me to answer some questions almost automatically.
- management of time, non really lisibility of writting, non realy
- It is a challenging dedicate sufficient time for studying when you have a full time job and a family.
- I should have started preparing a little earlier to have more time to practice old papers.
- Language. I don't yet overcome it.
- The new format of Paper B in 2013 did not allow for 100% preparation by previous papers B, because previous papers were designed for being solved differently and in shorter time.
- Time is definitely an issue. I don't really know how to overcome this problem. I guess I'm asking myself to much questions.
- Keeping track of why I had given the answers I had given during the exam. This could have been overcome through use of a simple chart with columns for what answer I had given and why. The sea of dots looked marginally confusing at the end of the exam.
- Find the right information to compose the attacks, sometimes spread amond too many documents.
- TIME MANAGEMENT DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME EVEN WITH PRACTICE AND GOOD METHODOLOGY
- Finding a balance between concentrating on details and on the schedule.
- I did not train enough examinations under real time conditions
- Claim analysis in the pre-examination was not so straightforward. However I do not know how I could have prepared better since I have dealed 5 years with claim analysis in my work. Maybe I should have made old A papers to practice the exam-related claim analysis.
- Too small timewindows to learn continously after work because of Baby and daughter. A solution could be to get divorced?!?!
- Time management is not easy; it is important to elaborate a scheduled plan with special exams
- It was not possible to prepare for the new format of paper B. The new format is more difficult than the previous format, especially since I practiced the previous approach using the past papers.
- The control of time when drafting the response within the 5h limit. Impossible to overcome considering that (1) an extensive argumentation is required in the response to obtain full marks; and (2) I am not English native speaker (this is really a handicap when a number of

documents need to be read, analysed and memorised under a time-pressure situation). Further, the past papers in the compendium were useful for practising a 6-h response.

- I should have written more old papers under realistic time conditions.
- Urgent real work deadlines in the last two months before examination obliged me to study intensively in late evenings and week ends, in order to keep pace with my programs. Possible remedy: arranging with my company and colleagues for at least one week of holidays (to be devoted to study) before the examination days
- Intensive focused study started too late
- a preparation course would have been helpful
- Time management, to be brief
- The greatest weakness for me in paper D was the time management and especially the stress I had due to the time. Doing the DI questions at a time of 3 minutes per mark is hard. While the clock was ticking I continuously realised that there is still a DII to make. Nowing this caused that I was nervous until I started DII. Writing down 40 points in 2 hours time was not possible for me. I had to skip a whole question. Furthermore, there was not even time to eat a bit. Overall, It would be helpful to have 15 more minutes to compensate with the time you need for eating and to change your mindset to go from DI to DII.
- Align and filter huge amount of information (EPC, new GL, OJ, PCT, PCT Newsletters, PCT Applicant Guide, PCT Annex, EPC Guide for Applicants part 1 & part 2, CL book) No chance to study all of it. Do the GL cover the Guide for Applicants? My solution was to grudgingly accept gaps.
- Time for preparation while working
- Time because English is not my mother tongue
- need to write faster (write anything, doesn't have to be EQE related). hand-writing is not an everyday skill anymore
- It is necessary to do the whole paper taken from the Compendium and not just a part of it. It is not enough just to think about it and suppose you might have written all important details during the examination (especially concerning the (former) DII part).
- Maybe i focused too much on topics that already has been tested. By focussing a bit more on topics that has not been tested yet.
- It is just a time problem with part C. I practiced a lot this time and wrote down all the papers from the other years the weeks before the paper. I managed to write them down in 5 hours at most, although they were made for six hours. Nevertheless, I was under time pressure a lot this year in paper C. I felt very confident with my matrix and think I did do the matrix quite well. But after half of the time of the paper, I realized I had so speed up a lot, and it makes me really sad, because if I have failed, it was not a problem of preparation this year and not a problem of not seeing the details, but just a surprising lack of time.
- Very little training material for the pre-Examination: 2 mock-up tests, 1 prior examination example from 2012 and that's it. The online preparation course appeared overkill for experienced examiners.
- Time management. Should have put more effort into learning article and rule numbers to minimize the need of double-checking during examination.
- Self assessment of past papers. Discussion of the papers with others would have help to overcome this.
- Mentally prepare for the new format of paper B and possible scenarios. I did not have a clear strategy once the new format was in front of me which made me loose time.
- Having to enough time to prepare for EQE, especially not enough time to prepare answering legal question within a ceratin time limit. As a consequence of which I couldn't get used to an efficient time management necessary in order to be successfaul at EQE. Being isolated from other candidates.
- Weakness regarding time limit questions; to overcome by working on time limit questions offered on eqe-online
- Greatest weakness: Failure to start earlier than 6 months before examination with solving past papers under "real time conditions".
- Too little practice on time management. I should have answered more exams in the actual

times available. However, that was not possible for C and D. 2. D in particular: I should have read more and prepared better

- Knowing how to prepare for sitting an open-book exam for the first time I made lots of notes which may not have been as useful as when I previously sat closed-book exams. If I was studying again I would have started doing questions earlier.
- Difficult to get organized and find out how to study the topics in a systematical way and connect it all.
- I should have started preparing for the EQE earlier

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

- no
- Go Delta patents course. Do not waste time actually learning patents and patent law. Study for the exam only.
- Check the Examiner's report of 2013 if you are allowed to broaden the claims or do what the client wants. If yes, then ignore the claim set given by the client. However, the time is too short to draft completely new claims. That's what it is, one hour less but same problems. The draft claims do not help at all.
- take your time and forget your opposition experience if you have it
- Doing some checklists for various methods
- Don't give up!
- -Start well in time -Prepare working material well in time before the exam to learn what to use (Visser or Guidelines or Hoekstra) for different types of questions. -Answer a lot of exam related questions
- do not worry too much
- Learn to write really fast that way you won't panic that you have to stop analysing and start writing in Paper C and may not make silly mistakes.
- Use updated books and exercises.
- practise as many exercises and past papers as you can under time pressure, you should be able to finish in less than the time allowed in order to feel comfortable under time pressure/stress during the EQE
- go fast in reading/writing
- Pre-EQE: prepare by making a lot of questions
- prepare papers under exam like conditions
- Prepare a few old papers and check examiners reports and candidate answers.
- do epi online course. It has plenty of questions and case studies to practice on.
- For the pre-exam: take the course of the patent academy, it's definitely worth it.
- study
- Practice previous exams under real time conditions
- Keep working. Do not surrender.
- I would suggest to study The Annotated European Patent Convention from Derk Visser, and to learn how to use this book.
- Practicing past papers is an essential part of the preparation. A minimum of four past papers should be done for each part of the exam under exam conditions, i.e. under the same time pressure.
- TO try to do all four papers together. In my case (one paper/year) the EQE has turned into a nightmare
- Find a compendium of questions, there are too few past papers/mocks to practice from alone. Delta Patents publish a good example question book.
- If you can afford it go on courses or if not use the methodology in books such as those mentioned above.
- Study the relevant parts of Guidelines, it is very good. Problem and solution is critical.
- Be well-prepared but not afraid, Train your handwriting

- Take practice examinations
- practice D questions on a daily basis, at least for 4 months in advance
- Yup, no matter how much you study, if you don't think fast enough, leave it or buy a new brain first ;-).
- It is important prepare in such blocks, which are checked a competent person. It is important to study small portions, which are checked by a competent person. The frequent reply is important.
- I think my main comment/suggestion is whatever the way you want to prepare the EQE (mainly part D), fit your planned agenda even when motivation is not there
- Do not underestimate the claim analysis part. For legal part you can somehow find the answers in your books during the exam. But for claim analysis part you should know some subjects by heart. You know what are these, inventive step, clarity, etc. So try to find everything on the books for legal part since this part is much certain. If you read the question correctly and find the answer on the book you get the points. But in legal part you may interpret the claims differently. It's not so black and white as in the legal part. Again, read the questions carefully and take some food with you to the exam. Being hungry during the exam is not good.
- Prepare yourself to write a lot, and not to type...
- Start in good time, be sure that you have been through all the material so you have the last 2 month to do papers and D1 questions.
- Do lots of past papers and read the examiner's report/model answer. Also, read the EPO Guidelines.
- Obtain your references as soon as possible, and preferably begin working steadily around six months before the exams
- Learn D-Questions in groups and discuss about them. The quality of discussion of selected D1-style questions is more important than quantity.
- Do not work too fast, but a steady tempo.
- Attend the EQE when you're at a pretty low level of professional preparation
- Start soon!
- I didn't use so much the Guidelines as I would have liked, but I would recommend to use them because the new format is really good.
- Find your own strategy to solving the paper and stick to it. Develop your own strategy practicing with the compendium.
- The candidates should prepare carefully their exam material and take a lot of exercises.
- Don't give up :-)
- Start early enough with well-scheduled preparation (at least 6m before) you need to know the EPC quite well, otherwise it's getting difficult to solve all questions in the given time.
- I really recommend studying "The Annotated European Patent Convention" by Derk Visser. Further it was important to me to practice legal questions (D1 questions as well as pre-exam type questions) and claim analysis questions. At least for the claim analysis questions it was important to me to attend a seminar to understand what the examiners really want to hear.
- Bring warm clothes, unless you are used to sitting still in cold temperatures.
- Start preparations early, do at least 5 past papers for each exam and get someone to look at them.
- Try to do as many past papers as you can, within the allocated time.
- It seems to be important to have a deep and detailed understanding of the PCT and the corresponding rules. All in all, the PCT appears to be much more difficult to understand than the EPC due to the exceptions, difficult formulations and sentence structures etc and a lack of good textbooks or courses. Accordingly, I would suggest to start familiarizing with the PCT as early as possible.
- Try and do as many mock exams in the exam conditions (i.e. isolated for several hours). The main difficulty is to sum up one's knowledge as quickly as possible. It is an exam based on speed (treatment of information, and finding the right arguments). The stress factor will come in supplement on the actual Day of exam.



- understanding the problem solution approach
- real time exercising and correction from tutors.
- Participation in a studygroup
- Study study study!! Make a study plan well in advance and stick to it.
- Your life will not end if you fail EQE
- Do the mock-exams!
- Be more strict on the time management
- Review and exercise last years EQEs very well
- Take a good external course. Make the earlier exam papers, as many as possible with a real pen & paper approach! Make a study group at your workplace!
- For the pre-examination the epi online course was very helpfull, as it covered all topics and gave information about where to find things (EPC, guidelines, PCT applicants guide,...) and which things to take into the exam. Also the forum for this course was helpfull, because the tutors answered all questions.
- Time-management and following a strict way of solving the exam and writing down your arguments is to my mind the most important advice to other candidates, if they don't already know.
- Make a family after passing EQE
- Start early and do LOTS of practice papers!
- Practice compendium, again and again
- Start early, select 1 book whether a commentry like Visser article per article or select a book/course per themes. If one read Article per article then read per theme. Make tables/notes you use to answer question such as delta patents.
- Understand precisely what is the Exam and what exactly you need to know. Then, prepare a studying plan and try to stick to it.
- no
- Start at least half a year before the actual exam with studying the EPC and PCT. Follow a course so you will learn about the particulars of both law systems
- you just have to study a lot an practice on the previous papers
- It is extremely important to do past exam papers, and then go through them and note learning points from the exam.
- The most important is to answer questions actively (without looking into the answer before you think you have finished answering) in all relevant fields of the procedure. With this to get to know the whole procedure best. When you learn something knew in a question spend some time on the subject to get to know it better. And then try to become faster and faster. Organize yourself the best you can so that you are excellent in finding the information you need in a minimum time. Spend time in learning what can be found where.
- Make sure you have a good understanding of the legal part so that you don't need to look up all the answers. That will give you plenty of time to deal with claim analysis part of the exam which may be more tricky, and which is more difficult to study for.
- Study examiners report in detail. Practise time management. Focus on basis knowledge rather than complicated issues.
- Continuous preparation.
- Use the Delta Patents books. They are great.
- C: don't spend too much time with legal matters; better start with compendium and learn legal matters in connection with analysing the results of the test examinations, for example examiners report
- Start early!
- Concerning the pre-examination, I suggest to focus the studies on the legal part. Most of the answers seem to be unambiguous aside from the above mentioned "only" cases such that most marks (40 to 50) can be scored here easily if the candidate is well prepared.
- Start the preparation of your materials early and do lots of practice papers/questions with feedback from colleagues
- Start to become familier with the EPC as soon as you start working in this sector.

- Don't take the exam too serious you can never work/learn efficiently if stressed. And remember: there are professional representatives out there who do worse than you do.
- Focus your preparation to few books; the other supports must exceptionally be used
- For A and B: practice past papers to get an idea about how these papers work For C: practice past papers and try to quickly "solve the puzzle" forget about feature tables and matrices (that was my approach we will see...) For D: take a book with legal questions and practice and do not forget to spend enough time on the preparation for the D II part
- Get your EQE before you have a case portfolio of hundreds of families. once you are there, time is extremely scarce.
- prepare as soon as possible
- Do practice papers to time, because the time pressure (and general terror that hits you, especially before the first exam!) can really affect your performance
- -
- Make a study plan including both intense and less intense periods Do not hit the top of your form curve too early Save the mock exams and exams from earlier years as long as you can I did them the last week
- The majority of my intensive preparation was done in the final three months before the exams. I would recommend that other candidates start more intensively reading and studying before this so it is less stressful.
- to practice EPO rules everyday
- Start early enough. b) Visit preparatory courses. c) Ask your company if you may dedicate a part of your work-hours to EQE preparation.
- do papers from compendium and compare to examiners comments see your own exams you did not pass and compare what was missing to pass from the examiners comments
- Take your time. Be calm and analyze everything thoughtfully.
- Don't panic.
- Think to look at the material available on-line and free of charge on dedicated sites, especially [eqe-online.org](http://eqe-online.org) (it is not to be considered complete material but it's a very good base), and make use of the compendium and mock pre-exams for training in real condition. Another suggestion may be to begin to read total EPC and, if possible, the guidelines for examination long time in advance, as suggested in the eqe preparation guide
- Learn the rules and articles that are most commonly asked : taxes, delays, translations, corrections.
- Do not think it is sufficient to do part of a practice paper it is important to be able to arrive at a completed solution in the allotted time.
- Do D2 of 2006, 2007 to get used to D2 methodology, then have a serious go at D2 from 2008 onwards under examination conditions.
- Not draw up many old themes from the Compendium: just 3 or 4 but in "examination conditions"
- Get used to referenced treaties well in advance.
- get all the relevant books and the support material in advance 2. assess how much time do you have (e.g. weekly) for learning 3. check how fast can you read/learn (e.g. how many pages per day/week) 4. based on this divide the whole material in weeks 5. calculate how many weeks do you need 6. multiply this number of weeks x2 that is your starting point for learning
- Train D1 and D2 also under real time conditions!
- Start studying a lot earlier than you think it's enough: it won't be. Those attending pre-exam, as I did last year, are helped on this, since they are forced to start more than one year before the main exam. Courses help a lot: at the very least, you are focused on the study for one week instead of working as usual.
- For D : When training on a past papers or on any course questions, ask yourself how this information might come up during the exam. How would a question on this subject look like? Then store this information in your corresponding tool at the right place for you to be able to find it quickly. Prepare a list of actions to undertake for the main steps in PCT and EPC procedures : for example, what are the actions required to do to obtain a valid filing date ?

what are legal remedies ? etc. Try to review this with a group of candidates. Very helpful for preparation AND during the exam itself For B and C : prepare a "universal draft" with typical sentences and list of actions to be undertaken under particular circumstances. For example : "how to handle partial problems ?" Finally, get at least one good night sleep before the exam.

- For legal questions: Bring EPO Guidelines, EPO-PCT applicant guide and in particular WIPO-PCT applicant guide (prepared by marking important chapters which will always be relevant such as Priority, Divisionals, Languages, Opposition, Appeal etc) commentary (such as Visser or Kley) and make yourself familiar with it so that you can find things quickly For claim analysis: Practice with Mock-exams and previous Pre-exams to become familiar with the interpretation of questions and answers Forget your practical experience, accept what is offered, i.e., do not question the questions
- No, think its very individual.
- To seat the exam as soon as possible after the university, so that the workload in the firm is still low and there are no problem of family trade off
- For the first part of the pre-exam good knowledge of the EPC articles and rules. For the second part of the pre-exam practical experience is sufficient. No special preparation is needed other than practical experience.
- Practice as many questions as possible.
- It would very helpful to have courses every month with corrections of the old exams.
- prepare in learning groups answer legal questions in a structured way so to deal with the whole epc from the beginning to the end, like e.g. in the Delta Patents learning course for the pre-ex answer claims questions, in particular to adjust to the style of questions and to identify misunderstandings in your own conception of novelty, inventiveness, priority, etc.
- Use the Guidelines and do not focus on commentaries!
- Find groups for preparation.
- Start DeltaPat Q&A early and often. You cannot do too much PCT. (do ALL the DeltaPat questions!!)
- for part D, using the Stauder comment and the Applicants Guide
- Even though this was just the pre-EQE, you absolutely need some kind of formal preparation. Being a CEIPI student was enough for me, given the date of pre-EQE exam, 6 months after the beginning of the CEIPI year.
- Very important is to be systematic, and not start the preparation too late
- Concentrate on the most recent EQEs in the compendium and learn your own way how to deal with the EQE writing conditions.
- I recommend the online training provided by the EPO academy / epi
- Not to follow every well-meaning advice and opinion but to find the most efficient ones. EPO material is now on a high level I think (meaning EQE online Forum, eLearning, EQE Wiki, EQE pre-examination online training course (daily questions) etc.). Opinions from tutors are important.
- no, having had a technical education I think law is arbitrary
- Start early with preparation
- Optimize your strategies multiple times with training sessions for testing.
- My preparation went like this: I was preparing paper D intensively in december and january, then switched to C, A and B in the beginning of february, and the last week before the exam went back to D and did some of the D papers from the compendium. My impression is, that this kind of preparation was good.
- Take the exam seriously as it is. Don't expect a real life case.
- time, time and again time
- Learn the style of answers proposed in the examiner's reports and forget all that is required in real life (especially double checking facts or briefs no time for that).
- dont stress
- Start studying a year before the exam. For re-sitters: if in doubt, start studying immediately and don't wait for the results.

- exercise with old examinations and proposed solutions
- Start early for paper D: 1) Do one paper so that you try to do it in real time, perhaps if you have access to a mock exam, go there. 2) Make use of the shock that you get from the first exam, and take things very seriously: you need to study harder than you ever have. 3) Find out your own way of learning, whether it is reading, doing practice questions or writing out the EPC and PCT as you understand them. 4) Take a course! CEIPI perhaps. 5) Organize yourself: the material, tools (pens & other officeware). 6) Build self-confidence, and know what you know and what you don't know.
- Make sure you are fully prepared well before the exam as your life may fall apart just before the exam leaving you mentally and physically unfit to study.
- Getting enough support from employer and tutor
- make many questions.
- Start well in advance. Do not leave for last period PCT. Do questions as early as you can. Create a study group to discuss issues or follow the forum
- Not for the moment
- Take the preparation seriously and make sure, that your employer grants you enough time. Make sure you can use your weekends for EQE preparation and not for job (over) work.
- no
- Don't take more than two papers per year unless you are perfectly prepared. Don't underestimate the physical stress of a five-hour paper. If possible, choose papers in a way that you have enough time to recover in between.
- Understand the marking schedule and what Examiners are looking for; develop exam strategy to understand what sort of answers the Examiners are looking for without necessarily knowing the answer. Thorough familiarity with the Guidelines very beneficial.
- Start early to work for D. You are never too much prepared for that.
- Take the delta patents course it is quite Expensive but is worth every penny. Excellent.
- Do the pre-preps in September. Read regularly your preparing book or documents one year before the exam even, without trying to memorize everything. This will help you to know your documents and find quickly the place to read.
- see previous question
- The most important is the own effort put into the preparation. The aim is to focus and reach the level of certain intellectual comfort in writing. Just get on with it as soon as possible. I see no better way.
- /
- Plan your studies to finish a few days before the examination. This will enable oneself to take off a few days before sitting in and getting the necessary relaxation. A clear mind during the examination days is very important to access the knowledge acquired and sort out what is asked for in the exam paper.
- After all it's not difficult if you are prepared to put the time to prepare in it. Certain parts can be tricky, and a first time fail is possible if not well prepared
- Start timely
- Train in groups, actually write at least 3 old exams.
- -
- Do many old papers. Pay attention to the details in the Examiner's report. For example, how you get the points for closest prior art.
- I bought the EPI preparation package which I didn't use because it is designed for beginners. This package should be marked as "BASIC".
- Start study well in advance!
- learn to answer in short staccato-sentences / no prosa!
- They should visit CEIPI courses.
- take time away from work
- no, because everything is already mentioned somewhere so you need to analyse yourself what mistakes you are making personally and how to avoid them
- make every step of your reasoning explicit and link facts of the paper to the law where

possible and appropriate

- Delta patents D part
- See above (Start early. Practice as many old exams as possible. Prepare "template" answers, so you do not have to think about/look up standard statements, e.g. concerning deadline calculation etc.) Think about your preparation schedule by the time you register for the EQE and have a realistic one ready BEFORE you start your preparation. Take into account: Time allotted to your job, time for your family, time to relax, ca. one day per week as a buffer.
- Begin preparing early.
- Use the training EPO provides on the internet and read the whole of Visser and Mulder's Cross-referenced PCT
- If possible take 1 month directly before the exam. Don't invest too much time for learning Papers A-B. Especially the new format of Paper B causes, that the old papers B are not that good for learning for paper B anymore.
- Start very early i.e. from September.
- Again, only as far as the pre-examination is concerned: Focus on the legal questions and get your marks there. Claim analysis is half part common sense and half part luck, since even experienced people at Delta Patents cannot agree on how the answers to some of the questions should be. Guessing the EPO's own opinion on these questions is just a matter of coin-flip chances.
- Commercial courses explaining the Exam are unavoidable.
- I strongly recommend to follow a course and make your own references to EP and PCT law; begin well in advance
- Do not use the method suggested in the C-Book, use a matrix, in which you put in all information, like advantages, definitions etc. (I call it my Powermatrix).
- Start early, read the EPC/PCT, do as many past papers as possible
- Practice problem and solution, get started doing papers.
- Group-learning and discussing interesting cases (anonymously, of course) and the relevant bases and decisions, as such cases keep in mind.
- Study is all you need.
- label the different books and keep well organized notes
- Use a course or seminar.
- Do as many paper as possible. Start early.
- Start earlier in preparation, decide as early as possible on your study material/books, stick with it and do not try to change the study material/books shortly before the exam, in order to prevent that you are not familiarized with the new material.
- Discuss European Patent rights matter at work with experienced colleagues
- OPTION 1: Allow your fear to control you. Spend thousands of euros taking four or five different prep courses. Memorize the contents of every EPO Form. Carry the PCT and its annexes with you at all times. Create a limerick that-if decoded properly-identifies the full signatories of the London Agreement. Create a calendar detailing all interruptions of postal services in all member states over the last decade. Memorize so many dates of accession to the EPC that you forget your wedding anniversary. When people talk about "the Papacy" assume that they are talking about oppositions. OPTION 2: The compendium's got a couple old exams. Practice taking them until you've memorized the stuff that comes up often, know where to find the stuff that comes up occasionally, and can spot the types of issues that are likely to arise in a second.
- NO, it is very individual as problems are faces are also individual. The exam shows not much the knowledge of EPC/PCT but rather a capability of a person to perform the exam/score marks and withstand an abnormal stress (which not appears in the real life) and quickly search the relevant information (otherwise available in the office via a computer).
- No
- Don't underestimate the physical aspect: stress makes you much more likely to catch any bugs, and having tried to take the exams very sick I don't recommend it. So, eat well and exercise moderately the last couple of months before the exams to keep healthy, and plan

your studying so that you are done a week beforehand that way if you should get sick, you can just take care of yourself and not stress studying, and if you don't, have a good time the last weekend before the exams, so you are rested up and relaxed.

- I think each candidate needs to find their own way of studying. There are lots of people telling you how you should do it, yet what suits one person, does not suit someone else. In my opinion, the best way to prepare is to know what method and approach are most suitable for your natural way of thinking and learning and then let those be the guides of the studying process.
- doing a lot of exercises
- Visser is a very well focused text and help you to make connection between the different arguments.
- For the pre-examination: start studying at least 6 months before. Training on time limits was very helpful.
- Focus on time and hold on.
- See Q14
- If Law is not your favourite subject don't try to sit all four papers in the same year. Prepare for and sit papers A and B for a start. Use the compendium to write mock exams of the previous years papers. Then carefully compare your result with the comments in the examiner's report and find out about your personal weaknesses. In particular look at the most recent papers and find out which mistakes will be punished hardest. For paper B and C exhaustively practise the 10 step problem and solution approach. Try to give your best in papers A and B to get enough points to be able to compensate weaker results in papers C and D. Practise legible handwriting. For paper C try one or more methodologies to be able to do the task in time. Consider developing your own methodology. Also consider doing a course for paper C.
- Solve (as many as possible) earlier papers under 100% realistic conditions.
- Practise a lot.
- For understanding and applying the law, the delta patents books are very useful. However for the examination, the answers are too detailed.
- From my perspective it is very important to start early enough writing the different papers under comparable conditions we are faced during the exam. It made life easier for me that I already wrote the same format of answers at home so that I did not have to think about a structure or wording of my answer during the exam. The preexam helped me to start learning early so that especially for paper D I only had to repeat the assessment load.
- Prepare by doing previous exams under exam-like conditions.
- Practise several old exams using the 5/6 hour time limit for getting the timing right.
- don't think too difficult, it's \*pre\* -EQE !
- Start preparations early. Use the compendium to try to understand what is expected in an answer.
- For A and B papers, it is very important to take mock exams with exact real life conditions. Taking Paper A, giving 1,5 hours of time off and then taking Paper B can be difficult in the exam day, so repeating this at least 3-4 times before the exam would be very helpful.
- Try to practice under exam-like conditions.
- Have a look as soon as possible on the PCT : )
- Concentrate on the main topics of older papers and spent most time of preparation for these topics.
- Start as soon as possible answering Delta Patent's Questions. They help you to read the GL.
- Start preparations early, don't rush. Use the compendium to get a good idea what is expected.
- Spend time on improving the speed in answering legal questions.
- Do not waste time. Start reading and making notes immediately.
- Given the lack of past papers for the pre-exam, it is most important to study the examiner's comments for the few past papers that do exist.

- prepare old epc exams under time pressure and exam conditions.
- Practice early past papers under the allocated time gives you an idea of the time pressure
- Disregard questions for which you don't have an immediate answer and answer them in the end, in case you still have enough time.
- First-time sitters should start preparing at least one year in advance.
- take the time, keep cool!
- Find a good methodology from the very beginning and stick to it when practising old Exam papers. Try to be question-oriented. Do not simply read all the materials from page 1 to the last page without thinking. Practise more under the Exam condition before the real Exam. Listen to successful candidates' experience.
- Follow a course with question/answer on epc topics.
- Past papers, do a lot of them
- Please ask this question after I have received the results for the paper.
- Reviewing the Examiner's comments/ feedback on correct/ incorrect answers is particularly useful for the claim analysis section of the pre-exam.
- Do the previous exams, and the answered questions.
- The pre-exam is a joke. Don't waste your time preparing explicitly for it. Know your books and train to find a piece of information in them quickly.
- Make a lot of exercises and don't keep the studying separate from your daily work consider every file you work on (whether you work as an attorney or examiner) as a case for learning more about the law.
- Start to learn as soon as possible (not only in advance of the exam but also considering your age. Start to prepare as soon as possible after you leave university, because you may be able to learn more efficiently).
- Be realistic about what revision you can do for each exam.
- Die Vorbereitung sollte aus einer Kombination aus einer gründlichen Einführung in das EPÜ (durch den zweijährigen Trainingscourse) und Trainingskursen für die Prüfungssituation (CEIPI oder EQE-online) bestehen.
- It takes much more time than one can expect.
- My best advice would be to dedicate quite some time to the legal part (both in training and in the pre-exam itself). It seems quite easy to get a minimum of 40 points on this part which is by the way far less subjected to interpretation and frustration. Getting highest confidence/score possible in the legal part ensures that you do not depend too much on your understanding of the claim part afterwards.
- So früh wie möglich mit der Vorbereitung beginnen und möglichst viele alte Prüfungsarbeiten durcharbeiten.
- Bring winter clothing.
- do not only focus on knowledge; but also spend time on methodology (how to write down the answer, how to analyse a paper)
- DO AS MANY PAST PAPERS AS POSSIBLE, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF AN EXPERIMENTED TUTOR.
- Be calm and be prepared.
- Do not just read. But work through questions and papers
- keep watching the last issues, decisions and latest EPC changes
- Attending a specific preparatory course and studying the Compendium
- Use the EPO online training facilities. Read Visser and guidelines. Prepare a ready to fill in outline for the response and opposition paper.
- For every paper it is very important to practice on actual past exams and to carefully read the examiners report. This will allow you (hopefully) to understand the different examination committees and what they see as important or as not important.
- Attending the CEIPI seminar and doing at least about 10 past papers of the compendium; reading part F and G of the RiLis.
- Knowledge of the most important interpretations of the articles and rule is very important. This knowledge is strictly related to the case law.

- Take time off before the EQE. Make sure colleagues can cover for you. For papers A,B and C, focus on effects of the inventions given in the Annexes.
- Start intensive preparation as early as possible
- Find a buddy or a group of people with which to prepare and discuss past papers.
- Practicing old papers is very important.
- Do not read the PCT and EPC guidelines in full but obtain an understanding of where to look up things. How much time does it take to read the guidelines even once? The study guide should explicitly mention that this cannot be the aim of preparing. As stated before, concentrating on the articles and rules themselves is feasible and sensible. Solving old papers makes sense but should not be the core of preparation in my view.
- Practice a lot of pass exams with the Compendium.
- Start as early as possible with studying for the exam and, in particular, with doing previous exams within the prescribed time.
- For the pre-examination, the main text should be the EPC guidelines for examination. Almost any answer, if not all, could be found there and it is very important to be able to browse it efficiently. Of course, marking different important topics is also important.
- The earlier, the better.
- Study, study, study...and fully understand the examiners reports of previous years.
- Try to write old papers in real examination conditions (time).
- Start early, make training under exam conditions
- Start preparing in good time and have a routine for studying.
- Prepare in advance and do past year papers.
- Don't use the matrix-method of the CEIPI for paper C and also do not use the cut-and-past method taught at the CEIPI.
- When you study make sure you understand the concepts those are the ones that save you at the exam. While for the legal part I think there is not much more than to study using different types of literature.
- Use a good annotated EPC with refs to GL and case law (I very much recommend Hoekstra); do a lot of old exams and training questions to get familiar with your material; get some paper DII's corrected with markings and comments
- Study hard and know your material!
- Practice questions in study guides and past papers really help.
- Plan your studies & mock exams account for family time and try to stick to the plan as much as possible.
- Prepare as early as possible, especially for Paper D.
- Reading Visser book, doing exercises from DeltaPatents Pre-Exam book and doing past exams. That should be enough.
- Try to solve and understand any questions you can get (Daily D1, Coffee Break, D-Book by Delta patents, Ceipi-Basic course, EPA Academy Online course).
- In paper D, don't get stuck on a question that is difficult for you.
- Study with other candidates or using the blog
- Do a lot of compendium and start to study at least 6 months before sitting the EQE (2h/day, 8h/week-end)
- A/C it is not that difficult if the candidate is well organised enough to conglomerate the high load of information and clever sort it in time. B claim set of claim can be disturbing...
- make a doable plan and start preparation as early as possible, have a good sleep before the exam.
- try old exam papers. start in time, i.e. study/prepare before following course elements
- prepare partly pre-filled in templates write previous years papers, several times if necessary until done within time slot, and according to the Examination's Board wishes
- **START STUDYING ONE YEAR BEFORE TAKING EXAMINATION, AND COMPENDIUM**
- doing exercises and working with as well as preparing law and comments
- For D, practise questions, not only read. Focus on DII subject questions (do old DII papers) it is more easy (time wise) to get a few extra points from DII type questions than from the



D1 type. During examination, watch your time, NEVER use more time than you have on any question, move on, as the first points are more easy to get, so it is important to cover the whole exam and not use too long on one question/part.

- Look at more examples regarding claims analysis.
- Attend a Deltapatents course!
- YES: DON'T FALL ILL. I DID. You HAVE TO CARRY THROUGH. The system allows no mercy.
- Sich nicht verrückt machen lassen; Mut zur Lücke
- no
- start preparing early
- Start early doing the questions e.g. by Delta Patents
- start early and continuously; better in small pieces than facing the whole lot in a short time
- Practice a lot in answering the D1 questions and focus on providing fast answers
- First of all, they should know to start where from for studying.
- My own previous experience as a Patent Attorney implies having acquired some habits (which you need in your real everyday work), but which for the EQE turned out to be "bad habits" for successfully doing Papers A&B. So you need to do quite a few Papers from previous years so as to learn how to tackle the Papers not making use of such "bad habits".
- Start early, focus on detailed strategy for exam based on Examiners reports and candidate's answer, do as many previous papers under exam conditions as possible, practice your handwriting skills!
- Start early enough. For the pre-exam 2 months should be sufficient.
- Studying for the preexam is really important as it forces you to browse through a lot of material relevant for the main exam. After doing this, it's a lot easier to understand how much work it will require to take your knowledge and answering technique to main exam level.
- Practice DII stuff a lot!
- Don't do the exam if you have not enough daily Patent work in the company you are working.
- Practice a lot and find your own way (your own tools) to do each Paper.
- Start studying more than two years in advance for paper D!!!
- To not start too early because it is important to have energy left for the examination.
- Start early even if you think it is too early and that you still have so much time: When the exam takes place you will have the strong impression that you run out of time.
- Start early, take every help you can get, solve preparation questions. During pre-exam: Always read the question carefully, check the calendar before ticking and when ticking: Always look that you are in the right line and column.
- start early
- For me it was very good to learn at the weekends early (06:30) in the morning for three hours, so the Saturday / Sunday isn't completely given away for other things.
- Start early and train to structure your answer correct.
- No
- exercising seems for me to be more important than learning and it overcomes boring periods
- Focus on legal but also in claim analysis
- For Pre-Exam: Go Basic!
- Start early, study regularly but don't get over-exhausted shortly before the exam, talk to your supervisor/fellow candidates a lot!
- Start early (one year ago) with preparation of your material (Comment on EPÜ, PCT, GuideLines but don't use too many different ones). And do some D1 questions from time to time. All material must be prepared by marking/comments to find very fast what you are looking for. Three months in advance start intensive training for the exam by solving old exams and DeltaPatents Questions. And don't forget to update your material.
- hard work is the only way
- for paper C: it is really important to have matrices well prepared and a method well tested.

for paper D: a complete tool with quite extensive information is necessary.

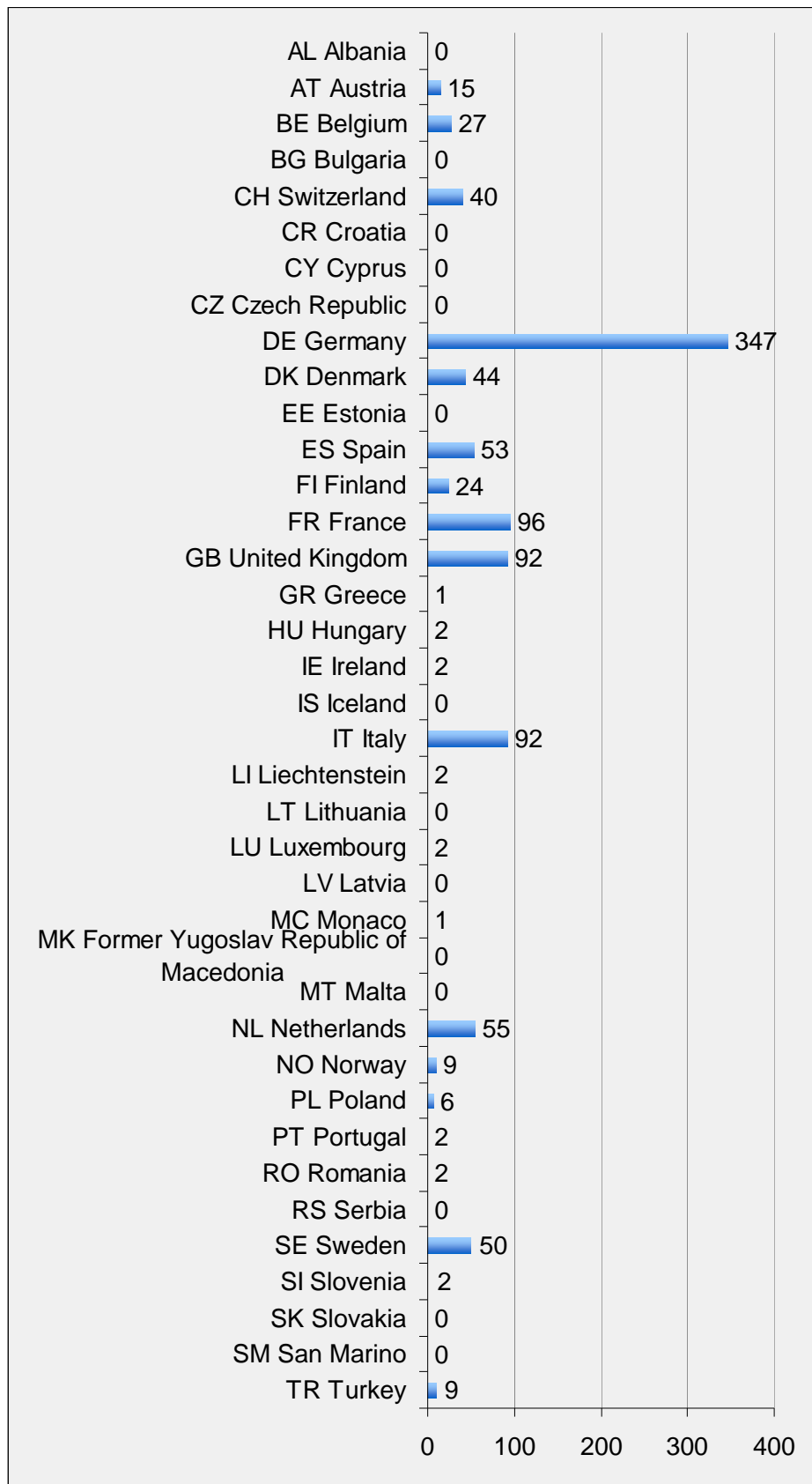
- Not relevant for pre-eqe
- Start two-years before sitting D and one-year before sitting C.
- do not become a partner in a firm before passed the exam
- Reading the Kley comment and the Guidelines first, then working through the Delta patent pre-exam question compendium (costs: around 70€) and finally trying to do the mock exams and the former pre-exams under examination conditions
- Start early. Look for a study group and meet weekly.
- start soon enough.
- Start studying as eralier as possible, attend as much specialized courses as possible and practice together with other candidates of the same level.
- training and training and training of mock exams
- Do a lot of practice questions
- Simply, complete as many past examination papers under exam conditions as you possibly can.
- Practical experience appears to be very important
- The EQE-Pre-Exam Online Training Course by the European Patent Academy provided excellent training material and builded the fundament for further studies.
- Prepare as many last papers as possible but you need to understand the marking system
- start early
- Do lots of former eqe exams.
- Start early complete as many questions as possible to develop an understanding of the various topics.
- It is very important to make mock pre-exams and questions from training material, reference booksetc.
- Make the previous papers.
- Go for the legal questions, they are the easier points. Claim analysis is not always straight forward.
- My personal feeling is that the pre-exam does not prepare to anything. 99% passed it, and therefore it does not give motivation to anybody. At the end, it gave me the impression to loose 1 year to wait for the true thing, but didn't push me to prepare this true thing in advance. I was teacher in the past and I have really doubts about the efficiency of an exam with more than 99% of success....
- Attempt the past papers, read the model answers!
- see above
- Start in time!
- D-part: I did delta patents and the collection of questions from eqe-online (very good). I felt well prepared. C-part: C-Book and old exam papers. In my opinion during preparation more time should be invested in fast reading and sorting out information.
- Training for EQE requirement and do not think about practical use.
- Other candidates should visit the preparation courses in Strassbourg. Nothing is better than to be taught by those who are examining patents and marking the examination results.
- Study often and varied, include new challanges regularly.
- start preparing the exams between 1 and 2 years in advance, so you have sufficent time to absorb everything, and also try to attend to courses as weel as listen well to your experience colleagues.
- Pay a lot of attention to old exams and examiners reports
- If having difficulties to allocate time for studies, one should not go for all four exams in one go.
- to focus on organized training eg. on-line course
- Prepare some index cards for the main topics
- Preparing selfmade handouts and summaries, working intensively with the guidelines and applicant's guide of EPC, PCT

- Delta Patent book is an essential tool for D Exam
- For pre-exam legal questions do old eqe d-papers and old pre-exams/mock exams, possibly something like Delta-Patents Pre-Exam Book. I don't think there is very much preparation you can do for the claim analysis part.
- Start early enough, preferably at least 2 years before the exam.
- Start to study very much in advance to build solid bases.
- practice in exam conditions
- Make sure plenty of past papers are completed. For paper C try to complete within new time limit.
- The candidates should try to simulate during the preparation a examination situation.
- In the Pre-examination, don't overthink the questions or else you might start second guessing yourself which can be catastrophic.
- Work hard nothing else
- No. You cannot make sure to pass this examination by preparing for an examination like you have been doing before for countless examinations before.
- no
- -
- It is essential to work a little every day, even if sometimes keep pace seems difficult daily work at the office and / or the family obligations. Stick to a minimum of half an hour of work when you can not do otherwise.
- preparing upon requirements of exam, do not spend too time to get a perfect material and do not have enough time to do exercises under real conditions.
- Visser is likely the best tool when preparing for the exam you have EPC with logic annotations. Especially the PCT is important as Visser provides a solid EP twist of the general global rules
- There is a lot of material to read, annotate and cross-reference, especially for paper D. It is important to choose the main material (own EPC to be annotated or already annotated books) early enough.
- Use the guidelines also while first reading the commentary.
- Basic knowledge is the most important.
- With the passage from the old to the new formula of paper B, I guess that the epo should have produce some example paper B in the site before the exam to help the student to understand the new formula.
- Practice answer questions using the available texts or courses.
- Develop your own methodology
- Take even more time for preparation.
- If you are located in Spain I would recommend attending the EQE preparatory course of Centre de Patents. Also, I would recommend the CEIPI preparatory seminars. About books, Guidelines is a must, and C-Book is also very helpful. Practise at least 5 past papers of the compendium under real situation.
- Start intensive study as early as possible. Avoid using too many documents Study as carefully as possible Guidelines
- self study alone is not constructive
- Train by writing down former EQE tests
- For D: study hard and focus on details and connections between different articles and rules of the EPC. Know everything by head so that checking things in Visser only takes 30 seconds per (sub)question. Go to the toilet before the exam. During the exam, you will lose too much time. For A, B: During the exam, time management is less an issue. Training is the best. Follow a good course, like the CEIPI course in Strasbourg. At the exam do exactly all the tricks that CEIPI tutors taught you. Then you will pass. For C: Preparing: There are several books on how to make a C exam. Choose one book, try to do the system like they said and adapt the system so that it works suitably for yourself. Make 2 or 3 previous exams under exam conditions. On the exam: think logically and try to look for connections between all the paragraphs of all the papers and write down why there is a relation.

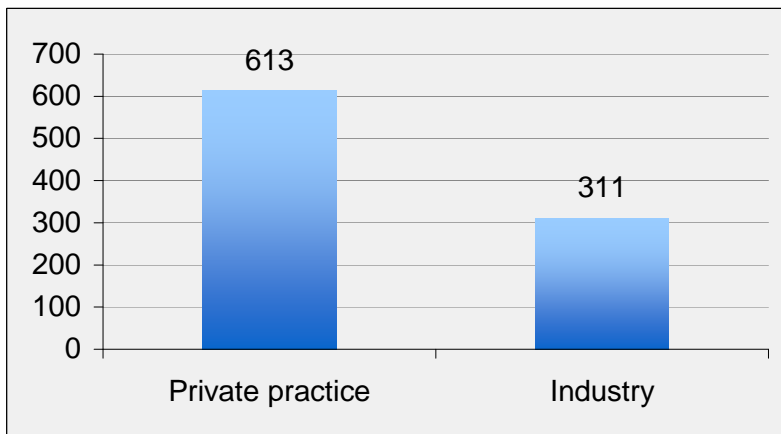
- Start early. I made my own keyword Index which was a huge effort but very helpful. Hopefully
- Start the preparation at least one year before
- Mock-exams are very helpful to know what to expect.
- Practise... Read the question, answer the questions.
- I started using up one of the mock-up tests in order to understand the examination. This was particularly helpful. In the lack of training material, the "daily D1" questions were extremely helpful. Who can answer these questions will probably also pass the pre-examination.
- Get as much help from others as possible. Discussion of individual work is very useful.
- Identify your weaknesses early, so you have time to practise them before the test.
- Getting used to exam papers as given in the compendium with respect to the way the questions are formulated as well to the answers are wished to be given. Trying to discuss the answers given with other candidates.
- Doing past papers to time is essential.
- The CEIPI Pre-Examination Course was very helpful to get an overview and to evaluate oneself. It also takes place in November, so there is enough time to learn the things, which were not yet learned ;-).
- Do as many questions as you can. Understand the G decisions. Understand the law rather than learn it.
- When working actively in the field, using the compendium for training is enough. It is more than enough time during the exam for looking up questions in Kley or other books... (don't use too many books).
- Make a schedule, stick to it, in the end it all makes sense.
- Participate at the online training courses offered by the European Patent Academy.

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

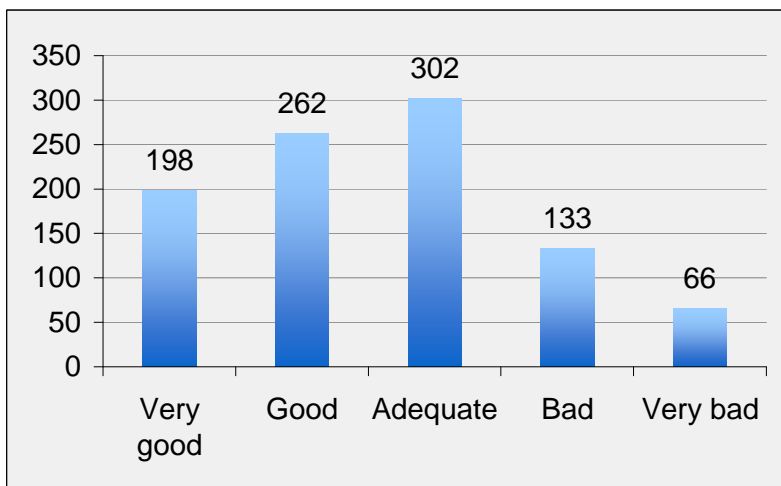
Q16) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training according to Art. 11(2)(a) REE?



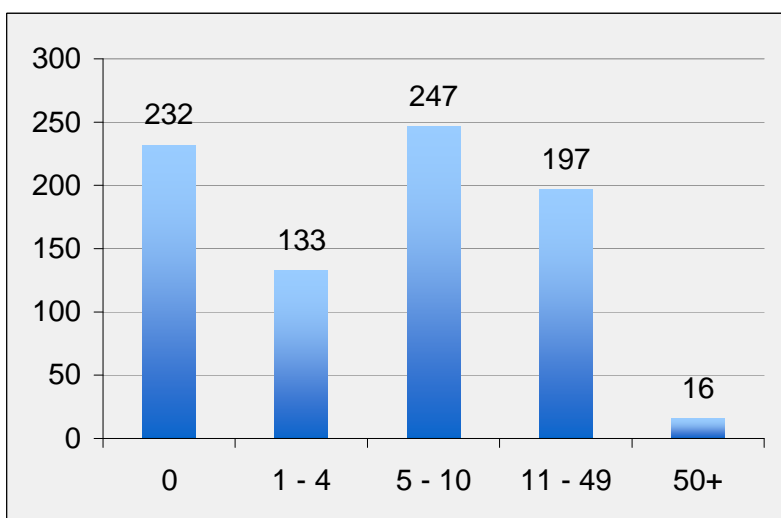
**Q17) I completed most of the training (Art 11(2)(a) REE) in private practice / industry**



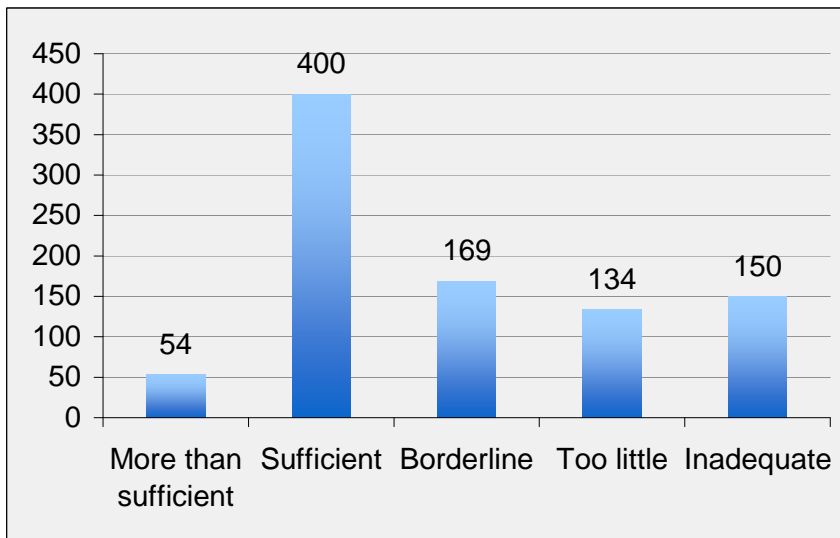
**Q18) How would you rate the support of your employer in view of your preparation for the EQE?**



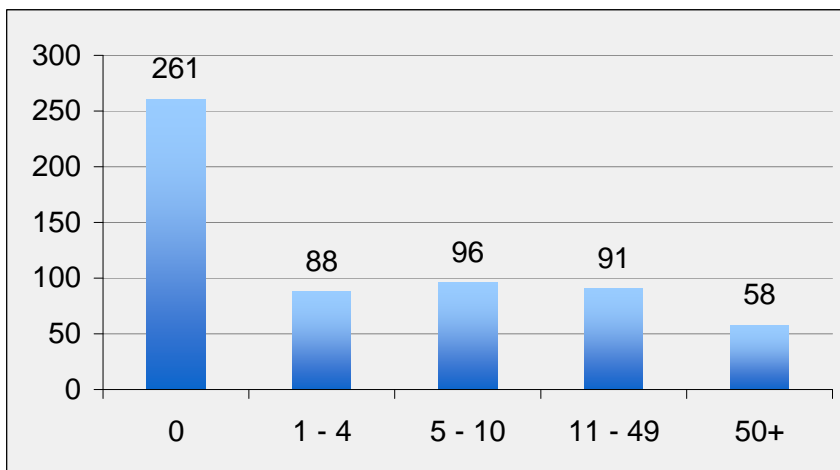
**Q19) How much time did your employer allow for attending courses for your preparation for the EQE?**



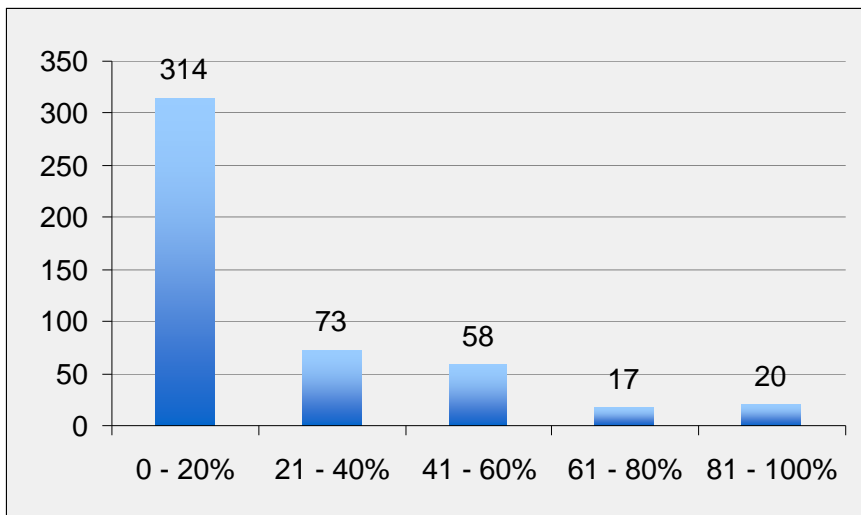
**Q20) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your employer for participation in courses?**



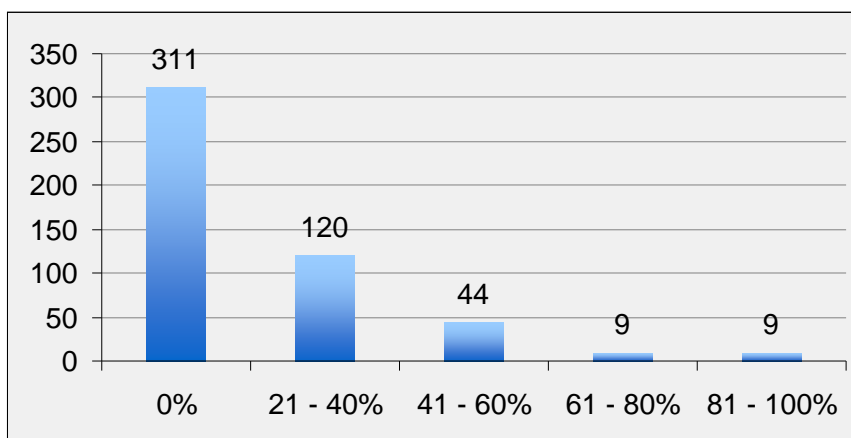
**Q21a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art. 11(2)(a) REE (i.e. the person who signed your Certificate of Training or Employment)?**



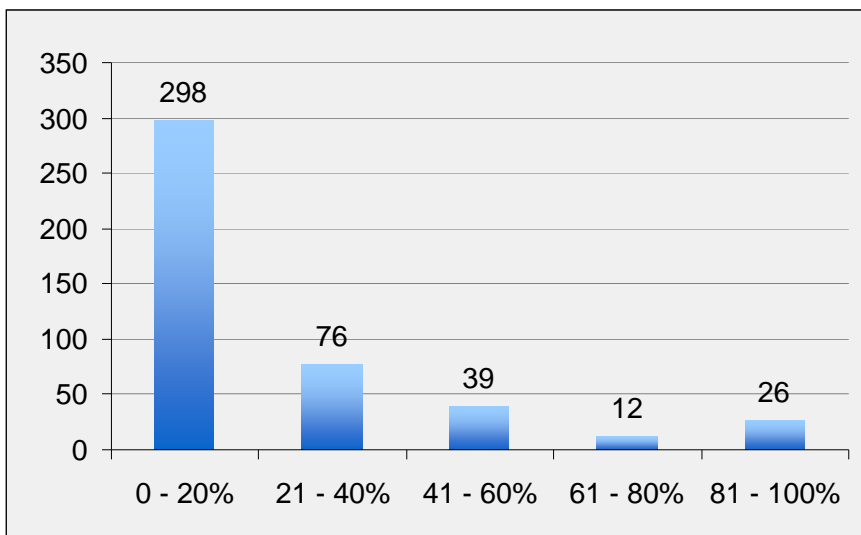
**Q21b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the first year of training?**



**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?**

- no suggestion
- If the supervisor is not a specialized EQE tutor, it is a waste of time. No matter how good a patent attorney your supervisor is, it is a waste of time for passing the EQE.
- Well did not have any help from a supervisor so I guess I would suggest that supervisors actually assist in the preparation for the EQE.
- Concentrate on Papers A, B and C; for Paper D use external courses.
- give us more time to prepare
- I am not sure I have understood this part. My supervisor as defined by A11(2)a) REE does not train me especially for the EQE, but I'm working with him every day on my cases. I learn from him every day.
- I wouldn't say that the exams require exam-specific training. Just doing the day to day job is good enough training.
- I am working at the EPO, so this part is not relevant for me.
- I am an examiner at the EPO, so no specific EQE-training.
- Candidates could be encouraged to practice a paper from the Compendium on a monthly basis, followed by an hour of discussion with their supervisor. The supervisor could perceive it as his or her role to provide specific training for the papers A, B, C and D of the EQE as a tutor. On the other hand, some candidates may prefer to study on their own. Also, a common conception is that for this kind of training the respective CEIPI courses should be attended, as CEIPI's tutors are experts for the EQE. In any case, supervisors provide training on the job, which covers a wide range of activities pertaining to European patent applications and European patents. This knowledge is helpful for all parts of the EQE.
- It will be desirable to have 1 month previous to exam for having time to study
- Sending candidates on several training courses. Having regular time during the working week for preparing for the EQE not just in your own personal time/holidays
- Allow more preparation time.
- Q17 and Q19-22 do not apply to my situation
- I have no idea, my supervisor is a grandfather so he couldn't help me for the EQE. Sure he helped in professional work but not specifically for EQE.
- Re questions 21a-d: training for EQE (A & B) in everyday practice by preparing claims and responses to official communications.
- providing some days for preparing the exam would be good...
- Actually support them :-)
- Discuss with the "student" what works best for him/her.
- Supervisors' role is not to prepare candidates for the EQE through dedicated training. Supervisors' role is to supervise patent prosecution and litigation for their clients. EQE is too far from actual professional practice for a supervisor.
- Provide at least some time during working hours to spend preparing for the EQE (in addition to in-house tutorials)
- its fine to give people allowed days off due to courses etc...but the time spent on EQE also has to be reflected in the workload/budget of the trainee!
- Do not be arrogant of the type: When I sat, I started to prepare mid January, I discovered the guidelines 1 week before the exam.....
- Exercise D questions on a regular basis, this is the only way a candidate can really start to know the EPC.
- Discuss Case Law. Get used to knowing the legal basis of the things you do at work.
- EPO Internal candidate,
- Q&A sessions, discuss answers with supervisors.
- focus on skills with which analysis is done.
- To start asking short questions (like the 'Coffee Break' D1 style questions) at an early stage

of training (after 1 year), to encourage the candidate to start getting familiar with all the areas of the EPC.

- I don't think it is reasonable to get direct and dedicated EQE preparation from a supervisor in private law practice. While supervisors have excellent knowledge about daily work with the EPO, the knowledge about rather special situations (Indian citizen and English company represented by an employ filing an international application in Sudan... and the like) that is required for passing the EPC may hardly be maintained for a extended period after passing the EQE.
- Give more time of preparation!
- N/A
- Spend more time with your candidates!
- I do not find the above questions relevant for me at this point of time as I attended the EQE for the second time and therefore should have spend all the needed time with my supervisor before the first time I sat the EQE. In the industry there is not much time for dedicated supervising
- Spend at least an afternoon per week for dedicated EQE preparation on the third year of training 6 months before EQE
- Give working hours to study, it is not always possible for a person working 8/9 hours a day, studying and taking care of the family
- To spend more time in training their employee
- Provide more specific training for candidates, allow time off as study leave for re-sits
- Actually I don't know how to answer the questions above. Is it working days per week or on the whole. I had regular meetings with my supervisor concerning my daily work and she accompanied me of course in the beginning to understand the issues I needed for this work. I also have a meeting together with her and colleagues in training once a week and we do have a possibility to meet colleagues to discuss paper D questions once a week. The first 2 years I did my work just together with my supervisor. In the third year I also worked together with other colleagues.
- Leave time for studying and have periodical meetings with the candidate
- Supervisors can improve the candidates' preparation if they let the candidates write the description and the claims for the patent application. Furthermore, it may help if the candidates calculate the time limits for the procedural actions of patent applications they work on.
- I didnt have specifically dedicated training for preparing for the EQE, rather i learnt by doing lots of European prosecution which i found was the best way to apply the principles i had learnt.
- Discussing legal topics for at least one hour every two weeks. 26 hours a year = 78 hours in 3 years; which means 30 minutes talking over an EPC artical and an EPC rule. Also 30 minutes a month for pct related topics would be helpful.
- EPO in house preparation does actually not exist
- to practice EPO rules
- Need dedicated time together to work exams and have questions and answer sessions. Supervisors in private practice are too busy.
- Be open to the fact that paper D is different from what it was in the 1980s. See to it that your candidate gets hoked with a successful candidate of the last three y ears or so.
- Spend more time WITH the candidates
- Does not really apply to me.
- Question is not answerable due to certain circumstances. I am happy to get free paid days for the EQE itself.
- Work with different supervisors: they provide different angles on the EPC
- Supervisors must have passed the EQE recently in order to provide valuable advice.
- Have a plan and be more engaged
- Encourage candidates to use reference books and refer to EPC as much as possible when dealing with EPO.

- My supervisors did not help me for preparing exams, but I understand them, they passed EQE longtime ago and they don't remember how it works, because EQE is very special and it is not like the every day work.
- Exam is so specific an far from daily work. A supervisor who sit the exam many years earlier are hardly able to support (unless the supervisor is specialised for eqe)
- Give a systematic approach. Correct previous year papers with candidate.
- should take care of the candidates at all
- you should invest at least half a day per week for preparation and mentoring
- As I did the German "Amtsjahr" in the last year, I had no supervisor any more.
- Encourage the candidate to do DeltaPat Q&A starting early and often. Provide all the necessary references: EPC, GL, Visser, GfA-I and GfA-II, an annotated PCT, NatLaw and Aux. Regs., a subscription to the OJ, and a printout of AG-IP and AG-NP with annexes.
- Are there actually any supervisors (means: Partners in patent law firms) that do dedicate time (means: billable hours) to such training? I never heard of it.
- As I wrote above, my training at CEIPI was enough for the pre-EQE. For that, my employer allows one week per month between september and june.
- Make us aware of material needed and questions
- I did'n have a supervisor as I am an employee of the EPO
- To provide time in general for preparation (with or without the supervisor).
- in my opinion, no courses are needed for preparation. I did the whole preparation with d questions, compendium and the c-book of chandler meinders. supervisors should discuss the problem solution approach intensively with their candidates during the normal daily practice. supervisors should provide their candidates interesting/unusual questions of EPC/PCT law during the normal daily practice.
- Allow sufficient time to prepare.
- Take the time necessary.
- This "training for EQE" is not the right way to look at things. The actual, useful way to do things is to work on real cases, get guidance from your supervisor on the cases and discuss the law that relates to them. Discussion on points of law arising in the community you work in is also important, but that should absolutely encompass more than just the supervisor.
- no comment for the moment
- Take more time ...
- (as EPO examiner, I did not answer Q17-Q25)
- Unfortunately, my supervisor confined his role to a completely formal one, but did not offer any dedicated training for the EQE. On the other hand, I got a lot of practice from the daily work relating to European applications.
- Dedicate time for correcting and discussing past papers from the Compendium.
- More proactive involvement; although other qualified attorneys in firm provided good training, rather than directly from supervisor.
- I don't know
- Send them on delta patents course
- It is the quality of a discussion that counts.
- passing on knowledge/experiences and coaching is very important.
- Allow them more study time one day per week in the year leading up to the EQE would be perfect
- I don't know...
- -
- teach to focus on the information given and on the special expectation how to handle the cases, which in some issues is quite different to the daily praxis for patent professionals.
- give them time off to allow studying so that they do not have do do it always in the free time
- allow them to go to EQE courses,
- take your duty serious
- Train Old EQE exams with the candidates
- prepare a well planned schedule for the candidate with respect to the daily work, to allow the

candidate to conduct all part of the EQE work i his/her daily work before sitting the exam

- I find these questions hard to answer. I was trained in a private practic and thus my training was clearly focused on the practical work of a Eurpean Patent Attorney. This is, however, quite different to the skills needed to pass the EQE. I'm aware that exams allways represent as a matter of fact an artifical system and don't want to critizites this. It just means that practical work is hardly ever suited for preparing oneself for the EQE.
- It is really very different how much training different employers provide
- Foward all uncommon legal questions to the candidate
- n.a.
- Supervisor should not be grandfather but should have passed the eqe recently
- Discuss cases, discuss new decisions, explain, what is the legal base for decisions made during daily practice
- practise on old papet and review correction as much as possible; hlep at identyfing the most important sentences of case law depending on the selected field for the examination (chemistry or mechanics..)
- Review practical timelines.
- discuss EPC matters with candidates
- NO idea
- more personal coaching
- Actually care... and try to help them organize their studying in a way that fits THEM.
- Think what the candidate needs and what suits them, not what you did and then just lecture that.
- organised training's in group
- Behave as a supervisor!
- as I am an EPO examiner questions Q21 to Q24 do not apply for me
- As previously mentioned, the supervisors in my firm did not feel comfortable commenting on the EQE pre-exam since the themselves did not sit it. However, given the high pass rate in 2012, most supervisors were of the opinion that the pre-exam was a "walk in the park". It would be nice for there to have been more awareness of the pre-exam amongst supervisors, and above all an understanding that irrespective of 2012's high pass rate, the pre-exam does require a significant amount of study.
- Training shoud start immediately and not short befor examinations.
- To check and discuss the candidate's answers to old EQE papers. To discuss questions similar to paper D questions with the candidate. To share and discuss important case law with the candidate.
- take the time!
- Leave more time at work for studying I got nothing apart from the first year.
- The high pass rate of the first pre-exam seems to have given some supervisors the misconception that the pre-exam is essentially a guaranteed pass and that little preparation is required. This is not the case. Furthermore, as the pre-exam is still in its infancy, there is far less awareness of its content and requirements, as compared to the main EQE exams, which means it is often difficult for supervisors to offer constructive advice on sitting the paper.
- I work for the EPO which means there is practically no support for preparing for the exam (which is really weird, I think it should be compulsory for examiners to pass it before we are allowed to work independently).
- Supervisors should be prepared to spend more dedicated time to help student prepare. Especially providing information like what would be a useful approach to the exams and tips on study material.
- Help them find useful courses. Everyday training is very important, but a basic introduction to the EPC is crucial and cannot be made on everyday basis.
- Fragen, die während der Vorbereitung auftreten und diskutieren. 2. ausgearbeitete Prüfungsarbeiten besprechen und korrigieren
- Lay off on the work load coming up the exams after Christmas.

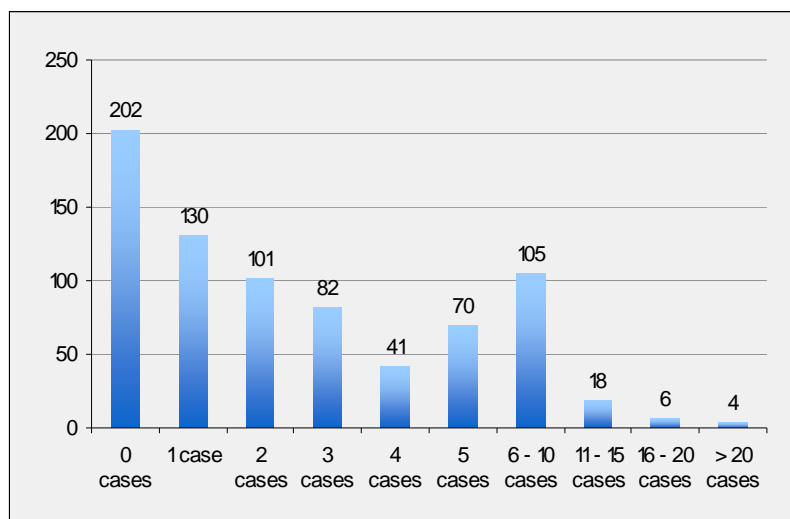
- share their experiences of the daily job with the candidate
- Have candidate answer at least one legal question per week starting right at the beginning of the training. Discuss proper approach to papers in the first instance and let candidate prepare an outline of a proper response/opposition using guidelines, online training material etc. for review by trainer.
- Questions 16-22 do not apply to me, being an EPO examiner
- Intensive practical training (writing applications, writing appeals..., writing oppositions) during through 3 years of training.
- Company required learning during week-end and spare time. No support during working time.
- To have up-to-date knowledge on the kind of questions currently asked in the exams and, thus, to be realistic with regard to the time required for training in order to pass the exams.
- for Q 19 and 20, it was not necessary for me to attend the course and thus did not ask the employer.
- My supervisor is not focused on the preparation for the EQE.
- I appreciated my Supervisor making himself available to answer questions or help with topics on which I had got "stuck" during my personal preparation. It wasn't always possible, but being able to discuss with my Supervisor on a day to day basis and promptly when questions arose was an advantage. I also found it helpful that my Supervisor related real situations in our work to the EQE, making sure that I understood why we do things the way we do.
- I do not know!
- I did not have dedicated EQE training in-house, but off-course I did have close collaboration and training to be a patent attorney and have very good training in that respect during the last 5 years now for the EQE and how to train specifically for paper D, I took courses.
- Give the sufficient time off to study.
- Have a structured course to follow over a defined period. Cover the fundamentals of the EPC and PCT, highlighting where equivalent Articles/Rules etc. are. Practice questions.
- Not applicable (working at the EPO)
- It's impossible for me to give these amounts and percentages, as it hasn't been so much reserved training dates or hours but discussions on legal issues, asking for advice on studying and clarifications when I have had some problems I haven't figured out myself. So it has been more on the need basis and very difficult for me to track or estimate.
- More study leave...
- Allow own studies (reading) for the candidate to be able to enter deeply into the subject. Correct old examination papers, and discuss.
- -
- define a retro-planning with goals and milestones, and review it quarterly
- **START STUDYING CASES AND COMPENDIUM ONE YEAR BEFORE SITTING THE EQE**
- give them time, not to much work the last 6 months up to exam
- Help to prepare a study plan, and summarize the subject with the candidate
- start dealing with exam questions early,
- Ensure candidates start reading and background preparation as early as possible.
- Up-to-date bleiben mit dem aktuellen Prüfungsmodus und den aktuellen Anforderungen; realistisch sein
- In CH, no private practice, nor PME have time to spend to educate or train candidate....It is more "learn by practice" and use your brain and what you learn during lectures/courses.
- Give them time to study and perform some mock papers, be available for clarification and exemplification of particular cases
- ?
- Offer candidates time to prepare, don't wait for the candidates to have to approach the supervisor to ask for time off.
- For industry candidates in addition to writing patent appl., answering to office actions and dealing with (a very small number must also be increased) of oppositions the topics of

dealing with a typical D2-issue must be incorporated into the learning process, which is as to my experience not the case up to now.

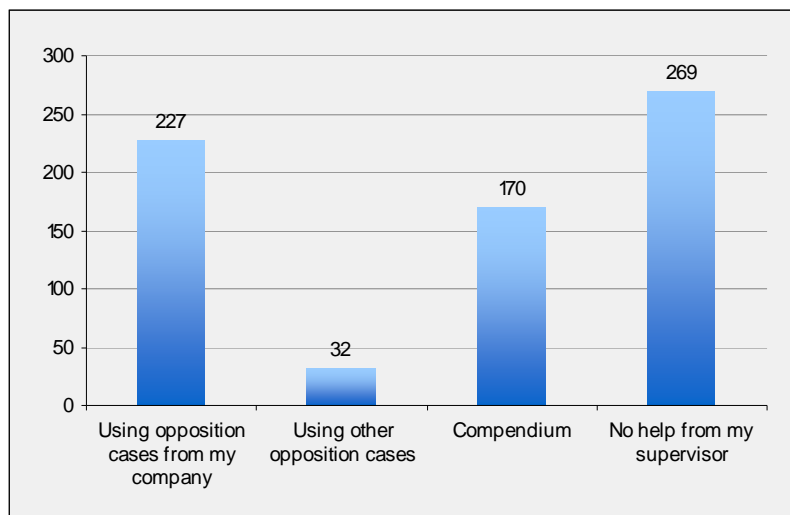
- Again, supply the candidate with enough relevant work for example Paper A -lots of patent drafting Paper B lots of office actions. Thereafter do the compendium.
- Attend Oral Proceedings in Opposition and Appeal
- Being an EPO examiner, the above questions do mostly not apply for me.
- Due to low cases from the Polish companies that are pending in EPO it is very rare to be able to file opposition for EP patent.
- regelmäßig Besprechung von alten Aufgaben, vor allem Fragen des D-Teils
- I only got some general input regarding EPÜ and PCT no dedicated training for EQE. Real life has nothing to do with EQE. So good support is only possible, if your supervisor sits the exam within the last 5 years. Otherwise it is too far away for him/her.  
leave more time for personal preparation.
- More time for study, both individually and in group meetings during work hours.
- At least a week of preparation before the EQE and financial support for courses/books.
- To take this qualification/examination seriously and give the necessary support to the candidate.
- TO more closely involve candidates into unusual procedures as opposition and appeal,
- Give time to understand what has to be individually learned
- Spend time on candidates...
- At least some working time for preparation would be fine.
- Fix days for the preparation and reduce the work load.
- Have a structured exam preparation scheme and stick to it. Just giving your trainee case work is insufficient. A few basic exam technique tips are not enough.
- Allow them to pass the exam to improve their knowledge of EPC, not the contrary. Provide related work.
- Ein Supervisor, der vor langer Zeit seine EQE gemacht hat, kann wenig weiterhelfen. Außer einem allgemeinen Verständnis fürs EPÜ und die patentrechtliche Praxis, kann er für die Prüfung nicht helfen. Die EQE hat nichts mit der Praxis zu tun.
- allow and pay special courses
- More interaction between candidate and supervisor. Supervisor should invest more time. Regular meetings and discussion of the law and important aspects over the three years.
- Try to dig everything to "your" candidate in the beginning, and let him/her take more initiative on a later stage.
- involve us more in filing EP applications or other filings
- To give a more detailed insight into the relation between the actual patent work and the theory which is the basis for the EQE.
- to start in early summer with focussed questions and explanations, as well as proposals for supporting materials
- Give candidates time off for the preparation and don't drown them in work!
- Trying to resolve more legal questions instead of giving an overview
- take time to review more extensively, explain case law better
- Practice questions are the best way to prepare for the Pre-examination, but they must be set by current/former questions setters so that any ambiguity in the interpretation of a question does not impact on a candidate's score.
- -
- In fact, I passed A and B in 2008. Since 2011 I am preparing EQE without my supervisor
- experience and motivation to spend a lot of time for self study is required
- Force candidates to do EPO Compendium's in-house during or after working hours. And then, if possible, correct it together with the supervisors.
- Wide knowledge of the pre-examination is limited so I would suggest a mailer to supervisors letting them know of the format of the exam.
- SPEND TIME WITH THEIR PEOPLE AND TAKE TIME TO EXPLAIN
- Work on D questions together once a week over a long period

- spent time for supervision at all
- I am working at the EPO. The questions do not really fit.
- enough time for training
- Being a supervisor means that you have to supervise or at least do some mentoring.
- Proactive participation would be much appreciated.
- Support long term preparation for EQE

**Q23) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-year 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.**

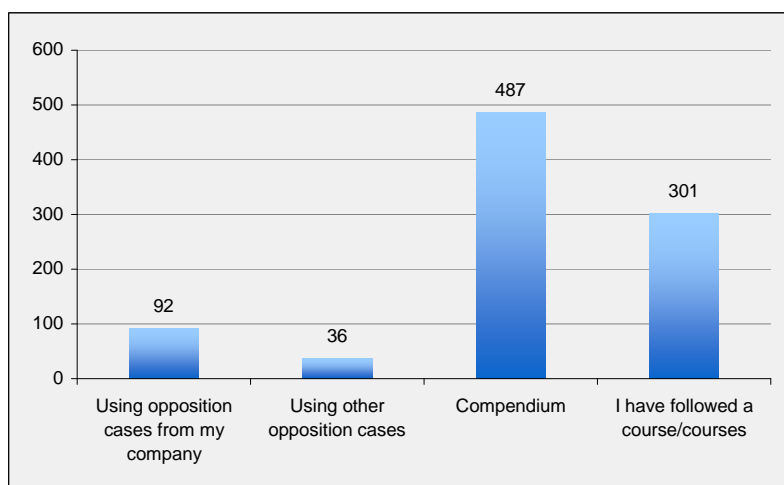
- Actual experience from real life oppositions is detrimental for passing the C paper
- N.A.
- I did the pre-exam
- I haven't prepared for C yet
- No paper C
- I have not yet sat paper C
- I didn't attend Paper C exam this year
- I did the pre-exam that is for next year

- n.a.
- Although I have learnt a lot about opposition due to being involved in a significant number of oppositions/attending numerous oral proceedings there was never any aspect of applying this specifically for the eqe i.e. methodology, practicing papers etc.. which I did in my own time. I did learn a lot about the problem solution approach, novelty and claim interpretation through attending oral proceedings and when drafting numerous oppositions.
- N/A
- not attended
- He offered several times, but I preferred to do it myself, when I was ready for it.
- Actual oppositions
- some advices
- not applicable for pre-exam
- Personal tricks for finding closest prior art.
- I did not sit paper C
- only did pre-eqe
- N/A
- Read exam papers that I had practised and gave feedback.
- N/A
- not relevant
- i didn't pass C
- Does not apply
- Went through past papers
- no supervisor
- Pre EQE
- on my own
- na
- pre exam
- passed previous year
- N/A
- I only wrote B
- N/A
- Not relevant yet, only did pre-exam
- does not apply
- No Supervisor
- validity assessments during normal work
- Not yet written
- I did not take paper C.
- I did it on my own as employee
- Not taken paper C
- question not applicable for Pre-EQE
- Only pre-examination, so no paper C
- n.a.
- not part of the training yet
- I only wrote Paper A
- Explaining from his experience from private practice regarding oppositions.
- did not sit C
- n.a. (preEQE)
- Did not attend the C-paper
- did not sit
- Correction of one old paper C
- I attended the Pre-examination
- I was the only assistant in many oppositions
- Training for Paper C now



- Did not sit
- I did not sit for paper a
- N/A
- n/a
- I did not do paper C yet
- one old C paper under "exam conditions"
- general training, and ex-house courses
- Not applicable (working at the EPO)
- In-house trainings course
- payed for a privat tutor
- Discussions
- no paper c: pre-examination
- I have not yet attended paper C
- durfte Einsprüche in der Kanzlei bearbeiten
- not relevant for pre-eqe
- I did not train for paper C
- Deltapatents C course in 2010
- did not train for paper C yet
- pre-EQE done only
- n/a
- I have not yet taken paper C
- N. A.
- sans objet (pré-examen)
- I didn't sit paper C
- I only took the pre-examination
- No need for the Pre Exam
- not applicable
- n/a
- working on a case using former case files
- I just had to work on some opposition cases and learn from them
- C not done yet
- not relevant, since I am a multiple resitter !!

**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:**

- DeltaPatents C-course
- Correction paper C by Deltapatents
- I did the pre-exam
- see above
- no paper C
- I have not yet sat paper C
- Not yet
- I didn't attend Paper C exam this year
- N/A will write next year
- n.a.
- C-book for methodology and general technique.
- N/A
- not sitted
- Not prepared yet
- C-book
- Using the C-book + CEIPE course (Strasbourg) + compendium past papers
- Actual oppositions
- I did not get to that stage yet
- Delta Patents and Chadler's Book
- C-book
- not applicable for pre-exam
- I did not sit paper C
- c-book
- only did pre-eqe
- N/A
- I have read Singer/Stauder.
- not applicable
- I took the pre-exam...
- N/A
- not relevant
- i didn't pass C
- Used the C book and past papers
- Pre EQE
- C-Book (excellent!)
- na
- pre exam
- advice from succ. candidate, because CEIPI method is sure to kill you in the exam
- passed previous year
- C book
- N/A
- I only wrote B
- N/a
- i havent sit paper c
- practice exam with a colleague
- Not relevant yet, only did pre-exam
- I did not prepare paper C
- Chandler
- C book
- Reading real opposition cases, Case Law
- Not yet written

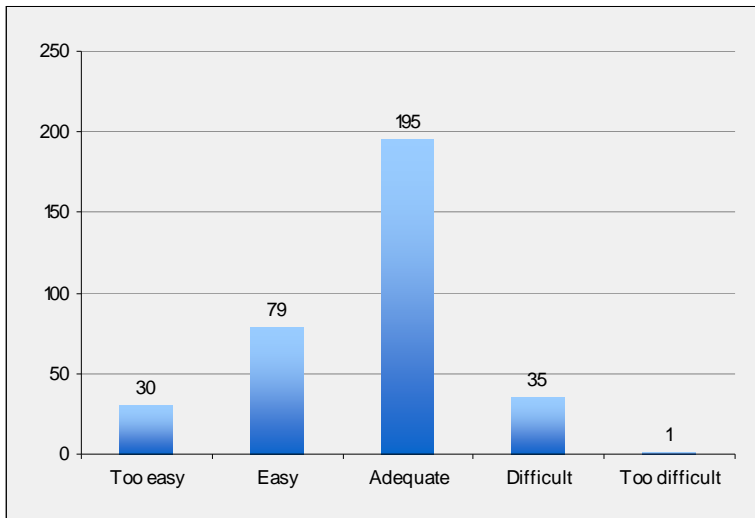
- I did not studi for paper C
- I did not take paper C.
- Internal tutorials, not from supervisor
- discussion with a friend/EPA
- Not taken paper C
- Ceipi seminar
- question not applicable for Pre-EQE
- C-Book
- ceipi course
- studing with other candidates
- n.a.
- C-book
- none
- I only wrote Paper A
- studying the C-book
- did not sit C
- CEIPI-Seminar on C in 2012
- n.a. (preEQE)
- Did not attend the C-paper
- did not sit
- EQE autumn tutorial
- I attended the Pre-examination
- I competed a past paper and had it marked by a recently qualified attorney (not my supervisor) at my firm
- Will attend a Ppaer C course this year
- in house course
- I will follow a course
- I did not sit for paper a
- N/A
- n/a
- no preparation I was successful, though
- CEIPI Book-a-tutor
- I have not yet prepared for paper C
- Past paper practice
- not yet
- CEIPI C book
- DeltaPatent course and privat tutor
- NaN
- methodology book C delta patents
- book-a-tutor
- Delta Patents books
- c-Book
- CEIPI Preparation
- no paper c: pre-examination
- I have not yet attended paper C
- "EQE has nothing to do with real life"
- not relevant pre-eqe
- I did not prepare for paper C
- pre-examination, no papaeC prepared
- did not rain for paper C yet
- Old papers
- pre-EQE done only
- EQE model solutions by DeltaPatents

- n/a
- C-Book und Delta-Patents Course
- C-Book
- I have not yet taken paper C
- N. A.
- C book
- C-Book
- sans objet (pré-examen)
- took pre-exam, didn't prepare for paper C
- I have not yet prepared for C
- I didn't sit paper C
- I will follow courses.
- see above
- No need for the Pre Exam
- not applicable
- ASPI (France)
- C-Book
- n/a
- NO SUPERVISOR MENTORING
- discuss with other candidates
- CEIPI C-book
- CEIPI C-Book
- C-Book
- Studying a lot, for example with the c-book
- C not done yet
- Attending a group tutorial held by a colleague

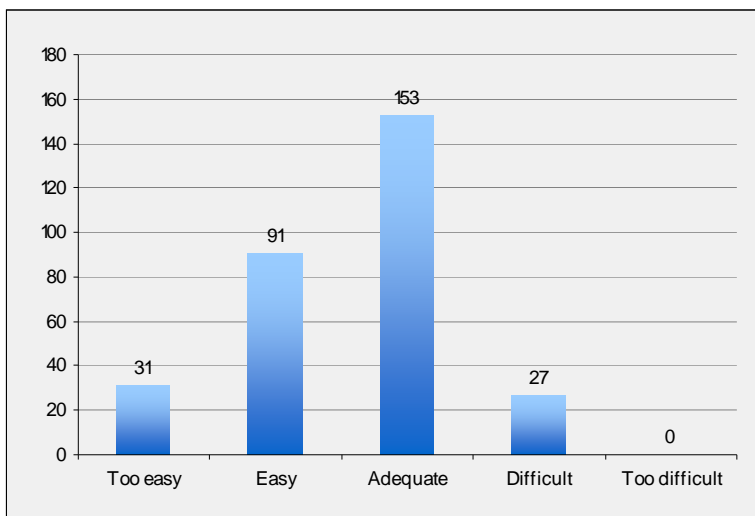
## Chapter 4 - EQE papers

### Q26) EQE papers - Please rate the difficulty of the examination papers you sat in 2013

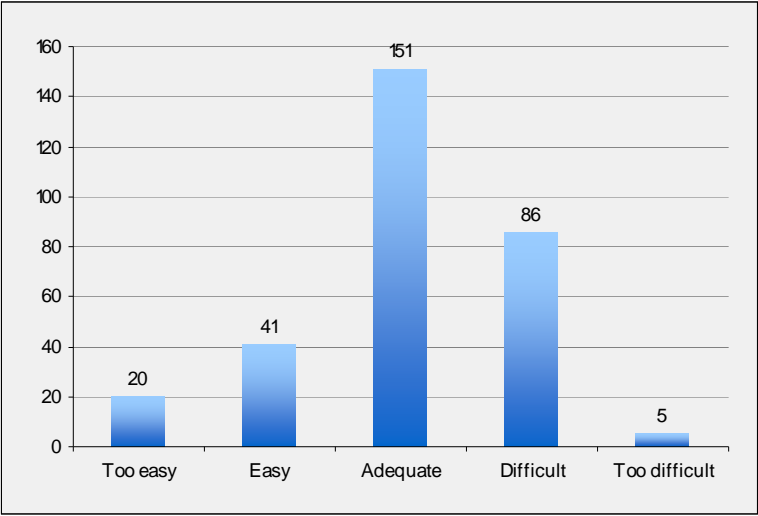
Pre-examination as a whole



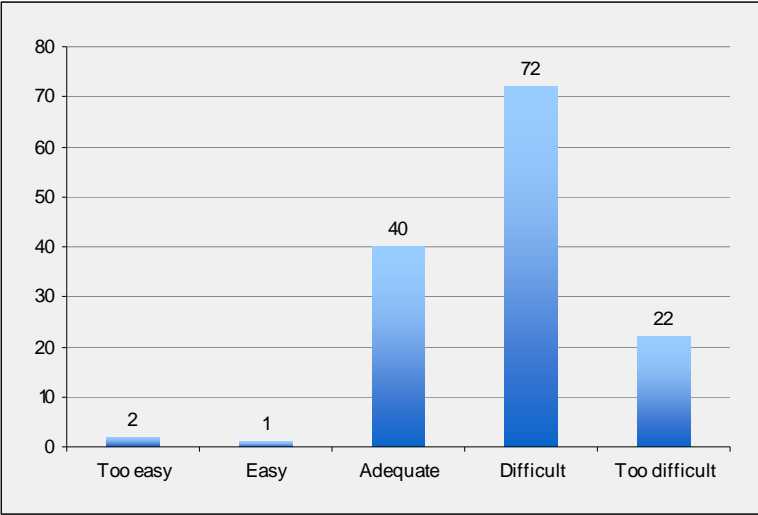
Pre-examination (legal questions)



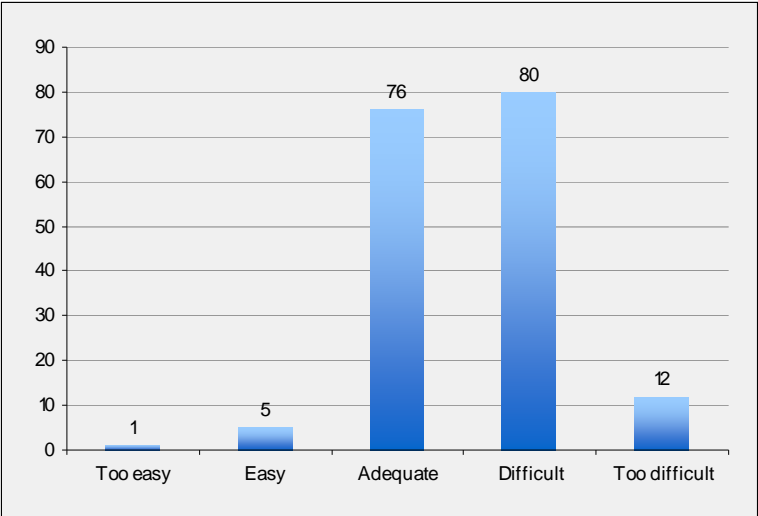
Pre-examination (claim analysis)



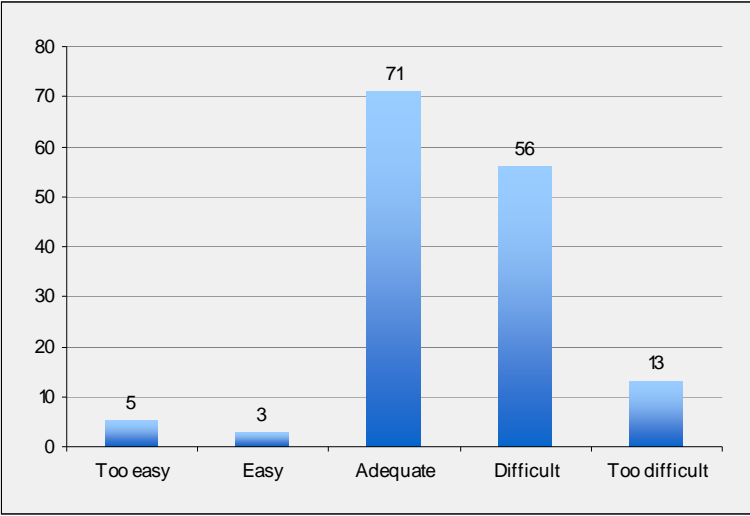
Paper A (Ch)



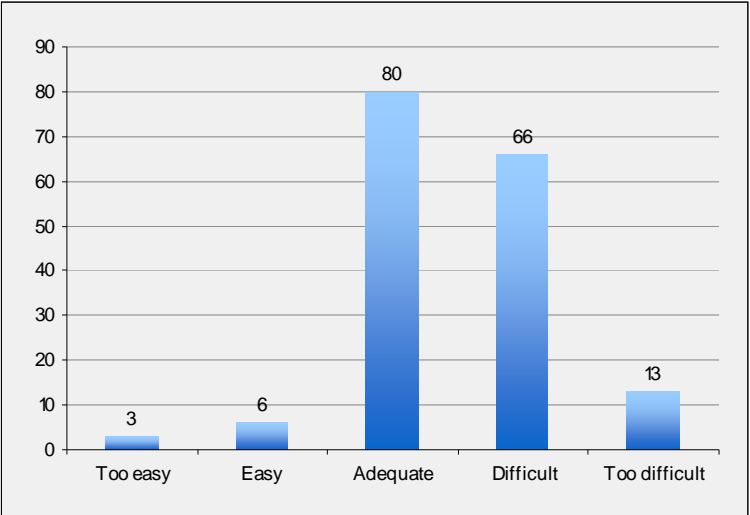
Paper A (E/M)



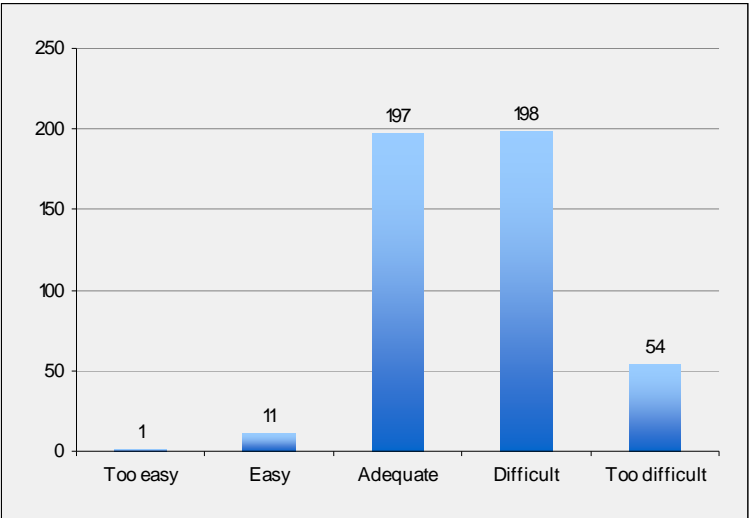
Paper B (Ch)



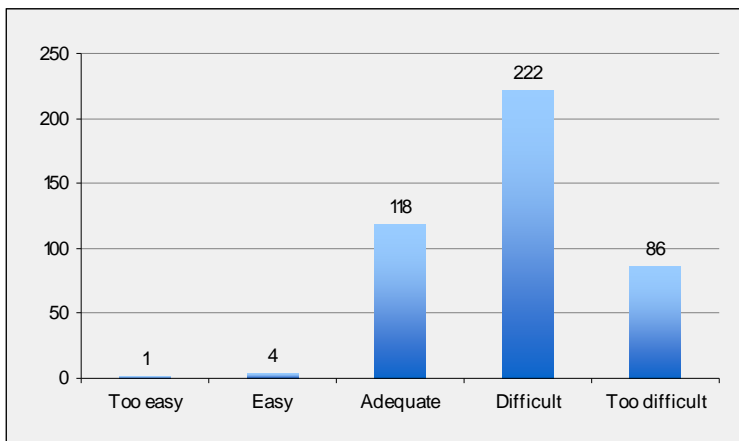
Paper B (E/M)



Paper C



## Paper D



**Q27) If you sat the pre-examination:**

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

- medicine
- Mechanics
- electronics
- biochemistry
- Electronics
- chemistry
- chemistry
- chemistry
- Chemistry
- chemistry
- Chemistry
- electronics
- telecommunications
- physics
- telecommunications
- chemistry
- Biology
- electronics
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- physics
- Physics
- physics
- chemistry
- chemistry
- mechanical engineering
- electronics, mechanics, physics
- pharmaceutical sciences
- electronics
- physics



- Mechanics
- physics
- biotechnology
- Computer science
- Telecom
- material science
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- Physics
- biotechnology
- biochemistry
- Mechanics
- electronics, mechanics, physics
- mechanics
- Physics, Electronics and Mechanics
- Electronics
- biotechnology
- Electronics, biomedical
- biotechnology
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- electrotechnics
- Chemistry
- mechanics and electronics
- physics
- physics
- mechanics
- physics
- Biotechnology
- biophysics
- Biotechnology
- Telecom
- biotechnology
- Computer Engineering
- Biotechnology
- electronics
- Physics
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- mechanics
- Biotechnology
- electronics
- Material Science
- electronics
- Physics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- physics/electronics
- Physics
- physics
- Physics
- chemistry

- physics
- physics
- electronics
- biology/mechanics
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- physics
- physics
- Electronics/physics
- Mech Eng
- electronics
- biotechnology
- engineering
- mechanics
- Physics
- physics
- physics
- Physics
- Pharmaceuticals
- mechanics
- electronics
- biology
- physics
- biotechnology
- Physics and electronics
- electronics
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- chemical (university) but mechanical (practice)
- biotechnology
- Generalist -mechanics, physics, electronics
- physics
- mechanics
- Applied mathematics
- Materials Science
- mechanics
- mechanics
- chemistry
- Physics
- chemistry
- Mechanical
- engineering
- Mechanics
- electronics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- chemistry
- Physics
- Biotechnology
- physics
- electrical engineering
- chemistry
- pharmacy chemistry biotechnology

- Biochemistry
- chemistry
- mechanics, electronics, optics
- chemistry
- Engineering
- physics
- Physics and chemistry
- Physics
- telecomms
- Industrial biotechnology
- Mechanics
- physics
- mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- electronics
- physics
- civil engineer
- computers
- physics
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- materials and chemistry
- Physics
- Chemistry
- electronics
- Chemistry
- physics
- Mechanical engineering
- Chemistry
- chemistry
- Electronics
- electronics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- physics
- electronics
- Software & mechanics
- chemistry synthetic organic, pharmaceutical, analytical
- chemistry
- Dipl.-Ing.
- physics
- Biotechnology
- biotechnology
- Mechanics
- mechanics
- Electronics
- mechanics
- Computers
- Mechanics
- Biotechnology, chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry

- mechanics
- physics
- biology
- biology
- mechanics
- mechanics
- mechanics
- maths
- biochemistry
- electronics
- Mechanics
- electronics
- chemistry
- Mechanics
- physics
- biochemistry
- electronics
- physics
- physics
- biotech
- Mechanics, Physics
- Mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- Electrical engineering
- biotechnology
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- mechanics
- biochemistry
- chemistry
- electronics
- chemistry
- chemistry
- biotechnology
- materials sciences
- Electronics
- biotechnology
- physics
- mechanics
- physics
- Mechanics
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- Mechanics
- mechanics
- chemistry
- Material science
- chemistry
- physics
- chemistry
- Mechanist
- physics

- Biotechnology
- Biology/biotechnology
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- Chemistry
- electronics
- chemistry
- chemistry
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- Biotechnology
- mechanics
- biotech
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- physics
- biotech
- Mechanics
- process engineering
- mechanics
- mechanics
- Biotechnology
- mechanic
- Physical Chemistry
- chemistry
- chemistry
- Physics
- Biotechnology
- physics
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- Computing Science
- biotechnology
- not applicable
- Biotechnology
- mechanics
- Aerospace engineering
- Computer Science
- Mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- chemistry
- Biotechnology/Chemistry
- physics
- chemistry
- biotechnology, chemistry
- chemistry
- mechanics
- mechanics
- Telecommunication
- Biotechnology and chemistry

- chemistry
- Mechanics&electronics
- pharmaceuticals
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- mechanical engineering
- chemistry
- biology
- mechanics
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- physics
- Electronics, Mechanics and Physics
- chemistry
- Biotechnology
- physics
- biotechnology
- pharmacy
- mechanics
- Physics
- Biotechnology
- mechanics
- electrical
- mechanics/ civil engineering
- biochemistry
- Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Biology
- electronics
- biotech and chemistry
- biotechnology
- electronics
- physics
- mechanics, electronics, physics
- biotechnology
- Biotechnology
- physics
- biotechnology
- Civil engineer
- Physics, Mechanics
- Mechanical Engineering
- mechanics and electronics
- chemistry
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- mechanics and electronics
- CHEMISTRY
- electronics
- Chemistry
- physics
- chemical engineering

- Physics
- mechanics
- mechanics
- bioengineering
- Mechanics
- Chemistry
- chemistry
- I did not sit pre-examination
- mechanics
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- Mechanics
- Biotechnology
- chemistry
- Physics
- Msc EE
- mechanics
- Biotechnology
- Electronics
- biochemistry
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- electronics
- Mechanics
- chemistry
- Mechanics
- mechanics
- Mechanical Engineering
- physics
- Electronics
- mechanics
- Electronics / Telecommunication
- chemistry
- electronics
- biotechnology
- Physics
- electronics
- Electronics
- electronics
- chemistry
- Chemistry
- electronics
- mechanics
- electronics, photonics
- electronics
- biotechnology
- mechanics
- physics
- Electronics
- chemistry
- Chemistry

- biotechnology
- Electronics, Physics & Mechnanics
- Physics
- Physics
- chemistry
- Chemistry
- mechanics
- Chemistry
- electronic
- mechanics
- mechanics
- mechanics and chemistry
- Biotechnology
- électronique, mécanique, physique, optique
- materials science
- physics
- Biotechnology
- chemistry
- electronics
- mechanics
- biotechnology
- chemistry
- Biotechnology
- mechanics
- chemistry
- Mechanics
- (bio)chemistry
- Chemistry
- process technology
- Biotechnology
- physics
- Physics
- electronics
- Electronics and mechanics
- Chemistry
- telecommunications
- chemistry
- electronics
- mechanics
- physics
- electronics
- Biotechnology
- biotechnology
- physics
- Electronics
- electronics
- biotechnology
- physics
- electrical engineering
- mechanics
- electronics
- mechanics
- physics



- mechanics
- chemistry
- physics
- chemistry
- biotechnology
- physics
- physics
- Physics
- physics
- electronics
- electronics
- Mechanics
- mechanics
- chemistry
- mechanics
- physics
- Electronics
- electronics
- chemistry
- biochemical process engineering
- Chemistry/microbiology
- physics
- mechanics
- Mechanics
- electronics
- mechanics

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

- I do not know of any marking scheme. The instructions to candidates are often not in line with what is expected by candidates. For example, the candidates are instructed to stick to the information given in the paper. Nevertheless, last year candidates were expected to assume a PCT application had entered the EPO to form a prior art document according to A54(3).
- It is very difficult to understand how marks are given especially in paper C. In the examiner's report after the exam, it would be nice to see exactly what gave the points or made the candidate losing/not getting them instead of just saying "argumentation 30 points" "use of information 25 points". This is pretty useless.
- Since the claims proposed by the clients are no help but are only confusing, one has to draft the claims nearly completely alone. For this, the time is far too short! One hour is required for reading, 1.5 hours for writing, so only 30 min are left for the claims. I would be highly interested to know how this should work out? In no paper of 2012, I had any problems with the time and passed A, C and D. But this time was too short!
- Everything is very well doable in the time given
- I do not think the weighted marking scheme is necessary. I do not think for most of the questions there were 2 "easy" questions and 2 "difficult" questions so a marking scheme based on the principle of that does not seem sensible. I spend more time on the claim analysis questions.
- I enjoyed the claim analysis part because it related to an everyday item and it was easy to understand what was doing what. I spent more or less the same time doing each part of the exam.
- all very clear, I found the claim analysis questions much better than any questions of previous or mock-exams

- This year i expected a shorter paper D. In particular, a shorter paper D-I. To my surprise I found many questions and even worse, having high marks each one (no questions of 4 points). In my opinion, it was impossible to answer them in 2 h time (as suggested for many tutors to achieve managing this year new schedule of time). For D-II, I noticed so much information that I got really nervous (is a question of being time pressed).
- very clear
- Obviously the system is designed to prevent any accountability of the correctors. Even if one knows the correct answers it is a complete game of chance whether the exam is passed or not. This is scandalous.
- Fine
- Time is not an issue in pre-examination. A bigger compendium with better explained reasons on why T/F might help future candidates understand how the examiners want you to reply those questions where there is no clear T/F answer.
- Claim analysis usually takes more time. On the other hand I wouldn't suggest to rush during legal part since it's easier to get points in this part. I think time is enough. There will be no need to hurry up for most of the candidates.
- Time management is too difficult. Basically I know the attacks and style how to proceed those but it takes always too long time to wrote them. Handwriting is difficult and is that how appropriate in modern world? Actually, the EQE is the only thing in connection with I write by hand!!!
- The instructions for pre-examination were very clear
- I discovered a translation mistake /inconsistency in one claim. The answer to the respective question would have been different taking either the EN/FR or the DE version into consideration. I asked the supervisor which claim wording I was supposed to take as a basis for answering the question, but I was merely told that "I should answer the qeustion in the way I understand it." I found this reply highly dissatisfactory, and I think it is inadequate, for very obvious reasons, that a translation mistake arises in the EQE.
- There was more than enough time for the paper I had been through all of the questions twice in 2.5 hours. I probably spent equal time on legal questions and claim analysis questions. Some of the claim analysis questions were a bit subjective, and it is unclear what criteria are used to mark them. Eg for the question on inventive step arguments, it is not clear whether the statement given should form a complete inventive step argument, or merely be a suitable part of an inventive step argument.
- instructions clear. i spent less time on legal questions (about 1h45) than on claim analysis i think claim analysis are harder because they can be argued most of the time and i did not find clear what position was expected.
- I got used to studying legal questions without citing the legal basis and when I began studying for paper D, I really had a hard time finding the legal basis, although I knew the answer.
- Everything was clear
- The average high number of marks required per question in DI came a bit as a shock, and was clearly different from the previous years. NONE of my colleagues were able to finish in DI in 2h (40pts DI)!
- OK
- More details on marking should be provided in the compendium. What is being looked for? How are marks allocated?
- Claim analysis is not suitable for a TRUE/FALSE answer scheme, as in several cases good arguments as to why a statement may be true or false can be found. It should be made sure that the answers are absolutely unambiguous, no matter how long you think about them, or it should be allowed to submit reasoning as to why an answer was chosen and full marks should be awarded for a valid argument and the corresponding answer.
- Everything fine!
- the claims very unclear and several things could be interpreted...
- claim analysis was certainly more difficult -maybe even ambiguous than legal questions
- time spent on legal questions: about 40%, time spent on claim analysis questions: about

60% Some of the questions could have been formulated more clearly.

- Spent 1,5h on legal part and 2h on claim analysis, which was sufficient.
- The paper required a lot more analysis than previous years
- for marking of the claims in A the examiner should behave like in reality, that means to read the claim completely in the context, and not to mark features as isolated. In reality you would receive an office action because of lacking clarity, in EQE you will lose 30 points because of lacking novelty, because the examiner doesn't read the context.
- The legal questions were generally clear, but several of the claim analysis questions were too subjective to effectively answer using a multiple choice format (that is, a format where it is not possible to convey reasoning to the examiner).
- Too easy to lose marks in the claims section because of one error in one question which then meant that, due to being consistent, the other questions were also wrong... this chain meant that due to one fundamental error significant points could be lost. Why not test different abilities rather than test the same point multiple times. Chemists are at a disadvantage in the pre-exam, since E-M based claims are analysed
- I used an HB pencil to fill the circles on the answer sheet. But by darkening the circle completely it was impossible to completely remove false answer markings. Perhaps it would have calmed down my nerves if I knew whether the answer sheets are evaluated manually by people or electronically by a computer. Everything else was fine.
- A = 45 minutes reading the papers; 1 hour drafting claim 1; 1,25 hours drafting the independent claims as well as reading the client letter again; 30 minutes for writing the description; B = 1 hour or 1 hour 30 minutes for the claims and the rest for the letter to the epa C = hard to tell, but do not use the claim feature matrix! Do not write anything from the patent down anywhere which you cannot put into your envelope; D = 2 hours or 2 hours 15 minutes for DI. Do not stop DI if you know the answers. Rest for DII. Use a timeline in DII with different colours for your patent situation and the opponent. Write everything in that timeline (features, etc.)
- None
- Time spent: 50 % on legal questions, 50 % on claim analysis Difficult to mark the answer sheet with enough black fills (even when using the required HB pencil).
- Ok
- instructions and marking scheme are clear, as well as the answer sheet. I more or less spent 1h15 for legal questions, and 2h for claim analysis. Note that claim analysis were difficult and comprised the letter of the client + 4 priority documents. It's a lot
- Claim analysis too focused on a couple of points(wheras a network of channels constitutes a channel or not) which is, in real practice arguable. Too much weight given to this.
- time management for paper D very difficult, the same number of points as in previous years, but in six questions, therefore, very problematic how to proceed for DII and DI Questions of DI comprise more text than previous ones, Thus, takes more time to read and makes questions more difficult to understand even when they not difficult.
- The instructions were adequate
- Some questions were worded ambiguously. The claim construction questions were too subjective. For some of the answers there were arguments for both "True" and "False". These were not appropriate for a "T" and "F" type exam because you cannot explain your reasoning.
- New B was technically quite easy....but it must be done very quick. So you are not always so thoughtful. I suggest no candidate should answer in their native language to make the test more equal (at least when there is time pressure).
- Very difficult at the exam to guess which sub questions to focus on (where and how to score the points)
- 1,5h legal questions 2,5 claims analysis
- the most important topic were the 2011 mock exams and the 2012 exam. Those helped to become familiar. Everything else followed from there.
- I would have preferred a claim analysis inherent to my chemistry background.
- Some of the questions appeared to contain ambiguities, although not so as to provide cause

for concern. Perhaps the language could be tightened next year. Yes/no questions are a rather odd way to interrogate candidates knowledge of inventive step issues.

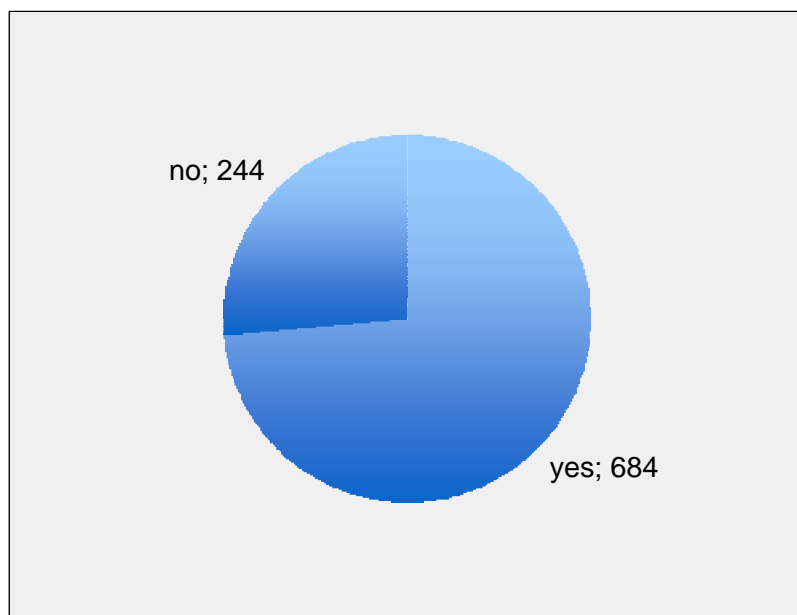
- for a firm analysis the time was just not sufficient
- Instructions are clear, duration is adequate.
- instructions to candidate at the time of the exam: good marking scheme/answer sheet: easily comprehensible time spent 50% legal, 50% claim analysis I don't understand why I had to turn in all of the exam papers while other candidates could take them home
- I do not understand how the marking system works. That is not transparent, because it has not been opened anywhere. Not a very modern way of having an exam, and hopelessly frustrating when you do not know what went wrong.
- It was all very straightforward.
- ok
- Questions 1-10: 1 hour; Questions 11-20: 2 hours; Reviewing questions 1-10 and 11-20: 30 minutes each.
- Three si enologhe time to replay to all questions
- Very difficult not having idea of split of points in D-II
- it's clear
- I spent about 1 hour and a half on the leagal questions and the rest of the time on the claim analysis. For some of the claim analysis questions I could have argued either way so it was difficult to choose between true or false.
- Would be helpful to know how's my marks allocated for each section Of the paper
- Although prepared very well voor D1-type questions, it took me 30 minutes more than foreseen to handle D1. So for D2, I could not finish all I wanted to discuss. I would still prefer the old system, D1 / D2 with a break in between them.
- adequate comments
- (only attended A-paper)
- I haven't seen any instructions to candidates this year. I've heard they are usually sent to the candidates a few weeks before the exam but I didn't receive them. In this regard, I simply relied on previous instructions to candidates from the compendium. I haven't seen any marking scheme. Too wide margins in the answer sheet. However, maybe that's needed.
- Especially for the questions related to inventive step it is not clear to me which is the right answer. In my view, there is no sharp YES/NO response possible these questions are good candidates for written explanations like in parts A D.
- 5 hours time for the amount to work on was much too less for papers C and D.
- In Teil DII werden die erzielbaren Punkte für jede einzelne Unteraufgabe nicht angegeben; da die Angabe der erzielbaren Punkte ein wichtiger Hinweis bzgl. des Timemanagements während der Prüfung ist, ist dies ein wesentlicher Mangel.
- no comment
- good
- OK. Paper B 2013 had a draft sheet for the claims. However, the claims seemed not to be of any help. So 3 hours was too short for answering it.
- Legal questions: about 35 minutes Claim analysis: about 70 minutes I'm not sure whether multiple choice is a suitable format for claim analysis questions, since for some questions multiple interpretations of terms were possible, so that both answers could have been argued for.
- Why could these not be read prior to the exam starting?
- instructions were ok \* marking scheme is such that you need to know more than half of the questions to pass, but is ok \* statements to be judged on were sometimes a bit unclear/ambiguous \* time was appropriate, I used it roughly 50/50 on legal questions and claim analysis
- I wasn't provided a copy of instructions to candidates in any exam, this would be nice to have it available to refer to.
- ok
- was all good!

- Claim analysis a bit ambiguous
- Legal questions were ok and in my opinion at a level suitable for pre-exam. In the claim analysis part, I felt there were too many statements that were contradictory or could be argued either way. In my opinion, it did not really measure very well the level of knowledge and preparation for the pre-exam. The time available was sufficient.
- It was definitely too short time for this exam.
- I dedicated 2 h on legal questions, 2 h on claim analysis
- On the answer sheet there was a field for signature. At the first sight, it was not clear to me whether I had to sign or if it was a field for the signature of the examiner how would have a look on my answers. The explanation was given just at the end of the exam when the candidates were told to sign the answer sheet. I've spent (wasted) some time to think about the signature.
- Fine, except: PLEASE provide each Annex stapled individually, it's a mess and gives irrelevant stress.
- Hard to answer claim analysis in true/false-scheme as there is room for interpretation.
- claim analysis was fine,
- Is there a marking scheme for alternative solutions (closest prior art problem)? Do they give no points? Some points? Sometimes some points?
- Instructions to the candidate: The invigilators should have been clearer in their verbal instructions just before start of the exam. This would take less than a minute and would greatly reduce confusion amongst the candidates about the following. \* whether to hand in the answer sheet or leave it on the desk (esp. when leaving early) Different candidates did different things. Whereas the Instructions to Candidates (Suppl to OJ EPO 12/2011, p. 41, Art 11) require explicit consent by the invigilators, the latter indicated generally just before the start that it was "simply allowed to leave" \* whether or not to put answer sheet back in plastic envelope The invigilator -when asked indicated to just leave the answer sheet on the desk (cf Suppl to OJ EPO 12/2011, p. 41, Art 18(b)), but on leaving said I should have put it in the plastic envelope \* whether or not it is allowed to take the paper (i.e. the questions) home. The invigilators indicated this was allowed only after 16pm, when I already left the hall. However, such instructions were not clear from the instructions in Suppl. to OJ EPO 12/2011.
- Good
- Legal questions roughly 1h30 Claim analysis roughly 2h30
- 1:45 for the legal questions and 1:30 for the claim analysis. Time is not a key element for the pre-examination.
- Claim analysis part was ambiguous.
- Instructions to the candidate, marking scheme, answer sheet, proportion of time spent on legal questions/claim analysis: Very good
- Instructions, marking scheme and answer sheet all clear and straightforward. Proportion of time spent on the legal questions: claim analysis questions was approximately 50:50.
- ok
- no comments, all good
- I spent 1,5h on the legal part, checking every legal basis twice in order to complete this part once for all. Then took 2h for the claim analysis part. Kept 0,5h to fill in the form and for a last overall check. 4h time seems to be a fair amount of time to reasonably complete the pre-exam.
- -
- It is not interesting to separate the problem data in several parts for DII, namely for the opposition action, completing at the end the fact that the patents were joined by fax. I read the last paragraph very quickly since I reach 1 h30 mn to analyze the problem / client instructions. This paragraph was very important and I did not consider it sufficiently. It is why I said that, it is not convenient to separate the information given on one action (client opposition)
- Perfectly clear
- okay

- I finished after around 2 and a half hours. Legal part was aimed correctly although far easier than the UK finals exams. The legal part was easier than the Claim analysis. The claim analysis seemed a bit too subjective for a true/false style exam, there often seem to be arguments either way for an answer, and no space to explain why.
- Very tight timings for the combined DI and DII
- In all the exam was of an easy/adequate difficulty, legal aspects were a little bit more complicated because it involved knowledge of Boards of Appeals decisions. Overall, I found that the difficulty was adequate so I had to start preparing the main examination for next year in advance.
- the answer sheet is too little in dimensions and there fore it is easy to make a mistake when marking the answer and if you need to erase the answer it is even more difficult not to make mistakes. Please for the future make it a little bigger with more space between dots.e been told that the exams. I did not have problems of time managing, the marking scheme is a little sever but I have heard that the exams are difficult so it is important to study.
- -
- The new times are not sufficient for paper B, C and D.
- Sufficient instructions. Legal questions (40%)/Claim analysis (60%)
- Still too many questions, some quite complicated, for DI. No time for answering and dealing with all of them.
- Roughly same proportion of time on legal/claims questions
- For marking scheme, answer sheet, proportion of time spent on legal questions / claim analysis, the time is adequate.
- Less time spent on legal questions than on claim analysis questions. A lot of the claim analysis questions were unclear and ambiguous. Plus, although the topic of the claim analysis questions was easy to understand, in my opinion people with a more technical background did have an advantage. Maybe it should be considered to differentiate between chemistry and mechanics in the pre-exam.
- I found the D2 type part of paper D 2013 very long, regarding the time available (typically not more than 3 hours; I spent about 2:30 on D1 and 2:30 on D2)
- legal questions: 80min claim analysis: 160min
- Very well organised and presented.
- regarding Paper A, I consider it a bit harsh to always give 0 points if an independent claim is regarded to lack novelty (for instance an inappropriately carried out selection invention) . If it is visible that the candidate has aimed at circumventing the prior art but made a mistake it is certainly not the same as just claiming the whole prior art without making any differentiation (the latter of course is indeed worth zero points only).
- no comments
- good
- there were few comments
- Clear instructions 1h40' for legal questions 2h00'for the claims 20' for review
- Instructions: ok, marking: ok, answer sheet: ok, proportions: ok However, I would personally prefer a non-multiple-choice scheme for the pre-exam, or at least one where you could provide comments to the examiners.
- None
- Good instructions 55% time for legal questions, 45% time for claim analysis questions
- It was not informed if you can remove the staples from the exam sheets, and after the exam started it was not possible to ask any more. It would have been easier to solve claim analysis part if the staple could be removed. Please indicate in the instructions whether if it is allowed or not.
- instructions were very clear, just was unclear wether or not you are allowed to take the papers with you (only if you stayed until the end) time spent about equally between legal and claim analysis
- A big chock that Paper B Chem comprised an extra claim-set. Very confusion to get at the very stressed moment of exam start. It could have been announced in advance.

- ok
- I started with claim analysis questions and after I did the legal questions, about 50% of the time for each part.
- Good
- I found the multiple choice answer sheet difficult to use. It was easy to accidentally fill in a T/F answer for the wrong part of a question.
- good
- The time spent on each section was about even and the instructions were clear and straightforward.
- I have spent more time than usual on legal part= around 2 h. I usually spend 1,5 h.
- adequate
- instructions were adequate
- It was not clearly stated the questions were not to be taken if you would leave early
- Not clear to what extent amendments should be made to claims provided by client in paper B.
- The legal questions were generally well written with little ambiguity, i.e. appropriate for an MCQ in which a candidate may indicate either True or False as their answer. The claim interpretation questions were clearly up for more interpretation than an MCQ allows.
- adequate
- -
- No surprises what was expected. It was good that paper D was handled in one exam
- There were no full mark candidates. I think some answers given by EPO are arguable.
- was o.k.
- no comment
- Paper B (E/M) wasn't as clear as expected about whether or not the claims presented by the client should be changed only if absolutely necessary or if reasonable.
- were ok
- ok
- Adequate
- Instructions were clear Not entirely clear how marks are allocated, particularly in DII I spent 40% time on DI, 60% on DII in accordance with mark scheme Paper C: I spent approx 2.5 hours analysing the claims and prior art, and approx 2.5 hours writing my answer
- Some of the claim analysis questions were not clear enough.

**Q28) Did you feel time pressure during the examination?**



## Q29) Comments concerning the difficulty of the EQE papers

- no comment
- The difficulty of the papers is to guess where the marks are to be collected.
- Difficulty is ok, but time is too short! One needs time to think the claims through and write the answer. It should not be a point of "who writes faster will pass"! Of course, every exam needs an end, but 3 hour is too less! It should have 3.5 hour at least!
- see above
- I guess the level of difficulty is justified, because some real life situations can be at the same high level of difficulty. But in real life it is possible to work for a longer time to solve such difficult problems. So I suggest that the EB should allow more time for exams in 2014.
- The difficulty lay completely in the lack of time, especially for the D-II part. I did not find the questions as such that difficult, and D-II content was quite straight forward but although I think I worked efficiently, due to lack of time, I found it impossible to follow my plan and write down all my important conclusions. While practicing on earlier D-II papers I had the time under control, but for this years paper my impression is that the amount of time required for completing the paper amount to approx. the same time required for last years paper which was also quite straight forward. I was well prepared for the EQE and still I am very uncertain about my result.
- pre-exam legal was quite easy. pre-exam claim analysis part contained too much room for multiple interpretations, so answering true/false was somewhat ambiguous.
- In the pre-exam I found parts of the claim analysis based on considering if an air channel/network of air channels was the most difficult part of the pre-exam. I also found the questions repeated several times, making it more difficult. I also think the technical effect/problem questions can be difficult as you do not get to justify your answer.
- Paper C was not in itself difficult, but the time pressure was immense (much more than the 6 hour past papers I did in preparation). I found the claims from the client misleading in Paper B I would have done better if I had ignored them. I didn't like the fact that D1 contained only 6 questions each worth quite a lot of marks this made the paper more difficult than past D1 papers because you can no longer afford to have a "weak" question.
- Paper B(E/M) was very strange... The draft of amended claims by the client contains amendments without underlines/cross. It seems there are differences between French and English/German subjects ("avec"->"ayant" / "having"->"having" / "mit"->"mit")...
- The difficulty feels quite accurate. The questions are often tricky, but relevant. The problem is the time pressure. I was happy to see that the invented subject matter of DII was simplified compared to many previous papers (i.e. 3D, cubic, hemispherical, etc). I think that the candidate shouldn't have to spend too much time sorting out subject matter. That is already tested in A, B and C.
- there was not time for D, expected answers were too long, no time for revising
- Level of difficulty not unreasonable, though especially for DI the variation of topics in a single question was disturbing. B paper chemistry: the claims of client didn't help at all especially in view of the amount of errors/traps included. A paper chemistry: inconsistent and difficult combination of essential features of invention. I liked the balance between mechanics/chemistry of this years C paper
- The pre-examination was more difficult than previous' year's exam and the mock-exams, partly due to some ambiguities in the questions and cases
- If what I have been doing is correct, it was not more difficult, than the years before.
- Pre-Examination : It is sometimes hard to respond by true or false to some questions of claim analysis.
- The pre-exam seemed to me a bit more difficult than last year's, but nevertheless not too difficult. I assume that its purpose is that candidates start preparing for the big papers (A,B,C,D) in more time than they would (maybe) otherwise.
- I sat paper D, and while I think the difficulty of the questions per se was not excessive, the combination of the topics that needed to be dealt with and the time limit was too much for me. I exceeded the budgeted time for DI part by an hour, as it was difficult to predict how



much had to be said in order to score adequate points. Consequently, even though recognising important points in DII, I did not have time to address them in my answer. As a whole, I felt like having to deal with the same amount of subjects as in the past, but in two hours less and without any break to recover from the effort required for DI. I didn't like the change. Hopefully, the amount of subjects to be addressed is adapted to the reduced amount of time in the future D papers.

- As for the level of difficulty of D and C papers the questions themselves I think they are generally fair. D being difficult given the time pressure A and B papers were too ambiguous as what the optimal claim delimitation should be (as always), which adds to the stress and losing time because of having to make decisions without being 100% sure. One might get to an answer which in real life would be completely acceptable but which does not give full marks. The marking on the problem solution approach as regards to paper A (as seen from the compendium), seems to be too strict, since mere alternatives which are not obvious or solving a problem which was not suggested by the client would be perfectly acceptable descriptions of the problem, but do not appear to deliver full marks.
- claim analysis questions are difficult because they don't lend themselves well to a t/f format.
- I found the claim analysis more difficult than the legal part. Certainly because mechanic is not my field.
- The A paper was particularly difficult this year I practiced numerous past papers (also under exam conditions) and felt that this years A paper was more difficult. The B paper I found reasonable. The C-paper would surely have a much higher pass rate if more time were allowed. I would have done a further auxiliary attack on claim 1 (with a alternative closest prior art) and completed an unfinished inventive step attack on claim 2.
- Time pressure was intense
- too little time
- Lots of questions where the answer appeared to be subjective/arguable. Question 4.4 was ambiguous and impossible to answer based solely on the text. Depending on the interpretation, the answer was either true or false.
- Paper B (E/M): I would have preferred not to have the amended claims from the client. The clients line of reasoning in his amendments was very unclear to me. Further the basis for the amendments were too hidden. Paper A (E/M): I could not find any drawbacks of D2, which made the paper too difficult.
- Pre-exam 2013 was more difficult than in 2012 and mock exams, but it is still way much easier than the D-I and D-II papers that I have performed as preparation for pre-exam.
- In fact although papers C and D seem having been adequate, I think the time was not adequat. I really felt time pressure during the exam
- In D (part I), the PCT questions were long, came at the end of the section and carried the most points
- For the pre-exam claim analysis part some questions were a little bit tricky. I realized them during the exam but had to choose one way to interpret the claims. If I think that way answer was false and this way true. Actually it wasn't my expectation for a pre-exam. I expected much straight-forward questions.
- Paper C: Although there number of claims and the number of annexes was smaller, the annexes were longer than before. There was too much information to handle in 5 hours. In particular, the longer documents each contained a lot of different teachings/advantages/disadvantages, so it was much more difficult to select the correct ones for the necessary attacks.
- in the C-paper: for a 5hr exam there was too much information in terms of effects and references to third documents to be analyzed and there were too many possible attacks, in my opinion. There seemed to be at least as many attacks as in 2012, which was a 6hr paper, and most attacks were inventive step attacks, which take much time to formulate. so compared to 2012, I perceived the difficulty as another level up, again, mainly due to the shorter duration of the exam.
- For pre-examination, ambiguity of some affirmations are difficult to overcome. I mean for example question 20, with 123(2) issues: I'm the patentee, I'm able to defend them I'm the

opponent, I'm able to attack them in both case with an articulate reasoning. The pre-examination system is way too manichaeian. Too far from real world, too examination-oriented.

- The questions of the legal part where clear, however sometimes quite difficult requiring in depth investigation in the EPC, others where straight forward resulting in an overall fluctuating level of difficulty. The questions on claim interpretation where sometimes vague an ambiguës to what answers where sought. However, I liked the fact that the case on the wine cork was clearly structured, not involving too much reading and understanding of difficult technical consepts, such that more time and focus could be spent on the questions.
- The difficulty seems appropriate but this is difficult to judge at this stage without knowing what the Examiner's expected in the answers in order to get sufficient marks.
- Too many details to process in C-part within too little time Not clear how many details I shall discuss in the D-Part II
- Time pressure if too much of a selection factor. I'd prefer to be juged on more complex cases, but much more time available. A(CH) was overloaded with a lot of information probably too much, while B did not have enough information and as a result, there was no real surprise as to where to find a hidden information.
- Paper A and B were indisputably not appropriate this year for sorting out candidates suitable for practicing as European Patent Attorney. They were way too complicated and they seem to be intended to confuse the candidates.
- If you cut the time of the exam, then cut also the volume of the paper. Cutting time but leaving the volume of the papers nearly as it was in the last years is not fair.
- Paper DI was too much compared with the points ine can get. Just deleting two questions and shortening the examination time to 5 hours seems to be unfair.
- Documents are too long
- The preparation I did for the paper consisted of doing the mock and sample papers, and collating any documents I needed to answer those papers to take into the exam. I didn't find it necessary to do any intensive revision for this exam the style and difficulty of the exam meant that it wasn't necessary.
- Too many documents and "funny" tricks
- The level of paper A seemed equal to last years papers. B was totally confusing, I did not think the amended claims would send us into such a wrong direction and lead to a huge loss of time doubting about the solution. I think this is an unrealistic situation, and the aim of paper B should still be to check whether candidates can come up themselves with amended claims in response to an examining division communication, as it was in the past. The letter of the client was just too confusing. I drafted my claims at first and had was seems to be the right answer and when looking at the clients letter it lead me into the other direction. The level of paper C seemed equal to last years paper, only we had less time. The level of D was questionable, two hours less but longer DI questions and a DII question with a lot of dates to put on a timeline. So timewise, it didn't seem really fair.
- The pre-exam paper was not as difficult as the trainging mock pre-exam presented in the pre-exam online couse. Maybe it would be a good idea to match the level of complexity to the real paper.
- I really think that people who are very good at work have a hard time passing the EQE, so I think it is too difficult, especially paper D.
- Paper D this year was too difficult not because any of the questions were too difficult, but because there was too many for the time allowed. I felt I knew how to approach all of the questions. But I would have needed 6 hours to answer all of them fully. It seemed like there was the same amount of D1 material this year as in past papers for previous years, despite the shorter time available, but the part II question also needed about 3 hours for a full answer. Paper B E/M on the other hand, didn't seem to contain quite enough material for 3 hours, but perhaps I missed something.
- The exam is difficult enough why add additional pain and cruelty by starting with a rather difficult question? It is impossible to get the timing between DI and DII right, as one cannot predict the difficulty/complexity of DII.

- Paper A ch was not clear. Sometimes we could not understand if the granules that were referred were coated or not. Moreover the example 3 was not clear which composition had the granules. In general the indications of the client were confuse.
- Generally very easy, especially given the amount of time. However, the wording of some of the questions was quite unclear... in a manner which was not intended. In several examples there was not proper antecedent bases in the questions and it was quite difficult to understand what the question was referring. Specifically the question about 'Company X filing an application based on an earlier EP application and if company X needed to be the applicant on the date of filing'. Was the question asking about the filing date of the earlier EP application or the application to be filed?
- It was a good move, to shorten the amount of claims to be attacked in paper C. To check, if somebody has understood how to draft a problem solution approach, it does not need 10 attacks on inventive step. However, since time was also shortened from 6 to 5 hours in the same time, the advantage of the less claims to be attacked did not became so significant. In my opinion, it can not be a criterion to pass paper C, that time is so limited that one hardly arrives to write down all attacks. At the moment, this is still the case and time is therefore still a problem. Analysing 6 documents (paper C) in 2 hours with all features necessary, i.e. 20min per document by marking down all features and references, is on the limit. Writing down around 8-10 attacks (5 claims) in three hours, i.e. 20 to 30 min per attack, with all the arguments and references to the documents is also on the limit. Time is still the main factor to fail in this exam in my opinion, and this has nothing to do with daily work.
- Pre-exam claim analysis was sometimes ambiguous. The subject matter was technically relatively easy, but still the marks are determined to a large extent on technical interpretation.
- Timing was very tight.
- The time pressure in B-ch was unfair as new claims were to be drafted.
- Paper D was a fair paper in terms of difficulty, but pressed for time. C was incredibly difficult because of the divisional issue in the client's letter which left you wondering if you had to work out a date for the first disclosure of the invention. We were told that the client's letter would be straightforward (as in the 2012 paper) so this was a surprise. Time was an issue for all the papers see below. A and B were difficult, but at about the same standard as usual. Having claims provided by the client in Paper B adds an extra element of difficulty it is easier to provide your own amendments.
- It seems that for paper B, the supplementary set of claims was of no great use, and actually after having spoken to a number candidates after the exam, many people lost precious time trying to use this set of claims as such (trying to find a support in the description = up to 30 minutes lost).
- They often cause confusion which in combination with the limited time do not leave room for applying the knowledge. Example: Paper C of 2013 where I found it very difficult to define the closest prior art for certain claims. This caused stress and did not leave much room for making good attacks applying the problem solution approach.
- too many features to consider in paper A this year for paper B it was confusing to have a proposal of amended claims, not making the exam easier to my sense
- I think the pre-exam is too easy. If the purpose of the pre-exam is to weed out unprepared candidates, I think its a failed purpose. However, it does force students to study early, which is good.
- Some claims analysis questions were difficult to understand, or in other words, it appears that for some questions the claim could have been construed differently which would have resulted in a different answer.
- See above
- I did not find the papers difficult but mainly due to time pressure I felt that some of my questions in part I was not fully checked before handing in the paper. As Part I and II now is in one exam it puts time management in another perspective as it can be hard to put aside Part I if not finished in time to make Part II.
- The difficulty was really linked to the time pressure which rendered the exam difficult to

handle otherwise questions were adequate.

- Paper C was pretty much what I already expected in my 2nd try on this paper. Linguistically I think it had a medium difficulty. Technically it had both simple practical physics and a bit chemistry so I think it suited all candidates quite well.
- The pre-exam was not too easy. With a certain amount of preparation however it should have been not too difficult to pass.
- Paper C was too difficult this year! 5 hours are not enough for such an annex full of informations and technical words. There were too technical terms and non mother tongue people needed to look for words in dictionary a lot of times. Furthermore there were a lot of differences, effects and problem solved in the annexes to puzzle and to combine that candidate had a great confusion in mind. This was a paper to solve in 6 hours, above all for non mother tongue people!!!!
- No questions nor claim analysis relating to Biotechnology/chemistry. Only mechanic which is sometimes tricky to understand
- Please make the claim analysis questions less ambiguous
- Occasionally there's still ambiguous terminology in the questions. Example: 'Hot Pans 2013 trade fair in Bologna last January'. On the day of examination we had year 2013. The name of the fair may be understood as pointing to year 2013 but names are occasionally using the next years' name for indicating progress and innovation being ahead of its time. Moreover the paper contained the explicit term 'last January'. Since every word has been carefully designed in many past papers appropriate weight has to be given. Hence in the present case the term 'last year' might have been chosen to be January from last year, i.e. January 2012. So, is it January 2012 or January 2013 then?
- The difficulty of the claim analysis part of the Pre-examination should not be related to the interpretation of ambiguous words and statements.
- Difficult to answer well due to there was no time enough
- I am an old "resitter" so that I am used to the Examination conditions and difficulties. My difficulties remain time management.
- Paper C felt more difficult than previous years, and required a lot more analysis of the prior art documents, and the expected attacks were a lot more involved than previously.
- Difficulty is not what I exactly felt to be the problem. It is the mass of information and its inherent complexity. The cases and questions are interesting in an academic view and I have fun to work them out. But time is pretty challenging see below...
- Pre-exam this year was slightly unfair as one misinterpretation of what a channel did could lead to major loss of marks due to the same basis applying over several questions. The pre-exam in English was obviously written by non-native speakers. The spelling of "gasses" used throughout was American English. The quality of the language made it sometimes difficult to try to interpret the intended answer. Perhaps the exam could be checked by a professional language service (e.g. the EPO's own language service) before finalisation of the exam, to avoid such problems.
- C: not much time for analysis
- OK.
- HARD AND CHALLENGING; what else!!!?
- The difficulty of the pre-examination is absolutely sufficient. The studies I performed for it will definitely help me in the main exam.
- There was a lot of information in both D and A(Ch) and the closest prior art wasn't clear cut in Paper C. The only exam where I didn't feel time-pressured was in Paper B.
- A was very fine critical and I think it was not easy; B was easy to understand but because of the changes this year it was hard to guess what should be done to cover the client's interest, since he does not want any additional further dependent claims; A was very fine critical and I think it was not easy; D was OK;
- The exam is difficult for non-native speakers. In this respect, the old C system of having at least two languages is much more fair at least the native speakers have to read a page or two in another language it gives everyone a taste of what it means to be a patent attorney in a multilingual Europe. What about the old glossary that used to come with the exam?

- The "new" D paper was definitely too long compared to the available time when compared to what was expected in 3+4 hours. There was absolutely no time to check our knowledge in part I or the wording of answers for the part II. Part I questions on the PCT were not so much representative of what is most needed in the daily job. Paper C and Paper A chemistry were a little unusual compared to previous years but probably feasible.
- the papers are very theoretical. There is an extreme imbalance between the maximum number of points you can theoretically get (100) and the number of points you can reasonably achieve and still perform completely adequate in everyday life. This results in a high failure rate, as sometimes this number is around 50. In real life, there is the possibility of clarifying issues afterwards, except maybe in OPPO. In OPPO cases the EUE practice is e.g. to avoid a shotgun approach, whilst in real life every objection thinkable (and unthinkable) will be put forward without any detrimental effect as the ED must hear the parties on everything...
- Pre-examination was a nice variety of questions and on a good basic level.
- Paper D was not too hard but it felt like they had combined papers D1 and D2 into one paper without accounting for the fact that we had two hours less to do it. It was unbelievably time pressured!
- Because there were no mock papers, the timing was more uncertain this year than in previous years. However, in all of the papers I think that the time available was approximately sufficient.
- Paper D was in the new format (1 session in 5 hrs). I first answered D1 and then turned to D2. I found that the D1-like questions were well adapted to the new format with regard to the number (6 in 2 hrs vs 9 in 3 hrs before 2013), but got the impression that their complexity was higher than in the previous years. I also found that the D2-like part was too lengthy and complex (many dates to note on the timeline, lots of legal aspects). I felt extreme time pressure at the end of D2.
- As previous years.
- Not enough time for answering everything in Part D.
- I think that pre-exam, further to being more difficult than the 2012 edition, was really difficult. Some questions could be interpreted as vague (example: further proceeding possible for paying an annuity? EPC states that it is not possible for paying the annuity + the additional fee, but it does not state that the annuity alone is excluded. Afterwards, I realize that asking further proceeding for the annuity alone rather makes no sense, but at the time of sitting the exam, I didn't). About the claim analysis, I could see on the forum that there was an issue about prior art D1 and the story of the "continuous network of interconnected channels". At that moment, and still now, D1 didn't disclose "a channel" (especially in French, "a" and "one" are translated with the same word). This feature was involved in about 8 points, and knowing I lost 8 points for a question of interpretation instead of a question of my personal preparation makes me angry (fortunately, on the basis of the answers of deltapatents, I could value my mark and I should pass the same)
- D2 was fairly straightforward, but too long. I had trouble with time management. I spent 2:15 on D1 and felt relaxed, as I had done previous D2 papers (2008, 2012) in just over three hours during preparation. I realized too late that in the exam I was about 15 minutes short of time, and completely missed an important aspect of the exam, when eventually I rather hurriedly wrote up what I had prepared as my answer. The client's advice in paper B was not very helpful. I did paper B of 2012 in 2:45 without the client's advice. If the advice was meant to support candidates to cope with one hour less time, that surely did not work all that well. I would have preferred the (rather explicit) directions given to me in 2012 to an actual messed up version of client's suggestions, even more so as there is no room in the exam to argue why one has chosen not to follow the client's suggestions. The technical content of papers B C was very well designed. Much clearer than in 2012. Well done! Length of paper C was spot on in my opinion.
- In general, the lack of time made the EUE paper C,D, B quite difficult to answer properly. All technical aspects could be easily understood.
- This year paper A M/E was very hard and quite close to D2.

- Pre Exam was more in line with the mock of 2011 than the pre-exam of 2012 which was rather straightforward.
- D-exam brings a lot of time pressure, resulting sometimes in simple mistakes: e.g. in stead of 24 months for R.36 adding 1 year e.g.
- This question should be asked after solutions are published: I might think the paper was easy just because I missed completely the main "tricks" it had!
- The D paper was way too long.
- Paper A too difficult and very long. Paper B is often too "chemical" Paper D part II very long and too many dates
- Quess level OK
- Paper D was extremely long.
- Paper D 2013 had an extreme time pressure, it was long and difficult (especially DI). I had a lot of answers which I simple did not have time to write down.
- different style of D : hard to judge time ... felt uneasy because of the weak patent situation of client and reread multiple times until accepting
- Some questions seem to elude both answers possibilities, as confirmed by the various non-offical results (e.g. Delta Patents web site) in the web. At least they should be evaluated as 'correct' in both cases.
- In paper C, I didn't have time to perform all the attacks. But my concern and my total displeasure is in the structure of paper D this year (the first seattng for me). In principle part D1 had to be reduced due to the existence of preexamination. So part D1 should have to be reduced to 3-4 questions for instance. Instead we found a very long part DI, with 6 questions but with subquestions, very similar in total content to previous years. And a part D2 very similar to previous years with too much information to analyze. Overall, a paper D with the same structure and content as previous years, but with 2 hours less! It was impossible to manage time to respond all the questions and at least to arrive to a clear situation of the scenario of DII to then try to get correct ascertions. You may have to review this and adequate the content to the time given. I think that the aim of a professional EPA is to know where to find the solution to problems (looking to guidelines, Visser, PCT articles and regulations, etc), and not to know all the data by memmory. Only a person with all the exact data (due dates, remedies, etc) memmorized could respond to all the questions and manage part D2 without consulting any book. So it's crazy and not healthy! The content to study is too much. And I think that this is contrary to the aim of the profession. I think that this exam does not serve to test skills of and EPA. I'm sure that with more time, I would be able to solve all the questions, but for instance in case of D2, I did'nt have time to have a clear situation of the case...so all the conclusions can be wrong because there was no time to confirm legal basis and exact data in guidelines, etc. There was no time to THINK because the time pressure was excessive. It is a formal complaint to paper D this year. I hope you will take into account this comments.
- Time was too short, especially in view of the new format
- claim analysis much too technical for a natural scientist. unfairness! questions were put unfairly (eg. because double negation question etc.)
- D was not to difficult but the time was way to short! Even though writing continously it was simply not possible to put down all the answers in the time which was provided.
- In part A (Ch) it seemed that there are many features to be incorporated into the independant claims. This resulted in really long claims, which was kind of unusual for Chemistry exams of the last year.
- A&B seemed much more difficult than in 2012. In particular, in B, it was unclear to what extent we were expected to amend the client's draft amended claims. C&D were,in terms of difficulty, about what I expected based on previous years' papers.
- I have felt an increase in difficulty for D since 2011.
- In paper D there should also marks be awarded when the answer is half correct
- A lot of handwriting takes most of the time
- It was incredibly difficult to prepare for the new format of Paper B because none of the papers in the Compendium have been provided with draft claims. Thus, we had to assume

claims would be given to us but had no idea of how adequate these would be or how extensive any potential amendments would be. Therefore, it was virtually impossible to come up with an idea of how much time should be spent on each section until we sat the paper.

- I found it difficult to know what was wanted for A and time was tight Paper C was difficult to finish in the time
- Difficulty might be appropriate, but timing is put way too much emphasis on.
- The candidates having a mother tongue in EN, DE or FR pass the examination more easily and this is not good for the others!
- Time pressure is the biggest challenge. In general every EQE 2013 paper was feasible but with more time. So the challenge was to write down as much as possible in the given time limit.
- adequate
- paper B was difficult for me. I think it takes maybe even more time to analyse a claim provided by a client for correctness than drafting a patentable claim on ones own. I think the reduction in time (minus 1 hour) was not really compensated by providing a proposed claim that having the need for drafting on ones own. paper C and D were good, but my preparation was very intensive. colleagues of me had severe time problems in paper D and did not finish all DI questions and/or all parts of DII. so maybe for an averagely prepared candidate, paper D was too hard. I was not happy that there were some typographic errors in each of the papers A to D in german language. I would have expected the papers to be reviewed by german native speakers before the exam.
- time management
- Papers were adequately difficult, but time constraints prevented organized and thorough analysis and preparation of the answers.
- Still do not understand time for paper D this year. It appears to be the same with less time...
- D paper Part I questions were very long and seemed more complicated than previously and those were supposed to be answered an hour faster than previously. Part II had huge number of dates and publication/letters considering the new time frame.
- Some of the claims analysis questions are too ambiguous.
- The exams are not focused on knowledge and argumentation but more on what the candidate is able to analyze in a very short period of time.
- The matters that are being tested in the papers are very relevant and the exam measures them nicely. What I do not like is that in some exams there are "traps" that are too easy to fall into, and then there is some obscure T decision that everything hinges on. The EPO is doing great work on putting together challenging and even encouraging papers, so there is no real need for trickstery. Perhaps these traps could be replaced by choices that have to be made, so that both choices are right but only if there is the reasoning to support the taken choice. This would measure the candidate's ability to support the client's business decisions. (This type of things should be announced in the instructions, though)
- Time pressure, pitch letter is too small
- It was not possible to answer all questions in paper D within the 5 h time limit
- Insufficient time for paper D. Too many Q's in part I and too much weighting given to this part. The paper should reflect your ability to practice not test whether you can find an answer in a book quick enough. Suggest paper D should be marked 20/80 so the focus rests on part II. Too many candidates pass D because they get 30+% in part I and scrape through part II.
- one hour more for D would be useful to write down more comments on the D2 case.
- Time for D-paper too low. Self time-management for D1/D2 hardly to handle New B paper unclear in amount of amendments required to the suggested claims. Suggested claims are NO advantage if their usability is completely unknown same amount of work to try to evaluate suggested claims than to draft own amendments.
- Time management is an issue. I did find Paper D as difficult as last years with reference to contents. But time pressure was worse.
- Pre-exam 2013 seems harder than 2012

- The difficulty is mostly due to the time constraints (see below), not so much to the contents of the papers.
- I think the difficulty in C and D papers this year was concerned with the reduction in time to 5 hours. Particularly, DI questions were too long and, as a result, I didn't have time to finish DII part. I knew the answer but I didn't have time to write it down, which is frustrating. Doing past examinations from the Compendium I never felt time pressure by answering DI questions and this was not the case this year. The same applies to paper C because I couldn't justify properly my attacks due to lack of time.
- Reduction in volume of work (e.g. total number of documents, claims, attacks) likely results in a greater proportion of marks for each attack. Accordingly an incorrect attack leads to a loss of proportionately more marks (and time) than in previous years for Paper C.
- Paper A was really difficult this year, we all agreed about that after the exam. The fact that so many different objects were indicated in a pretty long text was hard, but the hardest was the fact that at a moment, there is a pretty long part describing a lot of things with a lot of essential features, and then, you turn the page and you found out that "everything was already known in the prior art"... and it's mentally really hard to take when you already are under pressure, even if you know that these informations cannot be useless... but it's very destabilizing.
- Need more Time For paper C
- The EQE 2013 was 1 hour less, however, the time pressure is still the same even with regard to only 5 claims and 5 documents (incl. A1 to be opposed). Half an hour more time would solve the problem. Remember: In daily work, there is normally no pressure for preparing an opposition. Time pressure in daily practice is in no way justified in view of responseability for the client and employer.
- the papers are not deemed to be too difficult for a professional exam. they were well composed, clearly understandable and solvable this year.
- Papers are not difficult, but more time needed to overcome stress, understand well (a problem for non EN, DE, FR speakers), write wisely, and to be able to reread the text. Why not to extend the time? Why not to split A and B to two separate days? The reputation of the EQE refers mainly to the time-related stress. What for?
- Too little time
- the difficulty is mainly the time pressure at the exam
- Questions seemed not too difficult with respect to legal knowledge, but difficult to have time to write everything down.
- Less time
- Legal questions ok, although a bit too much PCT for pre-EQE. Claim analysis questions were not always drafted properly. As an example, two different statements for D1 are given, only differing re "continuously": 11.2 D1 discloses a stopper comprising a body and an air channel extending through the whole body. 13.2 D1 discloses a stopper comprising a body and an air channel extending continuously through the whole body. One can argue that continuously means one channel extending continuously through. On the other hand one can argue that connecting different channels to form a channel extending through is not one continuous channel. Hence, these answers are not suitable for multiple choice. Moreover, such specific claim analysis may be part of infringement proceedings but are definitely not in the realm of the EPO.
- I found this years paper D II adequate (not too long), but D I was taking too much time for far less points.
- Paper A E/M was difficult regarding the various cooperating forces. Otherwise, I would say pretty straightforward. Paper B felt somewhat easy. It took a lot of time to "clean up" the client's suggested claims. The inventive step argumentation felt pretty obvious. Paper C contained a lot of information that felt superfluous. Too many chemical substances for a mechanical engineer. Tough timewise. I didn't have time to do all my planned attacks. Paper D was a surprise. The DI questions felt to be at a normal level but they took more than 2 hours to complete. I usually stay within the available time for DI questions. I guess DII was fair if one have had three hours for it, which I didn't.



- The difficulty and the time pressure of the pre-exam has nothing to do with parts A D. It is an inadequate selection tool.
- The EQE is a very sophisticated examination. The papers are accurately prepared. The difficulty is adequate but the time available is partially not enough, to proof the candidate's knowledge.
- Teil D: Aufgrund der Neukonzeption Form des D-Teils ist das Zeitmanagement noch schwieriger, da die Aufteilung der verfügbaren Zeit auf die beiden Teile individuell erfolgen muss. Die fehlenden Angaben zu erzielbaren Punktezahlen für die Unteraufgaben im Teil D II stellt einen wesentlichen Mangel dar; dies macht das Zeitmanagement umso schwieriger; insbesondere der D II-Teil ist in seinem Umfang der reduzierten zur Verfügung stehenden Zeit (ca. 3 anstelle von 4 h) nicht adäquat angepasst worden.
- I liked the D-format better this year, it made it possible to better allocate my time, which overall made the d-exam more accessible (but not necessarily thereby easier)
- time: too little for d-paper, and no guidance on marking for new format
- Paper B was a joke the client's letter was only confusing without this it would have been far more easier to do the paper, the analysis took too much time for the shortened paper B For A this was far too much text A and B for Chemistry was far more difficult than the mechanics paper!!!!
- claim analysis for non mechanical candidates very difficult, it would be nice, if chemical candidates get the possibility for a separate part two some questions were imprecise worded
- Some question could be answered true or false, especially the claim questions. It's often a matter of interpretation.
- time pressure is excessive particularly in view of the fact that the answers need to be very elaborate to gain full marks and you don't know exactly which statements gain marks and which do not. (and so you try to cover everything)
- I Missed specific purpose of subclaims in paper C!
- In general, also from the Compendium, I got the impression that for A and B it is most important to "find the clue". If one does, it seems one passes the exam anyway. However, if one doesn't find the only single word, which makes the difference, there is no chance in passing irrespectively how good the argumentation might be. This appears to be quite unfair, especially for people whose technical expertise is neither chemical nor mechanical (e.g. I'm a biologist). This problem got much better since 2009, when the examples with tables were introduced. Regarding the new B exam, I got the impression that the announced intention, namely to reduce the extension of work and consequently reduce the given time (now 3 hours) by presenting draft claims did not quite work out. The examinee has to check whether the draft is consistent with the EPC (which is certainly not the case) and then he has to draft claims himself to cover the broadest possible protection (= old B exam). This finally means one step more than before with half an hour less time. With respect to A (chemical) 2013, the text was very confusing and it was not clear which were indeed essential features, especially with respect to the individual products (e.g. polymer, granules, artificial snow)
- Very much to solve and write. Almost no time to look anything up in books.
- some language difficulties for some specific terms
- The answer above (B-Part hard, C-Part easy) is meant in comparison to previous years. The claim set suggested by the applicant in paper B did not help at all and even confused me. Including a terrible claim set which is more confusing than helpful is a quite insufficient compensation for the reduced time available. The reduced amount of prior art documents made it quite easy for Part C. Although the reduction was adequate with regards to the reduced time available, it made the examination easier, because there are fewer wrong approaches for proving a lack of inventive step. Even when I was not sure about what is the correct combination to use (For example: 5+2 or 3+2 for Claim 3, 4+2 or 2+4 for Claim 4), there appeared to be only 2 alternatives left that aren't obviously terrible. Regarding paper d: I found Paper D1 easier than most previous years and D2 a lot harder. There seemed to be a lot of tricky issues in D2. For example, I suppose that the publication of Divi-3D was not to be treated as prior art for applications of the client due to A55. However, it was extremely

difficult to see this issue and i suppose that only very very few did.

- We do not have time to consider questions. We have to be instinctive when answering.
- Exam "D" was too long, mainly the legal questions. The wording of said questions was almost half sheet long as well as the complete response needed in order to get full marks.
- Non-native speakers are suffering from lack of time
- Way too much time pressure
- This years Paper C was not too complex and I could find a proper attack for all claims in my matrix. However, time was not enough to write down all attacks, which means I could fail again although I could have completed Paper C, if there had been 30 minutes more time !!!!!!!!!!!
- Paper A (Chem) seemed to have a lot of reading before getting to the crux of the invention.
- Too difficult for not native english, german or french speaking people
- A-paper usually requires a set of different Claim categories. This year it was quite difficult to find reasonable categories, when starting from the informations provided.
- Too little time for an adequate concentration of the problems of the papers.
- At the right level....i believe.
- New style paper B was kind of confusing (too many sheets of information I would have preferred the old B-style paper ), giving extra pressure by reduced time available. Not enough time to complete Paper D, new style. Paper A & C were of the more expected kind
- The expressions in the claim part were somewhat unclear. The correct answer can be true or false depending on how you interpret the text. So choosing the correct answer does not necessarily depend on your skills as a patent agent/attorney.
- This time it was hard to find the closest prior art and decide if the last annex could be used. If I passed I think the paper was difficult, if not too difficult. I believe that I know enough to pass due to my preparation i.e. I know how to attack a claim Art 56, 54(2/3) and Art 100c. So if I have not passed I believe that it was due to the time pressure i.e. in order to attack all claims I had to stop considering the closest prior art and start attacking.
- If the D-paper is 5 hours, D140 marks = 2 hours , D11-60 marks = 3 hours, which mean that each part is shorter this year for 1 hour. It is impossible to manage 6 big questions during 2 hours, 20 min each no time to think or open the book for a check. The only reading of D11 part takes about 1 hour to understand the situation and make a time line. If there is one hour to analyse and compare all documents no time to put it in writing , by hand by the way.
- They are not difficult in themselves, its the time aspect that makes them difficult. Without that, they would not be a problem. It's very frustrating seeing answers/attacks and not having time to write them properly or get more than half down on paper.
- I thought the papers were not too difficult but reasonable in regard that they check that candidates have the basic knowledge. So nothing too difficult, but something that should be no problem at all if the candidate has the sufficient basic knowledge.
- too much time pressure
- too short the time
- For me the D paper was too time limited. I felt I was only tested against time. My feeling was that the duration for the paper was 30-45 minutes too short. Too many details were given in D11.
- Pre-examination: I think it was well balanced. In general and especially for the legal part, it was good not to have two answers for the same subject, i.e. questions concerning a time limit had only one answer. So we had to decide whether the time limit was correct or not. During preparation I found questions, where two answers concerning the same time limit were proposed. So candidates who decided for the wrong time limit, consequently gave two wrong answers and were sentenced twice. Concerning claim analysis, the formulation of question 19 was a little bit confusing. Thus, the focus was more on the interpretation of the question than on the analysis of the papers and the possibilities of combination with regard to inventive step. Although I personally have a good feeling concerning the claim analysis, I think that there might have been some confusion among the candidates how to interpret the questions.
- Too much time removed in proportion to the amount of material in the new format.

- Paper A (Ch) very long and stressful Paper B (Ch) adequate but not clear how to deal with the claims proposed by the client Paper D was very difficult because the last paragraph of the paper could change the entitlement of the first application you have to deal with and to discuss when dealing with the status of the application.
- Claim analysis: answers not clear-cut
- Much too easy. Some radical changes would be needed to come to a reasonable situation. Such changes might be substantially increasing the amount of information/trap for each question or even changing the marking system (negative points for wrong answers add the component of judging whether an answer might be right or not).
- A and B (2012) did not seem too difficult, but C 2013 was a bit too difficult. Not too little time for it, but a bit too many "traps".
- Der C-Teil ist im Gesamten schwer. Er war dieses Jahr in 5 Stunden zu bewältigen. Dafür war er im Umfang etwas geringer und es gab auch kein Schreiben an den Mandanten. Jedoch waren einige Rechtsaspekte im Einspruch selbst versteckt. Vom Schwierigkeitsgrad her war er fast genau so umfangreich wie in den Jahren 2011 und davor, jedoch in kürzerer Zeit. In Realität würde man nie so arbeiten.
- The D-Part in 2013 would not have been a big problem with more time.
- Especially in paper A the accessibility of information was difficult. Since 2008 I have the impression, parameters in paper A are not defined in one paragraph but spread over the whole paper. This increases the danger in overseeing an important aspect. From my perspective this increases the time needed over capability drafting claims.
- difficult to evaluate clarity/123(2) for mechanical claims when you're from the bioworld!
- The extent of EPC papers is exhausting. This gives to an unreal situation that is not going to be probable in real life. Shorter exams should be enough to qualify candidates. For instance, the first day, A claim gives to an exam report like in paper B; the second day A claim serves as to design an opposition attack or defence as in paper C, a combination of former A, B and C gives rise to a complex situation. Two days of exam.
- in my opinion, introducing draft claims in the B-exam, introduces a lot of uncertainty about what strategy to follow. Should you follow the direction indicated by the draft claims as this might be considered to reflect the wishes of the client, but you do not know whether this is the case. Also, how much time and effort should be spent on defending draft claims by the client which seem to violate EPC articles and regulations.
- too many complications to be considered for the time available; too many possible Art 56 attacks and too little Art 54 attacks: thus, more than 3 hours were needed for writing the attacks. In older exams less than 2,5 hours were easily enough. Therefore, no time was available for eating, drinking and toilette since time pressure was extreme. I finished the last attack only within the last 5 minutes and that even only without writing full sentences. And I was writing through the whole exam with only roughly 20 minutes for attack analysis (which I did during analysis already) and 10 minutes for claim analysis (both of which was not that difficult). Time constraint was the essential problem. Here I clearly do not understand the Examination committee: In reality there is NEVER ANY time constraint for writing an opposition. It is the result that counts. And even with 80 hours one makes errors (as I can see in my everyday business). Thus, I personally think that the time constraint imposed by the EPC C 2013 was completely unfair in that one makes errors due to time constraint. I always thought I should show that I manage an opposition (which in reality I did, since I won 4 oppositions and two appeal cases I did all by myself), but making "errors" due to time constraints (such as that I was not able to even re-read what I have written) does not help. The EPO wants to assess my skills in writing an opposition. Even if I have enough time, I certainly still will make errors. Thus, with allowing enough time there still would be a differentiation between candidates (as I can see in my EPC 2012 C, where I had purely 27 points because I obviously did not understand enough how to tackle a C-paper.) For the EPC 2013 C it would have been much better, if there would have been two more novelty attacks (which save a lot of time in writing, since upon analysis using the claims-attack-approach the attack is already finished during analysis) and less possible art 56-attacks. The theme itself, the documents etc. was perfectly fine and very interesting as well. It made

to some extent even fun doing the exam, but the time constraint (which I realised during assessing the attacks) put a high pressure in me which does not help...

- Lots of the questions on the claim analysis part were quite ambiguous allowing different possible interpretations.
- There were a lot of ambiguities in the language of the claim analysis questions, meaning that the true or false answer relied on the interpretation of specific words, some of which could be interpreted in more than one way.
- difficulty related to the field of the invention. I am not familiar with this kind of claim redaction and these inventions.
- A to C was alright, like the last years. The time for paper D was way too short. I was not able to double-check anything and thus did a lot of stupid errors.. I never had this time pressure when doing the D papers from last years. I usually had about 1 hour left for double-checking at the end of the exam. Not at all this year!
- Taking into account that time for answering paper D has been reduced from 7 to 5 hours, I think this paper D was specially difficult and long and there was no time to review the answers. Time has been always a drawback for EQE papers, and Paper D is not a difference. However I think that it is difficult to see where the Paper D has been modified to adapt it to the new duration. I think that it was really difficult due to lack of time. D1 had 2 less questions than in previous D1s but some questions contained more than 2 subquestions. The two last questions regarding to PCT were very long (4-5 subquestions), difficult and laborious. D2 was very similar to previous D2s. I did not see the difference with them. Even now, I cannot see what has been modified, reduced or changed in order to justify that this D2 can be answered in 3 hours instead of 4 hours. I think that this Paper D was not well adapted to the time available to answer it (5 hours in total). This made it specially difficult. I think that with 1 more hour, the answer would have been different.
- I am writing this before I know my results and therefore before I know what was expected. I had the impression that part 2 of paper D presented a case somewhat less entangled than in previous years. Nonetheless, after about 2 hours of part 1, without a break, it was difficult enough to process the information. Paper B was new. I found the set of claims by the client, combined with the wish for a broad scope of the claims, somewhat confusing. At first I made the claims wider, then I realised that the further information in the client's letter was intended for the PSA and would not fit my set of claims. Therefore I changed the claims back. I lost time, of course (The indication under Q30 refers to what it would have been without this loss) The set of claims by the client was not helpful, I could have drafted them in less than the one hour they were intended to save.
- The consensus amongst candidates sitting the pre-exam is that the claim analysis questions do not lend themselves to being answered as simply true or false. In many cases, it would have been possible to mount arguments in favour of both true and false answers, as indeed one would be required to do depending on whether one is prosecuting or opposing the application/patent in suit. Given that the pre-exam does not give candidates the means to explain their answers, it feels that candidates are being assessed on how familiar they are with the role of an EPO examiner, rather than how good they are as an attorney. Questions such as "the stopper of D3 comprises an air channel, true or false", undoubtedly depends on one's interpretation/construction of the term "air channel". It is perplexing to understand how the EPO considers such questions to be so cut and dry so as to be answerable either as true or false. A plausible, albeit incorrect in the EPO's view, interpretation of such key features could lead to a fail if such "mistakes" are carried through into subsequent questions, especially considering the variable marking scheme for the pre-exam. 2) Most candidates I have spoken to were of the opinion that 2013's pre exam was noticeably more difficult than the 2012 paper, and the two mock exams. Having done all of the available past papers under exam conditions, none of these papers required more than 2h30 to complete. I achieved consistent grades of around 80% on all past papers. Conversely, I felt that the full 4hours were required to complete the 2013 paper, which suggests an increased level of difficulty. In terms of the content itself, whereas in previous years, each question within the legal part focussed on one aspect of the law, questions in the 2013 paper were much more multi-faceted, and required awareness and relationships of several different aspects of the

law. Concerning the claim analysis part, the 2013 paper comprised more prior art documents than previous years, and also included analysis of dependant claims as well as independent claims. Given the comments I have made under point (1) above, it goes without saying that more prior art and more claims introduces more ambiguity into the exam as a whole. As previously mentioned, whilst it is understandable for the level of difficulty to fluctuate during the early years of a new exam, in order that those candidates are not unduly disadvantaged for being the guinea pigs, more information/past papers/exam exercises must be made available during those years.

- I considered the difficulty of the questions adequate, but answers require some analysis. Questions are too difficult to be answered automatically or under extreme time pressure.
- A (Ch): Difficult to identify whether a sphericity coefficient above 0.80 was an essential feature to the broadest product claim. Lacking information in the Applicant's letter as to whether it was expected to claim a product with a broader scope than just being suitable for making artificial snow (sphericity coeff. above 0.80).
- it required thinking and generated stress, like an exam usually does, but i can't rate if it was difficult or not. I will see from my marks!
- Pre-examination: Some questions were ambiguous. According to the interpretation of the terms, arguments for both answers (true, false) can be given.
- DI was very difficult and DII was far too time pressured. I realise that timing has to be an issue but good candidates not passing because they are rushing is surely not something you want?
- D very time-pressured
- Claim analysis: It is particularly difficult to select a true/ false answer in this section, when, by its very nature, claim analysis is extremely subjective and often, there are plausible arguments for both answers. With no possibility of submitting arguments in support of an answer, it becomes very easy to lose marks by selecting the "wrong" argument. 2. It is appreciated that there will be fluctuating levels of difficulty during the early years of any new paper. This year's pre-exam seemed far more complicated and difficult compared to last year's pre-exam and the two available mock papers. In order that early years candidates are not disadvantaged by the inevitable fluctuation in difficulty, it would be appropriate to have a much larger bank of mock questions on which to practice, as only two mock papers and one past paper does not offer much opportunity to practice and assess study progress prior to actually sitting the exam.
- The pre-exam is very easy and there is plenty of time. I finished the questions after 1.5h and then double-checked every question without time pressure. The claim analysis part is more difficult than the legal part because it is often a question of interpretation.
- The difficulty were in the expected answers : either YES or NO... too much questions were grey questions.
- I think the time pressure on test D was extreme and did not take into consideration that the examination time was shortened by two hours. Although there were fewer "D1" style questions than in the past, the D1 style questions were on a whole of higher value. Thus, in comparison only a couple of the D1 style questions of very little point value were dropped. Thus, a full hour of D1 style questions were not eliminated from the test.
- The papers are suppose to be hard and I think the the EPO/CEIPI do a very good job of providing the necessary guidance as to what is expected. However in years where changes are made e.g. Paper B 2013 was 3 hours, there should be at least one mock paper prepared to allow candidates to preactice the paper to time.
- The pre-exam was difficult enough to require proper preparations, but not so difficult that it is hard to pass.
- New paper D structure is challenging as there doesn't seem to be much difference between part 1 and the old D1 paper but there is an hour less to do it in. I'm not sure if providing a claim set for B compensates for the reduced time provided as it would be almost easier to make your own amendments.
- D: Die DI-Fragen waren sehr umfangreichlich waren aber zulösen. Für DII hatte nicht genug Zeit, um alle meine Erkenntnisse zu kommentieren, so dass die letzten beiden Fragen von

mir nur rudimentär in den letzten Minuten angerissen werden konnten.

- There is not enough time to analyze the case deeply
- The difficulty of the exams A (Ch). B (Ch) and C was comparable to previous exams. The difficulty of D was also comparable to previous exams, the the time available was insufficient.
- THE TIME ALLOCATED TO THE PAPERS IS TOO SHORT.
- D1 questions often require s too much interpretation (i.a. considering ambiguities in wording, non specified conditions) which may lead the candidate 's attention to over-interpretate the wording of the question or to take into account ipotethical alternative scenarios. In paper C it is hardly understandable when the candidate's personal knowledge is relevant (e.g. in paper C 2013 a definition of PET as a polyester and of nylon as a polyamide is provided in a prior art document. By contrast, it was not clear whether terms such as "alloy", "steel" or even "copper" and "zinc" were to be considered as "metal" since in no prior art document this was defined.). For a chemist, alloys and steel are different from a "metal" whereas for an electronical engineer they are probably the same.
- too many informations with respect to the given vailable time. not a real case situation. managing so many info in so little time unevitably leads the candidated to make same mistake! however this does not mean that the candidate is not well prepared and ready for the profession!
- Paper D: what made paper D difficult was not the level of knowledge required to answer the questions but the shortness of time. The question may not be overly difficult, but if you don't have enough time to think, you can't answer it properly. Paper A: The way the information was presented was chaotic since the first five pages were actually state of the art but contained nearly all the esssential features to include in claim 1. I am not convinced that this is the appropriate way to assess whether we are fit to practice or not.
- I consider time pressure as one of the main difficulties
- Just as an example: Exam A (Ch):Comment: Small unclarities can make life very difficult. The Examiners should think twice before writing sentences like the one below. [016] Die "OBEN" beschriebenen superabsorbierenden Polymere als solche eignen sich zur Verwendung als Kunstschnee. To what does the term OBEN=above refer to? As well the section [015] before relates to two particular polymers, which are known and prior art and the section [0009]=also above, relates to many different groups of poylmers.
- Well balanced and adequate complexity
- I would like to have the marks / note for each question in DII like in DI
- Most of the difficulty of the EQE for me was keeping focussed. Paper C this year seemed much easier than last year, but then I haven't got my results for this year back yet.
- The difficulty level for both B and C was appropriate. However, the time allocation for the C-paper was by far not enough.
- Time pressure is not comparable to real life.
- to less time
- I think there are too long exams (C and D) in order to finish it in time.
- More than difficulty, time pressure was the main challenge for paper D. Time management was hard.
- The difficulty in general was ok, though the legal questions were MUCH harder than the 2012 paper (which was somewhat disappointing considering that it had been specifically announced that the 2013 paper would not be any more difficult). The claim construction section was reasonable, though some questions were too boarderline for an exam that is simply marked true/false.
- The main difficulty with paper D this year was the lack of time. The paper was too long to provide an adequate response with only 5 hours. In my opinion, because of the extension of paper D 2013 at least and additional time of 1 hour was necessary to complete the examination with the minimum guarantees to pass it.
- I think that the paper C is quite artificial. In the real life you don't have problems to elect the closest prior art and in the EQE it is a quite difficult issue due to teachings away and so on...I think that the papers should match the "real life" as much as possible.

- Technical information was very difficult (papers A and B Chemical)
- The legal questions seemed relatively straight-forward and clear. Talking to other candidates after the exam, the wording of some answer statements was difficult to interpret, for example "Company X can validly claim priority from EP-I only if it was the applicant of EP-I at the date of filing" it took some reflection as to which date of filing (EP-I or EP-II) the statement referred. The claims analysis questions were more tricky, especially with a true/false format as there is no possibility to explain what you understand by the questions or the embodiment/prior art texts.
- The questions were a little tricky I knew things but I did not answer correctly because the question was not straightforward.
- This is my third attempt on paper D. Although I spent some 400-500 hours of preparation (for all attempts), I still feel that there are almost no "easy" questions, the overall difficulty is high (to very high) and most of all you very easily lose a lot of marks. In (former) DII paper, it is hard to figure out what answers are expected, i.e. what is expected for full marks. As for paper A, B and C, I passed in the first attempt. Of those, I found paper A the most difficult, because it is almost impossible to find the "correct" (i.e. the expected) wording of the independent claim.
- I thought an 8-point PCT question DI-2013 was a little scary ;) However, PCT is important also so I guess it's completely justified. The DII-part was actually ok and doable (not saying I nailed it, but I knew how to attack most issues and didn't get 'scared' upon first reading I knew the direction to go)
- In light of the shortened time period available to paper D I felt that there were many questions to answer and the information in DII had been written in a difficult set up using vague terms like "last January". At the exam this is really not necessary and will only make it harder without actually testing our legal knowledge.
- Unclear Questions
- The reduction of time available for papers C and D was not commensurate with the supposed reduction of complexity of the papers.
- The legal questions were less straightforward than previous year. Also, a number of the claim analysis questions seemed to hinge on a term which arguably had two interpretations in light of the disclosure in the description.
- A, B (E/M), and C were quite fair papers. There did not seem to be anything nasty to "trip you up" and the technology was easy to understand. I ran out of time during drafting the introduction in Paper A, but B and C were OK. Paper D was extremely time-pressured. There was only a reduction of 2 DI questions from the previous 8, which resulted in a LOT of candidates (from my own discussions) over-running into time allocated to DII, or simply ignoring the final DI question. DII was consequently time-pressured, and the question did not seem at all shorter than previous DII papers, meaning candidates had only 2.5-3 hours perhaps, to complete what was previously given 4 hours for completion. The questions themselves seemed fair, but the severe time constraints added pressure to most candidates. I sat the pre-exam in 2012. If 2013 was anything like 2012, it will have been far too easy.
- The level of detail found in the compendium is virtually impossible to reach during the allocated time hence almost no candidates scoring 70 or higher on paper D. Even getting in enough elements to make a reasonable chance at passing, is very difficult within the time given. The difficulty per se is not the problem: all answers can be found but not in the time given.
- difficult to know exactly how much we were allowed to amend the claims in B
- More difficult than expected from the past papers
- The considerable lack of time might have affected my opinion regarding the difficulty of paper D, although I feel it would have been quite challenging even if I had more time.
- It is the first time the papers have changed and new times are applicable but I hardly finished exams and no time left to go back to check my questions or empty questions to deal with.
- The questions / answers were not always clear enough.
- In the Pre-examination: The statements should not be ambiguous. The analysis claims part

should be different depending on the technical background of the candidate. Not just mechanics for all candidates.

- One of the difficulties is you have to be focused on this single day. My problem was that on tuesday I was quite ill. If you have such a problem, you have to sit the paper in one year. It would be better to have a second possibility for such difficulties. Thursday my constitution was o.k. and therefore the paper was not a too big problem....
- The time with respect to the difficult of the papers
- The main difficulty for papers C and D was in my opinion the time management. The papers were not "too difficult", but "too long" I found paper A more difficult than past years (I did compendium for paper A from 2006 to 2012)
- I sat paper C and paper D in 2013. The major difficulty is from the time pressure. It really takes some time to consider how much time do I have to distribute for each question. When one of the questions ran out of time, I began to feel nervous and had to make a rush and move to the next question. Thereby it seems very difficult to make a thorough thought for some difficult questions.
- Most of the difficulty was caused by the time pressure, especially for paper D. Paper A (E/M) and C were also difficult due to the time pressure. For paper A (E/M) I did not feel that much time pressure. However, due to the new structure of paper A, I thought it was difficult to ferret out to what extent the claims proposed by the client should and ought to be amended.
- I ONLY RE-SAT D PAPER. THIS TIME, TIME WAS TOO SHORT FOR A COMPLETE ANSWERING OF ALL QUESTIONS.
- Found the C paper (an hour shorter than before) much more time-pressed than before and the attacks needed were more time-consuming than usually. All in all (in my opinion, having test-taken 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012) it was a difficult paper and worse than I expected.
- Adequate
- This year paper A(CH) was difficult, long. A lot of information, a long process to read for finally learn it is known... Confusion on the wording: the granules of polymers are transformed in granules of artificial snow once absorbing water... (par 026) So what are a granules? a polymer with or without water? Very long client's letter (11 pages vs 8 in 2012, 6 in 2011, 10 in 2010 and 7 in 2009).
- New B vs other years – more tricky, proposed claims increase the analyze time needed and complexity but the time was reduced 1h.... Absolutely not understood !!!! New C vs other years. Same n.º of pages to analyze (C2010 25 pages ; C2011 25 pages ; C2012 24 pages; C2013 24 pages) vs reduction 1h... Absolutely not understood !!!! New D vs other years. D1 6 legal questions very detailed and a lot of sub-questions in several parts, I consider impossible to conclude with accuracy; probably 5 short questions will be ok in 2 hours. In DII part also a high number of dates to analyze.
- Not enough time for paper-D
- The change to the timing of C and D for the 2013 year created many difficulties. It would have been helpful to have had some sample questions for the new D format.
- Difficult path in "B" is that one has to dedicate quite some time to have the claim set to-be-defended right. Otherwise this is penalized in an ill-fated way. This typically leaves time pressure on answering the OA. D is in general very complex. In my opinion it should not be necessary to carry the Book "National Law ..." to the examination. An indication should be enough for such examinations.
- Man muß soviel mit der Hand schreiben, was man sonst überhaupt nicht mehr macht -> es ist ungewohnt; es wäre hilfreich, wenn in der Angabe zum C-Teil jeweils die chemische Formel für die Substanzen angegeben wären, so dass sich nicht jeder Kandidat die Finger wund schreibt oder selbst kreativ wird, um eigene Abkürzungen zu finden;
- Too much time pressure for paper D, which is not adequate if the purpose is to check candidate's knowledge. 8 points for a PCT nasty question under such stress conditions, not fair.
- This year the text in English of the information was badly written on the contrary of German



version which was clearer and not ambiguous... There was a bunch of information, which was not really useful for the reply and a precious time was lost to read all these information, in particular if the time of the examination is decreased! Many candidates could not finish to write their answers although they knew the matter and the answers.

- I think they are not really "difficult" but the time available is really inadequate so that many decisions cannot be evaluated with the due attention. Every sentence of the paper is meaningful and there is not time enough to consider all the information carefully enough
- Paper D: very high time pressure (higher than 2012) difficulty of paper as a whole ok, but too much stuff for 5 hours
- 2013 EQE pre-exam was easier than the mock pre-exams that I studied during my preparations to the exam.
- A war vollkommen anderes als die Jahre davor und somit sehr verwirrend. War es nötig in dem Jahr, in dem die drei anderen Teile geändert wurden auch noch einen "neuartigen" A Teil zu stellen? B war an sich nicht schwer, aber verwirrend, da man nicht wusste, ob man von den Vorschlägen des Mandanten abweichend darf (siehe insbesondere der Verfahrensanspruch)
- 2013 paper was technically/mechanically easier than 2012 paper for chemists, which was good.
- I think difficulty and time pressure are interlinked issues. In paper D there seems to be insufficient time to do justice to both an answer to the legal opinion and each one of the legal questions. Time pressure unnecessarily makes a seemingly easy question more difficult which increases the overall difficulty of the paper beyond what it would be if there was more time.
- As mentioned above for myself as candidate from the industries some proceedings issues are beyond my experience due to the fact that those issues are typically handled by inhouse administration stuff or external law firms and never popped up at my desk...
- It was too long
- Time constraints make it very difficult and not really realistic
- The major difficulty was controlling the time pressure.
- Main difficulty was time management, not patent law issues. Also, I found it difficult in 2013 paper B, to identify the extent to which the proposed claims should be modified.
- Difficulties with legal questions which were associated with jurisdiction.
- The claim analysis questions were difficult because they are not well suited to the true/false format. We were told in training to "not try to be too clever", but this only leads to further ambiguity.
- Too many information resources have to be used, this takes time. The former DII part is still very confusing. It would be better, if all informations to one ip right would be described in one area. These informations shouldn't be scattered all over the letter, even if some clients would do that. In real life these informations may be scattered, but then you can take your time to sort them properly. In the exam, this is lost time without any value for the exam. Further, this type of sorting facts doesn't reflect the knowledge of the law, but the ability to work fast, probably leading to a lot of avoidable mistakes made under pressure.
- no comments
- paper A was difficult because prior art device shows more components than the invention. In former examinations this was different: usually the invention showed additional parts compared with prior art
- The C and D exams were shorter but the scope of expected answers was the same as in previous years. This year it was not enough time to analyse all documents provided and thus to give full answers for all questions. According to my estimations in D exams for me approximately 2 more hours would allow me to give full answers and in C I assume that 1 hour more would be sufficient to make all attacks. The conclusion is that IT WAS NOT A GOOD IDEA TO MAKE THE EXAMS SHORTER.
- IS TOO LONG FOR THE TIME SETTED FOR IT
- Pre-exam was, in my opinion, not particularly "difficult", but "unclear"/"open to discussions" in many situations

- DII part of new D paper appeared just as time-consuming as previous years despite reduction in time available
- For paper A, the description of the invention was too long. For paper C, too many attacks were expected. For paper D, there were too much points to deal with.
- Difficult due to time pressure.
- Time pressure for Paper D was quite high.
- Paper A is becoming more difficult due to language ambiguity introduced in the letter of the Client/applicant. Said information leads easily to misunderstanding and thus one has no idea if the correct answer/analysis was made.
- D-2013 OK
- I thought all of the papers this year were very reasonable not too easy (like the pre-exam last year that was too easy) but not too unreasonably hard. I also enjoyed the variety of interesting cases in the 4 papers. So, overall, I think the people preparing these papers did a very good job.
- The EQE papers appear to include many questions resulting in reduced possibility of in depth analysis. The difficulty is to be fast rather than to analyze a difficult problem
- Some of the legal questions go beyond the scope of the Guidelines I wonder if this is necessary for the Pre-Exam. Claim questions were unclear and ambiguous. Neither the EPO-Forum tutors nor the Deltapatents tutors have found the "right" solutions.
- Welcher Europäische Patentanwalt bekommt in seinem Berufsleben einen so komplexen Fall wie in DII tatsächlich auf seinen Schreibtisch??? Noch dazu unter einem solchen Zeitdruck?
- The only problem was high time pressure!!!
- Paper B Chem was very time pressured both due to the "new" extra claims and the shortened time allowed. Paper C too little time for so much analysing work...
- Paper D was a challenge with regards to time management. Although there were fewer D1-type of questions they each had a high number of marks and therefore I needed more than 2 hours (approximately 2.5 hours) to complete the answers. However, I found the new type of combined and shorter exam better. Paper A (Ch) was very long (11 pages) and it took me a lot of time to read it in details, especially as I am not a native speaker of any of the three EPO languages. Paper B (Ch) was difficult due to the proposal of the client introducing the disclaimer. In said case it would actually be easier if the client had no proposal, as I spent quite some time deciding either to maintain the disclaimer or not. It seemed a bit unfair since the paper was shortened for 1 hour. The difficulty of Paper C was adequate. I found it much better that the paper was shorten for 1 hour.
- EQE is not fair for candidates whose mother tongue is not an official EPO language. You always need more time if you are dealing with documents in a foreign language. If the examination would be in my mother tongue, the examination would be easy. In fact papers A and B in which time is not an issue where very easy. I passed those several years ago practically without training and with good marks.
- The questions as such are not hard. The EQE is in my view primarilly a test of exam specific time management, methodology, speed reading, and speed hand writing. In real life, nothing less than 100% is acceptable, but the EQE does not test this.
- Essentially the difficulty concerns the time allowed for each papers and in paper D, it is difficult to know when we must stop the response and if it is sufficiently complete.
- In my opinion time was specially tight in this year's paper D.
- No prognosis for part C is possible due to the unpredictability of the results. Part C is too artificial to be compared with real live cases. Preparation may only be performed with old papers and special courses
- I found paper C and D regarding the content not as difficult as previous papers. However, in my opinion the time was very short measured, in particular for paper C.
- One question in the legal section of the pre-examination was ambiguous. This is particularly unfair in examinations where no reasoning can be provided (true/false answers only). There were several questions in the claim analysis portion of the pre-examination where the answer is not clear cut and either true or false could be quite reasonably argued. This is also

unfair for the same reasons as above, i.e. that there is no possibility for the candidate to provide their reasoning.

- The C Exam has become harder to pass with the shorter time available.
- Paper D was too long for the time given. Also, the attacks to be performed in paper C were a bit excessive.
- In Paper D, I have the impression that the scope of work was not as much reduced as the time. The scope of work in paper B was reduced. However, the draft claims make it more difficult than creating new claims by myself.
- I consider some questions are too scalar. In the real life, some questions raise problems that are more complex than the answer requested. Hence, I had doubts on some topics and I made mistakes on questions that are easy in facts.
- The time pressure is too hard. The new D format with 1x5 hours leaves you no time to clear your mind, and you don't have time to eat properly either. The difficulty of the questions as such is OK.
- Pre-EQE 2013: The legal questions part was clearly formulated. Meanwhile, the claim analysis was sometimes ambiguous, leaving room for a "TRUE" and a "FALSE". Having done the Pre-EQE 2012 when preparing to sit this year's exam, I believe the claim analysis part of last year's Pre-EQE was better formulated and clearer, with almost no "grey" questions. The Pre-EQE Mock-Examination with the eggshell breaking apparatus had similar deficiencies in the claim analysis section than this year's Pre-EQE.
- Due to the visual handicap, I am always running out of time.
- Paper C was definitely time pressured, but the content was not overly difficult, though there appeared to be extra small points that may be worth a significant amount of marks if missed. Paper D was extremely time pressured. The content appeared as difficult as previous years.
- Too little time to answer at the exam, and too little time to prepare in addition to full time job.
- The Pre-Examination was harder than last year's paper, which I had used during preparation. The legal issues raised were more complex and a large number of marks in the claim analysis section depended upon interpretation of particular terms which I (and many others) felt were unclear. Overall I think the difficulty was about right, but with the claim analysis section in particular the Examiners should take care to avoid setting questions which are ambiguous or to introduce wording which may have multiple interpretations the multiple-choice format means that it is impossible for candidates to explain their reasoning or detail any assumptions which are necessary. Additionally, although the claim analysis section focuses on simple mechanical devices, this still puts engineering/physics candidates at an advantage relative to chemists/biochemists.
- time is not enough to go into detail of questions and to think
- The difficulty of the claim interpretation questions on the Pre-examination is that no justification can be given for one's answer. It would be a bold statement to say there was no room for interpretation in the 2013 questions. Considering no one scored 100% I'm guessing most candidates would agree.
- D remains always the problem for everyone C becomes more accessible A and B classical
- this year time pressure was the biggest problem for detailed answers
- In C paper, the information was presented in the patent to be attacked (A1) in a very confusing way. It needed a lot of time to analyse the patent to be attacked.
- I suppose because I tried to pass C and D papers twice during the last four years, it has been more difficult to control time, mainly to schedule the time to dedicate to questions (old DI) and to the practical case (old DII)
- Time pressure of D paper, the portion of last two DI question 7+8 points for two questions, it will be better if it can be recast in question;
- Since all the prior art documents were in the same technical field, it was more difficult to choose closest prior art compared to past papers prior 2011, in which the documents were not in the same technical field.
- Not so difficult.
- paper C too difficult
- The claim analysis questions do not lend themselves to a true or false answering scheme.

Following the exam there were discussions on the EQE forum where experienced people were disagreeing about the answers to some of the questions. Unfortunately, I think the claim analysis questions are good, so I have no suggestions of how they might change. I would suggest less emphasis is placed on the interpretation of a single word and the problem-solution approach questions reduced. More questions on added matter and clarity might provide a more suitable balance.

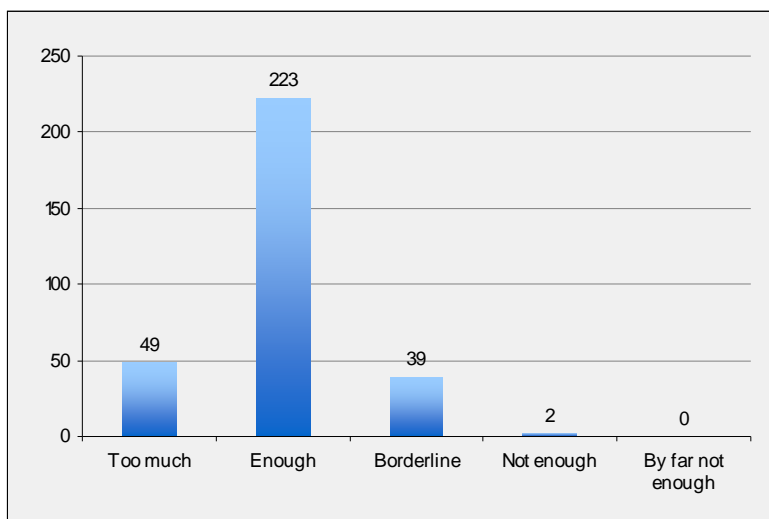
- Paper C not linked with real life
- The new layout of paper B does not yet seem final (it would have been easier this year to draft a new set of claims than revising the one given).
- Self organizing when to switch from D I to D II. Very hard to find strategy at the first time of the new format.
- I think the exam has now its focus on time management only, you have to do the exam "quick and dirty" and not as you would do in real practice. Furthermore, especially part B with the claim draft of the client has lost its reference to reality. I don't know if this is the way the EPO wanted to go...
- Paper B was very difficult because the suggested draft came from the client. It requires analysing the correctness of a given solution rather than coming up with your own correct solution. If there were enough practice paper for the new format, it would not have been a problem. The first sitters of new exam formats always have it more difficult.
- To perform a valuable response within the 5h time, the Paper should be shorter and simpler.
- Not enough time this year for B and C as there was 1 hour less time, yet nearly similar volume as last year. (I never had problems with time in paper B except this year) B: was very confused by the claims delivered by the client which has to be used according to the information given by the EPO (as far as I understood)
- reduced time for papers B and D, although in front of a reduction in the quantity of requested answer/s increases difficulty (from my perspective, better to have more questions with more time, proportionally, than vice-versa)
- Difficult DI questions dealing with not frequent cases of procedure Too many information in DII case Reduction of time for paper C but not real reduction of the length of the case
- D part was too long for 5 hours
- D) time pressure was huge, in comparison to the 5h mock exams (2012-2009) I did for preparation C) Document relevant for Novelty or "only" inventive step / I guess there are arguments for both / kind of a 50:50 decision you have to take during the exam Reduced time in B, C and D did not make the exams easier. I would say even more the other way around in particular for D.
- A lot of time pressure especially because English is not my mother tongue.
- Please: Just give some more time. Failing because of lack of time does not mean that you are not fit to practice. In practice, it just means that you earn a little bit less money, but earning a little bit less is not as hard as failing a paper...
- Paper D: Very difficult to know what is expected of a full-mark answer. With the new format, not clear how many statements are needed per mark. Paper C: Good that there were no legal questions but focus on the attacks. Very much entangled information in this year's paper though and difficult to get everything sorted.
- -
- Paper B itself was perhaps not difficult. Time pressure makes it difficult i.e you need to understand basics direct and keep in mind. This year's paper I expected that the proposed claims probably was OK directly and you only needed to explain why so. So I started off checking for support....after awhile I started to suspect perhaps they aren't OK after all....here started my stress problem. I started all over again reading through all...drafted a claim myself and compared it with the suggested claim. After that, changed the proposed claim to my version. When done, little time remained and I stressed through drafting a proper reply....and the last minutes did some dependent claims. In my case a proper approach had made me more confident.
- Time limitation is a major problem to me. By extending the examination time by half an hour my chances to pass could be really increased. D legal advice (former DII): Obviously it is not

sufficient to give an appropriate advice by solving legal problems. It also is necessary to broadly discuss banalities.

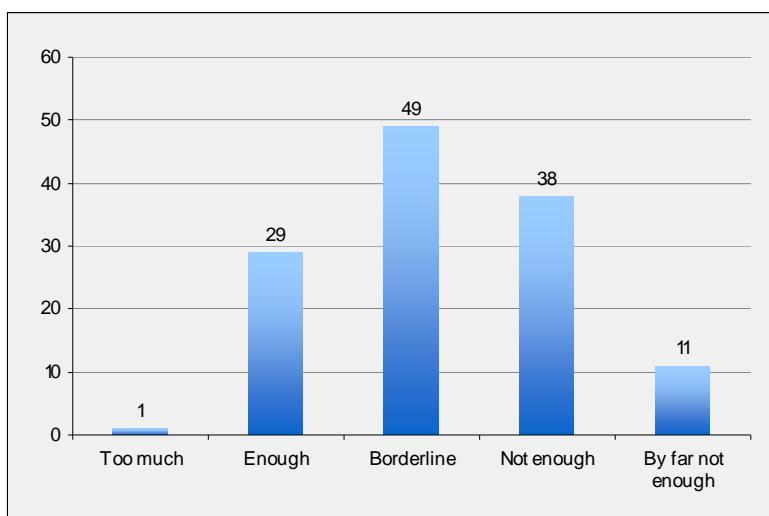
- A: Summarising the different embodiments were very relevant as experienced in my daily work. Right level of difficulty. B: Flunked because I chose wrong CPA. My fault. No time to correct when I discovered my error shortly before timeout. C: The docs were good and relevant. Bad time management my fault. D: Bad time management on my part again. Noted that a cited doc was not the first doc no time to write it though.
- I think the papers were fairly difficult but fair. I had to work hard to answer the questions in the time available, but the papers were a good test of my knowledge and ability. The level of difficulty was about right the papers shouldn't be too easy. I managed to finish both papers, but without much time to spare.

**Q30) What is your opinion about the time available for each of the examination papers you sat in 2013?**

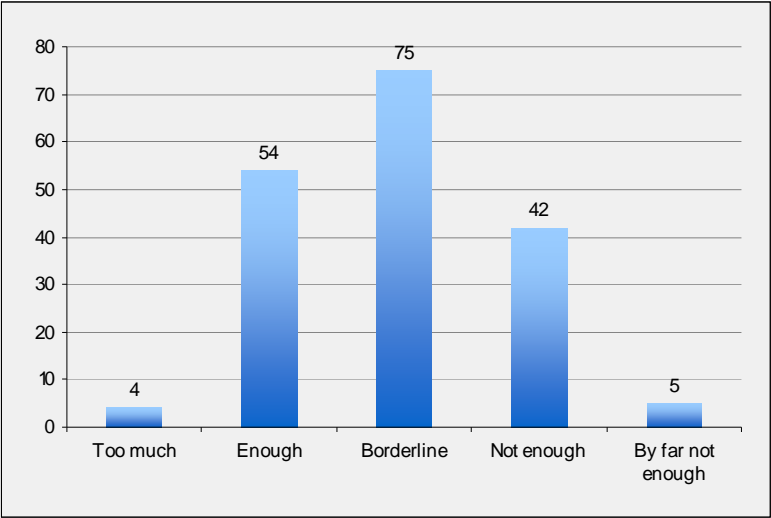
**Pre-examination**



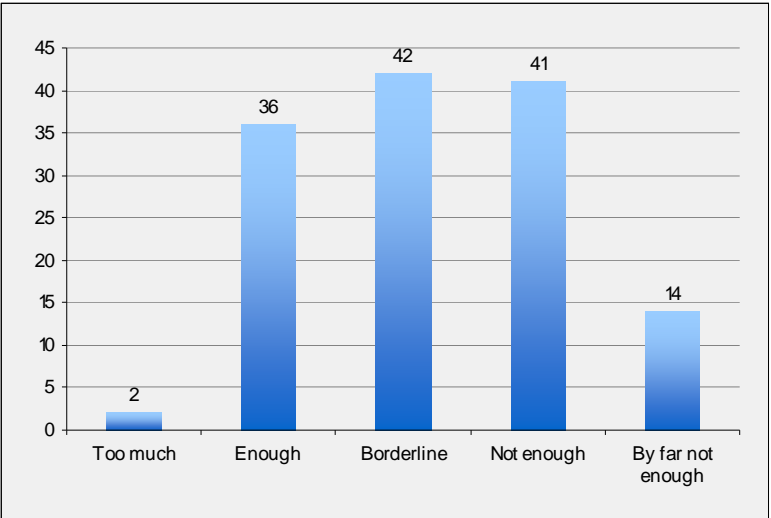
**Paper A (Ch)**



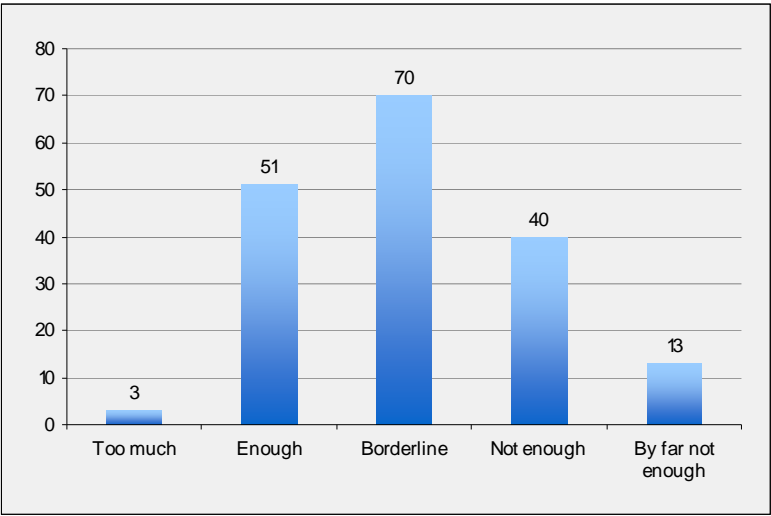
Paper A (E/M)



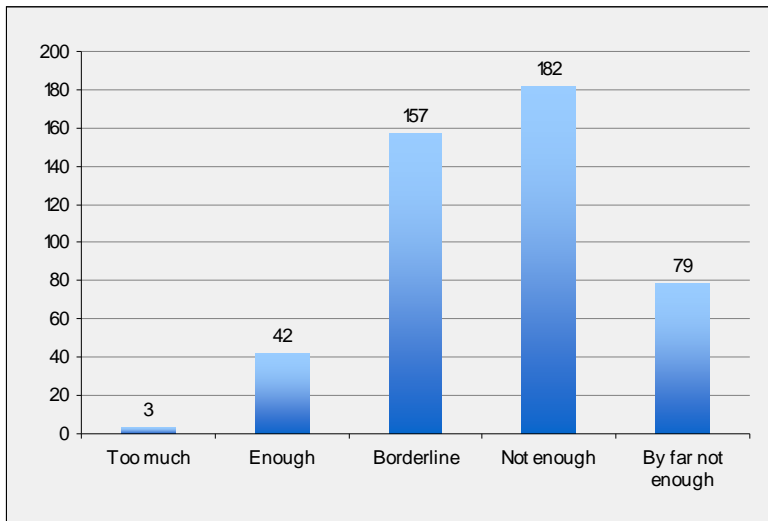
Paper B (Ch)



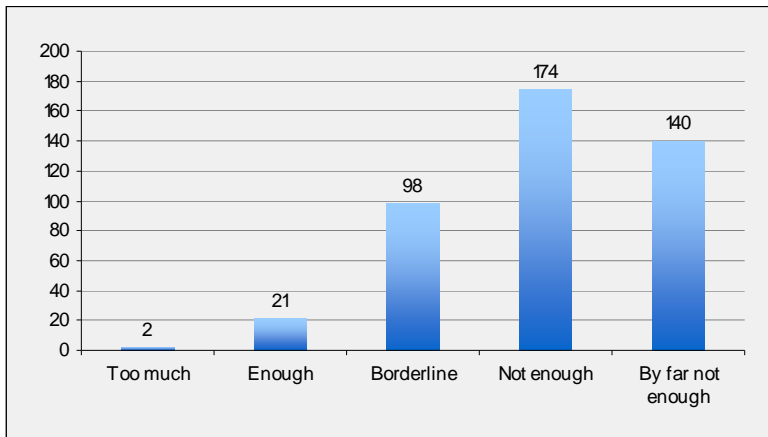
Paper B (E/M)



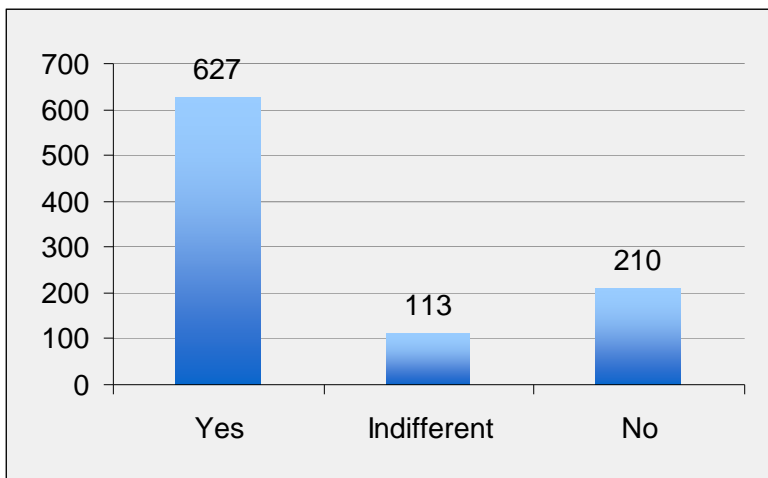
## Paper C



## Paper D



**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?**

- Ridiculous stress.
- I think the time is sufficient for paper D even though it's the most difficult exam. Paper C on

the other hand is not so difficult, but the time is totally unrealistic. It's a very interesting exam to sit and I actually enjoy it. I figure out all the small traps but I don't get enough time to write a third of it down. It seems unfair to fail the exam even though I am very familiar with oppositions and that fact that if I had 1 or 2 more hours I would pass. How can speed be a deciding factor in passing the exam or not?

- Again, since the claims proposed by the clients are no help but are only confusing, one has to draft the claims nearly completely alone. For this, the time is far too short! One hour is required for reading, 1.5 hours for writing, so only 30 min are left for the claims. I would be highly interested to know how this should work out? In no paper of 2012, I had any problems with the time and passed A, C and D. But this time was too short! It should not be a point of "who writes faster will pass"! Of course, every exam needs an end, but 3 hours is too less! It should have 3.5 hours at least!
- More time would be fairer for candidates who are safe to work with the public but are just a little slow. I suggest one hour more for each of Papers A(E/M), B(E/M), C and D.
- I was worried about the shortening of time for the D-part for this year, since I thought it could be difficult to reduce the time required for working through the paper with correct proportions. I think the D-II part text was simply too long for the allocated time.
- There was huge time pressure in Paper C (much more so than in the 6 hour past papers I did in preparation). 3 min/mark for D1 questions is very rushed (particularly when you have no idea how much you have to write to get the available marks) The EQE seems to increasingly be about how fast you can analyse situations (and not how well you can analyse them). This is very artificial nobody works under this type of time pressure in real life.
- I consider D to be too difficult because of the time pressure. There is justification for time pressure on DI, but presently it is exaggerated. With a little more time per question, the answers would be much improved. The justification for time pressure on DII is not the same as for DI. In DII the candidate may know a lot that he/she simply doesn't have time to write down. What is the point of testing the ability of the candidate to organize and solve a complex case in three hours? Certainly, in some real life cases you may have to do something the same day you get an assignment, but I doubt you have to provide the client with a complete IP strategy for months to come in just a few hours. Therefore I think the time pressure of DII should be more on the level of A and B. I have a good idea of what I SHOULD answer to get points, i.e. the level of detail requested. I just don't have time to write it down. I have to focus on getting the questions answered, many details and in-between steps often have to be left out due to the time pressure. What about slow writers and disabled persons? They wouldn't stand a chance, even if they knew the whole EPC and PCT by heart. With the new D format it is clear that PCT questions should be ignored completely. The time is better spent on DII. I don't think that was the idea behind the new format, right?
- more time or fewer questions should be asked
- Answers/score highly influenced by time available. Time seems discriminating factor, especially for D and C papers. Hardly time to look up articles/textbooks and think about alternative options. Always an eye on the watch to not exceed the 3 min/mark
- 5 hours are not enough for such a paper C.
- I sat paper D for the first time this year, but have done a lot of old Paper D1 and D2. I think the time pressure in this exam was higher than for those I have been doing at home for practice.
- Regarding the pre-exam, I think that 3 hours would be more than enough to sit such a paper.
- Not having enough time is the biggest difficulty of the exam. I think excellent and good prepared candidates may fail because of this. Not providing enough time affects performance, quality of handwriting and structure, and adds to the stress. Under these time conditions candidates read too quickly, miss some crucial information and do not write out all intermediate reasoning steps which they know are essential for obtaining sufficient marks. In D exam the feeling of skipping such intermediate steps if one wants to reach the end



answering all questions adds to the stress. In other, exams A, B and C, lack of time makes candidates write arguments which are not fully executed and taking rushed decisions, which then result in a wrong path and need to start over again... making them again lose precious time. The realisation during the exam of lack of time to do things properly also adds to the stress. Even if one trains for it there is simply not enough time to do things properly. The fact that some may even excel under the same conditions, does not take away the fact that excellent and good prepared candidates may fail because of lack of time.

- In the last half hour, I was able to correct 2 legal questions with the last bit of energy I had. More time would not have improved my result, because the energy is drained after 4 hours.
- I think time pressure is more of a decisive factor than it should be when compared to experience/knowledge of the candidate, in the performance under exam conditions.
- I think 5 hours for paper D must be enough to evaluate a candidate BUT of course, the questions should be thought to be answered on the 5 h time. This year, of course, they were not.
- Please see my comments above
- The papers don't assess so much IF I can do the tasks given but if I can do them in the time allowed. For everyday work that is definitely less relevant. I could answer a communication from the EPO in a style approved of by the examiners and it just wouldn't matter if it had taken me two or three hours.
- I write very slow this is my Achilles heel.
- The "DII" part of this years D-paper was a bit too complex for 3 hours time.
- For Paper D, for part I there was too little time to complete all the questions, especially as the questions which carried the most points were at the end of the section. In part II there was too little time to finish all the legal issues, For paper C, there was too little time to complete all the attacks.
- See comment above!
- In C2013, there was a huge amount of information in the documents. Even if there are less documents and less claims, the huge amount of information counterbalance the decrease of documents/claims.
- I think the time pressure during the exam is enormous, there is almost no time for reflection. I made some serious mistake due to the time pressure, that I would never have done in real life, just because I had so little time to check :-)
- The paper C annexes should again be shorter than in 2013. Then the time would be adequate.
- Time is the biggest hurdle. There is (usually) no time left to review what one has written, unless one immediately sees the "golden path". (i.e. the answer that the exam-committee is probably looking for). I think that time should be relaxed, so that candidates can think twice on some issues that are not immediately apparent, and can review what they have written, and can correct some errors they have written. I think that, if 1 hour extra time was given, a lot more candidates would pass the exam, and I don't see what is wrong with that.
- Well, see the comment above with regards to C-2012 and C-2013. I think there were too many attacks to be carried out in too little time. One document less to analyze makes a bit of difference timewise, one more inventive step attack makes a bit larger difference.
- For me the amount of time was sufficient. I was finished about half an hour before time, giving me the opportunity to investigate on a few questions I was not sure of the answer.
- The time available seems just about sufficient to provide an adequate; however, this is very different to the time that would be spent on such issues in practice.
- C is definitely more difficult than before due to the shortage of time.
- improvement with more time would only be slight, i.e. maybe 5 points
- Time pressure is too much of a selection factor. I'd prefer to be judged on more complex cases, but much more time available.
- See comment above
- Paper DI was too much compared with the points one can get. Just deleting two questions and shortening the examination time to 5 hours seems to be unfair.
- The reduction of time is not adequate. The time is not sufficient.

- 4 hours was more than enough time for the pre-exam.
- Why papers are to be made "running" like crazy hens while the patent attorney job is based on meditation and thinking?
- Good candidates would pass paper D if they had more time. I think the time pressure in paper D is too much, and it is not necessary to make it so hard for candidates to prove that they know the law and can use it.
- See above.
- The time pressure is simply ridiculous. I wonder, if when performing the test exams the test candidates actually sit DI+DII under similar conditions as we candidates do (unusual location, too little desk space, no time for coffee breaks and high stress levels)!
- 1 hour more with the same amount of documents and claim-attacks as in 2013 would be probably enough, at least to keep the writing readable up to the end.
- DI: 6 questions DII: 1-case time reduced from 7 to 5 hours but subject matter and/or complexity of the paper comparable.
- Running out of time was an issue for all the papers, particularly for Paper D 2013 and Paper C. The time for D 2013 was reduced by 2hrs, and only two short-answer questions were removed. Paper C looked exactly the same length as last year's paper but was 1hr shorter, with an added element in the client's letter which needed consideration.
- The general opinion, of what I made out of it, was that paper B was the former version (4 hours) non adapted to the new allocated time of 3 hours. I did not pass D, but heard more or less the same comments on D. The C paper seemed easier than the past years, however we were also short of time. Concerning the A paper, i just managed to finish it, but a lot of people thought the time given was too short. I would have appreciated to be able to read once my papers before handing them in. I believe this must be extremely hard for non fluent people in the language... Discrimination at stake?
- If you are going to remove two hours from paper D it is ok to basically keep the paper at its normal size if it is the purpose that nobody is going to pass.
- The time given simply does not allow for choosing a wrong "path" in the argumentation line. Often, especially in C and D, you start building an answer and then on the way you realize some things don't work or you notice/think of something which requires a change in the answer. Then you simply do not have time to change the answer but have to go on, even if you know the answer is not fully correct. Usually in daily practice you have the time to deal with an issue.
- The result of being borderline in time is that at a moment it becomes difficult to stay calm and there is a tendency to rush to finish. For paper C it is very frustrating not being able to use every things that was prepared. The global result is thus not representing what we are able to do...
- Quite well balanced, possible to check through your answers but not more.
- Still having 40 points for Part I of paper D and then only having 2 hours is difficult there was less questions in number but in total with all the sub-questions I recon it is the same as previous years. Part II was fine not too difficult but still many sub-questions to be answered. However, these were helpful in the way that they indicated what one should remember to discuss.
- I understand it is a way to make a selection however regarding the time spent to prepare this examination it is very frustrating to see that due to time pressure you failed on points you knew and were prepared...
- Although there was 1 hour less available time than in 2012, it felt that there was no big difference. There were only 5 claims to attack so my time management went pretty well, and I even had 5-10 minutes of spare time in the end.
- The cut of 2 hours for paper D, didn't make it easier. The D1 questions were very elaborated and in D2 the analysis was easier but it is still necessary to write more or less the same length, with two hours less time. A cut of one hour would have been reasonable
- I did not have much time left in the pre-examination. However, I was able to spend some time on each question and even quite a bit of time on the more difficult questions.
- You have to pay attention for non mother tongue people! I always work in english, every day

and I often go abroad for working matters but this is not sufficient comparing to a mother tongue person. This year paper C was full of very difficult and unusual technical words and I lost a lot of time looking for the meaning in the dictionary!

- 70% of success is based on patent skills, 30% on fast-writing skills
- Paper C contained too many documents to be analysed compared to the time.
- Plenty enough, if you are well prepared for the legal part.
- Running against time is another difficulty to overcome in the exam. It should not be like this. It does not mean that you are not able to answer or you don't know how to answer. You feel so much pressure by this fact that makes you get stuck and arrive to an answer that may be is not as good as expected.
- Papers C and D have been shortened in time. DI just had 2 questions less than 2012 and DII was comparable to 2012. The complexity was manageable but to me time was the problem where time has never been a problem before. Paper C was also well shaped. The case was pretty interesting but I fell short in time what never happened to me before. I am quick in reading and analysing but did not have the chance to write everything down I had in mind. So I am a bit sad, that there was no time to bring everything on paper what was in my mind.
- Paper D was too time-pressure, since it was 2h less and only 2 questions less!!!
- C: just one hour more
- 4 hours is a very long time for the pre-exe!
- Concerning the pre-examination well trained candidates can answer the questions within two hours. But I think that most people will need at least three hours. With a rest of one hour for re-examining the answers the time is perfect for most of the people.
- See comments above.
- A was very time critical and I think it was not easy; B was easy to understand but because of the changes this year it was hard to guess what should be done to cover the clients interest, since he does not want any additional further dependent claims; A was very time critical and I think it was not easy; D was OK;
- Yes, native language speakers, and younger people will have a greater advantage when more time pressure is provided. This years D paper I could have finished completely but not in the 5 hours. My guess is that it was a 20% reduction of questions against 33% reduction of time.
- see above Q 29
- Time pressure I am not convinced that the reduced time for the papers was matched by reduced content, particularly for paper B where the client's letter and amended set of claims was really not very helpful because of the changes required.
- Perhaps 3 hours would be sufficient for the pre-examination in view of the very limited time given on paper A-D.
- The D-I style questions of the D-paper seemed too long to complete in an appropriate amount of time. Most people that I spoke to who complete the D-I style questions spent around 2 hours 15 min to 2 hours 30 min on the D-I style questions.
- The D2-like part should be better adapted to the new format. D1 is ok, more or less.
- In all respect the new d paper was too much information via a vis the time. This is clear compared to practicing the past papers. There is not enough to think in the exam to write a well structured answer.
- Examination Centre eliminated the second language in Paper C. This only could benefit countries as UK, DE, FR whose candidates enjoy their own language for all documents. So, this gave that for these candidates they improve time management. For the rest, who are accustomed to fight in more languages, this second language reduced the differences between candidates. I would reintroduce the second language to balance. Now reduced one hour. Again a measure that can only benefit official language countries. Under pressure time, who can act better? one that reads in his language or one that reads in a foreign language? it seems that day by day exams are done in order that rates increase for UK, FR, DE
- Shorten D2. Period.

- 30 minutes more for each paper seems to me more appropriate regarding the difficulty of each paper (B,C,D)
- New paper B M/E is 30 minutes shorter than before even if the difficulty which presents itself is the same. Before 2013 it was necessary to find a new claim 1 carefully reading from the text, and then write it down with the dependent claims. Now, it is necessary to check if the amended set of claims purposed by the Client is correct reading carefully the text and, in any case, drawing them up. The difference from the old papers B and the new one is practically inconsistent, but we have half of an hour less of time to complete it and probably fewer marks available to do just substantially the same job. Paper A M/E was too long: 6 embodiment and 8 different versions of the invention. This year was mostly a time challenge than a real didactic paper. My question is why? I think to be a better Patent Agent using all the time it is needed to write a patent application or to reply at a Examination Report in a satisfactory way for my client, than just sacrifice my hand and calligraphy, trying to write at the speed of light.
- 5 hours for the Pre-examination would be more reasonable
- There is never enough time to draft proper claims.....even in reality.
- There is little time, nothing new. Regarding the D paper, I found that the expected time allocation (2-3h) was impossible to follow. I ended up with a 2.5-2.5 division: 6 questions for part 1 were too many to answer in 2h.
- Paper D new format was far too long to be reasonably finished on time (around 20 minutes were missing to complete D2 this would have allowed me to write down many legal advice that I have spotted but was unable to write down due to lack of time)
- There was too much time. I was finished after 2 hours. On review of my paper, after 2 hours I had 98%. After 3 hours I had 90% because I doubted my answers and changed 4.
- The time is ok, otherwise it would be even more difficult to stay concentrated and fit for all 4 papers. The papers should be shorter and more commensurate to the time available. I also found very difficult doing papers A and B on the same day
- see earlier comments. If passing rate is higher for DE, GB, FR I suggest to make the test more equal by not allowing answers and texts in native language of candidate. If pass rate is equal, please do not bother.
- the pre exam time should be reduced to 3 hours
- Not enough time for papers C and D.
- Not being native in EN, DE or FR it is very hard to read and write as fast as needed. It is a disadvantage with the very long papers, with a lot of text. D-paper was very long this year just reading it.
- time for D was not enough; it is very annoying if you would lose a lot of points in last part of D although all analysis was done correctly and just out of lack of time...especially when a format is changed, the first time in new format should not be under time pressure because there was already an "adaptation effort"
- Explained above. In case of paper D, either more time or less content. The content was not suitable for the time given this year.
- I think it would be more reasonable to have a 2.5h DI and 2.5 DII (therefore simplifying it)
- Especially for paper D the examination time was more reduced than the examination content (2013). (However I finished both of them)
- Time for D should be increased for at least one hour or the number of DI questions should be reduced.
- I wouldn't leave an exam early, but I would have been quite pleased to be able to leave in good conscience after 3 hours, rather than spend another hour checking through my paper.
- In part C the expectations about how to write the problem-solution-approach seem to rise. Additionally, it seemed to be necessary to explain several times why one expression of Annex 1 was the same of another Annex in different wording. Thus, these explanations needed a lot of time which resulted in a time pressure. With some more time, it might be easier to write a correct problem-solution-approach and to find all definitions. Paper A time seemed to be sufficient. Anyway, 11 pages of the letter of the applicant is a lot of information to be analyzed in this time.

- The time available for paper B was much too short. The time available for paper A was slightly too short.
- I appreciate that this year paper B (e/m) and C tried to keep in consideration the reduction in the time available for the examination paper. Anyway I believe that especially for paper C the time available was not enough
- 5 hours for Paper D is too short. Now that Paper D is only one, time lost in DI is also time lost for DII.
- I did had the feeling that there was as much work to do in 5 hours this year than last year in 6 hours.
- I believe we should not be tested on knowing a half-hearted answer in the shortest time possible, but learn how to give a well funded answer in adequate timing. During the EQE my answers were strongly balanced by the fact, that I had to write down an answer in order to be able to get to the remaining parts of the papers. This reduces quality in answers tremendously in my opinion. Having had enough time to deal with the papers, one would surely end up with more sophisticated solutions, recognize more of the aspects that could be discovered (e.g. in DII) and end up with a more satisfying result. The feeling now after the exams is: I could have done it, if I only had had more time. So difficulty might be appropriate, but timing is put way too much emphasis on.
- Paper D should be rescheduled, there was about half an hour time that was missing for answering all the questions of DII and DI.
- It could be good to have more time available for the candidates not having an Official mothertongue.
- More time for paper C and paper D, in each case 1 hour more.
- paper B was difficult for me. I think it takes maybe even more time to analyse a claim provided by a client for correctness than drafting a patentable claim on ones own. I think the reduction in time (minus 1 hour) was not really compensated by providing a proposed claim that having the need for drafting on onews own. paper C and D were good, but my preparation was very intensive. colleagues of me had severe time problems in paper D and did not finish all DI questions and/or all parts of DII. so maybe for an averagely prepared candidate, paper D was too hard to solve in the 5 hours.
- Time available is much too short. There is especially no time at all for important things, such as double checking facts if candidate is not 120% sure of answer backtracking if candidate took a wrong turn finding additionall attacks in paper C if possibility exists and/or it is unclear which one is best attack Time constraints are unreasonable. Papers should be 15-20% shorter or exam time should be 15-20% longer as a minimum.
- Q29
- The D-paper was much too long and time consuming. I'm not a native EN/DE/FR speaker and even though my English is fluent, it still takes way more time to read and comprehend foreign language. Part I questions were even longer than previously and case in Part II was about as complicated as before when there was 4 hours to do that. In fact I used 4 hours to Part II and then I had barely time to answer 3 questions in Part I. I would definately have scored better with an hour more time because I didn't have time to even think of answering half of the Part I questions.
- More time for question would be great.
- D: How does it compute having 16 questions and 7 hours with a break in 2012, and 18 questions and 5 hours without a break in 2013? Come on, I know there needs to be a bit of time pressure, because material is allowed freely, but I think it would be much better to ease a bit on the time pressure side and focus on the substance. A, B, C worked out pretty nicely with respect to time although I do not know about the shortened C paper of this year.
- The pre-exam could be finished in about 30 minutes as quick run through and 2 hours in detail.
- Non English, French, German speakers have additional difficulties
- The number of questions should be decreased. There should be a break between paper DI and DII as it was before.
- See above

- No indication on time-splitting of D1/D2 makes it difficult. Self management is between D1/D2 is ok, but then some indication on an "intended" reasonable splitting should be given.
- More a question: do examinees who sit the paper in English have an advantage over the examinees sitting the paper in German or French when it comes to time pressure (noting that a English text is shorter than a German text and a French text having the same content)?
- The time constraint requires you to know most things immediately in order to be able to complete all questions. It is also the source of errors that could be avoided if you had the time to think twice. Writing by hand fast and still legibly is a challenge, too.
- See Q29
- I made one (big) mistake in paper C, realised my mistake, but did not have time to correct my mistake (i.e. not enough time for auxiliary attacks).
- The real problem concerning the time available is for B. Because most of the points in B are given for the problem/solution approach. And you can obligatorily only write this part in the end of the response, and thus in the end of the Paper... It's really disgusting when you know what to write, you know how to write it (which is the most important in our job) but you can only write it really quickly and thus in a worst way than normal...
- Need to give another hour for paper C but keep Level Of Content the same as this year
- please see above.
- especially part D would need more time composition of legal opinions and considering multiple possibilities
- To let people think at the exam, much longer time is needed. I worked as a machine and had no chance to reach such a level that would make me feel self-satisfied. I baked a cake, but I am not proud of it. Simple.
- cf. above
- It was fair.
- A little more time would make it possible to finalize the last questions and to re-check the answers. High level of stress also causes high probability of clerical errors.
- Die Texte, sprich Dokumente A1 bis Ax, sollten kürzer gehalten werden, um die erforderlichen Informationen unterzubringen, und vor allem sollten unnötig komplizierte Begrifflichkeiten, wie Guanidinumnitrat, Ammoniumperchlorat usw. vermieden werden. Diese Begrifflichkeiten müssen ja immer wieder handschriftlich geschrieben werden. Es reicht doch, wenn die Informationen komprimiert vermittelt werden, und der Kandidat dann seine Fähigkeiten im Problem-Solution-Approach usw. unter Beweis stellen kann. Ein unnötiger Wust an Blättern auf dem dann zu kleinen Arbeitsplatz erschwert die Arbeit und ist wenig praxisnah.
- At least 30 mins more would have been great.
- D-II -> Knowledge about the number of points related to each D-II question would allow a better time management.
- There is no doubt that more time would have given me a better score. Reviewing the independent claim in paper A, checking the claims in paper B, doing more attacks in paper C and giving more details on paper DII. Personally, I don't see the point with challenging candidates this hard on time. This does not in any way reflect the normal work.
- The (non-existing) time pressure of the pre-exam has nothing to do with the high time pressure present in parts A D.
- The time frame for paper D this year did by far not match the volume of expected statements per point even if you had every statement immediately at hand, there was not enough time available to write them down. Paper C was slightly better, but very challenging as well.
- I am not sure that the short time available, especially for papers C and D, reliably assesses a candidates knowledge of the EPC nor how fit to practice the candidate is. Although an EPA should be able to work efficiently in order not to incur too high fees for the client the examinations do not accurately reflect the work situation of most patent attorneys and I believe there is a risk that in the preparation for the EQE a candidate merely practices a methodology for passing the paper and not does not aim for actual life-long learning.

- Teil D: Aufgrund der Neukonzeption Form des D-Teils ist das Zeitmanagement noch schwieriger, da die Aufteilung der verfügbaren Zeit auf die beiden Teile individuell erfolgen muss. Die fehlenden Angaben zu erzielbaren Punktezahl für die Unteraufgaben im Teil D II stellt einen wesentlichen Mangel dar; dies macht das Zeitmanagement umso schwieriger; insbesondere der D II-Teil ist in seinem Umfang der reduzierten zur Verfügung stehenden Zeit (ca. 3 anstelle von 4 h) nicht adäquat angepasst worden.
- The EQE requires an eye for detail. If I had had more time, I would have answered my questions in more detail. Now I filled in less details. But I liked the D-format better this year, it made it possible to better allocate my time, which overall made the d-exam more accessible (but not necessarily thereby easier)
- d was impossible
- you can't cut the time down by not cutting down the amount of the papers in particular in B (Chm) and D
- 4 hours is too much for the pre-exam. 3 hours for 20 questions or 4 hours for 30 questions would be a better balance for a better selection of the candidates.
- The time provided is not adequate for somebody who is not familiar with the subject area.
- I believe that exams of 3 to 5 hours are in general acceptable. Whether the time is sufficient for A and B in my view mostly depends on whether the papers are drafted in a clear and straight forward way. In cases as e.g. 2013 when the text is written in a quite confusing manner, the examinee needs too much time just to understand the subject-matter. However, finding a way through a literal labyrinth, I believe, can not be the idea of the EQE. Papers C and D were much better to understand (all read and answered in German).
- Paper B 2013 had a draft sheet for the claims. However, the claims seemed not to be of any help. So 3 hours was too short for answering it.
- I am worried about the time for papers B, C and D for which the time has been reduced
- I would appreciate more difficult questions for more time. I don't think that the writing speed should be a factor for the exam result. However, at the moment, this is a very important factor. I have severe problems with handwriting and my employers even told me to spend a lot of time on improving my handwriting. He told me that, even though handwriting is absolutely 100% unimportant for the job, it will be very very important and absolutely crucial for passing the exam. They even told me, that they think it is more likely that I fail the exam because of handwriting issues than because of legal knowledge. The exam should assure that only people pass that will be good representatives for their clients. I don't think that this is assured at all. The claims considered optimal in Paper A would not pass in a real examining division at all. My supervisor already had some exactly similar problem in a real case, that was part of an earlier paper A. He told the examiner that he thinks the version of the claim should be grantable because the older paper A said so. The examiner didn't even respond to that argument. Nobody would write a response to a Office action in so much detail as in paper B. Usually you do not explain absolutely obvious facts in detail. No client would like to pay for 8-10 pages long responses to Office Actions. For paper C and D: The papers are prepared such that they are exactly similar to already decided cases. However, usually the situation is not as clear as in the Situations described in C and D papers. Therefore, in the real world it is a lot more important to interpret the meaning of a decision and to prepare good arguments why the situation is more similar to a situation in decision X than in a decision Y less favorable for the client.
- We do not have time to consider questions. We have to be instinctive when answering.
- This year, the time for Exam "D" was reduced. However, the number and difficulty of questions were not reduced in proportion.
- I was done in less than two hours. Even allowing for even more reflection and generous re-checking, three hours should have been more than enough.
- Combined DI and DII allowed to allocate more time to DII.
- none
- This year's Paper C was not too complex and I could find a proper attack for all claims in my matrix. However, time was not enough to write down all attacks, which means I could fail again although I could have completed Paper C, if there had been 30 minutes more time

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- I only sat pre-examination paper; the time pressure is not felt, as there is plenty of time to answer the questions and review them; for the other papers I am preparing using the old paper, even at home, the time is short; it seems more demanding in terms of time pressure than on knowledge/skills of the candidate; this time pressure approach does not take into account the difficulty of reading and writing in a foreign language and this is not fair. The time should be enough to make a good quality paper because of the candidate preparation, not of being in a hurry as this is not a selection of good quality candidates, but mainly of mother-tongue or simply faster candidates
- No
- see above
- The time was well spent, so I don't think the time should be shortened in the future.
- For the D paper of this year should be allowed the time of at least 7 hours as earlier.
- Please see above. The papers are actually fairly easy. I would much rather have more difficult problems, and more time to solve them. As it is, I feel as I am being tested on methodology and time management much more than on actual skill.
- I think that more time would have helped me in paper A but I don't think it would have made a significant difference though. Many candidates were critical regarding the time available and were wondering that why can't there be more time. My personal opinion is that the time was sufficient as it was enough to complete all the papers if you knew the syllabus well enough. But even more important in my opinion is the fact that if you are ever to represent a client in oral proceedings, you need to know what you need to say next immediately, you don't have time to go back and check and think. And as oral proceedings are a relevant part of the attorney's work, I think the time available in the EQE should not be increased as it is essential to test this skill of being able to answer right away correctly.
- yes time pressure is too high that logical thinking is not possible anymore and thus failing the exam is only due to being stressed because of time pressure studying during two years and then failing because of being nervous because of time pressure is very hard
- It very depends on the complexity of the papers. I didn't feel that the time for new paper B was too little.
- In this year's pre-examination it was very positive that the object of the claim analysis was pretty easy to understand. Thus it didn't take very much time to understand the technical problems that were presented and one could concentrate on the questions. In my case, more time wouldn't have helped. I had problems with several questions. But in my case, I am sure that more time wouldn't have improved the answers.
- See above.
- Typical time to make the pre-EQE was 2.5 hours. The rest of the time is bonus time to double or triple check certain answers.
- I am very satisfied the C and D exams are now 5 and not 6 hours
- For Paper D I found that was exactly the same length and complexity as the past years, with the additional problem to do it with 2 hours less. The only difference with the past exams was two-three questions D1 less. And nobody needs 2 hours to answer 2 or 3 questions. Thus, I found the exam was not built to be made in 5 hours.
- The time for A and B has not been critical in 2012. However for the (successful) C part, I had fewest points and least time only 15 Minutes left. In 2013 I didn't have enough time for finishing part D. I would have needed 30 60 minutes more !
- Overall time is absolutely sufficient.
- Paper A and the D I part of paper D were very long this year.
- See also question 29: too many complications to be considered for the time available; too many possible Art 56 attacks and too little Art 54 attacks: thus, more than 3 hours were needed for writing the attacks. In older exams less than 2,5 hour were easily enough. Therefore, no time was available for eating, drinking and toilette since time pressure was extreme. I finished the last attack only within the last 5 minutes and that even only without writing full sentences. And I was writing through the whole exam with only roughly 20 minutes for attack analysis (which I did during analysis already) and 10 minutes for claim



analysis (both of which was not that difficult). Time constraint was the essential problem. Here I clearly do not understand the Examination committee: In reality there is NEVER ANY time constraint for writing an opposition. It is the result that counts. And even with 80 hours one makes errors (as I can see in my everyday business). Thus, I personally think that the time constraint imposed by the EQE C 2013 was completely unfair in that one makes errors due to time constraint. I always thought I should show that I manage an opposition (which in reality I did, since I won 4 oppositions and two appeal cases I did all by myself), but making "errors" due to time constraints (such as that I was not able to even re-read what I have written) does not help. The EPO wants to assess my skills in writing an opposition. Even if I have enough time, I certainly still will make errors. Thus, with allowing enough time there still would be a differentiation between candidates (as I can see in my EQE 2012 C, where I had purely 27 points because I obviously did not understand enough how to tackle an C-paper.) For the EQE 2013 C it would have been much better, if there would have been two more novelty attacks (which save a lot of time in writing, since upon analysis using the claims-attack-approach the attack is already finished during analysis) and less possible art 56-attacks. The theme itself, the documents etc. was perfectly fine and very interesting as well. It made to some extent even fun doing the exam, but the time constraint (which I realised during assessing the attacks) put a high pressure in me which does not help...

- More time for paper D or less information/points available or giving one point per statement and not half a point, etc..
- Taking into account that time for answering paper D has been reduced from 7 to 5 hours, I think this paper D was specially difficult and long and there was no time to review the answers. Time has been always a drawback for EQE papers, and Paper D is not a difference. However I think that it is difficult to see where the Paper D has been modified to adapt it to the new duration. I think that it was really difficult due to lack of time. D1 had 2 less questions than in previous D1s but some questions contained more than 2 subquestions. The two last questions regarding to PCT were very long (4-5 subquestions), difficult and laborious. D2 was very similar to previous D2s. I did not see the difference with them. Even now, I cannot see what has been modified, reduced or changed in order to justify that this D2 can be answered in 3 hours instead of 4 hours. I think that this Paper D was not well adapted to the time available to answer it (5 hours in total). This made it specially difficult. I think that with 1 more hour, the answer would have been different.
- Paper D was 2 hours shorter than before, without a break between the parts. I think the work to be done was not reduced in proportion. If I have about 3 hours for part 2, have a lot of details in my mind which should be brought to paper (as they might bring points), and write fluidly, but don't manage to write everything I wanted, I feel justified in concluding that time was far too short. For paper C: If only one attack per claim was expected, then time was sufficient. Otherwise not.
- See comments made under Q29, point 2)
- The time pressure is completely unrealistic and results in mistakes you never would have made in real life. The exam is not testing whether one is fit for practice, but fit to take the exam. Why is it that we need to attend courses just to learn how to sit the exam?
- The time allowed for new D paper was definitely too short. Personally I did not manage to answer all questions and did not have time to double-check the answers for possible mistakes (which easily occur under such time pressure).
- I managed to finish on time, but again, not sure I did good! I answered all, but I will again see from my marks if it were good and sufficient answers or not!
- The pre-exam 2013 was more complicated and difficult, with a greater number of issues to be considered per question as compared to last year's pre-exam and the two mock papers. In view of this, almost all of the four hours was required to answer the paper, however the mock papers and last year's paper took significantly less time to answer (around 2 hours).
- As stated previously Paper B was difficult this year because as candidates, we were the first to sit the three hour paper and no mock examinations were provided. It was therefore very difficult to gauge how much time should be spent on the various parts of the paper.
- Time pressure for exams C and D.

- In general I thought the time was adequate although I did feel time pressure in a couple of papers.
- siehe Q29
- The time pressure during the examination is very high and this facilitates making stupid mistakes.
- i could have scored far more points if i had more time
- DII paper was too much work for the time available
- AT LEAST ONE MORE HOUR PER PAPER IS NECESSARY, IN ORDER FOR CANDIDATES TO ELABORATE BETTER ANSWERS. SUCH TIME PRESSURE, FOR SUCH COMPLEXITY OF SUBJECTS, RARELY HAPPENS IN REAL LIFE. EQE SHOULD EMPHASIZE LESS ON SPEED. THIS IS NOT A FORMULA 1 RACE.
- The time allowed for papers C and D was not enough in view of the issues to be dealt with. This for non-mothertongue candidates puts an additional time pressure which does not allow to properly structure arguments and correctly discuss all the scenarios.
- Die Zusammenfassung von DI und DII in einen Termin mit geringerem Zeiteinsatz ist m.E. sehr positiv, besonders für Kandidaten die noch weitere zwei Tage vor sich haben.
- simple question: why stressing the candidate with such short time frame. it looks like an additional obstacle to the success, not like a help or a support to the candidate. increasing the available time would result in a higher number of successful candidates!
- Paper D: really too little time. Compared to the previous version (DI:3H and DII: 4H), the 5 hours allocated to both DI and DII was really too short. There were still long 6 questions for D1, so that it made it difficult to assess when to stop answering the DI questions and start with the DII questions.
- C-Paper: For a major part of the exam you test fitness and the capability for Fast writing but not for Understanding. E.g. 1/2 hour more could correct for such parameters, while still testing understanding. If you don't understand the problems and issues the additional 1/2 hour is unlikely to help you, but it certainly helps if you know what you want to write but you don't have enough time to finish or to complete your arguments. Think about it!
- Under the new format of paper D puts candidates under even more time pressure.
- Instead of allowing for more time, the complexity of the content should be reduced.
- I would like to have at least 30 mn more.
- Of course everybody would like infinite amounts of time.
- As already mentioned, the paper C this year was allocated 5 hours for the first time this year (instead of 6 hours in the past years). However, I had the distinct feeling that the paper was not properly adapted for the reduced time for answering/sitting the exam. Contrary to mock exams that I sat for the past years papers (8 in total), I did not have enough time to carry out all of the attacks I thought were necessary for the C-paper.
- not enough this time there was an hour less for paper C and the same difficulty also documents were very long to read
- 30 Minutes more for Paper a
- This year, time was really the limiting factor...
- It would be good adding 1 hour more in C and D papers to help to finish the exam, or better if the statement of the papers was shorter in order to manage less information.
- Yes. I think that the main objective of the EQE is to prepare good patent attorneys, which means good knowledge of the EPC, be able to work in complicated cases, and so on.... However, during the daily work as patent attorney you are not so time-pressured. You have more time to make decisions, go over the prior art, study the case, etc. So, I think that the time available for the examination should not be so restricted because this situation doesn't reflect the real life. I think that there are a lot of candidates with a deep knowledge that are failing because of time restrictions.
- There is time-pressure in paper D, but I am not sure if this is altered during the 2013-structure (5hr D) it's always been there. Having taken Paper A,B,C earlier and D first time this year, I did feel more time pressure in D than the others. Somehow it may be good because if you had plenty of time 'anyone' may more easily pass without the proper amount

of studying (which does make you a better IP advisor). I think 'easy' marks are lost because in part I of paper D you simply forget to write all details (legal basis) because of the time pressure.

- Still many questions and many documents in DII eventough the time had been limited.
- Lack of time was a very obvious and very real problem. The questions were not simplified enough as compared to the earlier structures, so did not correspond with the reduced time available and so completing everything within the available time was not manageable.
- Please see Q29 above, which addresses both difficulty and time pressures of the examination papers.
- cf. comments on Q29
- I don't like the new Paper D as it makes it difficult to decide how much time should be spent on Part I and Part II. The previous arrangement of Paper D is much better. I don't understand why EPO has made such change.
- For my oppinion the main objective should be to solve the problem as a whole and not to solve the problem "quick and dirty" under time pressure.
- I think there was a lot to read and a lot of details to pick up in paper D considering the time available. Even the answering within the time limits would have been challenging, but reading the questions and extracting all the relevant facts took a lot of time, leaving far too little time for the answering part.
- It seems that with the new D format candidates will lose relatively more points when they give an incomplete answer because the marks available for a question are higher than in the past.
- I think the time pressure was there but not too big. But the problem is the concentration. If you have a physical problem on this SINGLE day (as me) the time pressure is inaceptable.
- when the candidate using a language that is not her/his mothertongue the difficult to remember and to individual the pieces of definitions included in the documents, for paper C, or to organize the pieces of informations in the paper D increases a lot. I think that 30 minutes more could be enough to finish papers C and D.
- Paper B had an adequate time pressure. Paper C, adequate difficulty, but I feel incertain of the outcome of my answers due to lack of time.
- I really think that more time and less stress from the papers of the days before would have of course improved my performance for paper C
- Der Zeitdruck während der Prüfung, insbesondere im Aund C-Teil ist nach wie vor enorm, so dass dieser Aspekt im Grunde die eigentliche Prüfung darstellt. Das hat jedoch mit der Praxis nichts zu tun. Da die Abfrage von Wissen und Können im Vordergrund stehen sollte, ist zu überlegen, ob der Schwerpunkt der Prüfung richtig gesetzt wird bzw. wurde. Die extrem hohe Durchfallerquote ließe sich damit sicherlich erheblich reduzieren.
- D PAPER ONLY ONE MORE HOUR IT IS FAR ADVISABLE.
- If C is to be an hour shorter, a either less complicated attacks are needed or shorter attacks. It was by far to time-pressed this year. A and B were as expected and ok, also the new B.
- Sufficient. There has to be limited time available.
- Those denying the time pressure on the candidates know nothing about this examnation or forgot about it. there is time pressure and not because people are not well prepared, just because this examination is disconnected from real business.
- New B vs other years – more tricky, proposed claims increase the analyze time needed and complexity but the time was reduced 1h.... Absolutely not understood !!!! New C vs other years. Same n.º of pages to analyze (C2010 25 pages ; C2011 25 pages ; C2012 24 pages; C2013 24 pages) vs reduction 1h... Absolutely not understood !!!! New D vs other years. DI 6 legal questions very detailed and a lot of sub-questions in several parts, I consider impossible to conclude with accuracy; probably 5 short questions will be ok in 2 hours. In DII part also a high number of dates to analyze.
- I have disliked the new structure of the D-part. Even if this year was my first sitting for this paper, I had throughly worked with the previous years exams available in the Compendium, so I have the impression that the time pressure this year has been higher. With the old type D-exam, in the D-I part there was also a high time pressure, but in D-II you had more time to

think and deal with the proposed problem. This year there was not enough time to deal with both D-I and D-II. Due to time pressure I had to leave blank some parts that I actually knew how to do. Really frustrating after a hard preparation for the exam not being able to properly answer all the questions, and being forced to rush through all the subjects.

- As mentioned above, the time available for paper D, in particular for DI, was far not enough.
- If the time of the exam is decreased, the information/instruction should be clear, concise and unambiguous.... like claims! and not fuzzy as it was
- See Q29
- For Paper D, I believe that the subject matter of this year is the same as previous years but with two hours less.
- L'épreuve D, en particulier les questions DI, était vraiment longue. il était difficile de faire l'épreuve D dans le temps imparti.
- I think time pressure and difficulty are interlinked issues. In paper D there seems to be insufficient time to do justice to both an answer to the legal opinion and each one of the legal questions. Time pressure unnecessarily makes a seemingly easy question more difficult which increases the overall difficulty of the paper beyond what it would be if there was more time.
- No experience in dealing with the new scheme of paper D: the larger number of points per question compared to typical questions from the compendium and also to older examination experiences incited myself to allocate too much time for the individual tasks which resulted in a severe time pressure.
- The available time for all papers is not enough, especially for papers C and D and should be extended.
- Paper C was allocated an hour less in 2013 than in 2012, yet it seemed to require an answer of similar length and greater complexity.
- It is not enough for Paper C!!! I do not know for Paper D Since I have not done it yet.
- It was difficult to answer to the question of DI within 2 hours. The level of DI questions in 2013 was more difficult than the level of DI questions during the previous years.
- see Q27b), D2 type appeared very long to me considering the time available
- Documents for claim analysis were easily understandable. This saved a lot of time.
- Too little time, especially in D but also in B. You still have to spend time on the claims but you have 1 hour less
- no comments
- The time was too short. In D part approximately 2 hours were missing and in C part approximately 1 hour too short.
- In my opinion the reduced time for paper D was not consistent with the quantitative of questions and cases to be answered and commented. In other words, the paper D 2013 was not shorter in respect of paper D of the previous years in which there was more time at candidates' disposal.
- ID TO VERY LESS.
- more than 4 hours is exhausting, specially if you have another exam the day after
- The missing clarity in the pre-exam is not really going to be solved by more time...
- The greatest difficulty was time, especially for C and D (even with good prepared material). For B it takes more time to check the amended claims given than to amend the claims according to the office action. I believe more than 40% of the candidates would pass, if they get one hour extra time in C or D. In the job it is much more important to solve a problem correctly, than to solve it within minimum of time. So I do not understand, why "time pressure" and how the candidate can tolerate it, is chosen as main criterion for "fit for practice".
- DII part of new D paper appeared just as time-consuming as previous years despite reduction in time available
- the diminution of time for papers C and D seems to have been not well handled by the examination committee.
- The time for Papers C and D is already too long but Papers are often too much complex for the given time and thus it is not possible to think and make an adequate analysis. In my

case and this year, more 30m could make difference (Paper A and Paper C)...or less 1 claim.

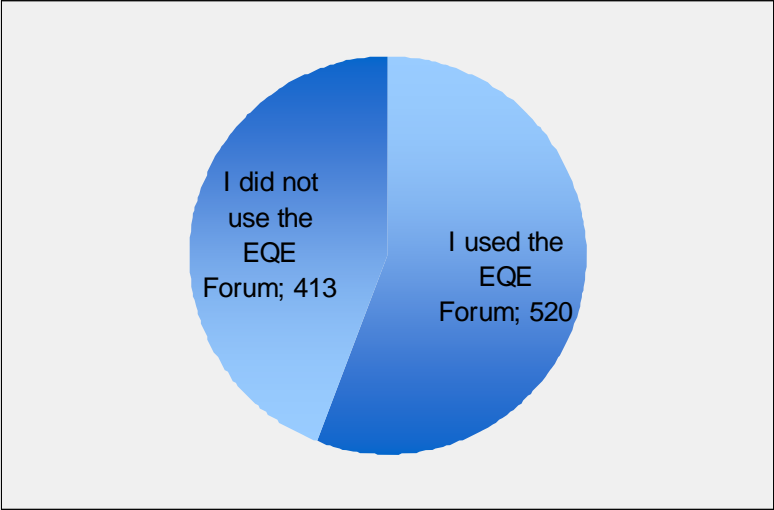
- D1 2013 : Questions were too long to read
- The time available appears to be adequate
- See above
- 0.5 h more for paper C 1.0 h more for paper D
- Time pressure for paper D and C is enormous. I found it extremely disappointing as the candidates do not have the opportunity to really perform as good as they are prepared. In my opinion I was prepared much better than I could perform in both papers. If more time was allowed I would not make the mistakes (wrongly copying the date from the question, etc.) in paper D and would be able to finish the attack of claim 2 in paper C.
- See q29
- As already said, the time is too short to provide complete response.
- There were a couple of issues raised in the paper which warranted more time spent on them than was available.
- Eine der Hauptschwierigkeiten war es, in der Zeit fertig zu werden !!! (das kann eigentlich nicht der Sinn einer Qualitätsprüfung sein) B-Teil: Das kontrollieren/anpassen des vorgegebenen Anspruchssatzes braucht genauso viel Zeit wie das selber verfassen (es wurde aber um eine Stunde gekürzt)
- Time is of course a relevant criteria for an examination. Part C is very complex with much information to be handled in too short time. At least if one does not see the right way initially, he will be lost due to lack of time.
- C-part: 1 hour more D-part 1/2 hour more
- enough time
- The time provided to complete the pre-examination is quite generous.
- Papers C and D there was not sufficient time, if a candidate wanted to score full points, with the time given, especially for paper D, the time provided was not sufficient.
- Generally, the reduced time available was accommodated by less amount of questions/volume. Still, to maintain old marking schemes the complexity of questions/tasks were increased leading to same amount of time needed to complete the papers as under old time schedule.
- The time schedule for answering the questions of the examination papers is far away from practice. In practice, one has sufficient time to analyse and answer respective questions. However, it is understood that time pressure is part of the examination. Therefore, the minutes per questions to solve it seem to be adequate.
- See above
- I'm a slow reader and a slow writer and that is a real challenge for me.
- I was probably 30 minutes from completing paper C to my satisfaction. I was probably 1 hour from completing paper D to my satisfaction. I suggest reviewing the time constraints as the examination should not be so much about completing them quickly, but to completing them accurately, as would be the case in actual practice.
- The amount of writing is very much; for people writing slowly this is a major handicap.
- As no mock papers were available in the format of the 2013 exams, it was not possible to practice papers to the time that was available on the day. This made time management more difficult.
- D too long but 5 hours is adequate and D1 should be suppressed
- I cannot understand why time shall be a factor to pass such examination. Good legal work requires careful consideration
- In paper C: You have a lot of time pressure Time pressure leads to overlooking relevant information After 2 to 3 hours, you realize that you overlooked information which lack in doing proper novelty attacks and attacks on inventive step. £At this point of time, you already know that you won't pass the C paper. It seems that you have to wait for the right year in which a C paper is presented which fits to you personally
- paper C: 5 hours is really borderline for almost 10 complete attacks, it's good choice for deleting legal question paper D: the combined effect of one module exam + 2 hours less

make the exam artificially difficult

- To much time pressure, so someone know the correct answers but in this situation of so less time it is nearly impossible to bring your knowledge on paper. In this time pressure you have to decide if you will answer every question with mistakes or you give yourself time to do not every question... This is critical for DII-Part, because mistakes will accumulate.
- The time pressure was experienced as higher than during training on past papers.
- Well...if the time could run slowmotion during the examination it would be great!
- Time is not enough to read the documents and write the notice of opposition
- no comment
- For a non mother tongue EN, DE, FR candidate, more time should be allowed
- 6 hours for C paper should be reestablished. more time for D papers also.
- I think the time available was OK, though, of course, there was adequate time pressure.
- Um Paper D in der zur Verfügung stehenden Zeit zu schaffen, muss man die Lösung im Wesentlichen kennen, da zum Nachschauen in den Gesetzestexten kaum Zeit verbleibt. Ferner ist es insbesondere bei Teil 2 das Problem, dass man viel Glück haben muss, um exakt diejenigen Punkte herauszufiltern, die aus Sicht des Korrektors relevant sind, um somit keine Zeit für vermeintlich "unwichtige" Punkte zu verlieren.
- The control of time is the main difficulty of C-paper. To write a good notice of opposition a proper analysis and argumentation is required. The quality and quantity of the response is dramatically decreased due to the time pressure (this is even more important when you are not DE/FR/GB native speaker). To perform a valuable response within the 5h time, the Paper should be shorter and simpler.
- see answer to Q29
- 5 hours are sufficiently long exams The length of the subject should be shorter
- Reduction of time is good but content of exam should fit...
- More time should be provided to candidates that do not have English, French or German as their mother tongue.
- see above: Please: Just give some more time. Failing because of lack of time does not mean that you are not fit to practice. In practice, it just means that you earn a little bit less money, but earning a little bit less is not as hard as failing a paper...
- Way too much time pressure in paper D. Very stressful! Paper C did not seem significantly shortened compared to previous years, so time pressure there too. Did not have time to finish last attack.
- see above
- It simply is not long enough !!
- In my opinion the amount of time for Paper C was too short.
- Didn't sit B (ch), but can't remove it from form. First, working under time pressure is quite usual for a patent attorney. Hence, absorbing and acting on a set of information in a limited time frame is a relevant criterion for becoming an EPA. Second, the status of an EPA would decrease should the criteria for becoming one lax. I would like the status. Hence, I do not think the time available should be changed.
- During the pre-examination it has been more than enough time to check answers to the legal questions in literature.

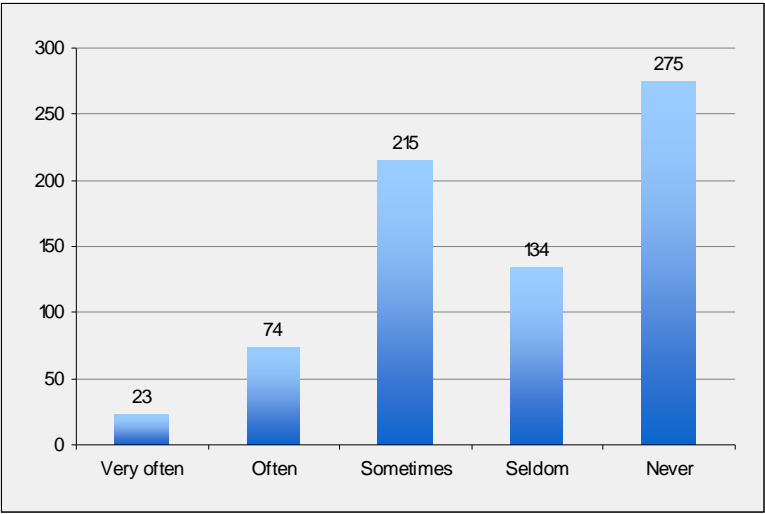
# Chapter 5 - Training from the European Patent Academy

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

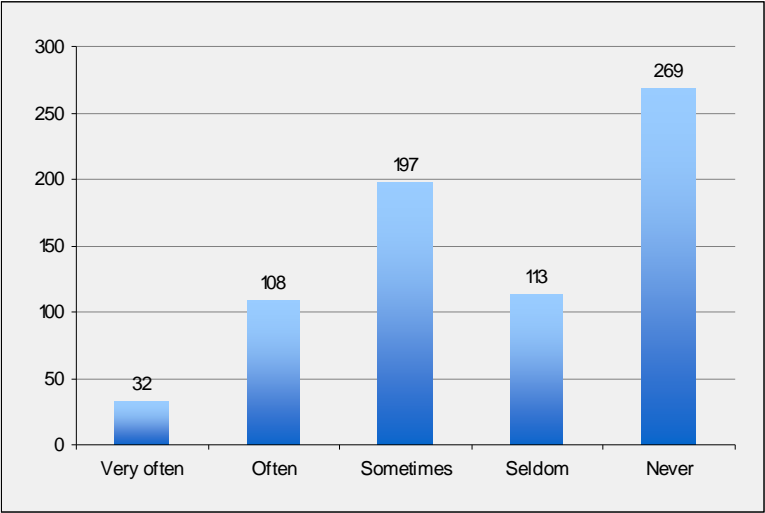


## Q34) How actively did you use the following services?

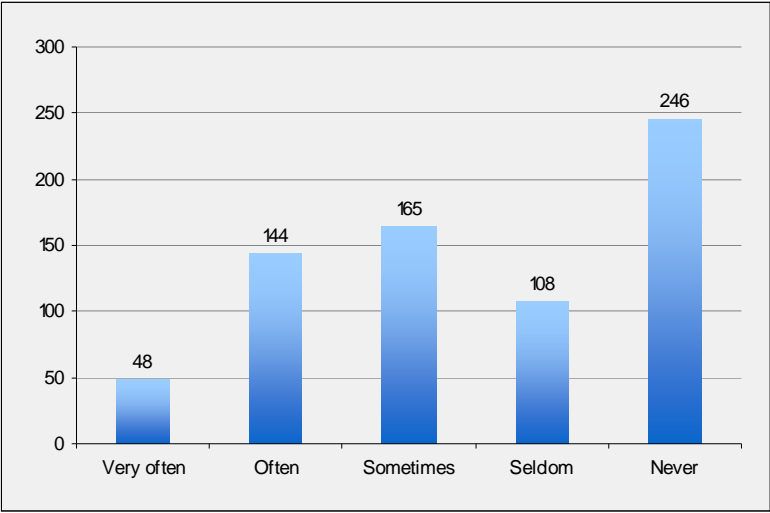
Discussion of general topics



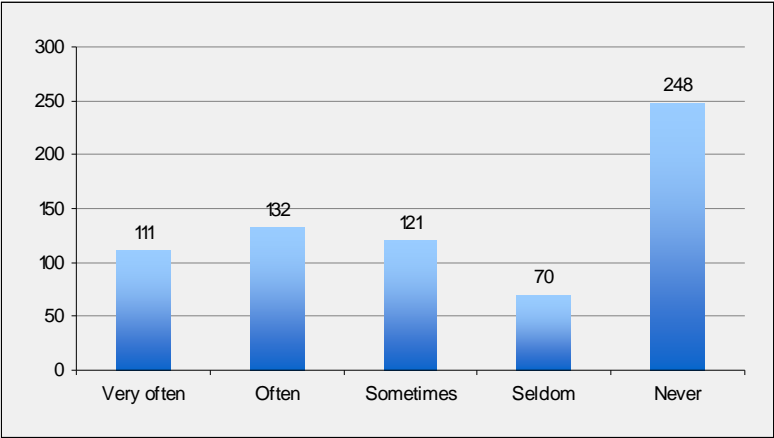
Discussion of Examination Papers



Commented answer papers



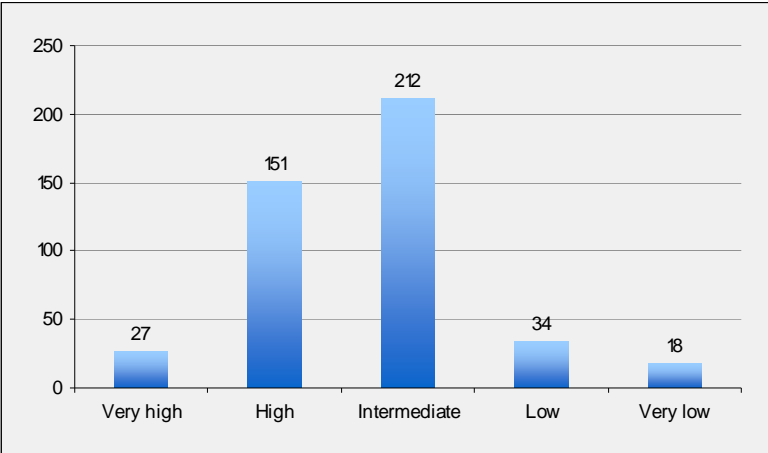
Paper D questions



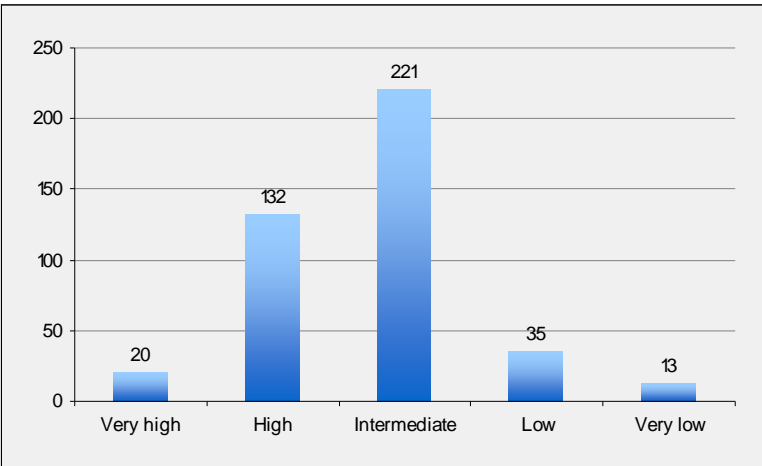


**Q35) Please rate the following sections of the EQE Forum on a scale**

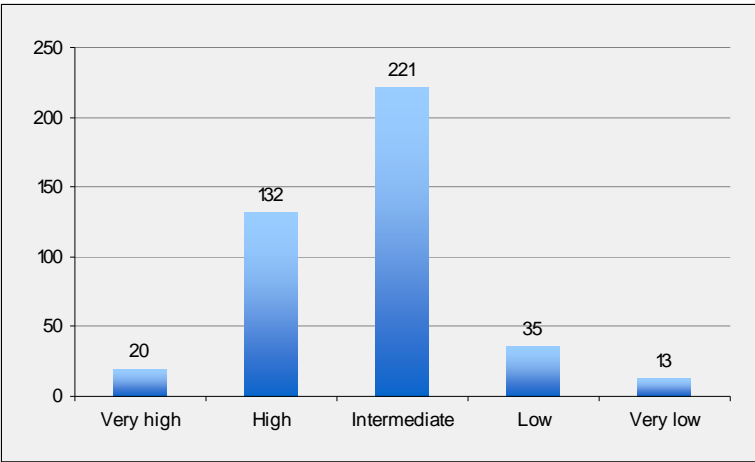
Discussion of general topics: General usefulness



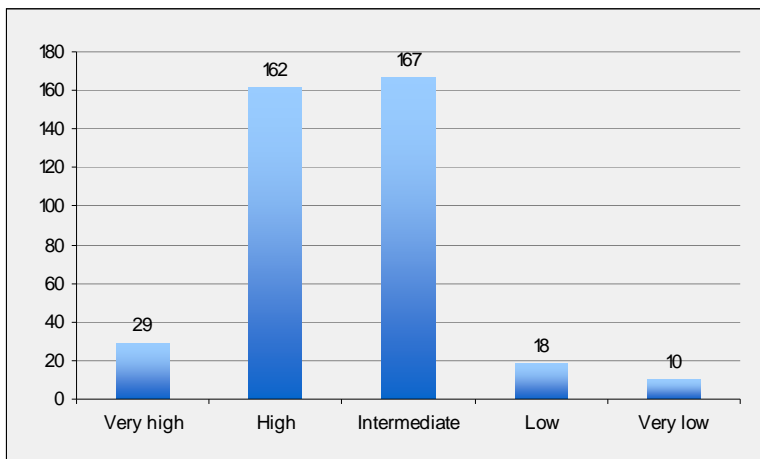
Discussion of general topics: Quality of material



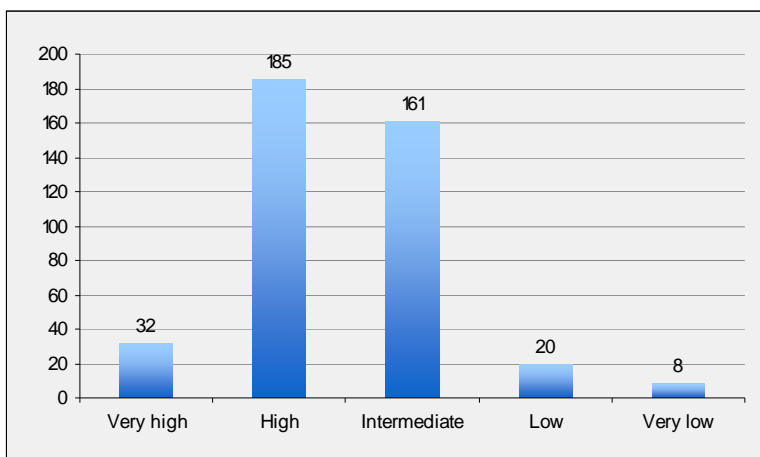
Discussion of general topics: Quality of responses to questions



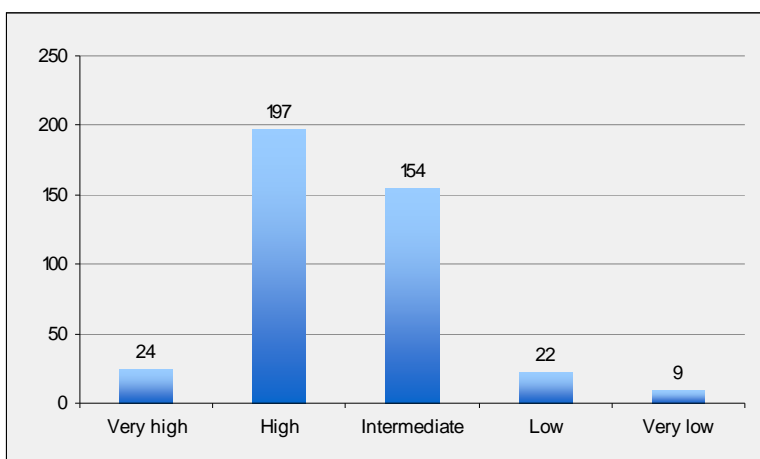
### Discussion of general topics: Timeliness of responses



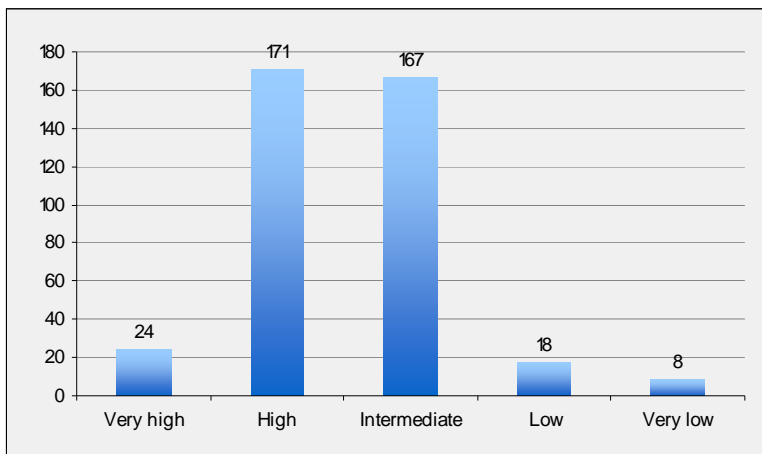
### Discussion of examination papers: General usefulness



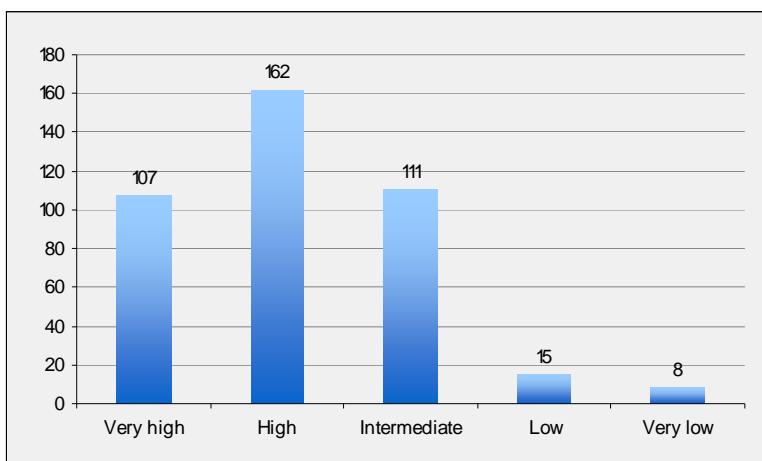
### Discussion of examination papers: Quality of responses



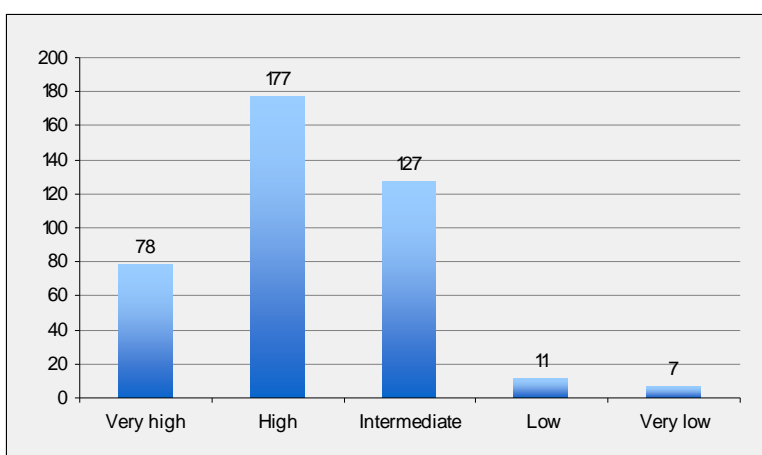
### Discussion of examination papers: Timeliness of responses



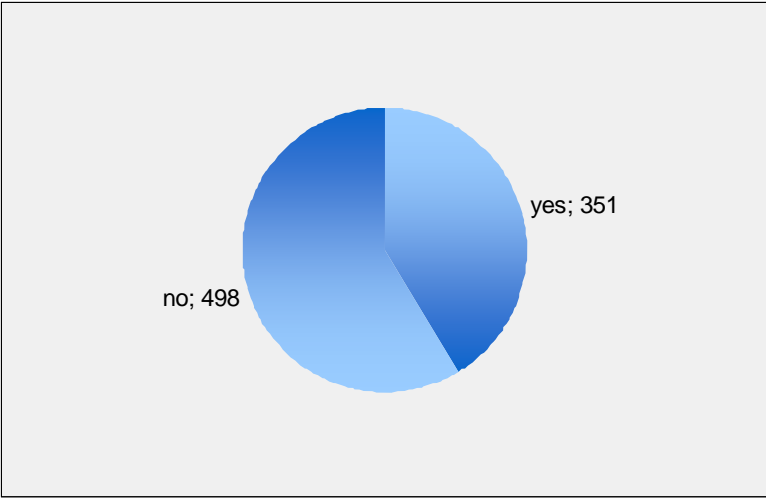
### Paper D questions: General usefulness



### EQE Commented Answer Papers: General usefulness

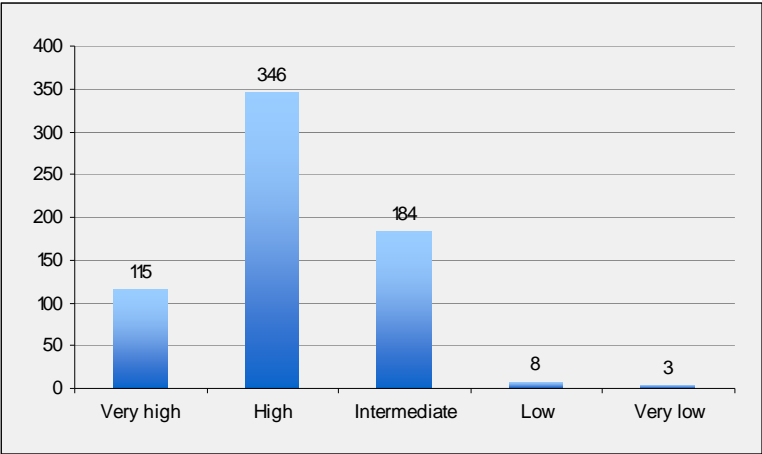


**Q36) Are you aware of the programme "Praktika Intern - internships for patent professionals" directed at present and future professional representatives?**

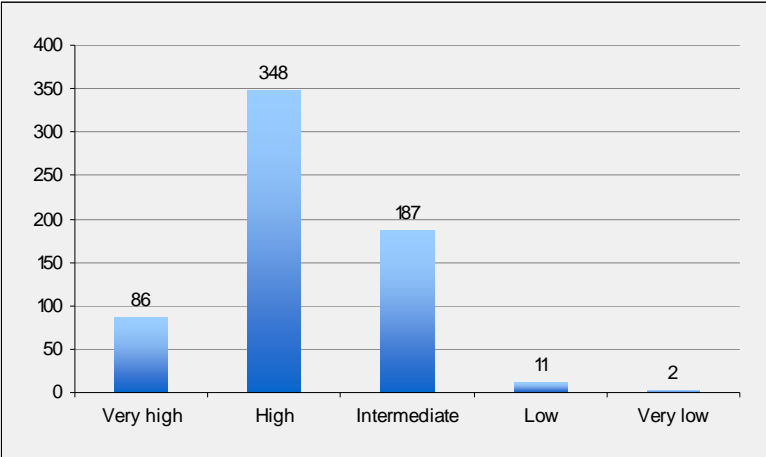


**Q37) Please rate the eqe-online.org website on a scale**

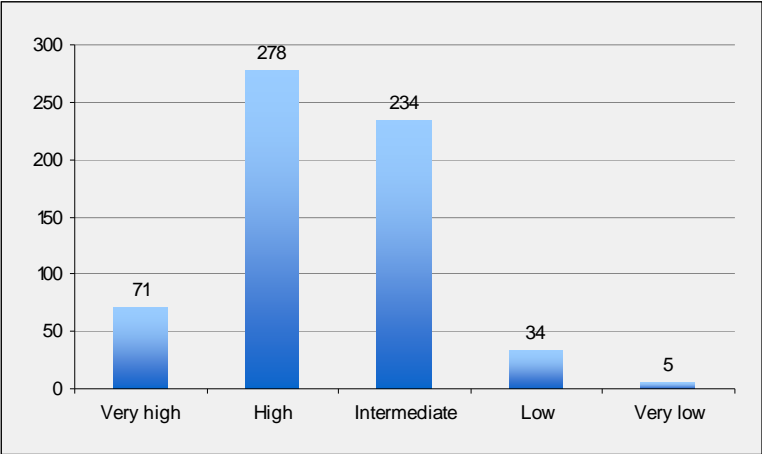
General usefulness



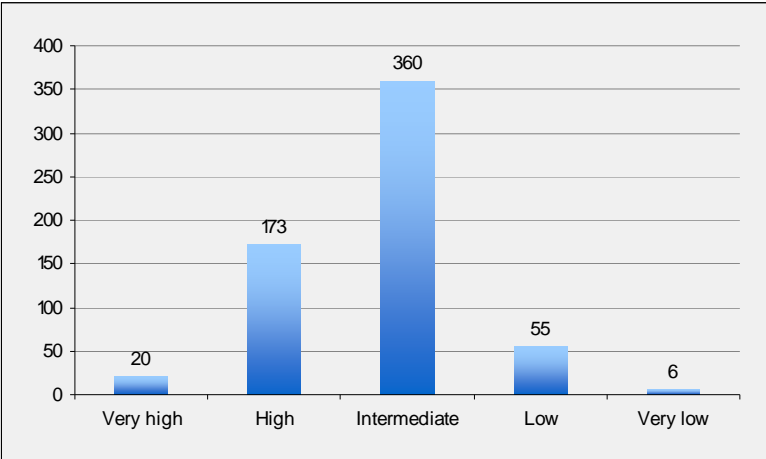
Relevance of covered topics



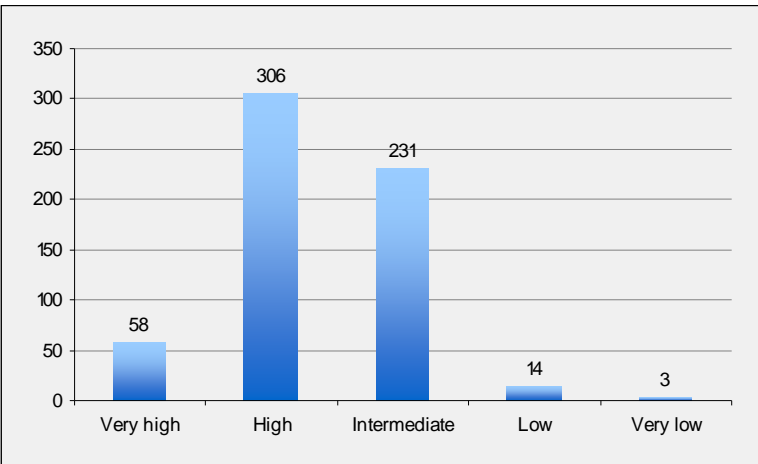
Ease of use of the tool



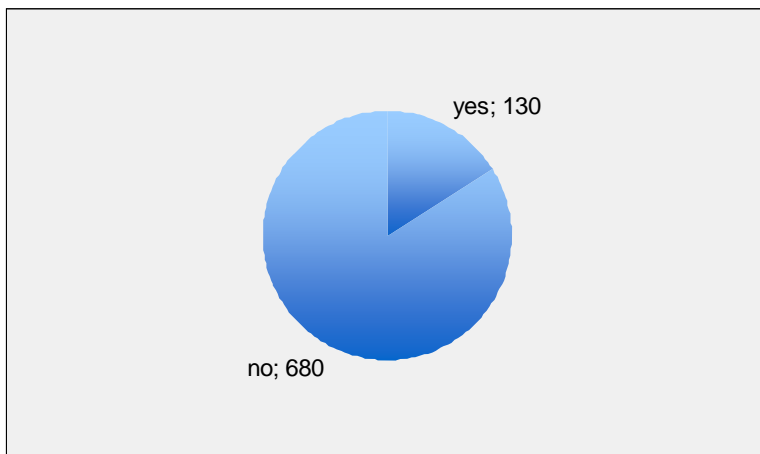
Level of difficulty



Quality of the model answers and comments

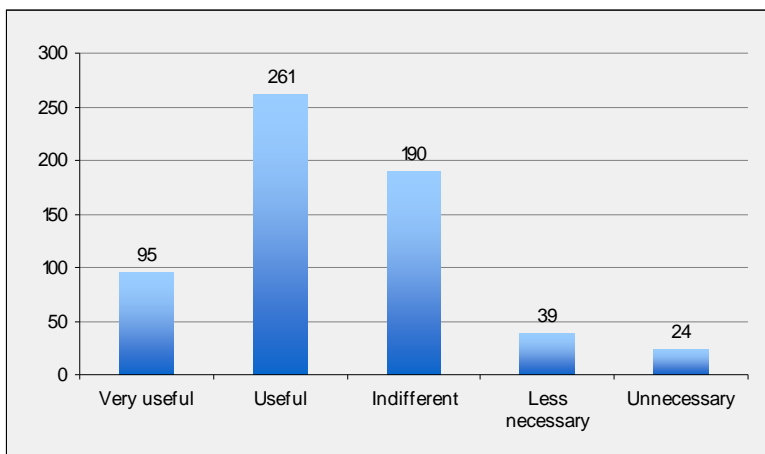


**Q38) Did you discuss any of the EQE online exercises with your supervisor/tutor?**

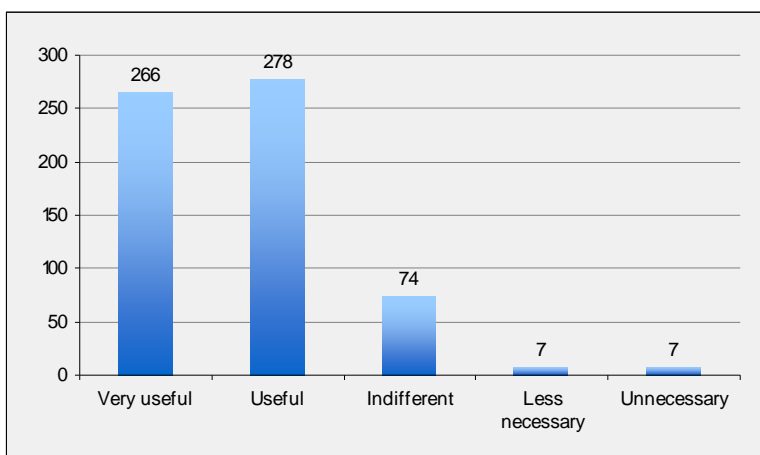


**Q39) How could the EQE online service be best integrated into your preparation for the EQE?**

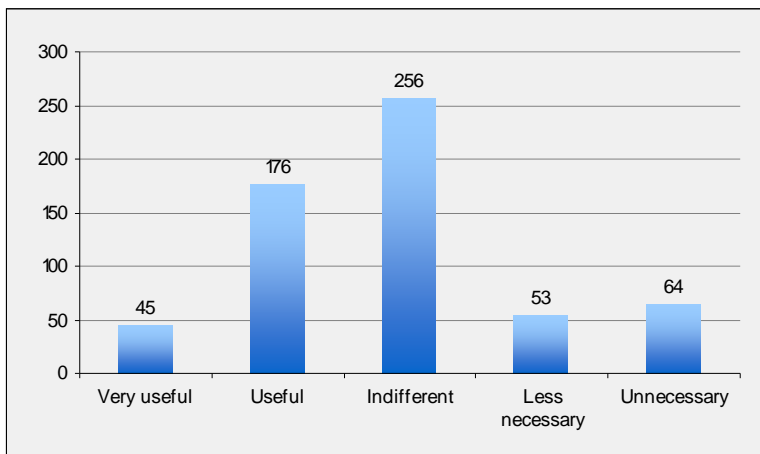
Providing last minute help on a broad range of topics



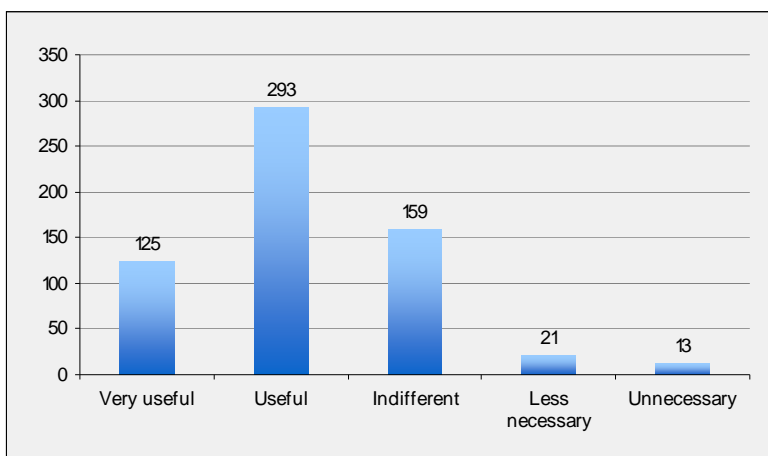
Providing tutorial-like exercises with model answers and an opportunity to discuss



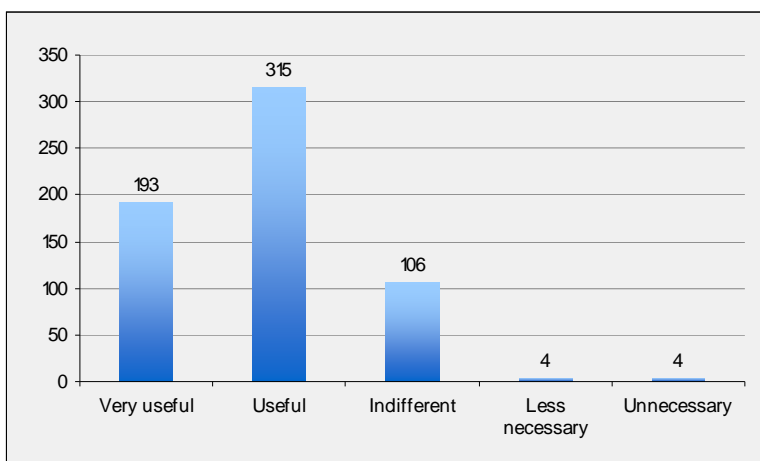
Serving as a basis for discussion with your supervisor/tutor



Time schedule of the exercise



Quality of the model answers and comments



Other, please specify:

- I did not use the EQE forum
- also improve the EQE coffee break questions, making it longer
- more mock pre-exams with detailed answers and publishing of all pre-exams with solution and exact explanation of the solution (especially claim analysis)

- Show the evaluation system
- provide explanations about how the marks are distributed.
- not applicable
- sans objet (pré-examen)
- I resat and I did know what was expected from me
- it should start much earlier

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

- The responses were always fast and helpful. Thank you.
- More D-II related exercises
- I found the EQE forum incredibly helpful in preparing for the 2012 pre-exam. However, it seemed to be less useful in my preparation for the main EQEs. This is possible because I was much busier at work and didn't really have sufficient time to engage with the forum this time around.
- I didn't know of the usefulness of EQE Forum until today. I still don't know anything about EQE online.
- updates should be done more frequently
- I found the searchability of the forum not that great. If you want to see if there is a discussion somewhere about a certain question of a certain mock examination, it is not so clear (to me, as a sporadic user of the forum) to find where it is or how to search for it. For example, the question: "Is there something about question 11.4 of the mock pre-exam of March 2012 on the forum?" Sometimes someone writes Q11.4, the search function does not seem to find "11.4" (with the ".").
- I find the EQE Wiki very helpful. A large part of the preparation for the EQE consists of gathering information on a number of topics. In this regard, the EQE Wiki is very helpful.
- More training material on D-II paper needed. I suggest providing short paper D-II case to be answered by the candidates at home. Then tutors from the EQE-forum will post the answer. This will help candidates having problems about answering the strategic situation presented in a D-II scenario.
- I believe that although online courses are useful, free/subsidised courses and lectures ran by the EPO and other organisations for preparing for the EQE would be much better. Many candidates would like to attend EQE preparation courses but do not have the funds to do so.
- It would be nice to put more "powerpoint-presentations" available. There are a number of good EPO-presentations floating around, e.g. given in a course. Unfortunately, these are often only available to course-participants. From time to time we get to see some of those (e.g. about R71, R71a changes), when a colleague goes to such a course, but that kind of information should/could be made available to EVERYONE. (of course, giving courses is big business ...)
- I liked very much the opportunity to be able to submit past papers for correction, but the problem is you have to see the post on time, it seems to be very appreciated!
- I really liked D1 questions.
- Make more advertising of it, please!
- I was very pleased with the Coffee break questions send by email.
- it should be useful to have at least a paper corrected and marked by a tutor in the forum
- Daily paper D questions were great. Similar exercises for other question papers should be tried. Online quiz for preparation of pre-exam (multiple choice answers) would be nice, along with proper explanation of the answers if the wrong answer is entered.
- Part D: Please write down the current date on all DI and DII parts. It is hard if you are doing old papers or even some newer ones and you do not know at which date the exam was sat; Part B and C: please update the problem solution approach. Or at least please add one page telling the people that today Document A2 would be the closest state of the art because of the same function; All Papers: I know that you produce far more exams than actually needed



which are carefully sorted out and then locked up forever in a closet. Please Upload them to the public so that more exams (even if they are not that good) are available for practice. I am sure that they are much better than every exams made by any tutor at ceipi or DP or...

- I think in general it is important not to be under so much time pressure during the exam. As psychological pressure is already increased because of the extraordinary situation (difficult, only once a year, pressure from the company, etc.) and therefore cognitive capabilities are already diminished, there is enough pressure already inherent in the EQE exams. Being able to work fast is, to my opinion, not a feature the EPO should/can assess. More important is the quality of the answers. The working velocity will develop afterwards in the competition with other attorney for mandates. Therefore, there should always be enough time for answering the questions, like in the pre-exam this year.
- Keep up the very good work
- I received good quality answers to my questions within short notice
- I have to admit that I tried twice to connect to the site and did not succeed (however, according to the colleague who troubleshoots the computer problems in my department I have a special aura, so it's nothing to do with your site)
- more commented D-papers
- I would like to have more exercises for paper c, other than the compendium.
- It would be very helpful to organize an online training course for the EQE main exam.
- Daily D1 Questions were a main source of exercise for me and even helped me during the exam.
- No
- besides past EQE papers, providing more mock papers and model answers with emphasis to legal etc issues
- I found it as a distraction
- /
- I liked the personal contact to the tutor.
- Less quantity (discussion forums, etc) more quality (high quality analysis of compendium questions for example)
- no very nice tool
- Make questions on finding closest prior art.
- I have not used EQE online or EQE forum for preparation for Paper A which I sat in EQE 2013, but I will use them for preparation of B, C and D
- Never heard of the EQE Forum or eqe-online.org. Sorry
- It is a mess. You cannot find concise information but only a lot of talk
- I do not like it at all, never will use, takes a lot of time and very unproductively, just a chat, not clear whether write or wrong waste of time for me.
- Getting daily questions sent by e-mail was very good, please do more of this :) Much easier to assimilate a lot of information in small frequent portions, and this was a good way to see what needed more studying.
- I did the pre-examination online training course. The course helped me a lot. The course gives a timeline and the members can work through it chapter by chapter at flexible times. There were many review questions controlling the learned contents. In case of difficulties with the understanding of the EPC, the tutors answered the questions. The chapters were all relevant to understand the EPC and to the actual case law. The course led me step by step to the knowledge necessary for the eqe pre-examination. If there were similar online courses offering learning at flexible time of the day, leading me step by step to the necessary knowledge and training the necessary skills for the main examination parts, I would certainly subscribe for them. Another point are printable versions of questions and answers. Although it is an online service, it is in many cases helpful to have a printed version to work with or to make tests under examination conditions.
- Better organisation of topics and better indexing.
- Found D1 daily questions and forum very helpful. It would be good to have a similar training for D2 questions as well.
- Sorry didn't use any of the above, only delta patents and past papers.

- e-Tutorials and summaries similar to the e-modules available for the preparation on the pre-exam, but at a D-exam level covering the entire syllabus would be nice to have.
- Some answers to questions require you to log in. It would be more convenient if no log in were required.
- none
- Did not use the EQE Forum at all. Used past papers and other study guides from my exam practice.
- daily D question is really useful for preparing paper D. Hope the tutors could mark more examples of DII compendium so that candidates may understand in which direction they should answer for DII questions.
- new updated version (EPC2000 and/or new guidelines, Rules and caselaw) of solution for older papers would be nice. A test of how the new B would look like would have been helpful to. Same to the new C (and according to others that sat the D this year) also the D.
- Provide deeper analysis of the Examining answers. Those are too "light".
- no
- no
- Hats off to the tutors, particularly djackson and ppollard. Thanks guys.
- I only received the first 25 questions of the coffee break questions and never from the 26th and beyond. I sent a message but there was no reply.
- For Paper D there are a number of questions that are not present in the Compendium. I would find very useful to see more fresh case-study that resemble mini EQE Papers in order to allow to discuss in depth some important aspects of each Paper. For example, information to draft a patent application resembling Paper A but not as long to discuss how or the relevant aspects of a product-by-process claim. And the same for the other Papers. In this way, the candidates could learn little by little without having to make a whole Compendium Paper and to be restricted to the view of the Examining Committee of that year on certain aspect.
- nach Sprachen unterteilt
- Gestaltung und Übersicht könnte besser sein. Manchmal ist es sehr zeitraubend, etwas zu finden.
- no
- Feedback was always well received and very useful simply to get another person's opinion.
- -
- Exercises concerning the second part of paper D could be useful
- I particularly like the idea of the online exercises being linked to my supervisor so that they are aware of what is available.
- Exam paper: I do not see why it is not possible to get a corrected copy of one's exam papers after all, I spend much time and money on the EQE preparation and year after year I do NOT pass the exam which is the first exam I ever didn't pass in my life I got an ERASMUS and DAAD scholarship, my diploma, my Ph.D. and the German Patent Attorney Exam everything right away and now I have been an EPO resitter already for several years.... ..and I do not see that the EPO spends much effort on improving the EQE preparation for candidates ... however, the examination fees are getting more expensive ...
- I checked the discussion after the B paper test. Found it very good to share your thoughts/reasoning with other people in the same situation. (I mean these issues that can't be discussed at home with the children or the wife.