

Survey

European qualifying examination 2014

Examination Secretariat

EQE Survey 2014

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Introduction

On 28 February 2014 candidates were invited to participate in a survey concerning the European qualifying examination 2014. 1369 answers were received by 7 April 2014.

Among the candidates who participated in the survey, 775 took part in the EQE for the first time, 567 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 2014

Seite 1

Please give your EQEReg number *

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 2014?

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	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Identification check	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Lighting conditions	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Space for candidates	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Restroom facilities	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Suitability of the examination hall	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Q5) Examination centres - rating

	Too warm	Ideal	Too cold
Hall temperature	☐	☐	☐

Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

Please add your comments

Seite 2

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	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
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 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?

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

☐☐☐☐☐

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

☐☐☐☐☐

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 2014

	Too easy	Easy	Adequate	Difficult	Too difficult
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) Which of the following best describes the technical area you are working in?☐ Biochemistry☐ Chemistry☐ Electronics☐ Mechanics☐ Physics☐ Other

Q27b) What reference book was the most useful for the PREPARATION of the pre-examination?

Several answers are possible

☐ EPC

☐ Guidelines for Examination in the EPO

☐ Case Law of the Boards of Appeal

Other (please specify)

Q27c) What reference book was the most useful WHILE SITTING the pre-examination?

Several answers are possible

☐ EPC

☐ Guidelines for Examination in the EPO

☐ Case Law of the Boards of Appeal

Other (please specify)

Q27d) How did you allocate the available time during the pre-examination?

☐ 30% or less of the time for the claim analysis section

☐ 40% of the time for the claim analysis section

☐ 50% of the time for the claim analysis section

☐ 60% of the time for the claim analysis section

☐ 70% or more of the time for the claim analysis section

Q27e) With regards to the pre-examination, do you have any comments concerning for instance the instructions to the candidates or the marking scheme?

Q27f) Did studying for and sitting the pre-examination help you prepare for the main part of the examination?

Only answer if you sat the main examination

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 2014?

	Too much	Enough	Borderline	Not enough	By far not enough
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?

	Yes	Indifferent	No
Please choose	☐	☐	☐

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 (www.eqe-online.org) of the European Patent Academy and online services

☐ I used the EQE Forum

☐ I did not use the EQE Forum

Q34) How actively did you use the following services?

Please rate on a scale

	Very often	Often	Sometimes	Seldom	Never
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

	Very high	High	Intermediate	Low	Very low
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?☐ yes☐ no**Q37) Please rate the eqe-online.org website on a scale**

	Very high	High	Intermediate	Low	Very low
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?☐ 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	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
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:

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

End of survey

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

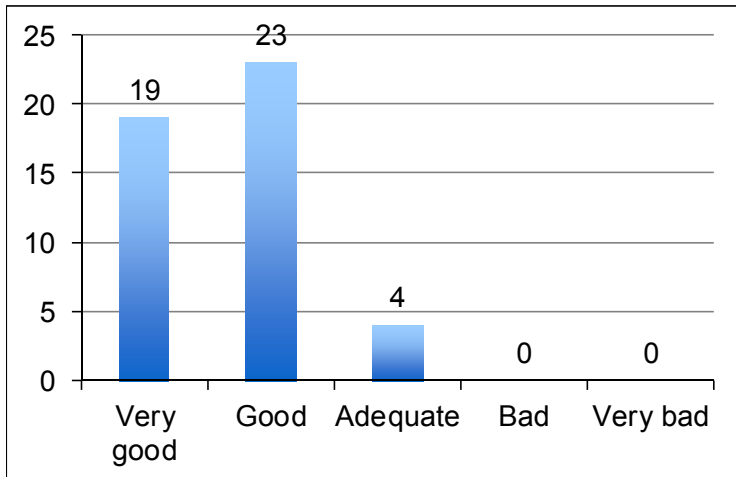
Thank you for participating in the survey.

Chapter 1 – Examination Centres

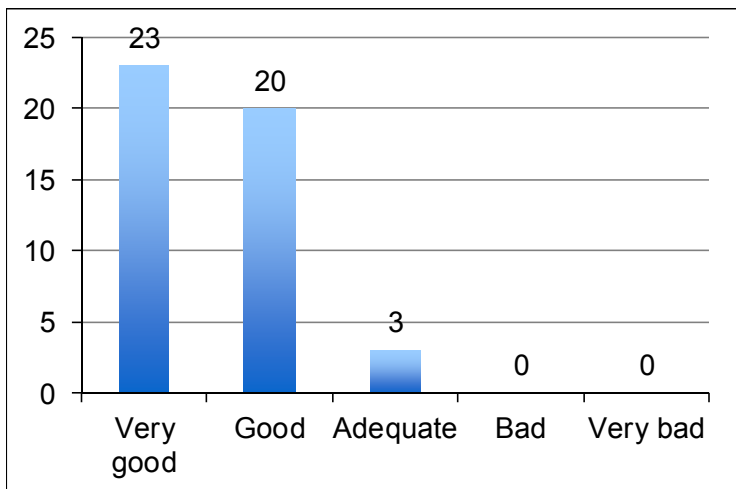
1.1 Berlin (46 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

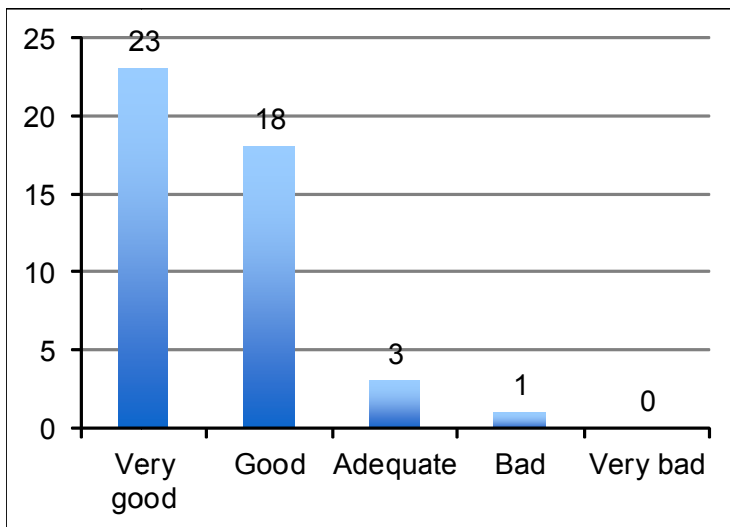
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



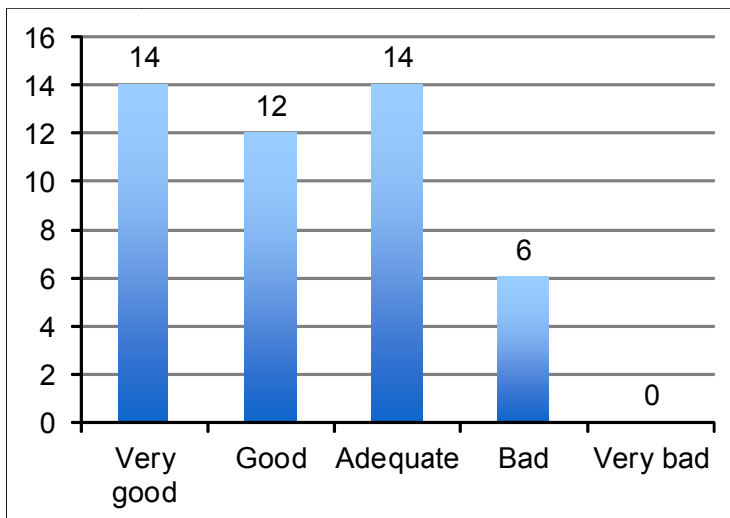
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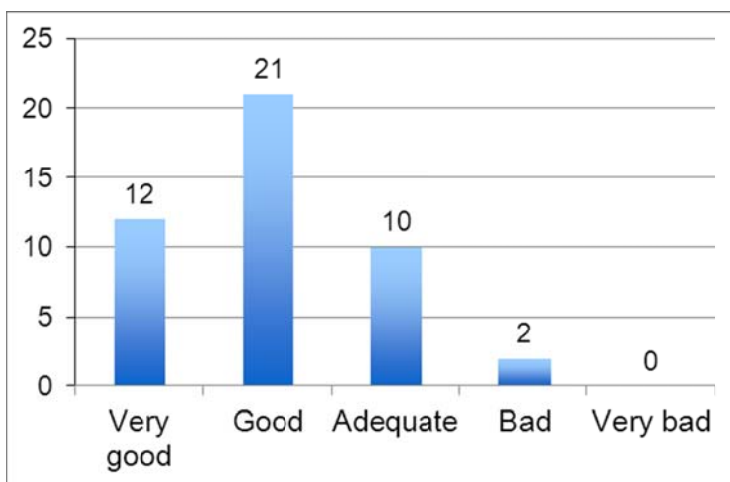
Lighting conditions



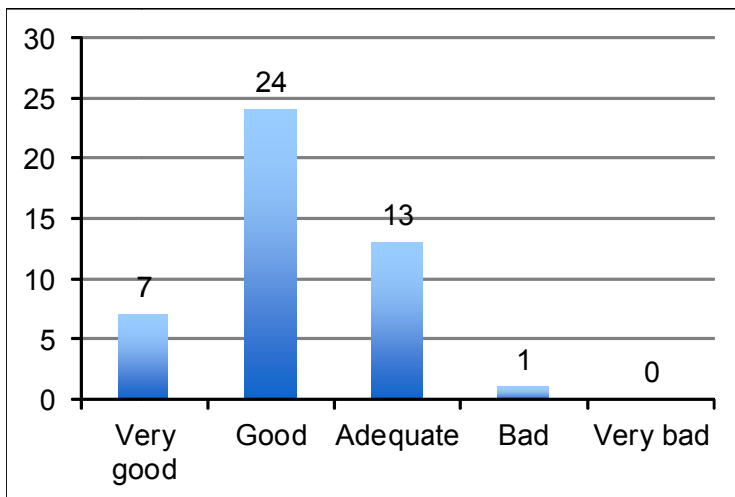
Space for candidates



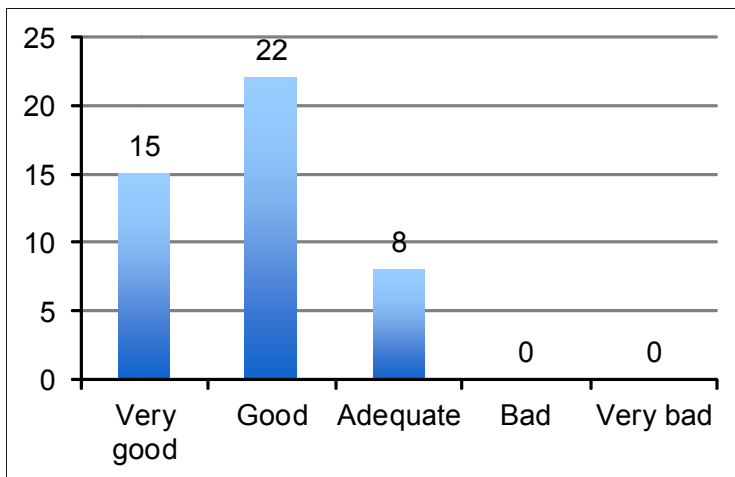
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



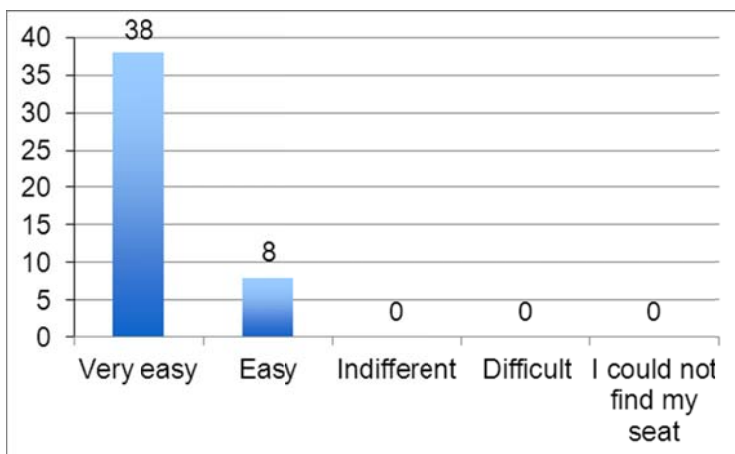
Restroom facilities



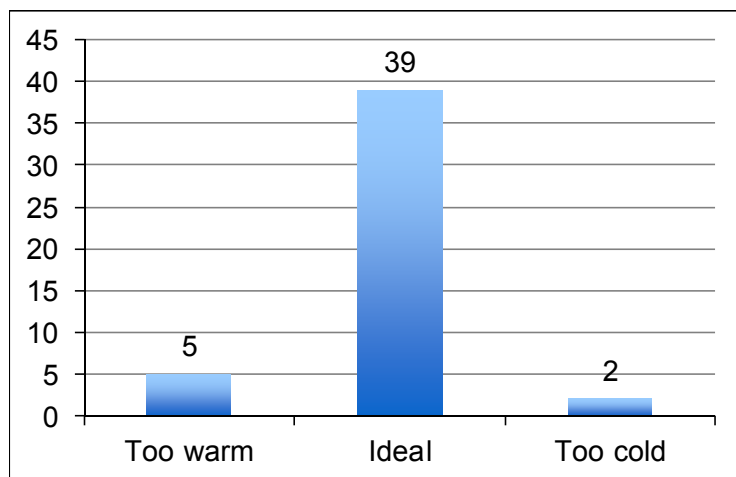
Suitability of the examination hall



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



Q5) Hall temperature



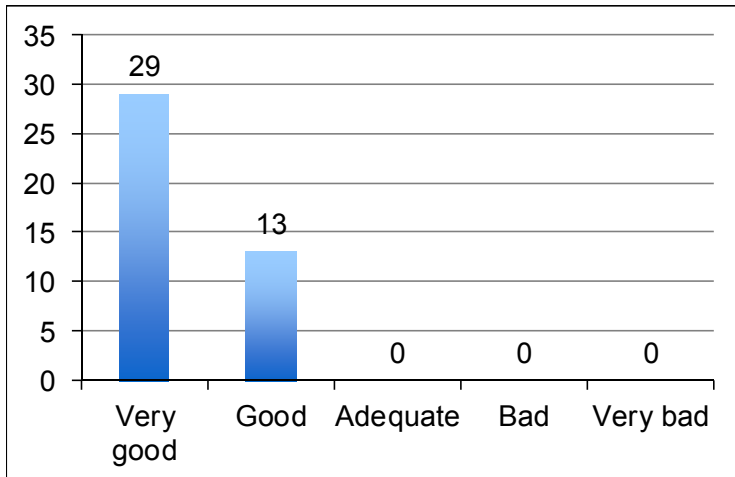
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Bit too little space in front off and behind desk.
- the tables are a bit small
- I liked the location
- The air conditioning had to be turned off because it was pooring cold air right on top of some candidates. Because of this, the air was quite smelly and used up after some hours.
- very agreeable and good exam atmosphere
- It was a very convenient atmosphere.
- I took the EQE in Berlin. It was not conducted in the way I expected.
- 1) At the end of the official time for writing, the invigilators announced the end or the writing time, but did not care if people stopped writing or not. That is an unfair advantage for those who stopped! Some candidates were even still writing when my paper had already been collected. And the invigilators definitely saw that those candidates were still writing.
- 2) The invigilators only suggested that only one person at a time should go to the toilet. However, one could leave the hall at any time without problems, even if someone else was already outside. And nobody checked what was going on right outside the hall.
- 3) Bringing or using cell phones or other electronic devices is officially not permitted. However, almost everybody had some kind of electronic device with them. The invigilators only requested at the beginning that cell phones be turned off. And - again - nobody checked what is going on outside the hall, when the candidates were "at the toilet". Some candidate went "to the toilet" after only 30 min, maybe they have a weak bladder.
- 4) The same sheets (EQE lined paper) were used for all papers (A, B, C, D)! One could easily prepare parts of the answers having the sheet from day 1. I have seen people doing exactly that. This is an unfair advantage for these candidates! One could even take the sheets from day 1 home and prepare some standard parts at home. This is of course not a Berlin-specific problem...
- In summary, I think that some things went very wrong...

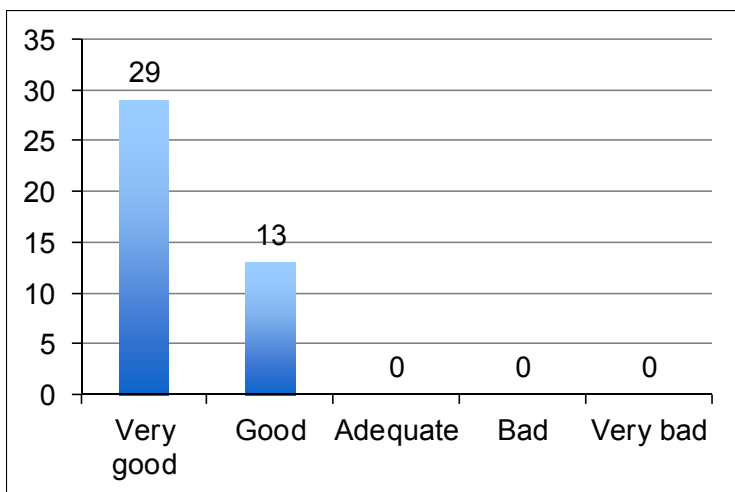
1.2 Berne (42 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

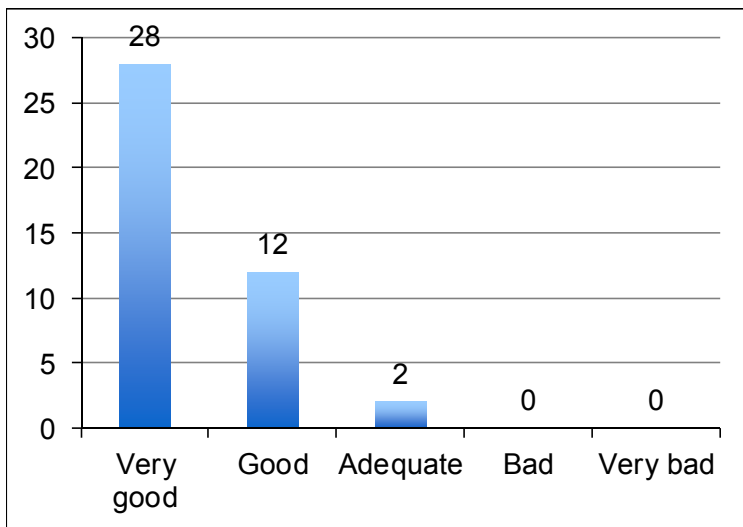
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



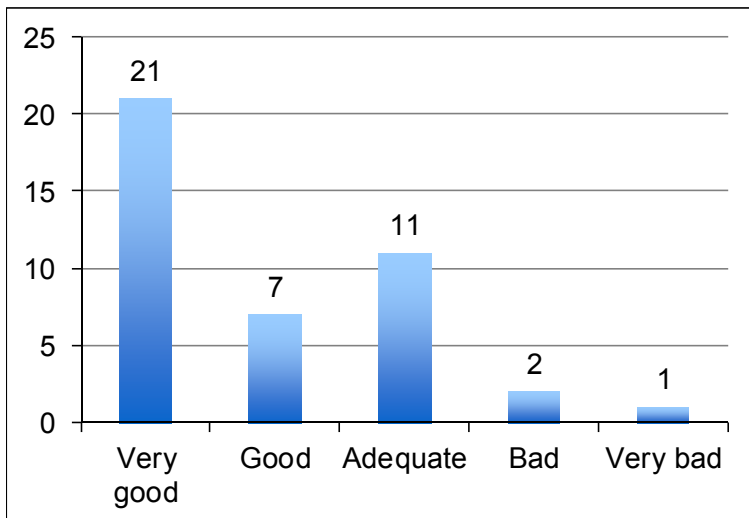
Identification check



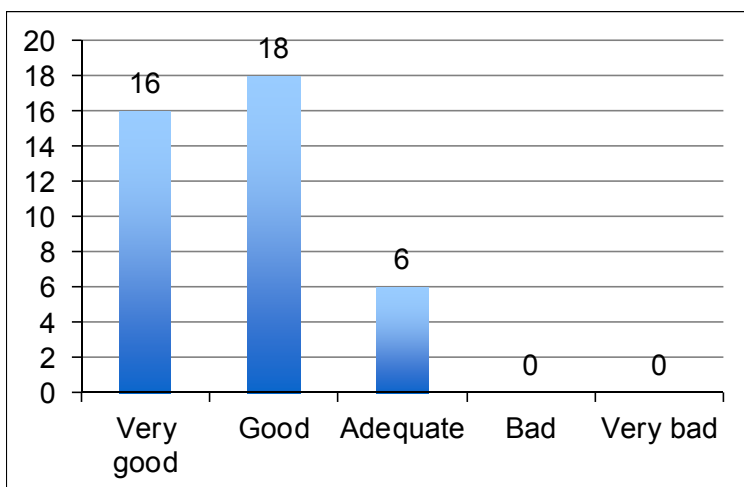
Lighting conditions



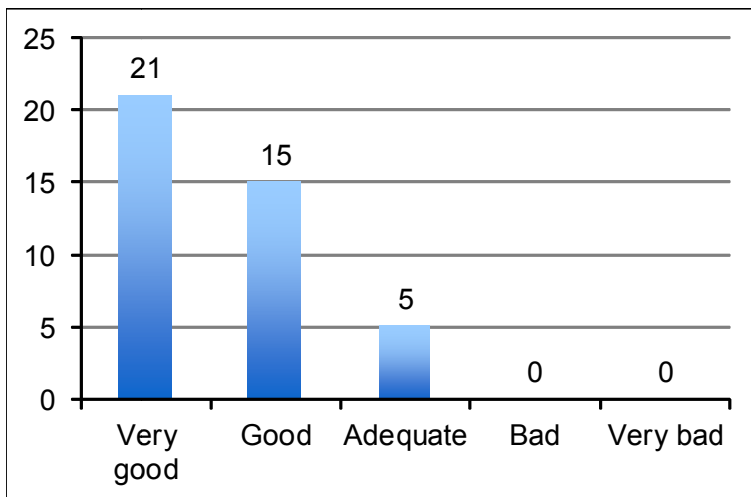
Space for candidates



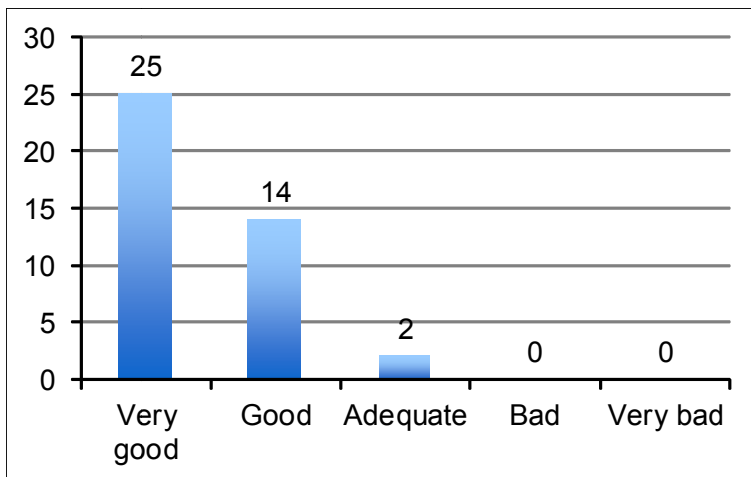
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



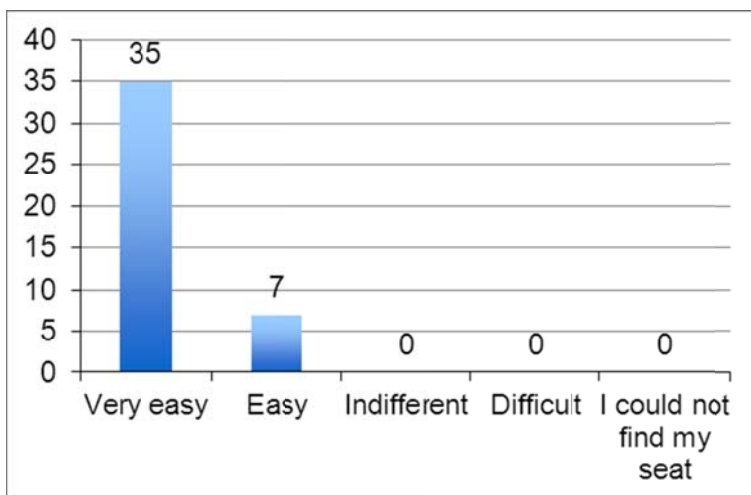
Restroom facilities



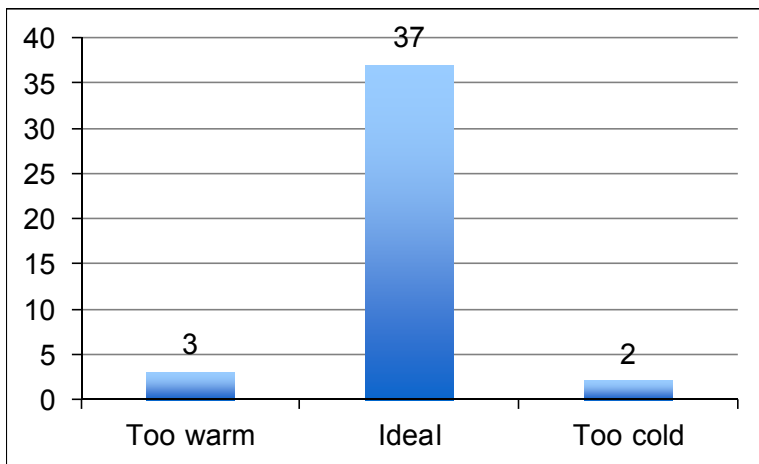
Suitability of the examination hall



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



Q5) Hall temperature



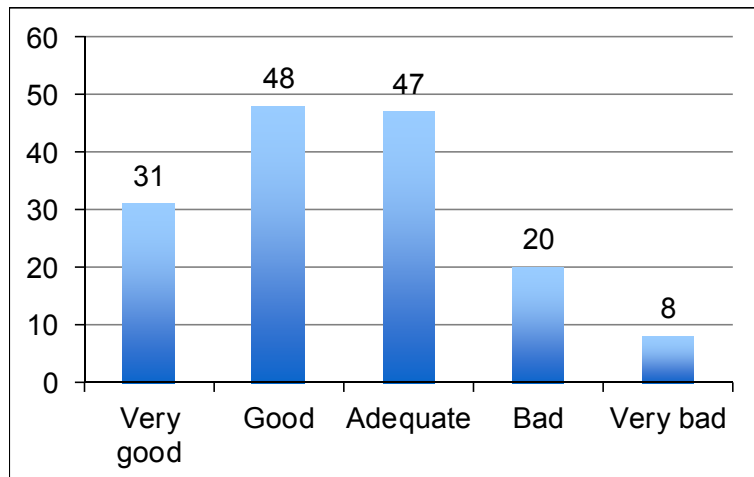
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Temperature in the beginning was ideal, later too cold
- There was enough space for the candidates. But take enough water to drink with you.
- Bern center is the best center ever to pass the EQE exam
- Accessibility by public transport is excellent and very convenient.
- With "Space for candidates" being very bad I relate to the size of the desks, not to the size of the hall. Size of the hall was fine.
- Good altogether, more space would be nice, though, in particular as there was ample unused space available

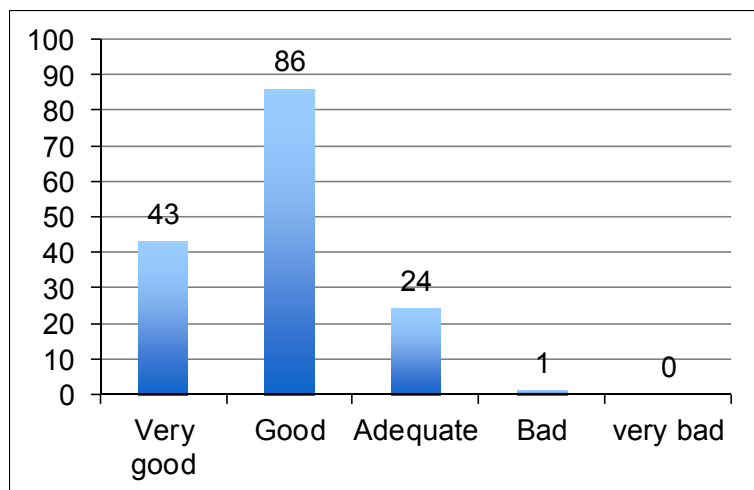
1.3 Bristol (154 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

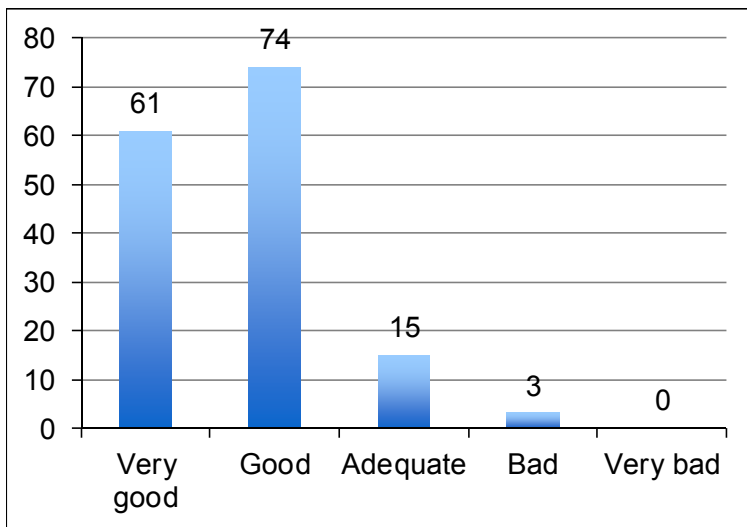
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



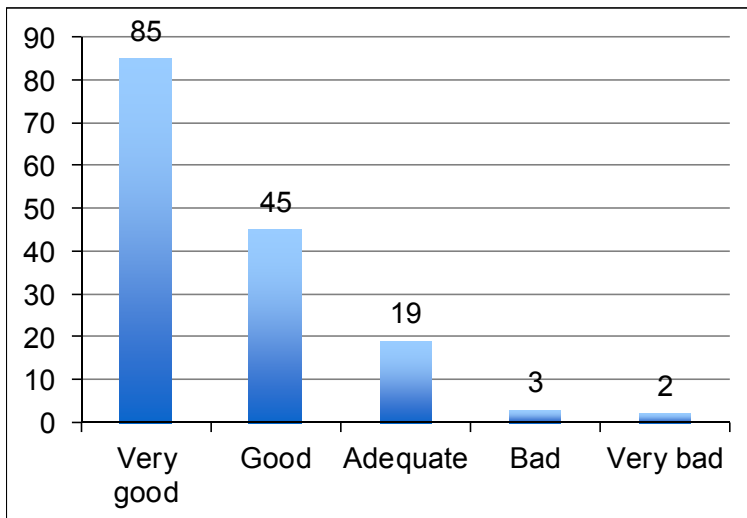
Identification check



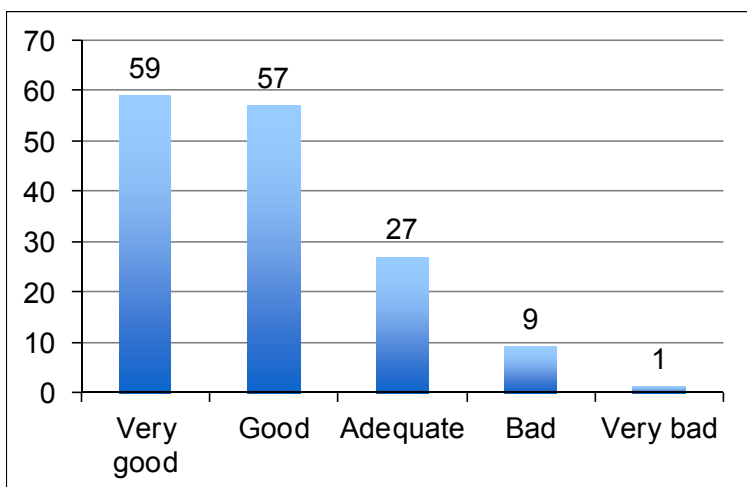
Lighting conditions



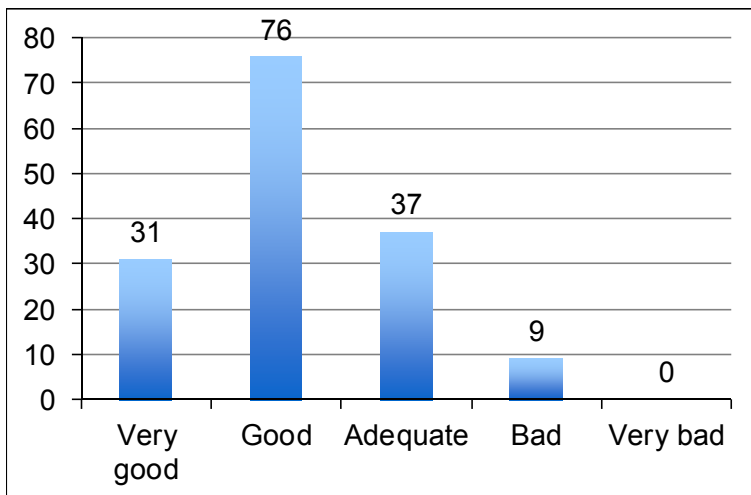
Space for candidates



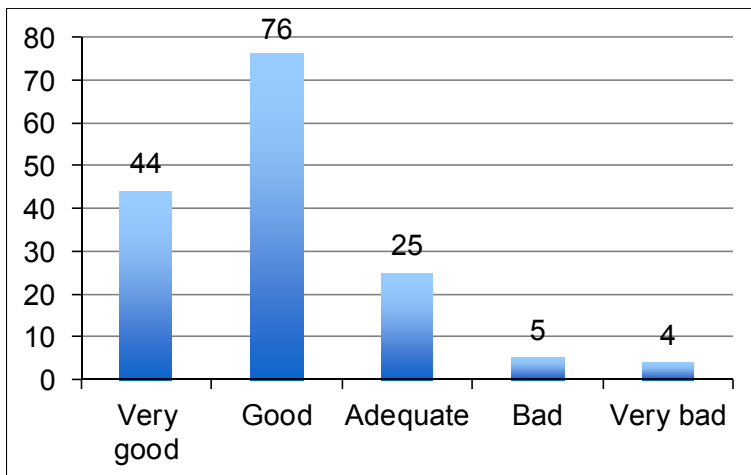
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



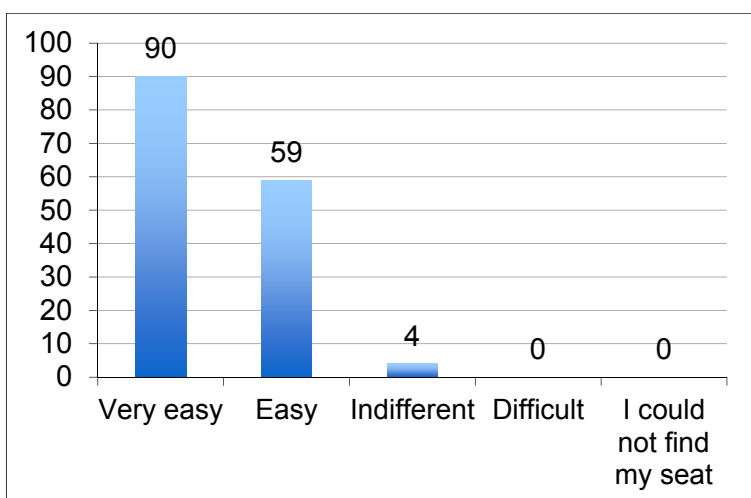
Restroom facilities



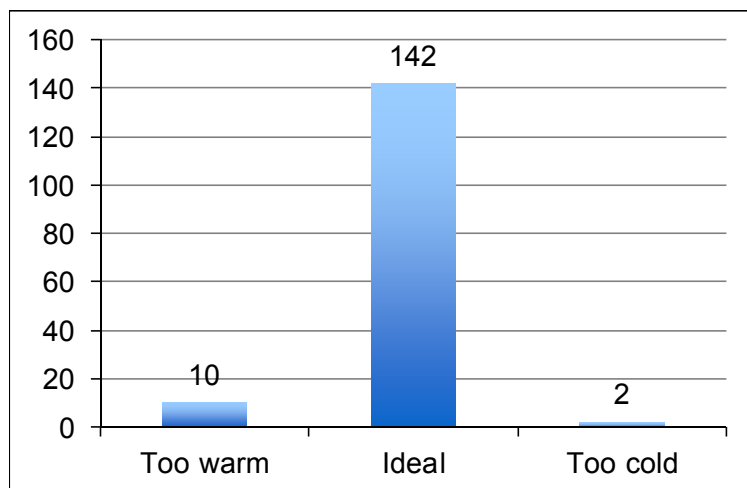
Suitability of the examination hall



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.

- Hall is in a rather difficult location to access as no convenient public transport
- The exam venue in Bristol is a long way from Hotels and other accommodation.
- Examination hall was very good - including easily visible clocks, which were helpful. Only down-side of the venue is the lack of facilities e.g. food near by.
- The hand drier in the gents toilet was faulty, which resulted in having wet hands when getting back to my desk.
- This new venue is a huge improvement over the venue by Bristol Temple Meads station. In particular, the venue by Bristol Temple Meads was always freezing cold, and this new venue was a comfortable temperature.
- The large time displays of the video screen were very helpful.
- Examination venue required taxi journey from Bristol station - difficult to access other than by taxi.
- Men's restroom needs more hand-dryers - only one electric hand-dryer for four wash-basins (three toilets and six urinals)
- The stadium is a really good venue - it's large and there's lots of car parking space.
- The hall was rather dark.
- It wasn't clear where the examination hall was once we arrived at the Ashton Gate Stadium. Many people were waiting outside a locked door without knowing that the examination hall was around the corner. Some signs or a person directing people would have helped. Also, Bristol is not a convenient location for much of the UK profession.
- Examination hall has poor public transport links and is extremely inconvenient compared to the previous Bristol venue.
- Temperature fluxuated slightly but was not a concern.
- Location is awkward to get to and time of the exam, given the location, makes the logistics of attending awkward. Essentially lose 2 days to go and take one exam.
- The examination hall smells of beer as it is set in a sports bar.
- Comfort of the facility was excellent. Directions and signage outside the centre was lacking and could be improved. For example, although the door was clearly labelled, it would have been useful to have a sign pointing you where to go upon arrival at the entrance to the ground/car-park.
- The exam hall was very warm to begin with and cooled down over the course of the exam. I was seated close to the front which was cooler than the centre of the hall, and so I was not too warm at the start and also fine at the end.
- The invigilators were very helpful in finding which seat you were allocated to (if your seating card was not at hand).
- The invigilator making announcements was not very easy to understand (perhaps due to his

accent and/or echo on the microphone).

- The screens showing the time were very useful and clear.
- There are not really any hotels nearby and so it was necessary to get a taxi every day.
- The area of town in which the examination hall was situated was very inconvenient. Furthermore, lunch options were very poor, given that there were hardly any commercial establishments within walking distance of the hall.
- Exam hall much better than the Brunel hall the pre-exam was held in. Much better temperature.
- There could be better signs around the stadium directing people to the exam hall.
- It was a bit of a walk to the toilets from my place in the hall - important in a time pressed exam.
- The electronic clocks displayed on the central TV screens were clear and very useful. Good table space for candidates and a calm atmosphere!
- The exam centre itself was good, but it's location was not ideal. It is not near any hotels and, particularly for the A/B lunch break, there is not much nearby and we were not allowed to stay inside the building, so we had to wait outside in the cold.
- Lacked many toilets.
- Poor signage to hall location.
- Hall was located miles away from most hotels.
- Much better venue than previous years.
- No possible places to get lunch between papers A and B!
- Difficult to find accommodation anywhere nearby
- Initially too warm on the first day, but they sorted out the heating for the second and third.
- A big improvement from Temple Meads!
- Not well signposted
- I don't know why we changed from the one last year next to the train station. It was much more convenient than the football stadium. Everyone had to take a taxi to the stadium.
- Bristol is quite far for the majority of candidates in the UK
- desk could have been a little bigger.
- Much better than last year (pre-EQE), which was held in Brunel's train shed in Bristol.
- It was a bit far out of the city centre - we had to get taxis both there and back from the hotel.
- Difficult to find entrance
- No problem with the venue itself, but it would be better to have a venue closer to London- a four hour journey either side of a 4 hour exam is gruelling
- The exam room was good - a bigger desk would have been advantageous but plenty of floor space to use. Otherwise the room worked very well for the exam.
- The venue was some way from transport links and hotels (the nearest hotel was over a mile away) which is why I've marked it low for accessibility. Having said that I could see why it was chosen as it was a really good venue. Putting the time up on the tv screens throughout the hall was really helpful.
- The lighting was a little dull, but was overhead and without shadows - probably as good as could be achieved given the limited natural light.
- Temperature much better than previous Bristol venues, but location slightly less convenient. However on the whole a good venue.
- The lack of signs on the first day made finding the hall very difficult (particularly as the larger of the two entrance gates was closed). This was only a problem on the first day of the exams. The hall itself was great. No traffic noise and much warmer than the previous hall.
- It was a bit difficult to find the hall within the stadium venue. Even when we were close to it the signs pointed the wrong way.
- I am used to being too cold and it was better than usual.
- The hall itself is much better than the previous venue. Tables are a good size - plenty of space for books etc. The digital clocks on big screens were nice and visible.
- The venue is not near the hotels or the station and traffic can be problematic between the venue and the city centre - candidates should book taxis in advance and leave plenty of time

for the journey (our trip from near Temple Meads to the venue took over half an hour on the Tuesday despite being a ~10 minute drive usually).

- There is lots of parking at the venue.
- There is nowhere nearby to buy food - make sure you take it with you.
- The signage to the examination hall from the immediate surroundings was very poor.
- However the examination hall itself was ideal for the examinations.
- The use of the many video screens for display of a digital clock was excellent and was greatly appreciated.
- I could not hear when the invigilator was speaking. Microphone possibly needed adjusting. I was quite near to the back of the hall.
- Location of the venue is poor. Most candidates require transport from Bristol city centre to the exam hall (on top of transport to get to Bristol in the first place).
- N/A
- Parking was not easy to find.
- Very inconvenient location.
- The new venue offered much better conditions to sit the exams.
- It would have been better to have the entrance of the building communicated beforehand and more sign posts to the entrance would be helpful.
- Even the venue itself was a massive improvement from the previous venue the location of the stadium is not the most convenient as there are not many hotels nearby, forcing people to stay in hotels in the town centre and find a transport to go across the town through rush hour traffics to arrive in time for the exams.
- It would have been much convenient for the candidates if the venue was chosen more central to the country.
- Much better than the station, so much warmer and quieter, an excellent location, thank you.
- It would be good if further details about the exam venue could be included with the letter confirming exam registration.
- In general the examination hall was suitable but sitting near the front meant frequent interruptions from people visiting the restrooms
- It was difficult to get transport from the venue - taxis took forever
- It was rather difficult to find the examination hall from the post code. It was in a stadium within a football ground - it was easy to find the football ground, but there were not many signs to the exam hall. I suggest more signs would be helpful from each entrance of the football ground.
- I do not think the examination hall used for the 2014 EQE in Bristol is suitable for an examinations commencing at 0830 local time.
- The examination hall is located at the side of Bristol city that is far away from hotels and accommodation where candidates normally stay.
- There is no suitable accommodation in the vicinity of the exam centre. Also there is no suitable public transport from the main hotel area to the examination hall.
- Accordingly, the only reliable method of transport is by taxi. Unfortunately, because of the early UK examination start time (0830), the journey to the examination hall is through heavy, slow, rush-hour city centre traffic.
- Thus the journey is stressful, and to ensure making it to the exam centre on time, one must depart extremely early. Similarly, travelling from the exam centre is awkward and time consuming with many 100s of candidates having to wait for taxis to arrive to take them away. Also this is expensive: each journey to (or from) the exam hall to the accommodation area is at least €13.
- Although this exam centre is used for UK (CIPA) professional exams, these exams start at least an hour later and so the busy and stressful rush-hour traffic has reduced by then.
- However, for EQE exams starting at 0830, the Bristol exam hall is not unsuitable.
- Far better than Train Depot at temple Meads
- Venue could ideally have been more central.
- The exam hall was good, but there could have been better signposting from the entrance of

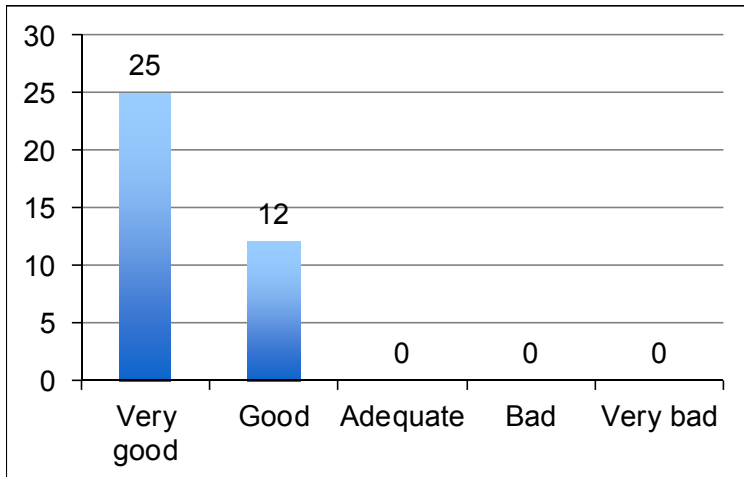
the stadium.

- The signs to the entrance were a bit confusing. It appears that there are several entrances but only one was in use.
- Temperature was fine, apparently much better than last year. There was however no toilet roll in the male toilets.
- I find it very confusing that the invigilator doing the announcements appeared to be the only invigilator who didn't speak English as a first language. He wasn't very clear and was quite difficult to understand. I don't know why he was specifically chosen to do the announcements.
- The screens with clocks were excellent. However, it looked they were simply running off a website. I wonder what would have happened if the internet connection went down?
- The temperature was just right which is massive improvement from the Pre-EQE.
- My only complaint about the examination hall is that it is in Bristol. I suspect that holding the exams in London would be more convenient for the majority of candidates.
- I liked the clock displays on the overhead monitors.
- There were no signs to the Examination Hall bar a single sign pointing candidates in the general direction. The obvious way into the Examination Hall was locked meaning that candidates were unsure where to go.

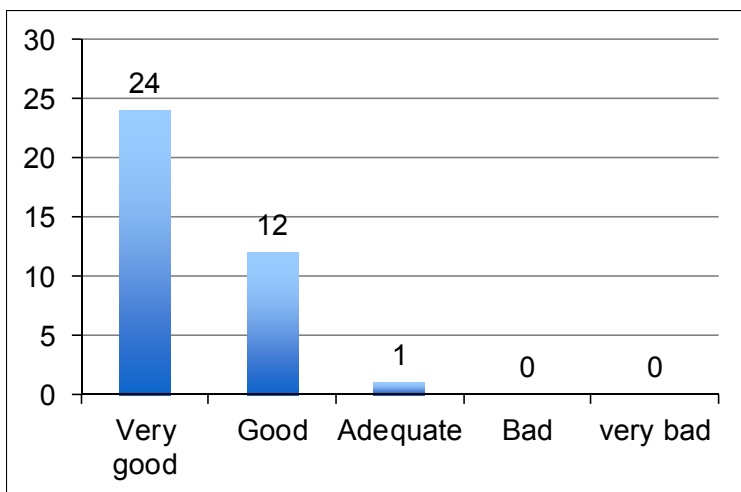
1.4 Helsinki (37 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

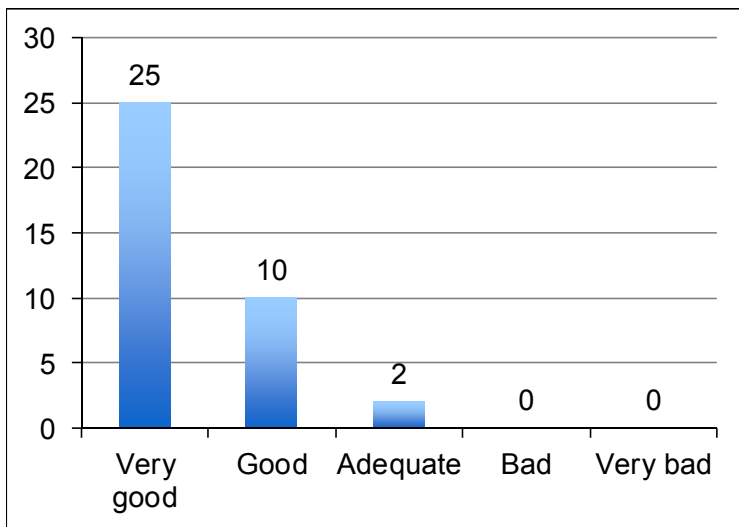
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



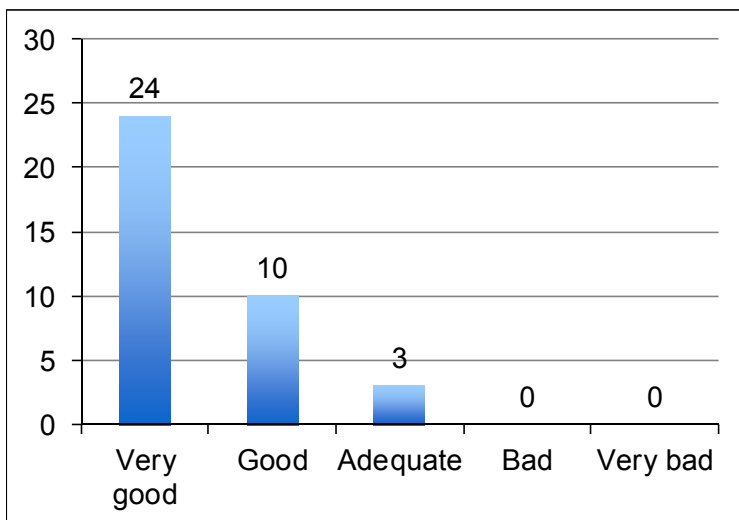
Identification check



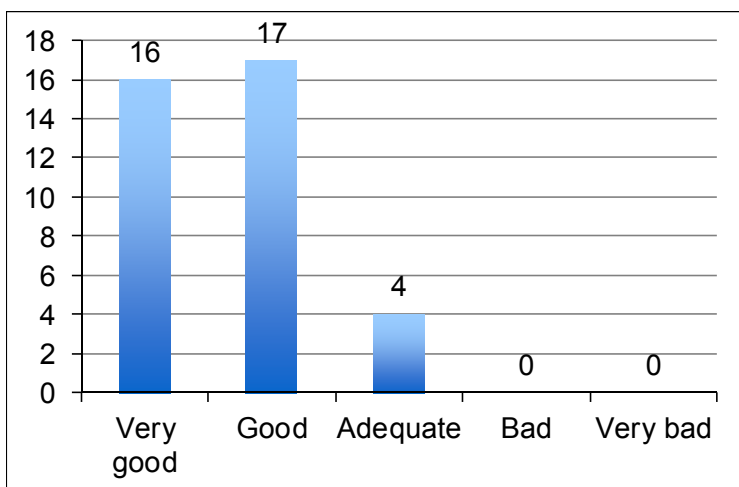
Lighting conditions



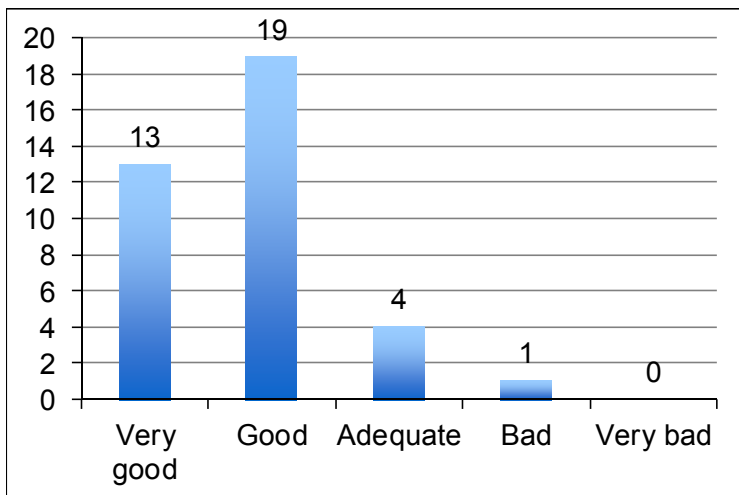
Space for candidates



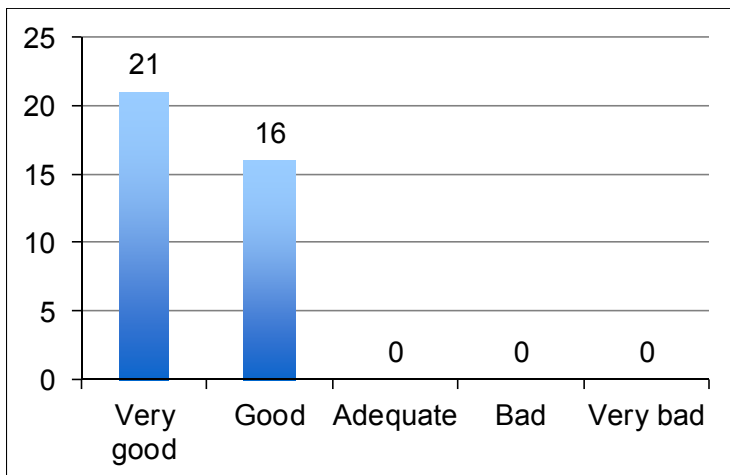
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



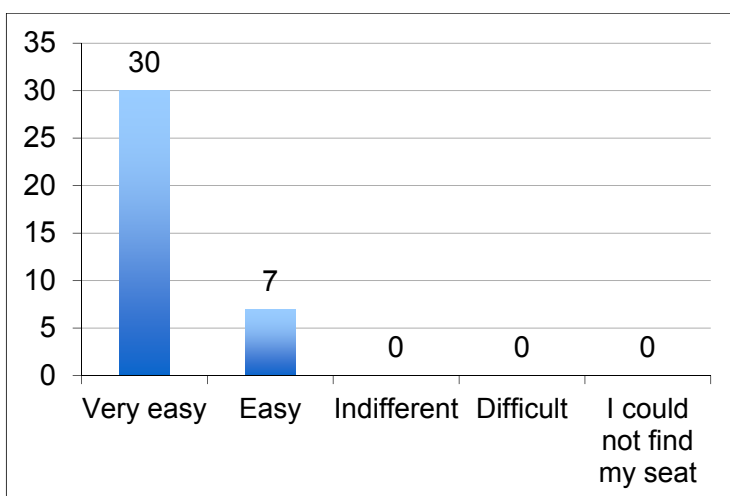
Restroom facilities



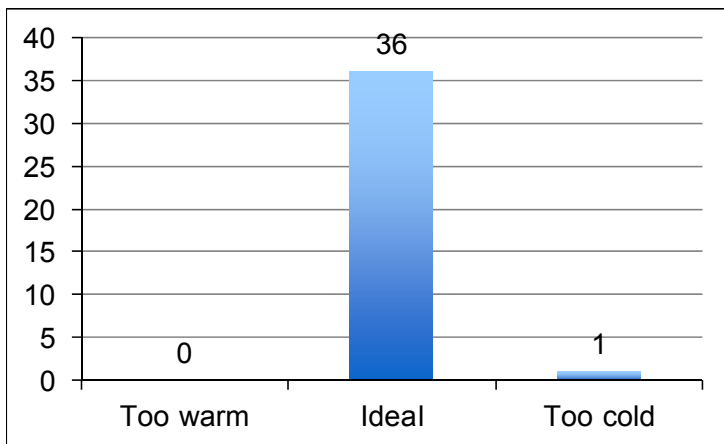
Suitability of the examination hall



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



Q5) Hall temperature



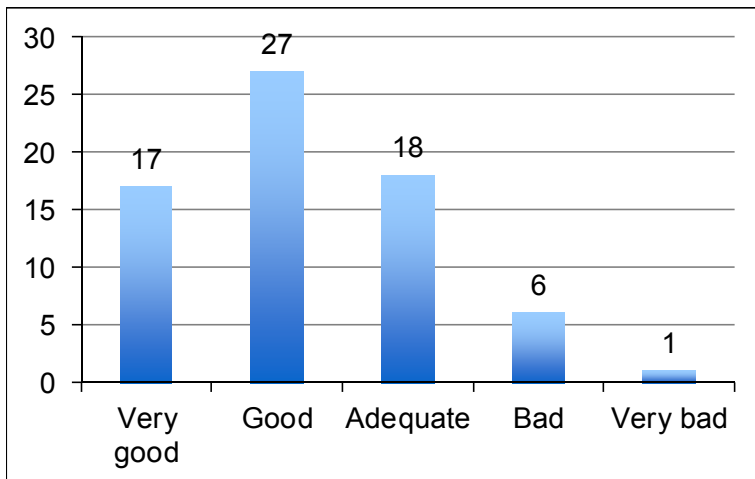
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- The examination hall and its conditions were well suitable for the examination
- Minor noise - nothing really disruptive
- No complaints, it is easy to reach by public transportation too and located in the very center of Helsinki, only a few blocks from main railway station.
- Very good. Even if there was some construction work going on in the neighbouring hall, the organizers had made an agreement that the construction work is paused for the time of examination in order to guarantee a peaceful hall.
- Some drilling noises
- Generally the conditions were great. The only minor minus was the unstable table. That started to swing during the Examination causing a little noise when writing the answer intensively. Maybe that swinging disturbed the candidates next to me but however not me. I don't know. Otherwise the circumstances were great. Thank You Helsinki, once again!!
- The hall was a little cold on the day of the A/B exams, as there were fewer people in the hall.
- Some repairs, especially drilling, were made during the examination in the examination centre which caused some disturbance. This was annoying but fortunately lasted only for a few minutes.
- No problems in view of the hall. Everything went and worked smoothly. Well organized.
- Very nice hall with enough space for books and other materials.
- Renovation noise, though not at unacceptable level.

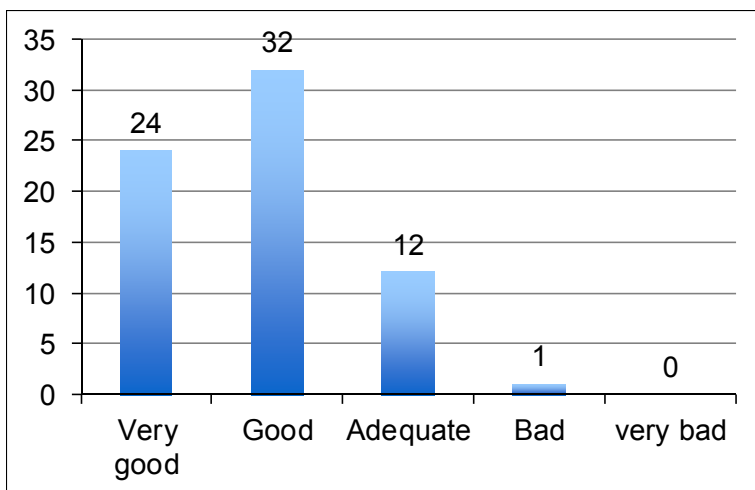
1.5 Madrid (69 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

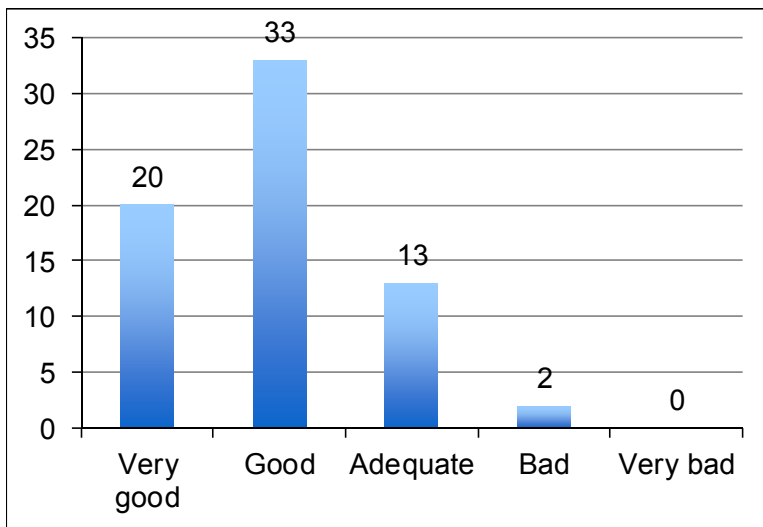
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



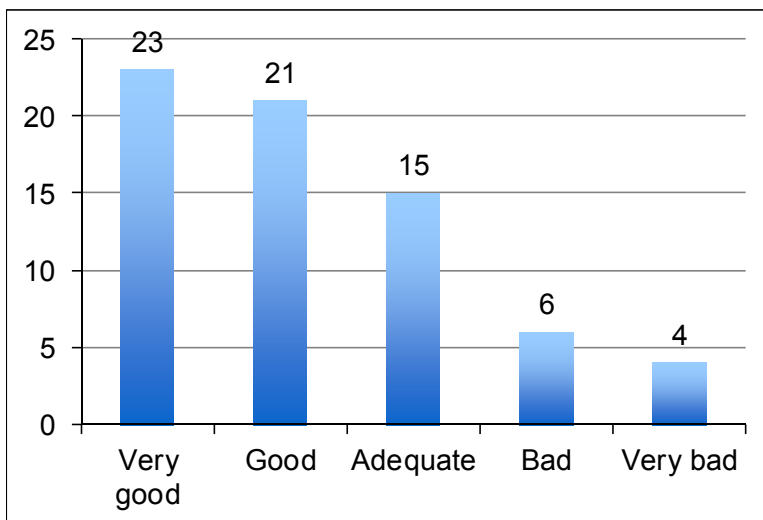
Identification check



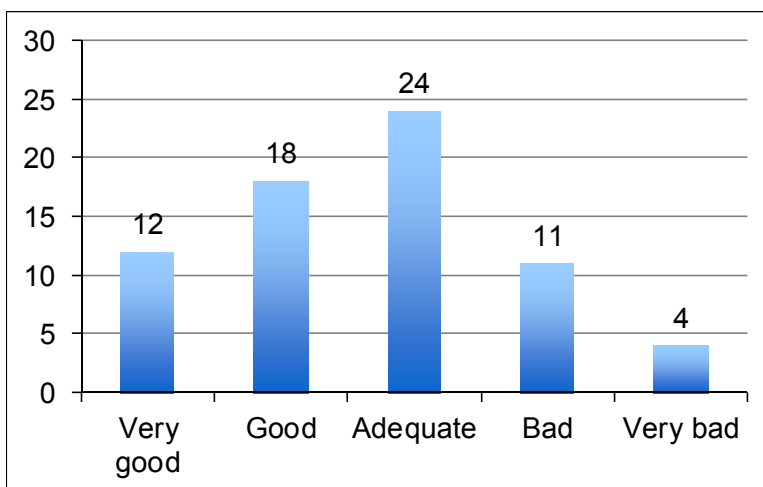
Lighting conditions



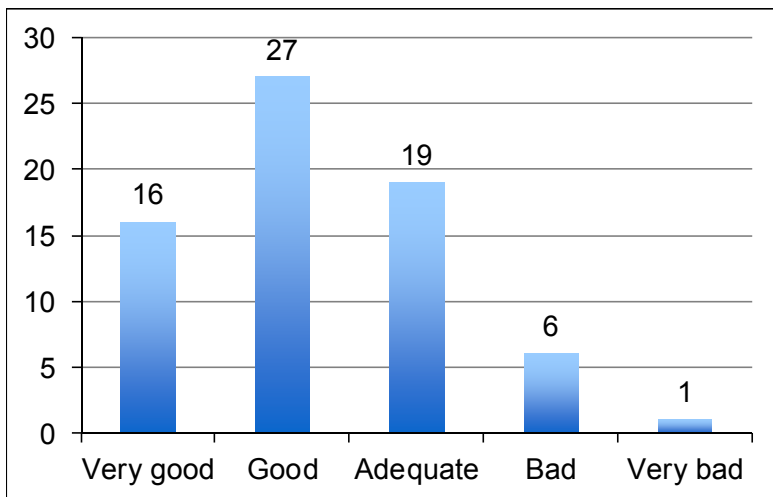
Space for candidates



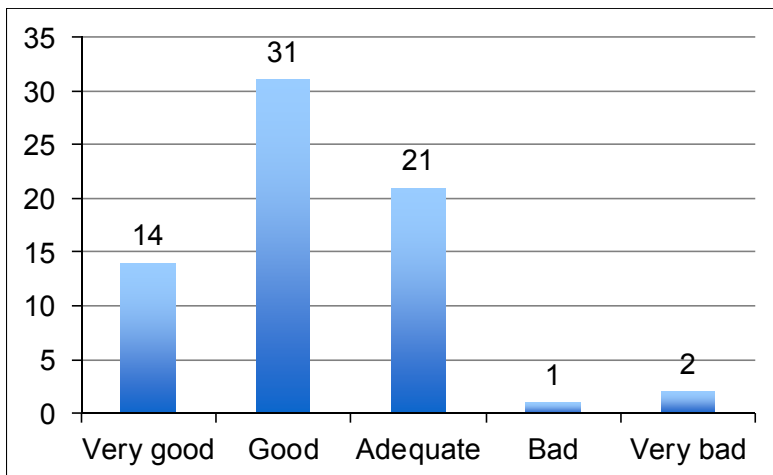
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



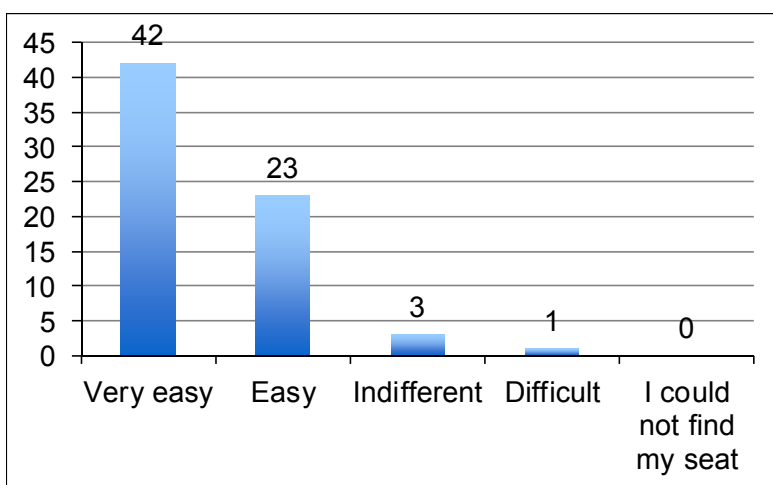
Restroom facilities



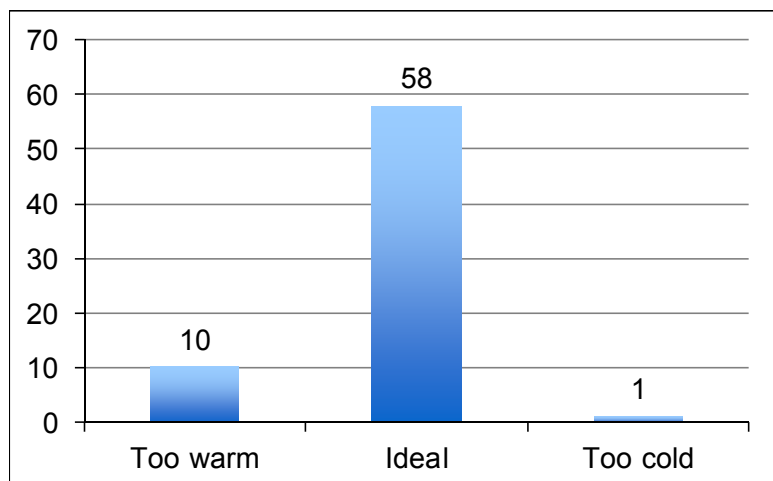
Suitability of the examination hall



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.

- Uncomfortable chairs and table (specially tablets which were long but narrow)
- no comments
- There is no lift, so you must carry all your luggage and take the stairs (1 floor but a lot of stairs). For Paper D is a nightmare and for C also.
- I am of the opinion that the examination hall was ok, maybe it would be better to have a wider table. On the other hand, although the examination place (Hotel) was easy to find, some of the facilities of the place were not so good for people that lives outside Madrid.
- The table was large enough but not width enough. There was no space to put all the anexes separately in front of you.
- I would like to complain about the tables used during the examination. The tables were intended for conferences and not for sitting an exam. The table was not wide enough for fitting two DIN A4 at the same time. Considering that the EQE require the comparison of several documents, this was a clear handicap when sitting the exam. In contrast to this, last year i sat the exam in Munich and the tables were more than double the width of an adequate size for sitting the exam.
- This is clearly not the quality standard required for an exam such as the EQE. I hope that next year they clearly address this issue which is penalizing in respect to other examination centres.
- The lenth of the table is not enough, little space to place all documents and material. There is no lift to get to the examination hall, we had to carry our heavy suitcases and bags ourselves up stairs.
- there was no lift to access to the exam hall
- the table had a sort of a cover/tablecloth, making the surface to write on soft (not hard), which is not very comfortable.
- People are used to write over a flat hard surface.
- Besides, the table was too wide but not to long (no room for a page in front of you besides the one you are writing). So the several annexes in paper C have to be spread on the table to the left and right, and it is a bit of a mess.
- The tables are not large enough to leave books in front of the candidate which renders the placing of the books difficult.
- The door of the hall has a lock, if you go to the toilet and closes the door of the hall, then you could not open the door from outside.
- Table was not good. It was soft and the pen maked holes to the papers.
- For access the room we had to use the stairs, as there was not an elevator accesible. As we all carry our heavy suitcases, specially for paper D, this was a big inconvenient.
- At paper A (or B) I really dont remember now, the invigilators decided that it was cold in the

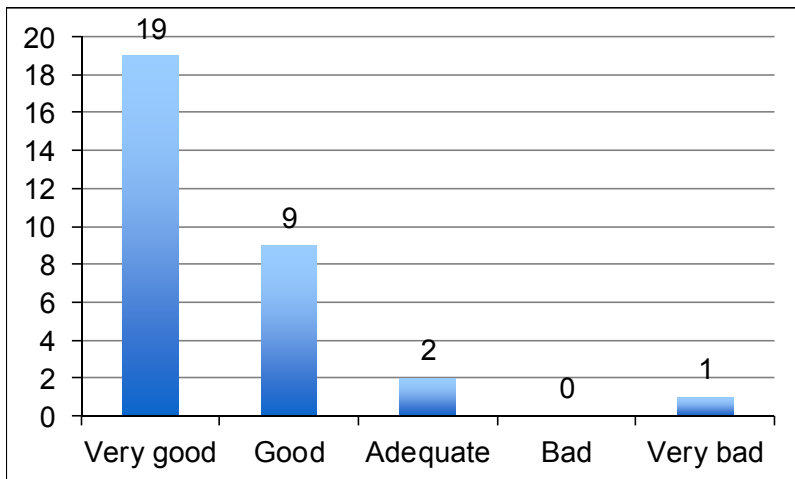
room and turn on the heat to a exaggerated temperature. We had to point out it was too hot, and even then they asked us to wait until the room warmed up (even more!)

- We had glass bottles of water without top, which is kind of dangerous having our precious exams around. Further, they did not provided us with glasses which made the bottle quite useless.
- Tables are wide but depth is too short; it does not help when handling several papers (application, annexes, letter from client, EPO communication...)
- It would be helpful if tables were deeper.
- Regarding acoustic conditions, audibility of the invigilators was right. However, noises from outside the examination hall were disturbing at some moments -in fact one person sitting the exam had to ask people working outside to please bear in mind that we were taking an exam.
- No step-free access to the hall - it was necessary to climb two sets of stairs to get to the examination hall, which was difficult bearing in mind that most candidates bring a heavy suitcase filled with reference books and other material. It is not understandable why the EQE examination took place AGAIN in this hall (called the "Madrid hall"), when last year's candidates complained about the fact that the examination hall could not be accessed via lift/escalator and when other halls with good accessibility are available at the hotel.
- The heating was too high, making it difficult at times to concentrate on the exams. Also, tables where covered AGAIN with a velvet cloth, which made the conditions even warmer.
- Bottles of water were provided WITHOUT lids, like in the previous year, which is very dangerous in case that water falls on the exam responses.
- Tables to narrow for so many papers.
- Thank you very much.
- We could hear music coming from the corridor. I was seating just too close to the door.
- Very bad Hotel for the fees that we pay
- Everything was OK for the EQE exam
- Tables are a Little bit narrow.

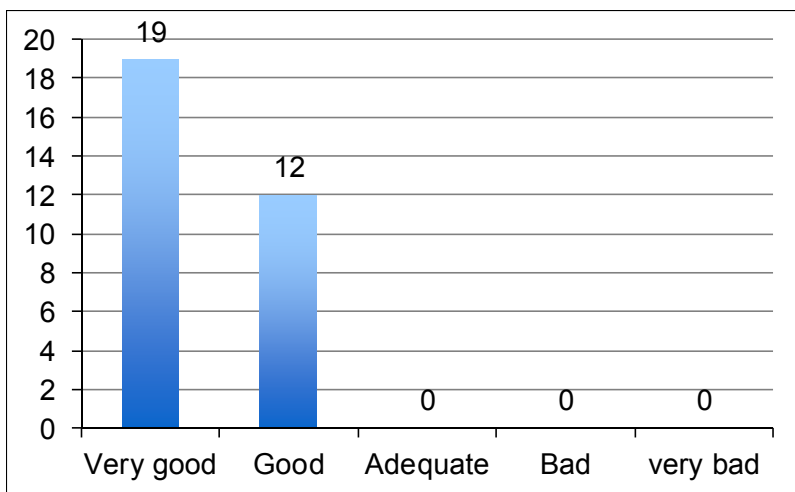
1.6 Munich DPMA (31 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

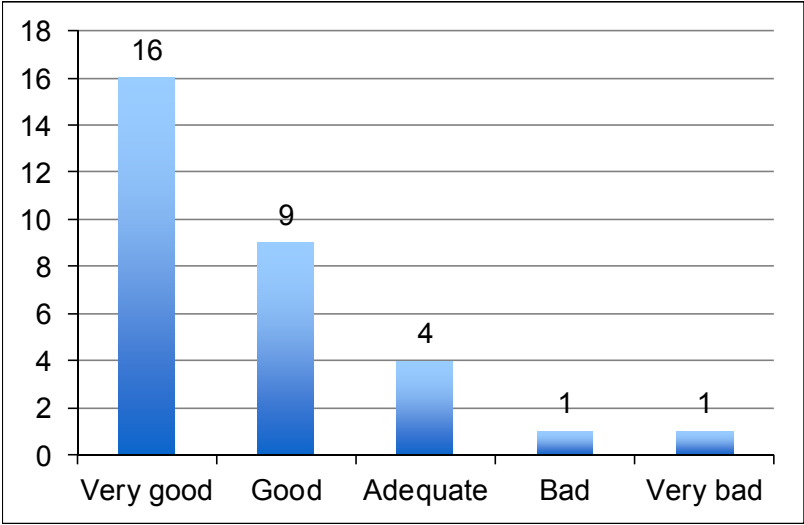
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



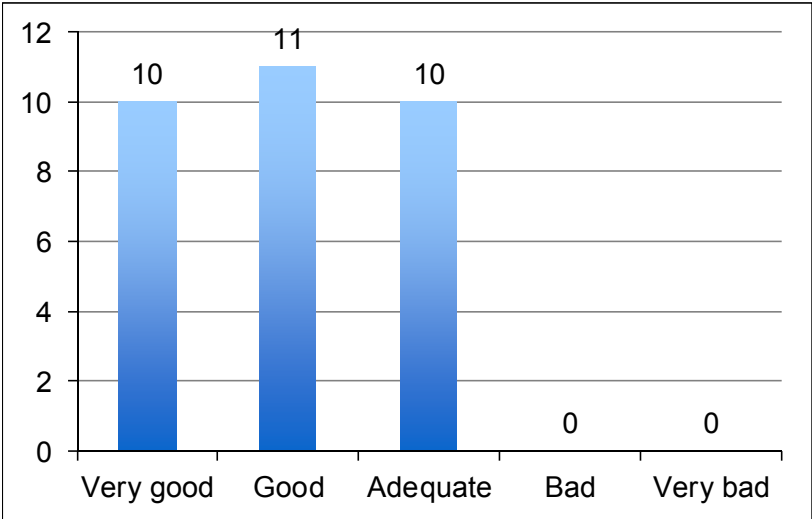
Identification check



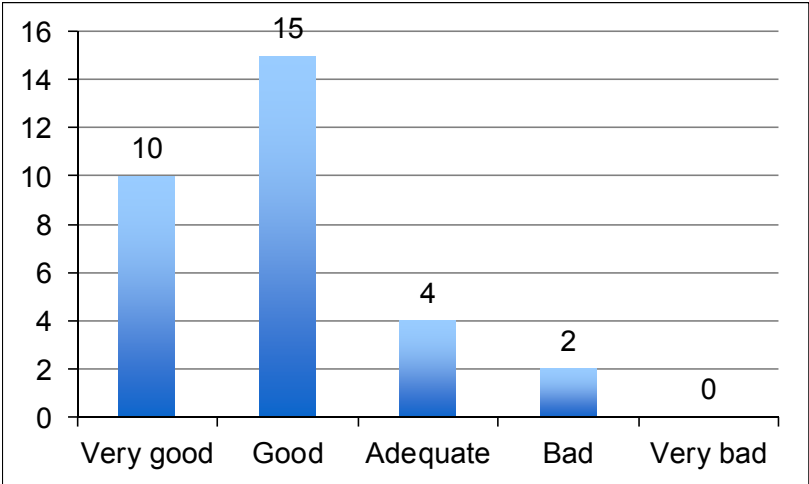
Lighting conditions



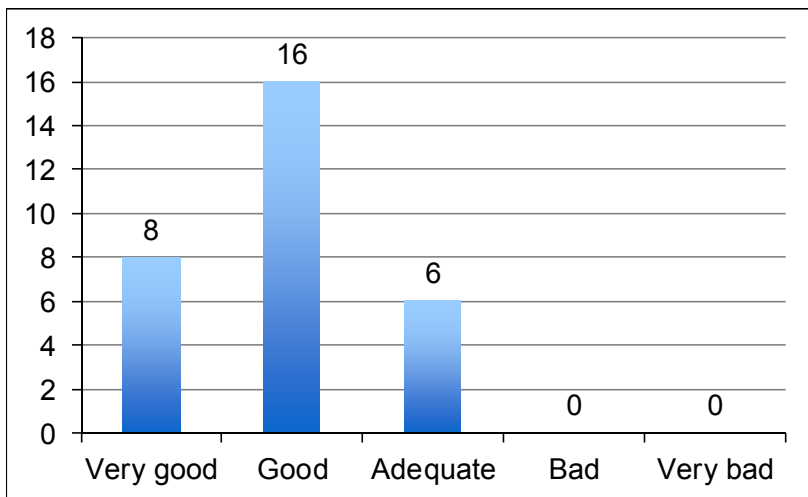
Space for candidates



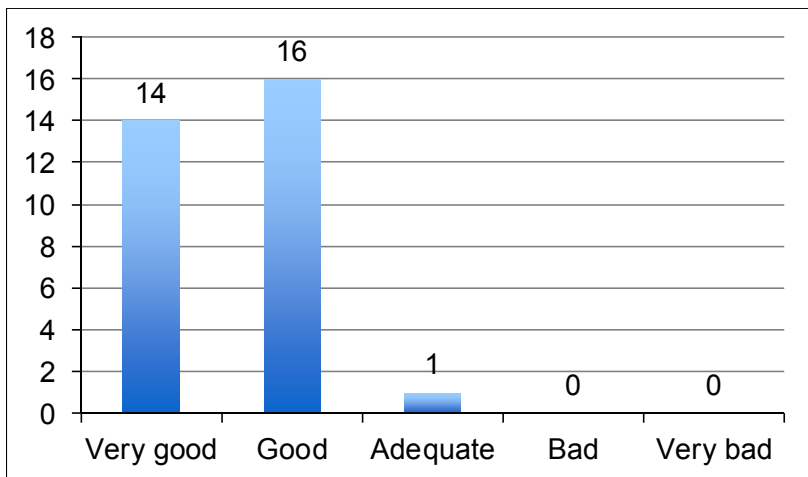
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



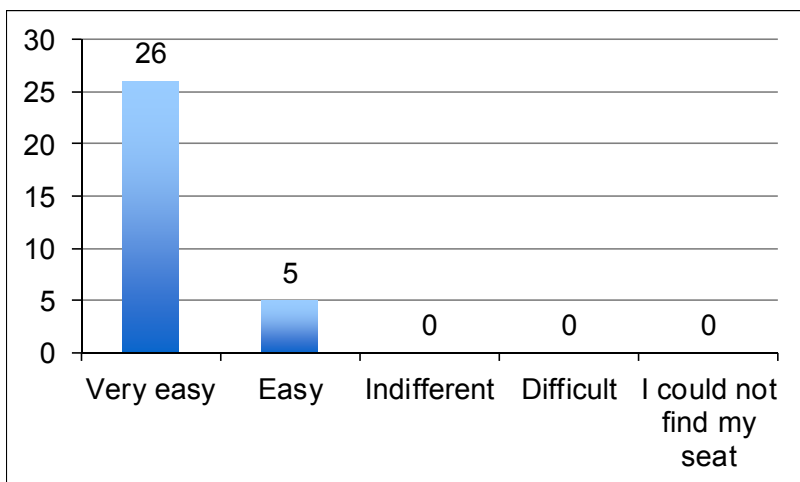
Restroom facilities



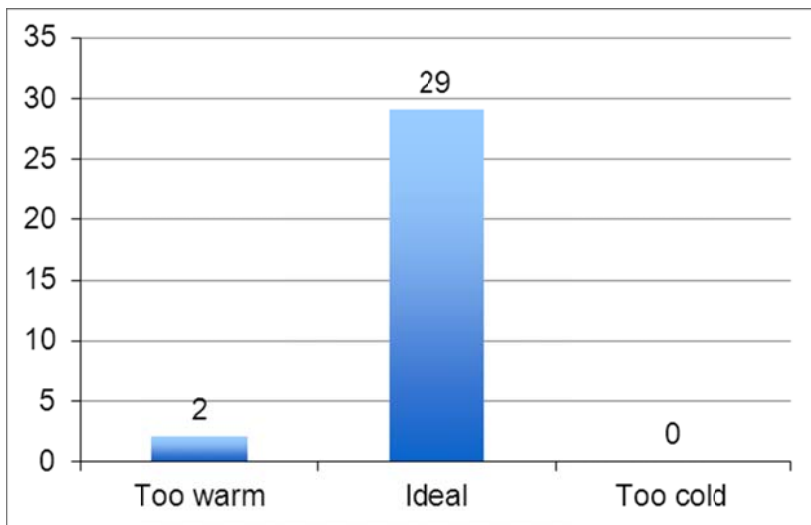
Suitability of the examination hall



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



Q5) Hall temperature



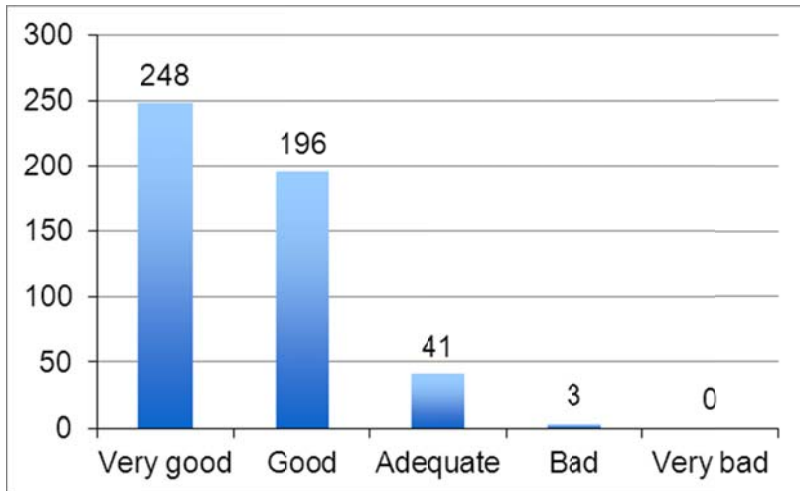
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Last time I sit in the MOC. You cannot compare the examinations conditions of the centres at all. In MOC they were really bad and in the DPMA they were perfect!
- The DPMA should provide a technical introduction of the venetian blinds to the supervisors. System appears to be complicated and it took some time to lower the venetian blinds after they automatically controlled went up.
- Ich und vier weitere Kandidaten waren während des A-Teils 15 Minuten stark von der Sonne geblendet, weil die automatischen Jalousien nicht richtig funktionierten.
- Problems with sun and blinds on one day. But after 5 min everything was okay.
- The tables were a little too small.
- Suddenly, during the exam, the sun shields automatically moved in a very noisy manner. After that the supervision staff tried to close the sun shields again, but they were not familiar with the device and so made use of trial and error, which was again very disturbing. Recommendation: Give advice to the staff. Disconnect the automatic sun shields.
- There have been some problems with the automatic blinds - this caused some trouble due to the bright sun light and took at least ten minutes during Part A Examination to solve which was quite disturbing.
- it was very convenient and comfortable for me to be in the DPMA (for the first time).
- i hope for the next sitting i can be seated in DPMA again.
- thank you.
- We were allowed to enter the examination hall very late (approx. 10 to 15 min before start of the examination). It would be better to allow the entrance 30 min. before starting to take the last preparation steps like unpacking, etc.

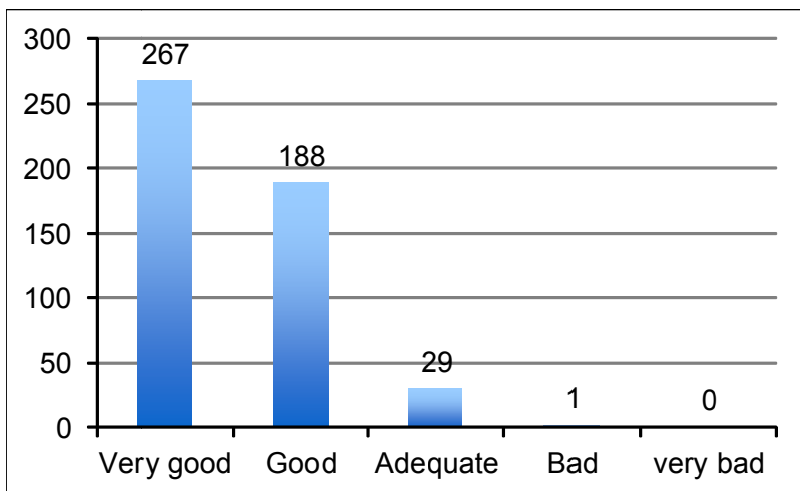
1.7 Munich M,O,C (490 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

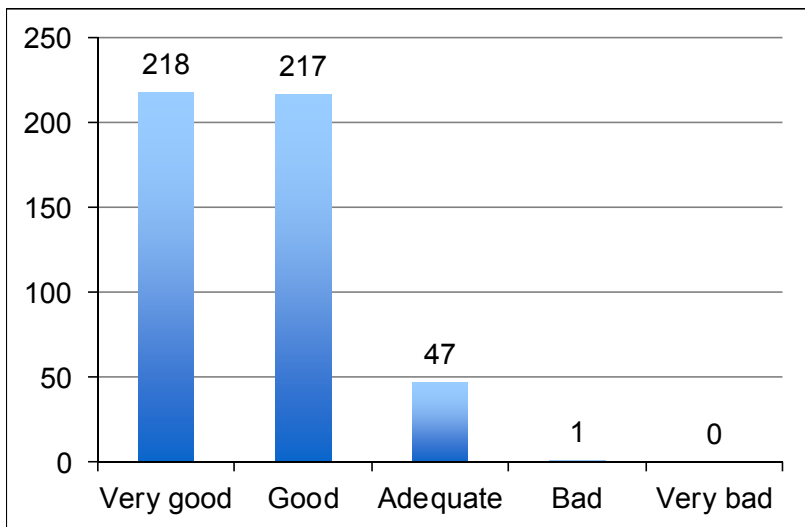
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



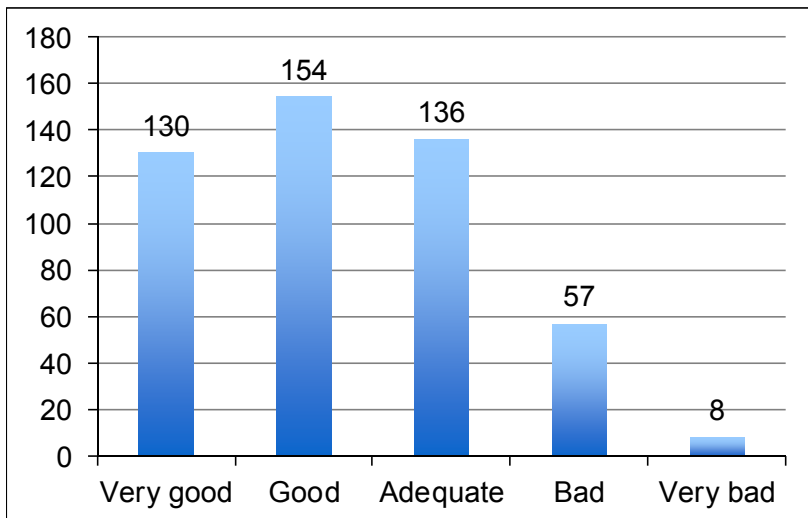
Identification check



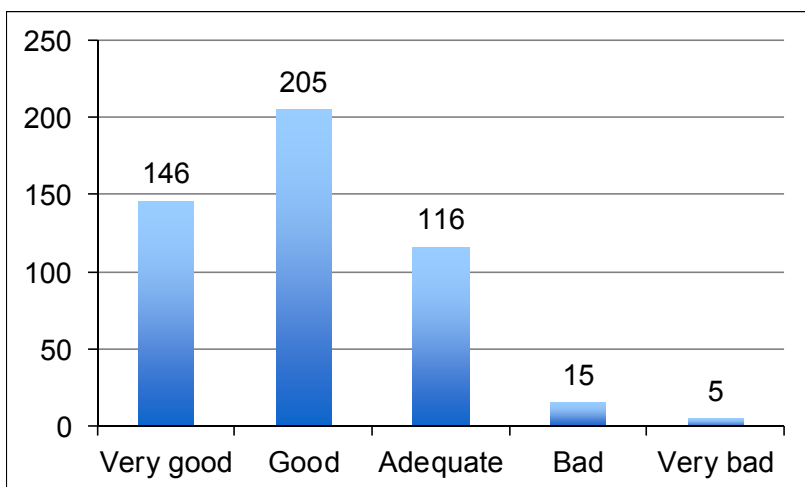
Lighting conditions



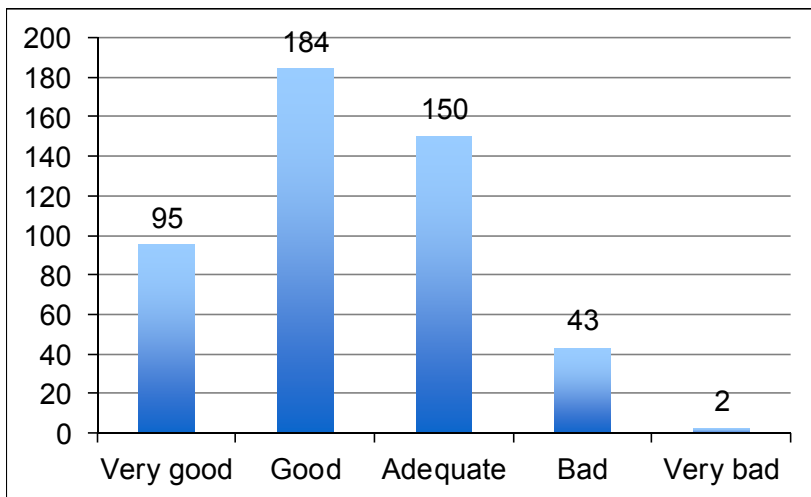
Space for candidates



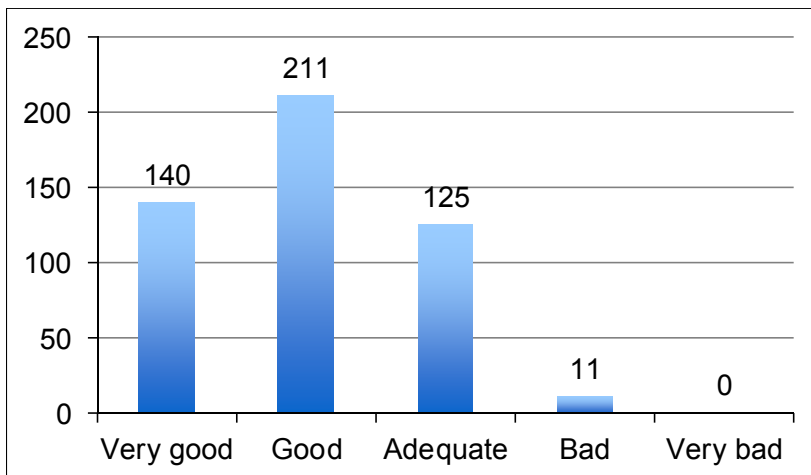
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



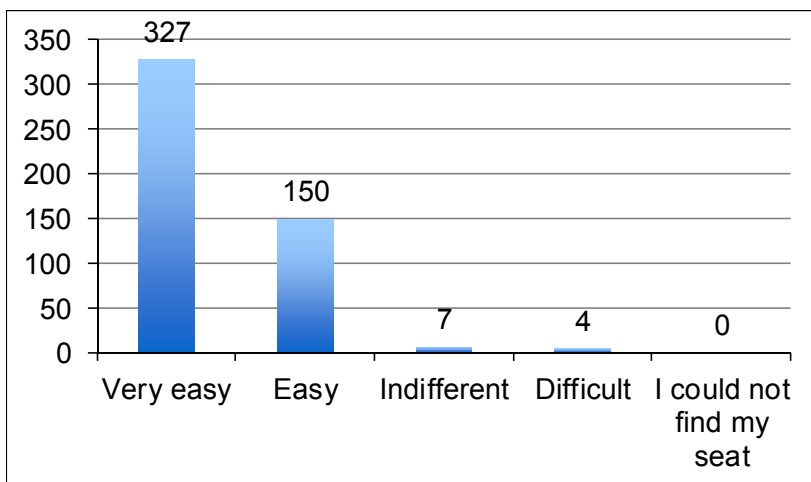
Restroom facilities



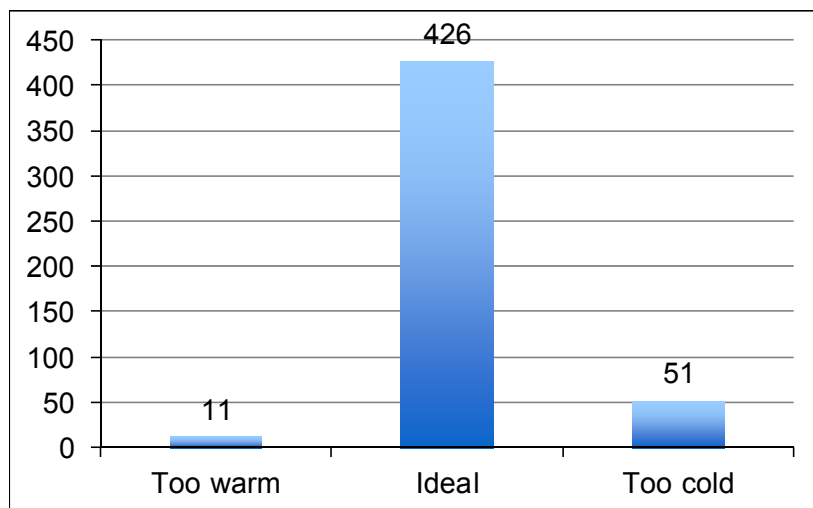
Suitability of the examination hall



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.

- Air ventilation. Upon arriving the air was not fresh.
- Should have been possible to buy some snacks or something someplace nearby. And it would be nice to have restrooms also outside of the examination room, for use before the examination. (Maybe there were, but I didn't find them.)
- pretty noisy
- small tables
- Lengthy way to the restroom,
- desks for candidates rather small
- no complaints
- Too far from the city. Toilets very dirty!
- Tables are a bit too small if you have many documents and/or use a lot of books for the exam.
- I did not find any possibility to buy some snacks.
- It was little difficult to get there by public transport since it involved a 15 min walk with a trolley full of books and materials.
- long way to the restrooms may cause disturbance of other candidates
- Temperature: in the end it was a little cold, in the beginning it was just fine !
- Parking is very expensive at the M.O.C., however it is very near to the subway station.
- The temperature was a little bit cold at the beginning. Later, after ca. 2h, it was a little bit better.
- Ist eben eine Messehalle.
- The availability of Taxis after the Examination was limited
- Well organized indeed, thank you!
- Bigger tables would be nice
- No clear sign for toilet and only one toilet is permitted to be used by the candidate but which is not the closest one.
- tables are a bit too small to have every paper and documentation in a good perspective, especially for the case study
- more space would be better. Light is less than optimal, in particular after 5-6 hours
- All perfect, Thanks :-)
- it was too cold last year. This year it was much better.
- A bit noisy due to the size and the amount of people
- Enough Spare-Tables were available on Site for everyone. However, we were not allowed to use the unused tables, e.g., pull a second table next to ours in order to have the space of two tables available. Just one table itself is not enough space for so much material to put on

it... Hence, it is really not understandable why the candidates were not allowed to use the existing resources. Thus, we suggest to prepare two tables for each candidate next time.

- May I hope that I am allowed to communicate my cordial thanks to you while I found the examination being best prepared and planned with further comments in addition to it where also topping realization all the time radiated joy and fine atmospheres so all together it obviously showed that this was not the first time of performing such delicate tests over such a huge number of candidates yes each one may remember all the decades when you took your experiences and improvements for performing this
- The helping persons and the facility and its accessibility were all perfect for me. The only unconveniency was that the tables were very small. The distances to the neighbours were also extremely short. If anyone got uneasy or left his seat, it meant a direct contact to the candidates sitting next to him.
- The acoustic conditions were very bad.
- everything was organized perfectly!
- More desk space would have been great.
- It was very noisy in the M.O.C. I was sitting next to the toilets and there were constantly people going to the toilets so that it was hard to concentrate.
- Air condition was too strong.
- I remember at least in some local sites there used to be candies and soft drinks for the participants. In Munich there wasn't. I came without anything to drink and got really tired.
- There were no possibilities to buy something to drink. Since we had to leave our bottles at the airport, a vending machine or the like would have been nice.
- While there was plenty of space in the far end of the hall, it was more cramped in my block (D).
- Also, I have the impression that the distance between tables was less than last year (only 20cm?)
- Restrooms were pretty far away from my seat so I had to walk for a long time. Tables could be a bit broader.
- unfortunately no lockers available
- I think for some people the clock was not visible enough. Though from my seat I had a clear view.
- Irritierend fand ich die ungleichmäßige Verteilung der Sitzplätze. Es gab Bereiche in denen Kandidaten eng zusammen saßen. Die Tische waren teilweise in drei (oder mehr) Reihen gestellt, so dass insbesondere an den mittleren Plätzen weniger Raum neben den Tischen (z.B. für Koffer, Aktenordner) zur Verfügung stand. Gleichzeitig gab es Blöcke in denen viele teilweise über 20 nebeneinander liegende Arbeitsplätze unbesetzt waren. Wenn die Tische schon so knapp bemessen sind, so sollte jedem Prüfling ein Gangplatz zur Verfügung stehen. Verbessert auch die Situation für den Nachbarn, welcher beim Austreten des in der Mitte sitzenden Prüflings weniger gestört wird.
- Even I had trouble concerning the content of the examination I can only recommend to continue with the facilities in the same manner as it has been the case in 2014
- It was impossible to see the clock on the wall, because it was on the side walls. I would recommend to place at least two or three clocks in the middle of the several blocks, so that every candidate can see the clock. Furthermore either an acoustic signal or a short notice about 35 Minutes before the end of the exam would be good. Then candidates already finished, can leave the Hall and the other candidates can prioritize their remaining answers.
- only bad side of the exam center was the toilet. it was small and there were not enough place for everyone, especially just before the exam start.
- Die Uhren sind von vielen Plätzen aus kaum erkennbar.
- I was very cold
- Poor connection to public transport
- All pretty much ideal; if anything, the sitting level of chairs was a little low for the level of the desks, such that the shoulders started to hurt toward the end of the exam.
- The air was quite bad, there was not enough oxygen.
- Neither the seat number nor my name were indicated on the table.

- This year the temperature in the MOC hall was adequate at the beginning of the exam. After several hours, the temperature rose and it was a little bit too warm. However, I think we were lucky this year as the outside temperature was fair. I remember my pre-exam in 2012 when it was icy outside and the temperature within the hall was also too low. This should be considered for the future.
- the desks are too close to pass with a trolley
- possibilities to get some food or beverages are poor (maybe those are in fact available, but their position and offer is unknown)
- Everything was fine, but hopefully the first and last time :)
- It would be cool, if there would be an option to get something to drink (not necessarily for free, but just the possibility to get something. (For apprentices like me, which forgot to take something with them)
- Free parking for candidates in the MOC car park would be appreciated.
- There was no place to buy coffee or water in the examination hall.
- I guess it took me a few days that I already filled in such forms, anyhow, I dare doing it again but please don't get excited when I write down some items that could differ a little bit since I made no data storing since then
- The way to the examination hall (e.g. when coming from the subway station) could have been marked with signs.
- More hanging clocks would be nice. This year (and last year) they were too far to recognize the time.
- It has been awkward to stand up and go to the toilet as I am a not very small person. As you don't like to disturb anyone of the other participants, it was stressing to go to the toilet though I was in the first row. It would have been sufficient place to let space between the neighbours of more than 30cm, e.g. 50 or 60. This was my first exit as I was in the first row and was able to go forward only one row to go to the restrooms.
- My other colleagues had to exit by the fronts and the backs of the other colleagues, therefore it was hard to go through the rows without disturbing anyone. As it is usual to the participants to let books, e.g. the guidelines, slip at least at a third over the desk in front of them, the space will be too narrow. In my case, I had to excuse me everytime for the disruption between the guy with his spreaded material to the front row and the guy sitting with his chair extremely to the back.....
- It hasn't been possible to see the watches from all seats.
- Clock attached to the walls is not visible from all seats
- Clock should be more visible.
- It would be helpful if it was mentioned BEFORE the start of the examination that the question papers have to be handed in (if you finish early?). I had to go back to my desk to copy the answers on a separate paper.
- Due to the high number of candidates, the hall is rather loud, but this can be compensated with earplugs. The restrooms are inadequate in number. Two toilets for about 250 male persons are ridiculous. When writing paper C, I simply do not have the time to stand in queue for 8 minutes to take a shit.
- Of course, smaller rooms with less candidates and more individual space would be appreciated.
- Since this will hardly be possible (both economically and with respect to organization matters etc.) the conditions are adequate. Not more, not less.
- I will highly appreciate bigger tables.
- Very helpful and friendly assistants
- It would be nice to have more clocks on the walls to see the time or change the provision for allowed watches or alarm clocks.
- Too little clocks
- the toilets could have been cleaner; the tables should be more spacious.
- This time, I am to give you my answers already the third time, and I follow your invitation to do so, since you told me in your email I recently received that you got severe technical problems, especially, with your email service. So then, I assume my previous answers got

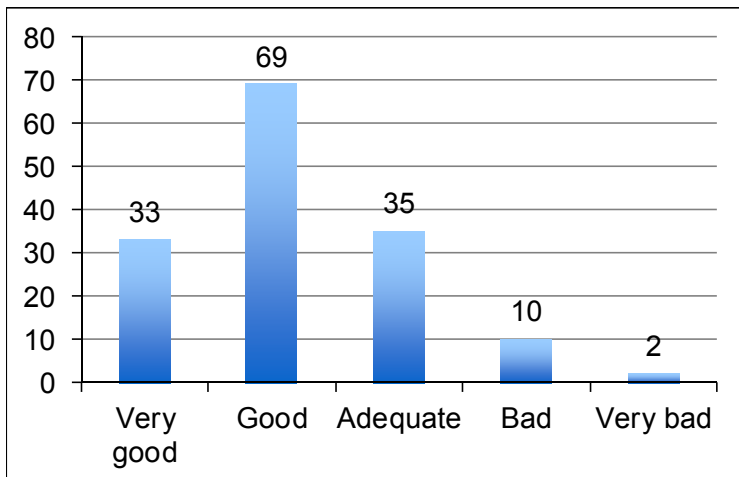
lost, potentially. Finally, I beg you to condone my excuse while I cannot carefully recall my former answers since I did not keep any log about this. Yes, in general, I met the best conditions presumed, and I am not surprised about this, since I consider that this is not the first time you performed such a huge test opportunity, I guess there are already tens of years where you took experiences and improvements and you certainly made an intensive use of that. Right at the moment, as I experienced EQE 2014, it has worked like a charm.

- The location is very bad!
- A lot of people arrive to M,O,C an hour or more before the start of the exam. It would be nice to have a place to sit there.
- Also; the rules of the examinations clearly state that staplers are NOT allowed. Why, were approx 12 candidates around me using these for the paper C and NO comments were made or effort made to stop them. This was far more disturbing than me listening to music ONLY BEFORE the exam near the toilets.
- Also, there was a mistake in the English C paper. I had to write down the concern (the non-main invigilator had to be told what to do), and the main invigilator confirmed the paper error. Why was there not an announcement made to the other candidates who were doing the English C paper in the MOC Munich centre? The main invigilator, was simply not in control during the C exam.
- The desks were too high (or the chairs too low): smaller candidates like me have to sit in an uncomfortable position when writing the paper - which negatively affects readability of one's handwriting and makes to feel oneself even more uncomfortable due to a cramped posture.
- Restrooms far from the seat
- The gap between each candidate could be wider. If the candidate sitting next to you moves too much, it can be disturbing.
- First, hall was well heated, but with the aeration, it got far too cold
- The tables could be bigger
- Everything was good until I saw an apple on the table near my table. That was a nightmare because I knew that I would lose all my concentration if somebody bit that apple. Luckily apple stayed as a whole until the end of the examination. I owe my success to this whole apple. If I succeeded at all, if not I wish somebody bit that apple. Then the apple would be responsible for this.
I mean, please ban the apple.
- Really very bad acoustic conditions
- The seating, especially the height of the table compared to those of the chair, was uncomfortable, leading to back pain up from 30 min after the examination started. May be this could be improved somehow.
- The desks were very small and, consequently, the distances to neighbours were somewhat too short. To pass between the tables people nearly had to touch them, which was disturbing. I also had to stack my materials on top of each other since there was scarcely space for spreading them on the desk.
- Table of the Examination place is adequate for organizing the examination paper work, but not really good or very good. Consideration should be given to have on each table an outbox tray for collecting the finished examination pages.
- Not enough space for candidates due to the too small tables in the M.O.C as criticized each and every year! What good are surveys for when no changes are made, despite of the trouble-shooting? If the Epo was seriously interested in solving this problem, just go for it and finally rent larger tables! It is very easy to find larger tables.
- The temperature was too cold at the beginning.
- More desk space would have been useful, although space supplied was adequate
- I hate sitting in such a big hall, no good atmosphere. From my seat I could not see the official clock, rest rooms were far away - I think the conditions should be about the same for everybody.

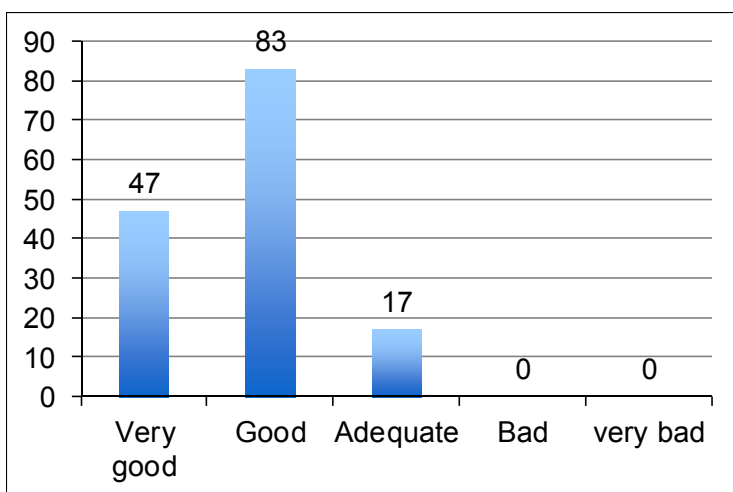
1.8 Paris (150 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

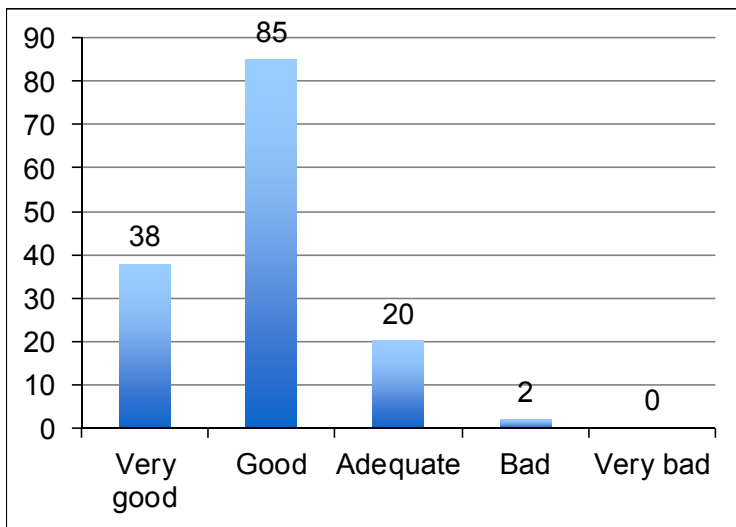
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



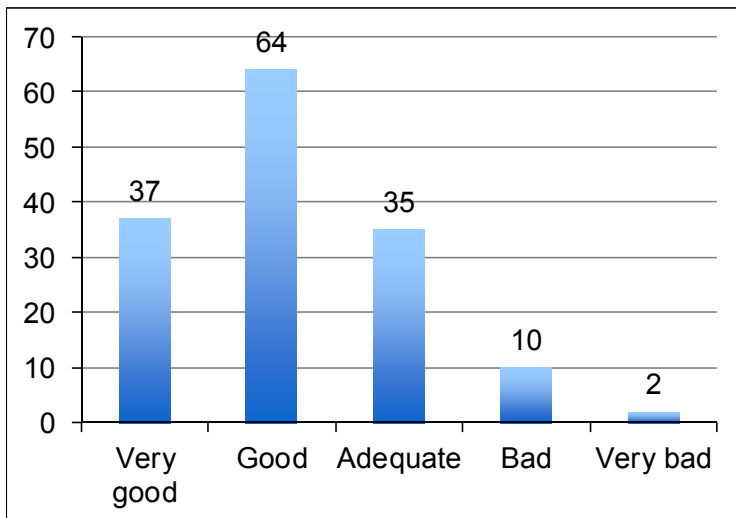
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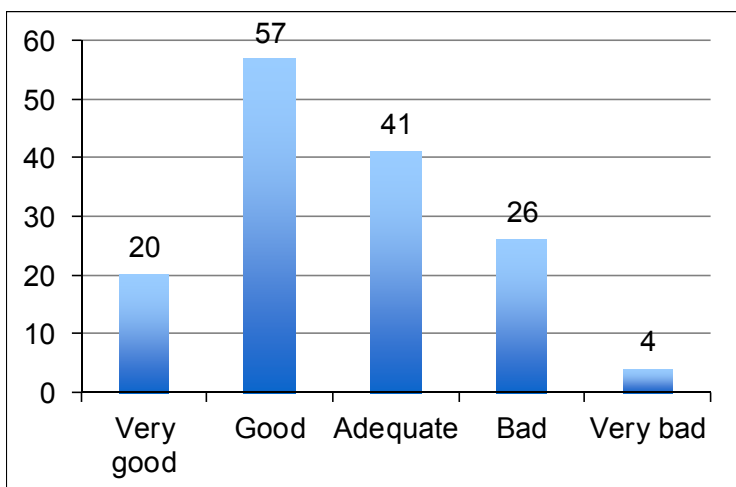
Lighting conditions



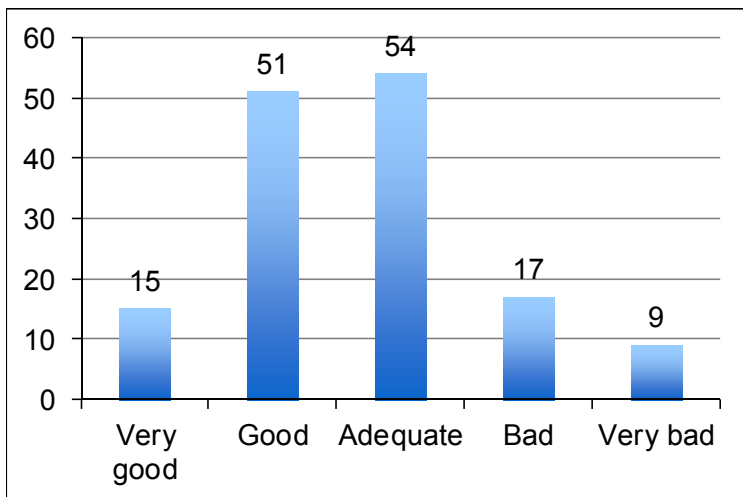
Space for candidates



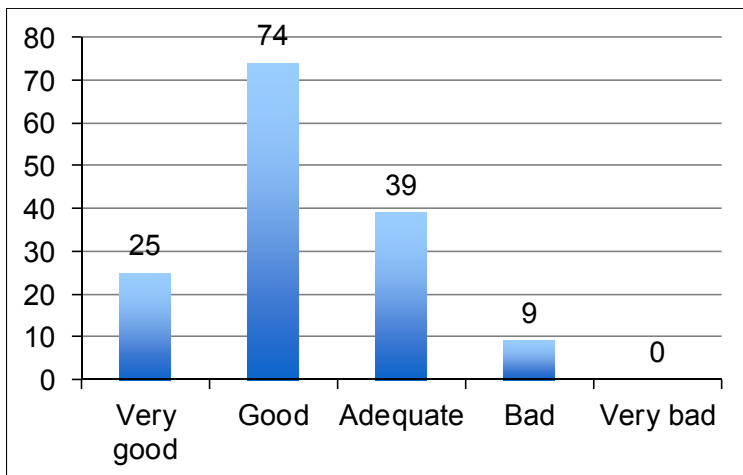
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



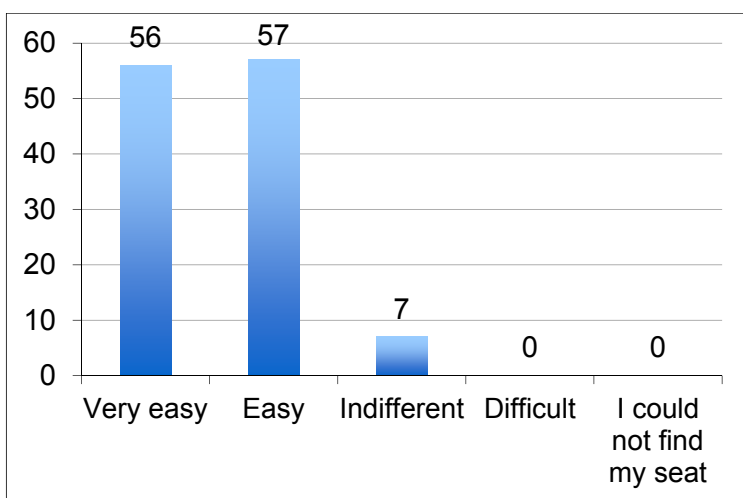
Restroom facilities



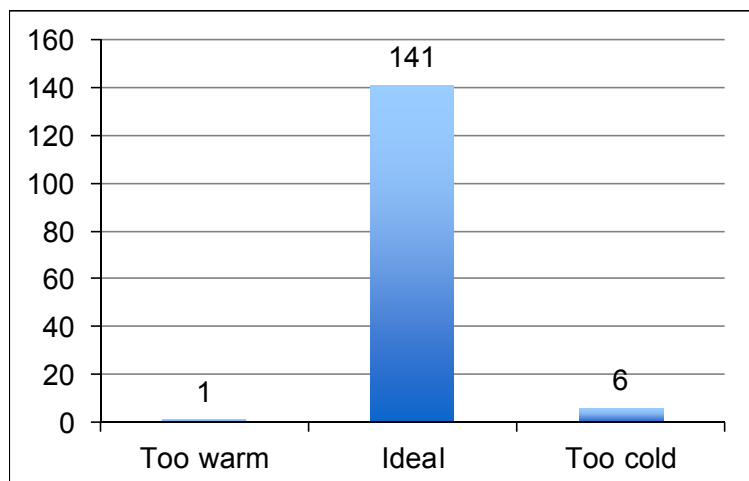
Suitability of the examination hall



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.

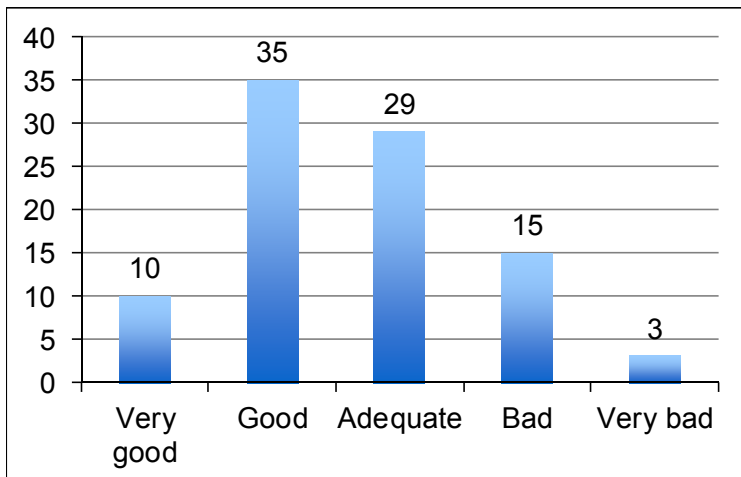
- Conditions were OK, maybe tables a little bit (a third to half a meter) larger would be better.
- The Parisian hall is somewhat hard to reach from central Paris.
- The tables were a bit too small.
- On n'est pas venu ramasser ma copie, j'ai dû traverser toute la grande salle pour aller la rendre.
- Les tables peuvent être assez vieilles et donc faire du bruit, ce qui est assez dérangement pour les candidats autour.
- I don't know if I was sitting next to a school, but I could hear a lot of children discussing and playing football...
- This is OK for the pre-exam maybe, but could be very detrimental for the EQE
- The main problem is that for the D exam we do not have enough space to be comfortable with all the documents
- 2 restrooms and 2 toilets/stalls per restroom is clearly insufficient, given the number of stressed bladders in the examination hall. Having to wait your turn to relieve yourself during this kind of exam adds to the already high level of stress, and that's quite unnecessary. But my most important comment is about the very location of the Paris examination centre. If I must resit one or more papers, I am seriously considering selecting another centre even if it means travelling to another country at my own expense. I don't know if the EPO is aware of the fact that St-Ouen is not an easy suburb to get to, in an overcrowded megalopolis where transportation is a major problem. The subway line 13 that takes you there is one of the worst of Paris in terms of reliability and saturation (service was interrupted on Wednesday morning), and on top of that you have to walk one kilometer from the Mairie de St-Ouen subway station to the examination centre on rue Godillot. A lot of candidates who are based in Paris prefer to book a hotel in St-Ouen to be on the safe side (even though St-Ouen is not safe at night for women). As you see this location is not convenient even for people based in Paris, so my suggestion would be to find an examination centre elsewhere in France, anywhere except Paris and its suburbs, unless the EPO can find a better location inside Paris.
- there was noise from outside: repeated car honking.
- It was too cold at the beginning of each paper and too warm at the end, for whatever reason, so I would just say it was OK
- Mettre la bande auto collante sur l'enveloppe et pas sur le rabat. Ça éviterait dans le stress de coller ses feuilles de réponse et de paniquer. Ces épreuves sont déjà suffisamment stressantes comme ça, sans avoir en plus à se battre avec l'enveloppe pour y faire rentrer ses feuilles de réponse.
- Good conditions overall.

- Trop de candidats sortaient en même temps pour aller aux toilettes. J'étais près d'une porte. Ce qui est très dérangement pour se concentrer puisque les candidats passaient soit devant la table qui m'était attribuée soit derrière. Il serait nécessaire de condamner certaines portes pour qu'il n'en reste qu'une qui permette l'accès aux toilettes; de préférence celle qui est vers l'estrade ou bien la dernière porte du fond, mais pas les portes centrales ou alors supprimer une ou deux tables autour de cette porte.
- Pour certaines épreuves il y avait 3 portes d'ouvertes, donc parfois jusqu'à trois personnes qui sortent en même temps (y a il en des discussion entre candidats?), y compris dans la dernière demi-heure de l'examen.
- trop éloigné du métro
- the location is too far away from the train stations. It is easy to find but takes too long to reach.
- Eurosite Saint-Ouen is too difficult to access to from Paris.
- Consider that for the D paper, candidates are carrying more than 15 kg of documents !
- Access to the center in Paris is very difficult.
- A bit far away from the Metro station. Coming with a big bag full of documents is not straightforward.
- Un micro pourrait être utile afin de permettre aux personnes situées au fond de la salle de bien entendre les consigne
- Un panneau au niveau de chaque entrée indiquant avec une flèche les numéros des rangées vers la droite et celles vers la gauche serait peut-être utile
- RANGEES RANGEES
- 16 à 30 1 à 15
- being at the bottom of the exam room, invigilator was barely hearable (he didn't use his microphone), i didn't hear his warnings about the near end of the examination time.
- Très loin du métro. Beaucoup de marche à pied, ce que n'est pas négligeable dû à la lourde charge des documents à apporter aux examens.
- Environnement pas sécurisant.
- during both exams I tackled, we could hear hoots from the outside.
- The examination centre is rather far from the center of Paris.
- There is a public park nearby the examination room. As the exam occurs in the end of February in Paris, it is holidays in this part of France and it has been quite noisy.
- Les conditions d'examen étaient bonnes.
- Merci aux organisateurs.
- Doors shut very loudly, which is very distracting when one's seat is in front of the door.
- my table was a bit wobbly and therefore a bit noisy when I wrote on my copy
- the tables were too small
- A larger table for examination would be useful
- Le lieu en banlieue parisienne n'est vraiment pas pratique.
- Accès par le métro pour des personnes qui ne connaissent pas Paris et sa banlieue peut être problématique : la ligne se sépare en deux lignes différentes avant la station où il faut descendre.
- La seule ligne de métro pour y accéder est la ligne de métro la plus chargée de Paris.
- La ville où se trouve la salle d'examen fait partie des villes avec un fort sentiment d'insécurité.
- No comments - It was not the first time
- No clock in immediate visibility
- Examination center located in a remote and barely secured area. Accommodation offer within a decent walking distance very scarce. Public transportation offer also limited and quite distant, especially with heavy bags full of books.
- restrooms are exiguous.
- invigilator did not use his microphone

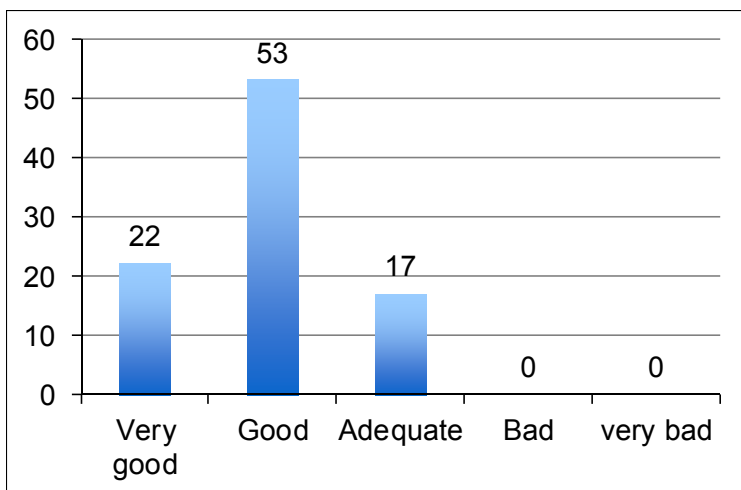
1.9 Rome (92 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

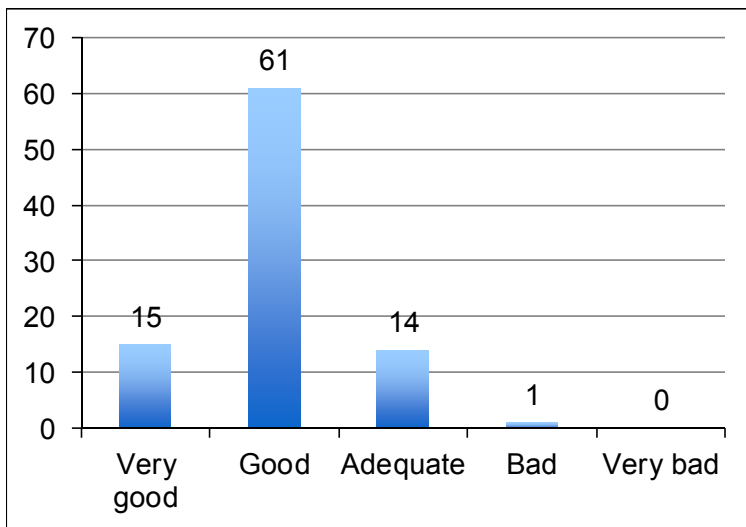
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



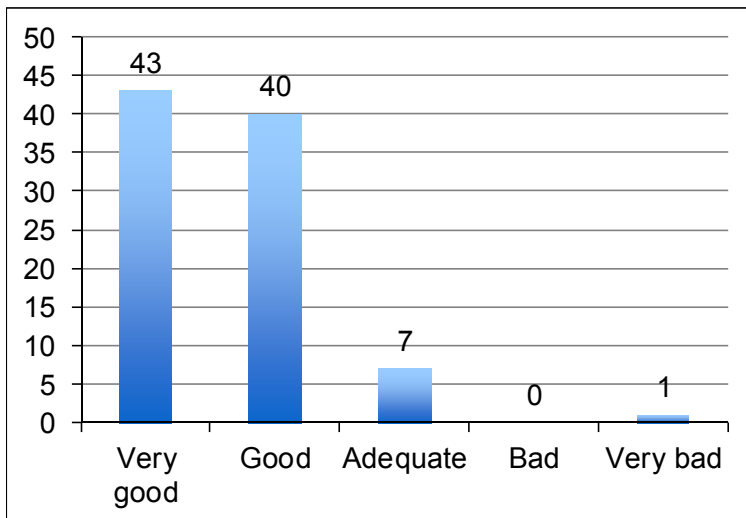
Identification check



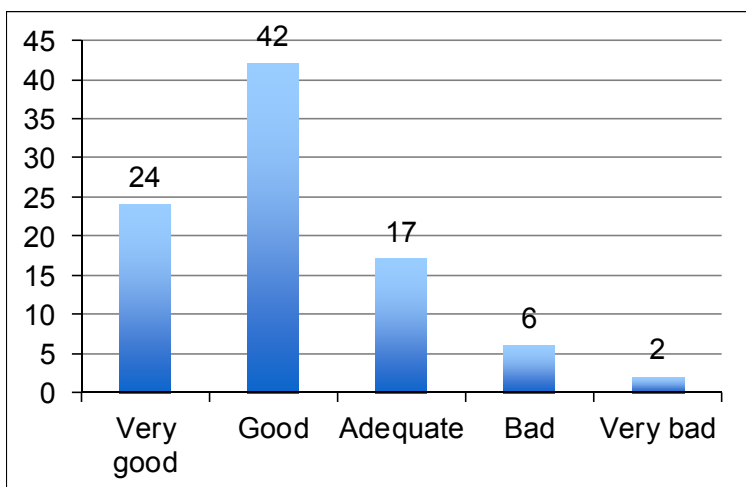
Lighting conditions



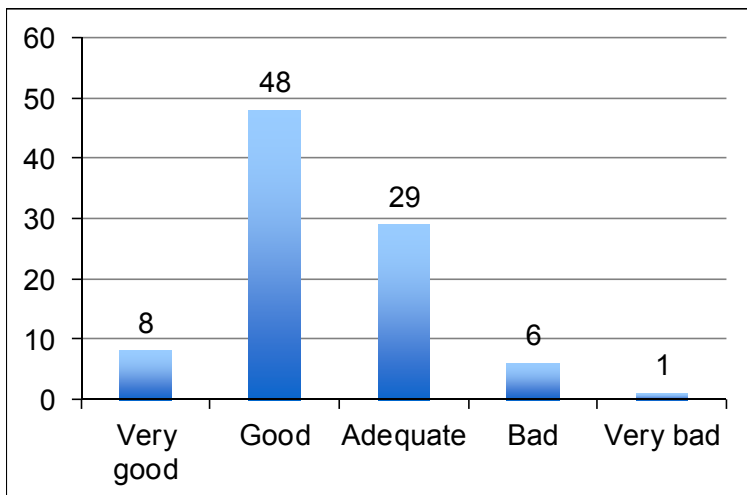
Space for candidates



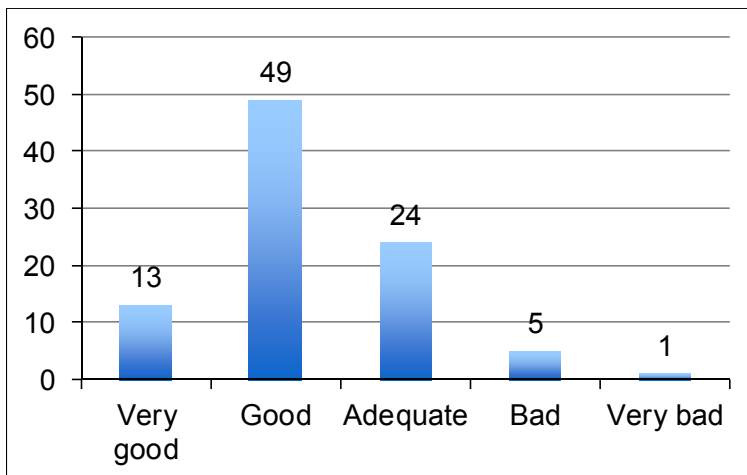
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



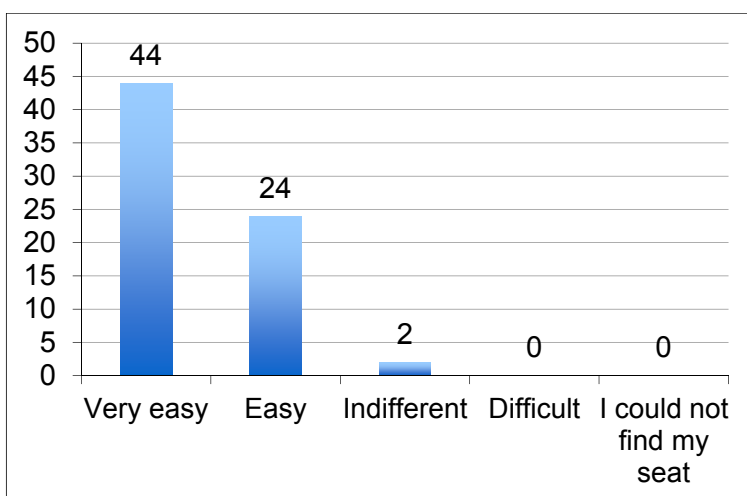
Restroom facilities



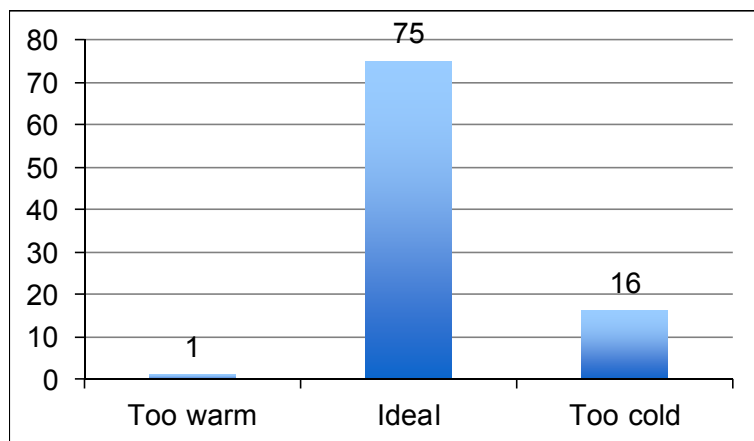
Suitability of the examination hall



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.

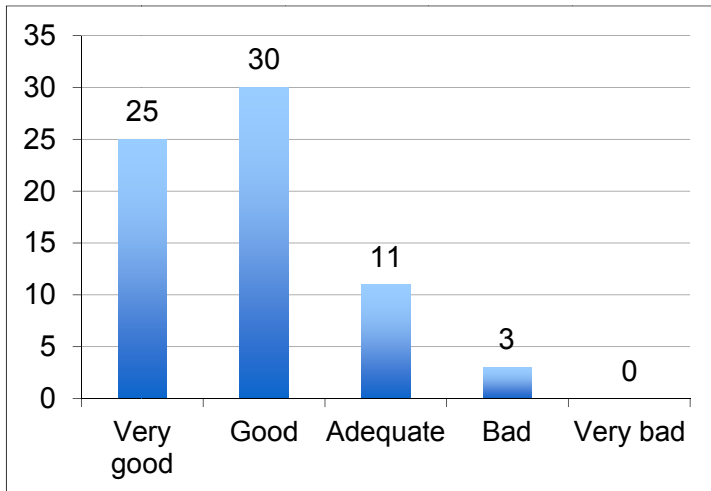
- The only problem was that we had to make the flights of stairs with heavy suitcases containing books and this is not ideal, especially for Paper D.
- In general I appreciated organization of EQE, mainly due to the fact that indications about seat are clear, no need to check documents before taking place, silence.
- Only complains are about the place: too many stairs to reach the room, which is really a bad when you have to take many books (probably I took too many books with me, but, even for pre-examination, I preferred to have with me relevant PCT national tables, rO tables, etc. together with guidelines, cross referenced books for EPC & PCT, a dictionary).
- It would be helpful if EPO provides a selection of a limited number of pages from PCT national tables, rO tables, etc. in order to save paper (I printed them when I started to study for pre-examination and then I had to print them again due to updating and probably I will have to print them again for main examination paper). Providing a selection of few tables (for example US, JP, some EPC contracting states) and ensuring that no other tables will be required during examination would probably be enough to check the ability in finding correct provisions to be applied.
- Why not providing a sort of standard tablet inhibiting (by means of hardware or software means) wifi (so that no one could use own mobile phone to create a wifi hotspot) with an English dictionary and an easy accessible SD card slot ? In this way I believe that a lot of paper would be saved because reference materials (such as national law tables, G-decisions, etc.) could just be loaded into SD card.
- The examination center is slightly removed from town center: who arrives at the main railway station has to take the means of transport to join the center.
- Too many stairs to climb without elevator and with huge luggage full of books it's not easy!
- Once again, no elevator available, emergency exits blocked, emergency ramp blocked by cars.
- there are many stairs to get to the examination hall, not so easy when you have a lot of luggage
- The hall was absolutely wonderful for space and light conditions, the only little problem was reaching the 3rd floor downstairs with the big bag with the books, but I liked very much the working conditions, a pity for the temperature.
- there was a noisy lamp making a terrible noise for the entire duration of the exam
- The examination hall is not located inside Ergife Hotel but it's located into a separate and very old building so that even taking a room at Ergife hotel you have to exit from the hotel with a bag full of books and reach the examination hall which is quite far. Surprisingly a lot of stairs are present to reach the examination hall (which are hard to take with a bag full of books). No elevators are present, which makes it difficult for disabled people to reach the examination hall.

- There was a constant background noise provoked by the airco system.
- The examination hall is placed underground and there is no elevator, hence the EQE candidates have to bring their heavy suitcases along many stairs.
- Furthermore the examination hall is not easy to reach, it would be advisable to select an examination hall closer to the city centre and to a metro station (in this case 15' minutes walk in a high traffic and smoggy road have to be walked through).
- There are many stairs to reach the hall, very uncomfortable with trolleys, impossible for people with disabilities. I suspect there is an "easier" access but it is not signposted at all.
- to reach the hall there are several stairs not easy to go down with heavy bags
- I sat for Pre-Exam. So it was Monday and thus the first day in which the hall was populated, probably this is the reason why the hall temperature was - in my opinion - too cold.
- In my opinion the use of electronic devices (not connected to Internet) is to be allowed
- No elevator available.
- Many stairs to arrive to the hall bringing heavy luggage is not comfortable.
- As usual very difficult to take bags with books and notes
- The access to the examination room is not easy. It must go downstairs through two steep staircases and considering the amount of materials/books which every candidate has, it is not easy to do

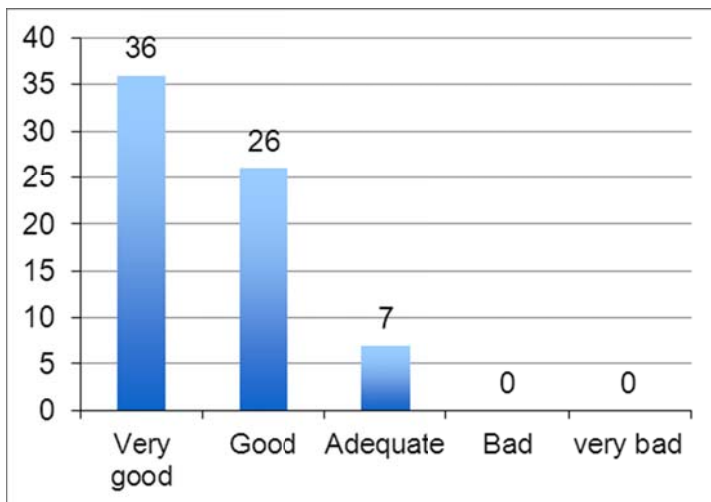
1.10 Stockholm (69 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

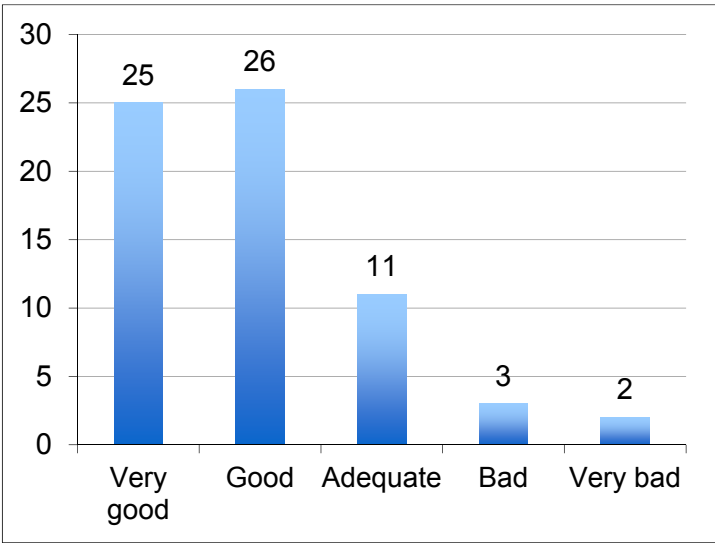
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



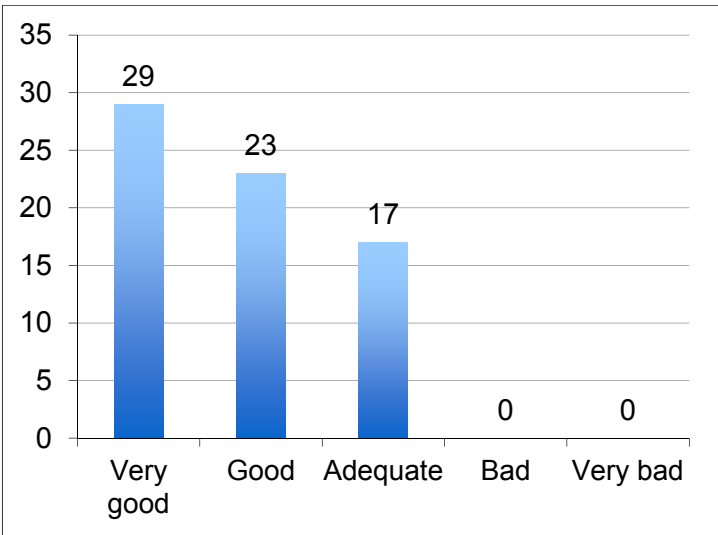
Identification check



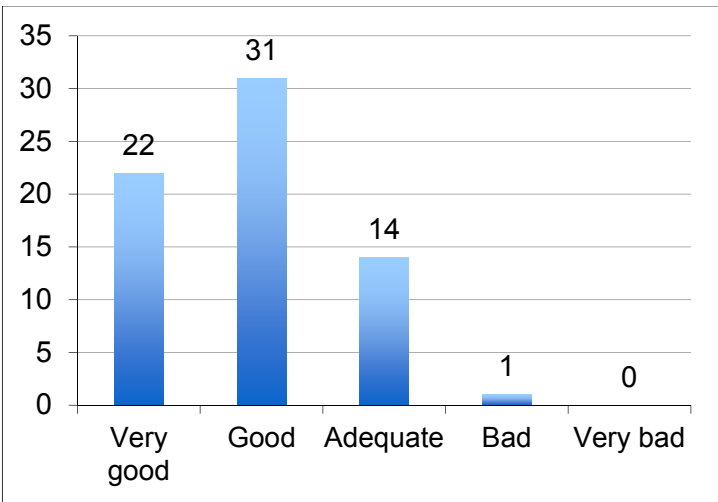
Lighting conditions



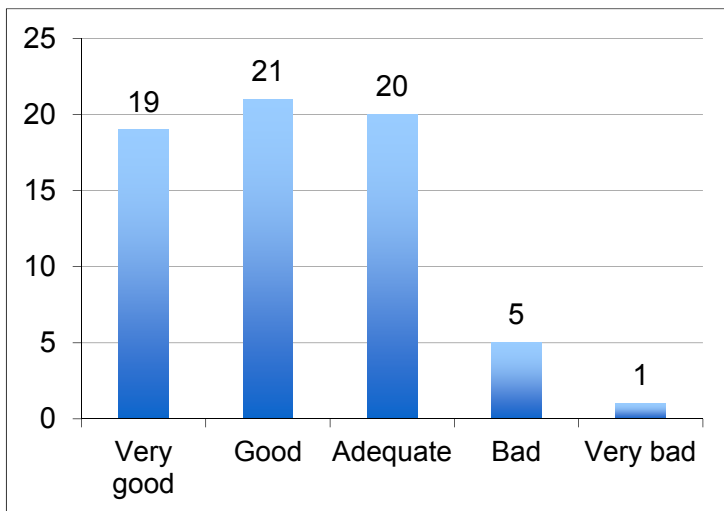
Space for candidates



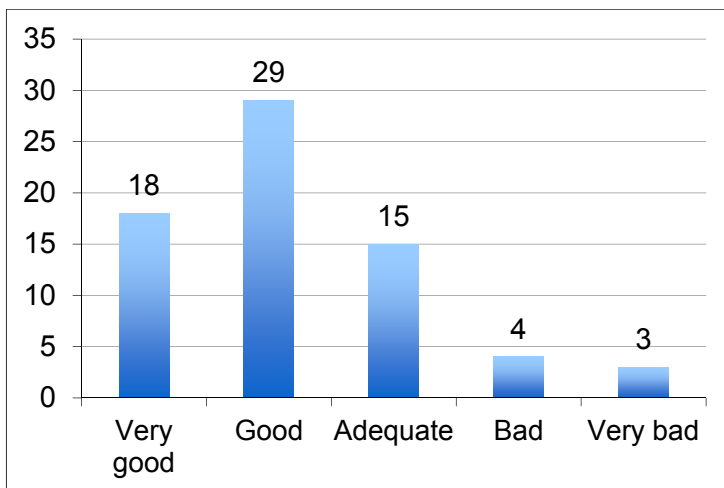
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



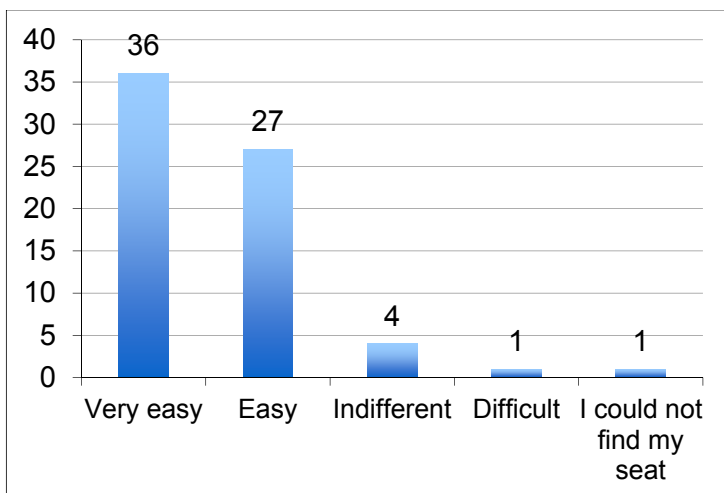
Restroom facilities



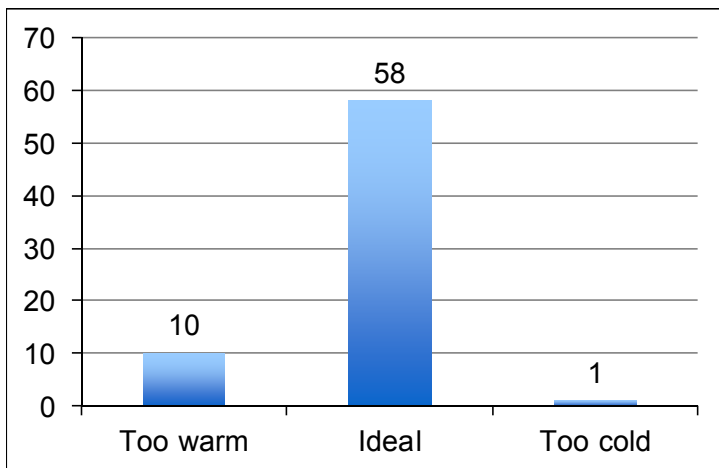
Suitability of the examination hall



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.

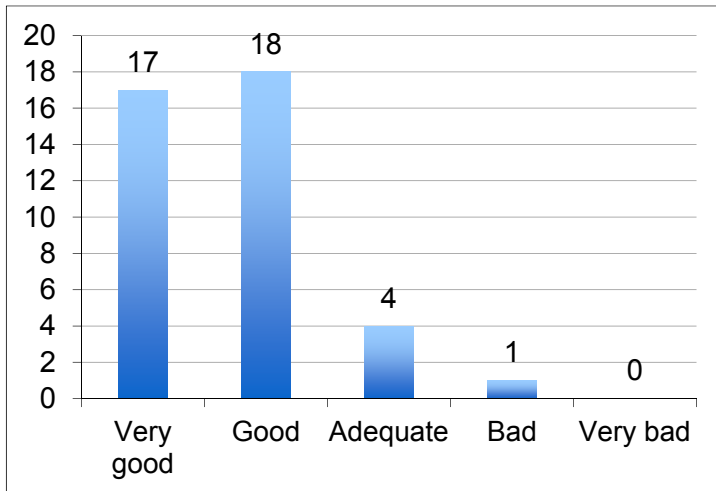
- Ok for the number of candidates seated, but not for more than that.
- I have worked at the Swedish Patent Office (the examination centre) so I did not have any trouble finding the way.
- Even though the lighting facilities seems modern I do not think that there was sufficient light for doing an exam, at least not where I was seated, next to the wall. Compared to earlier years the restrooms available close to the examination hall was also limited.
- Much better than the previous in Kista
- Very good. Also nice ambiance and nice to be able to get a cup of coffee!
- The hall is in an attic location, accessible via one small lift which only takes a few people at a time. The tables located close to the wall have awkward sitting conditions due to the sloping upper part of the wall/ceiling.
- After a while in each paper the air environment was poor. I noticed it especially when going into the examination room day 2 after lunch for paper B. Better ventilation is needed. I sat in "Visionen".
- The location at the Swedish Patent Office (PRV) was much more suitable as an examination center compared to Electrum, Kista where the exam has previously been held. The room at PRV was much lighter, the tables was not making any noises (the tables in Kista where squeaking). It is also much easier to find hotell rooms in the center of Stockholm compared to Kista, and PRV is easier accesible by train/airplane/bus etc. I would recommend to have the EQE at PRV next year too.
- Impossible to see the clock from my desk. Very bad since the time is crucial for the C-exam.
- The desc was very good since the space was better than for the pre-exam I had in Kista.
- The long stairs to the entrance door is tough due to all the books.
- It was far too poor lighting in the room. Not for all places but for most of them. Visionen, PRV.
- I sat just by the wall where the ceiling was very low. But also in the more open space I could see that there was poor lighting conditions.
- It was very warm in the room the day I sat the exam, Tuesday 25th February.
- Otherwise there was enough space for each candidate, and good tables. The clock was not visible for everyone due to poles in the room, but I saw it from my location.
- I assume that Stockholm will use Kista as examination hall again when it is renovated. It is better.
- Thank you!
- Bad air condition resulting in bad air quality.
- Very bad air quality in the examination hall. I sat in the coffe room Visionen and the air was really bad.

- Very bad air quality but no surprising since we where in the coffe room at PRV.
- In an old building (Swedish PTO) with a very small elevator up to the top floor, difficult when all candidates bring a suitcase of books! Lighting conditions varied in the room. Also a long walk to the restrooms. Good that it was in central Stockholm.
- Difficult to see the only clock due to pillars.
- The examination hall is located at a upper floor. Only one small elavator can be used to reach the hall. Most of candidates have a roller with them must be a queue for the elavator and it tooks a time to go up or down
- Noisy ventilation.
- There could be a sign at the entrance or even outside the building!
- Noisy ventilation/air condition.

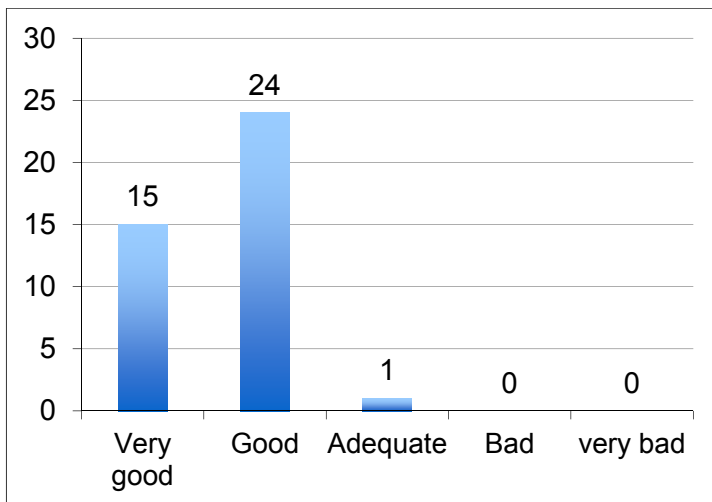
1.11 Taastrup (41 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

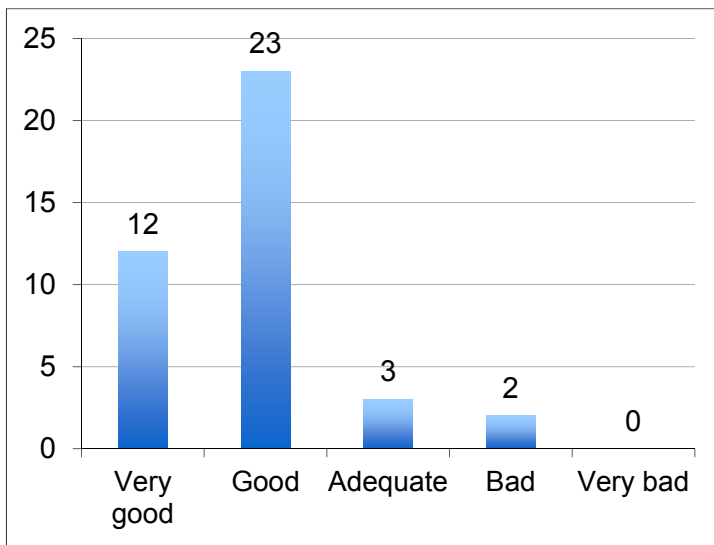
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



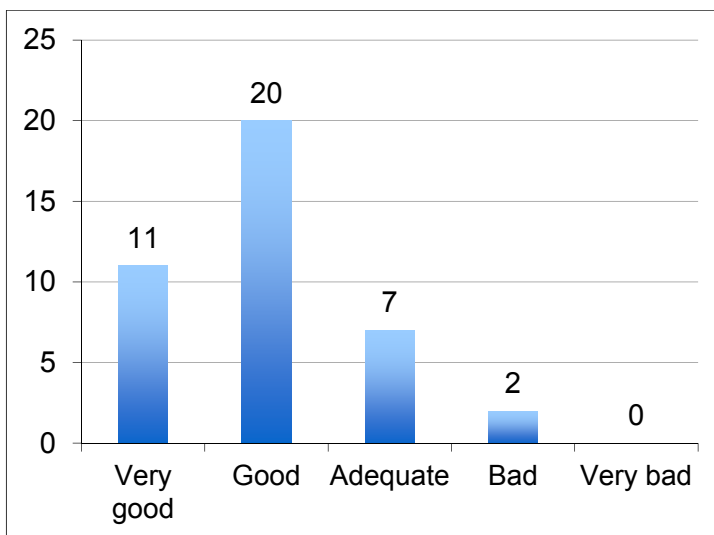
Identification check



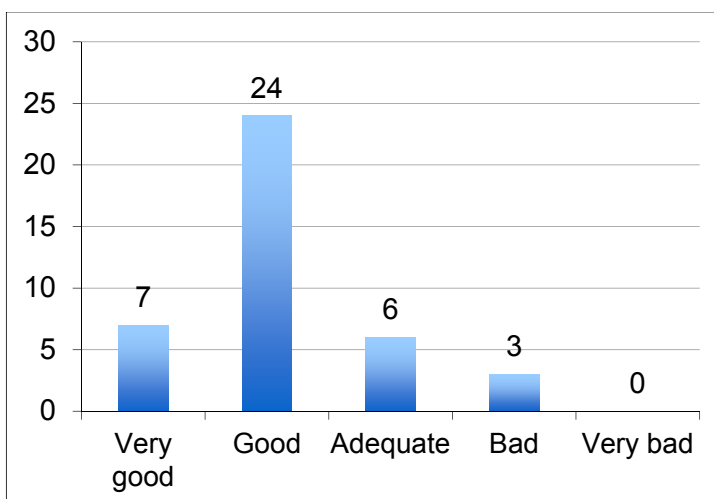
Lighting conditions



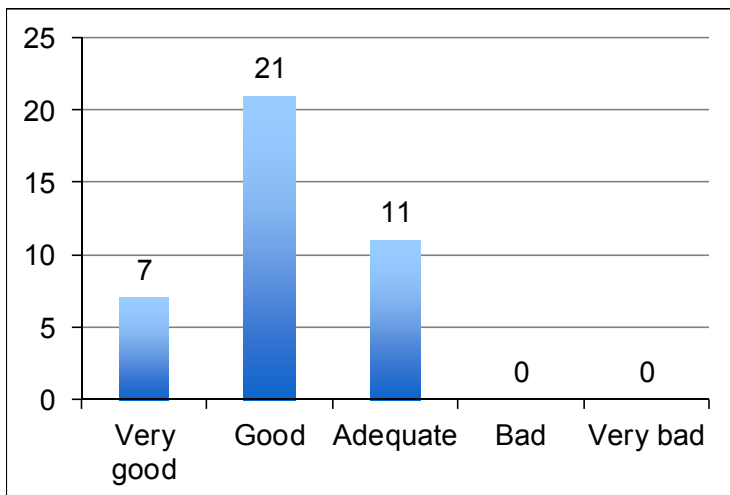
Space for candidates



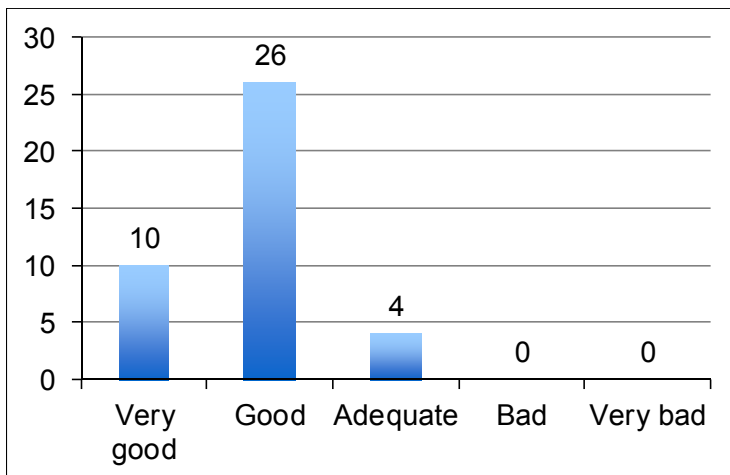
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



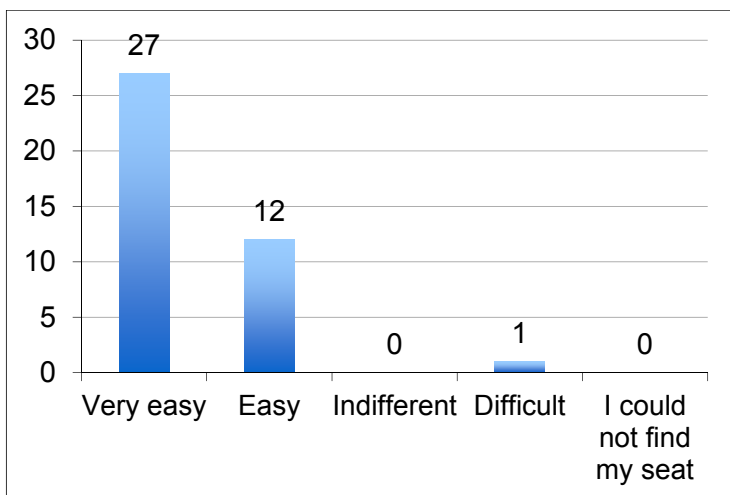
Restroom facilities



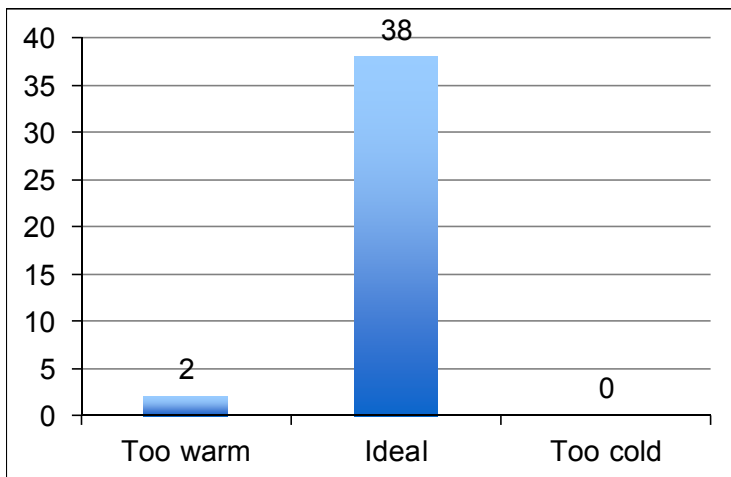
Suitability of the examination hall



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



Q5) Hall temperature



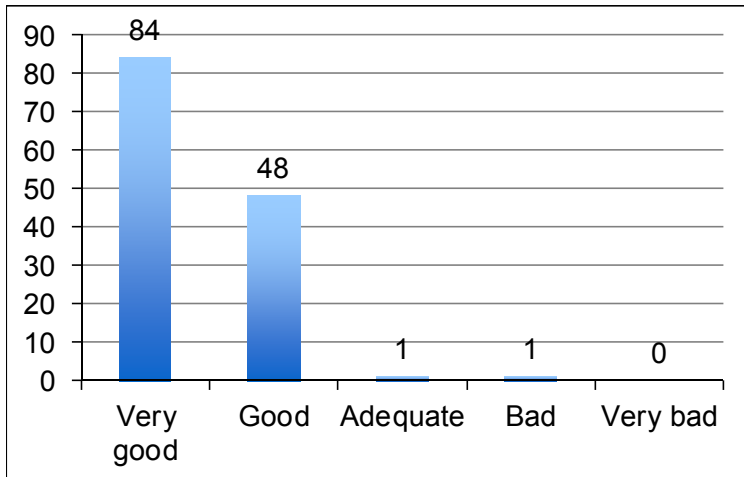
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Too little desk space
- Move it earlier in the morning to avoid a long and stressing waiting time and to exploit the natural lighting.
- At lot of noise from Construction Work elsewhere in the Building at the beginning og exam
- The refreashments served outside the examination centre was very appreciated.
- The lighting conditions are bad, because when light is on it is just adequate, but when a timer switches the light off it is inadequate. The timer could easily be overcontrolled if Patent- og Varemærkestyrelsen paid an eletrician to build in this function.
- Larger tables to have space for all the sheets of papers without having to search for them.
- Good: There were coffee, water and some snacks provided by the facility for free, it was very thoughtful of them.
- Bad:
 - 1. The sign for restroom is not clear.
 - 2. The whole building has a very good securty system, you can use the elevator only if you have a key card. It is understandable, although since the location of the exam room is on the second floor, it is a bit complicate for the candidate to get out of the building after the working hour.

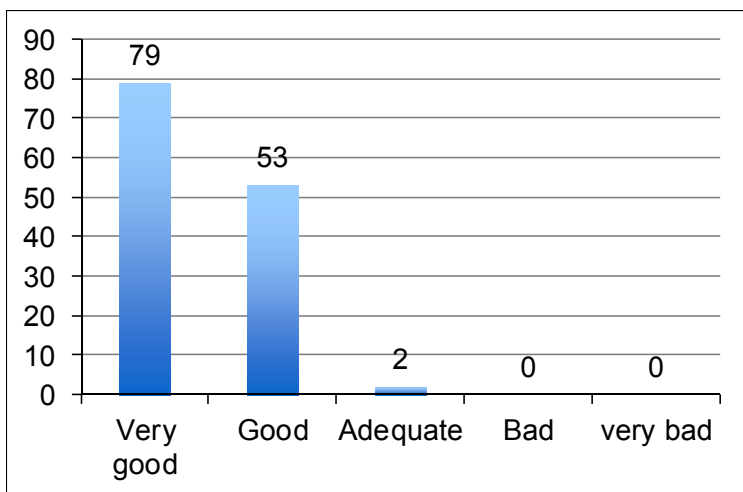
1.12 The Hague (134 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

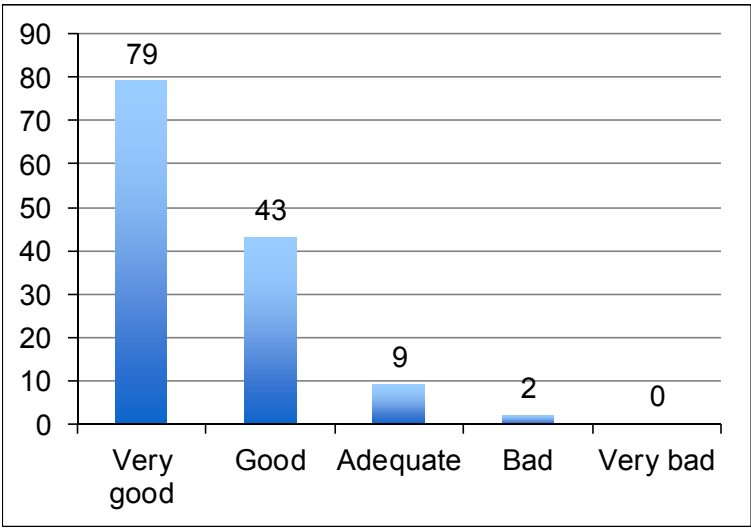
Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs



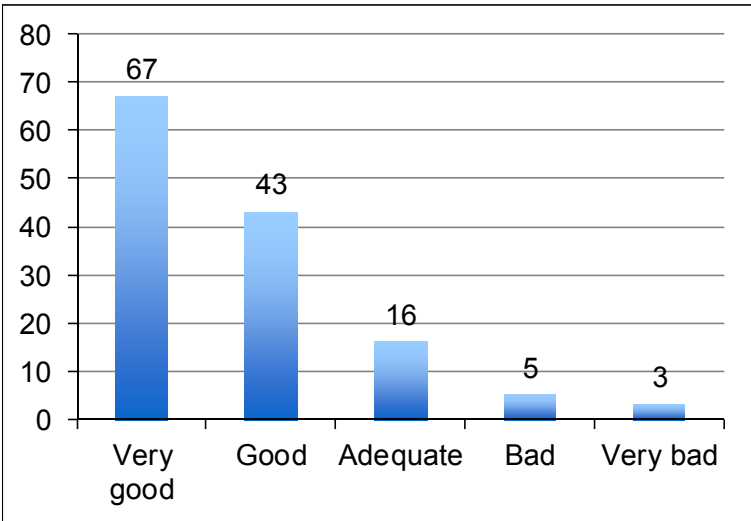
Identification check



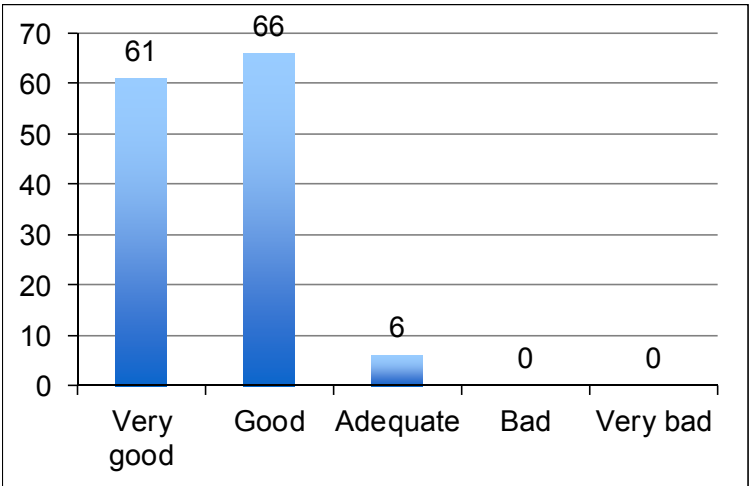
Lighting conditions



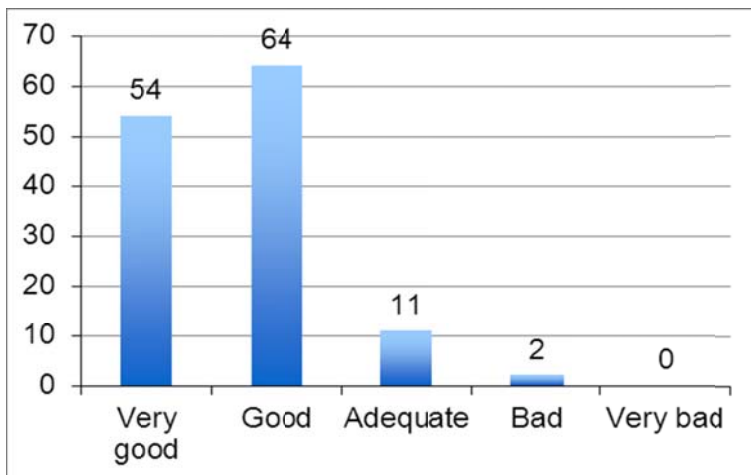
Space for candidates



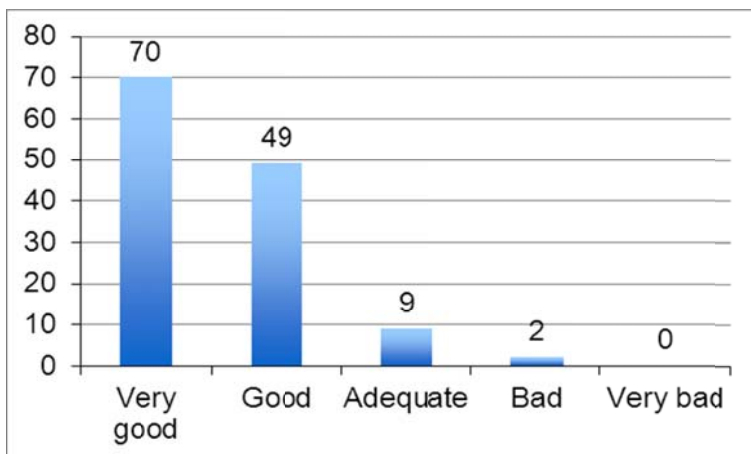
Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators



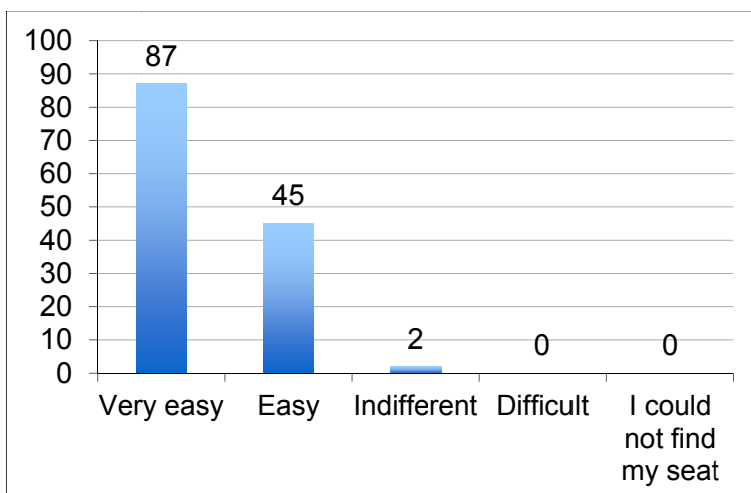
Restroom facilities



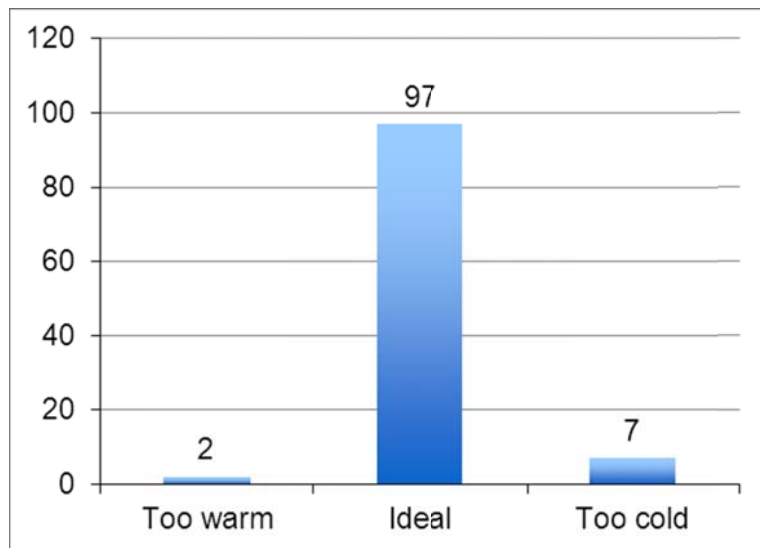
Suitability of the examination hall



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



Q5) Hall temperature



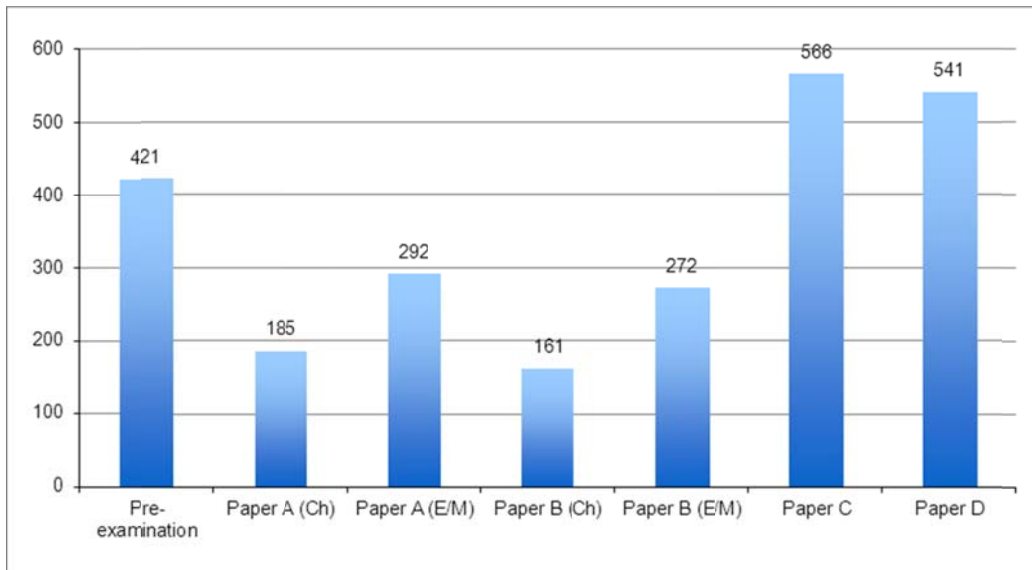
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- I wrote the first Time in Den Haag, and it was a more familiar atmosphere, because it was smaller a less number of participants.
- Everything went well, no complaints.
- pre-eqe was in the Auditorium, which is the perfect place. I was a bit afraid that looking up information in my books would be too noisy, but the acoustics of the hall are very good, and there was enough free space around me.
- Don't know if this changes when all seats are occupied (now there was an empty seat between each two participants).
- Invigilators were kind and helpful, much appreciated
- Examination hall itself is fine but the tables in the centre were too small, especially for paper C where space is needed in order not to mess up the documents to be analysed. It is much better to be seated in the circular area rather than in the centre, I think the difference in table space is somewhat unfair to the candidates.
- candidates could have been seated in much more spread out manner, allowing for more room per candidate. Now there was too little space which is a handicap when having to consult reference material in big binders.
- More space should be guaranteed around the Candidates' tables to spread all the study material in a way which makes its consultation easier and quicker.
- For D you need more space, Now I was between two candidates and there was not enough room to spread out all my material. Please give candidates more room.
- Only disadvantage are the stairs at the entrance in The Hague in combination with heavy suitcases.
- Otherwise perfect examination centre and perfect conditions!
- For clarification, last year my participation was PRE exam
- Space at the smaller tables (Block A) not sufficient, at least for paper C, where a lot of material has to be dealt with.
- Great venue, helpful, friendly staff, thank you!
- A larger table would-be have been Nice. Nix u had to use the floor partially.
- Stairs at the EPO entrance are not very handy with a heavy suitcase full of books, a ramp would have been nice
- The table in the center of the Auditorium in EPO The Hague are TOO SMALL to spread all the material sheets. Seats in the circled area seem more appropriate.
- The individual tables provide sufficient place, but I heard from some candidates sitting in the "crescent" that they were sitting too close to each other and could use some more space.

- Bigger seats in the centre of the examination are requested. Although I only used basic documents, my table was fully covered.
- The seats were not very comfortable for such a long sitting. I suffered from back pain afterwards.
- Working noise outside the examination hall during the first 30 mn of the exam
- with a little more space for each candidate it would be perfect.

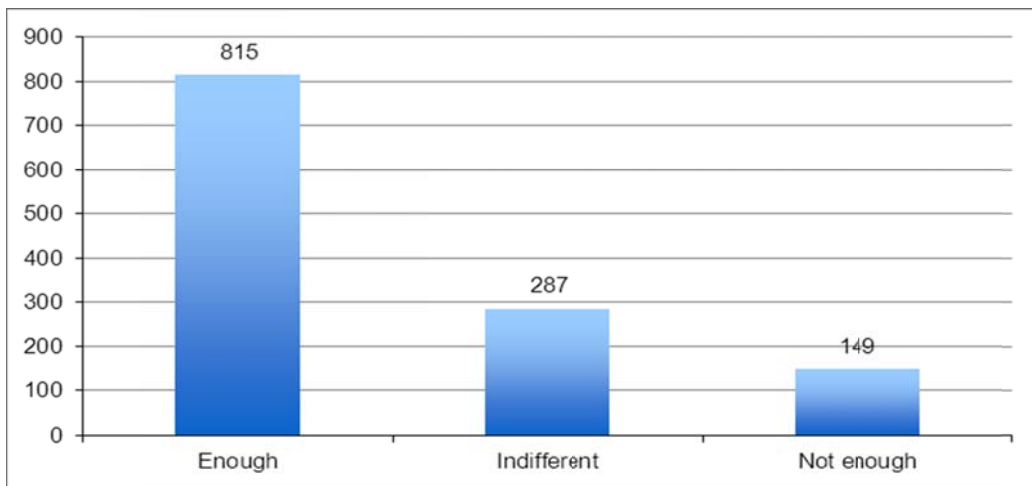
Chapter 2 - Preparation for the EQE

Q7) Which examination papers did you sit?

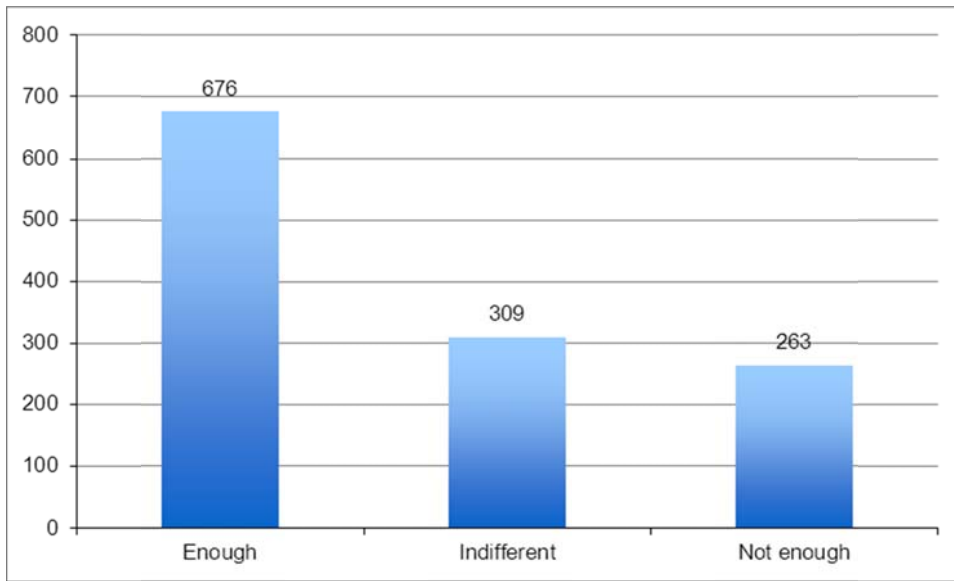


Q8) Examiners' report in the Compendium – rating

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



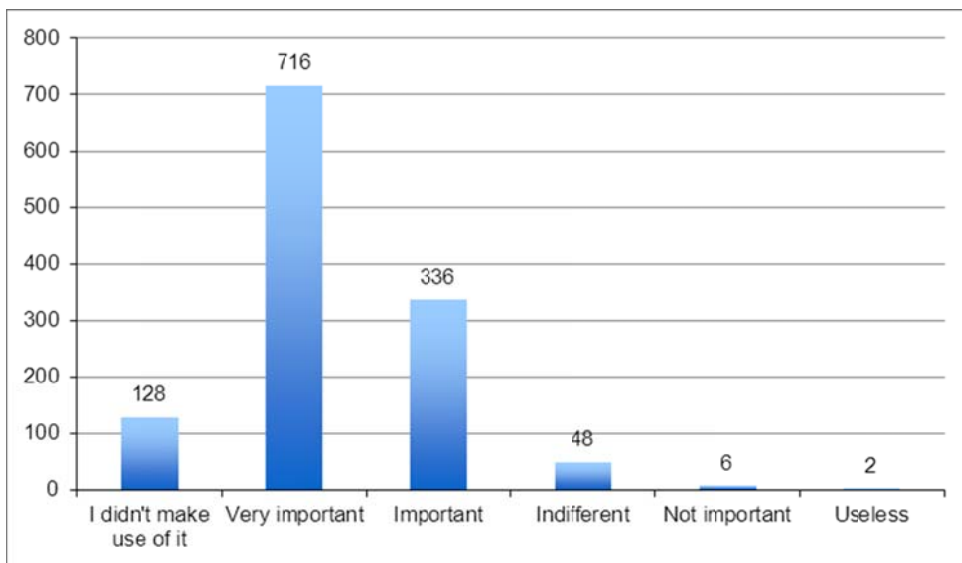
Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how the papers are marked?



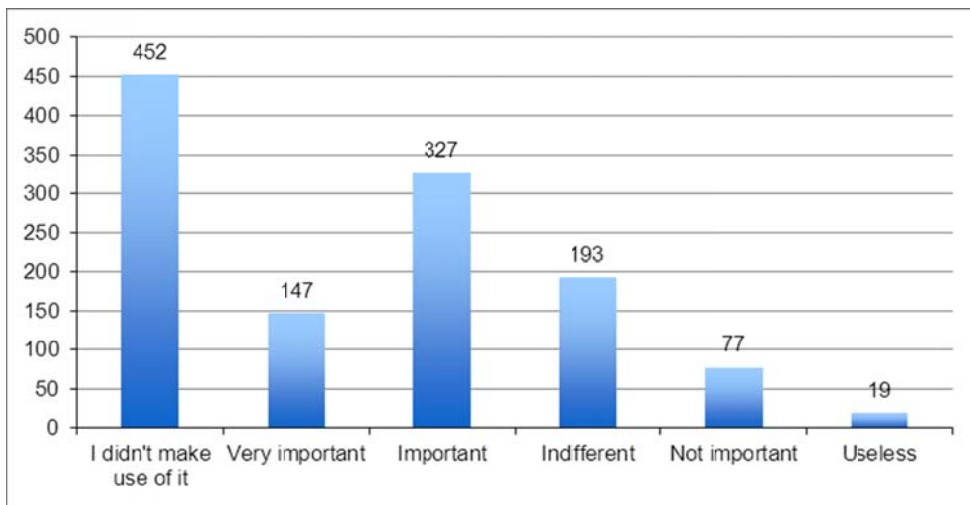
Q9) Elements of your personal preparation

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

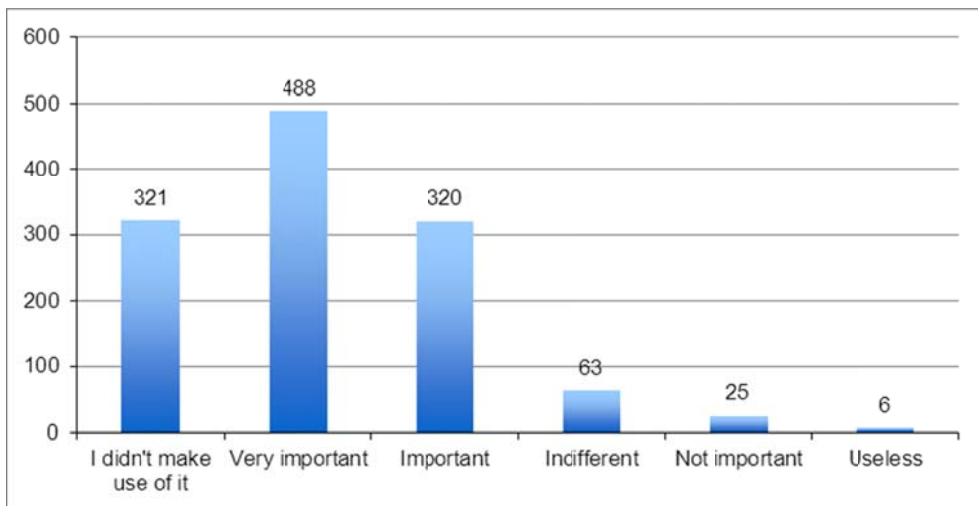
Compendium



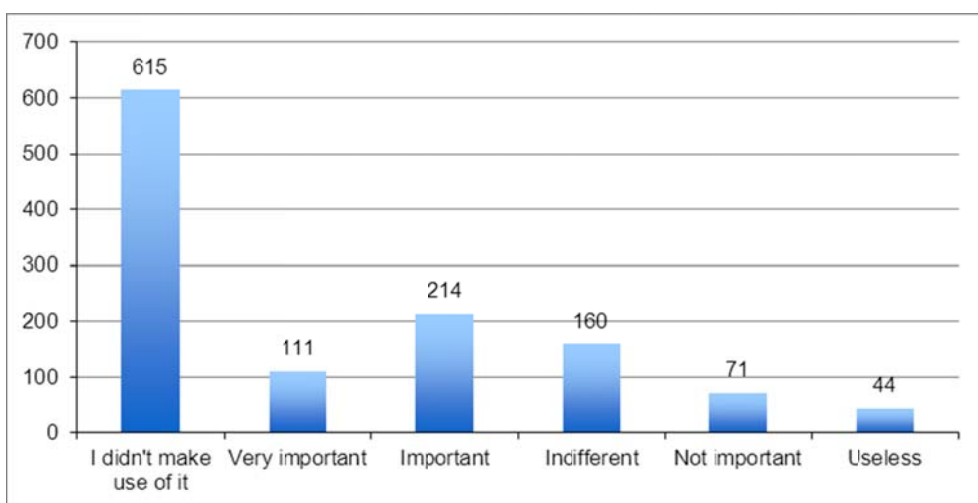
General external courses regarding intellectual property



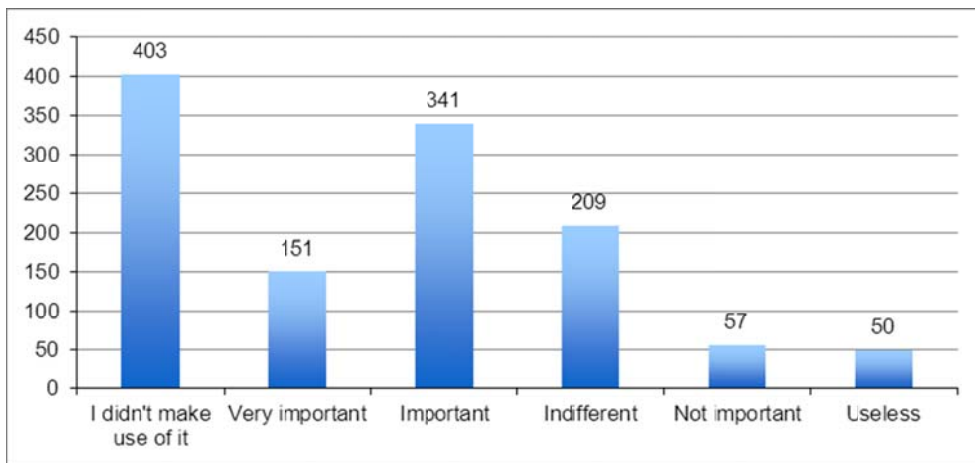
Specialised courses for EQE papers



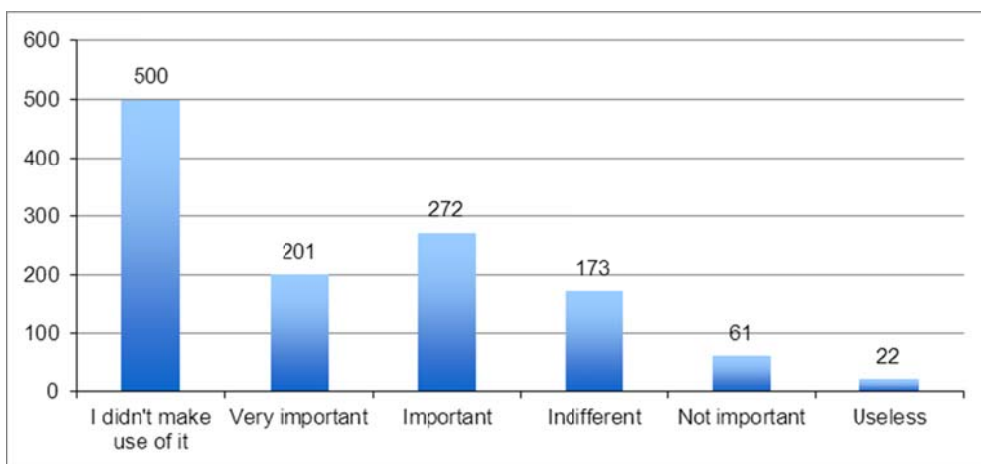
In-house training organised by your company



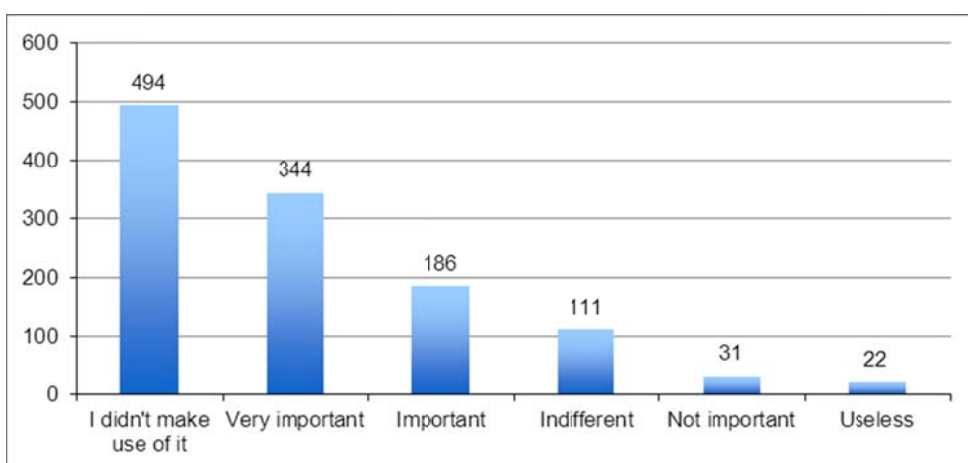
Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in the Art. 11(2)(a) REE



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
- - "The Annotated EPC", Derk Visser
- - baque
- - Delta Patent Material

- - delta pre-exam book
- - Delta patents
- - visser
- - EQE online training course
- - Kley Script
- - DeltaPatent book
- - Cross reference books
- - CEIPI preparation course
- - Hoekstra
- - Visser
- - Watchhorn (x2), Visser
- - delta patents
- - Deltapatents questions for paper D (Basic and Advanced), Gregory Baque Comment
- - DeltaPatents Main examination books, Deltapatent 3-day course for Paper D, paper correction and explanation by my experienced tutor
- - DeltaPatent A/B book
- - eqe-online
- - Delta patents pre-examinatin
- - Kley
- - Gall, Visser, Guidelines
- - Kley: EPÜ; Deltapatents pre-EQE material; Ole Trinks: PCT in der Praxis
- - Annotated EPC (Visser), Cross referenced guide for PCT, Delta patents books
- - EPÜ und PCT Tabellen
- - DeltaPatents compendium for the pre-exam
- - Visser, Hoekstra, EPC Guidelines, Nat Law, PCT reference for EQE (Delta patents)
- - C-Book Chandler Meiers and Delta patents paper A
- - Visser's Annotated EPC; Mulder's Cross-referenced PCT; Delta Patents basic D questions (a bit old, ed. 2011)
- - none
- - Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder, Chandler Meinders, EPO Guidelines, Nat Law, How to get a European Patent, PCT Applicant's Guide, PCT Guidelines.
- - Jelle Hoekstra reference book
- - C Book, Guidelines, CEIPI commented 2013 C Papers
- - Too many to list here, but mainly C-book (ceipe) and C-methodology (DeltaPatents) for the C-paper
- - Jelle Hoekstra's EPC References
- - epi course, delta patents, visser
- - Visser, DeltaPatents Questions book
- - Baque
- - cross-referenced EPC + PCT, regularly recommended material
- - Visser, Veronese
- - Annotated guide to the EPC (Visser)
- - C-Book
- - DeltaPatents C Methodology
- - "EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen" by Zdenko Bozic
- - Visser
- - C-book
- - Delta patents D question book (not very useful)
- - Visser, PCT AG
- - CBE/PCT by gregory Baque
- - Visser
- - visser
- - Visser; CEIPI C book

- - Kommentar zum EPÜ 2000 (mfh Verlag), PCT Handbuch
- - Delta Patents Mock Examination Book
- - Deltapatents Question book
- - Visser
- - Baque CBE/PCT
- - The old pre-exams ('12, '13) and the EPC 40yrs edition, PCT law, OJ, GL, Deltapatents pre-exam reader (Self study). Did the Dutch attorney course CPO/SBO (Nijmegen) before, which helps for Claim interpretation. Lega part mainly by self study of purely the law itself! (and only a bit of guidelines)
- - C-Book
- - Kley EPC, Koellner PCT
- - EPI support material, Delta patents books
- - EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen (Bozic/Düwel/Gabriel/Teufel), Kommentar zum EPÜ (Singer/Stauder)
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents C
- - delta patents questions
- - Visser, Delta Patents
- - Visser, Guidelines, EQE online
- - Guidelines for Examination
- - EPÜ und PCT-Tabellen
- - Delta Patents books on paper C and DI- DII
- - Visser, C-Book
- - Visser, Cees Mulder
- - Kley, Köllner, Guidelines, Applicant's Guides, Delta Patent Book D-Questions for Main Exam
- - Visser
- - Richtlinien, Visser, Deltapatent Buch, EPÜ
- - Visser and Delta Patents
- - EQEQ C BOOK and DELTA PATENTS BOOK
- - Hoekstra EPC; Mulder PCT;
- - visser, Hoekstra
- - Visser
- - Annotated european patent convention (Derk Visser); Patent Cooperation treaty; daily D1 questions; The guidelines for examination, How to get..., coffee break questions
- - Andrea Veronesse/Derck Visser
- - Visser, Guidelines, C-Methodology Delta Patents
- - Hoekstra
- - Past papers.
- - Delta Patents, Visser, PCT app guide and EPO materials
- - Visser
- - Visser
- - DeltaPatents, Visser
- - Delta Patents Pre-Exam Book
- - Kley comment on EPC, C-Book, D-Book, DeltaPatents Books
- - Fox/Visser/Mulder
- - cdelta patents/ Baque
- - C-book
- - Fox, Visser, DeltaPatents website
- - Kley, Köllner
- - D.Visser: The annotated European Patent Convention
- - Delta Patents D Question Book / Chandler C Book
- - Delta Patents - Main Exam Questions for Paper D (2013)

- - Delta Patents book
- - Baque
- - Alphabook
- - Visser, annotated PCT, CLBoA, guidelines
- - Visser
- - Veronese and Whatchorn / Deltapatents
- - A Complete Guide to Passing the European Qualifying Exam and qualifying as a European Patent Attorney, by Simon Roberts, Andrew Rudge, EPO guidelines, EPC,
- - Annotated EPC by D. Visser; Case Law, HOW passing the EQE
- - Visser, Cross referenced PCT
- - C-book
- - Delta Patents Coursebooks
- - Grégory Baque
- - deltapatents flow charts etc
- - Visser, Hoekstra
- - Hoekstra, Mulder
- - EPC, PCT
- - Hoekstra, Visser, DeltaPatents guides
- - Visser's annotated EPC, Hoekstra's annotated EPC, EPO Guidelines 2013, CaseLaw book 2013, HTG-2, NatLaw 2013, Cross-referenced PCT 2013 (Cees Mulder), PCT Applicant's Guide + Annexes
- - annotated CBE / PCT (G. Bacques)
- - Delta patents/on-line course EPO
- - Delta Patents Main Questions Book
- - Singer, Bozic
- - C-book
- - Delta patent courses and books
- - DeltaPatent
- - Visser; Hoekstra; Cross reference PCT Guide; EPO Guidelines; Delta patents pre-eqe guides; EPO guide to getting an EP-PCT application; PCT Applicant's Guide
- - c-book
- - Deltapatents D questions
- - Kley
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents
- - C Book / The annotated EPC
- - Paper D (Deltapatents)
- - VISSER
- - Delta Patents, C-Book
- - c book
- - Earlier exams (important)
- - Visser
- - kley
- - Visser
- - Hoekstra's References to the EPC.
- - Delta patent legal question book
- - Delta Patents Book
- - Visser Annotated EPC, Mulder annotated PCT
- - Visser, Delta Patents books
- - Visser
- - Deltapatents Pre-exam
- - The annotated European Patent Convention - Derk Visser
- - Reference books, guidelines, applicants guide

- - Kley, Delta Patents
- - Gall + EPC/PCT-Tables
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents Books (Pre-exam and basic law questions)
- - Veronese, D-Book, C-Book, Nicholas Fox
- - The annotated european convention
- - Visser,
- - Kley, Köllner etc
- - D. Visser, Singer/Stauder, Kley
- - just EPC, GL and JO
- - DeltaPatents
- - Visser - Annotated EPC, Cees Mulder Cross-referenced PCT
- - EQE forums, EQE wiki, Hoekstra
- - annotated ep, pct applicant's guide, Cbook
- - BAQUE
- - Delta-Patents
- - PCT-Handbuch, Köllner; D-book, Rudge; Delta-Patents
- - Delta Patents, C-Book
- - Delta patents + CEIPI
- - + Delta Patents book (References to EPC)
- - CEIPI, KLEY, ...tons of books
- - Delta patents methodology
- - Examination guidelines
- - Delta Patents
- - Visser, PCT Applicant Guide, PCT, EPC, national law
- - Visser
- - "The Granting of European Patents" by M. v. Empel; articles published in GRUR Int.
- - C-Book
- - Baque CBE-PCT
- - Visser
- - DELTA PATENTS methodology Books A, B, C/ Scritpum Hagen course/ Guidelines/ Case Law/ OJ/ Quality book for filing/ ...
- - VISSER
- - Annotated EPC (Visser)
- - C-Book, Kley
- - Baque, C-Book
- - Kley Kommentar zum EPÜ
- - D. Visser "Annotated EPC", M. Singer D. Stauder "EPÜ Kommentar", W. Chandler H. Meinders "The C Book", A. Veronese P. Watchorn "Procedural Law under the EPc 2000", Deltapatents "Main Exam Questions for Paper D"
- - Guide Lines and Visser
- - Chandler Meinders
- - Guidelines, Kley, Singer/Stauder and PCT Applicant's Guide
- - Deltapatents
- - Kley, Köllner, Applicants Guide, Singer
- - C-Book
- - Visser, Chandler C book, Veronese (EPC and PCT), annotated cross-referenced PCT, Singer/Stauder, DeltaPatents A/B/D books
- - C book
- - C-Book
- - Delta Patents DI Q&A, Kley's commentary on the EPC
- - Delta Patents, Malte Kölner
- - Visser

- - Visser, C-book
- - Delta Patents DI Questions
- - C-book, Kley
- - Visser, Delta patent's main exam questions
- - Delta patents - Main-exam questions for paper D, CEIPI C-Book
- - Visser, Fox, Mulder, EPO GL, PCT AG-IP, PCT AG-NP
- - Delta Patents Workbook
- - Hoekstra EPC
- - Kley
- - C Book and Delta Patents' Methodology C
- - Delta Patent books, Visser
- - Fernuni Hagen
- - delta patent material
- - Visser, hoeckstra
- - Deltapatents question book
- - C-Book (Chandler/Meinders); Kommentar zum EPÜ2000 (Klei/Gundlach/Jacobi)
- - Delta patents; epi online course material
- - The annotated EPC
- - Delta Patents material
- - Visser
- - D.Visser "commented EPC", S. Roberts, A.Rudge "Complete Guide for passing..."
- - delta patents material
- - Delta Patents material
- - The EPA/EPI Manual for pre-examination provides a good structure for Paper D. I wish EPA/EPI prepared a corresponding version, as well as an online course also for paper D
- - CBE-PCT by Grégory Baque - Case Law book - Guidelines - Delta Patents - C Book
- - Kley
- - Kley, EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen, Anmelderleitfaden PCT, Gesetzestexte
- - kley malte köllner c book leitfaden für anmelder
- - The Visser and Delta Patent Paper D book
- - several
- - Visser: The Annotated European Patent Convention
- - CEIPI course , Baque, delta patent D1
- - Visser, Veronese
- - Deltapatents
- - Delta Patents
- - Delta patents
- - Guidelines, CaselawA complete guide to passing the EQE
- - DeltaPatents Basic Legal Questions and Pre-Exam book
- - C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)
- - Deltapatents Questions
- - Kley, PCT Tables
- - Own commentary, Guidelines, Clay
- - Delta Patents Books
- - Internet
- - Delta patents
- - baque
- - Delta Patents Hoekstra
- - Visser
- - Kley-Kommentar zum EPÜ; Richtlinien; Rechtsprechung V6; Leitfaden I und II; Nationales Recht zum EPÜ
- - Visser, The Cross-Referenced PCT, The EPO Guidelines
- - C-Book, Visser

- - C book, Visser, Deltapatents books, ege-online D1 questions
- - Deltapatents paper C
- - c-book, delta parent D, Baque
- - Delta Patents D Questions
- - DeltaPatents - pre-exam and for part D of main exam
- - Kley, EPÜ- and PCT-Tabellen
- - Ceipi C-book
- - Chandler/Meinders - C-Book
- - Delta Patents, Guidelines, PCT applicants guide
- - Delta Questions, Daily Questions
- - CBE-PCT book, Visser
- - D- and C-Book from DeltaPatents, Kley
- - derk visser annotated EPC
- - C-Book
- - C Book, Main exam questions Delta Patents, Kley, Singer stauder
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents/ Epi course
- - Guidelins, Case law book
- - Delta patents D; Kley EPÜ2000
- - Kley, Delta Patents, CEIPI Material
- - delt patents Baque
- - delta Patents books: Basic legal questions And pre-exam
- - C-Book
- - C-Book, Baque
- - Delta Patens Basic + Exam related Questions; C-Book
- - Visser, Watchhorn, Guidelines, Hoekstra, DeltaPatent Questions
- - Visser, DeltaPatents questions papers D and C, past exams
- - GL, Kley, Köllner, Bozic
- - Annotated Epc by Derk Visser, Cross-referenced Pct by Cess Mulder
- - Hoekstra , Visser, PCT from Cees Mulder
- - Hoekstra, Visser, Woudenbergs Question Book (Delta Patents)
- - guidelines
- - Delta Patents D Exam book
- - Deltapatents "Methodology for paper C"
- - Hoeckstra, Veronese, deltapatents
- - Standard publications
- - Visser's Annotated EPC
- - Reference to EPC by Hoekstra
- - Visser, D-book and C-book from deltapatents,
- - Visser, Hoeckstra, Delta patents metholody books for C and D
- - Delta patents
- - Hoekstra / Visser / Mulder / AG-PCT
- - online course articles and quizzes
- - Delta Patents Question book
- - C Book and Delta Patents C Book
- - Kley; PCT-Handbuch
- - Delta Patents D book, C Book, Mindmaps (Kley, Jacobi), Mulder annotated PCT
- - none
- - Visser, Cross-referenced PCT, Case Law, EPO Guidelines
- - old exam papers
- - Visser, Mulder
- - C, book, deltapatents
- - Delta Patents D book

- - Deltapatents books, Legal books EPO
- - Visser, daily D-questions
- - Visser, D1 daily questions, D+ timeline questions
- - Visser
- - DeltaPatents books
- - delta patent's books
- - Baque
- - References to the EPC - J. Hoekstra
- - Visser, Delta patents methodology C & D books
- - Reference book, EPC and PCT.
- - Kastner, Delta Books, visser, Hoekstra, C book
- - CBE/PCT Baque 2013
- - CBE-PCT de Gregory Baque
- - delta patents
- - Visser, Delta Patents pre exam material
- - Visser, C-book, Delta patent D1, how to get a patent part II, International Applicant's guide, national law
- - deltapatents D-book
- - C-Book, Exam Question Book for Paper D (DeltaPatents)
- - Delta patents questions, Hoekstra, Visser
- - Visser, Guidelines, PCT, G-Decisions
- - Delta Patents books
- - Delta Patents
- - Hoekstra, Chandles/Meinders C-Book, A, B and D Deltapatents
- - Delta Patents
- - Hoekstra - Reference to EPC and Cross-referenced PCT
- - delta patents
- - Daily D1-questions on the internet
- - visser
- - EPÜ und PCT-Tabellenbuch, Malte Köllner, Ole Trinks, Delta Patents
- - Hoekstra. DeltaPatents course Guided Exam.
- - Visser, Hoekstra, EPC guidelines, Deltapatent aids
- - DELTAPATENTS METHODOLOGY BOOKS
- - Hoekstra
- - The Annotated EPC Visser
- - C-Book
- - Ouvrage de Grégory Baque (CBE), Cours de Mme Boutillon (PCT)
- - Delta patent course literature
- - Gregory BAQUE CBE - PCT
- - Visser Annotated EPC/Deltapatents studie books
- - Delta Patents Main Exam Questions D
- - Guidelines Visser
- - Visser
- - deltapatents
- - Guidelines ,flow orientated EPO & PCT,Pct Guidelines ,viSSER
- - Delta-Patent Kursunterlagen
- - Delta Patent Main Exam Questions for Paper D, Visser
- - Visser, Kley, PCT Applicant's Guide, Bozic, Delta Patents
- - visser
- - Visser
- - Reference to the European Patent Convention, Jelle Hoekstra, edited by Deltapatents
- - Visser, Delta patentss books, CEIPI handouts
- - Baque

- - Delta Patents D Book and C Book
- - Visser, guidelines
- - Visser
- - Visser and Deltapatents pre-examination book
- - C-Book, the "blue book"
- - Singer/Stauer
- - BAQUE
- - C-Book (Meinders, Chalmer)
- - EPI online course, epc with comments by Hoekstra, pct with comments by Mulder
- - Viser
- - Any
- - past questions
- - Visser
- - Visser
- - Visser
- - delta patent D
- - Derk Visser: The Annotated EPC
- - Visser, The Cross-Referenced PCT by Cees Mulder
- - Delta Patents books
- - Delta Patents, Fox, Visser, Hoekstra, Watchorn
- - Köller PCT-Handbuch, Kley EPC 2000 Kommentar, Case Law 7th Edition, epi Pre-Exam course articles, EPC2000
- - delta patents
- - Visser, Hoekstra
- - Delta Patents' A, B, C and D books.
- - Visser
- - The Annotated EP Convention by Derk Visser
- - References to the European Patent Convention compiled by Jelle Hoekstra, published by DeltaPatents
- - Delta Patents/Hoekstra
- - The Annotated European Patent Convention
- - The annotated European patent convention 21st ed Derk Visser
- - The Annotated European Patent Convention by Derk Visser
- - Visser, Veronese
- - Visser
- - Legal texts (EPC, PCT, ...), "EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen" (Bozic/Düwel/Gabriel/Teufel), Singer/Stauder
- - Gall, Kley
- - Delta Patent
- - Delta Patents D Books (both); C Book from Meinders (CEIPI)
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents
- - RiLi. Delta patents
- - Visser, Online Course, Guideline of EPO
- - C-Book / Guidelines / Baque
- - - Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder (for PCT)
- - <http://www.sedlex.fr/brevets-ep/>
- - I studied my olds failed papers
- - Delta patents books. C-book
- - visser
- - deltapatens
- - Visser, Guidelines, PCT, etc....
- - Delta + c-book

- - Delta Patents
- - EPC + EPC from Gregory Baque
- - EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen (unverzichtbar!)
- - Nicholas Fox - Guide to EPC
- - Deltapatents EQE preparation book
- - epc guidelines
- - visser, EPI Online Training
- - Kley, meinders C-Book
- - Hoestra
- - Delta patents, Visser
- - Visser
- - Visser, Nicholas Fox: A Guide to the EPC, Guidelines
- - C-book delta patents
- - Visser Annotated EPC
- - C-Book of the CEIPI Course
- - Internet (EPA, WIPO, etc.)
- - Visser, C-book
- - gregory bacque
- - delta patents
- - PCT and EPC reference books
- - Guidelines, EPC, PCT, OFFICIAL JOURNAL, Case Law
- - Guidelines for examination
- - Visser, PCT Applicants Guide, Examination Guidelines
- - Gregory Baque
- - Deltapatents, Visser
- - Guidelines, Visser, AG-IP
- - several
- - Deltapatents exam related q
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents Part A
- - Der Weg zum Europäischen Patent - Leitfaden für Anmelder (Teil 1 & 2)
- - "Annotated EPC" VISSER, Derk
- - Hoekstra, Mulder, C-book
- - Kley, Ole Trink's (PCT)
- - Delta Patents
- - Visser. Delta Patents. Guidelines
- - Baque PCT CBE Guidelines
- - EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen
- - Visser, Guidelines, C-Book How to write a successful opposition and pass paper C of the European Qualifying Examination
- - Visser: Annotated EPC
- - a lot - Visser mostly
- - visser and annotated guide to pct
- - C-Book
- - Singer Stauder
- - Hoekstra, Visser, Mulder,
- - Heymanns C and D book
- - None
- - Delta patent
- - epü; epü- und pct-Tabellenbuch
- - Köllner, Guidelines, EPÜ, Kley, Wipo information,
- - Kley; PCT and EPC tables
- - Deltapatents

- - DeltaPatents questions and answers
- - Delta Patents D book, Gregaroy Baques's EQE-PCT
- - DeltaPatents Metodology Books
- - Visser, Guidelines, OJ, Case Law, Delta Patent Books
- - visser, kastner and hoekstra books and delta cbook
- - Delta Patents Book for Paper C and EPO Guidelines
- - Delta Patents books - Legal questions
- - Visser
- - just regular self study
- - Self study. Visser was the main source.
- - Delta Patents - questins D
- - visser
- - FernUni Hagen study book
- - Visser, Hoekstra, Cross Referenced PCT, Delta Patents main exam questions book
- - Hoekstra: References to the EPC
- - Visser
- - Viser
- - Baque - Pre-examination patent academy documents
- - Deltapatents' book of Main exam questions
- - Baque
- - Visser
- - C-Book, Deltapatents questions D, EPÜ Kommentar Kley
- - Kley
- - Visser, Guidelines for examination
- - Visser - EPO guidelines - Delta Patents books L & P - cross referenced PCT - guide for preparation of EPO - (for pre-exam)
- - guidelines, epü direkt
- - C-Book, PCT-Handbuch (Köllner)
- - DeltaPatents (Paper C)
- - Delta Patent D-Book
- - Delta Patents, Kley, Malte Köllner
- - Baque
- - Visser
- - Delta Patent Methodology paper A; C book, Visser
- - c book + delta patents paper c book/course material
- - HOEKSTRA and Guidelines of Examiners
- - Visser Cross reference, C-Book by Meinders
- - "References to the EPC", "Annotated EPC"
- - Deltapatents compendiums
- - Kley, Bozic - Tabellen, Köllner - PCT-Handbuch, Delta - Paper D Main Questions
- - delta patents
- - Delta Patents books/material for Paper B and D, The C-Book
- - Deltapatents exam questions and model solution to old exams.
- - EP und PCT in Fragen und Antworten; EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen
- - Visser, Delta Patent Training Books
- - Visser
- - Hoekstra
- - Delta Patents, Hoekstra, Visser
- - Schulte / Paterson
- - C-book
- - Baque
- - ABC/D Comprehensive - Brian Conin
- - delta patent

- - Hoekstra
- - Kommentar zum EPÜ 2000 (Kley/Gundlach), PCT-Seminar der WIPO,
- - Visser
- - Kley, RiLi, PCT-Handbook
- - The Annotated European Patent Convention, Delta Patents Paper D
- - Gruber/von Zumbusch/Haberl/Oldekop - Europäisches und Internationales Patentrecht - Einführung zum EPÜ und PCT
- - CIPA Guide to the EPC
- - Delta Patents, Ceipi
- - Visser, delta patents P book
- - Deltapatents P book, Visser
- - Annotated European Patent Convention from Visser
- - Visser, EPC, PCT
- - Visser
- - Deltapatents
- - Visser
- - EPC, Guidelines, Guides for applicants - EP, PCT
- - Fox
- - Jelle Hoekstra - References to the European Patent Convention
- - Visser
- - Guidelines of Examination 2013, epi/EPO academy online training course, Singer/Stauder annotated EPC, Köllner annotated PCT, DeltaPatents book, PCT Applicant's Guide
- - CBE-PCT (Grégory Baque - Edition 2013)
- - EPC; Guidelines; PCT.
- - Annotated EPC (Visser); Basic Legal Questions for Pre-Exam and Paper D (Delta Patents); Pre-Exam Cases and Exams (Delta Patents)
- - Anything else
- - C-Book, DeltaPatents D Q & A, Kley, EPO resources
- - Deltapatents Question books
- - Visser; C-book
- - Delta Patents C-Book
- - Visser
- - Delta patents C and D-books
- - Delta Patents
- - NA
- - Visser
- - CBE-PCT (Baque), C-Book, Main exam questions for paper D (DeltaPatents)
- - Visser
- - Deltapatents
- - BAQUE
- - Delta patents books for A, B and D, their past paper analyses and the "C Book"
- - DeltaPatents DI, several PCT compendia
- - delta patents
- - C-book
- - Delta Patent Pre-Exam questions
- - Visser
- - Visser, Speich
- - Deltapatent, C-book
- - annotated EPC
- - Guidelines, CBE,
- - delta patents
- - Visser
- - Visser Book, PCT Cross Reference Book

- - Visser
- - Baque, Directives OEB
- - Visser, Delta
- - Online Pre-Exam Course
- - The annotated EPC (Visser), EPO Guidelines, The cross reference PCT (Mulder), Paper D book by DeltaPatents
- - Deltapatents
- - GL and Training material of Delta patent
- - lots
- - Guidelines and Visser.
- - Köller PCT-Handbuch, Kley EPC 2000 Kommentar, Case Law 7th Edition, epi Pre-Exam course articles, EPC2000
- - Visser
- - C-Book, Kley, delta-patents questions D
- - C-Book, DELTA-Patents
- - Kley
- - Delta materials
- - Kley, C-book
- - Baque
- - Deltapatents
- - delta patents A book
- - Delta Patent
- - DeltaPatent Pre Exam
- - G. Baque
- - Mainly book of Visser + case law book
- - Kley
- - Hoekstra and Fisser
- - delta patents D question book
- - Procedural Law under the EPC-2000 (3rd Edition 2013) and PCT Procedures and Passage into the European Phase, second Edition
- - BAQUE
- - visser, deltapatents
- - Visser
- - Kley Kommentar + PCT-Compilation for EQE Candidates
- - Visser, The annotated EPC
- - Delta Patents books
- - Baque - Guidelines -
- - Kley, Guidelines, How to get a patent by EPO
- - EPC Compass, Visser, Cross reference PCT (Cees Mulder), Guidelines, EPC
- - delta patents
- - visser, mulder's cross-referenced pct, guidelines, applicant's guide, ancilliary regulations, delta patents basic legal questions
- - Deltapatents pre exam and D basi questions book
- - delta patents paper d book
- - Visser, Delta patents material
- - Visser
- - Hoekstra
- - Delta Patent Questions/Answers
- - Guidelines, EPC...
- - annotated patent convention
- - Visser, Guidelines, EPC, CaseLaw, web material
- - Guidelines, PCT-Handbook, Singer Stauder
- - C-book: How to Write a Successful Opposition and Pass Paper C of the European

Qualifying Examination (Heymann)

- - BAQUE
- - C-Book (Chandler)
- - Delta Patents
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents, Hoesktra, Visser, Examiner's Guidelines
- - Visser, Deltapatents books
- - Baque + C-book
- - Deltapatent course material, Visser, law texts
- - Hoekstra
- - Commentary by Singer, Stauder, Deltapatents scripts for Pre-examination, Commentary by Kley
- - Baque, C-Book
- - D paper Delta patent books, C-book, Baque
- - DeltaPatents C book
- - e.g. Visser reference book, guidelines (EPO, PCT)
- - baque, Delta Patent, C-book.
- - Baque / Daily D1 website
- - Annotated EPC
- - EPC, Guidelines for Examination in the EPO
- - CBE and PCT by Gregory Baque
- - Delta Patents Materials
- - delta patent
- - Visser
- - Visser
- - Paper C book
- - Visser
- - Visser, Delta patents books, material from IP-akademin in Stockholm
- - Delta Patents, Hoeckstra
- - Baque
- - Visser/Hoekstra
- - Visser
- - Baque - Main questions Delta Patent - Cbook ...
- - epc and visser
- - Hoeksta, Visser, Nat Law, Guidelines
- - Deltapatents Methodology book for Paper A and Paper C
- - Kley, Guidelines
- - visser
- - Baque
- - Deltapatents material for D and C
- - EPC, PCT, National Law, Guidelines for Examination, PCT applicant's guide
- - DeltaPatents, EPC, Guidelines for Examination, "How To Get" Part I and Part II, PCT Applicants Guide
- - Visser, Delta Patents Method, etc
- - Visser, Kley, own summaries, EPC, PCT
- - C books and Delta Patents
- - Delta Patents + C-Book
- - Delta patents Exam related Questions. D1 questions of ege-online.org.
- - Delta Patents
- - Visser, DeltaPatent
- - BAQUE 2013
- - DeltaPatents
- - delta patent' s book

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- - Visser
- - c book
- - DeltaPatents
- - Guidelines, delta patents
- - The C-book
- - Visser
- - Nicolas Fox, Visser, EPO publications
- - C-Book
- - Visser
- - C Book
- - Visser, Watchorn, Delta patents books
- - Delta Patents A, B and D books, Chandler/Meinders C-Book
- - DeltaPatents, C-Book
- - Visser and Watchorn (Pct and epc)
- - Most of all, the Internet, for instance, www.epo.org, www.wipo.int, www.wto.org, <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>, <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/ldc/home>, <http://www.aripo.org/index.php/about-aripo/membership-memberstate>, <http://www.eapo.org/en/members.html>, <http://www.inventa.com/oapi>, etc.
- - baque
- - C-book, delta patent D, baque, books from the CEIPI's seminars, ...
- - directives
- - Visser, DeltaPatents D book
- - Visser, Hoekstra
- - Baque
- - EPÜ und PCT Tabellen
- - baque
- - C-book, deltapatent
- - Visser's annotated EPC
- - The Annotated EPC by Derk Visser
- - Delta Patents material
- - Visser, Guidelines for Examination in the EPO
- - Ceipi, Delta
- - BAQUE
- - Visser
- - Hoekstra and Visser, delta patents
- - Jelle Hoekstra and Derk Visser books
- - c-book, guidelines, examinatorium europaeum, kley
- - Visser
- - Viser
- - Deltapatents Questions, EPI Online Course,
- - Delta
- - EPC, RiLi, Case Law Book, Visser (EPC), Köllner (PCT)
- - Annotated EPC (Visser)
- - visser / hoekstra
- - Visser, EPO guideines, Deltapatents A, B and C materials
- - Baque, C-Book
- - Delta patents D questions
- - C book
- - sdfg
- - Visser (EPC), Mulder (PCT) legal questions and Paper D solution from DeltaPatents
- - Baque, C Book

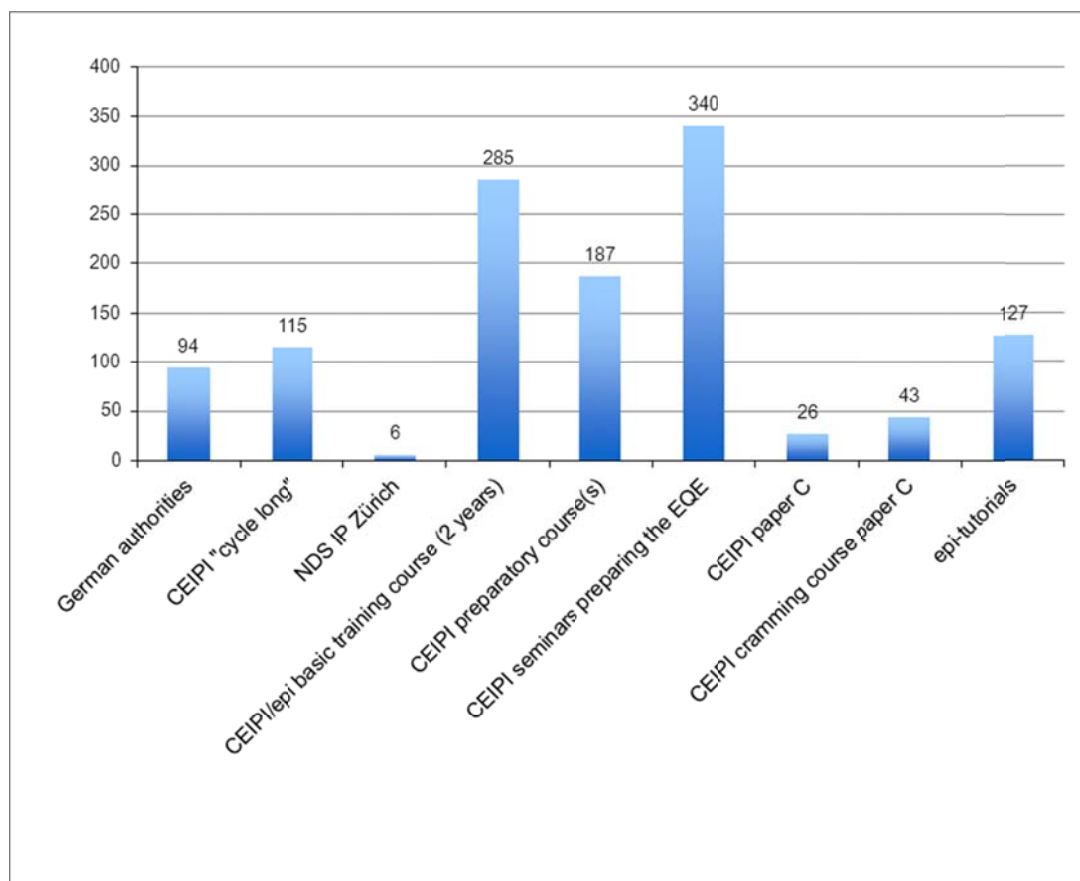
- - gregory bacque
- - "PCT in der Praxis"; delta patents
- - EPC, Guidelines, legislative texts
- - DeltaPatents; Visser; Kley; D- and C-Book
- - Various DeltaPatents Books; EPÜ und PCT-Tabellen
- - visser
- - Baque
- - C- Book by Meinders
- - book of Jelle Hoekstra
- - Delta patents
- - deltapatents: legal questions and pre exam book
- - GL, Cees Mulder for PCT, Derk Visser for EPC
- - C Book, Baque
- - Visser, Singer-Stauder, Bodzic, Köllner
- - C-Book by Meinders
- - Visser, Mulder
- - c-book; Kley Gundlach
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents
- - delta patents booklet
- - Annotated EPC (Visser), annotated PCT (PCT-Compass, Watchorn/Veronese), C-Book (Chandlers/Meinders), PCT Applicant's Guide EQE special edition, EPO Guidelines and OJ
- - annotated books
- - Visser
- - Kley
- - delta patents
- - Visser
- - Visser - Annotated EPC
- - Visser
- - guidelines
- - visser
- - Visser
- - Bozic: EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen; PCT Applicants' Guide; EPO-Guidelines; Schulte: Patentgesetz
- - Paper C guide by Hugo Meindler
- - Dirk Visser
- - Guidelines
- - Delta Patents
- - Visser
- - Visser
- - DELTAPATENTS books
- - C-Book, Guidelines
- - Hoekstra, Delta Patents collection of exercises.
- - Delta patents questions
- - DELTAPATENT
- - Delta Patents Pre-Exam preparation book
- - Kley Köllner C-Book
- - Delta patents questions
- - Delta patents/CEIPI
- - Delta patents,
- - Visser, Delta D Book, Delta C Book
- - Deltapatents B-paper preparation guide
- - Visser

- - Candidate Support Program-coaching, The Annotated EPC by Derk Visser (the most helpful)
- - Delta Patents Methodologie books
- - Kley
- - Visser
- - Guidelines, on-line EPO course
- - Visser, Annotated PCT
- - Delta Patents training books
- - Annotated Patent convention, DeltaPatents D-Course script
- - Derk Visser, EPO Pre-examination course material, Guidelines for Examination
- - EPO Guidelines and Gregory Baque's book on EPC
- - Visser, National Law, PCT applicants guide, EPO guidelines
- - Baque, C book
- - The Annotated EPC - Visser
- - Delta patents D book, the C book, CIPA-organised tutorials
- - Kley...
- - Baque
- - Gruber
- - Gregory BAQUES
- - Delta-Patents Basic questions for Paper D
- - None
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents C-book
- - Visser, Fox
- - PCT Tabellen, Köllner
- - C book - Baque
- - Visser
- - Annotated PCT, Annotated EPC, EPO Guidelines, EPO caselaw book, CEIPI C book, Delta Patents D questions, Epi daily D1 questions
- - Baque, C book
- - Visser, Delta patents C book
- - Delta patent Pre-examination
- - Baque
- - DeltaPatents books
- - Derk Visser: The annotated European Patent Convention
- - deltapatents basic legal questions and epi-epo pre exam course
- - Gall + EPC/PCT-Tables
- - Kley (Kommentar zum EPÜ 2000)
- - Hoekstra Ann. EPC / Mulder Ann. PCT
- - Delta Patent D Book; Ceipi C Book
- - C-Book
- - Visser and Nicholas Fox books
- - CBE/PCT de G. Baque
- - Visser
- - EPO Online training
- - Visser
- - Visser, Delta
- - Older EQE papers
- - DELTA PATENT BOOK ON PAPER D
- - Baque / delta patent preexam book
- - Visser, Cross-referenced PCT, PCT Applicant's Guide, EPO Guidelines
- - CBE-PCT Baque; C-Book; guides déposants; PCT; CBE; Directives
- - EPC, Rules, Guidelines

- - Hoekstra
- - Visser / DeltaPatent books
- - CEIPI + Guidelines
- - deltapatents books
- - Visser, EPO Guidelines
- - EPC and PCT
- - The Annotated European Patent Convention, D. Visser
- - D question book by delta patents
- - Delta patents books
- - Visser, Fox, Delta Patents course materials, CEIPI course materials.
- - Visser, delta patents
- - Visser, Ole Trinks (PCT), Delta Patents
- - Köllner: PCT, Pre-Examination Course provided by epi
- - Kley, Malte Köllner, Bozic
- - Kley
- - Visser
- - Delta Patents Book
- - Ceipe C-book, DeltaPatents C-book
- - Baque
- - epü pct tabellen
- - C-Book, Kley, Teufel et. All
- - The annotated EPC, the Guidelines, EPC
- - Kley
- - Visser, and Delta patents book to prepare the EQE Preexamination
- - C-Book, Delta Patents
- - Bacque
- - Visser
- - Gall
- - Kommentare
- - D-book (Delta Patents), C-book (Chandler/Meinders)
- - bacques
- - Deltapatents D-Book
- - DELTA book, singer/Stauder, Kley
- - Visser, Veronese
- - Visser
- - Deltapatents EQE-books
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- - DeltaPatents Pre-Exam Book, The Annotated EPC (Visser)
- - C book Meinders
- - Main-Exam Questions for Paper D
- - Visser, Hoekstra
- - Past papers
- - CEIPI and DeltaPatents
- - Visser
- - Kley / Köllner
- - Visser
- - Visser, Case law-book
- - Visser, DELTA PATENTS Books C and D
- - Various
- - Delta Patents Main questions, kley, Malte Kölner, guidelines, PCT Leitfaden
- - baque
- - REferences to the European Patent Convention - Jelle Hoekstra

- - Guidelines, Delta Patents Books
- - Visser, Delta Patents
- - delta patents
- - C-Book (Chandler/Meinders) The Annotated EPC (Visser)
- - EPC, Guidelines for Examination
- - Visser
- - C-book
- - Delta Patents Basic Legal Q's/Main Exam Q's, References to the EPC, Visser, Case law book, Cross Ref PCT, PCT Applicants Guide, Guide to Passing the EQE
- - delta patents compendium
- - C-Book
- - C-Book, D-Book, Delta Patents Methodolgy Books, Kley Kommentar
- - PCT guidelines, guidelines for examination, The annotated EPC (Visser)
- - Delta patent D Book
- - DeltaPatents
- - CBE Baque, Delta Patent "D"
- - Delta Patents and Ceipi books
- - EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen
- - Deltapatent's books
- - pct guide, köllner, case law book etc

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.

- Delta patents methodology course
- - Courses run by JDD consultants
- - Delta Patents for pre-exam
- - EPO CSP programme
- - Ceipi D- Course
- - Deltapatents courses
- - Delta Patents
- - 3 day delta patent course
- - delta patents
- - DeltaPatents 3-day course on Paper D
- - None
- - EQE Pre-Exam online course
- - on-job training
- - Currently attending eight month's German training.
- - DeltaPatents Legal distans course
- - Delta patents EQE Legal Course
- - DeltaPatents pre-ex course
- - This year Delta Patents courses
- - Delta patents pre-exam course
- - C-methodology for re-sitters (DeltaPatents)
- - Delta Patents course
- - epi mock exam
- - Centre Patents Universitat Barcelona
- - EQE Pre-exam course
- - Delta Patents pre-exam course
- - JDD Paper C Course
- - DeltaPatents courses
- - Deltapatents Methodology
- - Delta Patents
- - self study
- - EPI online training course

- - Delta Patents
- - DeltaPatents C and D methodology
- - EQE tutorials arranged by CIPA in UK
- - Delta Patents courses on paper C and paper D
- - pre-exam course epi
- - EQE Online Training
- - Delta Patent
- - Delta Patents Legal cram + seminars
- - C- Methodology Delta Patents
- - EPA/EPI Online-Course for the Pre-Examination
- - Courses in Barcelona
- - courses from the previous years
- - JDD training course (UK)
- - EPO on-line course
- - EPI online training course
- - EPO online course and Delta Patents course on claim analysis
- - Deltapatents preEQE course
- - epi-epo course
- - deltapatents methodology and guided exam
- - JDD Course for A, B, C and D
- - Delta Patents course
- - DeltaPatents Basic Legal training and Exam training for A, B, C, D
- - Mock exam arranged in Helsinki
- - OEPM and University of Barcelone: course (Madrid)
- - JDD course (UK)
- - EPO internal EQE training of 2012
- - Delta Patents courses for eqe prep
- - EQE preparation at Centre de patents UB (BARCELONA)
- - EPI online Pre-eqe course
- - Deltapatents C-course
- - ON-LINE PRE EXAMINATION COURSE
- - Self study of Delta patents B-exam course. Swedish corresponding course a couple of years ago.
- - DELTAPATENTS
- - Deltapatents training
- - Delta Patents course
- - Delta Patents method and guided exam courses
- - Delta Patents course
- - EPO Pre Examination Course
- - Barcelone course
- - Deltapatent courses
- - Delta Patents Methodology/Guided Exam for C and D
- - DeltaPatents
- - JDD 1-week study course for papers A-D
- - Delta-Patents
- - Candidate support project - EPO 2013
- - MH Düsseldorf
- - Delta patent C methodology
- - CSP project course
- - None
- - Candidate Support Programme, EPA online-course
- - Distance course by Delta patents
- - Hagen course: Examinatorium Europaeum

- - ASPI mock exams
- - Epo patent examiner training
- - Examinatorium Europaeum
- - Deltapatents
- - Queen Mary Course
- - Delta patent's C and D courses
- - JDD courses, private study, C-book and delta main-questions
- - CEIPI for paper D, JDD Consultants for A, B, C
- - DeltaPatents EQE Courses
- - no specific course
- - none
- - Pre-eqe online training course
- - epo pre-examination online course
- - Dalily D questions, Coffee Break questions
- - epo academy pre exam online course
- - I did The Ceipi course paper D
- - epi pre-EQE
- - EPO internal CEIPI course
- - Deltapatents
- - epi/EPA pre-exam online training course
- - Uni Hagen - Examinatorium Europaeum
- - No course
- - DelatPatents pre-exam course
- - IP-akademin C-training
- - DeltaPatents courses for papers D and C
- - epi online training course
- - Ceipi pre-examination course
- - EPI - EPO online course for pre-examination
- - Delta pre-exam legal
- - IP Akademie (Bardehle)
- - Delta Patents C-course
- - The EPO in-house course 10.2012-01.2013
- - None
- - Pre-examination 2014 online course
- - Delta patents methodology and exam courses for C and D
- - Deltapatents
- - eqe online study
- - 3-days Delta patents course
- - Patentit-Teollisuus-Tekniikka (Aalto Pro) - a basic course in IPR
- - DeltaPatents methodology paper C
- - Delta patents C and D methodology course.
- - online pre-Exam course
- - No courses
- - last year: online pre-exam course by EPA/EPI
- - DeltaPatents courses A, B, C, D
- - Delta patents courses
- - Delta patents C- and D-course methodology.
- - delta patent
- - None
- - DeltaPatents C-paper
- - DeltaPatent Methodology Courses
- - Self study
- - JDD

- - DeltaPatent
- - JDD revision courses in UK
- - none
- - Delta Patents
- - Deltapatents
- - DELTAPATENTS COURSES
- - Deltapatents methodology course
- - Delta patents
- - Deltapatents course
- - None
- - EQE Forum study groups (marked papers)
- - Cramming Course
- - deltapatent
- - 2014 pre-exam online training course of European Patent Academy
- - CSP programme of EPO
- - Academy online course
- - any
- - self-study
- - Delat + Queen Mary
- - DeltaPatents C and D course
- - EQE-pre exam course run by the EPO
- - Delta patents D and C courses. + Internal training at Awapatent.
- - Delta Patents
- - EQE pre-exam course (online)
- - Delta patents pre-exam course
- - In house training, JDD, individual study
- - Deltapatents PreEQE Distance
- - Online course provided by EPI
- - Centre Patents Universitat Barcelona
- - DeltaPatents courses
- - Delta Patents
- - Examinatorium Europaeum Hagen
- - Deltapatents courses
- - ceipi course but only first year by now beginning the sccond
- - Delta patents course on C
- - BARDEHLE PAGENBERG IP Akademie
- - JDD Revision Course (UK)
- - EPO e-learning centre pre-examination 2014
- - Deltapatents
- - none
- - Courses for Paper A and B by UB/OEPM
- - EQE's Pre-exam course
- - delta patents course A/B
- - Online course for pre-EQE
- - epi-pre-examination on line courses
- - IP Akademie
- - on line EQE Pre-examination training course
- - JDD Consultants
- - Delta Patents Course Paper D
- - Centro de Patentes - Univ. Barcelona (Spain)
- - Deltapatents
- - none of them
- - none this year

- - Delta Patent D course
- - Delta patents D courses
- - Deltapatents
- - DeltaPatents
- - delta d course
- - EQE CSP
- - first few months of the basic ceipi course
- - Delta patents C-course
- - EQE Pre.Exam FernUni Hagen Course
- - Delta Patents Pre-Exam Legal
- - Deltapatents' "Legal" course, Deltapatents' "Methodology" and "Guided Exam" courses for both C and D
- - Delta Patents
- - No courses this time, but previously attended an Italian course for Italian qualification examination
- - EPC-Course by Preu, Bohlig & Partners
- - JDD consultants courses
- - JDD Paper C
- - EQE online
- - JDD
- - None
- - Examinatorium Europaeicum
- - Deltapatents methodology for D and guided exam D
- - ? ceipi only paper D
- - Delta Patent courses
- - Delta Patents C-course
- - Queen Mary EQE course
- - EPO online training course for the pre-exam
- - Deltapatents courses
- - EQE Pre-Examination Course (EPO)
- - DealtaPatents Course
- - EPO online training course
- - epi online pre-exam course
- - None
- - JDD Consultants EQE Pre-Exam preparation course
- - epi/EPO academy online training course
- - None of these.
- - JDD Pre-Exam course
- - EQE pre-examination online training course
- - The EQE-course of FernUniversität Hagen
- - Delta Patents C-course
- - Delta patents C-course
- - JDD pre-EQE tutorial
- - Deltapatents Methodology A/B
- - CEIPI pre-examination
- - Curso Práctico Para Preparar EQE Madrid. Organized by OEPM and Centro de Patentes de la Universidad de Barcelona
- - Deltapatents EQE main exam course
- - inhouse courses
- - Delta Patents - Paper C Methology + Guided Exam courses
- - Online Pre-Exam Course
- - Training provided by Delta patent
- - epi pre exam-tutorial

- - Michalski-Hüttermann
- - Deltapatents courses A and B and related materials
- - Delta Patent courses and Hagen course
- - Deltapatent course paper D
- - DeltaPatent courses in paper D
- - Delta patents
- - EQE candidate support project
- - Delta Patent, D methodology course
- - None
- - distance correction paper B delta patents
- - DeltaPatents A/B methodology
- - Delta patents paper D course
- - "EPC Advanced" at IP-Akademin in Sweden
- - Others
- - Examinatorium Europaeum, FernUni Hagen
- - Studying on my own
- - JDD course
- - Delta patents preexam distance learning
- - Course offered by Deltapatents
- - JDD UK
- - Delta Patents courses
- - epi on-line course for pre-examination
- - IP-akademin Stockholm papers, A, B, and C
- - CEIPI pre exam cramming
- - I was resitting paper A only
- - Delta patents C-paper seminar
- - Deltapatents methodology for Paper C
- - delta patents
- - Deltapatents 9 days course
- - Delta Patents Method
- - mhpatent
- - Delta Patents Course
- - DeltaPatents
- - delta patents course
- - Epi mock exam
- - in house EPO - before this year
- - EQE pre-examination training - online course for EQE candidates 2013-2014
- - Almost all Delta courses
- - eqe online training course
- - Delta Patents
- - DeltaPatents A/B methodology
- - epi online course
- - Course of Breu Bohlig & Partner, Munich
- - deltapatents
- - sdfg
- - Delta patents courses
- - CEIPI course on paper D
- - DeltaPatents Pre Exam training
- - VIPS/VESPA Training in Schaffhausen (CH)
- - CEIPI cramming course on D
- - Online course for preexamination
- - Delta Patent, FICPI
- - no one

- - Examinatorium FernUni Hagen
- - None
- - Delta
- - EPO Online course for pre-exam
- - EPA, candidate support programme, DeltaPatents long distance course
- - Queen Mary EQE course (A, B, C and D)
- - Queen Mary EQE Course in London
- - Pre-exam online training course
- - epi eqe online course
- - DELTAPATENTS
- - ASPI
- - JDD courses
- - Delta patents C and D courses + guided exam
- - Delta Patents legal course D /claim analysis course
- - JDD
- - Learning by doing older papers/question
- - ASPI seminars for A, B, C and D in France
- - none
- - Pre-examination online training course
- - epi/EPO "Pre-Exam Online Training Course"
- - delta patents
- - Delta patents
- - IP Academie
- - Delta Patents
- - DeltaPatents C-resitters course
- - None
- - None
- - Nationals courses
- - Deltapatents EQE courses
- - epi online course
- - EPI Pre-exam course
- - In-house course
- - EPA Pre-examination online training course
- - none

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

- - For Pre-Exam: basic ability to use indexes of EPC, PCT, Guidelines to find relevant information.
- - To have one who is also sitting the same paper to discuss with
- - Preparation of the study material.
- - I found that the EPO forum and also the Daily Question was very useful for preparing part D
- - Delta patents seminars. Reading EPC.
- - Doing Papers under examination conditions and have them corrected by my tutor.
- I bought 4 D papers of the last years adapted by DeltaPatents to the new duration of 5 hours and supplied with the corrections and the comments.
- - Compendium Pre-exams, Mock pre-examination on EQE website
- - daily D1 question
- - Guide for preparation for EQE issued by EPO
- - Exercises, start in advance, identification of necessary material.
- - EQE past papers. Own prepared material on various subjects and procedures.
- - doing a lot of exercises similar to the questions in the pre-exam

- - email communication with fellow-students (almost daily basis),
- - DeltaPatents model-solutions of the last couple of years (extremely useful !!)
- - reserving complete weeks or several days in a row for studying (e.g. having summerholiday before the exam)
- - Practice past papers
- - Past papers
- - DeltaPatents Methodology
- - I found the EPI course and Visser very useful.
- - Enough time to exercise
- - Mock exam papers, personal study of notes and EPC text books.
- - A week offered by my employer before the exam to prepare.
- - How to get... I and II. PCT Applicants Guide. Visser, EPC. Guidelines EPC.
- - (telephone) conversations with (IP-)friends and colleague.
- - Practical work at a law firm
- - Reading the EPC, the Guidelines, and the Case law.
- - Delta Patents C Course / Methodology very good
- Beware of CEIPI C-Method !!!
- - finding time for revision
- - Experience from working as a patent attorney
- - EQE online materials
- - Personal study.
- - enough time
- - Handwriting - Training
- Law Blogs (K's Law, etc)
- - DELTA PATENTS BOOK FOR PAPER C
- - Delta Patents Paper D Exam Questions
- - learning by doing during work
- - All elements makes for an all round understanding. Ability to discuss is very important.
- - Developing an awareness of all Articles in the EPC, in particular, the Articles which I do not necessarily use in everyday practice.
- - Time ! Not always easy when you have a full time job.
- - Review and making past papers
- - Visiting EQE Forum for each past paper
- - Past papers- although there were only 2.
- - Home study, working through DeltaPatents Basic Legal Questions book.
- - Experience and review of real cases
- - Relaxation.
- - Past pre-examination papers were very useful
- - Everyday work
- - Free time allocated by employer.
- Whilst discussing with other candidates, I realized that several had the advantage that their employers had given them time at work to prepare the EQE. This is not the case for my employer. Thus the only way to prepare the exam is to either work in the evenings or early morning and weekends, i.e. increasing tiredness and inefficiency at work and inefficiency for the preparation of the Exam.
- Free time provided by the employer would have been a real asset in the preparation of the EQE, especially the D exam, which does not stick so much to our everyday practice (in comparison to providing responses to Office actions, drafting patent applications or oppositions).
- I also have to mention that the EQE preparation (CEIPI Seminars) being paid by the employer, the latter would rightfully consider being indulgent in this preparation. In his view, why provide more time (i.e. money) to prepare his candidate? There are still cases at the office to be dealt with on a daily basis...
- - Practising past papers and following the examiner's comments

- - Delta patents C-Book, D-Book
- - working 3 years for an European patent attorney
- Bozic's tabulars for EPC and PCT
- intensive studies for at least 1 month while not working
- - self studies is most important
- - Exam papers from earlier years
- - doing MANY D1 questions and full papers
- - Reading guidelines, doing past papers
- - Make old exams
- - Interaction with other participants in the courses I took, practical advice by colleagues that took it earlier on, and - very important - support by both my family and my colleagues to spend time to the preparation
- - Time to prepare can be difficult
- - I read a lot in Visser.
- - Delta Patents courses
- - Time
- - reviewing old exams
- - Doing earlier B-exams under exam like conditions and preparing a schedule for how to efficiently go through the exam has been the most important preparations for me.
- - Loads of past exam papers!
- - Performing previous exams under exam (time) condition.
- - time to prepare
- - Delta Patents' courses and personal studying/practice
- - On-job experience
- - My normal day-to-day job helped me to prepare for the EQE
- - Read the answers of the candidates in the Compendium.
- - start early enough
- - HTG-II (IP), EPO Guidelines for Examination
- - talks with other candidates and with former candidates
- - The most important is to get days off from the job for full time study before the exam, not always possible
- - personal preparation
- CBE
- PCT
- Guidelines
- JO
- compendium
- Daily D-I
- - Training old Papers under "real conditions" and lets mark them from other candidates with help of the examiners report
- - 5 days of preparation, reading laws and book. no kids in house.
- - long enough and intense study, especially final phase
- - Time, or lack thereof
- - Practice
- - Reading decisions of the Boards of appeal and of the EBA; reading articles on the historical development of the EPC; reading the Guidelines.
- - practice sitting past papers
- - discipline
- - regular training
- - Training -
- Speaking
- EQE forum - could not find a way to work with, useless for me
-

- One word to Q8): - Almost never read an examiners report from the past papers to give a full and 100 % legitimization of the standard solution.
- - EQE Online daily D1
- - Delta Patents - Paper D preparation
- - CEIPI C resitter
- - Ask yourself whether you need a course at all. For me, self-studying was better.
- - Having a model answer in the compendium, showing what level of detail is expected, on top of having comments regarding which points were missed by the candidates, is very important I think. Seeing a candidate answer is interesting but not that much appropriate: sometimes there is too much information in there and it is not clear to derive from it what level of details is expected from the reviewers. In a time-constrained exam such as the EQE, it is critical to know how much one should write, and this is only possible if candidates understand in advance how much detail is expected in their answer. I hope there will be more focus or clear guidance regarding this point in future compendia.
- - Writing C-papers of previous years and compare results with examiner's report. Talk about strategy with colleagues.
- - I found the coffee break questions by the EPA a useful instrument for rehearsal
- - EQE Part D time-limit questions
- - Studying old exams, C-Book
- - Delta patent's correction papers were very useful.
- - A strong writing muscle.
- - time
- - It would be helpful to have a clearer list of study books. So far the candidate is never sure he/she has covered all the expected study.
- - Discussion with other candidates
- - Train under time pressure
- - CEIPI seminar
- - Time.
- - delta patents - preparation books
- - The most useful help I took was included in former examples and their examiners Report (see http://www.epo.org/learning-events/eqe/compendium_de.html)
- since nowhere else one can find all the special conditions of how to understand details applied for Evaluation
- Besides the field of all the details is rather large, and I preferred Internet investigations, so,
- EPC, of course, (see http://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/epc_de.html),
- but also necessary details (see <http://www.epo.org/about-us/organisation/member-states.html>),
- publications (see http://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal_de.html),
- case law decisions (see http://www.epo.org/law-practice/case-law-appeals/case-law_de.html),
- national law details (see http://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/national-law_de.html),
- EPC fees (see http://www.epo.org/applying/forms-fees/fees_de.html),
- PCT fees (see http://www.epo.org/applying/forms-fees/international-fees_de.html),
- (see <http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/pct/en/fees.pdf>), (see www.wipo.int/pct/en/fees/fee_reduction.pdf),
- (see <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>),
- (see <http://www.un.org/en/development/devagenda/ldc.shtml>, <http://www.un.org/ohrrls/>, <http://www.un.org/wcm/content/site/ldc/home>);
- treaty between EPA and IB (see EPA-ABI-2010.304ff), low income states (see EPA-ABI-2008.521),
- special Agreements (see <http://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/london-agreement.html>),
- WIPO treaties (see <http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/registration/pct/>), (see <http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/paris/>),

- WTO Details (see www.wto.org), regional patent states (see http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/reg_des.html),
- and truly a great lot of many more ...
- - past exams
- - Hands on
- - Deltapatents Exam related Questions most important instrument for getting through the necessary subjects
- - Reading through The EPO Guidelines from start to end.
- - Practical experience in the relevant tasks at hand
- - It would be very useful to join the internet training course offered by EPO or CEIPI, since in Poland there is neither possibility to join any tutoring course nor to be trained by the European Patent Attorney, since most of them never passed the exam. The courses offered by CEIPI or other centers are very expensive for Polish students, while the internet training course offered by EPO is dedicated only for 10 Polish trainees and the people who started the exam earlier had no chances to join it.
- - PCT Applicants guide
- Guidelines EPO
- - systematic and regular study
- - practics - but time is not a Problem there !
- - Jurisdiction of the BoA - Book of EPO
- - I think that preparing of Paper D by working through the Book of DeltaPatents is quite helpful.
- Further, I think that it is essential to do a few older papers to get a feeling for time management, expected answers, etc.
- I did all A, B, C and D papers from 2010 to 2013.
- - Doing past papers. It is however very difficult to understand why some marks are given or not. Especially in C and D2.
- It could at least be very helpful to know in D2 how many points are allocated to each question when you are passing the exam (like in D1).
- When reviewing my last papers, it is difficult to understand the exact mark.
- The same in C papers where it merely says use of informations and give you a random mark without any further explanation.
- A detailed marked paper would definitely make be pass much faster.
- - EQE forum
- - connection to some "odd" real cases in practice
- - Read the law (not only EPC!).
- Understand the law by answering many legal questions, for example those from delta Patents.
- Finally, sit former exams under exam conditions.
- - the day by day practise
- - Experience by working with EP related cases.
- - Mock exams, exam style questions and homework
- - Delta Patents
- - Just reading the annotated EPC and guidelines; including case law.
- - For me there are 3 basic elements:
- 1. Delta patents D exam book <= Do all the questions, but not in a row, The first from B1, then the first from B2, thenthen the first from L4, the the second of B1, then the second of B2,....
- 2. EPO In-house CEIPI course <= They tell you what to do when you are in the exam, what to look for, the exam is not real life is a puzzle. Mechanics/chemistry is not the technical field of many candidates, including myself, so it is good to know what to look for.
- 3. Compendium exams under exam conditions <= I did all the papers from 2009-2013 and those of 2000-2002. You need to learn not only how to do the paper, but also the english terms for mechanics and chemistry (if english is not your mother tongue). The compendium

is not that helpful with regard to the new B format, where the client claims which is supposed to help you save 30 minutes (from 3:30 hours to 3:00 hours), actually make you lose time. I guess this will be fixed as more "new format" exams are published and we start to understand how the client sets "helps" and what to double check so that it does not make you lose marks miserably.

- - Have very good books
- - To practise doing exams and legal questions from the very beginning.
- - Time, time, and again time.
- - Practising old exams
- - Discipline to sit down and study.
- - My daily job as patent engineer when it comes to "claim interpretation".
- - Understanding past papers and candidate's answers to recognize what was really asked and how the answer should be formulated.
- - Organising all the information in such a way as to be able to find it in the exam.
- - Sufficient professional experience (EP and PCT applications, OA responses, oppositions)
- - Practice
- - Reading the Guidelines and the EPC Articles and Rules
- - CEIPI courses on methodology.
- Answering questions from Delta Patents D book
- Writing past exams from EPO compendium
- - Daily Work
- - Doing exams of the compendium under exam conditions
- - Training, training, training of past papers the more the better
- additionally, getting some hand-in papers corrected by tutors, otherwise you might fool yourself by judging that your solution is "almost" the right one and never know how many marks this would score
- Especially for A and B it is very difficult to judge how many marks one would get, as usually your solution does not fit to the model solution but also not the indicated mistakes but "in between"
- - Just reading the above mentioned book and doing 1-2 exams from past years was more than enough to prepare for the Pre-EQE. Concerning Question 13: I started my preparation Friday before the exam.
- - Self practising the last Exams.
- - Il est important de pouvoir s'exercer de manière individuelle à chaque épreuve de l'EQE avec de bons exemples de ce qu'attend le collège d'examineurs.
- - training in drafting the papers
- - Colleagues opinions
- - Starting early enough
- - Methodology courses and analyzing past papers.
- - Self Study
- - G-Decisions
- EQE Online Course
- - Lots of practice papers!
- - Reading the newest version of Visser and Cross-referenced PCT, answering daily D1 questions, preparing papers from the compendium. I had also the possibility to put a few questions to an epil-tutor.
- - Vacation weeks (2) before the exam, to focus completely on the exam.
-
- Doing old exam papers in our study group, under examination conditions.
- - Deltapatent materials and courses
- - I mostly did the past papers from the compendium, as well as the Delta Patent's book for Paper D.
- - Doing previous exams and discussing them with other candidates.
- - It is essential to practice with a lot of mock papers and have clear input on how the papers

are marked. The examiner's report on past papers is very general and does not allow you to mark your own paper. This mainly applies to paper DI and DII.

- - Capability to understand the documents
- - I found the possibility to have one paper per exam marked by experienced tutors of the EQE forum very very useful. My supervisor is not that helpful and having papers corrected, was a real good help.
- - FLOW ORIENTATED epc & pct ,CARL HEYMANNS,pct Handbook,Case Law
- - Für den A-Teil (E/M)!: Aus dem Compendium und den Prüferberichten (besonders ab 2009) muss man das "Strickmuster" der Prüfungsaufgaben herausarbeiten und verstehen, wie die Prüfungen gestaltet werden. Nur dann ist man in der Lage die gewünschte Musterlösung aufgrund der impliziten Hinweise zu erraten.
- - Important to process information from various sources, eg EPC, PCT, case law and guides (Visser, How to get a patent, AG etc), by producing charts and diagrams and practicing Exam questions.
- - Questions from Delta Patents
- - I have missed a kiosk in the Center, to buy drinks and snacks -in the hour between 12 and 13 pm, before starting the examination
- - EPC, Guidelines for examination 2013, Cross-referenced PCT edition 2013 by Cees Mulder
- - study previous papers to understand structure of questions, to train how/where to find needed information and how to formulate the answer
- - select and know books taken to the exam
- - solving previous exams
- - Self study
- - Enormous amount of self control and obedience.
- - DeltaPatents courses, in particular last year's exam which was marked
- Discussions with colleagues who had passed EQE
- - Doing old exams on time.
- - Personal study from Delta patents and colleagues advice was key. JDD course was a useful introduction. Without training aids preparation would have been much trickier...
- - epi Pre-Examination online course was a valuable source for information. This is highly recommended! Working through the past Pre-Exams is also a very important part of the preparation
- - Course (Q11) was not followed this year.
- - I also attended some tutorials organised by other firms in my city.
- - Discussion with colleagues having passed the EQE before
- Thorough reading of the Guidelines for Examination 2013
- Training on questions published by Deltapatents, EQE Coffee break
- - Practice
- - Keeping the health, having a quiet environment for the preparation. During the last 2,5 weeks before the EQE I rented a room in an abbey. This was from my point of view the best decision I had made for the EQE preparation.
- - Commentary Kley
- - rest + relax (no stress)
- - Practice on previous exam papers
- - - coffee break questions
- - daily D1 questions
- - To understand why I have failed fourth time before.
- - Delta patent books, Visser! I'd like more info about claim drafting for Chemistry
- - Do many papers, also in order to spot pits, time-keeping,
- - The experience of an european patent attorney
- - EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen (unverzichtbar!)
- - exercise with past exam
- - Compendium

- - doing old exam sets
- - Daily D1 Questions
- - some abbreviated notes for survey of what content is to be learned since during examination there is not enough time available even for looking into index of EPC books, and you will have correctly to indicate Articles, Rules, Instructions, Decisions, etc.
- - Mock exams and the EPC reference book.
- - preparing
- - EQE forum
- - I am resitter; this year I have taken CEIPI 5 days D-course in Strasbourg
- - The pre-examinations from the previous years on the EQE website and the full-time work in the field of European Patent Applications.
- - Previous IP experience.
- - Discussing with other candidates
- - The eqe forum is helpful
- - N/A
- - A lot of trial examination run.
- - Doing past papers, reading examiners' comments and discussing answers.
- - Getting enough time to learn besides my usual work and my family
- - Training in small group and by former participants of the eqe
- - preparation in groups,
- - Visser and Hoekstra
- - Writing previous papers, Delta Patents Methodology and Questions, discussion with colleagues
- - prepared Checklists
- - self study, practise questions, training for Dutch patent attorneys
- - jo oeb et décisions CHR (Site de l'OEB)
- - Time management at work to get some study time; time-off family; support of partner on weekends to provide study time without disturbances of children
- - none
- - Revision of past papers and the Paper D Book from Delta Patents: Main Exam Questions for Paper D
- - During my preparation for EQE papers A&B, I would have find convenient to discuss about the different Mock-exam I did with people like a tutor. I considered important to have the opportunity to discuss about the way I drafted paper A & B to identify what to do and what to avoid and the reasons to do so.
- - Dedicate lots of time and start early! For the D exam you need at least 8-9 months of dedicated study time (if you also have a full time job) aimed at going through all parts of EPC and PCT. Take a course such as Deltapatents Courses with specific focus on the EQE, which is not always similar to "real life" situations. Start by being thorough and really taking the time to learn each part properly, only in the last couple of months practice under time restrictions
- - free time
- - My own 'mock' examinations using past examination papers.
- - For pre-exam Visser is the best starting point. After exhaustive and deep study of Visser I used past pre-examination papers, mock and delta patents books P & L. Most important thing is to find enough time on a regular basis. Since I had not a lot of free time available during working days, after preparing most of required materials in april-may 2013, I dedicated to study each saturday starting from june 2013 to february 2014 and also some vacations.
- - case law
- - Doing prior C-papers under exam conditions.
- - Extensive use of the CBE/EPC and Guidelines
- - Rest for the hand, since the paper C seems to be challenging the physical state rather than

the mental one. Every time I flunked it was due to pain in my writing hand, due to training and the exam as such.

- - Focus on studying earlier Exams in conjunction with epc, guidelines, pct applicants guide and deltapatents compendiums.
- - thorough self-study of EPC articles and rules together with the relevant applicant's guides (I + II + pct) + EPC commentary (DE: Kley)
- - Studying Hoekstra's Annotadet EPC and PCT reference book.
- - For A & B you can only do older exams
- - I participate in the CSP program of the EPO which was an excellent opprtunity to prepare for the EQE.
- - Studying of Guidelines, PCT and Visser's annotated EPC
- - Preparation time
- - Training under 5 hours condition for paper C
- - Investing time and doing the papers of the compendium
- - Past papers
- - Training writing with old papers under conditions comparable to those in EQE
- - I'm a member of the Candidate Support Project. Therefore working with a tutor one by one and asking questions and making discussions with my tutor/coach was very important for me.
- - -study regularly to digest the material
- - To have / reserve enough time for preparation.
- - Personal study
- - Above-mentioned books, expecially the C-Book and the DeltaPatents D Main Exam Questions Book
- - The compendium, Guidelines of the EPO and some PCT-books suffice.
- - Work free hours (which I did not receive) so that the energy and motivation is kept with as little as possible drainage from working hard before the exam.
- - Concentration , lucidity, endurance
- - Delta patent for EQE D
- - Formation ASPI
- - Working on past papers is the most important par of the studying
- - former exams
- - Very helpful are the model solutions on the epo web.
- - JDD Courses on papers A, B and C
- - The annotated EPC (Baque)
- - repetition and profound analysis of past papers, examiner's comments and candidates' answers
- - I cooperate with perfect EPI tutor and i found it extremely helpful.
- - Practicing past papers
- - The online training course played significant role in my preparation.
- - Timed past papers
- Study of G decisions
- - Tackling recent papers in exam conditions in January and February was very important for my preparation.
- As well the material on the EQE forum was very precious to me, with particular mention of the D1 daily newsletter between september and december.
- I also saw that some tutors very active on the EQE forum propose some training sessions, which I intend to use for next year.
- - PCT applicant's guidelines, EPO guidelines, Annotated Patent Convention
- - The epi pre-exam tutorial/course is higly recommendable
- - Getting enough sleep.
- - Time management and practice on past papers
- - Old exam papers and the Examiners reports I believe are very useful.
- - extensive practice

- - EQE Forum including comments by the main tutors paul and pete
- - a detailed guide on the specific approach
- - spend a considerable amount of time on self-study
- - eqe-online.org time limit questions
- - Past papers and examiner's comments
- - Richtlinien für die Prüfung am EPA
- Rechtsprechung der Beschwerdekammern
- - - Discipline, Organization, Motivation.
- - Good planning and tutor
- - Start early enough
- - if possible work 100% for EQE preparation the last week before Exam.
- - Not know everything but know how to find everything.
- - Time, Money. Some hundred questions to work through
- - Personal effort, the book of Delta Patents with solved Mock Pre-exams and othe years Pre-exams
- - Starting early, one year ahead.
- - Trainings at home or with a teammate
- - Practicing questions
- - Time to prepare beside the cases at work.
- - Daily D1 questions are very helpfull!
- - Mock Exams prepared in 2011.
- - Discussing with colleagues that have sat the exam.
- - many, many hours of study. Advice from more experienced colleagues.
- - baque, european guidelines, compendium, CEIPI cramming day and mock exam.
- - Practicing the past papers
- - Making compedium in the due time, especially for D
- - Reading examiners reports...trying to get into their set of mind. Very important for paper A, I am afraid
- - I did pre-exam and the online pre exam course was very good for that.
- - Going through Deltapatens C part preparation and the question to D-part
- - coaching activities
- - Job experience
- - it is important that a complete correction with suggestion of your papar is done
- - Correction of previous failed exams
- - Oj, case law, nat law, pct, applicants guide pct and euro pct, self prepared commented epc
- - Pre-EQE course
- - Personal study at home, in proper advance before the date of the exam
- - Working on real time with compendium. Weekly exchanges with another candidate.
- - Epi online training course
- - Many thanks to EPO for the such careful preparing of previous EQEs (http://www.epo.org/learning-events/eqe/compendium_de.html), and, especially, I take a call to all those examiners who tireless gathered observations on candidates with their mistakes registered and commented. There I think this is the very possibility to learn from. Whatever it is that examiners want to hear after given examination questions, there you can find it, and you may assimilate essentials taken from origin. But, not only for EQE purposes, more over, even later on, when staying during prospective processing of applications, nearly the same examiners will be there to check your arguments, so you may even learn from mentioned compendium, someday later on whenever suitable.
- - Take sufficient time to study and practice.
- The most important, after having good legal knowledge, is to practice and practice. Compendium are very useful
- - study leave / holidays
- - Pre-examination online training course developed by the epi and the European Patent Academy.

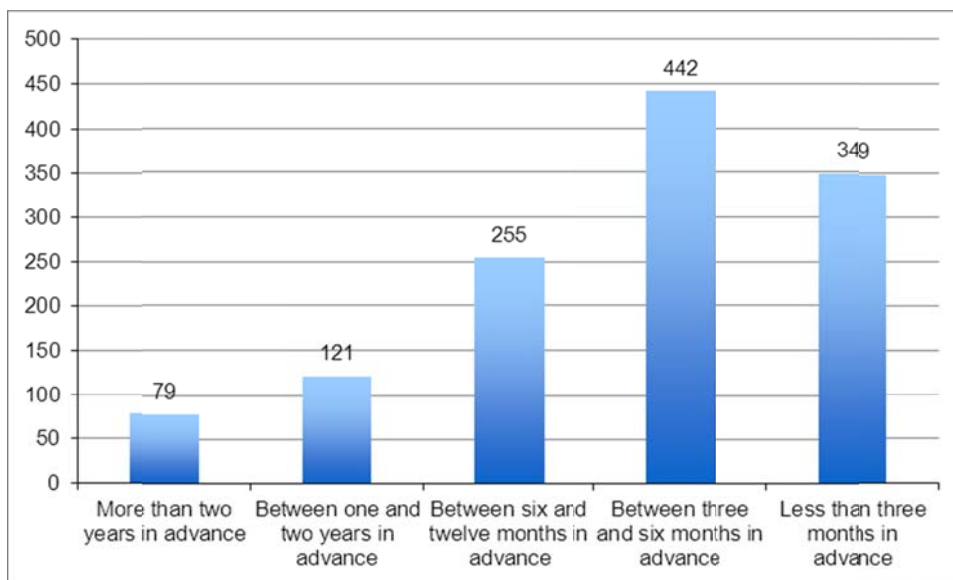
- - I studied myself training material, Guidelines EPO and PCT, followed a legal training at Delta patents and a cramming course.
- - practicing lots of past papers
- - Practical experience
- - Start early and systematic, do not concentrate on one topic (i.e. application procedure, examination procedure, opposition/appeal procedure, regulations regarding representation, failure compensation/counter measures, PCT, ...) in a period of time, always try to proceed with all topics at once.
- - Any source of additional DI questions (updated to EPC2000): Daily DI question e-mails; Delta patents DI book.
- - Preparing referenced EPC
- - sdfg
- - The documentation obtained from DeltaPatents
- - PCT in der Praxis, delta patents questions and answers
- - Most important: DeltaPatents preparation and study of compendium tests, although it is not really possible to extract from the tests what the examiners really want. Very helpful: feedback from other candidates when questions arose.
- - study at home and making homework
- - A lot of sleep before to the exam!
- - CSP Support project helped me design my study time. Personal tutor assistance helped to assess the structure of study and monitor the progress.
- - Professional training
- - CSP - Epi Coaches
- - Finding time in a busy life
- - Delta Patents Material
- - Having all books and tools up to date
- - studying the Guidelines for Examination
- Singer Stauder EPÜ
- Kley Kommentar
- - two month of preparation before the EQE
- - Walking the dogs a lot. Otherwise they wouldn't let me study.
- Using earplugs, my dogs snore a lot.
- Turning off my phone. Whenever I sit for studying somebody calls and invites to somewhere.
- Trying not to lose my mind. Studying is difficult, especially reading the Visser. But I did, I read most of it. It was very helpful in the end.
- - n.a.
- - Delta courses as those are available in Finland.
- - Cross-referencing the EPC and the guidelines for examination was very helpful.
- - Summary tables for time limits and fees.
- Highlighting of keywords / concepts in a reference book (Visser), two different colours (one leading to request or patent being granted, the other one for it being refused).
- Learning titles of EPC articles and rules by heart.
- - The documents from the on-line course were helpful, although there were a some errata.
- - Answering questions
- - Schemes for organisation of ideas.
- Practise, practise and practise multiple choice questions.
- - Lots of practice papers
- - No In-house training organised by your company neither Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in Art. 11(2)(a)REE was organized. I would like to use a mock exam on EQE website, but I could not find it. The most important was to read the compendium, C-book by Delta Patents and practicing the previous exams.
- - Past papers
- - TIME!

- Online courses starting early on, even if it is just the Coffee-Break questions, are good to practise in time and get accustomed with your work materials.
- - the study of my previous papers I have failed
- - time!
- - Brain.
- - Praktische Erfahrung in der Kanzlei plus das Amtsjahr bei den deutschen Patentbehörden.
- - PCT Applicants Guide
- - Do the exams of the former years
- - Time
- - Doing past papers
- - Online Training for PRE EQE by EPO
- - Regular and daily training of older papers and questions.
- - FOLLOWING THE METHOD AND MATERIAL SUGGESTED BY DELTA PATENT AND A COURSE IN EPC SIMULTANEOUSLY
- - Legal revision in own time.
- - Basically spending all my spare time learning european law and practicing C papers. My preparation for A and B mainly relied on my experience of drafting and filing responses, adapted for the world of the EQE (i.e. the answer is in the paper, somewhere - or at least it should be).
- - concentration and good physical condition
- - Mock exams
- - Self-study.
- - interaction with other candidates to solve doubts.
- - Start early enough - especially with the EPC / Guidelines / EPO-material
- - Read the European Patent Convention, read parts of the guidelines and case law.
- - -I made 10 C-papers from the Compendium, and reviewed/corrected them using DeltaPatents model-solution for 7 of them.
- - Working on real cases as much as possible.
- - Practice, practice, practice
- - Reference to Visser and Hoekstra
- - I took place on Ceipi preparing course some years ago.
- - Daily questions
- - DELTA patent book
- - For paper D and, expecially, for paper C, to learn how to manage the time to do the full paper in 5 hours.
- - Time
- - Exams from previous years
- - Time management
- - starting the preparation early
- - c book; Guidelies
- - reading Guidelines / reading PCT-book of Malte Köllner / doing Delta-Patents Basic Questions
- - Personal study and exercises on previous papers (in some cases, as commented by Delta Patents, in other cases comparing the results with the Compendium Examiner's Reports
- - C-Book by Chandler
- The Guidelines
- Practising Past Papers
- - baque
- - Solve as many papers of the compendium as possible.
- - Work experience
- - Coffee breake Questions
- - I carefully read and annotated the Guidelines, transferring the most important parts/caselaw to my copy of the EPC. As I did the delta patents D Questions I likewise

annotated my copy of the EPC as I went along as a quick reference. I also regularly read the OJ.

- I did plenty of past-papers, paying careful attention to the Examiners comments whilst marking.
-
- A significant part of my preparation was doing lots of delta patents questions for the DI part and keeping my legal references up-to-date.
- - Ceipi prep. course
- Past exam papers
- - The Viser.
- - Studying commented EPC, and PCT-guidelines
- - It is important to find hundreds of hours for the preparation and various examination questions with correct answers.
- - the most important preparation is studying the compendium

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?

- - Time to prepare full 5 hours papers
- - I found the exams to be incredibly time pressured, to the extent that, although I recognised various issues that could be discussed (without needing to refer to any reference materials), I found I didn't have sufficient time to discuss these issues fully in my answer. In retrospect, I should have spent more time preparing succinct stock phrases to use in my answers so that I can ensure that issues can be fully discussed in an answer in the very limited time available.
- - Disinterest from employer.
- - Shorthand writing, Focus on time stealers.
- Make correct notes format when reading through the paper in order to avoid timeconsuming searching for getting back to basis for your argumentation.
- Ran out of time in all but A exam.
- Practice on writing by hand. Writing really gets slow after 2 hours continuous writing. And it is from 2 hours and out you need fast writing,.
- - My greatest weakness was the legal knowledge. In order to overcome this deficiency, I have studied EPC, PCT, GL, AG-IP, AG-NP, and I have prepared flow charts and schemas.
- - Maybe a better time management.

- - I think I did pretty well for the pre-exam. The real exam may be more difficult, but I can't answer yet since I'll pass it at the earliest next year.
- - No time to study. End and start of year are busiest time for IP work so could not take any time to study.
- - Should have done more complete papers under time pressure rather than individual questions.
- - I was unsure, locate the relevant references in the texts quickly.
- It would be helpful to get a clear and reliable evaluation scheme based on old tasks so that it is immediately apparent what is valued and what is not.
- - more training in exam situation. More mock exams.
- - Not enough time to learn, very tired (because of small children -2.5 and 1 year old-)
- Difficult to overcome "family reasons"
- - Difficulty with claims wording....after first draft I usually have to rephrase and simplify but sometimes the result is anyway twisted, not linear.
- I made some practice to improve, but maybe not enough.
- - Legal questions of Part 1 were weakness, because of level of understanding the (some aspects) EPC relating to the questions. Knowledge of the details does not provide understanding.
- However, I overcame the weakness because it was not critical. But in the future more studying and training relating to legal questions.
- On the other hand, claim analysis is strong point because of work experience in national Patent office.
- - speed - training
- - After having taken the A exam, I simply was too tired to focus on the B exam (failed..)
- - I started preparing about two months in advance. Starting preparation on a regular basis a little earlier might have reduced the pressure at the end. However, three month's preparation should be sufficient.
- - Since I was sitting for pre-examination, I had to prepare on legal part and claim analysis.
- On legal part a lot of study materials and exercises books are available.
- On claim analysis there is not a lot of specific material or exercises, so I felt weaker on this part but I had no way to improve my preparation above a certain level. Providing more exercises for this part would be useful.
- - attention to details.
- - For the pre-exam, my weakness is that sometimes I cannot decide whether a statement was regarded by the examiners as T or F - what I mean is, I have strong arguments for both possibilities, and in real life it would be a terrible argument, but in the exam situation I just cannot assess whether the person who created the question was thinking this or that way.
- - Time-management. Went to far into detail to respond to Q1 in Part II, such that my response to Q2-Q4 where stressed and not good. Should have taken a step back earlier to see and make sure that the answer handed in as a whole is as complete as possible.
- - not preparing enough and in an organized way
- - I was not aware of the way to study.
- - I did put too much attention in the PCT and other difficult subjects I thought they were relevant (opposition, appeal, epo regional phase) but the exam asked to few about it.
- - Speed writing
- - Some of the questions this year (particularly in papers B and C) appeared to be very "lottery style". That is, success or failure appears to depend on a question that could be argued either way.
- In this respect, no amount of revision or preparation would have helped, which is frustrating.
- - Major problem is that I am not able to write all the information inside my head to the paper (I thought that I wrote it down but surprisingly I can not find the sentence from the answer); in case I have to resit - I will use Delta patent feed-back service or other tutoring system. I have found it rather difficult to have a study group/partner having about the same level and shedule.

- - I should have given more thought to strategy
- - Too few past papers to practice on, but then the EQE Pre-exam is only relatively new.
- - I was unprepared for the time pressure even though I knew that time is short. It's hard to prepare for.
- - I could not read all my material, I should have started earlier.
- - Adjusting the way of how answers are given in real-life situations to the way of how marks are awarded during EQE
- - Time management under pressure condition
- In order to overcome it, It could be performed a lot of simulations in order to decrease the influence of the pressure condition factor.
- - Could have done more paper C past papers to get a better feel for the time required to write out full answers.
- - Claim analysis
- - I should have started revising intensively earlier. I did start the EPI course at the recommended time, but I didn't feel like I took it in.
- - claims analysis: as pre-exam is new, only a few examples are available. additional course as Ceipi seminar on pre-exam was useful
- - Lack of time due to personal reasons. Also should have had someone to mark a test paper in A and B to have a better idea how to gain marks.
- - Not enough time spent on personal study - change of jobs and house move compromised my preparation.
- - Should have done it when I was younger - when my memory worked better.
- - none
- - PCT.
- - To insecure. More studies.
- - (What a question. Very calvinistic.)
- My "greatest weakness" ... is having other interests than IP. Learning things by heart is against my nature. and doing more creative and constructive things feels better. So procrastination... Nevertheless, once studying it becomes interesting and difficult to stop. :-)
- Perhaps the lack of motivation or interest came from the nonsense I heard about the eqe from other IP-persons. It is much more interesting than they say and seems very doable (also the main exam, but I did only the pre-eqe). So, listening too much to others instead of starting to study and find out how it is by myself may be the "gratwest weakness". Or at least, a weakness.
- Next time, you may also ask for the greatest strength.
- - I was not prepared for a Paper C being much more complex than Paper C of the previous year 2013.
- I was prepared for a Paper C with 4 citations (as in 2013) and with low complexity in determining priorities or other problems due to the fact that the examination duration was cut from 6 hours to 5 hours last year. So I expected a slightly more complicated legal problem than in 2013. In fact, present Paper C had one citation more and a rather complicated priority problem (as compared to 2013) which caused trouble in getting through the whole Paper. Consequently, I was misled in my preparation and stopped my "speed training" based on the 2013 Paper for which it was already sufficient.
-
- Based on the 2013 C Paper, I should have trained to finalize this in approximately 4:15 h in order to solve the 2014 C Paper in 5:00 h.
- - Could always study more, just a matter of time available.
- - time management
- no solution, time is necessary for analyzing
- - zu große Unsicherheit bei der Lösungsfindung in der zur Verfügung stehenden Zeit. Eine Lösung wäre, noch mehr Übungsaufgaben zu lösen. Sinnvoll wäre es, wenn es ein Lehrbuch für A, B gäbe, das systematisch den Lösungsweg trainiert und das viele Beispielaufgaben hat.

- - Training in exam conditions, focussing on time management.
- - Little or no time available for studies.
- - Maybe I did too much preparation! Of course preparation is essential, but practising on past papers for which the examination duration was longer and the content was different (Paper B and Paper C) and may have caused a weakness.
- The Study Guide (EQE Guide for preparation, 3rd edition) sets minimum numbers of past papers (A-5, B-5, C-7, D-7 pages 49-52) of which 2 are under exam conditions, then says "do as many past papers as you can under exam conditions" (p.57). This latter advice is hard to follow for Paper B and Paper C, as explained above.
- - less time
- - Time management Training.
- EQE problems are not difficult if given enough time. EQE not so much a test of knowledge, but rather a test of efficiency when solving the problems.
- Thus, I would advise to study exams from the compendium under exam conditions only.
- - TIME PRESSURE AND NOT BEING MOTHER LANGUAGE (NOT BEING MOTHER LANGUAGE ENHANCE THE EXAMINATION-PRESSURE) - I HAVE TO READ/THINK/FIND THE MANY DEFINITION-TRAPS OF FEATURES IN THE ANNEXES AND WRITE/ARGUMENTATE IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE AND IN THE SAME TIME OF A MOTHER LANGUAGE - EVEN IF ENGLISH IS A QUITE EASY LANGUAGE I DON'T FIND IT SO FAIR
- - Hoekstra's latest updated version arrived early January;
- Should have submitted 1 or 2 papers to CEIPI tutors to avoid doing the same mistakes again and again.
- - especially in paper B I had next to no clue how the answer should be structured
- - time management! Don't know how to overcome that.
- - The Pre-Exam is quite a new exam therefore there are only a limited number of past papers which makes it difficult to practice. I signed up to the EQE coffee break questions, but I should have found further resources to try and practice the multiple choice style questions (e.g. Delta Patents).
- I also found it difficult to practice the second part questions of the Pre-Exam (i.e. the claims questions).
- - Part II of the Pre-Examination requires some skill at interpreting the application documents together with the phrases that shall be marked as true or false.
- Unfortunately, there are still only a few pre-examination-papers available. Consequently, the material to practice the claim-interpretation is rather limited. The material available in the EPA/EPI-online-course for the pre-examination helps, but this material is not as refined as the real exam.
- Thus, my greatest weakness was to apply the legal requirements in Part II, since the interpretation of the phrases was not always clear-cut.
- The only possibility to overcome this weakness would have been to practice with more refined training-material, which was scarce.
- - Finding the legal bases was not easy.
- - Lacked a general overview. Could be remedied by attending a structured course.
- - N/A
- - Not knowing the scope or level of the examination. The scope was hard to determine and additionally was changed in this years examination to test Chemistry based items, not previously thought to be of generic applicability to non-chemical attorneys.
- - Time! Make complete examens under time pressure
- - Reading the guidelines more thoroughly. The changing of guidelines, specially the sections and number made it harder to refer with older material.
- - I could have started earlier, but I have little kids and the preparation for the EQE is quite incompatible with a normal family life :-) ...
- - Being able to separate the theoretical approach demanded by the Exam from the practical approach used at work. For example, in practice the interpretation taken is rarely as cut and

dry as suggested by the examination. This could have been improved by greater practice with questions, however there is of course a shortage of past papers on which to practice.

- - During preparation for paper D I may have spent a disproportionate amount of time studying for part 1 at the expense of part 2.
- In retrospect I would put more work towards part 2.
- - time management D1/D2; which in my experience does not really corresponds to our everyday practice: It is TOO SCHOLAR.
- I imagine doing more compendium could have helped... however: when? from 8 pm to 12pm? Week ends being more profitable for understanding the law (fresh view).
- Time management is no more for the D exam (especially D1), in my opinion, pure discrimination to people not having employers allowing them to take some time for exam preparation.
- - To increase speed, but I do not know how it could be possible.
- - It was difficult in preparing for the pre EQE to assess how much time was needed to review the law given there are limited past paper resources of varying degrees of difficulty. This will become easier in the years to come as more past papers are available.
- - Difficulty in marking my own answers of paper C and paper D
- - Not reviewing a checklist during the exam of things to remember
- - Motivation while preparing the exam alone. Perhaps regularly learning in a group with other students would have helped (at least twice a week).
- - Over-estimating how much I could do (past papers) etc in a given time and not doing enough past papers to time.
- - time to practice
- - Need to synchronize the "form-top" to the exam day.
- - My greatest weakness was my self-confidence. I finished earlier and then changed my mind on many answers which I should have left what they were in the first place.
- - Dealing with everyday work and evening learning. I think I should start learning earlier.
- - More time for preparation..
- - no time (next to work & family)
- - There are too few past papers available for practice in the new revised format of Paper B.
- - Real motivation arrived too late
- - Time constraints of work/home reduced ability to fit in enough exam question practice.
- - Balance study-work-family
- Couldn't change it..
- - The need for very thorough revision for the D paper in the last weeks meant less time to spend to the other papers just before the exam. This was a result of the struggle to find enough time in autumn to both make a systematic study of EPC/PCT *and* practice exam questions and old papers.
- Somehow finding more time in autumn would have been very difficult in my case. Therefore, I was very glad that the PreEQE training was too much for PreEQE but laying a very good (and timely) foundation for preparing EQE (esp. paper D)
- - My workload. So far I haven't found a way to overcome that.
- - From my view, the change of mark from 50 to 70 in the pre-exam wasn't correct. I think it was unfair to change the basis of the exam once one had already paid the examination fee and the courses.
- - The time to study
- - a great weakness was not to find enough past "paper B" according to the time limit from 2013 on. Therefore there was only one paper like the present year; I was not able to calculate/manage time for each part of paper B.
- - Wasn't sure where the bar would be set for the pre-exam so possibly delved into topics in more detail than was necessary thus potentially wasting time.
- - I could have studied PCT more.
- - time to study, as usual
- - I used the book "Paper D" from Deltapatents, which is much more difficult. This is why I

misunderstood some questions in the Pre-Exam.

- There is very little material to train claim analysis.
- - Finding time to study
- - I would not have changed anything in my preparations even if I could.
- - I should have done more papers to time - I did lots of past papers but I think my timing in exams let me down, particularly in Paper C
- - Greatest weakness is to find sufficient time for preparation, which is difficult in a small IP department in industry. Hence there are no one to take over the workload. Not much to do about it.
- - Time management.
- Improve time management by training quicker analysis and better system approach.
- - not enough time to prepare
- - Finding the time for studying. When combining busy work and small children and their hobbies, it's simply quite hard to find the time. Quite frankly, I have no idea how I could have overcome it. I have tried to take a longer period for studying, but then I created a massive backlog at work and didn't want that to happen again. Then I tried to take one- or two-day breaks from work, but it was hard to study as intensively as during longer periods. And anyway, that meant longer days at work, which meant more adjustments for family life.
- - High stress level, leading to lack of sleep in the days of the exam.
- - Not enough time for studying after work. Start the preparation as early as possible prior to the exam.
- - Not much time to answer all the questions.
- - Not to rest enough the few days before the examination.
- - Time
- - In the end, I decided to start with the EPC as first aid when answering the legal part.
- Then Guidelines, and only then other texts / books / material.
- Only with this strategy, I got more focussed.
- - Balance between full time working, EQE training, personal health and family.
- - i write very slowly which can be annoying when you have so much to write - can see how to overcome this :-)
- - Not for preparation, but only for performance at exam: - language - not a mother tongue-takes about 30% longer to read and some misunderstanding occur, use of wrong wording "further proceeding vs further processing" - such errors or the like, a very short time for DI part questions (if counted according to points given - 2 hours) - lack of time, particularly for none EN, FR, DE native speakers.
- - The greatest weakness was the time management
- - FOR D
- It is important to have a first quick overview of all the documents to be able to use compendiums and really understand how it works and then make a second deep reading of all the documents to really point out every important detail.
- - Better stress management.
- Adequate literature - esp. for the claim analysis!
- - Since the time is really a problem (especially for non-native speakers), training must include real time exercises. For those who are working it is important to start early enough with training and do it consequently without interruptions.
- - I spend several minutes to find the right rules. I already had known the answer, so in the end time was short to have a second view on the answers.
- - To oversee important facts under time pressure
- - Lack of time.
- - To big a ordinary workload, no time for preparation
- - Experience from real life, such as filing oppositions for my employer
- - My weakness was that I expected the questions to be much harder than they actually were, and was searching for traps in those questions where there were no traps.
- - Most important (once you have the basic overview), is exam technique. I.e even if you

know the answer to a question you

- don't get many marks unless you write down a lot of steps to come to the answer. So, I believe that the main challenge is to quickly ask yourself questions and answer them to be able to score good. This needs a lot of practise.
- - Lack of enough time and proper exercise to cover the PCT.
- - time is a great problem, I mean to deal with the exam in the time given
- - (I'm satisfied with my preparation)
- - - practicing started 8 months in advance on a medium level
- - most intensive work started two months in advance
- - my weakness was/ is to understand examiners' decision in specific aspects.
- - practicing the past papers in real time was my deficiency in the end
- - Not enough time
- - This time I was well prepared but much too slow in Paper D, B, and C!
- - I should have continued practicing on D1 questions up until the last weekend before the exams. I stopped 10 days before to concentrate on A, B, C, which made me lose some of the speed I had painstakingly acquired in answering D1 questions.
- - Underestimated the amount of literature to read. The mere number of pages of the EPC, PCT, guidelines and additional literature makes it impossible even to read through everything.
- - Paper C. I should have improved my time management.
- - In Part D it is never clear to which extent the answers should be. Would be great at least for D1 to use multiple choice answers and more questions
- - PCT details. Went through Malte Köllner PCT book.
- - Time was not sufficient,
- - My weakness was Claim drafting, because in real life one will always make broader Claims as in EPC. Possibility to overcome, do more compendia.
- - I took one month off for intensive study before the main exam, and had taken 3 weeks before the pre-exam the year before. The one month before the main exam was not enough to prepare for 4 papers, in particular C where getting the methodology right and testing it on several past exams in real conditions is critical. Had not enough time to do so and doing exercises before the main exam, despite having booked a whole month.
- - reading too slow and too many documents to use for 5h C-part. Long annex 1 paper with 6 or 7 claims to attack and 5 citations are too much for 5h. Comments on 2013 results and handling of 5 h C-paper were misleading.
- - Preparation was a little short, I should have spent more time on it, in particular on practising legal DI-style questions
- - I frequently did not take the time to write down an answer completely once I had found the right one. In the exam I lost a lot of time by coming up with phrases for how to express the right answer.
- - Legal basis as a technical person skilled in the art, preparatory books would be helpful
- - Paper D
- I could hopefully overcome it by staying calm during the exam.
- - Not fast enough. Not easy to overcome - too much information for too short time.
- - I am satisfied with my preparations.
- - I focused on D and C intensively.
- In hindsight, I could have done a couple more past papers for each of A and B.
- - Simulating the stress of examination conditions on the day of the exam. I am unaware of how this can be overcome.
- - The learning phase went quite well, but it is challenging to be properly prepared for the exams themselves. More practice papers in recent format, content and style would be useful.
- - It was always difficult to get a full grasp on the 'puzzle' style of paper C and to locate the correct pieces of the puzzle in the vast amount of information. It just worked better this time
- - Starting studying earlier.
- More training on claims analysis.

- - The amount of handwriting required is difficult to cope with. Illegibility is likely the cause.
- - Should have started solving old papers and D1 questions mailed by the EPO much earlier than I did
- - I was not fully prepared yet; I know the material, but not yet well enough to always achieve the level of detail needed for the answers. Also, due to studying on my own, I have made mistakes in interpreting the law, which now lead to wrong answers in the exam (judging from the solutions suggested by delta patents on their blog for D 2014). Again, preparing by answering practice questions (such as from deltapatents question book) should help to iron out remaining wrinkles.
- Further study is needed to resolve this, so I will continue studying for now and count on taking the exam once again next year.
- - Not quick enough writing. For normal writers, hand writing speed is critical for finishing.
- - Should be more familiar with the Annotated EPC.
- - Training in real condition to experience the time pressure.
- - getting an overview of the interrelationship between articles and rules of the epc. Visser is therefore absolutely essential in order to do not get lost.
- - Paper B was too complex for time available / I did not train enough to do it in 3h; spend too much time on studying the paper and A.123(2) and had not enough time in the end for a reasonable A.56 argumentation.
- - PCT (study more and doing more exercises).
- After grant patent protection (having more guidance about what to study and which source to consult)
- - physical fitness;
- Start in september a little late
- - More focus on the previous papers
- - Time management. Not enough information on how to tackle new paper structure. Less time, but it seems same amount of information to be processed. Very open-ended questions, so easy to get lost.
- - Not enough time for preparation besides daily work and family life. Should have been able to take more than 1 1/2 weeks off before the exam for studying intensively at home.
- - Too much workload !
- - Too high workload on the job with too many deadlines. No idea how to overcome that.
- - Getting an overview about the topics and how to start with the learning; this was too slow and sluggish. Took weeks to have the correct material for learning and to find out how to start getting an overview. Would have been better if learning would have started systematically via trainer, books etc.
- - Yes I know that I did not undergo some perfect preparation and I admit there are many essential things I had no chance to learn them yet, so, most of all I would like to mention case law practice and recent commentaries
- (see http://www.epo.org/law-practice/case-law-appeals/case-law_de.html),
- maybe next time i will be better primed
- - Not enough time for focused study
- - understanding how to write answers for paper D.
- working on past exams with friends was helpfull
- - Time management Have to keep working on it. The pressure it puts on the majority of the candidates is not well understood I believe
- - Legal questions especially regarding PCT topics.
- - I had failed paper D twice before, the first time I had the flu shortly before the exam which cost 7 days to cure, I only recently discovered that my preparation prior to that must have been intensive, because of all the notes in the books. I think I would have failed anyway because I had not practised D2 properly. Getting ill did not help though so get a flu vaccination even if you usually dont tend to get ill at all. The second time it seems to me that I just repeated the stuff I already knew, still not revising enough D2 parts. This time I filtered out weaknesses and concentrated on that. I forced myself to do practise D2 under exam

conditions, not hoping for enlightenment at the exam.

- - Arbeitsbelastung durch Tagesgeschäft - Klausurarbeitsgruppen
- - exhaustion by day 3- timing in Paper C - over detailed analysis of Annexes- could have been overcome by more practice
- - too short study time -> overcome by less workload
- not enough practice on previous exam papers -> overcome by less workload
- - Lack of the European Patent Attorneys that could teach the EPO rules and regulations as tutor for EQE, the available courses are very expensive. Limited availability of the internet courses.
- - Staying focused on basic understanding at first reading and not getting lost with small details.
- Too much to read and therefore a choice to make.
- - I think the best idea is to participate in organized course. Of great importance is also a support of experienced qualified European Patent Att.
- - time ! too little time
- Maybe I need practice in doing it faster - less complex thinking
- Also: Chemical things as Polyethylene etc etc. disturbs me a lot in Paper C
- Paper C should be divided into Engineering and Chemistry as well !
- - No time at all, probably taking a sabbatical
- - Lack of learning time - there was no means to overcome this due to high work load, private house constructions, children etc.
- - Being capable to read all the documents provided in time
- - No to have been prepared for unclear questions in the pre-exam paper where a yes-answer and a no-answer seemed equally plausible.
- - Most difficult (C and D), also in view of the preparation compared to the EQE, was answering the questions in a "short" period of time. Although it was possible to understand the questions and knowing the answers the challenge was to "optimize" the way of writing short sentences with all information necessary to get the points. Sometimes I wrote too much information and lost the time to answer other parts although I knew the answers for the other parts.
- - I have not had enough time to prepare PCT related questions in detail. On the other hand, the field is so broad (and questions quite detailed) so that I relied on the PCT applicants guide during the exam.
- - I started to study in last 3 days.
- - Not enough time in parallel to my normal job, which often requires me to work long hours.
- I see no real chance to overcome this general problem, as my company does not give me a chance to reduce workload in the months prior to the exam.
- - Work and family.
- - It's difficult to prepare exams on a general basis.
- Hopefully, Mock exams and compendium are available, but it's not so much material for training.
- - Assessment of inventive step - since 'real life' experience often deviates 'slightly' (sometimes significantly) from the Guideline approach. Therefore, it was helpful to me 'training' the assessment of inventive step on cases which were only marginally related to the technical field I usually work at.
- - do many old papers to improve time management
- - I have got three young kids and E/February (flu season) is the worst timing you can imagine !!!
- Last year I had to sit examination with 39 degree fever.
- With months of preparation at high burden to my family, pulling out is simply no option.
- Since the EQE does not have any mercy in this respect there is no work-around. I only hope I passed D this time.
- - understanding how to tackle A-Paper and C-Paper. They are hardly connected to reality and it is difficult to understand what the examiners want to read-

- - time pressure
- increase rapidity by training at home with time limit
- - to slow
- - PCT. Read the PCT.
- - time management due to stress management.
- - some questions were not clear, i.e. ambiguous
- - Time management in Paper C : the available time was too short for both thoroughly analyzing the documents (i.e. identifying the attacks) and properly writing the said attacks.
- On the D-day, there is no objective means for identifying the "mark potential" related to each object/attack of paper C.
- Therefore, it is sometimes not possible, if necessary (in view of the limited time), to objectively decide whether one attack is sufficient, and/or which attack from among a plurality of possible attacks is the most promising one to earn points.
- - Practice, practice, practice for Paper D, Part II. In particular the development of strategies
- - Perhaps I needed a studying schedule to get an early understanding of the amount of questions and past exams to go through.
- - insufficient time for preparation (work load, other examinations, family with baby)
- - My performance was worse than I expected because I think I wasn't completely confident of my preparation. Probably, I think, I've overestimated my preparation and my ability to act under stress
- - - Time management and handling unexpected issues was my strength, but also my weakness.
- - Lack of time due to children, family and full time job...
- - Preparation time. Way to overcome it: Take long holidays, just stop working for three months...
- - I didn't study enough PCT.
- - Not enough experience. Find a new job where I will get better experience.
- - Time management; how to manage personal life (family and kids), work, and preparation. I can not see any way around this.
- - My greatest limitations in the exam are not EQE specific, further than the difficulty of understanding mechanics and chemistry inventions (I am a telecom engineer) and the time limitation (which is expected for EQE, but which was particularly high for paper B). No committee, having a group of examiners not belonging to the mechanics field can achieve full marks in the B exam of this year within the time given. You can keep expecting a very detailed Inventive step attack, but it is not that we can not go to the annexes to find references for the limitations (and get the use of information marks), it is that we do not have time for it (probably because we need more time than a mechanic engineer to understand the inventions). I can also agree that it is difficult to make a shorter B exam in length of documents than this year. We simply need 30 minutes more to be complete.
- Somehow this is common to all the EQE papers I have done under time constraints: It seems that because D and C are common for mechanics and chemistry, the committee tries to "compensate" by introducing terms/knowledge from both fields. I agree that there is usually enough information for a person in telecom to complete the exam. HOWEVER, the time that a person out of those fields need to understand the paper is longer because we face the difficulties of those fields where our knowledge is limited (example, some C paper in the last 4 years: is nylon a polyamide? oh yes it is well known according to Annex 5. For a chemist in 5 seconds, ah ok I can raise an objection, I just need to find where this information can be found in another annex. For a telecom engineer, oh no, I can not raise an objection with this document, let's try another one, oh I can not do it, let's go the next claim, oh wait here in Annex 5 is a proof of c.g.k., total 25 minutes lost).
- The biggest catches of this year for me, and without the knowledge of what is the solution (i.e. what was expected as a solution) are: In paper DII (legal part of D): Did the committee want us to see that compound A was insufficiently disclosed in the competitors patent or not? They could just have added either: "Compound A works well with stabiliser X alone. However, with the addition of Y it is much more stable" or "Compound A is very unstable

and with X alone no cream can be produced". The committee left the topic open, as they did in 2009 with Bigfarma, where if you read the report, it is not a solution, but a bunch of hypothesis. My message is clear: Paper D should not be about patentability, for that you have A and B. Make it as difficult as you wish from the legal point of view, but make it clear what you want us to assess. Once that is said. This years D(II) paper was specially clear with respect to all other details (much clearer than the 2009 Bigfarma was).

- . My greatest limitation comes from lack of sleep and tiredness due to my little baby at home that was with the teeth that week. This made me slower than usual.
- EQE should be about demonstrating capacity/knowledge. Heavily reducing the time as in new format B does not help to demonstrate it.
- The only paper remotely near to my knowledge that I did was the smoke detector in paper B (2010?). I was able to do this paper in almost half of the time available at the time for it. Understanding the paper is basic.
- So there is little I could have done more than what I did. I could have a degree in chemistry and in mechanics. That would have helped.
- - to focus from the beginning to study with a special material, because in the exam you don't have time to look for the answers in several books.
- - - claim analysis
- - practice, practice, practice
- - Not enough time to prepare the D paper.
- - Too little time and inadequate feedback
- - Should have ordered better hotel, to get some better sleep between the exams
- - I underestimated the formal requirements of how an answer should be presented. Knowledge is not enough to get the points. The epi-tutorials were very good in understanding this.
- - Time was the greatest enemy for D. I prepared for EQE 2015 and decided in December to go for a pass in 2014 and not sit it as part of my preparation. That time was a bit too short as I felt I should have practiced some more.
- - I started my intensive study of "legal part" very late. I should have started much earlier.
- - there was no enough time for study because of long working hours
- - Lack of time. If I had had more time, I would have practiced the PCT system more.
- - Der Mangel an Zeit.
- - I was very well prepared and had excellent legal knowledge. Paper B this year was however "tricky" and in my opinion unfair. If, from the outset, one knows that one should perhaps consider arguing against the opinion of the examining division, that would be fine, or that one should base one's opinion on the documents D1 and D2 and the original application as filed and ignore the client's wishes and the examiners opinion, that would be fine, but I wasted a lot of time believing the examiner's opinion and considering that a dependent claim was not novel. This was not a fair test of my knowledge but rather I felt tricked. In previous papers, one had to believe the examiner's opinion.
- - No in-house training, neither preparation with other students
- - Personally, at the moment the family and work take too much of my time. It was hard to find sufficient time for studying for the EQE.
- A more structured study plan, perhaps combined with a dedicated small study group, could have been helpful to better memorize and understand the essence of the procedures in EPO and PCT, and how they are applied in practice. The hardest part in the pre-exam was the claim analysis.
- - I should have practiced more in the situation resembling the real exam situation. Now I just quickly considered what would be the best solution in the exam and then checked the correct answer from the Examiner's report. I did not practice writing the whole answer.
- - No particular weakness, was well prepared for C and D. It is difficult to prepare for A and B other than doing old exams.
- - I should have started when I have been younger as managing job issues, family issues with kids and exam preparation at the same time is challenging.
- Focusing much more on own discipline is a learning for my future examinations. At least

doing daily D1 questions are similar even on those days where not much time for intensive preparation has been left. It's the continuous thinking on the EQE topics which gives the needed depth and understanding.

- - The greatest weakness was the change in the rules of the Pre-examination. When we have paid the examination fee and the CEIPI course, the rules changed and the mark to pass the exam changed from 50 to 70. It was an unfair change since, as we usually say in Spain, it is not fair to change the rules once the play has started.
- The candidates for this Pre-examination 2014 had bad luck since said unfair decision came up when our courses for preparation were already paid and we could not turn back.
- I really hope the EPO reconsider said decision and start applying it in 2015 when all the candidates will be prepared for it.
- - How to obtain marks.
- CEIPI course does not give any indication on how to obtain full marks for the D-paper.
- Especially for the D-II part I did not have a feeling, when knowing the answer, how to obtain marks.
- Also the compendium does give an indication on the where marks are given, but not a detailed indication where you would have gained or lost marks.
- Started too early and forgot many things in the end so that I had to repeat them
- - Time missing.
- No way to overcome it if not doing only it one year long, I guess, for the 4 papers.
- - Perhaps: not having read the examiner's reports of the compendium: how the exams are marked.
- - Appeal proceedings. Some practical experience would have been helpful.
- - time - its so much time pressure - you need to do everything in "automatic mode" - maybe is paper A least challenging time wise, but especially in B and C time is running so quickly that it is hard to write down everything
- Due to this pressure it is "easy" to make mistakes :(
- Anxiety as well, as you prepared so much, you really want to perform well - so sleeping is also an issue the days before the exam
- - the time between my past examinations and this year's EQE was too long, It was difficult to get in the studies
- - my greatest weakness was the was the claim analysis part since as a chemist, I am not used to deal with mechanics. This year was ok since the claim analysis with the shampoo bottle was hybrid.
- - Answering to DI questions as they are not very precise. More practising the DI questions from the compendium.
- - The time management.
- - Start reading G- and T-cases earlier.
- - Il est difficile de concilier aussi bien la vie extra-professionnelle (famille) et le temps pour étudier de manière complète pour être à même de passer correctement l'examen. De plus avec l'âge, la rapidité de réaction est fortement diminuée pour passer dans le temps voulu chaque examen.
- - My weakness was the speed of writing down the answers. I've overcome it by train myself to write down the answers with more rapidity.
- - None, A-paper in electricity mechanics depends greatly on how the definition of some features will be interpreted and as such, you can only prepare by doing previous exams.
- - Thorough work. Got better under examination conditions.
- - speedy thinking - difficult to train
- - reading and writing in a language other than mother language in a limited time, lack of qualified european patent attorney in the company.
- - I could not work out why some of highly contestable answers on the past papers and mocks had been decided in one particular direction, when they could have gone another. There was little discussion provided, which makes it very hard to learn how to answer true or false to a highly arguable point. Also many of the questions are unclear.

- All of these could have been overcome by providing past answers with greater explanation.
- - Understanding the questions
- Just forget about normal work and try not to think too complicated
- calculate all time limits
- not enough time for studying beside work and family life
- - Practising with new style papers D and C - but with only one paper available it was very difficult to get timings right.
- - Time management (try to use both belt and braces in the answers)
- Better understanding of which elements that actually give points.
- - Time pressure was a big issue. I would make more mock exams
- - I would have started revising slightly sooner so as to prepare at a more relaxed pace!
- - I only feel I could have performed better if I had the chance to train very challenging practical IP-cases with the new aspects which was covered in one presented in paper D 2014 part II.
- I do not believe that reading the Guidelines from start to end or anything else could have improved my performance. If more time had been given to the exams some of my answers would have been better.
- - I could have started to study the methodology of the exam earlier, and I could have practiced old exams a little bit earlier. I started to practice old exams 3,5 weeks before the exam.
- - Time management and speed of analysis of questions/papers due to dyslexic tendencies. I possibly could have benefited of even more practise.
- - Greatest weakness - lack of time for past papers.
- How could this be overcome - start trying past papers earlier
- - Time managing during examination.
- - Getting enough time slots for the preparation and practicing exams from the compendium next to the job and the family.
- - Lack of time - incompatible with work and family life
- - Two weaknesses:
- For DI and DII, the writing is important and I should have taken a better look on the best copies and examiner's reports.
- When training, you don't realize that you will ask yourself so many questions during the exam : I should have taken this into account and take more time to question myself on each training exam.
- - I think that my greatest weakness was to find motivation to study for the EQE after a complete day (or week)) of work at the office.
- I don't really think that it is a solution to overcome it, because you can't stop working in order to focus only on the EQE.
- - I do not think that the problem in my case was the preparation but the main difficult was the understanding of the language of the document. In detail , I lost a lot of time in translating several words of the different documents since I am not mother tongue. If you lose so much time in understand the documents, of course you are not available to perform at the best the paper. Even though apparently the documents are simple from a linguistic aspect since they deals with "everyday life things (a razor in the particular case of the paper C" on the contrary they are more difficult for a non mother tongue that has never and will probably never use these particular everyday life words. Particularly for paper C understanding well the content of a document is, at least in my view the first step for passing the examination.
- - Time! I did several past papers and I seldom had time problems. At the exams I ran out of time.
- - language
- - time management -> spend more time for learning, start earlier ;-)
- - I did not study under time pressure and did not sit enough past papers with time limit
- - I lost a lot of time in reading explanations
- - I did not work enough with the tools I used in the exam ,i.e.post -its for the analysis matrix

in D2

- - Bezogen auf A-Teil: Bei letzten Mal habe ich mich für den A-Teil nicht ausreichend vorbereitet, so dass ich das "Strickmuster" noch nicht erkannt hatte.
- - Time management. I did DII first and spent a long time on preparing a time line (there seemed to be far more dates than on previous years) this left me short of time for completing the paper and caused me to miss many "easy marks". Overcome by doing more past papers to time, but this is a little difficult because of the new format for paper D as of 2013. If I need to resist I think I will do DI first
- - More focussed study of claim analysis
- - There is and never has been enough time to answer the questions.
- - Paper B
- - I didn't get along with the time. Therefore I answered the last two legal questions by chance
- - my greatest weakness was the time for preparation and to reconcile EQE preparation and work. It could be overcome by a very detailed schedule.
- another weakness is that, even if examiner report are very precious for determining the expected solution, they are not very detailed, and it could be very useful to have a more precise correction which indicate where marks are allocated.
- - - time management!!
- - start earlier!
- - did not have enough time for preparing the D-part. I could not have overcome it. If I would have had more time for training, I would have spent it on training ...
- - More time for repetition, i.e. schedule to "finish" study, including doing most previous exams under exam conditions, 3-4 weeks in advance and use the remaining weeks for repetition.
- - Paper C: It is not sufficient when doing C papers from the Compendium, to check, if you would have found the right attacks. I should have put more focus on the detailed argumentation for the choice of closest prior art for each inventive step attack.
- - The per-exam feels like a Language exam.
- - I was missing an annotated PCT, fortunately, there were very few questions concerning PCT in the pre-exam this year. I was not familiar enough with calculation of time limits, in the stress situation at the exam it is much more difficult than at home.
- - My greatest weakness was to be short of time when training on papers of previous years, and I overcame it by training again and again.
- - Found the time to practice in real condition
- - I should have been younger when starting the preparation.
- - Lack of time, for personal reasons. Not really possible to overcome in practice. Also I could have started real exam preparations earlier instead of spending a lot of time studying the basic topics.
- - For those candidates whose mother tongue is not German, English or French there is not enough time both for analysing the Annexes and writing down the Opposition. It seems that passing would require capability to considerably accelerate your writing. In practice that is impossible.
- - I was sitting the EQE-pre exam and I did not face any notable weaknesses - however, the claim analysis part was perhaps the most difficult, but I overcame it by solving earlier exam papers and using the material from the Delta Patents course.
- - Time for preparation - the clash with UK exams made longer preparation impractical. There was little I could have done about this as the national exams are also important - bringing forward the EQE to February did not help in this respect as it now means that both my summer and Christmas period are eaten away by exam preparation.
- - Since I my allowance to sit the Pre-Exam came very late, and due to some delays in being able to access the epi-course material I really did not have the time to prepare as I would have liked. I was able to work through the epi material for the pre-Examination by dedicating sufficient time though.
- - The greatest problem for me (the first time I sit paper D) was how to start the preparation of paper D (a lot of information, too much information to start).

- The second weakness is the stress during the test (and I haven't found the solution yet).
- - I perhaps started looking into the D paper too late.
- - I should have participated in a specialised course for Paper D. I got to know too late that Delta Patents had one such course in Copenhagen.
- - I was a bit short of time to prepare myself appropriately, i did not train so much on past questions.
- Especially for the claim analysis part, i should have trained much more. I concentrated most of my study time on the legal part.
- Anyway the time spent in studying was of great value as it allows me to rehearse all the provisions of the EPC.
- - Due to my private life and work, I didn't have enough time to finish the preparation I planned.
- - Insufficient practice
- - To be able to dedicate the amount of time needed.
- - To be able to schedule time in order to do an exam under similar conditions (i.e. 5 hours without being disturbed or distracted from that task)
- - There is a particular technique for sitting the exam. While I believe I possess the necessary knowledge, each paper has its own dynamics and therefore also its own technique. In particular, for personal reasons, I could not practice enough the technique for paper B.
- - I had limited time for the preparation as I have my own law firm. It is a balancing act between preparation for the EQE and handling the deadlines of the files.
- - time limits
- - More time should have been invested.
- - detailed answers...
- I guess, i could have follow the red line, but there was not enough time to get more into detail
- - I am not sure to have overcome it... I did not choose the appropriate closest prior art for Inventiveness attacks
- - I had really too few hours for my preparation as working more than 8 hours all the week! I'd like to have more precise indication on how to do claim analysis, not only exercises, but also books, this, specially for what is not my field, so chemistry! sorry about that.
- - Not enough exercise in Problem-Solution
- - For pre-examination there were only 2 exams to test myself.
- I could have tried papers D to train myself.
- - That I did not have the time, I wanted to use for it. --> Work, little child etc.
- - Balancing revision with work and social life
- - Lack of ability to allocate enough private time for studying. Basically, setting family obligations on hold for a long period.
- - could have prepared my documents better (more post its, text marking, ...)
- should have brought post its to the EQE for indicating pages of the EQE text to save time when doing the claim analysis questions
- - I felt nervous, I felt like the time passed so quickly. The exam B was particular since I had to change the suggested claims provided by the client, in real life usually it is possible to talk with the customer, so I feel that the exam does not help so much in real condition (at least in paper B)
- - being too slow, more practice
- - Legal questions were my weakness, to overcome this situation I have studied hard.
- - my weakness was to understand the English of the EPC. I think I am now able to understand and comment about it.
- - Either I did not find all novelty-destroying features in the cited documents or I mistook features in the cited references as novelty-destroying for the features in the attacked patent which were not novelty destroying. It was very helpful to write a lot of papers of the compendium and to compare the result with the examiner's report.
- - time

- - Tricky to prepare for true/ false answers to vague pre-EQE questions - almost impossible to prepare for these; just need to do well at everything else.
- - New Paper B : I wasn't sure if I had to add new claims categories than the one proposed by the client.
- - - organizing sheets of paper (questions and written pages) together with Books, writing/cutting/glue aids on a rather small desk
- - there truly exists a great ocean of what is to be learned, and you only can decide to choose of what you think could be interesting for a next examination, and remember the deal covers, at minimum, all essential divisions of, WTO, WIPO, Paris Convention, Patent Cooperation Treaty, Authorities relevant for PCT performing, PCT Fee Tables, PCT Fee Reduction, World Bank, United Nations, and finally, European Patent Convention, London Agreement Practice, Rules relating to EPC Fees, EPC Official Journal, Treaty between EPO and IB, Euro-PCT Receiving Office, Euro-PCT Fees, Euro-PCT Priority, Euro-PCT International Application Number, Euro-PCT International Filing Date, Euro-PCT Requirements, Euro-PCT Withdrawal, Euro-PCT International Search, Euro-PCT Translation, Euro-PCT Amendment of Claims before IB, Euro-PCT Communication to Designated Offices, International Publication, International Copies, International Access To Files, International Confidential Nature, Specific International Time Limits, Euro-PCT Chapter II, Euro-PCT International Designated Office, Contracting States with Regional Patents (EPC, ARIPO, EAPO, OAPI), Euro-PCT Limits of Time Intervals (RO, ISA, IPEA, Designated Office, Regional Phase), well of course, in addition all the Details of EPC itself, which is certainly the most of all part to be considered ...
- - I didn't take most of the past papers under the time pressure. It's not the same if there are brakes taken and you can think about the examination during the break. Next time I would strictly watch the time limit for the examination.
- - Weakness: Understanding in what way the exam authors decide interpret unclear technical terms in such way that they think themselves that the term is not unclear and suitable for a multiple choice question, in which points are only awarded if the participant understands understands an unclear term, which in a real life EPA or court decision might be interpreted in both directions by an examiner or a court, as the exam authors understood it.
- Solution: Study more material from EPA training courses and exam authors to understand how they delude themselves into thinking technical terms and therefore answer are unambiguous.
- Weakness: Not having full examination guidelines and president decisions due to printer failure 2 days before exam.
- Solution: Don't trust a single printer.
- - I would have learned to use EPC reference much earlier if I had known that it contains almost all the answers. If I had known that there was only couple of PCT questions, I would have concentrated more on EPC.
- - In preparing for the EQE pre-exam, my greatest weakness was understanding deeply the inventions related to mechanics, including what was meant by certain terminology or how some figures are interpreted (for example what a dotted line in a figure means), since my field has nothing to do with mechanics.
- The only way to overcome it is to work out more examples in mechanics which would be perfectly useless in real life for me but worth it for "studying the exam".
- - Lack of study time due to work and everyday life. Overcoming this would have been difficult, as it would have required complete isolation from job and family.
- - Not enough time
- - Misunderstood questions
- Claim Analysis, closest prior art
- - balancing work and eqe studies
- - Speedy writing
- - I should have studied the Guidelines more intensive.
- - At first I studied to know epc by hart, in the last part of the study period I tried to solve exams, and I realized that the most important task is to know where to look for the questions

- - My preparation was sufficient. The exams however were far more complicated than I had expected given that B, C and D have been reduced in total time for sitting each exam. In some cases it did not seem possible to address every issue/point in the paper within the time allowed.
- - Main Problem is the time.
- I still do not understand how to fulfill part D1 in 2 hours. 3 hours is in my opinion realistic for D2.
- - Time management, before the exam and specially during the exam.
- - Discipline to sit and study, better hand writing
- - Time to prepare is always the greatest weakness coupled with my overwhelming urge to procrastinate. Besides giving up my children and wife and a personality change I can't see those weaknesses being overcome.
- - Speed, speed and speed. Answering fast.
- Solved it by a lot of practice
- - slowness in writing the answers
- - Onforeseen working duties. Starting earlier.
- - Arrogance regarding drafting claims (Part A)
- - I was resitting all the papers. Once again I found the exams very difficult to complete in the time allowed. The time pressure makes it harder for me (personally) to focus or to organise my thoughts.
- - My writing skill is too bad. I am not able to write properly for more than 10 minutes. Afterwards it will get nearly useless.
- - have time because our daily job when managing an entire portfolio of a company took too much time
- - It is really necessary to not only think about the most obvious answer but to reconsider alternative answers, because the formulation of some of the questions were not that clearly
- - starting only about three months before -> one year in Addition to groups and courses is necessary, if doing it beside the regular work and family time and language and sleepless nights
- material not prepared by myself, Kley material great but difficult to find relevant Information in time
- - Time dedicated to preparation after work
- - I did not start my preparations early enough, I was not able to prioritize the exam preparations with respect to work for my clients.
- - Maybe to fully focus on the exercises and mock-exams. PCT was of course less studied as it is not the main part of the exam. I do not really know what I could have done beyond what I did.
- - Time efficiency.
- - Preparation of legal part and "knowledge" was good, however had some difficulties to decide on appropriate inventive step approach given time constraints, amount of paper and exhaustion on third day. In consequence, also had some problems to transfer basic legal knowledge from D to C paper (priority issue).
- Should have done more training regarding problem solution approach instead of trusting that C-paper would be as easy as the last two years.
- - A: I got the effects, but didn't write them in a way to get points - overcome: ???
- C: not enough time - overcome: ???
- - time pressure
- considering that there was 6 annexes and 6 claims to attack (and 8 attacks to be considered) the C exam was not prepared to be assessed in 5 hours, it should have been 6 hours or more short
- - At the beginning it was difficult to know how to write the argumentation of the attacks, but after having read a few candidates answers taken from the Compendium it was more straightforward.
- - I should have asked other candidates about interpretation of some examiners reports of B - Ch and - in particular - A - Ch.

- The examiners reports of C and D were fine. I had serious problems with some of the examiners reports of A - Ch, in particular with regard to determination of "a" closest prior art and of the assessments of unity of the invention.
- One example:
- Sometimes, an independent claim concerning a composition comprising a specific product needs to be formulated distinctly broader (with regard to the product) than the claim referring to the product itself. Of course, I saw that the composition claim was still new and inventive, but I did not know if the examination committee would come to the conclusion that the application still complies with the unity requirement.
- I could not see a clear strategie when assessing unity and the broadest protection scope. That was frustrating. Interestingly, my CEIPI tutor could not solve my respective problems, but was unsure as well.
- It would be VERY helpful, if the examination reports bring clarity to these issues.
- - I didn't have enough practice in the field of European patent law and didn't attend EPO, CEIPI or other courses in advance.
- - I would have liked more access to proper practice questions. The mock exams are not very decent, the real preEQE's are, but there were only two, and the delta patent books with questions have very variable quality
- - Time. It may be hard to find enough time for intensive studying after full day of work. Weekends for sure, both then again the intensivity may suffer. Proper study leave could be the answer.
- - l'organisation pour gagner du temps lors de l'examen
- - Nervousness; panicked with 1 question since it was unusual: believe that more answering of actual questions, not just reading the law, guidelines etc. is definitely helpful
- - To stressed, should have done some of the previous exam papers fully, not just using keywords.
- - Time management is very important on the day - I would have liked to attempt more papers in exam conditions, sticking to time, in the last few weeks of preparation.
- - I did not concentrate enough on my technique.
- - To get lost in details and loosing the global picture. Takes time to study and remember.
- - My greatest weakness when assessing my preparation for A was the time (not enough time to finalyze paper A in 3h30). I didn't have the chance to discuss in detail about the way I perform the exam to identify where and how to overcome this question of time.
- - Time management and the stress of exam conditions. To overcome it I practised exam questions under time pressure during the last month before the exam.
- - Time: Demonstrate all your knowledge in the time given for anwering.
- - Time for preparation regarding C.
- - With reference to pre-exam, for legal part Delta patents books P & L are enough. For claims analysis there is not enough material.
- - health! I was ill during examination. So I was not able to answer as fas as I trained before.
- Der Monat Februar ist der Monat der häufigsten Erkrankungen. Weiter ist man vom Winter geschwächt. Wenig Sonnenlicht schwächt das Immumsystem.
- Es wäre von Vorteil die Prüfung weiter in den Frühling z.B. April zu verschieben.
- - I tried to sit all papers. But the preparation for all four parts is very difficult. A,B,C and D-II need a lot of training and exercises. Each exam has its own style and problems. So you cannot use things you have learned from one exam to another. D-I needs a lot of active knowledge and learning by heart.
- Especially a candidate from industry has only few time for his preparation. They have to work their 45+ hours and realistically seen, they can only study in the weekend.
- - I could not evaluate my actual preparation, I could do more exercises
- - Finding time to do past papers and fitting this around work. I should have prioritised this more and perhaps negotiated time to do this at work.
- - Starting more early with doing prior C-papers under exam conditions.
- - The Claim analysis part was the trickiest part since it is mainly mechanical and I am a

chemist. Previous exams and mock-exams were a precious aid.

- - Time management during the Exam is an issue, especially for paper C
- - My physical challenges with the writing hand being inflamed, I cannot overcome it, since doing the post-papers is crucial. I rested 3 days before the exam, but that was all I could do.
- - Time managing.
- - The amount of time I had. It is difficult to concentrate on UK exams and then prepare for the EQE's because the time period for sitting the EQE's is only a few months after the UK exams. However this situation has been improved since the UK Patent Exam Board have moved the UK exams to an earlier time in the year. It would be beneficial if there was an even 6 month split between sitting the UK exams and EQE's.
- - Not enough case studies.
- - Could have done more past exam papers under exam conditions.
- - Lack of quality time.
- - during exam: time-management was a big problem which is annoying since the exam would be pretty well feasible otherwise. In addition, I wasn't sure how much "side info" the examiners would expect (in part D1 in particular) which costs points if not present. Memorizing articles and rules by heart would help for next year (if resitting required)
- - starting very late (after Christmas)
- starting earlier!
- - lack of time to study; is there a good solution to that?
- - There were only a few previous papers for the pre-examination which limited the possibilities to answer more questions and do more claim analysis exercises.
- - I did not have enough time for reading the Guidelines, PCT and case law and for practising on D1 questions. If I now pass at least some of the papers, next time I can focus more on paper D.
- - Lack of preparation time
- - Rather than just doing past papers, I should have practised and honed certain skills in between past papers, e.g. practising making inventive step arguments using the problem-and-solution approach.
- - Time management / No possibility to overcome it
- - Nothing could be done to prepare better for paper A (chem) and paper C 2014 - I believe Paper A was so different from earlier papers that no additional amount of preparation would help. Paper C 2014 was much harder than previous years' papers and INSANE for a 5 hour paper
- - It was difficult to prepare B and D papers with only one past paper at the right format.
- - The six month for the EQE Pre-Examination Course (EPO) is too short. Difficult to go through all the articles and questions in this time and to make notes in the personal documentation (EPC, GL, Case-Law, ...) -> Course should start earlier
- - not sufficient time to thoroughly prepare the exam
- - Lack of time due to work pressures.
- - No clear indication from the Examination Committees when it is necessary to establish an alternative attack after Art. 76(1) EPC and Art 100 c EPC attack!
- - Only relevant for Paper A:
- Clearness of the claims. The expectations changed in the last years. What was clear in the years 2005-2011, is no longer clear for the examiners in 2012-2013. The examiner report does not explain why things come important which haven't been important the years before.
- - I should have worked more during the 3 to 4 months before the exam. Working too much in advance does not help a lot, I forgot what I had learned too long ago.
- What is really required to pass the exam, is to have enough time to prepare. Preparation time is really the discriminating criterion.
- - Too much time pressure on the examination which even when doing the exams under exam conditions at home is never the same.
- - Claim Analysis Cases are my biggest weakness. I would practice more. I would need more examples for such questions from the EPO.

- - Great weakness: to understand my error
- I overcame it by spending more time on the examiner report
- - Even better time management - correct valuable response as a brief answer
- - None. I think my preparation was good.
- - Time was my greatest weakness. I believe that time management for Paper B And Paper D is really a challenge. And as my mother tongue is not one of the official languages of the EPO struggling with time in Paper D and Paper B was two times compelling.
- Furthermore after sitting Paper A, sitting Paper B in the same day was also compelling physically.
- - interpret unclear questions in exams: to what degree can assumptions be made?
- - sometimes the correct EQE answers are from the objective point of view legally wrong, one has to guess what the exam expects to see from the candidates
- - I should have more tuned down my knowledge to the level of the exam
- - Not to have been able to spend enough time for preparation; not to have had enough time during the examination. Spend more time for preparation; allow more time for examination papers.
- - Paper A and B - more training of previous papers might have been helpful. But with the preparation for all 4 papers time is scarce so my focus was more on the preparation of C and D.
- - My greatest weakness was starting too late. Overcoming this is obvious: starting earlier, with some more discipline.
- - The time management as I had no time for real-time trials on past exams before...
- - I will only be able to answer this question once I find out what my performance was and for which paper(s) my preparations have been sufficient. Ask me in August.
- - Workload on the job.
- - Not enough time to study for the D-exam. Not easy to overcome when you have a family.
- - devoting enough time for the preparation
- - Time management. I found the papers very long (in particular papers DI and C). I might have overcome this by working on more past papers in the exam conditions.
- - You need to spend a lot of time sufficient to solve many tasks. In my case it turned out that I ran out of time for this preparation. Just bad I predicted this period.
- - Psychological preparation for the stress of the examination.
- - I found paper A and B hard. I was approaching them in the same mindset as P3 and P4 (corresponding UK papers), which seems to be incorrect.
- I tried many past papers in the hope that I could get into the EQE mindset. It worked for some papers, and not for others. I don't know how I could overcome this problem.
- - motivation to study at home. In fact I stayed at the office after work hours for studying.
- - Time is very limiting
- - it is difficult for me to analyse in detail of all the material under time pressure. I tried get used to it by using past papers, but I cannot say I overcome it.
- - The number of Mock pre-examination is too low
- - My greatest weakness is lack of time for preparation and very high work load at work.
- Unfortunately, my Office does not have many EP applications, I usually prosecute with national one, therefore I do not have "the filing" of the EP prosecution.
- How I can improve it? –simply I need to learn more and more, attend more seminars and take advantage of the Register to have a closer look to the prosecution.
- - My greatest weakness during the exam was that I was sick in a bad cold.
- In addition, I would have needed to practice my handwriting skill more to be able to write faster, because there was no time to write everything down.
- - Keeping an overview on the mass of information, preparing a detailed table in A3 format
- - I was in lack of stable legal knowledge and I was also rather weak on the claim analysis part of the pre-examination.
- The CSP, the CEIPI training in Strasbourg and the online training course helped a lot.
- - Working in Northern Ireland My ability to study with others is limited as the number of

candidates is low. I would in hindsight travel to the UK or Southern Ireland to take part in formal courses or informal study groups.

- - My greatest weakness was that I did not know a lot about the EPC and case law. I could overcome it thanks to the material I had, and by studying almost everyday about it, for almost six months. Repeating exercises provided in both D1 daily newsletter and the Paper D book from deltapatent was very useful.
- - Preparation OK, more stress to be given to inventive step and problem solution approach
- - Admission to the 2014 EQE pre-exam was very late in my case (January 2014) and thus I did have only 1 month to prepare for the exam. The epi course was of great help for this, although this is a 6 month course. All in all I would have preferred to start earlier with preparations, but with a very late admission this is not really possible. Nonetheless I appreciate the efforts by the EQE examination office.
- - The more advice based part of DII. I don't get much client based contact so I have asked to improve this.
- - I should have spent more time on solving DI questions from the Delta-patents book.
- - fast working -> exercises
- paper and sheets order and overview on desk -> special order advice from tutorial
- - Figuring out the "one" answer from multiple possibilities; providing logical/structured answer in relatively short time.
- - Start earlier, practice more regularly.
- - -PCT, due to its unstructured mass of information
- -doing lots of questions from the compendium
- - It is quite difficult to deal with both the increasing workload at my company together with spare time for studying.
- - My greatest problem while sitting the exam was understanding what the Examiners intended us to do.
- In retrospect, I would have thought less about what the purpose of the question was or whether there was a trap or not, and answered much more straightforwardly. This was especially true for the Claim Analysis part, which is much more about looking for what we are supposed to answer rather than thinking about what we would like to answer.
- - Preparation: I could have used more study time, in particular for exercising on past papers.
- Performance: I think it performed well within expectations but made one major error due to not taking the time to sit back and think it over.
- - The time pressure. Maybe mental training how to react in this stressful situation to remain calm and effective during the exam.
- - My greatest weakness was in term of methodology for the claim analysis. I was too slow. More practice is needed.
- - stay calm and be concentrated
- - I did focus too much on everything. But in retrospect I should have focused more on the core topics.
- - taking too much time, to focus on the question to keep my answer short.
- - need for online training
- - I probably over-prepared for the pre-exam
- - Lack of experience in drafting claims for mechanical inventions.
- - For claim analysis I did not always understand what is expected from candidates in the mock and previous exams. Sometimes one should not "think" too much (feature there or not? one should not interpret things too broadly), sometimes one actually should think a bit more (interpreting not literally). I could not always find the right balance. But the 2014 exam did not have these problems. It was a clearer exercise than previous years for the claim analysis part.
- - The amount of time given to answer for papers C and D was too short.
- Especially paper C, which was quite difficult compared to previous years, would have required more time.
- The fact that one has to rely on handwriting, which nowadays is not used at all in the real

working life, slows the

- speed of writing and puts extra pressure in documenting the answers.
- Generally, the questions in all the papers are not difficult but the examination situation is build such, that
- it is really difficult to reach even your normal level in writing the answers.
- The first question in paper D was also something, which one would not expect in an EQE paper.
- Due to the fact that the situation is not clear in view of relevant case law, these type of questions
- are not to be answered in the given 21 minutes. The available case law relates to the situation
- applicable during the 1973 EPC and there are no decisions stating that the same interpretation
- applies during the EPC 2000.
- - more mock exams
- - The greatest weakness was the changing of rules once we have already been enroled and we have already paid the preparation courses. It is not fair to change the passing mark after we have already been enroled to the exam and we have already paid the examintaion fee. We accepted and we paid the fee for a passing mark of 50. This decision of changing the passing mark should start on the exam of 2015. Otherwise, we will have a great weakness comparing to the other years' candidates because of an un-fair decision.
- - how to prepare for part D
- - Time and practice
- - time
- leran to write much faster the the sound barrier
- - to become much more quicker when answering the questions,
- - It takes a lot of time and money, which is why the exmanen will devide society. Without help there is no chance to pass the time. Only rich people will have acces to the amount of time and training needed. Moreover I do not understand why the examen is that difficult, looks like established attorneys try to keep competitiniors low. Finally I dont understand why the exmanen can only be passes once a year, there are people out there how need it to earn money. Who ever take the decision to take it should be supportet by authorities, why can it not be written every 3 months. There should be some some hundred qustions that come close to the examen and are publicated with solution from the state, so that everyone can access them without high charges.
- - Not having enough time available to prepare the EQE, I need to planify better for the next year.
- - Claim interpretation.
- Difficult to overcome this as there are not a lot of exercises available on this topic.
- - Th change to paper B and a lack of information around what difference the time reduction would make. Go on a course I guess.
- - Greatest weakness : Understanding the methodology and the marking for Paper A. Overcome with personal training with the Compendium and the Examiner's reports.
- - We had a lot of work between october and january, so I could not save enough time to prepare for the EQE.
- - Should have begun preparation earlier.
- - Not having taken enough time for preparation due to various reasons
- - Lack of interest.
- - Time constraints.
- Do compendium exams in real time.
- - the greatest weakness was to find the time to concentrate and to study, while working and having a family
- next time I hope to have more time to dedicate to the study.
- moreover, there are few mock or pre-exam to use to make excercise

- - Always difficult to know which updated material to bring, and to find the latest case law. Going through the OJ is a hassle.
- - I should have spent more time in studying the EPC, started earlier, etc. The amount of study hours that are needed for paper D are hard to conciliate with work and family life with little children.
- - not enough time to focus on learning because of work and personal life. In retrospect I should have started studying intensively earlier and taken days off work to focus on studying before the exam.
- - Handwriting is not an easy task if you are used to work on PCs. Combination of that with the timing is sometimes a problem.
- - Not enough time - especially with a baby. Would have been nice to have been allowed to study while at work
- - The greatest weakness for the 2014' EQE is that the compendium are not adapted because it is not the same timing anymore (only 2013 compendium are adapted). This is a problem because I think that the methods for C (and B) learned with the CEIPI are not adapted anymore. This was less a problem for DII. For DI it is not a problem.
- If I had to pass C (and B) anymore I would try a more adapted method
- - To still not be able to fully understand and really predict the correction criteria for paper A ph.
- - working under time pressure is my main difficulty, to be overcome by training in examination operating conditions
- - Time management
- - Underestimating the time it takes to go through all the questions for the D-part. This time I also spent more time for C-part and realised all the different aspects that is really hard to get to the point to be so fast for finishing the exam. This time I felt really I was fully prepared for both C and B part. And D part I was but I just lost confidence and was jumping between the questions instead of concentrating finishing the one I had time. My nerves were the problem more for the D-part than my knowledge.
- - A good resource and time management could have made my preparation easier and more effective.
- - I feel I was well prepared. Maybe I could have done more work under time pressure
- - Time management
- - During the Exams, I regretted not having time to think. Therefore, I guess I should have learned more things by heart and not try to reason them or look for them in the books during the Exam.
- - Not wasting time at the beginning of paper C with one of the documents; later I needed that time to properly attack all the claims.
- - Due to the work not too much time to prepare.
- - no time enough to prepare previous papers
- - spend too much time to get an overview about how to perform each paper A-D, less time for reading guidelines, ...
- - Follow the book recommendations
- - Nothing. Studied everything, made last 10 exams in the shortened time (D).
- - It is difficult to keep the motivation after a couple of years. Furthermore, the daily work takes more and more time which leaves less time to study
- - Claim interpretation. It was not clear what was expected from us.
- - Level of detail required in answers for paper D, which is difficult to guess; perhaps doing a course would help. Drafting the independent claim in paper A is also difficult.
- - PCT
- - Time management, especially for Paper C. I should have done significantly more past papers to become faster and think about the best strategy to deal with a situation in which I am running out of time during the examination.
- - Review of case law. More rigorous lecture of G decisions.
- - For the pre-exam, it is difficult to estimate how deep you have to study a topic.
- - You certainly need specific preparation notes and written helpers since the fields of

matters are intrinsically huge and widespread. Merely, by rights of all these articles, rules, instructions, this is not enough. You Need to know all essential case law decisions, which represent one really unlimited extension over meanings and arguments that arised in relation to said written rights statements. Even "latest" case law decisions and comments from Board of Appeal within EPO take more than thousands of pages (<http://www.epo.org/law-practice/case-law-appeals/case-law.html>). And then, whatever you may take as proper argument, you always must clearly define where this is written in said Rights Statements. Hence, I prepared an overview of about hundred pages by myself, where I can find catchwords, catchphrases, slogans, and extracts, together with complete denotation of applied details of said Rights Statements. I took me a couple of months, to gather those pages and hints. This was all, I had no more material to carry towards my EQE place. Many candidates carry almost tons of books they surely cannot read during examination period which are rather short. There I had my "helpful-hints" of less than one hundred pages, and no more. During period of test interval, I could not have read any more.

- - poor language skills and lack of in-depth understanding of EPC
- practicing and patience to fully understand all the implications of each articles and rules
- - Study, not enough. Self-discipline
- - My greatest weakness was that I was not able to answer a question of law (for DI paper) while being concise and structured. My answer was often too long and made me lose a lot of time. Force training, mock exam, and reading correction, I managed to adopt a style of structured and concise answer.
- - perhaps too mild on myself when reviewing my answers on past papers / study questions -
-> better to let someone else check
- - lack of time and sleep and workload.
- Sleep enough is an important precondition to increase attention and efficiency.
- Improve time management.
- - I think that some information lack in the compendia of paper C regarding the way this paper is marked. There is no detailed information (as for instance for paper A) about the amount of marks that you loose if you miss one aspect of argumentation, if you do not choose the good document as closest technical art etc.
- - Lack of support from my employer.
- - I should have revised more for DI. Actually sitting old exams helped a lot, but I should have focussed more on the distribution of marks to be more prepared in the exam making the right decisions on what I can skip if time runs out.
- - To high workload and family responsibility
- - I had a baby 10 months before the exam and only started back in work in November 2013. I could have waited until next year.
- - The time is somehow the most important point while preparing and doing the exams. Maybe I should have trained more on the time and how to focus on maximise it.
- - Legal knowledge
- - weaknesses concerning PCT - probably would not change it, since for Pre-EQE, knowledge was appropriate
- - Lack of experience in drafting claims for mechanical inventions.
- - Quick and focussed analyzing techniques especially with respect to paper A and C.
- - I prioritized the D paper and therefore ended up not practicing enough C papers under exam conditions.
- - time management - do more practice papers under timed conditions
- - I was a bit tired (and burned-out) because of the preparation of the EQF (French Qualification Examination) in November, 2013. It was hard to continue efforts and to switch between EQF and EQE in only 3-4 months.
- - I assumed that part C of the exam would be as long as last year and thus that the time pressure would be less than it ended up being. I should have practiced solving the 6h papers from previous years in 5h.
- I attempted to solve paper D completely which led to avoidable mistakes. I should have answered part of the questions in sufficient detail and skipped the rest.

- - Time management.
- - sdfg
- - As regards Part D: start earlier with dedicated study, better planning to be able to reserve time for studying instead of working
- - Time management.
- - I should have improved my handwriting and should have accelerated the speed of writing
- Namely, the time pressure for paper D was extreme this year. I wrote about 22 pages but it was not enough. Further analysis of certain issues was not possible within this time for me unfortunately. I hope that the examiners are able to read everything. At the end of my solutions in paper D I wanted to apologize for my bad handwriting but I had no time for that.
- Thus, I was really angry after the exam in paper D as the time was too short.
- - The inability to analyze and write with faster-than-light speed a test, for which 7 hours were never enough and for which the amount of time has even been cut by to more hours without reducing the volume of the test.
- - In previous years, the time I had planned to use for study was taken up with work from my job instead. In retrospect, starting study earlier would have helped with this, or handing work to other people.
- - More practice on claim assessment methodology
- - Many exam parts at one time to focus on: 3 out of 4, but I do not regret sitting all 3. I should have started earlier my preparations for the D part. I have not found good material to prepare for D part yet. I would use Delta patents questions for the future. Some events in my life happened independently from me (death in the close family) and this was impossible to overcome in a short time.
- - Paper A: I had difficulties with the biological invention, since my background is chemistry, and I had never encountered a similar patent application in my everyday job nor in the past compendium papers.
- Paper B it was easy, but I was inexperienced and I was trapped in my stupid conviction to claim only what had experimental support.
- The best thing to do for me I think is to continue and ask for tutorials.
- - Time management - I could not overcome it
- - Having had more time
- - More Training to answer Questions in short time
- - the start with learning PCT was too late
- - The time to study. And having more mock-exams in the actual conditions to practice.
- - I was inadequately prepared with regards to timing of the questions during the exam. I should have practised more timed past papers.
- - I took the German Patent Bar Exam three weeks before the EQE and only had little time to prepare on the EQE exclusively.
- - Time. Practise help me to go faster
- - Personal, family and work circumstances severely limited study time. This could not have been overcome.
- - My greatest weakness was to get easily stressed about the short time given for answering the legal questions, despite knowing the answer.
- I should have trained more under the stressful exam conditions.
- - A couple of points regarding the EQE
- i. Speaking to Experienced Qualified Attorneys, they highly recommend dedicated courses to enable a comprehensive preparation for these
- non-intuitive examinations
- ii. On reading the post-examination forum it is clear that the examination technique required to greatly increase one's chances of passing the exams can only be acquired by participation in these pre-examination boot-camps
- The problem is, where does that leave individuals such as myself (who have successfully prosecuted several patent applications) but who do not have access to such boot-camps ?
- - claim analysis questions: problem-solution approach: determining technical problem and

technical effect

- - self assurance
- - I sat all four UK advanced papers in October 2013, which, considering the Christmas break, does not leave much clear water for preparing for the EQEs in February the following year.
- It is not possible to revise for both sets of exams simultaneously - the content is simply too great. Given that this is common practice for UK candidates (unlike in other countries wherein it is not necessary to qualify at the national level), perhaps some thought should be given to increasing the gap between the UK and EQE exams.
- - Examen D : how to manage the time between D1 and D2
- - It was difficult to find the time and energy for studying. I worked full time with nearly no off days from work. Sometimes it was a big pain to start studying. I don't know, somehow, little by little, I could study. I have to say that even a 30 minute study helps a lot. In the end I ended up reading most of the legal issues.
- - n.a.
- - Doing DII exams earlier. Hard to remember to mention all things they want you to mention.
- - The greatest weakness was time management for preparation to EQE. Since I did not have a tutor or somebody around me who have passed the exam I was not able to make a proper studying program that would enable me to work satisfactorily and also have some time with my family. In retrospect one way to overcome this would be to plan the study program of each week depending on the online course material provided by EPO and study that material only.
- - The questions too far away from reality
- - Not knowing how to study for the legal aspects of the exam.
- - I think my greatest weakness was not taking advantage of all the material, especially the mock exams and papers. The timetable of the on-line course was not adequate, as the workload was not well distributed.
- - Procrastination - more self-control
- - Lack of formation (no access to because of a change of job and prices)
- - I had questions and did not know whom to ask. Luckily, I was accepted to CSP.
- - time ! more real time training
- - Overoptimistic revision timetable! Could overcome by being more realistic at the beginning - e.g. by doing only even or odd numbers in the Delta patents D book, rather than being more thorough and getting behind schedule.
- - velocity..... by training
- - Time management in paper C.
- Do more preparation
- - Mal comprendre quelques questions pendant l'examen (à cause de l'ambiance examen), et comprendre après la vraie question.
- - Not starting early enough, not preparing well enough for paper D.
- - Understanding the format of the questions
- - No professional advice or verification of my mock exams. To overcome it joining a C course would be necessary.
- - Over analysing questions - need to practice taking the questions at face value.
- - Not having started early enough ... I knew I should have but workload in the job always was too high until very short before the exam when we were finally "allowed" to do something else: learn!
- I think, CEIPI and the alleged "training on the job" is by far not enough! There should be more official courses which are obligatory; else many offices will pile too much work on their candidates' desks and leave too little time for exam-preparation ... just as if exam-preparation was something we do for fun and in our private hours.
- If there were more official obligatory courses focused on exam-preparation, employers would simply have to accept it and send their candidates there
- - I think I did not read well the documents (so quickly) - This time, I tried to do it reading the

paper more carefully, without taking the time into account.

- - I thought passing 2010-2013 papers was a good sign of being well prepared for 2014 C and D exams. I was wrong.
- - Started preparations too late. Could be overcome by starting earlier.
- - Having taken a longer time for studying the Kley Commentary on the EPC and having finished it would have been still more helpful.
- - I think my preparation was okay, although I was a bit disappointed that I scored less points in the legal part than in the claim analysis part because I spent much, much more preparation time for the legal part than for the claim analysis part. However, some of the questions were completely unexpected, e.g. the question about comparative examples filed during examination and if they are prior art or not.
- - It's difficult to prepare for the EQE's/pre-exam further than around 4 months in advance due to the UK advanced exams in September/October.
- - More exam papers to time and peer discussions of past papers
- - I was studying around a new baby so had limited time. Just one of those things.
- - Time management is my weakness. I believe that the only solution to overcome it is just to practice and practice by doing compendium under real exam condition. However, in reality, it's very hard to allocate a consecutive 3-5 hours for finish a EQE paper.
- - nerves.
- meditation
- - The greatest weakness was to give short adequate answers.
- - I WAS TOO SLOW, MORE PRACTICE AND EXERCISE FOR TIME MANAGEMENT
- - weakness: how to find rapidly the information in EPC legal text
- could have overcome by spending more time getting familiar with EPC legal text
- - I ran out of time for most of the papers (except B); Retrospectively, I should have exercised more by training on previous years papers in REAL CONDITIONS
- - Not planning my strategy for B based on the mark schedule.
- - lack of practice in drafting
- - To find time for preparation during normal work and family
- - Difficulty in remembering procedural aspects of the EPO prosecution process. I could have overcome this by studying more, or taking the exam at a stage where I was more familiar with EPO procedure.
- - use of time in the exam
- I think that questions are too much extensive and detailed for the time we have. What makes sense is to mimic real life to an exam and I think that this is not achieved. Because in the real life you look for the answers into the CPE and other books and you are able to build an strategy for the client and to solve problems. To do a perfect exam, you should know the answers by memory, and this is not real life.
- - Focus more on the Guidelines.
- Read the questions thoroughly.
- - Practical training by supervisor.
- - lack of time to read all of the guidelines.
- - No weakness, I studied every weekend for the last 3 years,
- In addition, from september to february, I took 1 day/week off (unpaid) to study,
- In addition, I took 4 weeks off before the exam (in february) to study.
- - lack of rehearsal, compendium, etc due to lack of time
- - Discipline
- - During preparation for the EQ, I read all questions (Delta Patents) in English and wrote the answer in German. During the EQE I read and answered in German. Therefore, the terminology was some times confusing.
- - I did not know how the Exam is, and I did not know what kind of questions I could find in the Exam, now that I have not been successful in the Pre Examination and I have been in one, I know exactly how to study for the Pre Examination (in the future paper D)
- - More practice in reading the paper and sorting the information.

- - to manage my schedule to have enough time to prepare for the EQE is most difficult.
- - I was alone to have EQE exam in my company : hard to prepare himself alone
- - I did not have time to prepare so I only managed to start preparing a couple of days before the exam
- - not enough time for preparation of the D-part with the compendium
- - Time pressure, could not finish any of the papers right on time. I have felt the time pressure differently when practicing past papers, probably due to the different exam' scheme that prevailed before 2013. For instance, I felt more time pressure with paper C in 5 hours than for a paper C planned for 6 hours. Same for D.
- If needed in the future, it would be important to redo the 2013 and 2014 exams under strict time conditions, instead of older exams with different timings.
- - question about extreme rare situations we never encounter in practise. Difficult to say how you could train these.
- - For paper C, sitting the real paper is much more difficult than to do past papers at home.
- - My greatest weakness was finding time to train EQE in real conditions (a whole day for taking an A and a B).
- - To actually learn the systematics how to tackle each individual paper. It is not the difficulty of patent law as such as one would usually expect.
- - Finding time for studying
- - Time management, have a stronger methodology and whatever happens stick to it!
- - Probably I was too confident about my preparation in Legal part questions. I should have considered that during exam the stress, and the subsequent indecision play an important role.
- - I think I was just too slow (or paper C was just much longer as the previous year??..seriously: How many problems can you solve in 5 hours???)
- - Legal questions. Discussing regularly in a small group would have helped.
- - I prepared myself until 3 a.m. of the morning of the preexam. A little bit more sleep would have been helpful ;)
- By the way: the epi-online-course training questions have been helpful. However, the "handschuh"-Mock-exam submitted to the portal some days before the PreExam was completely confusing: First, I really did not understand how the answers of the claim-analysis could be derived, Second, the Mock-exam focussed very much on PCT and in the real PreExam there have been nearly no PCT questions. This confused my head.
- - Time, start earlier
- - Not a weakness, but an unfavourable aspect: Limited possibility to dedicate full-immersion periods of time (e.g., 7-10 days) to the study and preparation (for me, very successful strategy when I was studying at the University and not yet professionally working).
- I am progressively learning and improving how to optimize shorter windows of study times
- - Five hours is a very low amount of time for the amount of information to be analysed and processed in order to provide a good notice of opposition. Being stricter in doing more papers to time is seemingly required perhaps by doing the old 6 hour papers in five hours whilst doing all but say the last claim or two.
- - I was really tired, I could eat more.
- Difficile de se concentrer sur la première épreuve car j'étais très stressée. J'aurai préféré commencer par une épreuve plus facile (type B).
- - Claim Analyse. More practice.
- - writing speed - practice more
- - Claim analysis - I have overcome through exercise
- - When preparing for the DI questions I feel now that at the start of my preparations I read up on the different topics in too much detail prior to commencing doing the DI questions (Delta Patents). Although this gave me a very good basis, this was very time consuming.
- - no one to discuss with
- should have attended a course
- - Even stricter time management for C

- - Time does not allow writing down all you recognize, and all of relevance.
- How to select to make points most efficient?
- Thinks obvious are expected to be explained in more detail - Thinks you explain in more detail are regarded to be obvious
- - My weakness was considering the changing paper: paper B and paper C.
- I had problem to manage my strategies and the time for answering.
- I am not sure to know how to improve my skillness, but I would have enjoyed having a few mock exam on the topic.
- - Time management - I tried to write a lot of old exams but there was only one available with the new time regulations.
- - you have prepare yourself for the type of examination and you have to prepare the books to find more quickly the right answers

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

- - Practice on writing by hand. Writing really gets slow after 2 hours continuous writing. And it is from 2 hours and out you need fast writing,.
- - Study hard.
- - The CEIPI course is quite good.
- - Take the exam as early as possible in your career as it becomes harder to take time out to study later on. Use your time to take several practice exams as this is not really an exam about the law.
- - Meet the documents to use
- - Prepare your family
- - Do it before you have children...
- - Acquire your know method is fundamental.
- For Paper D, I found DeltaPatent method really efficient, but I still have to adapt it to my personal preference.
For Paper A and B, it is fundamental to revise the Paper with an experienced tutor.
- - 1) Train enough (to be confident about passing) compendium and mock-exams. This provides good understanding about different matters for the exam and teaches also most important articles and rules. This is a way to become familiar with EPC and rules and gain understanding about them.
- 2) start early to have enough time for training.
- 3) Select the material to take to exam and learn to use it and how to find information efficiently. (Visser is practically enough for passing)
- 4) make a timetable for different parts of the exam, for example 90 min Part 1, 120 min Part 2 (Part 2 text+prior art 20-30 min, for questions 90 min)
- rest 30 mins for rechecking answers, and for finding missing information.
- - be fit and concentrate on the questions asked
- - Use the deltapatents material.
- - First study EPC/rules/guidelines (at least relevant arguments), then PCT procedure. Visser (Annotated EPC) is a good starting point, but not enough
- Then exercises and past examination papers. Delta patents books are very useful.
- Before examination (at least 1 month) repeat most recent examination papers and go through most recent updates and decisions.
- - The pre-exam should not be underestimated. Yes, it is said that it's an easy paper, and in a sense it is, but still requires at least some preparation. Especially if one comes from a non official-language-speaking country.
- Also, unexpected should be expected.
- - Make sure that you finish the DI and DII parts ahead on time when practicing, e.g. 1:50 h for DI and 2:45 for DII, since you need that extra time during the "live" EQE-sitting.
- - study thoroughly and pay attention

- - Focus on speed!
- - study, study, study
- - use the guidelines for examination. they are extremely clear and helpful.
- - The solution to the problem (for paper B) usually resides in 2 or 3 paragraphs within the patent application as filed which when read to the light of the prior art become instantly evident.
- The term "preferably" which usually tends to direct the candidate toward a dependent claim...may be misleading as it was the case this year ([008] and [009]) where the nano dimension of the precious metal particles had to be present in the main claim since no other support was present for particles of greater size (hence the client letter also mentioned that greater size particles did not work as well as the nano ones).
- be careful not to limit too much the main claim as a lot of useful points can be easily lost.
- - You never study too much and you never practice too much
- - Write FULL answers when practicing old papers in order to get an understanding for how long it takes.
- - EQE Pre-exam course by EPO and EPI was very helpful
- - Legal question: A correct understanding of the words in the question is as important as the knowledge of the EPC content.
- - Ensure adequate preparation time to study and practice mock exam papers. Discuss mock exam papers with tutor or peer group.
- - Take Deltapatents courses. Particularly regarding D2.
- - To use as much existing material as possible. Preparing your own compilation of the EPC and the guidelines blended together is too time-consuming in view of what has been already done (Baque/Visser).
- - NA
- - It is doable, if you study seriously. Invest enough time, start early enough and take a break now and then. Don't forget family & friends meanwhile. Make them understand that you need to study for a while.
-
- And perhaps... Take a course in IP before you start working in an IP-firm/dept, so you will feel more comfortable once you do work in IP (since you'll be able to make your own judgments).
- - 1. Make a straight schedule and get prepared to solve previous exams half an hour earlier than required. If you do not reach this schedule, be prepared that you will not be able to get through the paper.
- 2. Develop a strategy to catch the easy points even under time pressure.
- 3. Start answering and working on those parts of the paper which are crystal clear.
- 3. Continue with those parts of the paper which are time-consuming.
- - To relax, it's not that difficult.
- - Don't use the CEIPI method for C ! You waste a lot of time for analyzing matters you don't need and you can start with scoring points after 2,5 or 3 hours. The mental pressure is too big.
- Follow the Delta Patents method and vary it individual.
- - Solve Aufgaben zur Übung lösen, wie möglich.
- - Do past exams with given time constraints.
- - Follow a programme dedicated for the EQE.
- - You do not know what to expect on the exam!
- - Practise on past papers as recommended in the Study Guide.
- - Do not focus on studying the law, focus on methodology for the exams.
- Train this methodology under time pressure (e.g. taking any patent and marking all features, effects and problems in different colours as quickly as possible).
- - the pre-exam online course was very good.
- - Make a study plan and stick to it
- - For the pre-exam:

- > Start early to get an understanding of EPC and PCT.
- > Comment your EPC yourself, incl. relevant citations (G/T-decisions), and add Guideline-References to all Articles / Rules. Saves a lot of time searching the GL. Try to complete commenting by New-Year.
- > Practice for the multiple-choice questions. The EPA/EPI online courses contains a lot of those for Part I; make use of them.
- > Analyse your mistakes in the multiple-choice questions; add comments to your EPC/PCT to avoid repeating the mistakes.
- > For preparation of Part II, set aside some time to practice the previous- pre-exams. Try to find out what the questions are aimed at. Avoid technical interpretation, especially reg. inventive step. For inventive-step-questions, try to apply the problem-solution-approach STRICTLY as described in the guidelines.
- - It has been said that the pre-eqe exams are not there to catch you out, but simply test your basic understanding of the European law. I would disagree. Whether intentionally, or unintentionally, the wording of the statements are sometimes so ambiguous that it is difficult to tell whether it is a trick question or not. Be careful!
- - No.
- - no comments
- - Take a one year/6 months gap to prepare the exam?
- - A good tutor may give good advices, which can improve the preparation significantly.
- - For the pre EQE - do not assume it is an easy paper - with the increased pass mark this year, marking scheme, and vast range of possible questions, it required study and focus. Experience gained in practice was very useful to feel familiar with the scenarios given in the questions.
- - start early enough the preparation
- - Part D without preparation seems to be very difficult. Preparation must include the use of books so the candidate knows what he is working with. Alternatively everything (law, case law etc.) has to be learned by heart.
- Parts A, B and C can be exercised during the 3 years practice with a European Patent attorney as well as reading the Examiner's reports in the compendium.
- - Paper D is very long to prepare
- If one hesitate on preparation organisation start with paper D is a good option
- - Start at least 6 month in advance. It's a lot of information to gather and it takes time to find where is what and the material one needs
- - Start learning sufficiently early.
- - Do not read too much, do questions and make sure the questions relates to all parts of the EPC, read in connection with answering questions and add notes to your book of choice.
-
- Decide on a book of choice early and do not switch.
-
- Take courses on exam methodology, at least for C, D
- - Enter the profession before having a family, and join a firm which provides reasonable pre-exam study preparation and/or in house training courses.
- Paper D is 5 hours, but this is particularly short when considering the complexity of part 2 at least. Practice part 2 to time over and over again until you can answer fully a part 2 question in 2 1/2 hours maximum.
- - Read the guidelines, do lots of past papers and to time, go on courses for each paper
- - Start in time, practise writing by hand, make sure that for each exam you have a good method that suits you, make sure you have excellent time management
- - A, B, C -> practice, practice, practice
- D -> Use PreEQE preparation to already become thoroughly familiar with EPC/PCT/Guidelines
- - Start early enough.
- - Make all the examinations as possible under examining conditions. Assist to special

courses for EQE.

- - Take the EPIs pre-eqe course. It gave a good overview of all subjects and the online review questions, although harder than the actual mock pre-eqe questions, were very helpful, especially as there arent many mocks to practise with.
- - Study old papers and learn everything (!) about patentability, priority and divisionals.
- - focus on analysis of text and time management
- - Do not learn with the same material that is used for paper D, these questions are much more difficult than the Pre-Exam.
- - Read old exams and examiner's reports, they give a lot of information about how the tests should be answered
- - -Preparing and try out a schedule for how to work with the exam efficiently wich suits your way of working.
- -Prepare for making an earlier exam well on time, and so that you do not start writing your response too late.
- - Do not complete all of the past papers too early. Make sure you have at least one set of papers to do the week before the exams
- - start early
- - Take your EQEs before you have built up a normal workload and before you get any children :)
- Seriously, it would seem better to prepare one's strategy and "tools" first using a couple of old papers and only then really start with the past papers at the same time checking whether the strategy and the tools work and develop them. Changing your strategy at last minute only confuses you.
- - Be prepared to experience lots of stress
- - Online training courses offered by the European Patent Academy are helpful.
- - Start to study in time and, more important, practice a lot by doing questions, mock exams and exams.
- - enjoy doing the exam...
- - Paper D:
 - DI: read through the EPC legal text, mark time limits, make connection to legal consequences and remedies, write keynotes of G decisions in respect of the Articles, most questions can be answered by the wording of the Articles/Rules if you know where to look, for PCT get a good commentary book
 - DII: find a system for yourself how to tackle all the information
- Paper A, B, C: practice one previous papers without examination conditions to get know what is required, then practice alle other previous papers under examination conditions
- - Do not start too late.
- Prepare your materials well.
- Keep cool - all legal questions can be done with that material.
- Check this material during the exam twice (unfortunately for some questions I was too sure about the answer and did not verify it, even though there was enough time).
- - Start early. Have free time slots in your preparation schedule for unknown events (accident, illness, etc.)
- - no, it is very individually
- - see before
- - Take sufficient time for preparation (at least 3 months intensive) in order to be really familiar with EPC, PCT, Guidelines etc., and then start to work with compendium in order to get that feeling what is required during EQE.
- - 2012 and 2013 had been much easier!
- - Candidates should be granted a certain amount of time weekly for preparations
- - Yes, learn to state alot of obvious things, especially in DII. Just knowing an answer is far from enough....you need to explain as you might do for a child, else you cannot get marks.
- - It seems very important to develop his own scheme for processing the huge amount of information given in the D-II part of paper D. Furthermore, writing mock exams under time

pressure seems very important.

- - Nothing, that is not known to everybody in advance from training material
- - STUDY LAW DEEPLY AND READING E.G. COMPLETELY VISSER BOOK
- - Prepare more under examination conditions!
- - Start earlier with PCT
- - Make your own reference index. I prepared an index for the EPC and PCT and added with a keyword G-decisions and T-Decisions and guidelines as they came to my knowledge during preparation. This helped me to quickly find the relevant legal basis for each part of the EQE.
- - The difficulty of C can be easily underestimated. It is a test on speed of analysis and writing, without much fun.
- - Study groups are elemental. Unfortunately it is not always easy to find a candidate in your home town. It would be helpful to provide the possibility to contact other candidates in one's hometown, perhaps via the forum.
- - Put a lot of effort on learning how to answer DII, it's a key to success in paper D.
- - Be lucky.
- - Take some training from people who understand how to pass the exam. Professionally qualified supervisors are great for learning the job of a Patent Attorney, but unless they passed the EQE very recently, or have taken significant steps to keep up to date with not just the law but also the exams, you would most likely benefit from additional specialist training.
- - Have no idea how I could suggest to anybody how to assess this kind of puzzle - I do not know how or why I arrived at an acceptable solution in the 4th try
- - Solve many questions. Attend tutor groups
- - For paper D: start early and start doing questions early on, to see if you've understood the material properly. Be sure to exchange knowledge with others, this helps to filter out errors in your reasoning.
- For papers A - C doing an exam training course (such as formerly offered by EPO) and sufficient mock exams under time pressure should be sufficient, it was for me, anyway.
- Another point: having small kids may severely disrupt your study schedule (kids being sick, not sleeping well etc.). It did so for me and in retrospect I was too ambitious concerning my study schedule. I should have allocated more 'contingency' time.
- - Visit a gym to improve hand-muscles.
- - 2-3 months preparation for Pre-EQE is quite enough.
- - try to write mock-up exams as early as possible and as many as possible.
- start early with intense preparation and not in the last 6 months.
- - Start early enough to be sure you read all your manuals extensively and you just have to review your annotations in the last weeks while you train on previous papers
- - Do compendium as much as possible
- - Focus on the previous papers for preparing the exam
- - Expect the unexpected.
- - Follow the study guide of the DeltaPatents Basic Legal Questions book and answer as many questions as possible. Also, do the old exams and the mockup exams under exam conditions.
- - Make a lot of previous exams (compendia !)
- - The field of sophisticated details is that huge that no one can really learn all this by heart, so, it seems essential to make own memos on the type of an extraction and compressed survey with added details of precise article, rule, instruction, case law decision, and so on ...
- - do not underestimate time pressure for the EQE
- - Just keep plugging away at it and try to do past papers in the allotted time
- - Study the compendium very intensively and try to discuss it in small groups. Identify your own mistakes and hold intensive discussions.
- - Force yourself to really do a concentrated mock of a D2 paper using post-its and a timeline to stick them on, one cannot remember all the subject-matter in all of the applications and patents without some sort of system similar to part C. Most people actually enjoy paper C

once they learnt how to crack the puzzle, think of D2 as a similar puzzle.

- - Practice previous exam papers
- - A lot of practicing is needed.
- - Exercise writing exams of previous years
- - read all questions and texts provided very carefully!
- - see previous answer.
- - see Q12) and Q14)
- - - Use own practical experience + compendium for A/B/C
- - Use Delta-Patent books + x-referenced EPC comments (such as Kley) for D-preparation
- - take at least 10 A-Papers and really train for c-paper like it was a marathon
- - train
- - Take the time to try to take exams under real conditions
- - Start studying your reference book early, at least a year before, so that there is time to let the material sink in. Do not focus too much on case law, your reference book often covers what you need to know. Get to know the Guidelines early - it is very useful once it has become your friend.
- - always keep in mind that the examiners love to test your reading skills (e.g. double negative, one short word easily overlooked changing the correct answer)
- - Try the pre-examination mock only when you think your preparation is sufficient to sit the exam and do it using exam conditions.
- - - First prepare for EQE, then get children :)
- - Time management is one of the major issues for preparing EQE.
- - All ten reading and past papers are not enough without appropriate training and experience at work.
- - Practice with some old EQE's sufficiently early to get a feeling on what is required to get marks.
- - Do what I explain in Q12. You should be prepared. If in the middle of the exam you think you will not make it, just keep trying. Unfortunately, you need to technically understand the paper so that you can apply your legal knowledge, and this many times may take more than half of the time available for the exam, specially if you are not a mechanics/chemistry engineer.
- - to practise a lot the legal questions.
- - I recommend the online course.
- - Take your time and practice
- - Reading helps, but you need to do exercises in order to get a thorough understanding of the EPC/PCT. Do a lot of exercises, including prior exams. Start doing exercises at latest three months prior to exams.
- - Your discipline is your only friend
- - Practice time management!
- - Start early. You need time to let all the information sink in.
- - Pre-Exam On-line course is a must!
- Do old papers.
- Start intensive study 18 months before Pre-Exame.
- - start early for studying, and use different books and study on past papers.
- - Pay attention to the wording of the exam paper and what is asked.
- - Organise your material. Practice writing (as actually writing by hand is painful in the 6th to 7th hour of doing so on the same day). Follow the CEIPI preparation courses.
- - There is no easy way. Studying is important, but theory should be applied to practice to understand how the articles and rules will be applied in different situations.
- - Start studying legal issues and EPC in preparation for D early. Years in advance, even if it is not as focused to start with.
- - The key point in the EQE is not getting nervous during the exam. It is really difficult since we all know the importance of the exam but if we achieve not getting nervous we have more chances of succes.

- - For me, practising (also for D) worked better than reading and studying
- - Bring earplugs! The noises of the other participants can be distracting.
- - Please install a clock, so that all participants can see it. A information 35 Minutes before the end of the exams, would be helpful
- - Start early.
- - training, training, training - do at least 5 papers of each part before the exam
- use also some papers to let them be corrected by tutors
- - For the Pre-Exam: Don't take a course, it's unnecessary!
- - Do as many last exams as possible. Read compendium and proposed solution to see what is expected.
- - Start in time and prepare well for the D-part and C-part.
- - Il peut être souhaitable d'obtenir de tels commentaires ou suggestions d'autres candidats.
- - Take a dictionary and a thesaurus. Look at the wording of the exercise in different languages in case of doubt.
- - A lot of practising well before the start but not too early (~6 Months ahead).
- - No
- - Use Hoekstra and visser.
- - Good preparation is key.
- - Start early, continue studying (at least at a low pace, e.g. repeating old stuff) also after sitting the exam such that if a FAIL reaches you in the autumn you are already up and running without having to start repeating things that you have forgotten during the summer.
- - Time management is key!
- - Do lots of past papers!
- - Work hard.
- - Do old exams in good time, and find a strategy/methodology on how you always deal with the patent situation given.
- During the last weeks, improve that methodology, and read the EPC etc just to shape up your knowledge during this time.
- So, EPC, PCT knowledge first: Eg through reading, doing DeltaPatents main exam questions, and attend some courses.
- Last 1 - 1,5 months:
- Find your methodology for the exam, practice it and improve it;
- and focus on shape up of knowledge as well as recent changes of the EPC and PCT.
- - If you have a family and job write the EQE step by step. In my opinion is helpful to start with part D because you are familiar with the legal background.
- - Use of at correction of paper program eg Deltapatents.
- - Do not forget to rest before the exam because those three days are exhausting.
- - Try D and C papers from the compendium under real time pressure
- - Be persevering, and don't give up!
- - I remain of the opinion that the best way to afford the examination is practicing as much as possible past examinations.
- - it's necessary to exercise under exam conditions
- - Start preparation a long time in advance, at least 6m before the exam. Set aside a period of each working day where you can do an hour or so studying and make this a routine. Do not neglect the PCT. Know and understand priority inside out. Practice questions, particularly on the PCT and priority since these come up every year. Have all your resources in a compact easily accessible form for the exam - there is not much time to look things up in the Exam. If properly prepared, you should know most of the answers straightaway and merely use your resources to confirm the answer and provide precise legal basis. Give information that seems obvious if it is pertinent to the question. Likewise, do not waste time giving information that is not relevant to what is being asked.
- There is always time pressure - so practice full papers to time, preferably in one continuous block.
- - structured learning with the materials you will use in the exam

- - Read visser several times and make notes, then practice D2 part with compendium.
- Take a quick-writing course.
- - - start early
- - study kind of questions
- - train short and precise style for answering questions
- - It would probalby have been preferable in the D part to start with the secong part (complex legal case). I was running out of time.
- - Be aware that 10-20h per week should be invested from the beginning of preparation for at least three months.
- - I would recomend to train the calculation of time limits so that the candidate can do it almost automatically, there are for sure several questions concerning time limits in every pre-exam. If you are a chemist, like me, I would recomend to read several patent applications in the field of mechanics to get used to the way the applications are drafted. I would concentrated more on the problem-solution approach in the field of mechanics - formulating objective technical problem, recognising technical effect etc. - which was for me the most difficult part of the claim analysis part.
- - Start in time. Do old exams as if they were real.
- - Get hold of the Delta patents book or take a course to run through things, start at least 3 months out from the pre-EQE
- - * Start early with your preparations
- * If you do not get the allowance by the EPA to sit the exam early enough, consider waiting another year
- * work with the books/material you want to bring to the exam very early on
- * annotate your EPC copy, this really is recommended since you will get a better feel for the EPC
- * for PCT use the PCT-Handbuch (if german speaking), this is a really compact reference book
- * get a good commentary annotated book for the EPC, either Visser, Kley, Schulte
- - for D, start preparation early, take one question of paper D1 by day and take time to answer/to think about the solution...
- - The EPO compendium is invaluable.
- - Participate in the specialised courses.
- - Start early in advance, train on past years papers in real conditions
- - Study!
- - Focus on the Guidelines.
- When you are lost in EPC and Guidelines, some times the Derk Visser book can give you a better overview.
- - Practice and estrategy
- - Always be aware that papers A,B,C have nothing to do with daily practice.
- - Read fast without omitting the important things, think fast but right and write fast but legible.
- - Log into the eqe forum and talk to other candidates for preparing the exam.
- - Stop working at least 6 month before the EQE examination take place and start assessing your preparation.
- - rest + relax. Do not stress out!
- - start to study as soon as possible
- - If you failed, the best preparation is to understand why, and to work on your weakness.
- Hope I have overcome my weakness.
- - Yes, ask for more holiday for peparing you good, and ask for internal course for claim analysis on what you era not used to! (ex mechanics ok, but chemistry?)
- and STUDY!!!
- - Practice, doing many 3rd party observations and real oppositions does not qualify you for the exam!
- - Try to answer the more pratical cases as possible. It's a good test to realize what we know

and what we thought we knew!

- - Buy the book "EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen". This book, the EPO-Guidelines and former exams are really enough for the pre-examination.
- Do not waste hundreds of Euros for Special pre-examination literature or courses. It's really wasted.
- For the "main" examination OK, there are all available support options useful, but not for the pre-examination.
- - Practice as many past papers as you can get your hands on and reasonably do in the time you have.
- Practice at least two or three papers to time.
- - start with preparation as early as possible.
- study with other candidates.
- - relax during examination, read all the papers carefully
- - start early - it takes longer time to prepare than expected. Be focus and do old papers under time pressure
- - For Paper A and B : Practice with the compendium.
- - me, I recommend just carefully to study what is here called "examiners reports" where to find their valuations, gradings, reflections, opinions, aspects, and all those things you cannot find anywhere else, and please remember, it is not prudent to give correct answers, instead you always will have to obey what examiners want to hear ...
- - The compendium papers should be always done exactly with the same time limit as during the real examination.
- - Do previous test in handwriting till your hands fall off and your brain is wired to think like an exam author.
- - Learn how to use EPC reference.
- - Set aside dedicated study time away from home.
- - Take a speed writing course.
- - Solve the previous pre-examinations under real examination conditions repeatedly;
- Study with other candidates;
- Read the "Leitfaden für Anmelder".
- - Read all your study material to have general ideas, try to understand the subjects and to have well-based ideas in your mind, but do not try to remember every detail. Then, learn where things are and train to find the solutions quickly in a good reference book
- - Over-prepare!
- Take notes on exactly what you will write. For example paper D, part 2 - take a table of significant points to make in relation to each invention/application which you are advising your client on.
- - Do papers from previous years in real exam conditions. Not just think what you would answer to that specific question or how you would do it, write it down, the whole answer; get used to rapidly find the correct legal support for your answer (article, rule, guideline, decision...).
- Time simply flies during the exam.
- - I would suggest other candidates focus on technique and developing a formulaic approach to allow as much information as possible to be transmitted onto paper as quickly as possible.
- - Start as early as you can with the test runs.
- - Practice past papers to time.
- - Take learning groups, and try to get a guy that have recently managed the EQE, as the older ones are too far away and are not able to teach sufficient for the EQE.
- - pass it as soon as possible
- - For paper D it is very important to study the questions of past years in order to learn about preferred topics of questions and how to solve them.
- - Work hard on all the aspects of the EPC and PCT. Do a lot of exercises (D questions, Delta Patents, Mock Exams..) Print everything you may need.

- - Practice on old papers and under realistic conditions (time constraints and exhaustion). Use Visser and GL to prepare for D, and add information contained in Delta Patent D Book.
- For A, bring a dice.
- - They should start the study as soon as possible before the date of the exam, because practising past paper is not the only thing important to pass the exam, but also to read carefully the corresponding part of the Guidelines and specific books for this exam
- - - Delta patents questions and Compendium...
- - Use enough time for preparation. This will spare time in actual exam, as you will in any case run out of it there.
- - Il n'est pas nécessaire de tout connaître par coeur mais important de savoir où trouver l'information.
- - you need study time; if you cannot answer a question straight away, move on to the next one.
- - For A & B, my suggestion would be to find the way to share the work done for mock-exams with somebody and to get a relevant feed-back that could be helpful for the next mock-exam.
- - Start early and give it time to learn. Take dedicated Courses towards the EQE, general IP courses are not enough!
- - Do plenty of past examination papers.
- - Study as much as you can. After that, study it again. Sometimes studying on Vissers everything looks clear, but after going through Delta Patents book L you realize that you misunderstood something.
- - Keep Healthy!!!
-
- use the compendium and discuss case law with other candidates.
- - Do not try to sit all four parts in one year.
- - For every argument, do exercises and see examples
- - see above
- - Be careful not to overdo the papers that you have to exercise, try to spread the work as much as possible, otherwise you may ruin the performance on the exam day.
- - Also the complain about the small tables (not enough width).
- - Make answer templates and check lists and make sure you use them in the exam.
- - concentrate on the core: EPC articles + rules + G decisions. preparing ones own commented EPC (print out a "blank" one and add important interrelated info, links to relevant articles/rules). definitely use compendium to get a good feeling for what is expected and what common errors to avoid
- - Take your time!
- - Practise, practise and practise by doing the old exams. That is the most effective way of studying. It is also helpful to have someone to comment the answers.
- - Remember the exam is (highly) artificial
- - As answer to Q14
- - Work always in group.
- - Calculate approx. 300 - 400 hours for going through the EQE-Pre Examination Course
- - Make your experience and try to get out, what has changed in the expectations during the last years. You need time for doing this.
- - the epi online course for the pre-exam is really good.
- - Do not stick too much to the formalistic methods (matrix, claims-attacks) if you don't like them. I left away the formalistic methods this time and will see if it was right in July 2014.
- - -use preparation courses and preparation books
- -study regularly and start studying about 4-5 months before the exam
- -make sufficient time for former exams and mock exams
- - Start preparation early enough.
- - Talk to successful candidates.
- - Get organized early enough (buy the relevant books, download/order/print out the relevant

resources) and give yourself enough intense time right before the exams (ideally without working for at least a month).

- - Focus on the Guidelines and the compendium.
- - Try to get work free hours from your employer and practise past exams in real-time, at least 5 exams, especially the DII-part...
- - re Q13: This depends on what "focused study" means. I have been preparing myself a 1-2 hours per day for about 8 months. However, I was also working full-time until 1 week before the exams.
- - Cf Q12
- - Preparation for the EQE should begin a few months earlier, because one month is not enough, even intensive study.
- - Start early enough and focus on preparation (cannot be repeated too many times).
- Try to fathom the legislative intentions behind each and every single article and rule (both EPC and PCT) in order to connect the several ends of the wires correctly. Thereby it will be much easier to approach EQE level questions.
- - read The integrality of the annotated EPC and use a color annotation for exemple:
- blue = delay
- red= juridical sanction
- yellow = object
- green = fees
- - doing an excell table of 7 columns :
- 1) all the articles / rules which comprise a deadline
- 2) action to do
- 3) deadline
- 4) legal consequence if deadline missed
- 5) remedy
- 6) Further processing allowed? (yes/no)
- 7) Restitutio in integrum allowed? (yes/no).
-
- Doing a summary of the CBE 2000 separating the CBE in 5 chapters :
- 1) filing of a patent application
- 2) Languages
- 3) Examination
- 4) Opposition
- 5) Appeal
- --> for each chapter, list all the articles, the rules, the communication of the OJ and the decisions, references to guidelines.
- For the PCT, doing an excell table of 4 columns :
- 1) PCT articles (number + title)
- 2) PCT sub-articles (number)
- 3) titles of the sub-articles
- 4) link each of the sub-rules for which a sub article is reffering.
- - As many candidate says, I felt early start was very important.
- - They should start their preparations as early as possible.
- - Practice past papers. Practice handwriting, your performance highly depends on it.
- - I recommend continuous preparatory work for all candidates.
- It is very important to practice and study for the legal part every single day, even on weekends.
- - Begin to study as early as possible and utilise the Compendium as much as possible.
- - Start early enough
- - Start early with preparations. Make sure to have the latest editions of EPC and Guidelines for the exam. Annotate your EPC2000 and also use comments/annotated EPC books avialable (Visser), also for PCT I would highly recommend the book by Malte Köllner (PCT Handbuch). I can wholeheartedly recommend the epi pre-examination course, which gives

an in-depth overview and the possibility of online mock tests. The online mock exam as offered by the EPO is also extremely helpful.

- - Start early, practice regularly.
- - start early with the preparation, its always too late in the end
- - The pre exam was most useful since it forced me to keep updated and even improve on law matter which would have been much more difficult if I did not have to take in any exam.
- - Make sure to practice a lot on past papers using the fixed time period to get an idea of what 'speed' you need to solve all issues. Also, check your answers with examiner's report and candidate's answer.
- - Prepare with the same time pressure as on the exam a lot.
- - You need clearly understand how the exam is organised and how to answer to the question which are drafted in a very specific way. It is hard not to read other things that are not in the questions. Beware!
- - Try to expect the unexpected !
- - I know I made some grave mistakes during the eqe which I wouldn't have made even during preparation under exam conditions. I don't know how i made these mistakes, and can only put it down to exam pressure and perhaps a lack of sleep during the exam week. It's very difficult to not think about the exam paper which one has just taken, and to get some sleep ready for the next exam. This was my second attempt at D and I felt well prepared compared to the first time. Under the exam pressure I think I may have rushed a bit too much trying to answer the whole question, and missing some important points along the way. In retrospect it would have been better to go slower spending more time getting the right answer even if it means not finishing the paper.
- - Try to do many old exams and take sufficient time to go through the corresponding answers and comments.
- Several days may be necessary for preparing your books and other stuff you want to take to the exam.
- - No
- - One cannot pass the C and D papers without practicing with old exams and other materials.
- Prepare to answer any kind of questions, especially those which are extremely relevant in real working life of a patent attorney.
- It also seems that the examination committee is looking for topics, which are less clearly presented
- in the most common reference books such as Visser.
- - It is good to practise by doing other years exams.
- - Be strong.
- - It is very important, at least for the Pre-exam to learn how to solve the Previous years Exams for the claims questions and to handle the Guidelines or Visser book for the legal questions.
- - Prepare in advance.
- - Start early!
- - Do not forget to train on each paper, and not only C & D.
- - Gaining the legal background and practicing exercises are equivalently both important.
- - Priority 1: EQE
- Priority 2: work on your cases at the office
- - Start preparing as soon as you are aware that you want to sit the exams.
- - Preparing paper D and C before A and B. Paper D is the most difficult to study so it needs to be done way before the other papers.
- A methodology for each papers is needed and for paper C you need to practice with the methodology you created.
- - Take all four papers in one go.
- - Get familiar with the materials you bring in for the exam.
- - Concentrate on 1-2 sources for both EPC and PCT for the D exam (+ DeltaPatents D book);

practice paper C and find the way of doing that works for you; practice a couple of A + B papers and follow CEIPI course on A and B papers (that one was useful)

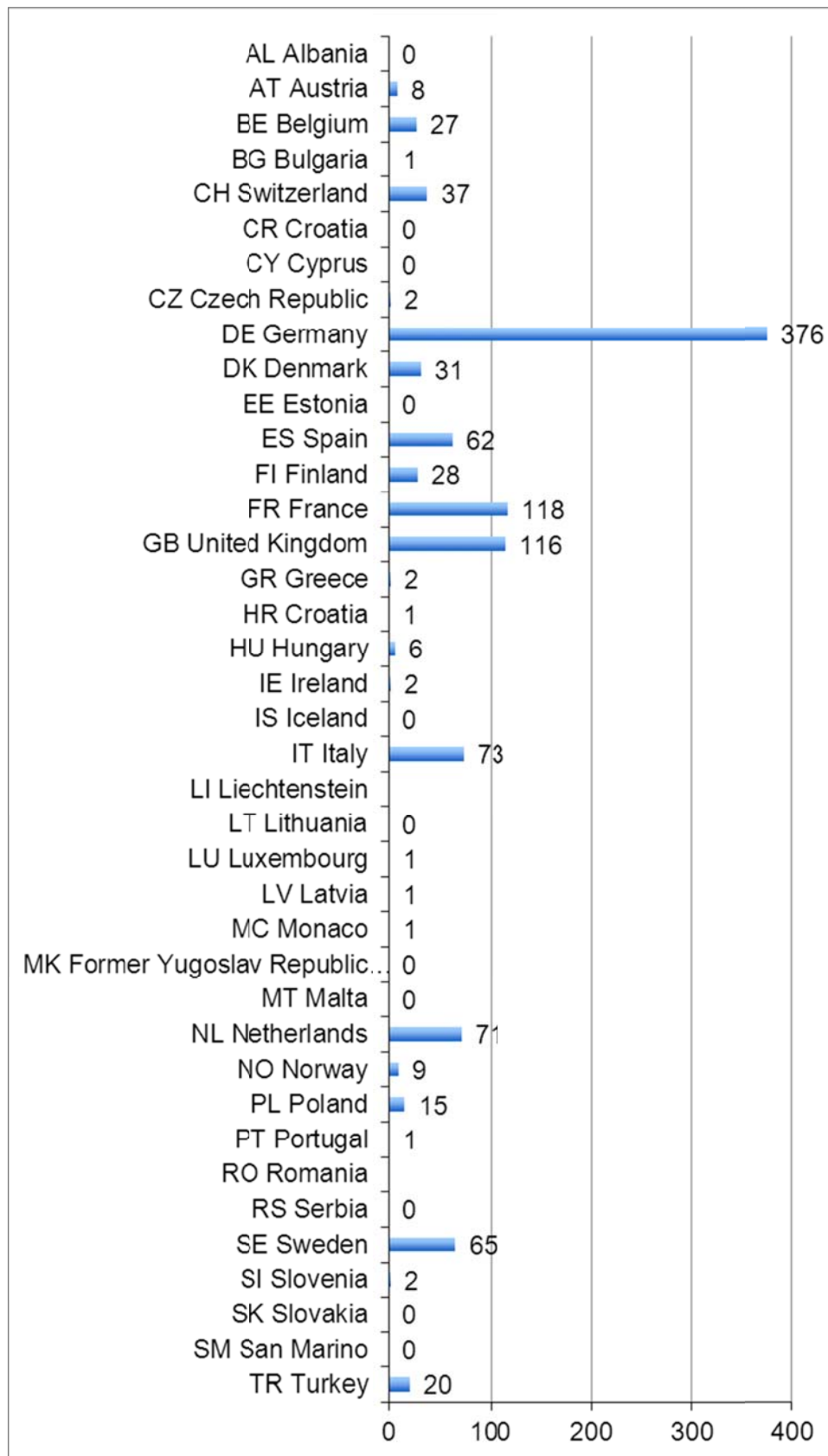
- - Make your own method ...
- Know perfectly the CBE and PCT and all the rules and decision and guidelines in order not to hesitate during the exams
- - Prepare appropriately, but do not underestimate time pressure. Exercising on past papers is really good training, for any of the papers
- - Start in time and repeat all the time every day...
- - Just make them understand that the time is really an issue more than your knowledge so you can miss just by being not so organised or not having all your text you can copy in good order....
- - Start studying earlier than you think you need to, so that you can use all the available contents and resources and learn properly from them in good time before the exam.
- - start early with preparing. Do sit a full mock EQE-Exam
- - Start asap and have the concepts clear. There is no time for hesitation during the Exams and if you hesitate the time pressure and the nerves will not let you think clearly.
- - Find someone that truly wishes to help you prepare the EQE.
- - Attend a seminar specific for c exam
- - Study a lot x 3
- - Use the Watchorn books to prepare for the pre-exam and paper D.
- - Learning in small groups. Discussing mistakes
- - It is crucial to complete C in the allowed time. Most of us get out handwriting habit. It is important tout recreate it before the exam by practicing C-compendium.
- - Please learn from benevolent examiners who patiently gathered observations and experiences about given candidates, all over the years, so just learn from compendium (http://www.epo.org/learning-events/eqe/compendium_de.html), and, especially, read carefully all examiners reports.
- - practicing with the compendium past papers until finally mastered it
- - Practice, read a lot of compendium, made a lot of mock exam, discuss with friends who passed the exam, made your own source of information, be active or read the EQE forum, do a lot of training courses.
- - discuss questions and answers in small groups
- - Find and employer who is ready to let you study during working hours.
- - Just drop this stupid exam. The exam seems not to test if you are fit to practice but if you are able to cope with things that never happen under extreme time pressure. If you had the time you would be able to manage. Additionally the exam is in a foreign language where some of the words are not completely clear to you which blurs the picture. Compared to the missing requirements for being an examiner at EPO, this is so arrogant that EPO requires pass of this exam to be allowed to speak to an examiner which just went into the doors of EPO without knowing anything about IPR.
- - Study hard and attend to courses. If you do so, try to absorb as much as possible and also do as many mock exams as possible before sitting in the exams.
- - Study!
- - Start early.
- - Expect great variation in the length and the complexity of the exam from year to year.
- - sdfg
- - The candidates shall start their preparations at least one year before the exams.
- They shall know all Articles and Rules of the EPC so they shall not spend so much time during the exam where the respective Article and Rule can be found. As mentioned above, the time pressure for paper D was extreme this year.
- They shall know all G decisions and shall not spend so much time where the respective G decision can be found in their comments (commented guidelines, commented Visser, Kley Kommentar, individual notices etc.). They shall know their own commented version of the EPC in detail.

- About two weeks before the exams, they shall only focus on the preparation, so they shall know all the Articles and Rules of the EPC, they shall know the important Articles and Rules of the PCT, national law of the EPC, the important aspects of the guidelines, official journals, PCT newsletters etc.
- In this period about 7-8 hours (net) shall be spent for the preparation. They shall not forget to make breaks.
- Further, especially in this period a good alimentation (so not so much e.g. chocolate and chips :-)) and enough sleep are important.
- One day before the exam they shall briefly go through the index of the EPC and the PCT, and then they shall just relax and think about the beautiful time after the exams (spend more time with husband/wife, boyfriend/girlfriend, children, friends, literature, vacation, nature, sports, music, parties etc.)
- The most important thing at the end: Do not forget that the EQE is just an exam. To be honest, it is doubtless the most difficult exam I ever had, but the candidates shall not forget that the EQE shall not control their life style and negatively affect important relationships. Before they make a decision whether they shall attend the EQE they shall talk to their family and "warn" them since there may be times where they have to spend more time with the preparation than acceptable by their family.
- - No.
- - Doing past papers in the allocated time is the key.
- - For Paper C, I suggest doing several past papers completely within the new 5 hour periods, using pre-prepared machine translations of the prior art documents where applicable. Get used to how short 5 hours will seem in the exam.
- - Start well in advance
- - Take enough time to rest before the exam: you have to stay focussed for many hours and that is not going to happen, when you are tired.
- - Start preparations as soon as you receive feedback about results of eg Pre-Examination. Focus on a list of topics as presented in "EQE guide for preparation" or on a list of material for D part as well as on what Delta Patents expects to happen at the EQE. Possibly start reading Guidelines as well as case law as early as possible. Make your own notes on the EPC. And be systematic in studying. Try to sit past papers in exam conditions. Focus, where the points are allocated.
- - try to do mocks in shorter time than the real exam time
- - Training of old exams under time constraints
- - No matter how hard you study because the result will depend if the exam relates to an area in which you are expertise, or not. If you cannot understand the meaning of the invention how to make claims for it. It is so unfair.
- - - Get the book "EPÜ- und PCT-Tabellen" by Bozic et al. for paper D (if you understand German)
- - Start a study group where you can discuss your practice papers
- - Practise a lot and be very disciplined and methodic
- - Don't start with the EQE after years with a high pass rate - you will lose! The EQE is now a kind of Russian roulette (depends on which year you start with the EQE). Who gave the order that the pass rate should decrease this year significant?
- - Articles and rules are the key !
- - Read and understand the law. Both Visser and Hoekstra are good for this. I used Visser because I bought it first. Hoekstra has nice tables, you may want to check it also. Solving questions is also important for Paper D but I think understanding the law is much more important. For Papers A and B solving the old papers is very helpful. Do as much as you can. For Paper C, I personally couldn't study a lot. I think you should do at least 5 old papers. I did 3 and had a huge time management issue during the exam. I also wasn't very sure about which methodology to use, this was not a good way of preparing for Paper C.
- - n.a.
- - Start early, especially with DII
- - Start studying as early as possible.

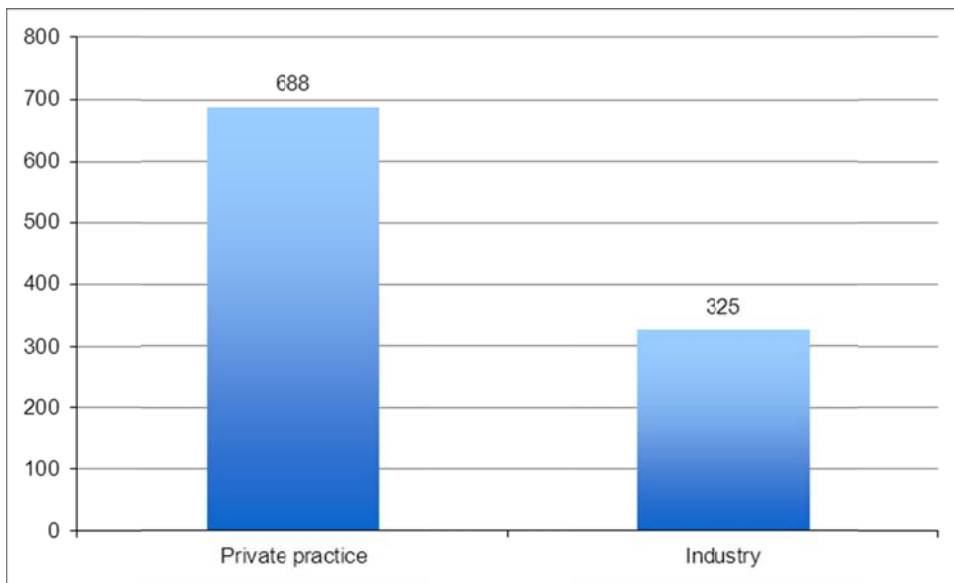
- Try some exam questions even when you know you are not ready, don't wait too long.
- - I would recommend them to leave the last month for solving questions provided by sources such as EPO online course or delta patents. Solving a wide variety of these questions is especially helpful for providing a candidate with the ability to "find things" in the related parts of the books/learning materials.
- - See answer to Q 12.
- - To try to get involved in forums and discuss with other colleagues
- - EPO Pre-examination course is great!
- Read the Guidelines.
- - Do not study too hard. Start early, but then rest 1 or 2 days before examination. If your knowledge gets too great, this may as well be disadvantage for the pre-examination. Watch out, not to see traps, where there are no traps. Usually questions 1, 2, 3 and 11, 12, 13 are the easiest, whilst questions 8, 9, 10 and 18, 19, 20 are more difficult.
- - none
- - Avoir fait une première formation complète sur le droit de la PI , comme par exemple le CEIPI.
- Bien savoir utiliser les documents auxquels on a droit (G. BAQUES, CBE...)
- Faire tous les examens précédents.
- - Start in time
- - Do not over analyse questions. For claim drafting, it is fairly formulaic - develop techniques to assess and judge questions without inferring anything.
- - I do not have any special comments - It is easy to fail paper C. I work in an Intellectual property office since 14 years. I have prepared a lot of oppositions, but I have not already succeeded paper C...
- - Start as early as possible, especially for paper D.
- Do as many practice papers as possible, ideally under exam conditions, and practice sitting papers on consecutive days (as will happen during the EQEs)
- - Expect far more difficult paper and far less time to answer than before.
- - 4 weeks is enough time to pass with the epi/epo pre-eqe course and deltapatent's basic legal questions. I scored a 96.
- - Study hard for the legal part
- - Do the past papers!
- - You can never be over-prepared for EQE. Don't let EQE scare you! But you shall also not underestimate the difficulties of EQE, in particular under the time and your nerve pressure.
- - Start familiarizing with documents, law, articles, vocabulary and above all with questionnaires
- - If you are already in practice, you would not feel unfamiliar with everything in EPC Art and Rules, all you need to do is getting into detail to make relations specific cases with theoretical ones. However if you need practice, you should read more cases from case law and investigate each situation in view of legal perspective and you should construct correlations in your mind between real decisions and legal bases.
- - Start early
- - Start preparation early and devote some time to analyze questions/papers at least every second day.
- - Concentrate on short adequate answers.
- - NO
- - Get familiar with the exam 'spirit' by doing the compendium
- Do not interpret too much the question wording
- - Do all the past papers. Be wary of the claim analysis sections from the mock papers as they are different from the actual papers.
- - More than 6 months in advance for the theory.
- Exercising on previous years papers at least 3 months in advance along with theory.
- - I think two years of preparation is too much. You need to prepare for the pre-eqe, and then do some intensive months before the EQE, with a lot of past papers.

- - It is a personal point of view
- - Focus on the examiner reports and a lot of trainings of old papers
- - Start early enough;-)
- - Get practical training
- - Follow courses equivalent to the French CEIPI and do the mock exams.
- - It is a sacrifice you have got to make.
- - learn, test, learn, test
- - Study study study and ask for any doubt to a EQE
- - For paper C, try to get as fast as possible in extracting the right information for preparing the attacks.
- - Same as above, do concentrate on compendia of the last 2 years for practicing under strict exam conditions. Otherwise, you might get a wrong assessment of your abilities under time pressure.
- - To do a lot of practice with the past papers.
- - After some study, focus on Compendium, Compendium and more Compendium. Practice like if you were really taking the exams, with fixed-time conditions.
- - If you are fit for practice, then you are fit for practice. You are not fit for practice because you pass the EQE. If you pass the EQE then you are only fit for passing the EQE. Have fun wasting your time acquiring the worthless skills of tackling a specific paper with a specific method and forgetting about everything afterwards in order not to endanger daily reasonable practice.
- - Practice with previous exams and start your preparation as soon as possible
- - Try all the mock using exam conditions and do not waste them just to evaluate your preparation.
- Try to resolve them only when you think you are ready to sit the pre-exam.
- - The need to do past papers to time is very important.
- - try to sleep, eat and drink well
- - Study a lot although the pass quote in 2014 was approx. 85%
- - Participate in the EPA Pre-examination online training course
- - It is important to deepen the legal knowledge by solving a lot of legal questions (multiple choice questions).
- In case of claim analysis the candidate has to be able to filter out as soon as possible which information is important and which information is not in the given task.
- - Start preparing early for the D paper since this is very time consuming.
- - Der Ceipi-Kurs für den C-Teil ist sehr empfehlenswert. Wenn man aber genug Disziplin besitzt, wäre es auch ausreichend das C-Book alleine intensiv durchzumachen. Besonders empfehlenswert für den D I-Teil ist das D-Book. Es dauert zwar sehr lange es gut durchzumachen (ca. 1 Woche) aber es lohnt sich insbesondere dann wenn man es sich auch gut markiert.
- Für PCT sollte man außerdem den Applicants Guide der WIPO lesen.
- 6-8 Wochen Vollzeit lernen sind eine durchaus gute Zeit. Man ist danach (wenn man diszipliniert arbeitet) sehr gut vorbereitet. Mehr ist fast nicht sinnvoll, da man auch sehr schnell wieder Sachen vergißt (gerade beim D-Teil) .
- - Start studying earlier.
- - Doing a lot of previous paper. between 5 and 10 of each paper.
- - Practice as much as you can.
- - Training/Employment under Article 11(2)(a) REE

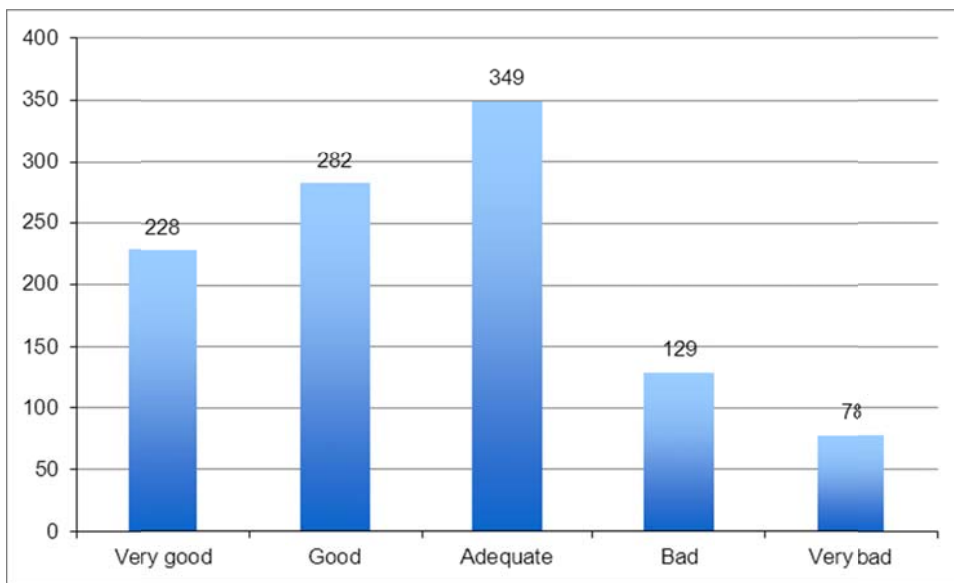
Q16) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training according to Art. 11(2)(a) REE?



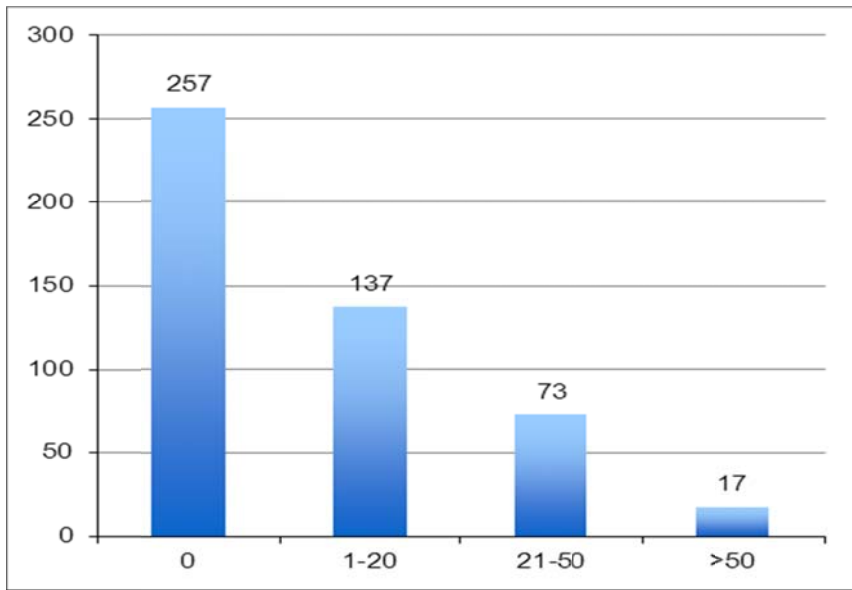
Q17) I completed most of the training (Art 11(2)(a) REE) in private practice / industry



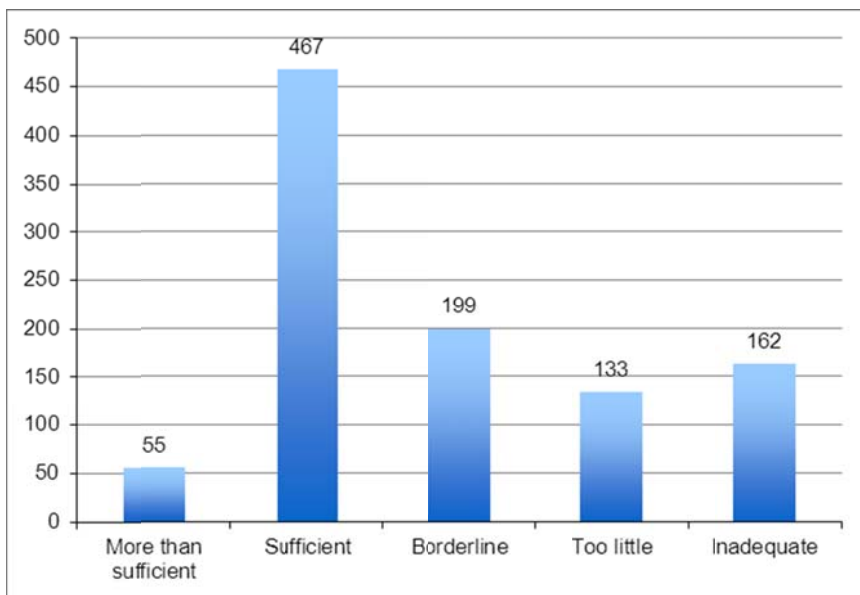
Q18) How would you rate the support of your employer in view of your preparation for the EQE?



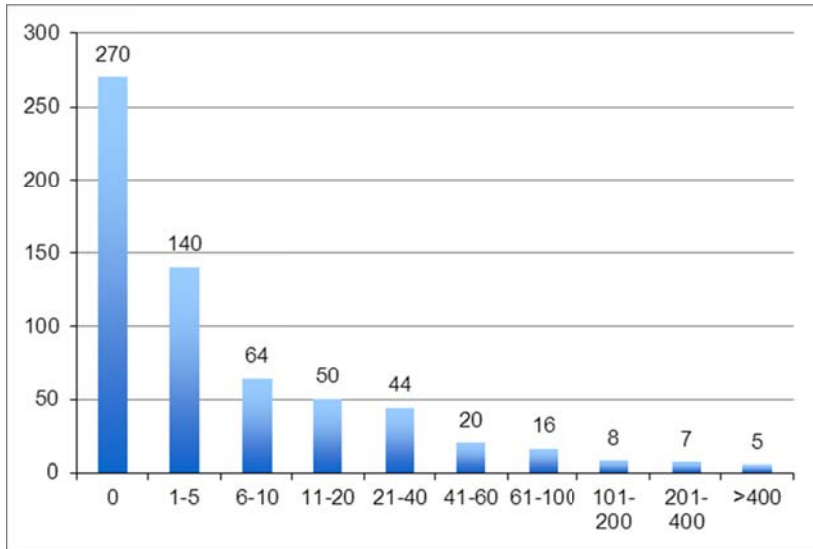
Q19) How much time did your employer allow for attending courses for your preparation for the EQE?



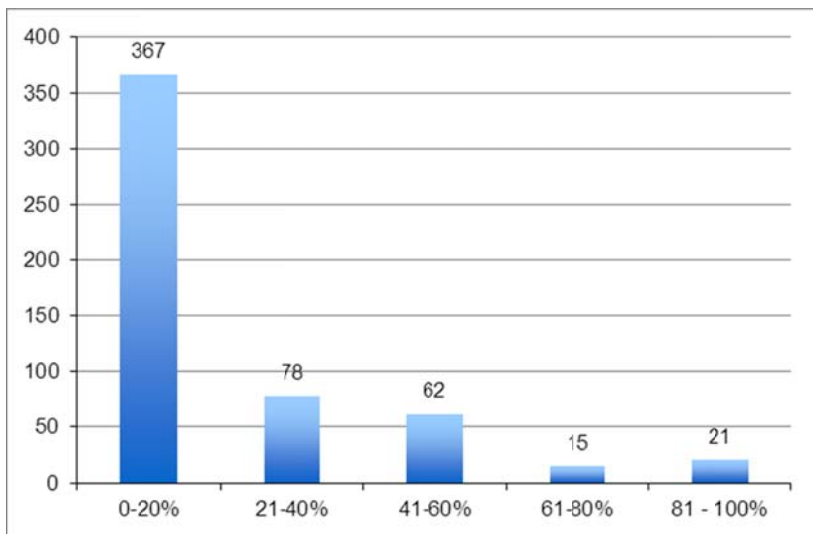
Q20) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your employer for participation in courses?



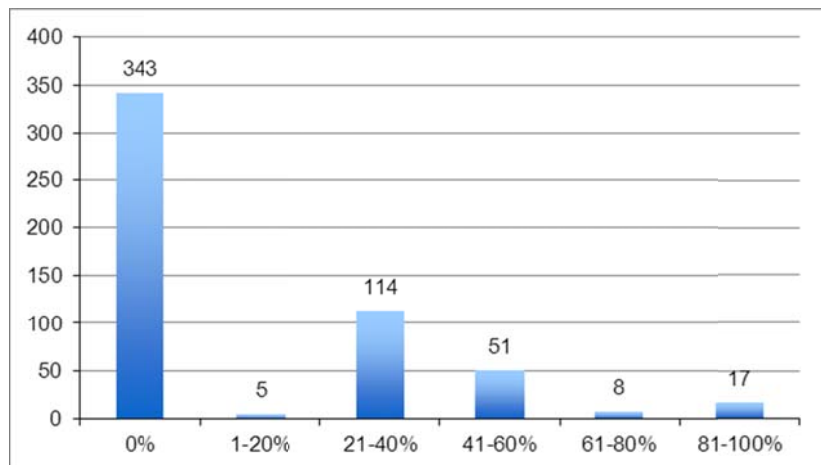
Q21a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art. 11(2)(a) REE (i.e. the person who signed your Certificate of Training or Employment)?



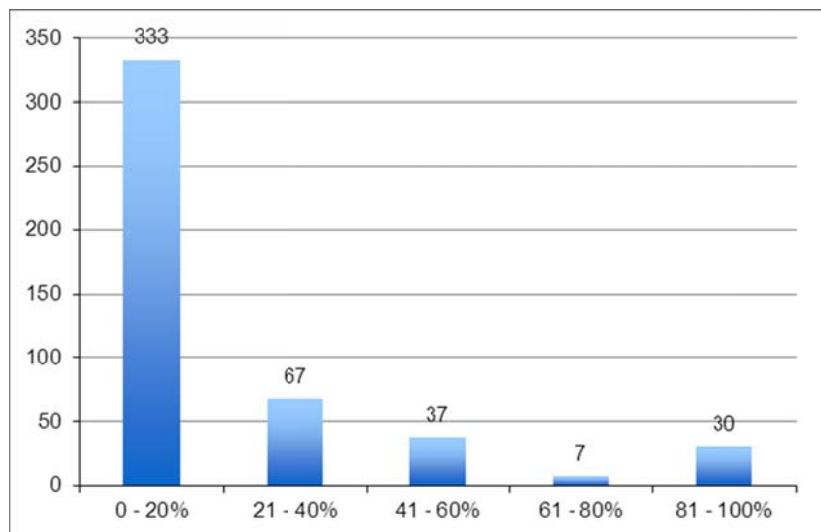
Q21b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the first year of training?



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'

- - I work for _EPO_, and this option is not taken into account for the questions on this page. Please improve!
- - A supervisor should provide to the candidate his own specific EQE knowledge and experience (e.g. strategies to face papers, ways to prepare study material, etc.).
- - This questions seems irrelevant for me. It might help to remind what these articles are since we don't have time to look for this. Also, I am an examiner and it seems the questions are not well posed for examiners.
- - Give training directed towards exam rather than solely to EPO law and procedures
- - Spend time in Papers correction and add comments other than those contained in the Examiner Report.
- I was lucky, as this is what my tutor did.
- - I did not have one, so nothing to improve...
- - In our law firm, theoretical training on EPC matters takes place on a training-on-the job basis. Whenever a specific issue comes up with a file I am working on, my supervisors ask background questions and or give information with regard to general principles, based on the case at hand. However, there are no theoretical courses/seminars where EQE candidates

are taught on EPC matters. Therefore, I find it hard to evaluate how much time my supervisor spent on my preparation for the pre-EQE. It's entangled with everyday practical work.

- - To stop telling the candidates that the exams are 'easy' and that 'it is no problem', especially when they have taken the exam some time ago ('cause they have obviously forgotten most of the struggle). Not to disregard the questions of candidates as too easy, too basic, waste of time or whatever. To find time for the candidates, so they feel supported, and to really discuss stuff with them, give feedback, and explain. Even when something seems as a correct answer, it may be correct for a wrong reason, and these misconceptions should be uncovered and 'healed'.
- - n/a
- - Practise speed!
- - Good supervisors know what they have to do (and the others won't read this anyway)
- - submit to the trainee specific problems to be solved for each of the papers...some kind of coffee-break questions which are very useful.
- - Q19, 20, 21: I have changed company after first sitting and did not attend the examination last year; the replies given in above form would not make any sense
- - It was never fully "dedicated" training, but some discussions when topics appeared along the way.
- - To the above questions: I changed jobs, in both I work 3 days/week.
- In the former job, the one that served for enrolment/signature, I was given time to do the training for Dutch attorney exam.
- In the present job, I studied entirely in my own time.
- (No good, so might find a job for 5 days a week.)
- - Providing some days for preparing the exam
- - sorry, off topic but Q21 a-d are VERY difficult to answer for an old re-sitter, as this relates to training more than 4 years ago, so my answers are guesstimates!
- - to be committed to training their trainee, regardless of their own work pressure. It's too easy to say I'm busy!
- - The above questions are too detailed to correctly answer. The work dedicated to training for the EQE is an ongoing process of mentorship through completion of work and understanding and comprehension of the law.
- This is then supplemented by own study in learning the law and then practicing the application of the law on exemplar situations.
- - Commit more time to training candidates
- - Give more flexibility for the preparation of D (1 afternoon/week should be sufficient)
- - I am resitter, so the questions above and below are quite out of date. Supervising is not intensive any more.
- - Be familiar with the new pre EQE exam layout and types of questions, as they are not like paper D.
- - Working on real cases, discussing legal questions and discussing at least one exam for each part from the compendium.
- - no comments
- - experience, practice and training together
- - Reduce workload in months leading up to EQE and provide in-house tutorials where past papers are reviewed in detail so that candidates fully appreciate what the Examiner's are looking for. The exam scenarios candidates have to deal with are fictionalised accounts. Accordingly, the scenarios rarely can be tackled in the same way that they would in "real-life". Hence, learning to adapt one's skills to deal with the examinations is critical for success.
- - make sure they handle EP cases in prosecution, and do not just draft priority founding applications
- - NB This relates to my third sitting of exams, there was training for my first sitting of exams, but this survey appears to relate to the latest exams only, so I have indicated training and

time allowed for courses in relation to this sitting only.

- - spend more time for the preparation
- - Allow time, make sure that advice is still valid for current exams
- - Support participation in good preparatory courses
- - The exam is being very specialized as compared to the daily work, if supervisors are not updated with the exam, it is better to have a specialized exam supervisor
- - PROVIDE MORE "MOCK" EXAMINATIONS WHEN RULES ARE CHANGED; FOR EXAMPLE A CHANGE IN THE DURATIONS OF A PAPER. THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH MATERIAL AT EPO WEB SITE (ONLY 2013 PAPER B)
- - Practice on real cases.
- - reduced workload would be great to increase concentration on learning
- - Comments. As a re-sitter I have only spent time on self-studies.
- As a beginner I attended a course on B-exam but I had no time allocated by any supervisor for any of the exam parts, which was of course not good.
- This would not be adequate for D or C part, but for a B-exam I think that is OK.
- - Make sure all responses use problem-and-solution so that you have practice of this during your everyday work.
- - Sit the exam themselves - grandfather EPA haven't the necessary knowledge of what it takes to prepare and sit the EQE.
- - I have no suggestions.
- - Look at the papers of past years, as there are changes over the years.
- - Just doing the day to day job is good training.
- - - involve candidates in all interesting cases, discuss legal issues for each and every case the candidate works on
- - give the candidate enough time to work through the legal issues of the cases, even if that needs some more time in the beginning, in the end the candidate will be much more efficient as they know most of the things by heart
- - watch the candidate doing the old exam, defining /pointing out his/her mistakes directly. EPC procedures shall somehow be visualised for the candidates from industry (not working with EPC on the daily basis like private practises).
- - have together an overview of G decisions, last year JO and other important decisions
- - /
- - - supervision results from real working cases, daily
- - the preparation was handled by myself almost entirely
- - To take time and concern in view of the EQE.
- - Give your candidates time during the week to study
- - Not all candidates learn in the same way. Supervisors should be supportive of the learning style the candidate wishes to adopt. Personally I didn't have dedicated days of training with my supervisor, nor did I want that. For me, regular contact as needed was good, but nothing formal. I studied on my own and then brought specific questions to my supervisor. Much of the learning was related to day to day work. I would seek advice and then my supervisor would explain legal points related to real situations. For me that worked well. I am aware of supervisors who set up regular discussion groups concerning case law. That may be what they are interested in, but it isn't so useful in the EQE, where there are no points for philosophical discussions of case law. Generally, what matters is what the Guidelines say.
- - For Paper C it is not possible to suggest anything exempt practice of writing C-papers.
- - bring actual cases to the attention of the candidates.
- - Q16-Q21 do not really apply, I'm an EPO examiner. Same for Q23-Q26, in addition, I did not yet sit paper C
- - I work at the EPO and I had to prepare in my free time and to take holidays to go to the Ceipi course.
- - Use professionally prepared material like Deltapatents or the like and go through a number of exams together with the candidate. Otherwise the candidate will not find out about problems he might have solving the papers.

- - For the Pre-Exam, dedicated training by a supervisor may be helpful, but is not yet necessary in my view.
- - To be allowed to spend extra time on real cases relevant for the exams, be a part of some of the work usually performed by assistants which are relevant for the exam (filings, payment of fees, etc.)
- - Let candidates write mock exams as soon as possible, beginning with A and B parts after a few month of practice in the field.
- - In the years of 1987 to 1992, during an abroad envoy working in patent department within headquarters of a great international company at Munich (Siemens), there I had real luck since truly grown experts of patent affairs told me all the special features and facilities. Many patent applications, replications, objections, opposition, at EPO, and many conversation with Inventors most of them in Perlach, Munich, yes, I enjoyed it.
- Then, I suggest to candidates and supervisors, what I learned from the best experts who told me "there never is any more an easy work to do ..."
- - to have some interest in it
- - Supervisor came in and asked me to write an A, B, and lastly the exam, each time without any preparation whatsoever, explaining briefly how to do it. That was the most useless waste of time and effort I ever had to endure.
- - More teamwork in day to day practice.
- - There are no supervisors in Poland that can help with preparation for the EQE, so there is nothing to improve.
- - Supervisors should seriously be interested in teaching candidates for EQE. Mostly supervisors are only interested in "candidates" as assistants for the daily work in the patent law firm.
- - Question is not adequate, as I sit for pre-exam.
- I attended CEIPI last year, which is much time given by my employer.
- - I have learned a lot from my supervisors but it was always related to real cases, there has not been dedicated training for the EQE although I could have asked any question that I had. So the above answers are difficult to answer for me. For me it was the ideal preparation because if a question/problem pops up in real life, it is much easier to access the matter than studying rather theoretical aspects from a book. Therefore, I really appreciated when the epi tutors came up with examples from their daily experience during the training course.
- - - prepare for the odd cases
- - let them take CEIPI Seminars
- - to be more concerned by our preparation and success
- - Inform about the usefulness of the Guidelines.
- - Not applicable: EPO examiner
- - Actually do something proactive rather than just sitting back and seeing what work naturally comes in.
- - I am an EPO examiner. This survey should be amended so that I do not have to reply to this. My director gave me no budget at all. Some directors give some budget.
- - More inhouse training.
- - I only took the Pre-exam now, so my training is ongoing.
- - Since my employer has a dedicated in-house training programme for the EQE, supervisor training was not required.
- - Regular discussions on EP patent law and case law, in view of normal work but also purely related to the exam.
- - Get involved
- - Allow more time to do past papers
- - Attente de leur point de vue constructif ou expérience à ce sujet.
- - The first 18 months of my training was spent preparing for UK qualification which is of a much higher standard. All of the EPC and claim construction translates to the pre-exam. Therefore for UK based candidates, I advise their supervisors to put them forward for UK

exams early, then little prepr is needed for the pre exam.

- - In private practice it seems that the which for stable income to the company is prioritized and the possibilities for a Candidate to get time to study for the EQE is simply not there. A patent attorney consultant in private practice may have an hourly rate of 200 EURO or more and considering that the time to prepare for the D-exam alone may be 300 hours or more the cost for the firm may easily exceed 60 000 EURO, which is not accepted by many firms. Instead, the 500 hours or more required for preparing for A, B, C and D exams has to be done after working hours, i.e. for many candidates the EQE-exam is a night course.
- - Spend more time on understanding the current exam and on legal changes. Sit down with your student regularly.
- - establish a supervision in our company - its a do it your self process
- - Depends, if you have a good out-of-office training course, the requirement for in house training to pass the EQE exams lessens.
- - Wenn es beim Supervisor zu lange her ist, kann er für die aktuelle EQE keine hilfreichen Tipps geben. Und das was fürs reale Leben wichtig ist, hilft in der EQE nicht weiter.
- - train on speed writing
- - To supervise them at least a little...
- - Take the time to survey the preparation
- - My supervisor did not personally really instruct me - however, other colleagues did give advice.
- - A regular course of study is what is really required. It would have been good to have formal internal training.
- - My training was as examiner in the EPO, therefore the questions 17-25 are non-applicable
- - Sorry but I do not have a really idea of percentage, It is my all day work to interact with my supervisor about EU and PCT and alla correlated matter, obviously, the era very prepared and kind, but I' handling with drafting, and reseraches and PCT and translations into EN, FR; DE, and will like to see in the next years more about Opposiotion! SO I could say 10-90? Thanks for understanding.
- - Train real situation using methodology of c-course
- - To allow to spend more % of working days on training
- - To release the participant from work at least 4 weeks before sitting the EQE
- - Plenty of experience answering office actions and drafting patent applications is needed
- - you always will have to know where items are defined in any one of relevant conventions hence emphasis is put on correct denoting of concerned convention, article, rule, instruction, decision, etc.
- - To participate more. However, I was the first to take part in Pre-exam so my supervisor did not know the requirements for passing the pre-exam.
- - which of my employers; and used time in which year?
- - regular in-house training, e.g. with seminars on the EPC and Case Law, etc.
- - Holdd tutorials. Go through past papers, or individual questions, with trainees.
- - as before
- - Make candidates aware of Visser (or other suitable book) a.s.a.p. and use Delta patent's C-book to explain problem solution approach. Make candidates aware that in fact, the every-day's work of the whole three years serve as preparation for EQE, not only the last month.
- - they must give us days to study
- - In Spain, supervisors should leave the candidates free days for the study, because currently the majority of the candidates in Spain study during their free time, namely on weekends (not during working days).
- - supervising work and training for the preEQE are two completely different things
- - 1/2 journée au moins par semaine pendant l'année précédant l'examen
- - I have not had specified training periods - my supervisor works training points into our handling of cases (making sure I understand what we are doing as we go along). I was involved in an opposition case and attended the hearing as a training exercise. I found this very helpful because I understood the case as I had been involved in preparing responses

etc.

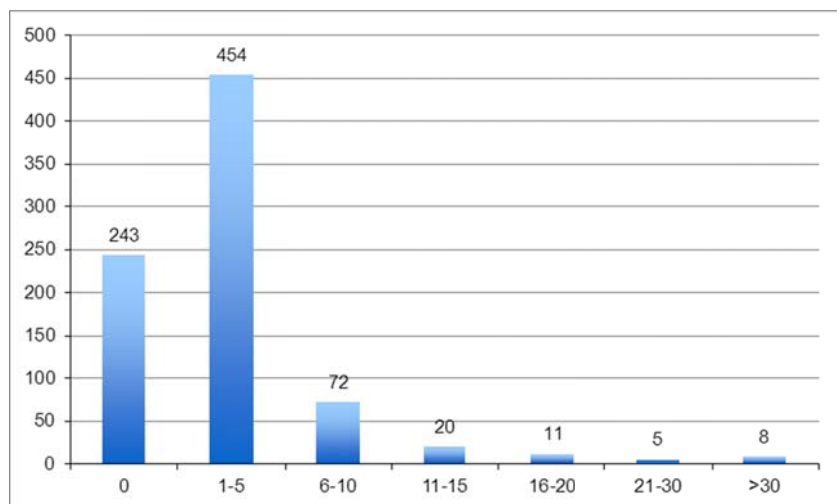
- - As much focus needs to be given to exam technique as to knowledge of the law and what level of knowledge is required for the examination. Additionally, less time in meetings/tutorials needs to be spent on how good the supervisor is and more time needs to be spent on how to improve the trainees ability to pass the exam.
- - establish a program of work between the candidate and the supervisor to discuss the performed exams and to have a useful correction appropriate for the next exam to perform.
- - Supervisors should be trained specifically for supervising, otherwise it is much more useful to take dedicated courses.
- - Discuss syllabus preparation.
- Assist with commentary on past examination paper answers.
- - Even if supervisor is a good patent attorney, will be useless if he had no recent experience with EQE.
- - Allow more time to study.
- - Keeping updated on the changing requirements for each particular paper, always bearing in mind the limited time available in the exam.
- - analyse and repeat papers- redo the thing you did wrong and try to focus on what you are good at to make it even better.
- - Setting some time aside to go through the EQE syllabus and discuss the main issues that may arise.
- - Allocate more "real life" work that mirror the exams
- - I didn't receive specific training as I didn't want any. Prepared for the EQE on my own at my own pace. Took 6 weeks off work before the EQE to prepare for it - in my opinion that's the best form of support one can get
- - I am a "grand father" European patent attorney and I had no supervisor.
- - It would be helpful to have some supervision.
- - Spend some time training your trainees
- - To allow 2 hours per week for the preparation of EQE during at least three months, in particular for paper D.
- - This question does not seem fair for the Pre Exam. My employer organizes dedicated training as a firm, not my supervisor. In addition, they expect you to pass the pre-Exam based on self-study and your experience during two year working, and the course for national patent attorney.
- - Its not just money making from the candidates its about your responsibility to train these young people. Its about team work and giving them a feeling they are part of the company / practice. The general consent that people should learn alone without any tutoring is wrong!! The more you invest the better is the quality of the people that work for and with you!
- - Other than being sent on an external course, my firm did not have much involvement in my training for the EQE pre-exam. Rather, I was generally expected to prepare for the exam via private study during the evenings and at weekends. Of course, if I had any questions, my supervisor was more than happy to answer them and provide guidance. I think this is a fair approach to the EQE pre-exam and, from talking to other candidates from different UK firms, this appeared to be the approach taken at their firms too.
- - My training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art.11(2)(a) REE was the normal daily office works of European Patent Applications.
- - regularly discuss legal questions and office action replies
- - Supervisors should have more knowledge on the subject matter and be better up-to-date.
- - Dialog-based teaching is much more helpful than just letting candidates read about the theory.
- - be open for questions and discussions which my supervisor luckily was
- - discussing the theoretical IP-aspects with regard to practical cases. considering the Guidelines in everyday working life and discussing Problems related thereto with the candidates.
- - Preparatory courses for EQE

- - RAS
- - Provide adequate time for formal courses and for private study.
- Ensure candidates have allocated times set aside for review of their preparation and questions.
- - nothing
- - doing more mock exams
- - I suggest attending the CEIPI course and take in the preexam as soon as possible in order to have increased motivation to keep updated on law.
- - Giving the candidates good information on the available preparation courses, reducing the workload during the preparation period and why not giving a few days of rest prior to the Exam.
- - Everyone needs find his own methodology for study and solving the papers
- - They should somehow be forced by the epi to take care of the candidates. They have a lot of knowledge but insufficient time or interest in training candidates. Too bad!
- - To practise with new mock exams
- - dedicate more time
- allow more leave for preparation
- - Moved jobs so N/a
- - Not relevant, I attended preexam
- - discuss EPC matters and current interesting cases, guide as what to start with to prepare, allow time to prepare, give some encouragements
- - Guide through the practice papers and provide a guidance what is actually expected from each of those
- - I am an examiner at the EPO...these questions do not apply to me.
- - discuss possible problems that might arise a bit more often and what to think of all the time, in all different responses
- - A good selection of cases for a directed training.
- - Take your time to teach, it is for your own good.
- - In 1992, and the years before, I was member of patent department, right at head of one world wide huge concern, at Munich, and there I got admittance to access one specific library established in appropriate rooms to contain many of observations and experiences taken with countries spread over the whole world. Really, more than this I would never ever dare to get.
- - Always be up to date with the law, take sufficient time to review the work of the employee with him, be structured, keep in mind what is the eqe and what it is expected at the EQE
- - dedicated time for eqe preparation under working hours, e.g. 1/2 day/week
- - I would suggest to provide more EQE dedicated feedback (e.g. Office Action responses or notice of opposition). However, if the supervisor is not fully up to date on EQE requirements, it is hard for him to provide such support.
- - It should be more clear from EPO what is required by the candidate. Ceipi is not enough and Delta courses does not give you all the skills. It seems like having a tutor that passed the EQE recently (not grandfather) gives you better support since they know what is required and thus can try to make the mindset of EPO understandable in order to pass the exam and get your life back.
- - Start early. Do not memories your preparation, your EQE style. It has definitely changed in the last 5 years.
- - Most supervisors have taken the EQE long ago, such that their advice sometimes is not that relevant anymore. The best help came from colleagues who recently took the exam (last 5 years).
- - Allocate time during working days for dedicated training of the EQE and special vacation
- - Since I did a resit of one exam, this section of the survey does not seem to apply to me, or my answers were provided in a survey already one or two years ago.
- - Less work (being billed at full attorney rate) and more time / feedback on the mistakes which have obviously been made

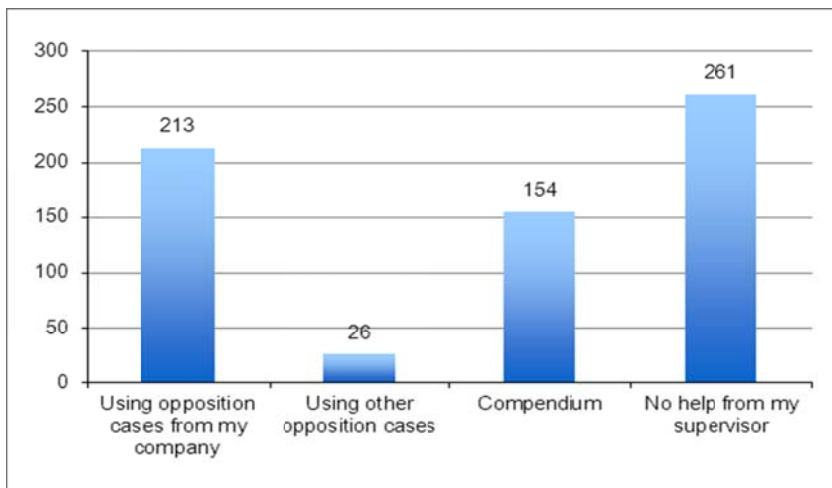
- - They shall spend much more time with them. In the law firm where I got my education, the EQE preparation and the preparation to a German patent attorney were not important.
- (The current employer is different from the law firm where I made my education.)
- - Correct past papers
- - clearly explain basic points of the law, like novelty. Clearly explain the problem solution approach
- - To managers: do appoint a supervisor under Art. 11(2)(a) REE and do not just appoint a supervisor.
- - Allow enough time
- - Supervisors shall make their students assess the cases and then correct the task.
- - I do not know exactly the amount of time and working days of the above questions Q21 a-d.
- Suggestions are to make questions to the candidates starting from 2 months before the exam to understand if they need to put more effort on certain aspects of their preparation.
- - give them more space
- - Organise courses for eqe prep with other employers, and let candidates attend regularly
- - I am a patent examiner at the EPO and we basically have no support at all.
- - Correct together some mock cases.
- Give some time during the working time to study and discuss with other colleagues and/or supervisors
- - Comment the different cases and see the different points of view until it is clear
- - give the candidates also a mental training for the EQE
- - Assuming "dedicated training" relates to preparation for the exams themselves, my supervisor was usually far too busy to get involved. I would be surprised if this wasn't the case for other candidates. Personally, I would say that the job of a supervisor is to supervise your training as an attorney (i.e. the job), not to providing a tutoring service. The latter is mostly comprised of self-study, specialist courses and revision aids.
- - more detailed explanations in the compendium, perhaps
- - Prepare as many replies to Official Letters as possible, not only from EPO but also from other patent offices.
- - It is important that the supervisor is in contact with recent EQE practices
- - Mention the legal basis in daily practice
- - /
- - The questions Q21a-d are - sorry - somewhat meaningless, the daily work is training, discussing the routine cases is training as well...
- but the typical daily practice is quite different from the typical EQE situation
- - See earlier answer under Q14 (?)
- - My "supervisor" works on another Office. It was the fourth time I try to succeed paper C. No time for preparing paper C is allowed in my new office. I trained at home, only at home, during 3 months, twice a week, for preparing C this year.
- - Q16-Q25 do not apply for me because I am EPO examiner
- - Provide a variety of work related to EPO procedures
- - Preparations with mock exams
- - MAYBE IT COULD BE USEFUL TO DISCUSS AND CORRECT TOGETHER THE PAST PAPERS
- - My training was not "dedicated training for the EQE". My training was dedicated training for practice, which covers learning all aspects of European patent practice. Dedicated training for the EQE consisted of a few tutorials on how to adapt that training for the exam.
- - Provide some practical guidance to their students.
- - Good supervisors know very well what to do, and the bad ones don't read this anyway.
- - Training in the job giving support to the tasks carried out by the candidate
- - Begin more earlier and more intense preparation, such that the candidates become during the first two years aware of the structure of the exams and the amount of preparation required.

- - Please help your candidates.
- - as a resitter for A paper, the main work this year was using the compendium of past papers and to re use teachings from the courses of the CEIPI, together with the support of my supervisor.
- - let some sufficient time from 6 months before the exam to prepare properly, agreed on half days dedicated only to EQE preparations every week.
- - Financial support and free days for studying
- - There was no training time dedicated to the EQE, but whenever I have a question, my supervisor takes all the time that is necessary to explain it to me until I understand.
- - Regarding Q21 a) - Q21 d) there was/is no "special" "dedicated" training for the "Pre-EQE" with my supervisor during my time before the Pre-Examination.
- - Pay for candidates to go on courses and take an active role in dedicated training for the EQE.
- Give advice on methodology for the different EQE exams and also make clear that the candidate can spend time during office hours to prepare for the EQE.
- Supply suitable reference materials to the candidate, since preparing for the EQE is expensive for someone paid as a trainee.
- In at least the last four months before the EQE lighten the workload for the EQE candidates so they can focus more on their EQE preparation.
- - Establish a schedule (e.g. day and time) to discuss doubts with the candidate and decide the subject matter to discuss about. Having a schedule set up, the candidate does not feel he is disturbing his supervisor.
- - I prepared aside of my job in industry - no time for intensive contact with my external supervisor.

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?



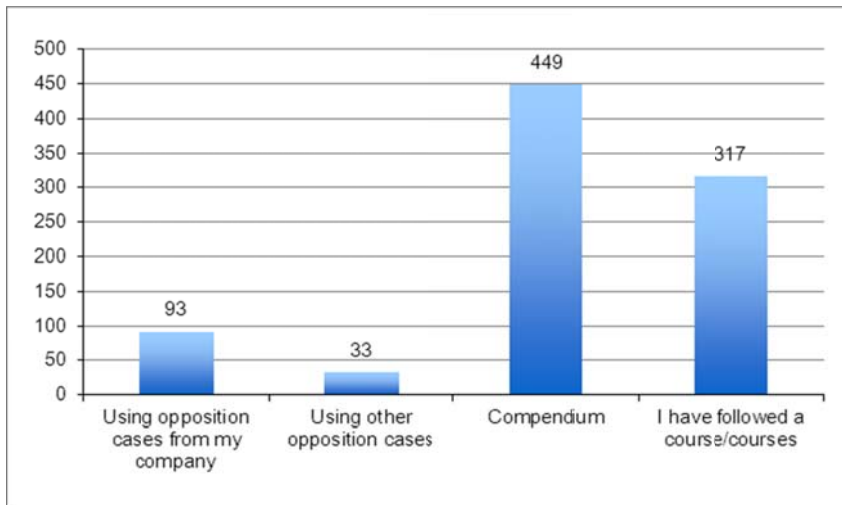
Candidates were asked to make comments concerning Q24. The comments are listed below.

- I have not sat paper C
- - n/a
- - I have no supervisor.
- - not prepared yet
- - no supervisor
- - n/a, I was taking the preexam
- - n/a
- - I did not fo paper C yet.
- - (he offered help, but I didn't need it)
- - not applicable yet
- - I did not take paper C yet.
- - No C training yet
- - na
- - N/A
- - Have not done C.
- - N/A
- - not applicable
- - I will not be taking Paper C until next year
- - pre-exam only
- - N/A
- - N/A
- - See comments above. I am resitter
- - mock-trial oppositions
- - am preEQE candidate: question not applicable
- - I'm from EPO, so no supervisor
- - Delta patent paper C
- - Not sitted yet
- - I did not do paper C yet
- - Noz yet
- - advices in real cases
- - discussions, open for questions
- - No supervisor
- - na
- - Participating in various opposition procedures at the EPO.

- - ich habe kein spez. Training beanspruchen wollen
- - some "tricks" to overcome opponent
- - preexam
- - oral proceedings
- - I sat the pre-exam
- - not needed for pre-exam
- - no supervisor
- - N/A sat only pre-exam
- - not applicable as I was participating in preexam
- - I did the Pre-examination
- - I did not attend paper C
- - No supervisor, I'm an Examiner
- - Real opposition cases
- - I have not sat paper c
- - 2h seminar every 2nd week
- - Not relevant for per-exam
- - N/A - sat pre-eqe
- - not relevant
- - did not take paper C
- - I haven't prepared for paper C yet.
- - not done paper c
- - 3rd party observations
- - only Pre Exam so far
- - I did not sit for paper C
- - rather technical assistance in dedicated difficult cases
- - Participated in Pre-exam - no training for paper C
- - I didn't participate in Paper C
- - Held a tutorial based on a past paper.
- - not yet started
- - Tutorial on paper C
- - not applicable (pre-exam)
- - Did not attend yet
- - I did not sit Paper C
- - I sat the Pre Exam.
- - Not applicable (I only took the EQE pre-exam)
- - 1 (one) case [cf. first answer to Q24)].
- - Pre-EQE only
- - discussions
- - sending me to the CEIPI training courses for paper C
- - n/a
- - I have just started training to Paper C
- - I didn't take paper C this year... (ticked the respective box, so I wonder why this question appears here?!)
- - Tutorials
- - not applicable
- - Je n'ai pas passé C
- - Only sat Pre-Exam
- - I did not sit paper C
- - I did not train for paper C for the preexam
- - N/A
- - training (ceipi)
- - studying real cases before oral proceedings
- - had conversation about techniques

- - Not relevant, I attended preexam
- - I sat the Pre-exam
- - N/A
- - Advices
- - haven't seat paper C yet
- - Not done paper C
- - Pre-EQE
- - N/a (I took pre-exam)
- - not relevant, examiner
- - I did not sit paper C
- - His teaching was WRONG
- - Review of written procedure and support during and review of oral proceeding
- - Did not take part in c
- - I have not attended paper C
- - i have just sat pre-examination
- - N/A
- - no training for paper C
- - Discussions on technique
- - past papers
- - no paper C taken
- - not attended yet
- - not yet trained
- - real opposition cases
- - Do not have paper C
- - NA
- - Not sat
- - Pre-exam, no training for C yet
- - Pre-EQE, no paper C
- - I sat only the preexam
- - I have a lot of real-life experience in Oppositions/Appeals which I really enjoy and was surely helpful. What was lacking was any specific methodology for the C-paper which I prepared for alone using the C-book and using the compendium. Without using the C-book methodology I would certainly not have passed the C paper.
- - I haven't examined paper C.
- Using opposition cases from my companyUsing other opposition casesCompendiumNo help from my supervisorI

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:

- - I have not sat paper C
- - n/a
- - not prepared yet
- - no supervisor
- - n/a, I was taking the preexam
- - n/a
- - I did not fo paper C yet.
- - Commented papers
- - I studied paper C mainly on myself + followed + studied DeltaPatents course-material + compendia + DeltaPatents model solutions
- - not applicable yet
- - I did not take paper C yet.
- - Did not prepare yet
- - N/A
- - Have not done C.
- - N/A
- - DeltaPatents C methodology
- - learning by doing, I am a patent examiner
- - I will not be taking Paper C until next year
- - Study material at home and practising
- - pre-exam only
- - N/A
- - N/A
- - C-Book Delta patents
- - I only took the pre-exam
- - Delta Patents C Book
- - practice
- - correction by Delta patent of former papers
- - c-book by Chandler/M.
- - C-Course by Michalski & Hüttermann in Düsseldorf
- - Not sitted yet

- - n/a
- - C-Book
- - C book
- - real Oppo cases are almost USELESS for EQE paper C !!! Preparation of a real Oppo my take 60 hours, not FIVE h !!!
- - CEIPI
- - C-Book
- - C-Book
- - C-Book
- - na
- - C-Book
- - EQE examples from former years
- - using a template-chart
- - c-book
- - Deltapatent and CEIPI C books
- - reading jurisdiction
- - not yet prepared
- - C Book
- - C-Book DeltaPatents
- - CEIPI Seinar
- - preexam
- - C-Book
- - I sat the pre-exam
- - not neede for pre-exam
- - n.a. pre-exam
- - N/A sat only pre-exam
- - Briefly looked at past papers just before the exam
- - doing old exam papers
- - Paper C not yet attended
- - No paper C, just the pre-exam
- - C-Book
- - external and nternal courses (not with a11(2)(a) supervisor.
- - N/A - sat pre-eqe
- - not relevant
- - did not take paper C
- - i did not prepare for paper C
- - Delta Patents books
- - Observation by 3rd party
- - I haven't prepared for paper C yet.
- - not done
- - see above
- - I did not sit for paper C
- - Participated in Pre-exam - no training for paper C
- - during years in idustry several cases
- - I didn't participate in Paper C
- - c-book and tutorials
- - not yet started
- - Delta Patent's C-Book
- - I have read specific books related to paper C
- - I will take C exam next year, so I will start preparation for C in April 2014
- - not applicable (pre-exam)
- - N/A
- - wasn't well prepared, practically skipped preparation for paper C in favour of paper D

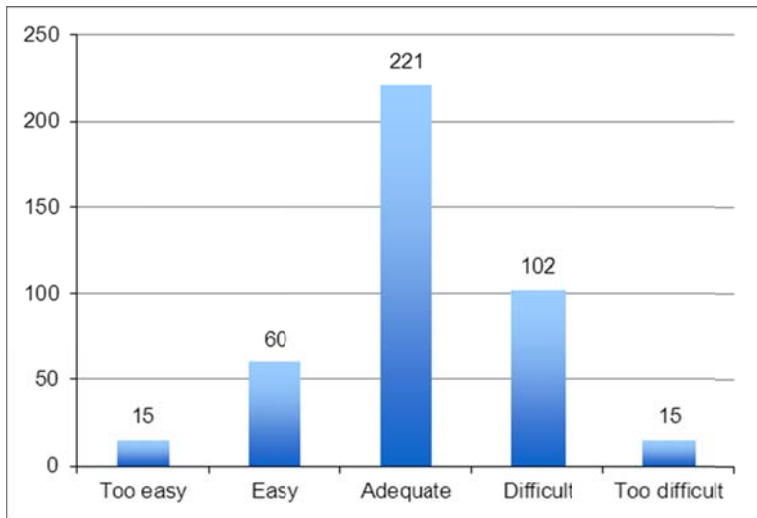
- - I did not sit Paper C
- - practising past papers
- - As indicated before, I sat the pre Exam
- - Not applicable (I only took the EQE pre-exam)
- - Did not sit, and, therefore, not prepare, paper C in 2014.
- - Pre-EQE only
- - discussions with other candidates
- - C-book
- - Reading C-book
- - n/a
- - I didn't take paper C this year... (ticked the respective box, so I wonder why this question appears here?!)
- - not applicable
- - Je n'ai pas passé C
- - Only sat Pre-Exam
- - I did not sit paper C
- - C-Book
- - N/A
- - Not relevant, I attended preexam
- - I sat the Pre-exam
- - C-book, Guidelines
- - DeltaPatents C book
- - N/A
- - Pre-EQE
- - N/a
- - C-Book
- - C-book, delta patent, eqe tools, eqe forum
- - I did not sit paper C
- - I didn't prepare yet.
- - Tutorials organised through CIPA
- - Training in study group
- - I have not learnt fo C yet
- - I didn't sit paperC
- - C-Book
- - Did not take part in c
- - learning at home
- - I have not attended paper C
- - i have just sat pre-examination
- - N/A
- - training previous exams
- - reciters paper C (november 2010)
- - CEIPI C book
- - no training for paper C
- - Ceipi Course
- - past papers
- - no paper C
- - Using older examination papers
- - I HAVEN'T MADE ANU PREPARATION
- - Past exam papers
- - not attended yet
- - Ceipe C-course (jan 2013), Ceipe-C-book, DeltaPatents C-book, 10 past C-exams (compendium), DeltaPatents model-solutions, discussed with friends, DeltaPatents C-resitters course (jan 2014).

- - Do not have paper C
- - NA
- - I did not prepare for paper C
- - Not sat
- - Pre-EQE, no paper C
- - I sat only the preexam
- - I have a lot of real-life experience in Oppositions/Appeals which I really enjoy and was surely helpful. What was lacking was any specific methodology for the C-paper which I prepared for alone using the C-book and using the compendium. Without using the C-book methodology I would certainly not have passed the C paper.
- - C-Book

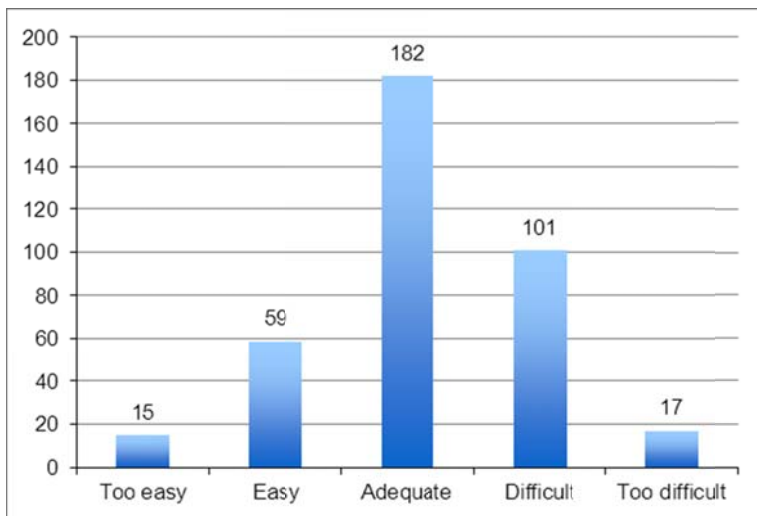
Chapter 3 - EQE papers

Q26) EQE papers - Please rate the difficulty of the examination papers you sat in 2014

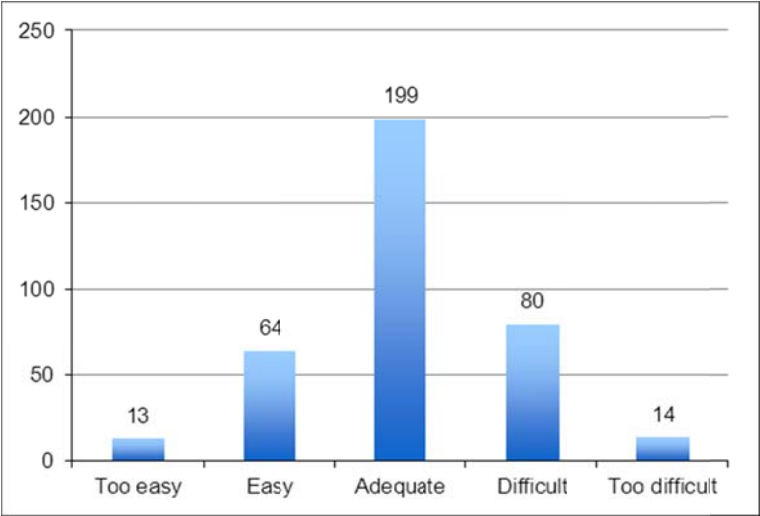
Pre-examination as a whole



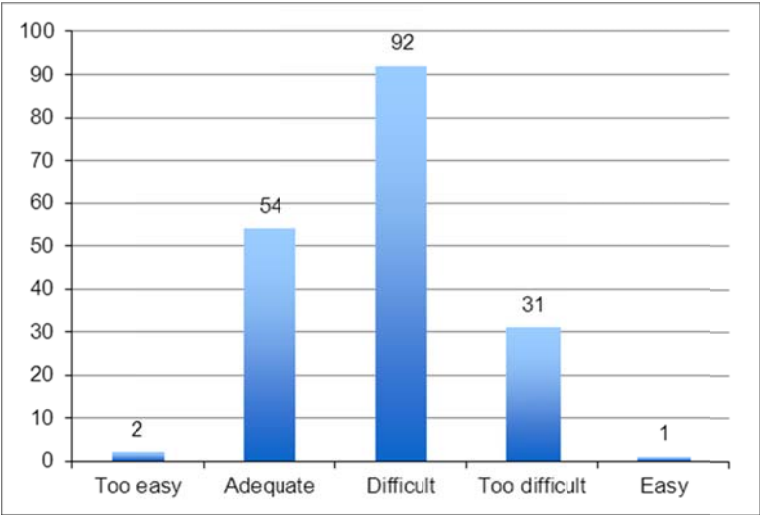
Pre-examination (legal questions)



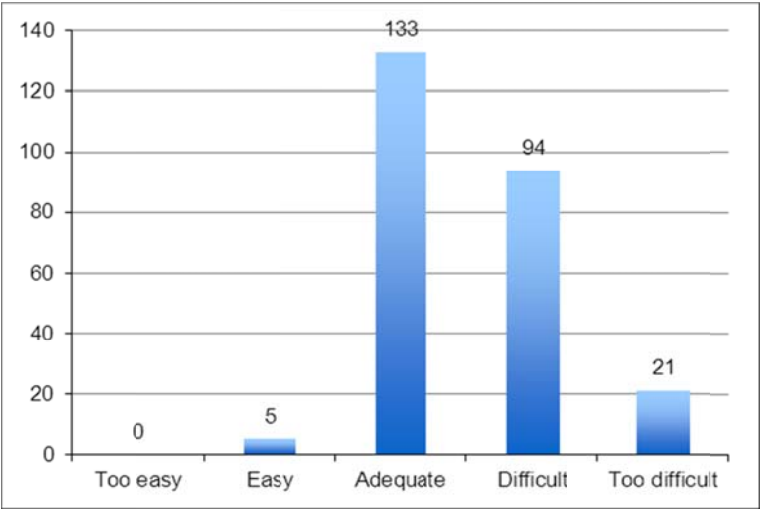
Pre-examination (claim analysis)



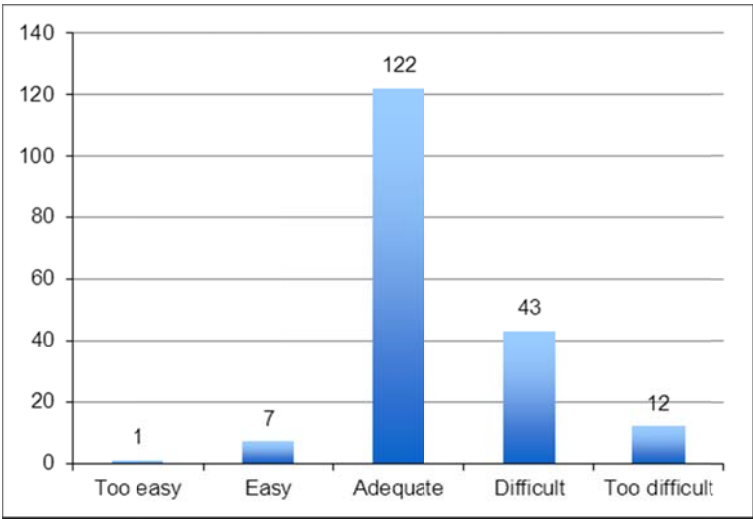
Paper A (Ch)



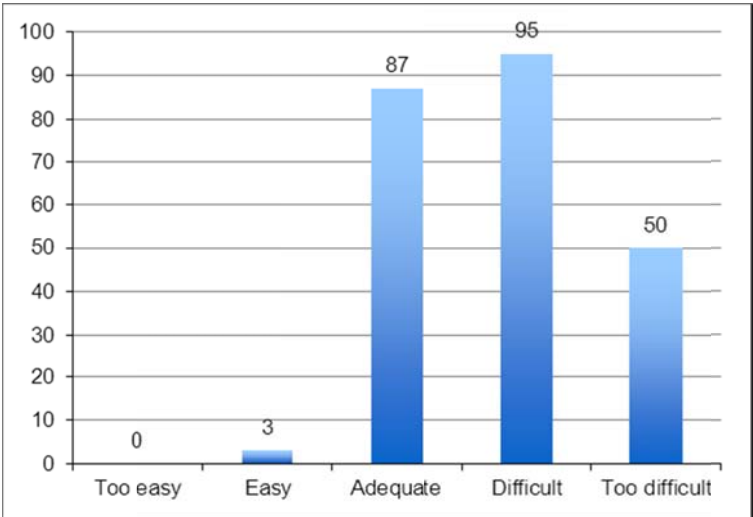
Paper A (E/M)



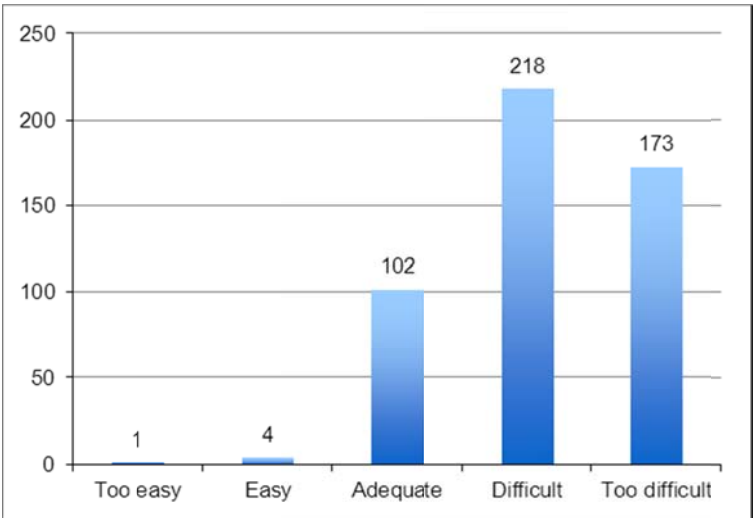
Paper B (Ch)



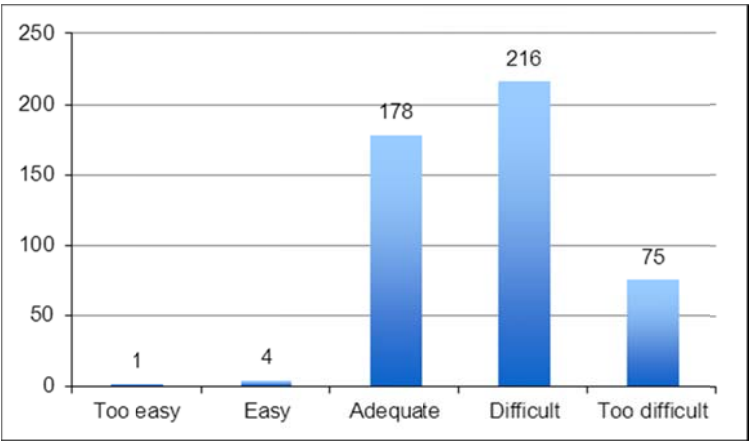
Paper B (E/M)



Paper C

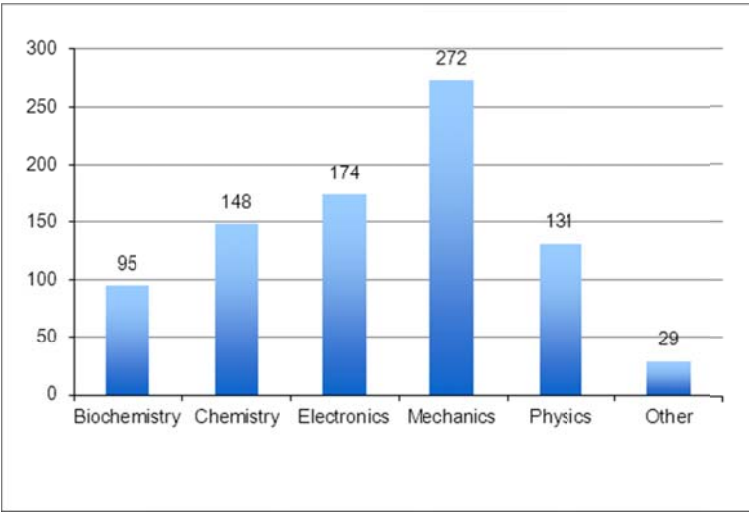


Paper D

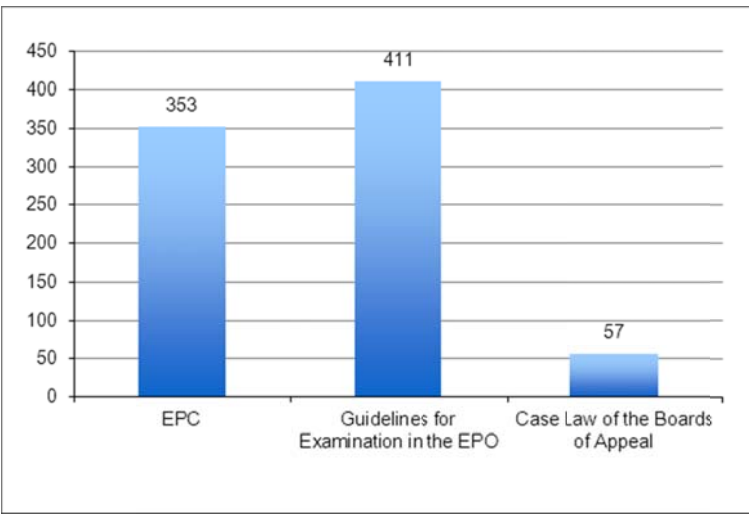


Q27) If you sat the pre-examination:

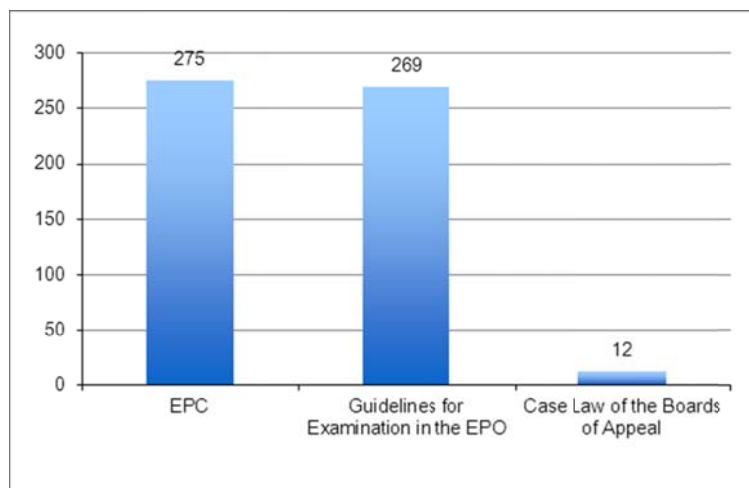
Q27a) Which of the following best describes the technical area you are working in?



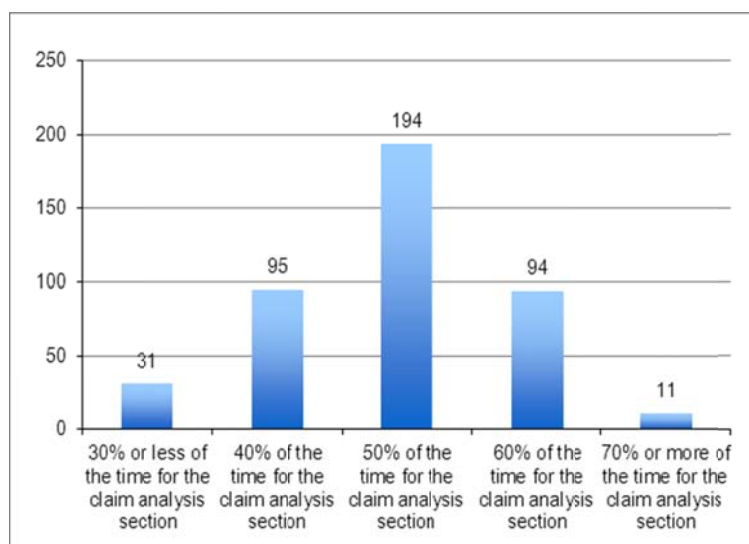
Q27b) What reference book was the most useful for the PREPARATION of the pre-examination?



Q27c) What reference book was the most useful WHILE SITTING the pre-examination?



Q27d) How did you allocate the available time during the pre-examination?



Q27e) With regards to the pre-examination, do you have any comments concerning for instance the instructions to the candidates or the marking scheme?

- True/false question suitable for legal questions but unsuitable for technical questions. For technical questions, short essay answers would be more suitable.
- some questions can be understood in various ways. It would be nice to have the ability to explain how we understand the question. When the question is not clear, a "wrong" answer should be marked as "correct" if the reasoning brought forward by the candidate is acceptable.
- no comments
- It is incredibly easy to lose points with the preexam marking scheme - this is dangerous for the candidates, they should not allow themselves to make more mistakes than absolutely necessary. Given the format of the exam, and the occasional ambiguity in the questions (where not even the fully qualified people are not able to conclude on a single correct answer), the marking scheme is maybe a bit too harsh.
- I did not like at all the fact that the pass mark changed from 50 to 70 during my training period (and I know many people who would probably not have decided to sit the preexam if they knew 70 would be required by the time they enrolled for the preexam). Do not get me wrong, I think 70 pts is still fine, but I do not like at all the changes of the rules during the

game.

- none
- no
- with the 5-3-1-0 marking scheme and 70% pass mark you can get 75% of the individual questions correct and still fail. this seems a little harsh, especially with T/F answers, where some ambiguity in the question can lead to an incorrect answer.
- in general the exam questions were not ambiguous. however, the questions on revision courses, such as epi, were, and their answers had to be amended. this does not help revision!
- perhaps some justification should be allowed to be produced for each answer, to assess "borderline" candidates?
- Increasing the pass mark from 50 to 70 means that you have to effectively ace a large number of the questions to pass, due to the fact that you drop two marks per question for only answering three of the four parts correctly. For example, if you got three out of the four parts correct for each question, then you are effectively answering the paper to a 75% standard, but this is not reflected in the mark scheme (60/100), which would be considered to be a fail.
- no
- Although 70 points are realistic, I felt huge pressure to score them. Increasing of required mark for passing the pre-exam did not influence my preparation, but only increased the pressure during the examination.
- Instructions were clear.
- Marking scheme seems unfair. Combination of 0,1,3 and 5 points with req of 70 points a bit strange. Since each good answer should give points. For example, 1.25 points/answer.
- In such a case, the gamble-factor may still be ruled out by the req of 70 points (or perhaps 75 or even 80). (purely gambling will yield only 50 points, on average)
- Seems more fair to me.
- Claim analysis is not suitable for a TRUE/FALSE answer scheme. In my opinion it should be allowed to submit reasoning as to why an answer was chosen because that can change the mark of the question.
- Instructions to the candidates: please state BEFORE the examination that the exam papers have to be handed in (in my case I finished early and had to hand in all exam papers including the questions, which meant having to go back to my desk, find pen and paper and copy the results).
- No. They were accurate and easy to understand.
- Marking scheme should be changed. Many sub-questions do not relate the the same legal concept as the other. Therefore it is not fair to have 5,3,1 marking system for such questions. It is almost like 4 different questions, and by merely having the same facts does make them same questions.
- Therefore, even when 1 question is correct, the student gets 0% marks. For 50% correct answers, the student gets merely 20% marks. It can be justified for claims part, where all 4 questions relate to same concept of novelty relating to a single claim. But for questions which test different concepts, like many legal questions, it is unjustifiable.
- No, I think it makes sense. 70 points as a pass/no pass threshold (bearing in mind that 2 out of 4 sub-questions equals to only 1 point) is may be a bit too restrictive.
- The marking scheme seems ludicrous to me, with an applicant being able to answer 75% of the questions correctly and obtain only 60% of the marks if they make 1 mistake per question.
- In contrast, an applicant could get 15 questions completely correct and 5 completely wrong (i.e. 75% of the questions answered correctly) and obtain 75% of the marks and pass.
- Considering that the paper is meant to test a broad knowledge to a limited level, it seems odd that the mark scheme would benefit a candidate with a narrower range of knowledge but with a deep understanding.
- Furthermore the present marking scheme unfairly penalises the candidates for misinterpretations due to ambiguous wording (which is rife). The applicant is often left

guessing as to what the question is actually asking. It seems to me that a simpler marking scheme awarding 1 point per correct question, with a suitably high pass mark, would be a much simpler system. In addition, the raising of the pass mark from 50% to 70% is understandable in order to raise the difficulty of the exam. However this pass mark in combination with the marking scheme doesn't reflect an increase of 20%, but an even higher barrier to passing.

- The marking scheme, combined with a 70% pass rate and the fact that different areas of law are tested in the same question mean it does not appear straightforward to pass.
- EPO should not increase the necessary points for passing just half a year before the exam
- The marking scheme is not fair (even more now with the new pass mark of 70%)
- Passing grade was raised and the level of difficulty was raised at the same time. I do not think this is fair. Additionally some questions were not clear enough.
- /
- Some questions were ambiguous (Q2.2; Q20.1)
- I passed the pre-exam in 2013, I don't remember exactly.
- Some questions very simple, some very complex.
- The Examination Board has to consider the language level of the candidates from non-EPC official language countries. Too many tricks in the languages would certainly be unfair to the candidates whose mother tongue are not French, German nor English.
- not easy to pass with 70% Limit.
- Do the old exams and the mockup exams under exam conditions to familiarize yourself with the time available as well as the marking scheme
- Marking scheme seems to be ok, but it requires a lot of concentration when you're marking.
- Instructions are clear.
- Statements should be formulated clear and concise. Also negative statements are very confusing.
- For the claim analysis, room for interpretation should be as little as possible. For example for this year it was not completely clear whether the term 'extending along' also means 'being in contact with'.
- Signing the paper was not instructed during the examination or when making the announcements.
- Although there was a place for a signature, it did not specifically refer to the candidate's signature.
- Would perhaps be a good idea to say that when checking that the pre-examination papers are complete, please also sign the answer sheet.
- The instructions regarding the pre-exam further refer only to a HB pencil - if a more permanent signature is desired, the pen used for the signature could be of another type, perhaps?
- The instructions and the marking scheme were OK
- I finished the paper
- The marking scheme is unclear. For example in this year's paper candidates were asked about amending before publication of an application. The question was silent as to whether the search report had published or not.
- The answer could be true if the search report has published, false if not. This does not test a candidate's knowledge, but reduces us to guessing which answer the EQE examiners are most likely going to agree with.
- Similar arguable points existed in the claim construction section, for which I could have written paragraphs on. The true/false format did not give me the opportunity to demonstrate my true knowledge.
- A pass rate of 70% combined with the bonus point system when you get all 4 parts of a question correct could be quite tricky, i.e. one mistake and you already lose 2 points and this mistake could be due to interpretation in the claims analysis part.
- Question numbering to the right also. would have been helpful
- The mark scheme weights the last question of any set of four questions too heavily in my

opinion. this is more of an issue in the claim analysis part of the exam. For example, if you interpret a feature in a claim differently to the examiners, you can get one part of several questions wrong, leading to a worse score overall than if e.g. you knew absolutely nothing about inventive step and ignored those questions! This doesn't seem fair. the whole point of the pre-exam and our training in general seems to be to have a broad grasp of all concepts across the EPC. Losing marks for an interpretation that you have no opportunity to justify seems unfair.

- Now that the pass mark has been increased to 70%, the marking scheme seems to be biased very strongly against the candidate.
- Regarding the questions, several questions in the claim analysis section had answers linked to the same decision, meaning that multiple questions would be answered incorrectly if one wrong decision was made. In combination with the mark scheme, this could mean that a large percentage of the candidate's score could be lost.
- It seems a little unfair that you could get 75% on all questions and still fail the paper. I'm sure that preparation for the pre-exam will set me in good stead for the main exam.
- s.o.
- Changing of the marking scheme after the registration before the exam seems unfair to me. The difficulty for the pre-exam in 2014 is increased considerably in comparison to the pre-exam in 2013.
- No pre examination for me
- The instructions were very good, I think that there were a bit too much tricky questions, the problem for me was not how to find an answer, I still was able to search, and to correlate Art, rules, GL; but, as some crucial details were missing, (in my opinion...I'm just learning and trying to get better!) for how to interpret some legal questions. For claim analysis, I think that some instructions usually given for mechanical matter, and are not really the same for chemistry, as we were taught to, were too tricky and honestly it was a bit misleading, I think it was not so clear answering as per knowledge or interpretation. I have a good feeling usually with claim analysis. I like it very much..I hope this is the case.
- I know my work it to know all! But some more information about this kind of claim analysis could have helped, in mean in the preparation material, (books examples etc).
- In the legal questions the combination of slightly vague questions (e.g. use of "shall".. etc. and the possibility of remedies not foreseen in the question) and the need to give a true/false answer made it tricky to guess what the Examiners were looking for; frustrating in some cases as I could support both true and false statements. This, combined with the gearing marking scheme could be unnecessarily unfavourable.
- The marking scheme was a bit unclear - would prefer that each answer position would be marked with a clear indication 1.1; 1.2; 1.3...
- I think that changing the pass mark just a few months before the examination is very unfair but such is life. I also think that a pass mark of 70% coupled with negative marking is rather harsh in an exam where at least some of the questions have room for interpretation or the answer is debatable. It certainly ensures that a candidate puts in a lot of effort for an exam which brings zero net benefits in and of itself. A 60% pass mark would have been more fair.
- The questions and the answers should be more clear without ambiguities
- more practice questions
- It is very easy to lose marks with the marking scheme if, for example, you misunderstand one word that is involved in two or three questions.
- Although the questions are very carefully formulated, there is always room for interpretation or slight uncertainties.
- I find that this year the pre-examination paper was too difficult bearing in mind the recent considerable increase of the points necessary to pass especially in view of the fact that an unsuccessful candidate may have 69 points and still will need to wait for a whole year before being allowed to re-sit the pre-examination. In the main exam the candidates are favored because they can make use of a "passable fail" and besides they don't need to pass first paper A to be allowed to sit paper B. I think that if the pass grade is 70 points the candidates must at least have the benefit of a "passable fail" mark.

- It would be useful if the instructions to candidates were provided with the exam paper.
- Please ensure that the questions are not inadvertently dependent on each other, e.g. the feature "in particular" (meaning preferably, or not) in the claims analysis also affected analysis of novelty.
- I personally believe in the good faith principle between the EPO and me as a candidate/patent applicant/customer. In the case of the pre-examination 2014 I feel that this good faith was broken. Independently of the fact if I have passed the examination or not. The reason for that is the decision to raise the passing bar to 70% of the points. Simple mathematics disclose that even if I answer 75% of the questions correct: 3 correct answers per question = 3 Points and there are 20 Questions. the Maximum of points that I could receive is 60. Which is far under the passing bar. Therefore I do not understand how is this suppose to be fair? Furthermore I do not understand how does that show who is suitable prepared and who not. There was no explanation about this in any of the publications of the EPO.
- The instructions and marking scheme are very clear. The new 70% pass mark (new for 2014) does make the pre-exam more difficult to pass than previous years, especially given the marking scheme (for example, it is possible to get 3 out of 4 questions right for every one of the 20 questions and still fail the exam, since the marking scheme would mean that only 60% would be achieved in this scenario). However, taking this into account, and taking into account the difficulty level of the questions, I think this is probably fair.
- Some questions are not adequate for a T/F scenario, because both answers could be argued. For example, the question about the undisclosed disclaimer can be seen as T or as F, especially in view of the recent case law and changes to the Guidelines.
- quelques commentaires sur l'Examen de la part des organisateurs dans les minutes précédent le début de l'épreuve s'avèreraient utiles
- RAS
- I did not do pre-exam
- No, all was made clear.
- Instructions seem to be sufficient
- Nothing
- More points should be allotted to the legal questions considering they are less prone to debate and subjectivity.
- N/A
- no
- The marking of the questions regarding inventive step/objective technical problem in the claim analysis part is often non-transparent. I mean, I have several years experience as an EPO examiner evaluating inventive step arguments and during my preparation for the pre-exam I have made all available previous pre-exams. I observed that in one of these that a mere enhanced novelty argument was deemed sufficient for inventive step, while in another I found that the level of inventive step was put too high.
- There should be an easier way to fill out the marking scheme. Now you spend unnecessary time and effort to make sure that you have filled in the correct answer.
- The layout of the response sheet makes it very easy to fill in the wrong answer, especially when you are in a stressful exam situation, as it is so cluttered. I had to change a couple of wrongly filled in answers when I look through them at the end. I would prefer more space between the rows and, ideally, one answer per row:
- Q1.1 T F
- Q1.2 T F
- Etc.
- no
- All questions should be clear and concise in what they mean. In a couple of questions it was not that clear.
- One example: If a question reads: The notice of opposition is filed by a Dutch, I can not answer if she is entitled reduction if I do not get info of if the reasoned statement also is filed in Dutch. Then I can be able to say that she is entitled a reduction.

- In guidelines the Notice of Opp includes both but I have been thought not to read in more than what is in the question so I would be glad if all questions would be as clear and gave all basis to answer the question without doubt.
- No comments
- 70% as a passing mark is too high. Getting 3 out of every 4 items per question right would give you a 60% mark, i.e.: fail. I do not think that that is fair.
- The major difficulty lies in the interpretation of the questions in the claim analysis part. But overall it is not too hard.
- no
- Stop asking redundant questions where a single piece of knowledge or understanding of facts is checked by two or more questions. Happens in the legal part, but especially in the claim analysis part (e.g., questions 11 - 14 of Mock March 2011).
- Stop using over-simplified technical scenarios for the claim analysis part. Nobody understands the problem-and-solution approach any better if the prior art is ridiculously untechnical (very bad: Mock March 2011; good: Mock September 2011).
- 70 points to pass is too much
- I believe the answer sheet is too symmetric, and this creates a risk of a cascade of mistakes in filling out circles. For example, a test taker could accidentally begin filling out circles on the line for question 6 instead of question 7.
- The risks can be reduced if the answer sheet is designed with less symmetry. This is how I would do it:
- There should be a "section break" on the answer sheet between every 5 questions. This allows the test-taker to more easily confirm the row of circles corresponds to the right group of questions. What I mean is, for example, the VERTICAL distance between circles corresponding to questions {1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4} to {5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4} could be constant (as it was on the answer sheet). BUT, there should be a prominent line break and/or (horizontal) printed pattern (e.g. *-*-...) between questions 5 & 6 (also 10 & 11, and 15 & 16).
- As importantly, each pair of T/F circles which are the choices for a given sub-question (e.g. question 1.3) should have a DIFFERENT SPACING and/or a than the pair of circles which are adjacent each other but are for different sub-questions. I'm not very confident that this will be rendered the way I typed it but here it goes (ignore the html code for linebreak if it shows up):
- This is basically how it looked:
- the above is too symmetric, as it was on the answer sheet 2014 pre-exam. The below would be preferable.
- thanks for your consideration
- - In the EPO/EPI course was stated very clearly that the number of "False" and "True" would be balanced.
- It was even advised to the candidates to take a look at this when answering, and to take into account that a very unbalanced number of
- T/F would mean that something is wrong.
- If I am not wrong, the answer are 62% F and 38% T
- I do not get it.
- n.a
- It was adequate.
- No
- NO
- no
- No, everything was as I expected it
- Some of the claims analysis questions were very unclear. Specifically, one of the questions was asking about the clarity of a claim- is the claim clear? This is a very open ended question that has arguments on both sides and is not a simple true/false. There were a number of other questions like this, for example where the EPO could raise an objection but I would argue against it. The claim in the above question perhaps seemed unclear but there

were definitely arguments for it being clear. I understand that these concepts should be tested in a pre-exam but a true/false answer is a far too simple solution to a complex problem.

- this time around was less easy to get 70 points than previous PRE EQE Exams
- I think that since the pass mark has increased that you should get one mark per correct answer rather than the current marking scheme.
- The marking scheme is questionable since one loses less if one happens to have all 4 answers wrong for one main question.
- Many people are still unclear as to why the pass mark for the pre-EQE was raised this year, and why it was raised to 70%, in particular, which is a disproportionately hard mark to achieve as it requires answering more than 70% of the answers correctly.
- A white one could be sent to all candidates in order to know how the marking scheme is, because it is extremely easy to make a mistake just when you are marking the answer.
- No
- Die im Examiners Report gegebene Antwort zu Frage 10.4 "Vor der Veröffentlichung von EP-T kann die Beschreibung von EP-T nicht dahin gehend geändert werden, dass die Ausführungsform X1 gestrichen wird." passt aus meiner Sicht nicht zur Frage. Die Antwort an sich ist in sich schlüssig, aber eben nicht vor dem Hintergrund der Frage. Denn gefragt wurde ja nach "Änderung" und nicht danach, ob die Änderung in der A1-Schrift veröffentlicht wird!
- Auch die Antwort auf Frage 10.3 bzw. die Frage selber finde ich nicht befriedigend: denn was genau ist mit "gültiger Option" gemeint? Meines Erachtens kann man eine Berichtigung nach R139 einreichen (formal korrekt). Die Wahrscheinlichkeit der Übernahme der Berichtigung ist jedoch gegen 0%, bzw. die Berichtigung wird als Änderung behandelt, so steht es auch in den RiLis (H-VI 4.2). Insbesondere steht in den RiLis H-VI 4.2.2, folgendes "Der Anmelder kann auch beantragen, dass fehlende Teile der Beschreibung und/oder fehlende Zeichnungen als Berichtigung nach
- Regel 139 in die Anmeldungsunterlagen aufgenommen werden. Dies ist aber so gut wie nie möglich (siehe J 1/82)." Aufgrund dieses Absatzes habe ich mich von der Antwort "FALSCH" auf "WAHR" umentschieden und lag prompt daneben. Somit war auch hier die Frage unvorteilhaft gestellt.
- Schließlich war Frage 8.2 in der deutschen Fassung unvorteilhaft gestellt: im deutschen Gesetzestext zu R6 steht nämlich "ist einzureichen", in der Frage: "muss eingereicht werden". Dagegen wird der Wortlaut der Regel 6 in der französischen Frage ("doit être" und in der englischen Fassung "shall" eindeutig wiederholt.
- Angesichts der Tatsache, dass dieses Mal doch einige Leute durchgefallen sind solche Mehrdeutigkeiten meines Erachtens nicht akzeptabel für ein Multiple Choice Verfahren.
- Insgesamt war entgegen der Vorankündigung nicht lediglich die Bestehenspunktzahl erhöht worden, sondern es war eben auch die schwierigste / uneindeutigste PrePrep-Prüfung seit 2012. Schade...
- Everything was very clear.
- No comments.

Q27f) Did studying for and sitting the pre-examination help you prepare for the main part of the examination?

- I hope so..
- Yes
- yes, absolutely for Paper D
- no; after the pre-exam I only knew that I could still sit exams staying calm and concentrated
- n/a at the moment, I will take the main exam next year
- But frankly I do not think this helps a lot. In fact, I was forced to study too early. I cannot study this hard for more than a year, so now I will take a small break (few weeks at least) and during that time, I will forget much of what I already learned. At the moment I think it's really time wasted, but let's see next year, when I take the main exam.

- n/a
- i have not taken the main exams yet, but undoubtedly preparing for the pre-EQE has helped me. if nothing else it has made me look at the guidelines, the EPC, PCT, Visser, etc.
- No
- NA
- Yes.
- N/A
- Don't know yet, but I do expect so.
- At least, I'm in the right mode now to study, and I'm no longer 'lost' in the European law, case law, OJ, etc. I know my way now, concerning the legal part. (I knew a bit of EPC already, from the Dutch course, but did not have an overview of all the relevant information other than the law itself).
- The claims analysis offers a good training in the basics of patentability/substantial law, and I believe it is good that everyone passing the eqe focuses on these basics somewhere in time. Perhaps even earlier than after 2 years of working in IP. For the main exam and for practice.
- So, yes.
- No
- yes
- In the contrary, the pre-exam gives a wrong impression of the available time.
- The methodology is different: pre-exam: enough time to look everything up and double check. Main exam: high time pressure, much time needed for writing long texts by hand.
- n/a
- Yes of course. The basics are now well understood.
- I think it will. It will also help in daily practice.
- We shall see...
- Yes , as it gave me an overview of the EPC at an earlier stage.
- yes, it was easier to start preparation
- Yes
- I've not taken the exam yet, only the pre-exam, but I'm sure it helps a great deal
- yes, for paper D only
- Yes, mainly because the level of my preparation for PreEQE (2013) was in fact more targeted at EQE than at PreEQE
- Yes- I had become familiar with the core texts a year in advance of the main examination which greatly helped the preparation as regards the legal paper.
- Yes.
- Yes
- It is hard to tell, but I think it probably did as it made me read all of the material in detail much earlier.
- Yes, you get experienced with the exam conditions (hall...) and it forces to study for the pre-exam, thus start studying timely, which is also beneficial for sitting the main exam.
- Not sure.
- No.
- It helped!
- No
- very much, cause I had my basic documents for EQE ready
- Just had to update and mark them within studying for EQE
- Yes, definitely.
- Not really. Due to multiple choice questions, I did not learn the legal Basis for the answer, but just the answer itself!
- yes, for preparation of DI
- Clearly yes, but it is amazing and frustrating to see how much one can forget in one year.
- Yes, it made me start studying one year earlier.
- Yes, I think the pre-exam is a good thing. It motivates you to start studying early and

provides a practice run in actual examination conditions (for many people the exact same exam hall).

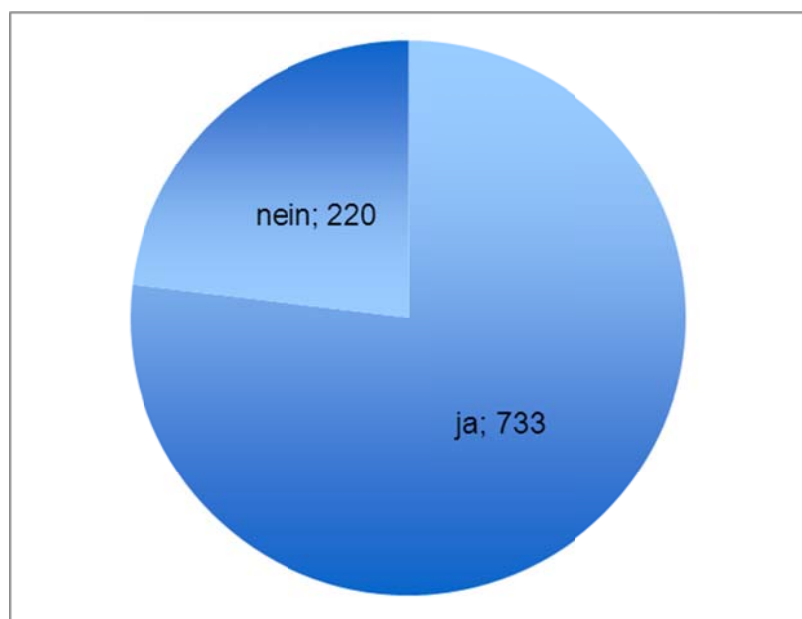
- I think it will help for preparing for paper D.
- I think so, especially as I was forced to start early with intensivating my study effort.
- Yes.
- Definitely yes.
- I would say it helped but I forgot a lot already when I started to prepare for D
- Yes
- It allows the candidate to begin to study quite intensively EPC and to understand the "spirit" of the examination.
- Yes, it was helpful for Paper D.
- I'll tell you next year.
- Yes.
- I hope so.
- Not necessary to study for the pre exam.
- I hope so.
- Yes
- Yes, studying and sitting pre-examination helped me prepare for the main examination. However, pass grade become 70 this year and I think it was an unfair decision for 2014 candidates.
- Yes, for paper D only.
- Yes, the exam situation was now familiar, i.e. less exciting.
- I am sure that all the time spent learning for the Pre-examination will be very useful for the main part, specially for part D of the main part of the examination.
- Yes
- Yes, for D1, but D is much more difficult than the pre-exam. The level of the pre-exam should be raised.
- Yes
- I have not sat it yet
- Yes
- But preparing reference books that were up to date each year took a very long time.
- Yes
- Don't know yet. But probably I will say yes. It is a positive way to start. However It would be beneficial if this examination could be given twice a year.
- Das Preexam zwingt dazu, dass man sich mit dem EPÜ/PCT, wie es für den D-Teil nötig ist, und mit den Anforderungen in der EQE früher beschäftigt.
- Absolutely
- Yes! studying for the pre-examination was a precious help to prepare the main exam
- may be a bit. effect is probably not large due to the long time in between the pre-exam and the exam
- Can't answer yet. But ensures to start early to study the EPC.
- Yes
- Certainly - I did a lot of preparation and it definitely helped me study for the main exam.
- s.o.
- Yes
- ?
- Yes, I think that the way to go is long, but beginnig to see whath book, technical and legal konelwdge is requested, and HOW to study, is crucial. I konw that the work for paper D in MORE and BIG but this helped to see "the way".
- Not really, Pre-exam is remarkably easy and compared to paper D
- only for D paper
- For Papaer A and B : NO
- Yes, it gave an rough estimation what would happen in the main examination. Also it helped because one had to prepare and distincly use reference books and law books.

- yes
- Haven't done the main parts yet. But it definitely will help me a lot. Now I have some sort of understanding over the EPC and PCT.
- yes
- I hope so.
- I hope
- Perhaps. Studying for the preliminary examination familiarises candidates with the rules to a certain extent, and is helpful preparation for papers A, B and D.
- yes
- not too much
- I hope so
- Sure, it is a good refocus on the law after working in the industry. The CEIPI gave me the foundations, I did the wall for the pre-exam, the exam is the roof, the hardest to build and the most important for a house. But you need to start by the foundations.
- actually the other way around: preparation course for main exam 2015 (ceipi and internal course) help in preparing preexam.
- Yes, preparing for the pre-examination provides a good grounding in how to navigate the legal texts to locate the information required to answer the question.
- Yes, for paper A & B, pre-examination has been useful for novelty - inventive step - art 123(2), art 83 and art 84 - selection invention - Disclaimer - ...
- Yes.
- No
- not really, after 1 year there is not much knowledge left
- Yes, very much.
- Yes, it made me start my preparation earlier.
- YEs
- Yes
- Not required to sit the pre-examination.
- Although I have not sat the main exam yet, I feel studying for the Pre-EQE has been very useful preparation ahead of studying for the main exam.
- Pre-examination certainly prepares well for part D. Whether it makes sense to be well prepared one year before the exam is another question.
- yes, although preparing for the pre-exam was a pain it helped
- No. The pre-exam was too easy. No preparation was required.
- je n'ai pas passé l'examen principal
- I did not do pre-exam
- I really hope. I think the preparation for the pre-exam is a very good guide for the main exam (or at least for paper D), as well.
- I believe so, it forced a good overall review of the material which can then be deepened when sitting the main exam.
- I suppose so. I would say I think it is the best advantage of the pre examination.
- Yes
- N/A
- YES
- yes
- I only sat the pre-exam, but I have the feeling that due to my preparation I could have attempted paper D already
- Yes
- I think so. If there would be no Pre-Exam I would never have started that early to prepare for the EQE.
- yes, it helped start preparing intensively for the main exam to come. And hopefully to improve my preparation.
- partly
- Yes

- A very little
- Yes, it feels so, But I have not doen the main exam yet. It will be next year.
- yes
- yes definitely
- Definetly YES!
- yes, better overall understanding (paper D), but nor for A-C
- yes. In particular for paper D.
- Yes. I got more familiar with the EPC/PCT patent system than I was before already while preparing for the pre-examination.
- Yes, it was an essential part of my preparation for Paper D.
- yes
- no
- No
- Yes
- Because the pre exam encompasses the whole curriculum, it helps for preparing for D, because you are familiar with most of the legal frame work one year before exam D. The calim analasys part does not really help for A and B, mainly because the answers you have to rate True or false are often multi interpretabel, depending on the level of knowledge you have.
- Yes. It made me study the EPC and PCT in detail earlier than I would have otherwise done.
- for D
- Yes, I gained a broader overview about whole EPC and PCT at an earlier stage.
- YES
- i think it will but i don't know yet do i?
- The pre-examination gave me a rough idea about paper D
- yes, it helped to have an idea of the matter for the main examination
- Yes , it definitely helped, in particular for the legal study.
- Yes, helped a lot in Paper D.
- Yes - I started earlier to got through the whole EPC
- not really
- Yes
- It is difficult to give a precise answer to this question since I have not yet sit the main exams. However, I believe that the preparation for the pre-exam has made me more familier with the EPC and the Guidelines therefore I believe this will make studying for the main exam much easier.
- I have not taken any main paper yet, but I do think so. I have a whole picture of the EPC now.
- Yes, I guess. Let's see next year.
- yes of course
- y
- ?
- For Paper D - yes
- Yes.
- I have not prepared for the main exam, so we'll have to see, but I guess : yes, it will probably be helpuf
- Yes, definitely. It's difficult to appreciate the complexity of the EPC until you start answering law questions.
- No. Very little study was needed to pass the pre exam in 2013. A knowledge of the epc gained through everyday work and a copy of Nicholas fox's book in the exam was sufficient to get 96%. I thought it was a pointless exam.
- YES
- Yes, I seemed to remember most aspects of the law the second time round, and knew where to look for them.
- However, I think I would arrived at that point even without taking the pre-EQE.

- So, the pre-EQE helped, but was still probably unnecessary.
- yes, a little
- Not yet
- No, since there was too much time between to pre- and the main-examination.
- Little bit, for D part.
- Oui pour se rendre compte de l'ampleur de ce qu'il y a à apprendre
- Yes
- Yes, certainly.
- We'll see that in 2015 but I would say yes.
- n.a.
- Klares NEIN!

Q28) Did you feel time pressure during the examination?



Q29) Comments concerning the difficulty of the EQE papers

- - This years Paper C included too many issues for the time allowed. Beside the novelty and inventive step we had to consider "first application" including amendments hereto, amendments to description of Annex 1, amendments of Claim 2 of Annex 1, 5 prior art documents (4 in 2013), 6 claims (5 in 2013), more paragraphs in Annex 1 compared to 2013, "OR" claim, two "ranges" claims....
- In addition it would be nice if not every paper C included chemical names which I as an electrical engineer do not know. therefore I need to look very carefully for every definition of such words in all annexes to be sure that something is not defined in elsewhere. I believe that Chemists have an advantage in that they know that this and that kind of polymer is not the same as another or is natural and so on
- I agree that beside making good attacks it is necessary to be able to determine which and where to start, but I do not see that it is necessary to put all this searching for information across documents as in 2013 and 2014 is necessary. This for sure does not reflect the daily work where a simple search on the internet would answer if a particular polymer is natural or not or could be comparable to another.
- - The paper B was too long to read.
- - The papers (C and D) try to cover too many issues for the time allowed. As such, it is impossible to address each issue fully or to cover all of the issues. This means that exam taking skills are being tested more than ability as a patent lawyer. This tilts the exams in favour of people who have recent experience with exam taking rather than people who have

been practicing in the profession for a while. Also, Paper C is often just a reading comprehension exam where what is being tested is an ability to read and digest lots of data in a short time, with the legal aspects not being very important. Even worse, little tricks are submerged in the information that can easily be missed due to the time constraints and the vast amount of information, which can easily lead to someone who fully understands the law and how to apply it not reading/understanding a fact and giving a wrong answer. I would never try and digest lots of information about technical features of multiple patents in a short time period and do not see how this is relevant to being able to practice.

- - The faster you are traveling without a goal, the more quickly get lost in space.
- The unclear scoring leads to essential aspects due to time constraints "Everyone knows that!" be disregarded. In practice it is usual to perform an online file inspection, if there are questions about the legal status of a file.
- But I may change in points for access to the file (0 points) according to Article 127 online (ABI.2005, 325 and ABI.2007, 123) (1 point) If I suspect that my client has only done stupid things, then I look naturally only even after .
- Clear that in DII to PCTCZ2 a notice from the EPO by R.112 should have endure, but I distrust the clients of me three sentences describing previously claimed a certain chemical compound as sufficient?
- - Time pressure, no time to read again the answers at the end
- - Time for Papers A and B and for the pre-examination is more or less appropriate.
- Time for Paper D is not, considering that most of the candidates are not EN/FR/DE mother-tongue then there is an additional difficulty which should be considered and cannot be ignored. Even a very good knowledge of a foreign language cannot compare to mother-tongue.
- Doing the examination in your own language could lead the additional problem of inconsistent translation...
- - Start of the Part 1 (Pre-Exam) was difficult because three first questions took very long time to answer compared to rest of Part 1.
- - Some of the questions/statements were non clearly worded. To name an example, it was very hard to determine whether the consequence of not paying the renewal fee in due time is that the application is deemed to be withdrawn. Yes - if you don't pay, it will be considered withdrawn. No - taking into account the wording of Rule 51(2) EPC, which apparently had the same wording than the statement in the exam ("Wird eine Jahresgebühr nicht rechtzeitig entrichtet..."), paying in due time means 'not paying before the 6 months' grace period according to Rule 51(2) EPC starts'. When payment of the renewal fee is finally missed, i.e. without meeting the 6 months' grace period, the effective date where the application is considered to be withdrawn is the end of the 6 months' period and not the due date. Therefore, I answered "no", while a "yes" answer also appears to be valid.
- Another question/statment concerned Art. 83 EPC. "Correction under Rule 139 EPC is a valid option" - Yes, of course, provided the requirements for Rule 139 EPC are met. If not, Rule 139 EPC is no option of course. However, nothing could be taken from the information given whether the error was based on an obvious error or not. The question only mentioned that there was a deficiency in the application resulting in an objection under Rule 139 EPC, however, there was no hint as to whether the deficiency was an obvious error or not. How can one give a valid answer to a question without having the necessary background information?
- However, the vast majority of questions was well-formulated and crystal-clear. Especially the claims analysis part was clearer than in the precedent exams/mock exams.
- - Both the C-paper and the A-paper contained typographical errors in the English version which led to some confusion in understanding the paper.
- - The level of difficulty of the preexam was just fine, but this is a hindsight. At the time I was sitting the exam, I did not think this is fair, or good. I was panicking and very angry.
- I do not like at all the fact that the level of difficulty of the preexam paper changed the same year as the required pass mark. This was a nasty surprise for me; I was doing my training for a certain level of difficulty, and virtually everyone was assuring me that this level would

not be changed this year because of the change in the pass mark.

- Don't get me wrong, I think that the 2012 and 2013 preexam papers were far too easy, and probably a bit useless because no one had a slightest concern about this. I understand that something had to change, but I still think that such a big change in so little time is unfair.
- - none
- - If the six hours for the C paper had been kept, candidates would have been able to focus on the quality of their answers rather than speed.
- - I found the attacks in the C-paper of this year not easy.
- For example, * did not find a definition for "elastomer" = "resilient", and there were a lot of Techn Effects to consider.
- - Some of the questions this year (particularly in papers B and C) appeared to be very "lottery style". That is, success or failure appears to depend on a question that could be argued either way.
- In this respect, no amount of revision or preparation would have helped, which is frustrating.
- - Difficulty was not so bad for paper C 2014, but there were too many topics and too much info to digest in five hours.
- - finding the solution preferred by the examiner (in particular DII and C)
- - PRE-EXAM
- The way of the sentence is written (ex double negative sentence i.e.) leads sometimes to mistake although the correct answer is known. I found it difficult although I did it in my native language. Participants who must do the exam in another language than their native language, have a serious disadvantage.
- - A (Ch) was quite difficult - it was difficult to estimate what the exam committee wanted to see.
- D (at least DI) was more difficult than last year.
- - Time pressure (or awareness) was there, but would not have been necessary. Time-overawareness made me do it too quick, which probably made me miss two answers.
- I think 4 hours is adequate for the pre-eqe.
- Less would give time-pressure that is imho unwanted.
- Passing it should depend on whether one knows enough about the EPC to prepare for the EQE. Finding your way is more important than speed, I think.
- - The papers are not difficult per se, but due to high time pressure there is no way to reconsider one's thoughts. Based on the previous papers, there was quite enough training material available to train this EQE specific situation of developing a strategy to meet the extreme time limit. However, this strategy did not work for Paper C, as the duration was changed in 2013 and this year's paper was much more complex than that of 2013. So I was definitely not prepared to cope with the time given for Paper C.
- - The pre-exam was much more difficult than last year's, especially the legal part, and to change the required mark for passing it doesn't help.
- - C 2014:
- with the change from 2012 to 2013 the time was reduced from 6 to 5 hours. Because of the reduced times the number of the claims was limited to 5 claims and the number of the annexes was reduced from 5 to 4 in 2013.
- NOW we had 6 (SIX !) claims and - what is the worst - 5 (FIVE !!!!!!!!!!!) annexes again, having one hour less !
- This was not fair !!! and this is hard to understand.
- Additional it was a complex priority / prior art situation.
- - Time management, it is not so much difficult as very much for the time given.
- - The EQE paper would not have passed on clarity. Several questions were unclear and ambiguous.
- - combination of mechanical and chemical (ranges) invention?
- disclaimers?
- tricky first two questions in legal part!
- - IT WAS MORE DIFFICULT THAN THE ONE OF 2013

- THERE WERE TOO MUCH REFERENCES TO FIND IN OTHER ANNEXES FOR ARGUMENTATING WHY A DIFFERENT WORDING IN AN ANNEX DISCLOSED A FEATURE CLAIMED. I FIND IT TIME CONSUMPTING AND NOT USEFULL TO EVALUATE THE PREPARATION OF A CANDIDATE.
- IT IS JUST A TREASURE HUNT AND NOT RELATED AT ALL WITH THE PREPARATION OF A CANDIDATE.
- IT IS SUFFICIENT TO PUT ONE OR TWO OF THIS CONNECTIONS NOT SUCH A LOT AS THIS YEAR!
- - There is too little time for paper D, especially without any break between part I and II. This is simply HORRIBLE!
- Open questions are also very difficult to answer, as we have to guess what the honorable Exam Committee is expecting us to answer.
- Especially, in the absence of any guidance of the marks allocated for the different questions in DII, accurate time management is rather impossible.
- Finally, Paper D and real life work as a patent attorney appear rather unrelated.
- Have you any idea who many candidates suffer from serious stress-related issues before and after the Exam?
- - I think the D legal opinion tries to be too convoluted - there really is not enough time to figure everything out.
- - Whilst the Pre-EQE was at an easy level, it was useful in ensuring I received early training. I haven't taken any EQE Finals exams but I feel now that I have a much stronger grasp of the EPC and feel more confident about my preparing for the Finals. It was a useful tool to ensure that I began preparing for the finals exams early. I would not recommend making the paper harder as failure would have excessive consequences (delay in career progression by a full year). If the Pre-EQE was made harder then examination should occur more regularly (e.g. twice a year). This does not seem unreasonable given the simplicity of marking a multiple choice exam.
- - The claims questions are too interpretive to be tested correctly. The interpretation applied within the mock papers and for previous years is somewhat artificial and academic and does not reflect the practical day to day interpretation and acceptance of live cases via the EPO examiners.
- The format of this years questions was an improvment over the previous years, however, the switch to Chemistry subject matter was an error. There are very specific items that apply within chemistry that non-chemist attorneys would not and do not touch on a daily basis.
- - Pre-exam was oK, I had done the 2013 a week earlier, and I thought that the legal part was easier than in this year, but I assume it cannot be absolutely equal each year.
- - C seemed to be more difficult than normal level at this year.
- - The suggested amendment in paper B makes it difficult to know how much you should depart from the client's instructions aside from tidying up clarity / added matter.
- - Without knowing my results the difficulty seems to be adequate. Part B (E/M) was easy but it demanded what is needed to answer European Office Actions.
- - Time pressure is a serious issue. There is no room to have a change of mind and change strategy during the exam. Accordingly, decisions have to be made quickly, because one simply does not have the luxury of time to carefully deliberate on the best course of action. This is particularly true of Paper B. Once you have made a decision you are committed. If you subsequently have a change of mind and believe an alternative route is better, you don't have the time to change course.
- - The second part of D appeared to be more complex than previous years.
- - The "chemistry" paper A was on biological subject matter. there appeared to be very limited options as regards what should be done. there was no clear case law steer, nor was the subject matter processes which a chemist would be familiar with. this made it very difficult to judge how to arrive at a novel claim, and as such a very difficult paper.
- Paper B "chemistry" had two very close prior art documents. Very difficult to tell which was closest prior art, therefore if penalized in this respect i think it would be very unfair. should be clearer what starting point should be.

- C has far too much in it for 5 hours. it had significantly more than 2013 paper - more claims (and alternatives), more annexes and much more complicated issue regarding priority and added matter. It was unfair to do this after commenting last year that the content of paper would stay the same. there was even more content in the 2014 paper than in the 2012 paper, which was to be done in 6 hours. it is not fair to state that the paper will be consistent with previous years and then to make it so much more complicated and with more claims and prior art. further, the flags for the closest prior art were not clear, nor were the technical effects. the effects did not match up as they have done in previous years.
- the D paper part I had 3 out of the 6 questions on topics not part of day-to-day practice (e.g entitlement, interruption, calculating page fees). as the number of questions have been reduced, it seems unfair to be able to ask half of the questions on obscure topics. this does not test the knowledge necessary for day to day practice.
- for D part II, there was significantly more information and patents to analyse than last year, and a more complex situation. again, the exam committee should not report that they will keep the content the same when that is not their intention. the volume of analysis was much more than last year.
- - The difficulty level is not in itself a problem, it's the fact that it has to be done under extreme time pressure and in a 3 day hand-writing marathon session, which causes unnecessary mistakes or incomplete answers due to being rushed or tired.
- - From my view this pre-exam was more difficult than the previous ones.
- - Often find it difficult to understand the question, can be a language issue.
- The higher the time pressure the more difficult it is for candidates not sitting in their native language
- - MANAGING THE AVAILABLE TIME
- - I think Paper C this year had far too much subject matter for a 5 hour exam - it was very similar in scope and numbers of pieces of art to some of the old 6 hour exams. Also, last year's paper was FAR shorter and gave a false idea of how the exam this year was to be. If the C exam had been six hours, no problem with it, but I think almost everyone I spoke to had difficulty assimilating the information AND reading the answer, so I think it was a little unfair to give that exam in the time of 5 hours.
- Paper A was quite hard for Chemistry this year compared to some previous years, but not unfair I think.
- Paper B Chemistry was also much harder than last years, although still a balanced exam.
- Paper D was a similar level as last year, though I think part A was quite tough, but not unfair.
- Overall, the 2014 papers seemed a lot harder than the equivalent 2013 papers, although of course I may be slightly biased :)
- - Paper B provided poor indication of the expected amendment.
- Papers C (especially) and D were too long for the shortened time allowed.
- - I have attended two earlier B-exams with 4 hour time limit and never experienced time pressure (while I experience great time pressure for C- and D-exam at the same week earlier years). When doing last year's B-exam at home I experienced the time limit as a borderline. This year however the time pressure was obvious. This year it took much longer than usual (I have done a number of earlier B-exams at home and 2 other B-exams during EQE exams). In my opinion this year's exam tested working under time pressure rather than knowledge in problem-solution and ability to analyse the problem and the solution which is not optimal.
- - Even though I found A, B and D difficult, I managed to finish them in time. However, Paper C was far too long to be finished in 5 hours. The amount of reading was more than most of the 6 hour papers and there were far more issues to be dealt with concerning priority. I did not spot all of them. The lack of time led me to make silly mistakes (which will cost me lots of marks) which would have been avoided if I had more time.
- - There was A LOT to do in C this year. An extra Annex, more claims and priority issues compared to previous year - this put lots of pressure on time.
- - paper c 2014 was too difficult in comparison to the previous papers and in view of the

allocated time

- - The exams would not be so difficult per se, if one only had a bit more time to answer the questions.
- - As far as the pre-exam is concerned, answering true/false was somewhat ambiguous as, in many cases, there is room for
- multiple interpretations.
- - The claim analysis part of the Pre-exam was good: enough time to make and sufficiently clear. However, in the Legal part I found some of the questions ambiguous: I knew the answer, but it was not very clear to me what they actually would like to know. In my opinion, the exams of the last two years (2012 and 2013) were more clear.
- - Some pre-exam questions seemed not to be answerable with clear yes or no.
- - As none EPO language speaker, formulation of questions D1 is not always clear : what is a situation and what is asked.
- DII -part is usually too tangled, and checks not knowledge of EPC /advising but rather skills to tackle charades. While one untangles the situation with a time line, time is lost for giving analysis and advice - no time to think what to advice!
- - The time is really short to read all the paper, find the details and features, make a strategy and write it down.
- - The main difficulty was time pressure.
- I did all the questions for D1 and D2 but always in a rush with no possibility to re-read me and even to stop 5 minutes to have an overview
- - Sometimes definitions are not "real". That means they are not definitions one would use in real life when drafting claims. the difficulty is to switch off and focus only on the terms cited in the paper without using own knowledge.
- - Comparing with earlier pre-examinations (for example: 2012 and 2011), this pre-examination was more difficult not only because of 70 points, but also because of difficulty level and formulation of questions. Most of my answers are 5/5 and some of them 1/5 or 0/5. This means that some questions were formulated not in enough good manner (this is not a language problem, the problem is in clarity of formulation).
- I lost at least 10 points because of not very clear formulation of question. I understand that English language is not exact as my national language, but maybe possible to formulate additional sentences to give more exact understanding of process related with question ?
- Because of this, the "time problem" is very essential.
- - C: too long and very many definitions to have in mind, clear advantage for native speaking persons (and also for chemists, since many terms relating to poly-, plastics etc)
- - In my opinion the questions of pre-examination should be more difficult, but the passing rate should be dropped to 50 %. 70% is too high from the psychological point of view.
- - C: There was a priority issue, that I solved direct but went back and checked over and over again if correct or not.....I was clearly disturbed by having it in mind. Not very obvious for me to choose CPA for the different attacks....and if you are not so sure....you do have a tuff/uncertain day. Stressful, is my opinion.
- D: D1 OK, DII I interpreted as directly as 2 different parts.
- Part 1, i.e Q1&2 and the product cream
- Part 2, i.e Q3&4 and directed to a process
- It was painful to realize at the end that the process (my part 2) could be commented upon also for Q1&2. Don't know if there were more persons interpreting the question wrong.
- - Paper C, claim 3 : choice of the closest prior art + drafting a persuasive IS attack was difficult.
- Paper C, claim 1 : spotting the loss of priority with respect to (priority document of) A6 was of reasonable (expected) difficulty.
- Main challenge (and which renders the paper difficult) is the time allowed.
- - Der Teil C umfasst zu viele Entgegenhaltungen, mit denen das Patent angegriffen werden soll und zu viele Ansprüche (Angriffsmöglichkeiten). Fünf Ansprüche (Angriffe) und vier Entgegenhaltungen wären meines Erachtens ideal, um die Fähigkeiten des Prüflings bewerten zu können.

- Oft reicht die Zeit nicht, um den C-Teil zu Ende zu bringen, obwohl man (bei mehr Zeit) zu Ende bringen könnte.
- - variations in difficulty make the passing of EQE very arbitrary
- - Passing the papers is not a question of intellectuality.
- Excellent Scientifics passed the papers but admitted that EQE exams would outshine every examination they passed before.
- Passing the papers is a question of lack of time and the pressure arising from that.
- Time pressure is quite the thing the examination board wants to aim at - justified or not.
- Resulting, situations in EQE become grotesque, ill, epileptic maybe neurotoxic - I cannot find words that are explicit enough to explain my anger, cause I am not a native speaker. Experienced "passers" say even if you have to defend your company or you have to attack for your company any patents of economic value, you will never experience the situation of the EQE again.
- - It seems now a C exam must include chemical composites with difficult names. This is a little destabilising for E/M candidates.
- - Paper C was too difficult for the shortened time period of 5 h (Same number of documents as in the paper C of 2012, but only 5h!!!!)
- - in my opinion, for paper B this time three hours were too little.
- - There were only DI questions with 6-8 points and for each answer a lot of statements had to be made. One or two 4 points questions at the beginning of DI would help to get a better start into the Exam.
- - Paper C war in der Zeit von 5 h nicht lösbar aufgrund des Umfangs der Patent Ansprüche des Streitpatents und der Entgegenhaltungen. Im Vergleich hierzu waren die Vorjahresprüfungen ein Kinderspiel, so dass die Vorbereitung mit dem Compendium in diesem Fall völlig fehlgeschlagen ist.
- - Per se I don't think that the papers are that difficult taken alone, and if there is sufficient time. The difficulty lies in
- - trying to pass all of them in one go, this is very tiring and demanding
- - managing time, especially in C where a single analysis mistake or extra time spent understanding the documents to be analysed can quickly put you off track.
- - The C-paper now has one hour less than before and it is seemed to me to be more difficult. I do not think that I passed the C-paper this year as I did not have enough time to analyze and write everything.
- - Too many documents for 5 h C-part!!!
- - In general the failure rate should not exceed 50%
- - Paper C was far too difficult. 5 hours time was not nearly enough for studying all documents and understanding all problems. This Paper was just as extensive as former C Papers candidates were allowed to work 6 hours on.
- Paper B was very hard to complete in the time given. 4 hours would have been adequate.
- Please notice that candidates have less time than in past years. The papers need to be adapted accordingly. This year this was not the case for papers C and B. They were designed as if nothing changed in comparison to 2012 and earlier years.
- - Too many traps and details for such a short time - and A1 and A6 are long.
- - The new paper B format is more difficult than the former format. Plus, paper B 2014 felt significantly more difficult than B 2013. The other papers felt average compared to previous years.
- - The C paper had a few nasty little tricks and 6 documents. I was surprised by the extra document! Time was tight for me and English is my first language!
- I think B is much more confusing than the previous format. You are provided with the amendment, but you basically had to rip most of it out. I think the previous format was more of a test of your actual skill.
- Paper D was fair.
- - These papers seemed much more difficult than last year's!
- Paper A last year was a classic in which there was a readily identifiable common technical

advantage between several embodiments and clear distinction over the prior art. These year the characterising feature appeared to me to be somewhat harder to identify.

- I'm not keen on the new form of paper B. Identifying the amendment seems to me to be a core skill that should be tested in an amendment paper.
- Paper C this year presented a very complicated factual situation compared to other papers in recent years.
- The questions in D1 seemed either routine or rather obscure. Starting with a question that required a working knowledge on the protocol of recognition seemed a tough way to break candidates into the paper. Paper D2 also seemed quite a complicated factual situation this year. In recent past years the D2 questions have been compartmentalised into two sets of 2 questions, rather than a single set of four question.
- - They are very difficult, but that is expected. It looks as though there has been an effort made to prevent one mistake jeopardising the whole paper, for example on Paper C where the closest prior art changes between claims. I hope this continues. As the exam is only once per year, it is devastating to make a relatively simple error, for example on calculating an effective date, and as a result fail the whole paper and have to forfeit another year of your private life, which can have a large effect on you and your family. So having not too many marks on any one decision in the exam is helpful. Of course getting these things right is important for someone who is fit to practice, but in real life there is less pressure, more time to double check and usually a remedy.
- Now DI is reduced in length it might be good to have more questions, but each question shorter, so as to test a wider range of topics. Or keep the same length of DI questions but have more of them and cut down DII to compensate (but perhaps that would make it too easy).
- - Der C-Teil waren wesentlich umfangreicher und schwieriger als 2013!!
- - D 2014 was tough. First question of DI hits off by being difficult, which is discouraging for the rest of the exam. Fortunately some questions were ok, but still I felt the level was rather difficult, overall. The way questions are posed is confusing, I find. Which is just silly. Are you testing knowledge or are you testing people's ability to figure out strangely posed questions under time pressure? And what does that have to do with being fit for practice??
- DII was, in retrospect do-able, but I lost overview at some point. Which is a weakness in my preparation, rather than the exam being too hard. However, the question regarding saving the PCT application was again confusing.
- - Actually, I do not know, what the examination of paper C really aims on. If the only criteria is the time available, since it is almost impossible with normal handwriting speed to write down all attacks in paper C, I really want to ask you, if you think, that you do a good job with the paper C examination. My experience before and during opposition procedures at the EPO is, that the key point in winning a case is profound understanding and correct arguments, and NOT the speed of hand writing!!!!!!
- For paper C 2014, the problem was the absurd amount of information (poly..., Poly..., Poly...) and documents coupled with the number of attacks to be performed, which made the handwriting speed to the significant selective factor for paper C. In my view, the degree of difficulty was absolutely correct, what concerned the knowledge how to write an opposition (e.g. correct novelty and inventive step attack). However, it is ridiculous to couple the writing of paper C only on time-management questions. This is so far from reality of opposition procedures, that I only can conclude, that the team designing the examination does not understand AT ALL, what is there task. Namely to select patent lawyers, who are able to cope with the problems arising during REAL opposition procedure, and not the create the lawyers with the biggest forearm muscle. In paper C 2013, the examination committee went in the right direction. Now in paper 2014, there was the same amount of information and documents as before with 6h of examination.
- If in one of the primary preparation books (C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)), the authors keep stating during the whole book: "Do not think too long", as key criteria to pass the examination, this is illustrating the absurd situation with writing paper C. I never heard from the EPO examination board in REAL opposition procedure, that a lawyer should NOT think,

but just keep writing.

- - not easy under these circumstances
- - Paper A was ok and adequate in terms of difficulty and time available. For paper B, I had not enough time to write down a reasonable argument in view of A.56 EPC. There was no question of difficulty, simply not enough time. One could say that I lost too much time in studying the paper and A.123(2) argumentation.. I have to say that I mainly trained the older 4h B-papers. For those, I found 4h ok. I can not say that I had the impression that the present paper was so easy that 3h are justified.
- - Papers A (Ch), B(Ch) and C were extremely well conceived and technically accessible.
- Their difficulty came with the amount given to the candidates which i found too tight.
- Paper D was really more difficult compared with the ones of previous years.
- - Paper A seemed quite unusual to me, I could not understand the invention after the first reading of the letter and the annexed documents. It took me a lot of time to decide what was to be protected because the invention was more complex than in previous Paper As.
- Attacks in Paper C were not all clear since several technical effects were sometimes attached to one single feature, making the choice for the prior art documents sometimes almost impossible to make.
- - Schwierigkeit war m.E. angemessen. Abgesehen vom übertriebene Zeitdruck im C-Teil 2014.
- - I think both papers I sat (D and A/Ch) were fair in terms of difficulty
- - I am not convinced that it is necessary to overload the papers with such a lot of information. It only confuses, but does not test the candidate's knowledge of the law. In the end, it is mainly a question of time management and speed. The papers are not at all comparable to everyday practice. Most candidates who fail do so because they get completely lost in information. If a candidate is more stress-resistant, he has a chance to pass. If he easily gets stressed, he is lost, despite his probably very good knowledge of the law and practice.
- - Absolutely not enough time, too many issues in paper C to deal with
- - The Pre-Exam was fair, although I found the legal part harder than in the last years
- - The time available is fair.
- Regarding paper D:
- A extensive preparation is required to come up with solutions in time.
- Regarding paper A:
- There is more than enough time. The difficulty (gamble) is the high loss of marks if the ideal solution of the independent claim(s) is(are) missed. This creates a rather artificial situation.
- In reality, the initial claims usually serve as a basis to check for prior art. Thus, it is much more important to write a well structured description and to build a decent set of dependent claims. The focus of this paper should therefore be shifted away from the independent claim towards the structure of the description and the whole set of claims.
- - In ancient years of my first exam (1992) there were documents in all official EPC-languages (DE, EN, FR).
- But today, at my second exam (2014) all documents were translated into language of examination examples (DE).
- I think this is ok.
- - the documents for paper C were long to read, i lost much time reading all of them in details.
- in paper A, many technical characteristics but not always associated with technical effect; moreover the subject was not so clear.
- - It's not that they are difficult per se it's the time pressure... It's not supposed to be a race
- - Well, a pre-examination was introduced to have better prepared candidates. I do not think it makes any difference. When in 2013 failure rate in D went down, credit was quite rightly not given to the impact of the pre-examination. D 2013 was just easier.
- - Teil C: Im Rahmen der verfügbaren Zeit war der Umfang der zu erfassenden Dokumente völlig unangemessen.
- - time pressure especially in Paper C

- - Regarding the pre-exam I think many legal questions were simply too hard and too tricky.
- In my opinion, some of the questions were harder than those asked during part D of main exam part.
- And
- - in Paper C: chemistry is unfair for engineers which are not so much used to it
- - Because a clear answer is expected from the candidates in the pre-exam, questions should be formulated clearly and not unclear. Furthermore, claims to be analysed should be drafted in a clear manner which is also expected from the applicants.
- - High time pressure on papers C (very high) and D. The questions in D and the opposition case in C was ok, but for 6 or 7 hours, not for 5 hours.
- - Paper A/Chemistry was in my opinion poorly drafted.
- During the preparation, I considered Paper A to be the easiest of all four papers. But this year was different, because the text was confusing and inconsistent in terms terminology and subject matter. I could have drafted at least three independent process claims (purification method, method for quantification and the screening), but it was difficult to assess, which subject matters are actually important for the client. The client did for instance not seem to be interested in a general method for purifying the protein but rather in other, in my opinion, less valuable processes.
- The topic was also too special, as quite a few chemists are not trained in biochemistry. This was, however, not an issue for me.
- Paper C was more complex than in the last years.
- - compared to the last years the pre-exam paper seemed more difficult (especially the legal part).
- - - you never know what you are supposed to complement your answers to specific questions
- - some questions are unspecific
- - Paper-C was simply too much. A1 with priority claim, parts added on filing date and part after filing date; A6 as the first application for claim 1 and 2 so that priority claim of A1 was not valid in full..... To analyse this matter and then draft attacks for 6 (!) claims was just too much for the time. Nearly nobody finished the paper.
- - difficulté surtout liée au manque de temps.
- - The difficulty of paper C - in comparison to paper C of 2013 - was almost unfair.
- If you took the 2013 C paper as the "dress rehearsal" in your preparation for paper C (as it was the only available 5 hour paper) and expected the 2014 paper to be similar, you found yourself fooled.
- It appears that C 2013 set a lower barrier for a C paper while C 2014 could be considered an upper barrier. The amount of information required to process, although not all of it was actually needed, to some extent was discouraging. Anyway, future C papers ranging in difficulty between the 2013 and the 2014 paper would be welcome.
- - Time management in Paper C : the available time was too short for both thoroughly analyzing the documents (i.e. identifying the attacks) and properly writing the said attacks.
- On the D-day, there is no objective means for identifying the "mark potential" related to each object/attack of paper C.
- Therefore, it is sometimes not possible, if necessary (in view of the limited time), to objectively decide whether one attack is sufficient, and/or which attack from among a plurality of possible attacks is the most promising one to earn points.
- - Might be easier when I resit them next year.
- - In paper B/EM 2014 I had problems with handling the customer's suggestions. It took a lot of time to figure out whether there is - in some way - support for both the embodiments he would have liked to protect. In the end, I came to the conclusion that there was not. However something like an hour of time was lost in that. It would have been easier to do my best without the client's suggestions. The problem is that in e.g. the paper C the client is very knowledgeable, and basically always right. Thus, it is tempting to think also in B that there is a satisfactory way out for the client also in that paper. However, this seems not to be the case. Moreover, the problem-and-solution approach in paper B is not often very

clear. Evidently, the invention solves _a_problem_, but this problem is not very clearly stated in the paper.

- Paper C had many different issues: priority (in several ways), subject matter extending application as filed, and "OR" claim, wherein it seemed that the closest prior art depended on which part of the claim you were attacking. In this way, paper C was hard, but still relatively straightforward and fair. It seemed that the problem-and-solution approach could be applied, and they were given in A1-A6.
- Papers A and D were not exceptionally hard, but still tested the candidates as has become customary in years.
- - My papers were in general ok, but not for the time available, probably because I am a telecom engineer and need more time than a mechanical engineer or a chemist to understand those fields. So in general not difficult, fair from the content point of view, but very limited time.
- D: Was doable. I know I made mistakes I would not have if I had time to check my answers. If the committee had clarified if they wanted us to consider insufficiency of disclosure/ non-enabling disclosure / revocation national proceedings / proposal of a free license for compound A in the opponents patent or not, I would probably have had time to check my answers and correct at least one time limit that I think I did it wrong.
- A: You can not give an invention with lower amount of structural features, so ok from this point of view. I suffered from problems as to which extend to move is clear for the rotational embodiment, or how to define the squeezing and cracking of a nut clearly using functional wording. As commented a problem I do not have in my technical field,
- B: I admit it is difficult to produce shorter documents (very well done from the committee). My main problem was understanding the mechanical aspects in the time available for it, and what the client wanted to do with those amended claims having lots of problems. That made me lose a lot of time with the independent claim and its amendments, leaving me little time to do a proper IS assessment and even to check that clarity problem in claim 5 as proposed by the client which I realised when reading it at home. Actually I did not read that claim in the exam due to lack of time.
- C: I struggled with the terminology (Can the lady razor of Annex X be considered a cartridge??). I had no difficulty in seeing the effective dates, the added subject-matter and so on. Assessing novelty and inventive step was more difficult to me than in other exams of the compendium because of the terminology used, specially for claims 1-3, where I lost tons of time thinking of it. In C paper there is never enough time to write for full marks (at least what the examiner reports says it is full marks).
- - in my opinion, in paper D in more cases is not the difficulty of finding the answer is the time pressure what was much more difficult to handle.
- - Artificial complexity
- - It is too much text to read through. It is too much information to keep track of, organize and understand in order to be able to have enough time to figure out the answer to the exam (particularly DII and C).
- - 5 hours for D is too short. The old time regime of 3/4 hours for DI/DII was better.
- - Too much effects achieved by the features of the Claims of A1 and too much pages in other Annexes. In generally, is it really considered appropriate to test the scanning reading comprehension instead of the actual understanding of the PSA? I think so that such quick reading skills and errors caused by that are not the good meter of fit to practise. Please provide clear papers which really meters the PSA skills and not "gimmickry" with the huge amount of material which only meters the quick reading skills of the candidate.
- - This year D paper felt quite easy but that seems to be my opinion only. However, I think that easier paper (compared to deliberate ambiguousness) shows better the ability to cope with everyday situations. If every detail is somehow twisted, it takes the attention off from the actual D paper subject matter which is helping a client.
- - Paper B was simply unfair as not enough hint was given to argue against the EPO examiners communication. This paper was also too short at 3 hours. At least 3,5 hours should be allocated, as for paper A, as in my opinion, even more work had to be done for

paper B as for paper A.

- Paper C and D time allocation was too little, even with the best ceipi methodologies.
- If you are testing how a candidate can perform under time pressure, i.e. how much can be completed in a given time, then keep up the time pressure. However, this is not a fair test of someone's actual legal knowledge.
- - Paper C 2014 contained more difficult issues than paper C 2013. I did not expect to have to deal with priority, added subject-matter and (most of all) same invention issue in the same 5-hour paper. It was more likely an "old" 6-hour paper to be done in 5 hours.
- - The A paper in Chemistry was somehow different from the previous exams and it was difficult to deduce what kind of claims were wanted. Paper B was quite similar to earlier ones.
- - This years B-paper was difficult since it was quite different for earlier parers, in that there was so little information to work with.
- - I feel that this year Pre-examination was much more difficult than the other two years. And this feeling brings me again to the bad lack of the candidates of this year Pre-examination. Not only we han an unfair increase of the mark to pass the exam (published once we have already paid the examination fee and our courses of preparation), we also had and increase in the level of the exam.
- I really hope the EPO is going to reconsider its decision of the necessary mark to pass in order to continue being an exemplar organisation.
- - There was too much information in the C paper in order to handle everything in the 5 hours time given.
- - Comment about this survey: I could not undo the marking at Q26) above: "Paper B (Ch)". I made it by mistake, I did not sit this exam.
- - Too much time pressure on C
- - A was I think OK
- B was a very strange paper - difficult claim and strange suggestions
- C too difficult, although I spotted the first application issue it took hell of time doing the analysis and rushing through the other attacks (btw 8 attacks needed was very tough) - all kinds of tricks (ranges, values, first application, different CPA...)
- in D the part one was very difficult, part two was I think doable
- - My filed is chemistry/pharmacy so paper C being pure mechanic was difficult for me and it was not the paper to be done in 5 hours.
- Regarding DI the qustions could be more pricise, more about what should be done and how far we should go, e.g. what will happen if we do nothing and can we improve the situation and what need to be done in the next 6 nonths?
- - Paper C: too long paper to sove it in five hours. 6 anexes, indeed A1 very long and 6 claims one of them having an "OR" alternative.
- - The C-paper was very hard since the time limit of 5 hours was almost not enough. One more prior art document and one more claim to attack i relation to last years C-exam.
- - Too much items to read in a non-sufficient time in paper C
- - Le temps à disposition pour terminer au moins complètement l'épreuve C est trop court.
- - The problem with paper A is not difficulty but ambiguity in the wording of the exercise. For example: pivoting and rotating, are they synonymous? It is inadequate to draft a paper like this, because it does not test your ability to draft, but leaves much open to an arbitrary decision on interpretation.
- - C was longer than usual (longer than when it was for a 6 hours examination) for less time (5 hours).
- - C-2014 was extremely hard to manage in 5 hours. Felt unfair compared to C-2013.
- - nasty
- - I finished the pre exam and checked it twice after 2hours 40 minutes. Really the pre exam should be sat after the first year of training, not the second.
- The claim construction section is highly arguable in places, should it really be true/false format?

- I would suggest scrapping the claim construction, make it an online course sat after 1 year. Then increase the difficulty of legal section sat after two years. At present the exam is a mere formality.
- I read Hoekstra in evening for 1 month in preparation for this exam, then did the mocks and delta patents questions and felt it was quite easy. I don't know if that is the intended outcome of the pre-exam, or if more work is intended. It needs to be harder if the EQE board intend it to make us to do more reading.
- - Paper A(Ch) seemed a bit odd compared to other years with only really 3 pages of information....
- - Rather difficult.
- - Non-native speakers seem to be in disadvantage since they think and write slower and may interpret certain technical words differently than the exam committee. I also find that the examination committee is extremely strict in subtracting points.
- It is one of most frustrating exams I ever had.
- - C was impossible in 5 hours
- - See above for paper D second part (3 hours)
- - Did many questions were on difficult uncommon subjects such as PoR, Representation PCT and admissibility of Appeal, I wasted too much time on them. DII questions were vague and lacked focus in comparison to the DII of 2013 which I did practise and it was therefore more difficult, to have an idea what was expected in the answers.
- The A (Ch) exam, was the first biotech type A exam to date, was a rather fuzzy construct, even for biotech/biochemistry candidates. The chosen prior-art documents seemed almost irrelevant. For non-biotech candidates it must have been even harder.
- The B (Ch) exam was at the expected level, but in my view the B exam should also be 3,5 hours, because of the amount of handwriting involved.
- The C exam was in my view a six hour paper rather than a 5 hour paper. I made some quick but bad decisions, due to time pressure and was yet not even able to finish in time.
- - Too many documents and definition in paper C for 5 hours of time.
- - I think the paper was ok, but I have a feeling that I have really missed something important....
- - Paper A was difficult because contrarily to some other papers A, there were very few informations to show you that you were in the "right track".
- Paper C was difficult because the two important points to discuss were not clear at all (at least one of them should have been easier to let us a chance to show we understand C and to have enough time because discussing two unclear concepts is too long) : "matériau expansé élastique" and "amont/aval". The latter being particularly unclear : the translation in french was not satisfactory.
- - The wording of the questions seem to be deliberately chosen in order to confuse the reader. In a "real situation" one can ask supplementing questions in order to clarify the question to be met. Therefore, the ability to handle a "real situation" appears not to be the main focus of the tests.
- - C, D and B were very difficult this year. Time pressure is enormous.
- - It is not similar to how we work since usually our clients are not that interested in "use"-claims for example and therefore I don't focus on finding that kind of invention.
- - I think that this year the paper C was too long
- - Generally about right level of difficulty
- - A (ch): the paper A was very difficult because the description of the method in the letter of the client was not very clear. I thought that there was at least one error in the french translation which renders the description of the method very difficult to understand and thus, to determine the subject to be claimed; essential characteristics of the method were not, for me, clearly described.
- B(ch): the difficulty, for me, and for this paper was the time.
- C: Very difficult : the trap of the "first application". the paper was too long under the time allowed (as longer as the past exams but in 5 hours instead of 6h).
- - In comparison to paper C 2013, the paper C of 2014 was much more difficult (one

additional document, priority issues). Somewhere in the middle would be a good compromise.

- - Paper C 2014 had an high degree of difficulty and many pieces of prior art
- - There were many errors of translation into French in papers A, B and C.
- - In number one, the time, because the stress of time prevents to give a good answer from the middle of the examination. Often, the reply results from a too fast reflection and hence often false.
- - Paper C was really too long.
- I retain that it was long as a 6 hours paper instead of a 5 hours paper, as it should be now.
- Both the document that we have to oppose and the documents to use for attack it were really really long to read. Moreover all documents were particular complicated to understand and analyse since they contain chemicals words such as Polyethilene and so on.
- Paper D was longer that the one of the last year, in particular the "D-II" part.
- - Paper D was IMO more difficult than last year's paper. So was also paper A (Ch), which was quite tricky. A is the most difficult for me as it feels like it involves a lot of trying to read the minds of the exam committee - what do they want to see in this exam etc. while D and B to some extent is more straightforward.
- - Time pressure.
- Paper B; It was hard to find good fallbacks in the very short application, which made it hard to have a good basis for argumentation.
- Paper C. Hard to have time to make all attacks.
- - finally not so difficult but pressure/stress the D-Day makes it difficult...
- - C 2014 had too many documents, too many claim objects, and too many issues with priority to be handled in 5 hours instead of 6 hours (pre-2013).
- D1 2014 had too many tricky issues to be handled in 2 hrs (typically suggested time for D1), so the 3-minute time limit per mark was too short compared to previous 4.5 minutes per mark (pre-2013). The 3 hour recommended time for D2 seemed accurate and in line with previous papers.
- Both C and D1 seemed to be of the same complexity and difficulty as pre-2013 C and D1 papers, which allocated 1 hour more time for each (20% and 50% more time respectively).
- - It is not too complicated but there is not time enough.
- - Changing of the passing marks made it more difficult to pass the pre-exam than 2013.
- - A and B were completely different from the papers of previous years and were written in a quite unclear manner, making it extremely difficult to find out what was key.
- - The numbers of documents in paper C which have to be analysed were to high. The opposition paper Annex 1 has 9 pages with much information of technical effects, seven claims, ... Annexes 2 to 5 are 54(2)-documents but they also comprise much information, technical effects, advantages, ... Annex 6 has to be classified, ... In my point of view, it was hardly possible to finish the paper and to provide good argumentation or a detailed PSA.
- - Regarding Paper C, The time pressure was very important. I spent to much time on the priority check. I also had a doubt on "amongst" vs "aval" in the french documents. Therefore, i was not able to deal with the last claims . This paper was really much harder than paper C2012 in 6 hours, C2013 in 5 hours. I also spent a lot my personal time to prepare this paper and felt more prepared than the last years.
- - Time remains an issue with D and (especially) C, but if you do not linger too long on subjects you are not sure of, it is manageable. In general, the papers were quite difficult but doable. Easy exams only devalue the title of EP patent attorney. Only A 2014 (Ch) was ridiculously difficult.
- - In 2014 paper C was very mechanical orientated, e.g. a chemist lost valuable time in trying to understand how the invention in opposed patent an the prior art inventions actually worked.
- Paper A was in the field of pharmacy/biotechnology. Although for formulating the claims specific knowledge in those fields was not necessary it was difficult for the typical chemist to find the gist of the invention. Especially it was difficult to estimate what would be considered in the field of proteins as a narrow or a broad protection.

- - I think that there were a bit much tricky questions, the problem for me was not how to find an answer, I still was able to search, I studied for that, but, as some crucial details were missing, (in my opinion...I'm just beginning this bug work!) for how to interpretate some legal questions.
- For claim analysis, I think that some instructions usually given for mechanical matter, that are not really the same for chemistry, as you all know better than me, were too tricky and honestly it was a bit misleading, I think it was not so clear answering as per knowledge or interpretation, and we were used to study, also by reasoning, and mechanical eng.
- I have a good feeling usually with claim analysis. I like it very much..I hope this is the case.
- I know my work it to know all! But some more information about this kind of claim analysis could have helped, in mean in the preparation material, I did not find this in the preparation material, nor had the opportunity to face that in a course, I hope my experience, although of few years, has helped in that.
- I'd liked some more examples about that. Thanks
- - The pit-falls are often provided which removes time to solve correctly
- - C: Difficulty was adequate, but: Too less time for such a voluminous paper!!!!
- - Too many pages to read in paper C - for persons having a non-EPC language as their mother language is this too time consuming and seems unfair compared to a candidate having a EPC-language as his mother language
- - Long time ago (about in 1990) then I learned from my excellent supervisor that there will not any longer be present any easy work to do
- - This year I found paper C too long and complicated, too many documents to handle and easy to miss information.
- - The first 6 questions have so many possible factors that need to be addressed (and written down) that it costs relatively much more time per point than the points to be collected in the second part of the exam.
- - The change of required marks for passing the pre-examination is a heavy obstacle.
- - I think this year the difficulty was increased both by the new mark system (pass only from 70) and also because the level of the questions was higher than in previous pre-exams
- - It appears that papers B, C and D were this year intended for candidates having the amount of time allocated for the corresponding exams prior to 2013. There was not enough time to give a complete answer for any of these exams.
- It must be noted that in an exam such as paper C, legal issues might seem easy to identify and work with, i.e. priority issues, added subject matter, A.54(3) EPC prior art, but when all of these issues are thrown in together it is easy for candidates to overlook facts/points which may render an attack on a claim/section of the description completely invalid, meaning that all the marks for an attack may be lost even though the work is done.
- - Paper C this year had a number of nuanced points and a number of nuanced paper interpretations. Additionally, there was a number of chemistry material elements that required thought for a non chemist.
- - Paper C was too much information
- - C was considerably harder than last year. it would be favorable if exams had an equal level of difficulty every year.
- - The questions for paper D have been difficult but solvable. The time factor add to the difficulty.
- - Well, it is hard. I did not really appreciate that a question related to a special case of tax calculation. If you do not have the document (JO 2009), you cannot answer: unfair!
- - papers b and d were not too difficult, seen objectively (despite the funny things one does when under time pressure).
- paper a was weird and quite difficult. it held a lot of information but did not give much guidance as to what was the expected set of claims. In principle, that is fine and close to a real-live situation. However, given the approach to subtract substantial marks for every slight deviation from the envisaged set of claims, the guidance provided within the paper was not sufficient. In case more realistic situations than just finding e.g. the one possible claim for a selection invention as in some of the last years papers is envisaged for the exam, this

should go along with a little more openness regarding acceptable claim language.

- Regarding paper C, the amount of paper and information was overwhelming given the comparably short time of 5 hours. In fact, even some of the previous 6 hour papers were shorter. The fact that no questions of the client had to be answered saves 15 minutes at best. Definitions and features (e.e., straight blade) were not provided as reliably as in the last 5 papers. Since the examiners' reports emphasize the importance of using definitions were provided, one lost quite a bit of time for searching things that just were not there. The priority problem in principle was not too difficult (albeit I did not see it in its full extent during examination). However, in combination with the amount of paper to be handled and the exhaustion of the third day, it was a little too much. Given the comparably easy last two C-papers, it is understandable that a harder paper will follow, however, compared to those papers, there is a discrepancy that does not seem quite adequate.
- - interesting time line
- - C paper was too long for 5 hours, it should have been 6 hours or less annexes or at least less claims to attack
- time pressure was an issue for all candidates
- - Regarding paper C, I think this year's paper was not designed to be solved in 5 hours. The priority issue in this exam was too difficult and took us a lot of time, so that we did not have time enough to complete the attacks or to analyse properly the information given in the annexes to perform the attacks. I had completed six papers C of the Compendium before attending the exam and I realised that this year's paper was much more difficult than others: it had more pages and the same number of annexes (6) and claimed embodiments as papers of other years which were supposed to be solved in 6 hours... In conclusion, I think this exam could have been properly answered in 6 hours, but not in 5h. We did not have time at all to finish it (at least those of us who realised about the priority issue).
- - I was surprised by the time pressure within paper C this year. In any case, the paper was considerably harder than paper C of 2013.
- - I felt all of the papers were more difficult and much more time pressured than the 2013 papers (which I completed in exam conditions during my preparation).
- The proposed amendment to Paper B this year was much more difficult to work with than that in 2013. There are not enough past papers of paper B in the new format available to allow candidates to properly prepare for how to deal with the client proposed amendment - more guidance or examples would be useful.
- - Paper A and Paper D were as expected. Paper B (E/M) was much more difficult than expected. In a profession where the client's instructions are so important, forcing candidates to so seriously consider a path where the client's instructions are so lacking in basis, as was the case in Paper B is a dangerous line to follow. Paper C resembled one of the older 6 hour papers with many more issues than what were present on the 2013 paper which was the first paper C to be allocated 5 hours.
- - For A: difficulty to identify subject matter to claim due to difficulty to understand what the invention is and what the difference with the prior art is (time pressure, but also not familiar with field of paper-A 2014).
- For B: less difficulties
- - Paper C 2014 was much too complex to solve adequately in five hours. Too much text and too many separate issues to solve.
- Paper D 2014 seemed of standard difficulty, but had some more "unusual" questions in DI.
- - A: It is hard to find the invention if there is a process inside a process which is hard to understand for people who have no special knowledge in this field (same with 2011 and 2013 exam). Giving information with special chemical terms is difficult to evaluate for people who have no special knowledge in the technical field concerned.
- D: Difficulty concerning the legal knowledge was o.k. But analysing and discussing four patent families with eight applications/patents is a bulk of time consuming work. Other legal knowledge can hardly be presented during the remaining time.
- - All papers in 2014 have been quite unfair. Especially C and D were too long and contained a too high number of individual and tricky tasks to discuss.

- 2014 was much more difficult than 2013, and more difficult than the preceding years.
- It seems that the examination committee had to adjust the higher passing rates of 2013 on the expenses of the 2014's candidates.
- - Time pressure!
- - The time management for respond to the papers is a problem: it is one thing to understand what is expected and another thing to manage to put it all in the duration allocated in the examination.
- - Paper D seems to ask fewer and fewer questions that bear any resemblance to situations that are likely to occur in everyday work.
- Paper C had far too many technicalities to deal with; even more so than some of the 6hrs past papers. Also, the format of this year's paper is different to that of 2013. In 2013, the paper contained 5 annexes. In contrast, 2014 contained 6 annexes. If there is no consistency, it makes it impossible for candidates to prepare.
- In the most recent meeting between the exam committee and tutors, the exam committee indicated that they are not concerned with unusually high pass rate of 2013 paper C and that the 2014 paper would not be any more difficult. However, the 2014 paper is clearly more difficult than 2013 (more claims, more annexes, more priority issues). The exam committee should not make such a comment and then set a paper that contradicts it.
- - the amount of info to process in the given, very scarce time, is the biggest difficulty, especially in paper C and D. the exam would be pretty feasible if one had more time or less info to process. it's frustrating when you know the answers but don't have the time to write it down, especially since the aspect of providing good legal advice under such time pressure is pretty much irrelevant in daily life.
- - Pre-examination paper was much more difficult than the paper in 2012. The materials for the claim analysis part were not voluminous, clear and easy to understand but the questions were very tricky. Also the questions from the legal part were based more on some exclusions than on the straight forward procedure of the EPC and the Rules.
- - It's hard to understand what sort of answers / attacks the examination committee expects and above all what information they expect one to use among the bulk of it as "half-hidden" especially in Annex 1 (contested patent)
- - I felt that Paper B (E/M) was unduly difficult in 2014 mainly because the client instructions were unclear.
- - Paper A (Ch) was very different from previous papers, impossible to prepare for and way too difficult
- Paper C was CRAZY - The complexity and amount of analysis required was impossible for 5 hours - So much more difficult than the only other 5 hour paper from 2013
- - Enormous reading and writing tasks, no time to make a reasonable calm thinking and reasoning, just read, plan a little and write. It seems to be a writing exercise mainly.
- - Part D: Time management, i.e. distributing time between "part I and part", i.e. for answering questions and writing the appraisal
- - By far not enough time for paper C, difficult to find the teaching for different wording within documents A1 to A6.
- - There is too much time pressure and candidates cannot show their real capacities.
- - I didn't know if the amendment proposed by the client (A132(2)) should be discussed in our response. Since our response is for the examiner, I have chosen to not discuss it.
- - The difficulty with the EQE pre-exam is that it is not possible to justify your answers. Thus, if a point is considered to be arguable, and the candidate chooses the "wrong" answer, then the candidate loses all marks even if, in reality, they could have made valid arguments in favour of their answer. I do not necessarily think that the format of the pre-exam should change (the "true" or "false" format is fine), however I think that the questions should be carefully chosen so as to remove any ambiguity in the points at issue as far as possible. On a positive note, I think that this was less of a problem with regards to the 2014 pre-exam when compared to some previous years.
- - Some questions of the pre-exam are from legal areas that are not settled yet or have become debatable. For example, the question about the undisclosed disclaimer can be

seems as T or as F, especially in view of the recent case law and changes to the Guidelines.

- On the other hand, some core legal areas, such as representation, have not been covered at all, even though one can also find interesting questions in these areas.
- - Papers B(Ch) and D way too difficult with respect to the time available for answering them. [Remark: In Q26), paper B(E / M) was selected inadvertently; this selection could not be cancelled again.]
- - Time management
- - Paper C was the hardest paper overall that I have seen, including the whole compendium going back to 2008. And in earlier years, more time was available.
- - 2014 Paper C had too much documents to analyze. Documents were too long.
- Too much chemical terms.
- Clarity problems with terms "en amont et en aval". French terms "en amont" and "en aval" are difficult, in particular for people sitting the exam in a non native language.
- - The new version of Paper B makes it very difficult to provide a good answer in 3 hours. It is very difficult to decide if the amendments suggested by the client should be kept or not.
- - A and B seem to be inconsistent in their difficulty level. Some years are very straightforward, and some are very tricky.
- - The difficulty of this exam is fair for someone well prepared. The level of difficulty shouldn't be decreased. Anyone who knows well the CBE, the PCT and the practise is able to answer.
- The main problem of this exam is the lack of time which doesn't reflect the reality of the work. Despite the difficulty of this exam is fair, no sufficient time for reflexion is provided and we have to finish the exam in a hurry.
- - This year EQE-C looked like previous 6h exams and not as 5h exam. Too long documents and too many issues to look at in 5h. Too difficult for me to perform it in 5 hours.
- - Paper A Ch was ambiguous, no real-life test.
- - There was a lot of time pressure for paper C.
- There also were translation errors in French paper A and C that lead to some confusion.
- Paper B was difficult because the example demonstrate that only one type of polymer works, so it was difficult to know if we had to limit the claims to the exemplified polymer.
- - Since my mother tongue is not official languages of EPO, it was tough to analyse every detail in papers and write answers well in time.
- - Problematic in Paper B is that very often what is requested for the exam differs from real life practice.
- - I am not a native, and I was afraid that I will not understand the paper. There were no problems in understanding of the idea.
- - Paper C reduced time (5 hours), but documents A1 to A6 still encompass many pages, lots of text to digest
- - The Pre-Exam was perhaps more difficult than previous years but a fair test of the required topics.
- - I found Paper A Ch was rather tricky, rather different from the cases of the last 5 years, and with some uncertainties about novelty: I found the invention provided a new parameter and some conditions for a solution containing an enzyme. A priori art document discloses the solution containing the enzyme, but not the new parameter or the conditions.
- Not easy at all.
- - Due to the DI questions being a bit more tricky than I expected I did not leave enough time for DII.
- - Nothing
- - I appreciate the high relevance of the different parts of the EQE to real life problems, but, what I don't understand, is the "need" for the immense time pressure put on the candidates during the exams
- - I believe most sitters of the pre-examination feel unsecure about the claim analysis part, as they do not really know how to prepare for it apart from using the compendium.
- Now, regarding the 2014 pre-examination paper, the format was quite different from the 2

previous years (combination of chemistry and mechanics, questions about disclaimers, much less questions about Art. 123(2), etc.) and no one could anticipate it. This was quite unsettling in my opinion. The fact that not only the passing mark was raised but the format also changed felt a bit unfair compared to the 2013 sitters.

- - Largest difficulty is timing
- - I believe the time pressure is the most difficult issue for me on the exam. I do not believe the difficulty level is in general too high, but to do the exam in such a short time makes me feel very stressed, and then it is difficult to show the knowledge in a good way.
- - N/A
- - L'approche du pré-exam (claim analysis) a été modifiée ce qui surprend le candidat par rapport aux compendiums disponibles.
- le candidat perd alors encore un peu plus ses moyens en découvrant cette surprise...
- Ce qui n'est pas vraiment favorable à celui-ci en condition examen !
- - I was resitting Paper D (I failed in 2012). The difficulty in 2014 was OK. However, the time was too short for me.
- - This year Paper C is not a fair paper, including 6 Annexes like in old exams which were 6 hours but the time is insufficient as being 5 hours with those annexes, especially for the ones whose mother language is not EN, FR or DE.
- - Not enough time for paper C and D.
- - In my opinion, this year Pre-examination was more difficult than the two years before. Hence, not only we had to fight with a late and unfair decision to increase the passing mark, we also had to do a more difficult exam.
- - In the Legal part, there were only 2 questions concerning PCT, 2 out of 40.
- - In the Claim Analysis, there were a mix of Legal part with a question about the article 54(3).
- - the case was rather complex and the time was too short to answer.
- term interpretation took a long time and there were many terms to interpret all the time
- it is not clear from the examiner's reports, what qualifies a good interpretation. So, to be on the safe side a lot of citation is required which takes a lot of writing and a lot of time
- - Very little time in Paper C
- - A & D : Adequate
- C : Technical problems to solve were hardly defined on C 2014 + Serious error on a claim (3?) of the French paper which completely affect the strategy of the opposition.
- B : Will of customer was not clearly identified, regarding the way to correct the set of claims he proposed.
- - The C paper was too long and the difficult priority issues made it almost impossible to correctly complete the attacks for the other claims. At the end of my studying I was completing 6 hour papers in just over 4 hours but for this paper I needed the whole time and did not answer everything correctly. With 29 pages, this was an exam for 6 hours, not 5 hours. This should be taken into account when marking.
- - even if I prepared all the compendium in "examination conditions", managing the time is really challenging.
- there were also an error in the french version of paper A in chemistry, which was quite confusing.
- - Paper A E/M : the problem that the invention was supposed to solve was not clearly defined neither were the problems solved by the prior art. So the determination of the prior the most relevant was really difficult.
- Paper B E/M : the amendments presented by the clients were too complicated and involve lots of justifications and amendments to be compliant with CBE.
- Paper C : there were ERRORS in the paper in french (Claim 3 and claim 6 were contradictory : I based all my attacks on the vocabulary used in claim 3 and correct claim 6 to be coherent but some other candidates seem to have done the opposite...
- The paper was not configured to be done in 5H ...; but more in 6H.
- - Adequate.
- - Difficult to understand some questions or statements, phrasing was confusing for legal

questions.

- for claim analysis some questions very unclear how to interpret.
- - Paper A 2014 is the first paper I was totally confused by. It was in my technical area and drafting meaningful claims was not an easy task.
- - I tried the 2014' EQE papers especially B E/M et C much more difficult than in 2013
- There was a problem on translation in French in the C paper
- - D part I found more difficult this year than last year though I was much more prepared....
- B part at least this time I know the claims you could not trust. Last year that was a bit of a shock... that I lost a lot of time on. Then last year my big issue is that I know too much of piezoelectrical instrument and electromechanical, and got confused of that. This time at least it was not an issue....
- - I'm sure that to complete the 2014 C paper we need more than 5h and it is absolutely impossible to do the full analyze and right answers in 5h.
- Comparing the papers 2012 (6h); 2013 (5h) and 2014 (5h):
- Facts:
- i) annexes / h:
 - 2012 – 1.0;
 - 2013 – 1.0
 - 2014-1.2
- ii) embodiments / h:
 - 2012-1.2;
 - 2013-1.0
 - 2014-1.4
- iii) description paragraphs / h:
 - 2012-2.5;
 - 2013-3.4
 - 2014-4.4
- iv) total pages / h:
 - 2012-4.0;
 - 2013-4.8
 - 2014-5.8
- Additional:
- a) 2014 has 3 very difficult issues in client letter against 2 in 2013 and 0 in 2012
- b) 2014 has priority vs 2012 and 2013 No claim priority
- c) 2014 has claims with different dates and 2012 and 2013 same dates
- d) 2014 is the ever biggest exam (29 pages), more technical effects, etc
- - Part C was too much in that time. It was almost more than a few years ago when one had one hour more time. It was substantially more to read than in 2013
- - Paper D: with one more hour I would have made a perfect paper. In 5 hours I hesitate whether I'll pass.
- Paper A: Confusing, there were not similar papers in the compendium. If you were not used to that field or that type of drafting seemed complicated.
- Paper B: Adequate.
- - A Ch was too confusing
- - This year the exam was for 6hours not for 5hours. Many traps
- - Not nearly enough time for paper C
- - It seems that the legal constellations are very tricky and sometimes have traps. Given the really short time available, I doubt that such complex questions are really necessary.
- - pre-exam: not too difficult. Hardest part is interpreting the questions, which may lead to a wrong answer.
- paper A: drafting the independent claim is quite hard, it's easy to lose too many points and fail because of what can be seen as a small error.
- paper B: not too difficult.
- paper C: time is your biggest enemy, analysing calmly the prior art documents and then

defining a strategy, then writing it all down, is the challenge.

- paper D: the biggest difficulty is finding the information you need very fast, and guessing the level of detail that will give maximum points in the minimum time. Time is an issue here too.
- - Paper C in 2014 seemed to me significantly more difficult than Paper C from 2013: longer, more attacks to be formulated, a more difficult priority situation.
- - most of the time is spent for reading carefully all those details and cached presets.
- - Paper C 2014 was longer than in previous years
- - Paper D was quite long but I believe the questions themselves were not too tricky.
- Paper A was difficult in E/M because of the various movements that were involved and were not quite easy to describe.
- Paper C was long and tricky because of the lack of priority of some claims that could be easily missed, and the number of attacks due to the number of claims and the alternatives in claim 3.
- - Few of this year pre-exam questions was really unclear (ex. 4.2, 10.4). Although I knew relevant articles and rules it was not clear what the exam committee expected.
- - In paper B the suggestions by the client tend to be quite confusing. Former B papers without such suggestions were easier to solve.
- - Paper A (Ch) required specific knowledge of biology. The invention was rather difficult to understand for a chemist without a deep knowledge of biology.
- - In the C-paper I had difficulty understanding the word resilient. I spend a lot of time on the puzzle, where it was not easy to be sure the attacks was right and I did not manage to make attacks on all claims.
- - none
- - Paper C comprised surprisingly many legal traps. From my personal perspective paper C 2014 was the most complex paper of the last 6 years. Although the time was reduced between 2012 and 2013 from 6 to 5 h, paper C 2014 would have needed 6 hours and not 5. The time pressure was very huge and the subject matter as well as the prior references were very complex.
- - Regarding B(Ch), there has been a lot of discussion whether D1 or D2 was to be selected as the closest prior art. I am of the opinion that if the choice is too ambiguous, this is only acceptable if both options are considered correct.
- The difficulty level of the C paper was mostly due to time pressure (see Q32).
- - paper C - ran out of time
- - Not all questions are difficult, but some are indeed. Gaining high marks is therefore tough, but scoring 50% lies within reach with proper preparation.
- - Paper C 2014: The Exam board need to make a decision: is this a 6 hour paper or a 5 hour paper? What is the test? That is; paper 2013 had 5 Annexes. 2014; 6 Annexes Opposition: do we really need to knock an independent claim on Novelty (and arguably I/s) and Priority? Surely the focus of any Opposition should be skills of an attorney to argue lack of I/S - how can this be really done in a 5hour paper with technology that is difficult to understand and being forced to follow some ridiculous cepi/delta matrix (which cannot be used in real life). The C paper, in particular, is not a test of skill, but just a test of methodology. Is that a basis to represent a client on a very important case. "Oh I passed the C paper with delta, but I've never done an Opposition in real life." Useless.
- - Paper A - Hard for an telecommunication engineer... Harder than 2013
- Paper B - Longer than 2013 + 2 wrong guesses of the client instead of one - Harder than 2013
- Paper C - Well ... Much longer than 2012 in term of number of page, A lot of difficulties for priority date compared to 2013, a trick on the first application than I have never seen in Compendium + in my case, contradictions in French language between description and Rev 3. I will even add that I spend minutes to find an other attack against Rev2 because 123(2) is a weak one in the view of compendium but none was awaited...
- Tricky paper C and so longer and harder than 2013...
- Paper D - I think I did ok but I find useless to ask question about R 142 or A 55 + A 60 to know if someone is 'fit to practice'...

- - AS mentioned before, the time pressure in paper D was extreme
- - I sat the C exam for the first time in 2013 and narrowly failed, getting 41%.
-
- I felt that the 2014 C paper was more difficult than the 2013 paper, given the consensus emerging on the number of attacks possible or required, and the number of prior art documents to be analysed.
- - C was very long, hardly enough time to write down all issues. I did not spend much time figuring out the attacks, but to write down all the attacks cost too much time.
- - I found the Paper A chemistry paper more difficult than those from previous years.
- - B was confusing, as the argumentation was mainly required on allowability of amendments, not on inventiveness, as in old exams.
- C was fair by questions, however, too long for 5 h.
- - For non native speakers it is not enough time
- - Sitting A and B on the same day is a torture.
- - Too little time for thinking and using EPC during paper D.
- - The limited time is the most critical point. I am still writing too slow, which made it hard for me.
- - Paper C:
- Too little time; too many documents to analyze and too many informations in each of them.
- Many tricks to be recognized (validity of the documents in terms of priority and validity of the patents in Europe)
- - time pressure and lots of variables to take into account
- - Much more difficult in 2014 than 2013.
- - The paper D of 2014 was not extremely difficult in my opinion, but the time pressure made it very easy to make mistakes and give not complete answers.
- - Time Pressure is always an issue.
- Although a specific issue relating to the 2014 paper, I feel it highlights a typical issue with which I have been confronted on both my attempts at Paper C. I became bogged down (approximately 1 hour's worth of 'bogged down' and an issue which bothered me throughout the examination and ultimately has led to a fail) with what should be a relatively straightforward issue:- Annex 1 described a cartridge but during my analysis of the prior art Annexes I dismissed A2 as not describing a cartridge even though by allowing this interpretation I could then have readily attacked Claim 4 based on A2 & A3. Having reviewed post-exam I am still of the opinion that A2 does not describe a cartridge and would in the 'real world' be far happier arguing against A2 disclosing a cartridge than arguing for, but all the forum chat, including by experienced tutors state the opposite. My point is that the exam does not appear to reflect what occurs in day-to-day patent life which is surely a weakness of the Examination - shouldn't the examination be in a format that mimics the real-world of patent prosecution as opposed to joining the dots of pre-formulated puzzle in which in fact some of the dots have probably been mis-positioned ?
- - PAPER C 2014 too long to be completed if compared with the reduction of time occurred starting from EQE 2013 (only 5 hours).
- - In my opinion this exam was terrible, especially the number of annexes and claims as in previous 6-hour-exams. I think this Paper (C) was quite long to be finished in 5 hours. The number of pages is 29, that is 5 more than the usually 24 pages of old Papers to be done in 6 hours.
- Many issues to be treated: loss of priority due to A6, an A. 123(2) attack, two attacks for claim 3 (not starting from the novelty attacks for claim 1, ranges, use-claim. A plurality of issues that were medium difficulty but surely not to be treated in 5 hours! Careful analysis was needed with A6 and there was insufficient time to formulate coherent arguments for the other claims. Hence, if it is considered there are 20 marks per hour (5 hours x 20 = 100 marks), I would say this exam should be marked with 120 marks, otherwise how to take into account the missing hour for the candidates? It is absolutely impossible to do the right answers in 5h.
- I'm considering presenting a complaint (facts and argumentation below) to the examination

committee, comparing the papers 2012 (6h); 2013 (5h) and 2014 (5h):

- Facts:
- i) annexes / h:
 - 2012 – 1.0;
 - 2013 – 1.0
 - 2014 - 1.2
- ii) embodiments / h:
 - 2012-1.2;
 - 2013-1.0
 - 2014-1.4
- iii) description paragraphs / h:
 - 2012-2.5;
 - 2013-3.4
 - 2014-4.4
- iv) total pages / h:
 - 2012-4.0;
 - 2013-4.8
 - 2014-5.8
- Additional arguments:
 - a) 2014 has 3 very difficult issues in client letter against 2 in 2013 and 0 in 2012
 - b) 2014 has priority vs 2012 and 2013 No claim priority
 - c) 2014 has claims with different dates and 2012 and 2013 same dates
 - d) 2014 is the ever biggest exam (29 pages), more technical effects, etc
 - Who gave the order to decrease the pass rate?
 - - Paper C was too difficult, I mean 5 hours was not enough at all.
 - - Too much circumstances in C and D, which had to be considered. Half hour more would help to not forget that much.
 - - Part B was a bit more difficult. It appears to me that the expected solution approach for the paper was again different compared to the recently changed approach as introduced in 2013. However, there are yet no results available, so it is difficult to judge.
 - - Time is the key. I guess if you had enough time everyone would pass (sooner or later you find the applicable law/case law).
 - Would be interesting to sit the exam without books and to see what you know, now it's more a quick test.
 - - Pre-exam difficulty was no different than previous years (maybe legal part a little bit more difficult) and considering the increase in the passing grade I am glad the difficulty was not more than the previous years.
 - - The difficulty is low. It is only the time pressure.
 - It is a question what you want reach with the EQE. Quickly finding the answers in the D-book?
 - For adults the EQE is ridiculous
 - - Some legal questions of the pre-Exam were ambiguous, and as the only possible answer is T or F, I did not feel certain of the final result. Even Delta Patents were wrong in some questions...
 - - I suggest to keep 50 points as a passing rate, but raise the no. of questions or the difficulty of questions.
 - - Paper C was more far difficult in french due to a big translation error in claim 3 = "amont" vs "aval". This lead to much time lost for analysis as no technical effect was found in the patent and no support for this feature.
 - Also as it there two many attacks, documents, priority issues in the given time.
 - - Paper C was very difficult - lots of potential issues such as priority, 54(3) documents, intermediate generalisations etc to consider, as well as a considerable number of claim objects and prior art documents. This seemed to be unfair in light of the reduced time to complete the examination - it seemed to be more of a test of whether you could read quickly

rather than how well you can prepare a Notice of Opposition.

- - as already before and noticed by others, by other resitters... time matters a lot
- - YES
- - The paper C was very difficult, too many issues too analyze in such short time.
- - I think that there are too much documents to study in paper C. If you read carefully each of them, you do not have enough time to study all the papers.
- We do not have enough time to think about and to choose the good solution.
- - C and D were demanding to complete in 5h.
- - C paper too difficult. Unfair!
- - The structure of the EQE and the time for Papers B, C and D changed in 2013. For the EQE 2013 these changes have been considered in terms of length and complexity of the papers. Although "everyone" (from the EPA and so on) mentioned that the EQE will have about the same level regarding length and complexity this promise was not kept at all - in particular if one compares the overall length and complexity of papers B and C from 2013 with these of the EQE 2014.
- - I'd say the pre-exam is about at the right level. I do however think that the time limit could be reduced- I was finished about half way through. That said, the wording of some of the claims analysis questions presents a difficulty in itself.
- - There were too many attacks in Paper C to do in the reduced time available.
- - The amount to do on paper c was excessive in comparison to previous years and in view of the reduced time available.
- - Papers B and D of EQE 2014 are fair in term of difficulty by comparing with the past papers. However, time is a serious problem. Within the given time frame, I just could not manage to put my response in the decent form, although I managed to answer all the questions at the end. However, I did not get time left to review my answer sheet. I really believe that more time given will certainly improve my performance. In particular, due to rush, I made some mistakes, which I will never make in real life.
- - More difficult this year
- - The line of 70 put more stress into the action.
- - C-Paper: Patent in suit too long;
- D-Paper: D I was good; DII too long
- - NO COMMENTS
- - B (Elec/Mechanical) the draft set of claims from the client are a hindrance, not a help. The paper would be easier without them.
- A (Elec/Mechanical) - there are normally strong hints in the paper as to what the desired answer may be. There were no strong hints this year. I imagine the Examiner's will find a much broader variation in the answers this year, and so the pass rate will be much lower because they will not be as close to the Examiner's preferred solution. This was a departure from previous format, and candidates will have spent considerable time looking for the hints, which were not there.
- - Too less time for reading the papers and writing the answers
- - Some of the questions in the pre-EQE were ambiguous.
- - I found the pre-exam adequate, as indicated above. But I guess this has much to do with the personal background.
- - - The C-paper was not easy, because (in comparison with other years), there was MUCH information to digest, there were MANY definitions spread over the papers, there were MANY technical effects. (but I was well prepared, and the difficulty was not the major hurdle).
- - Paper C was way too long. It was not even possible to read all the material in details and still have time for preparing the attacks in detail. As a mechanic candidate, I found very difficult dealing with all the chemical expressions, in particular keeping them apart, which was time consuming.
- - Paper C comprises an equal number of documents and subject-matter to attack compared with previous years when the time available was 6 hours. Quite easy to understand that doing the same with only 5 hours was quite challenging.

- Content of paper A was not straightforward this year. Was very hard to take a final decision on the content of the claims.
- - Mainly not enough time. However, a main difficulty is also that the Examiner Reports are insufficient so that it is still after all these years yet not fully clear what the one and correct approach is. It should actually be impossible that even very talented candidates having done several past exams for Training fail paper A. Severe practice should be awarded with predictability.
- - This paper C 2014 was designed for 6 hours and not 5 hours. By detecting the priority issue I felt penalized since as I therefore ran out of time to handle the rest properly especially claims 4 and 5 (two IS, many marks), finally it seems then that those candidates who have been very "fortunate" to not see the priority issue end the exam with more marks than the other candidates.
- - Concerning papers C and D I in my opinion both parts were more difficult than 2013.
- - Extremely varying difficulty levels in EQE papers (in particular 2014 vs 2013, but also 2012, 2011) seems borderline unfair to me and to many of my fellow students. Testing detailed knowledge (well, actually it seems not like "knowledge" but more like the ability to find the relevant provisions in time) on very specialized scenarios that almost never occur in practice (e.g., page fees for CN PCT-application in Paper DI 2014) under time pressure seems not very relevant for assessing a sound understanding of the EPO ("fit for practice").
- - In paper B, I always find more clarity objections in original claims than those indicated in the Communication. This make more difficult to see which particular issues must be considered and modified because I would always do a lot of changes in original claims. I respectfully consider that changes to be made in this paper must be clearer, in order to allow a more complete inventive step argumentation.
- - C paper was too difficult, considering the 5 hour-exam time.
- - Die im Examiners Report gegebene Antwort zu Frage 10.4 "Vor der Veröffentlichung von EP-T kann die Beschreibung von EP-T nicht dahin gehend geändert werden, dass die Ausführungsform X1 gestrichen wird." passt aus meiner Sicht nicht zur Frage. Die Antwort an sich ist in sich schlüssig, aber eben nicht vor dem Hintergrund der Frage. Denn gefragt wurde ja nach "Änderung" und nicht danach, ob die Änderung in der A1-Schrift veröffentlicht wird!
- Auch die Antwort auf Frage 10.3 bzw. die Frage selber finde ich nicht befriedigend: denn was genau ist mit "gültiger Option" gemeint? Meines Erachtens kann man eine Berichtigung nach R139 einreichen (formal korrekt). Die Wahrscheinlichkeit der Übernahme der Berichtigung ist jedoch gegen 0%, bzw. die Berichtigung wird als Änderung behandelt, so steht es auch in den RiLis (H-VI 4.2). Insbesondere steht in den RiLis H-VI 4.2.2, folgendes "Der Anmelder kann auch beantragen, dass fehlende Teile der Beschreibung und/oder fehlende Zeichnungen als Berichtigung nach
- Regel 139 in die Anmeldungsunterlagen aufgenommen werden. Dies ist aber so gut wie nie möglich (siehe J 1/82)." Aufgrund dieses Absatzes habe ich mich von der Antwort "FALSCH" auf "WAHR" umentschieden und lag prompt daneben. Somit war auch hier die Frage unvoreteilhaft gestellt.
- Schließlich war Frage 8.2 in der deutschen Fassung unvoreteilhaft gestellt: im deutschen Gesetzestext zu R6 steht nämlich "ist einzureichen", in der Frage: "muss eingereicht werden". Dagegen wird der Wortlaut der Regel 6 in der französischen Frage ("doit etre" und in der englischen Fassung "shall" eindeutig wiederholt.
- Angesichts der Tatsache, dass dieses Mal doch einige Leute durchgefallen sind solche Mehrdeutigkeiten meines Erachtens nicht akzeptabel für ein Multiple Choice Verfahren.
- Insgesamt war entgegen der Vorankündigung nicht lediglich die Bestehenspunktzahl erhöht worden, sondern es war eben auch die schwierigste / uneindeutigste PrePrep-Prüfung seit 2012. Schade...
- Ich war zwar nach 3h mit allen Fragen 1x durch, aber das Grübeln u.a. über die oben genannten Fragen brauchte dann auch noch einmal eine Stunde, ohne dass ich mir der Antwort sicher wurde...
- - Specially tricky when you really that all answers to one question in the PreEQE are true or

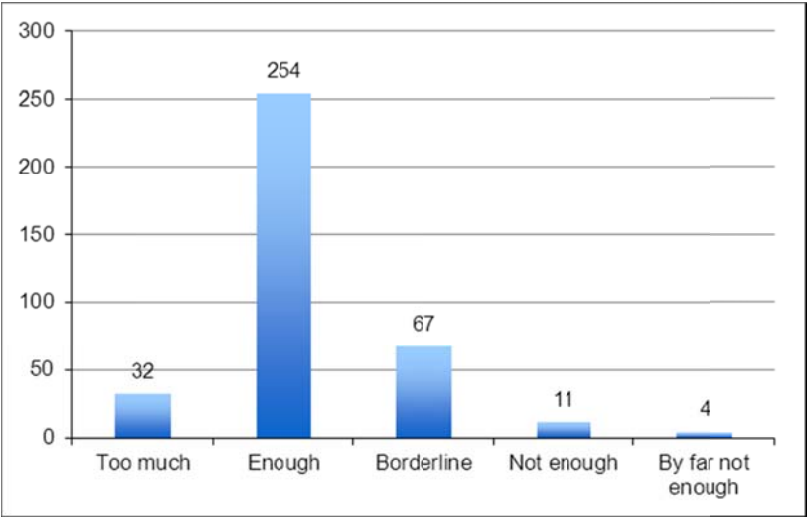
false. I checked again if one of the options was different again. This feeling is shared with many other candidates.

- - Some of the legal part questions were very difficult. During the exam I got bogged down with a few questions and I lost too much time. I have run out of time. There was little time for the claim analysis.
- - Chciałabym odnieść się do tegorocznego egzaminu C, choć niniejsza ogólna opinia może dotyczyć każdej przygotowanej w tym stylu części egzaminu. Egzamin nie pozwalał na faktyczne przedstawienie umiejętności i wiedzy i nie odzwierciedlał ilości przygotowań przedegzaminowych. Był nastawiony na kruczki i przypominał raczej rebus dla studentów filologii ang./niem./franc., niż egzamin na rzecznika. Zdający, którego językiem ojczystym nie jest jeden z języków Konwencji mógł co najwyżej, używając języka egzaminu, "minąć się o włos z prawidłowym rozwiązaniem".
- Warto rozważyć, czy egzamin ma na celu pokazanie, że opanowało się metodologię i zapoznało z przepisami, czy też uciekanie się do podchwytliwych i mało realnych sytuacji pod presją czasu i stresu oraz w zalewie informacji zawierających obce i specjalistyczne słownictwo.
- Taka formuła godzi w równe traktowanie wszystkich kandydatów i jest sprzeczna z ideologią, zarówno Konwencji o Patencie Europejskim, jak samej Unii Europejskiej. Przeciwnie do części C, jako przykład pozytywny, część B opracowana była tak, by dać wszystkim, którzy się do niej rzetelnie przygotowywali szansę zdania egzaminu. Tekst był jasno napisany i dostosowany do czasu trwania egzaminu, co wcale nie oznacza, że był za krótki czy za łatwy. Dawał jednak poczucie, że opracowujący traktują poważnie wszystkie zdające egzamin osoby.
- - With more time available the EQE papers would be much easier
- - Difficulty is not the issue, time pressure is too high.
- Example C-Part: to shorten part C from 6 to 5 hours was not ok.
- too many checks must have been made, especially when often the result of a check - ex post - shows that the checks have been wasted time. But you don't know this in advance.
- - Der diesjährige C-Teil war keine Aufgabe, die auf 5 Stunden ausgelegt war! Im Gegenteil, der Umfang war eher eine 5,5 - 6 Stunden Klausur.
- Wenn man hier nicht schnell schreiben kann, und auch nur einen kleinen winzigen Denkfehler am Anfang der Klausur macht (z.B. man übersieht eine Definition oder aber man versteht diese falsch) dann ist diese Klausur nicht mehr zu schaffen. Die Prüfungskommission sollte sich hier mal wirklich
- gut überlegen, was hier angemessen ist!
- - Considering the paper A, I feel there was a lot of traps in the prior art.
- I also felt uncomfortable with the trend of paper A to be oriented to functional solution.
- The compendium provides solution (from 2011 to 2013 at least) mainly with functional solution, whereas in real life GRANTED patents comprise physical features. I carry out patents searches, and I sometimes find functional patent, but they are scarcities.
- I preferred the previous version of paper B - until 2012.
- The new one corresponds to a solution where the patent attorney has a poor value.
- For me the difficulty is to stick to the solution of the client, which is difficult because this is hardly ever the case in my office.
- This is a strange paper.
- I consider that paper C was too long, but it was interesting.
- The paper D is shorter now.
- But regarding to the previous DII parts, the problems were more complex and more interesting to deal.
- I assume that that kind of paper was a better way to assess the skills of candidates.
- - Time is the main difficulty because we are expected to analyze a lot of facts and/or possible options and write very detailed answers.
- - In general I think that there are too many / too complex questions for the time given, especially since the time has been shortened for papers B, C and D. There is not enough time to carefully read the papers and think of a good answer and write it down. This was

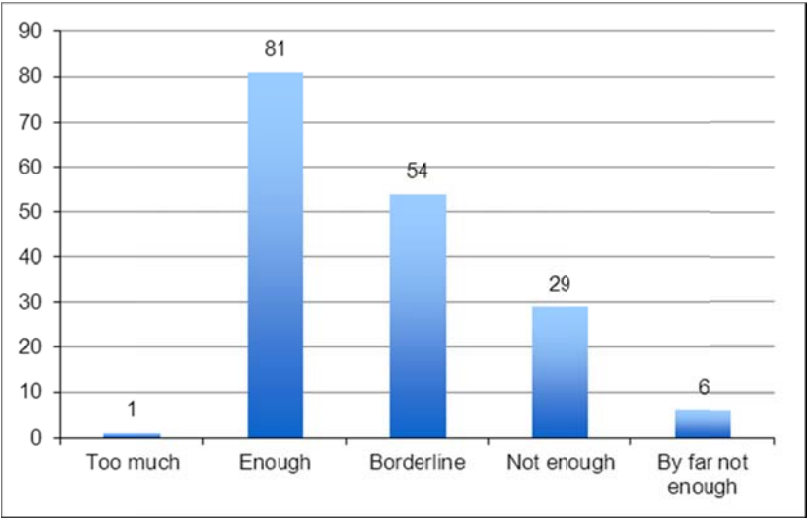
particularly true for paper C this year. There were complex priority issues and 1 document more than in 2013 although the time was shortened - this was not fair.

Q30) What is your opinion about the time available for each of the examination papers you sat in 2014?

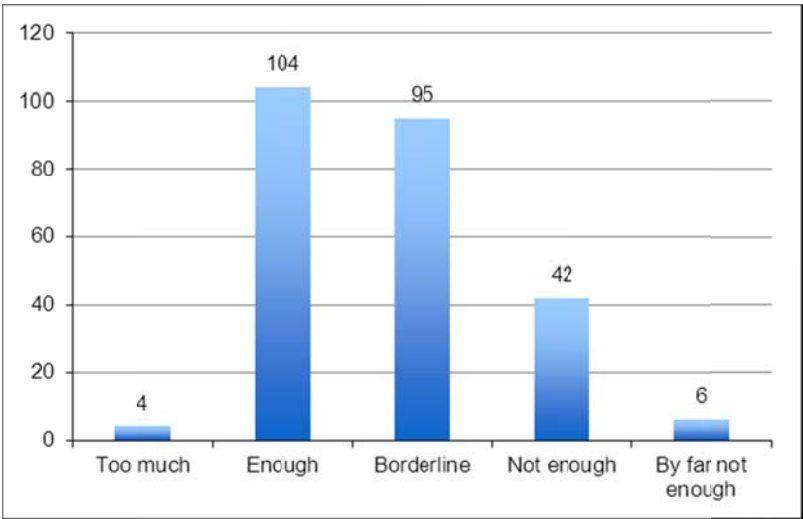
Pre-examination



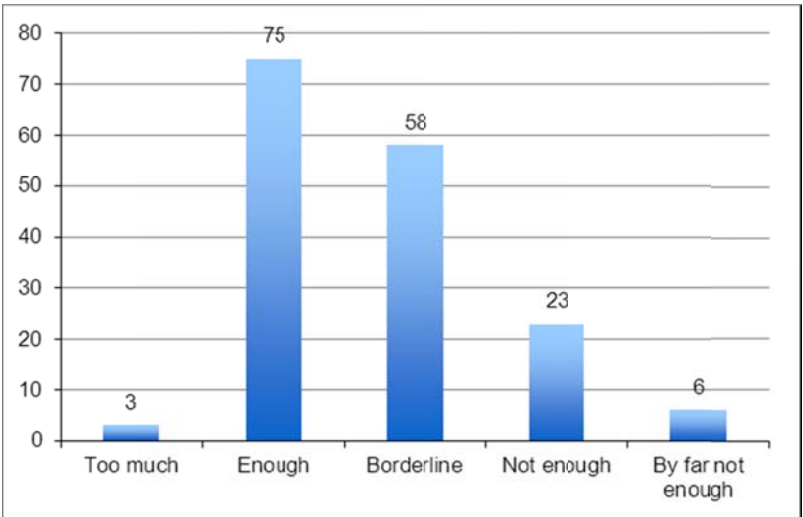
Paper A (Ch)



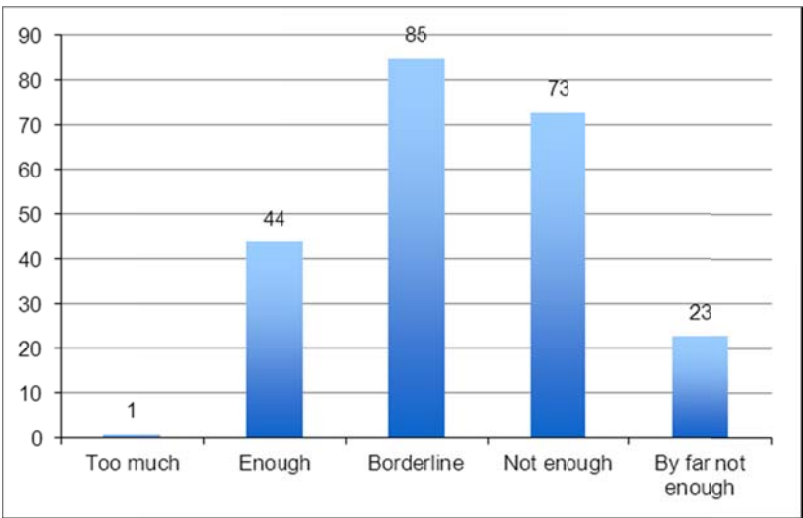
Paper A (E/M)



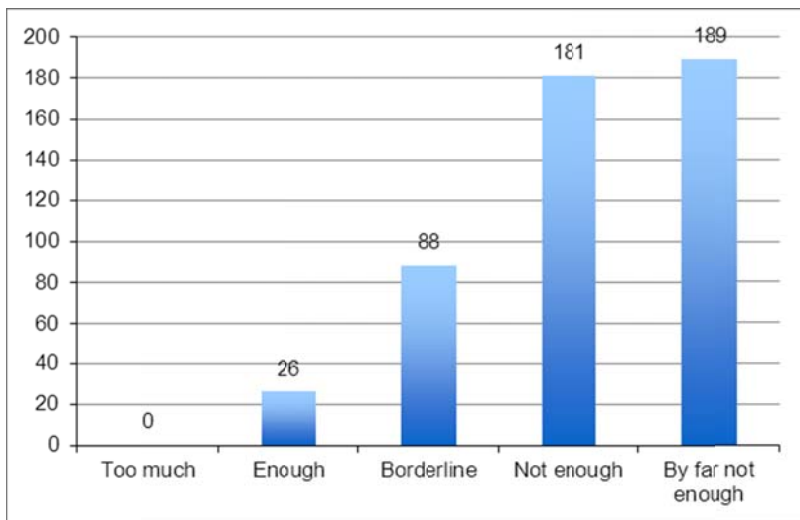
Paper B (Ch)



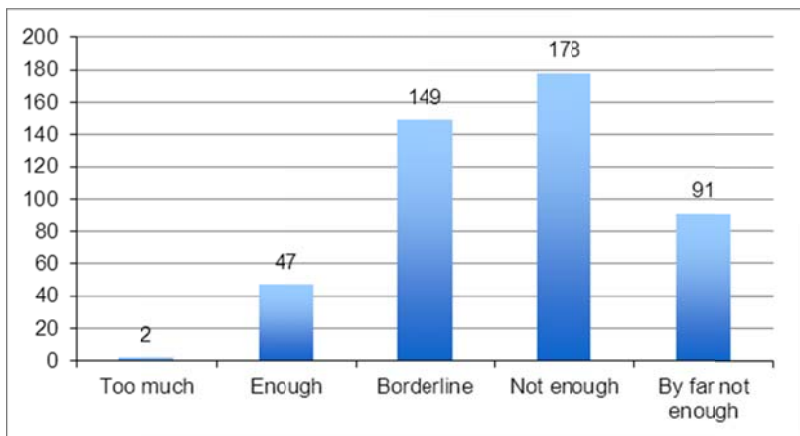
Paper B (E/M)



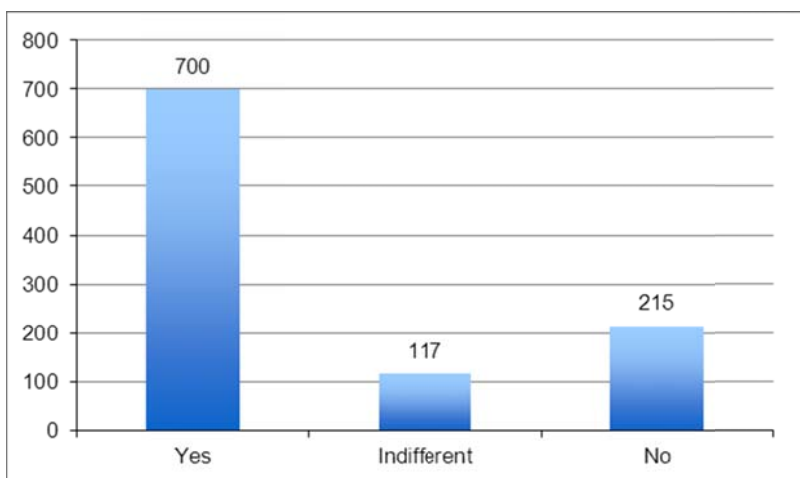
Paper C



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?

- Legal questions time-consuming (2.5h ca).
- - see above

- - It was just right for the pre-exam. I used all the time, but I felt I had enough time for each question.
- - There is simply not enough time in Papers C and D to review the information provided and produce detailed responses based upon your knowledge. ASs such, the Papers seem to have become tests of test-taking ability rather than ability to practice EP patent law, where people who have good reading comprehension and can write quickly can do very well.
- - The faster you are traveling without a goal, the more quickly get lost in space.
- - see comments above
- - I do not understand the scope of the exam, give the right answers under extreme time pressure? How does that reflect real life?
- - The C-paper required a lot of analysis as there were 6 claims and 6 prior art documents and 2 different priority issues. This is a lot to handle in the new shorter time of 5 hours for the C-paper. There was too little time available to handle all these issues properly.
- The A-paper required more time to understand the concepts as it was related to Biology more than Chemistry so the amount of time as an issue too.
- - During the training, I considered 4 hrs to be much more than needed. In the real thing, I was absolutely glad I have 4 hrs. I could've done in 3.5 hrs, but this was a bit calmer.
- - none
- - If compared with previous years I found this pre-exam longer.
- - If more time were allotted for the C paper, I would have had the time to make use of all the hints and motivations for the skilled person etc. included in the descriptions. It is after all the first time we see the texts of the patent and prior art documents, and it is hard to find all the information on the first reading, and even harder to immediately find it again, when we need to refer to it. If it is impossible to allot more time, fewer/shorter prior art documents should be included.
- - Yes, I think the C2014 paper was a 6 hour paper, not a 5 hour paper, unless you ignored or overlooked the priority-issue.
- There were many pages to read/analyse, and the information was not easy to find.
- Compared to C2012, this paper was much more difficult, AND there was 1 hour less time!
- This doesn't feel fair.
- It would help a lot if either the Exam Committee would be more predictable (e.g. when is 2nd attack required, when not,
- and that they ALWAYS give a definition, so that we do not have to rely on own knowledge (see e.g. glass = vitreous),
- It would also help if a ROUGH idea (e.g. a range) was given for the points allocated to each claim.
- - In DI type questions you should try to write almost everything down as it is seldom clear which issues score the marks (in addition to the core answers); one should be either a very fast writer (handwriter!) or able to condense your answers so that it is still clear enough. Compendium should have more information on marking the questions in order to make this easier.
- - Time pressure should not be a factor when trying to assess a candidate's ability. Many people do not finish the exams in the time given. In real life the time pressure only applies where late instructions are received and under those circumstances there is often, if not always, support available from fellow staff. I appreciate that the papers cannot go on for hours and hours because of the expense involved but if the time available is limited, the amount of information to wade through in the exam should be reduced.
- - In 2013 it was clear that the number of annexes and claims had been reduced to account for the reduced time of the paper. In 2014 the annexes and claims were back on par with the 6-hours papers. In addition there seem to have been more legal issues.
- I don't see how time pressure is motivated for the C paper (as opposed to time pressure in DI, for instance).
- - I finished the test in 2 hours and used the remaining 2 hours to double-check my answers.
- - In Paper C there were too many documents, in particular in respect of the same paper of 2013. So the 5 hours were definitely not enough.

- - This year paper C was in my opinion longer than previous years'one. In fact, there was one more document to be considered within the same amount of time.
- - not for the pre-exam
- - I think that the 5 hours now allowed for paper C is making it a challenge to complete the paper in time. Particularly this year, the complexity of the paper does not seem to have been significantly reduced to account for the shorter time available. For example, this year there were six annexes to read and six claims, which is as many as when six hours was allowed for the papers. Admittedly, the legal questions have been removed, but this year that was replaced with a complicated and time consuming priority issue to handle. I think that my performance in this paper would have been improved by having a little more time available.
- - A and B were ok. D is always difficult - had to rush through the paper even though I was reasonably well prepared.
- - N/A
- - I checked a few answers that I wasn't certain of; there was enough time. Still, I have a few mistakes and errors left.
- Some of these would have been corrected by me if I had two more hours... but not if i had 30 more minutes.
- So, a bit shorter or a bit longer would not have changed the outcome much. Only much longer would have changed it.
- More than 20 minutes shorter also.
- - Based on the complexity of the papers this year, I would recommend the following duration:
- Paper A = 4:00 h
- Paper C = 6:00 h
- Paper D = 5:30 h
- - A little more time would make it possible to re-check the answers
- - Considering the increased number of annexes the time should have been increased as well to six hours again.
- - Der Zeitdruck erzeugt unnötig viel Stress. Dadurch wird durch die Prüfung eher die Stressresistenz als das fachliche Können des Kandidaten ermittelt. Ich meine, für A und B sollten jeweils 4 Stunden gegeben werden.
- - I think shortening Paper B to 3 hours and Paper C to 5 hours was a good change.
- However, volume and complexity of the content has not reduced to match the shorter time.
- In particular Paper C has too many claims and too many prior art documents.
- Even after elimination of claims/documents for legal reasons, the remaining content should be reduced and simplified.
- - For non-native speakers the papers are too long!
- We need at least 30 mins more than native-speakers only for reading the papers!
- - EQE does NOT test the knowledge, it tests functioning under stress/time-pressure.
- In real life, you can take the time you need, even if you may not be able to bill all of it.
- - The exam was too long, too many claims to attack and too many documents to consider. Taking into account that we had 5 h time, I think the exam was very long
- - THERE WERE TOO MUCH REFERENCES TO FIND IN OTHER ANNEXES FOR ARGUMENTATING WHY A DIFFERENT WORDING IN AN ANNEX DISCLOSED A FEATURE CLAIMED. I FIND IT TIME CONSUMPTING AND NOT USEFULL TO EVALUATE THE PREPARATION OF A CANDIDATE. THIS LINKED WITH A GREAT NUMBER OF ATTACKS -QUITE ALL FOR INVENTIVE STEP- REQUIRED A LOT OF TIME FOR A GOOD ARGUMENTATION.
- - There should be a break between DI and DII.
- NOBODY can work efficiently for many hours non-stop.
- 1/2 h more for DI and 1/2 for DII would improve the quality of our answers, as due to stress, we tend to forget to mention too many obvious things. Its like sitting the paper with just 50% of our normal brain capacity, highly frustrating, indeed.
- - For D there is too little time for both parts. It would have been better to keep part 1 to 4-5

questions max. Part II - there is far too much detail to have to deal with in the time available.

- - Paper C was very long! I spent more than 1h and a half only in reading the papers!!!!
- I did not find it extremely difficult, but extremely long to be well done in 5h.
- - This year Paper C was 29 pages to be done in 5 hours. This was even longer than normal C-Paper to be done in 6 hours (24 pages max). Paper C 2014 was as difficult as any other past papers to be done in 6 hours: many attacks, an OR claim, ranges, many definition of material, an added-subject matter attack, priority problems. Obviously too many issues to be dealt with in only 5 hours and with a longer Paper than ever.
- - Too long for the pre-examination. It would be better to simplify the matter and increase time pressure. This would be a more adequate reflection of the ability to act as a patent attorney and take decisions on legal aspects, correctly, whilst under pressure.
- - No comments
- - If a client would phone me to ask a question on a legal point, and for which i would have a doubt or at least want to check the legal basis, I would say to him i would need to check it out and get back to him ASAP. D1 type of question cannot be applied in another way in real life.
- In this perspective, does it comply to practice to spend 5 or even 10 minutes more on this legal point?! NO
- Even in Oral proceedings, I can't see how such a tight time management can be justified...
- D1 is clearly inappropriate to the practice. D1 is way TOO SCHOLAR, and as explained before candidate discriminating.
- Time management for D2 is more questionable as it can happen that a client explains that the next day he has an important meeting with a third party and he needs quickly a strategic advice...
- - The 1 hour less for paper B is not really accounted for by the provision of suggested amendments, it would be helpful to have more time, for example 3.5 hours.
- - In my case, I think that about 15 to 30 minutes more for part C and A would have helped to improve my performance. Further it would be helpful if an announcement indicated when 50% of the time has passed.
- - I feel that 5 hours for paper C is too short but the length of the other exams is about right. I finished paper C in the sense that I attacked all the claims but was very rushed on the final three attacks so didn't argue it as fully as I would have liked to. I will feel annoyed if I fail by just a few marks because I will know that I would have been capable of getting those extra few marks had I had just a little bit longer to do the paper. The paper used to be 6 hours but included a foreign language document. I would personally prefer that arrangement and think that taking an hour off just because there's no foreign language element was too much. I think a fair amount of time to allow candidates to do a thorough job would be 5 and a half hours. Speaking to other candidates after the exam I am aware that everyone I spoke to felt that it was struggle to complete the paper fully argued in the time available.
- - I finished the pre-exam in 1h15. Did the exam a second time (+/- 1h) and stopped. The pre-exam might be shorter, so as to allow more time on the main exam.
- - The c paper was not only too many documents - suddenly 6 than 5, although time was reduced from 6 to 5 hours. This year it seemed to me that volutarily steps to stumble were introduced, an all problems you could easily spot with a bit more time, but not under time pressure.
- I asked myself whether my abilities to make an opposition should be tested or rather my abilities to work under time pressure. The last does not make me the better attorney.
- Also the language of the documents was terrible (I wrote in German). So many untypical Germansentences, which were lousy in grammar and style, I have never seen before. How should a candidate, with neither English, German or French as mother tounge, manage, when I had to read twice before I could understand what is ment.
- I would appreciate a better preparation of the documents and a more fair approach.
- - I believe the time pressure is directly responsible for the low pass rates. There is too much emphasis on speed in the exams, and diligence and thoughtfulness of response are sacrificed as a result. Regarding Paper D, the long answer questions, this is very rushed,

because there is simply too little time available to conduct a thorough and considered analysis. I believe candidates lose significant marks in this section, not because they don't possess the legal knowledge to adequately tackle the legal complexities, but simply because the time restriction is so severe that they are unable to fully consider and address the complexities of the legal scenario. I've never understood why so much emphasis is placed on time pressure. In a real-world scenario an attorney would never rush such complex legal advice, at the expense of diligence and thoughtfulness.

- - No enough considering the complexity of the second part of D.
- - B is very difficult to do in 3 hours. the claim set provided is not correct thus full claim analysis is still required. more time would be appreciated.
- C and D were very very difficult to do in the shortened time.
- C had far too much content for 5 hours. it would be a struggle to do even in 6 hours.
- D now has 3 minutes per mark instead of 4.5 minutes. the questions are no more simpler. it is very difficult to give thorough answers in A due to time pressure. time management between the parts is difficult. further for part II, it is hard to write clear, good advice when under such time pressure. finally, as you write for almost all of D, it's difficult to be able to write for the full time. it may be better to have the exam in two separate parts still so that time management and writing the answer is easier.
- - Time pressure is part of the game, but also the main reason I overlooked certain details I'd have been very well aware of during normal work. Esp in C and D I had more things in mind I would have discussed in the paper had I had time. The slowest part of the process is actually the writing (by hand yet legibly).
- - The amount of time (C and D papers) does not seem to take into account sufficiently the amount of text which needs to be written.
- So the consequence might be that there are many barely legible pages. It could be useful, when developing the test, to take the sample solution and let someone copy it in a normal-speed handwriting in order to better see, whether the timeframe is ok, or how much time there really is to even read the questions/paper and think about an answer. Furthermore, it might be helpful to design the test so that there is e.g. a maximum of 10-15 pages to be written.
- - Same as above. When not working in the native language both reading and writing takes a little longer time. Also needs to spend time on looking up a few words if the paper is in a very different terminology than my technical qualifications
- - BY FAR NOT ENOUGH
- - I understand pressure is part of an attorney's job. But really are you not fit to practice if you can't write out an opinion in 5 hours? Probably not - in real life you would have far more time. If you can't do it in 6 hours, or when you have time to properly read everything, then OK, fine to fail someone.
- In my opinion the exams seem to be careering over the place in terms of difficulty, more consistency is needed.
- - Particularly concerned for non EN/FR/DE speakers - time would be woefully inadequate!
- - Considering last year's B-exam which was the first one to be done in 3 hours, I expected the subject matter to work with to have been reduced proportionally, compared to the earlier 4 hour exam. This year I do not think that this was the case.
- I think I worked as efficient as usual but still I had not enough time to write down all my conclusions.
- - See above concerning Paper C
- - I felt in every paper (but particularly C) that I wasn't able to show my best arguments etc because I was fighting so hard to get something on the page for every part of the exam. I understand that our work is time pressured, but some parts of the exam did not feel like a test of ability (especially in C).
- - With now only 3 hours available in paper B there is no need to make a paper where the main claim is more than half a page. It was difficult to amend this claim, i.e. find basis. The time needed to get the claim right is therefore not reflected in the points available. Consequently there is too little time to get only some of the approx. 70 points available for

drafting the response.

- - Yes add an hour to the B,C,D exams.
- - For a person who is not a native speaker of any one of the official EPO languages, it always takes a bit longer to digest the information in the papers. In my opinion, this year especially the C paper had a lot of material to get to know during the limited time and I personally was not able to finish the paper in time. Also paper D had quite a lot to read and write during the time available. Both would probably have been doable with perfect preparation, which unfortunately was not the case for me this time, but it really seems that the extreme time pressure puts native and non-native speakers in a bit different position regarding the exams. And it was really frustrating that there were many points that I noticed but simply did not have time to put on paper.
- - The time available for paper C and B (E/M) was too short; especially for paper B (E/M).
- - If you are well-prepared and took the time to rest before the exam so that you arrive with a fresh mind, then you can work in a concentrated and focused manner, and then the time available is really enough.
- - Too much information in paper for the 5 h time slot. No time for an adequate deep analysis of the problem.
- - One hour more - especially for papers C and D - would really increase the performance a lot. It's not too difficult, the time is just by far not enough.
- - see above
- - Paper C in particular is very time pressured and I believe would be a more accurate assessment of ability if extra time was given.
- - If we have one more hour time, the quality of the answers will increase and I think the examiners will see more clearly that candidates are well prepared and good-practised.
- - see Q 29
- - The difficulty of the paper taken into consideration the earlier 6 hours than the available 5 hours would have been more appropriate.
- - For claims analysis part would be good to have ~2,5h.
- Legal questions 2h in principal is ok.
- - please, see comment under Q29 - main reasons for my lack of time
- - /
- - At my working place we have had a discussion about this: We believe that your intention is to test speed more than knowledge. One comment was that examination as is, is discriminatory to 'a bit older people', since normally you loose speed with age. Our 'conclusion' was that the test is most suitable for people around 30, who have more speed. Still it would be interesting to see IF the pass rate is higher for persons in e.g intervall 30-35y than 45-50y, if possible.
- Also, we have some older people at my firm who have failed the EQE but have a high level of knowledge. So, why don't you do an exam without any books....and you only need to site the basic legal basis.
- Now a quick person working in a library could have a chance on the test (almost).
- Also, the most successful persons by us, pinpoint questions in delta patents exam questions for each subject, when they see the question open the corresponding exam question and copy paste. So when telling people outside the patent business, they think it is a strange test we practise.
- - I had enough time to go through the questions and answer them, but I would have appreciated a little time more to review all of my replies (I failed to re-check some replies).
- - Paper C : At least 30 min. were missing to be able to address correctly and completely all aspects of the paper.
- - From my point of view, the former of paper D was more comfortable, as it gave separate time blocks for part D-I and for part D-II. Furthermore, it seems that from year to year the amount of given information increases (D 2013: 10 pages, D 2014: 12 pages). The difficulty of part D-II lies in the extreme lack of time which supports a "quick-and-dirty" type of analysis and answering, and hence, a poor overall performance. I for my part, would prefer the older system of separated D-I and D-II parts.

- - I commented under Q29) - nothing to add
- - D2 paper: I lost a lot of fruitless time trying to find a way to salvage the client's application covering the process.
- C paper: I don't think I could have gone any faster, and was quite satisfied with me (more so than in my attempts with mock exams) until at the end, when I realised I would never be able to write down the last attack against claim 6, which I had prepared.
- B paper: I found the client's proposed amendments confusing and wasted too much time trying to understand them, before deciding to disregard them.
- - Paper C (See above!!)
- - Paper C had this year several priority problems, six D-documents and more claims had to be attacked than last year. To analyze the previous years papers it took me two hours whereas this year it took me 2.5 hours.
- - Paper C was really borderline this year. The Argumentation of the priority of A6 took a lot of time.
- - Time pressure in C is huge, more than D I felt. It is difficult to sit C with energy the last day, after D/A/B.
- - The number of prior art documents and issues that had to be dealt with during the C-paper were not reasonable for 5 hours.
- - The time for Paper C was extremely short, the time needed to read and understand in relation to 2013 (first year with 5h time) was much increased. Absolutely not enough and very decisive not to have a good performance.
- - See Q29
- - 2014 Paper C would be more of a 6 hour exam than a 5 hour exam in my opinion - too dense. Thus, while I think my analysis was sound, and the attacks I formulated would have been adequate, I only had enough time to properly write-up attacks on the first three claims. The written argumentation for the last three claims was scribbled and sparse despite performing decent analysis and having decent argumentation planned. This was a wasted opportunity for me. The paper did not properly test my ability to prepare a notice of opposition.
- 2014 Paper D, Part II was harder than previous years. It was difficult to complete adequately in the time available.
- - Time pressure is too high, especially given the fact to be forced to write by hand.
- - I don't really understand why the time pressure has to be so extreme in papers B and C. You don't have time to make proper arguing even if you spot it.
- - Regarding paper B, I think that (as in real life) it can take just as long, if not longer, to try to fix dubious instructed amendments from a client instead of preparing amendments from scratch in accordance with their objectives.
- - Having done previous papers I think the time pressure has been reduced which is good. Exams are already stressful, and time pressure just makes it even more likely that you make errors you would not normally make in day to day life. I like to work things out in a structured and systematic way. I found with DII that time pressure forced me to take short cuts to save time which I would never do in my working life. I realised I have made a significant error in C in assessing the priority date, but there was not enough time to go back, correct and do the necessary attacks. So I left the exam knowing that I had not answered to the best of my ability. In preparing a real notice of opposition I could have corrected that. However, exams must have some time limit, so overall I think it is about right, just don't make them more pressured!
- - Für den C-Teil wären 6 Stunden angemessen gewesen!! Umfang und die Schwierigkeit waren zumindest so wie in den Jahren, als noch 6 Stunden zur Verfügung standen.
- - In the EQE Forum yesterday (Feb 27) two candidates identified the same applicant issue with annex 6 which turned annex 6 into 54(2) prior art for claim 1.
- Both of them did NOT manage to attack claims 4 and 5 in the 5 hrs. Three more candidates missed that issue completely and used annex 4. They were able to finish the Exam. So, I think that there is a high probability that there were many many candidates which EITHER missed that annex 6 is 54(2) prior art and lost many points OR that there are many

candidates who identified correctly that annex 6 is 54(2) prior art and lost too much time in doing it and they lost many points because they could not finish the paper in time.

- - Of course performance improves if you don't have to hurry like a maniac in order to finish in time.
- The 5 hour format of D is quite annoyng. Less time per mark compared to 7 hour format, meaning you have to be faster. The distribution of marks in DI was weird: 6 mark question requiring a full page of statements, way more than in any practice questions.
- - See above!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- - The Examination Board has to consider the language level of the candidates from non-EPC official language countries. Too complicated language would certainly be unfair to the candidates whose monther tongue are not French, German nor English---they need more time to understand the questions!
- - more time would not be better as concentration is decreasing with time too much.
- - See Q29...
- - I wished I had 30' more for papers A(Ch), B(C), C and 1 hour more for paper D
- - The amount of information that must me dealt with in Paper C is so important that if you don't make the right choice from the beginning, you have no time left to review your attack when it does not fit. Under pressure, it's not always possible to pick all the right prior art documents when planning the attacks in the allocated time.
- - Übertriebener Zeitdruck bei der Prüfung C:
- Dieser ist 2014 extrem groß aufgrund der relativ komplexen und dabei zu umfangreichen Aufgabe.
- Es ist z.B. unnötig, so viele nicht übereinstimmende Begriffe in den Entgegenhaltungen zu verwenden, die dann auch nicht 1:1 in einem weiteren Dokument gleichgesetzt werden, sondern nur indirekt argumentativ herzuleiten sind. Das kostet viel Zeit. Zwei ungleiche Begriffe, die in einem anderen Dolkument direkt gelichgesetzt sind, hätten genügt um zu prüfen, dass die Kandidaten diesbezüglich ausreichend argumentieren können.
- Auch die nicht gültig beanspruchte Priorität des ersten Anspruchs kostete zeit bei der Analyse und beim Niederschreiben der Argumantation.
- In Summe führte zu einem zu großen Zeitbedarf, so dass für die Analyse unvemeidbar viel Zeit erforderlich war und für das Niederschreiben der Angriffe dann zu wenig Zeit übrig blieb. Die Analyse vorzeitig abubrechen hat aber auch keinen Sinn, denn dann kann man nicht die richtigen Angriffe fahren und liegt völlig daneben.
- Extremer Zeitdruck sollte nicht das Hauptkriterium für das Bestehen der Prüfung sein, das ist völlig realitätsfremd und geht an der eigentlichen Aufgabe der EQE vorbei.
- Diesmal war der Zeitdruck im C-Teil völlig übertrieben.
- - The Question 31 is a problem because I do not know how good I passed the papers
- - You do not have the time to think.
- Identified mistakes cannot be recovered
- - See above. Not enough time to do it without severe stress. With less information also difficult law problems could be solved by far more candidates. The client's letter in real-life are never that chaotic and weird as they are in the exams, so what use is it?
- - see q29)
- - Paper C contained more material than expected given the time reduction by one hour from 2013 on.
- - I believe there should be time pressure in Paper D, so that candidates who know the EPC well have an advantage.
- In the other papers, the focus should not be on to be able to exercise a certain trained way of handling an exam problem in the given time frame, but to work diligently. This is especially true for paper C, where by know certain "methods" exist to solve the exam. However, the methods cannot be applied when working at a real case.
- The exams should take place in the afternoon, after at least two cups of coffee and a decent meal.
- - Most of the time is due to reading and understanding of faced problems.

- It should be clear that there will be no time to read libraries of books and other useful papers, during interval of examination.
- There only is availability of what has been already learned, and time for further Investigation and studies is impeded.
- - Simply not enough...doesn't reflect real life... OK for those very few candidates who have exceptional memories. When is the Exam. Comm. going to wake up to this fact!
- - I we had two days for the same exam, we would all pass- that is hardly the point of an exam. It is tight but I fear it has to be so.
- - I finished the pre-exam in 2 hours, as did many others at the same venue.
- - Reducing the total number of pages to read, especially for C, would strongly reduce the reading time disadvantage for non-native language candidates.
- - Time was not sufficient to thoroughly and in detail response to all issues raised in the C paper. For the non-native speakers the paper C requests extra effort.
- - I am a person thinking a bit more complex, perhaps, and thus I hate doing things under time pressure in a mediocre way
- - Paper C is very hard to complete within 5 hours - for reasons of complexity of the case and the Need to attack each Claim.
- - This year's C paper was clearly more time consuming than the 2013 paper, with one more document and a complicated priority situation.
- - c: 5,5 to 6h
- - course contre la montre éprouvante et frustrante. A peine le temps de réfléchir
- - For paper C, There were a lot too read for only 5 hours, even the letter of the client was not short even if the legal topics in the letter were basic.
- There were also too many features to interpret and some creativity to attack was expected. This needed time a the previous 6 hour exam.
- - Please don't make them longer.
- - It seems that during past years, too, time pressure (for some reason not so clear to me) has been one issue that the candidates neet to handle. Thus, most likely there will, also in the future, be a lot a work to be done in a short period of time.
- - Of course there is a tireness effect, specially for paper B that is in the afternoon having already done paper A. But having just 30 minutes more would have allowed me to:
- i. check my answers in DI
- ii. check my dependent claims in A
- iii. properly assess IS and check all the dependent claims in paper B.
- iv. perform a proper, better reasoned IS attack to gather more Uol and argumentation marks in paper C, specially for claims 4-5.
- - It was by far not enough time for D and C. At the time when I have organized and understood all the text in the exam, it was very little time left to actually write the answer.
- Too many prior art documents in C.
- - More time to sit the paper to reduce the stress level.
- - Please, see comments above. I really know how the PSA works (in different situations) after these years. The main issue is the available time!!!
- - This year I felt that there was enough time to do the D paper. At previous attempt (2013) it was quite the opposite.
- - see my answer to question 29. If you are testing my actual legal knowledge, then there was insufficient time to give a full answer. If you are testing how much I can get done in a given time, then yes, you succeeded in proving that I didn't write things down fast enough. I can type much faster than I can write, so this is a completely artificial test of my ability. In real life I would type everything into a computer and be able to cut and paste text around. So much time is wasted in the exam writing things out again. This is simply not a test of legal ability but a test of handwriting speed.
- - Particularly for paper C the time was insufficient by a large margin. Even though I manage to identify all attacks and the priority issue involving A6 after 1.5h (which I still believe was to correct way to proceed in hindsight), I didn't have enough time for writing down the priority

issue and the novelty attack based on A6 for claim 1, as well as having insufficient time for writing down the inventive step attack for claim 5 and the novelty attack for claim 6. I honestly believe it would have been nigh impossible to complete this paper in the available time, regardless of more or different preparation. This would have been more appropriate for a 6h paper, and even then it might have been borderline. This particularly stings because I feel confident that given a reasonable amount of time I would have been able to write down a decent notice of opposition.

- Regarding paper D, I also believe that the time available was not sufficient, but I would have been able to do better with, unfortunately, even more preparation and even less time for my family. For paper D, it would also have helped if I wouldn't have panicked when time was running short, which caused me to answer with some beautiful pieces of utter nonsense to DI questions 4-6, which appear to be, in hindsight, questions of a reasonable level.
- - I think it is very good that the exam duration and thus the size of the exam papers have been lowered to 5 hours (C and D). In my point of view more than 5 hours exam is too stressful.
- - Pre-exam had more material to be read, which took more time. Also more aspects of the EPC were included in the questions. If at the same time the pass level is raised to 70 points, this obviously makes the pre-exam more difficult. Interestingly, in all other papers 50% success rate is sufficient, but not in the pre-exam, where more is needed with less experience.
- - Time pressure is an issue for most papers, in particular C and D. You have to get each issue right the first try, since there is no spare time.
- - I would be in favor of cutting D in half again. Do D1, have lunch, then do D2. The examination is now too much about how concentrated you can still be in the fifth consecutive hour, and how well you can decide where to spend your time on.
- - Either give more time on C or reduce complexity ... additionally I think one could reduce one or two hours on the pre-exam and distribute it on the C and D paper (or B as this is also always challenging)
- - Paper C: too long paper to solve it in five hours. 6 annexes, indeed A1 very long and 6 claims one of them having an "OR" alternative.
- - THERE WAS A MISTAKE IN THE CLAIMS FOR THE C PAPER IN FRENCH !!!!!
- I LOST 1 HOUR BECAUSE OF THAT !!!!!
- - En fonction de l'âge des personnes qualifiées présentes à chaque examen, le temps à disposition pour passer chaque épreuve est trop court, ce qui donne à penser qu'il est recherché de limiter le nombre de réussites à chaque examen.
- - Please announce that time is running out not five minutes before, but rather half an hour before.
- - The amount of reading involved was average of 6h papers
- - The time for Paper C was really very limited, considering the priority issues, number of embodiments and number of prior art documents. It was more like 6-hours paper.
- - Far too much. More legal questions are needed.
- - Paper C 2014 was not comparable to paper C 2013. 7 claims vs 5, 5 prior art documents vs. 4, and a priority issue that took time to work out (and was not entirely clear cut). Time-wise it seems you might be better off to completely miss the priority issue and spend more time on Claim 3...? By the end it was a matter of getting through it rather than arguing the points or giving reasons for selected prior art documents etc.
- Paper D in 5 hours was very tight. Although none of the issues were too complex to deal with, the number of applications, dates and inventions made it a real rush to get everything down and meant that I hardly any time to plan and no time to read through my answers once written. DII became a stream of consciousness.
- - The question about time seems to have been an EQE issue each year for the last 10-15 years, but little seems to have changed (since this still remains an issue). I guess that the time issue should simply be regarded as a part of being "fit to practice". If you know what you are doing but are doing it too slowly, then you are simply not fit to practice, I suppose? Of course, in practice there is more money to earn from a consultant that solves a problem

in 1 hour instead of 1,5 hours since the client may not be prepared to pay for the extra time required and that may perhaps reflect your "fitness" to practice?

- - Due to time pressure and somewhat examination stress I perform worse in the exam than I can actually do it in normal working conditions. Ideally 1 hour more but even 30 min extra it would certainly help to check properly once more the paper, what I wrote and my notes. I missed for example this year to add a feature in my claim just because of having to rush in writing up; with some extra time I would have seen that I missed it just by checking my notes.
- It is frustrating to miss passing the paper because of speed of (re)action and not because of lack of knowledge.
- - Please, give us more time to do the things right!
- - In paper D I would have had the chance to look up whether an application would have been published as it had been possible to deduce it from the text given and the knowledge of when such should normally happen. Of course, it has affected my answer even though I had dealt with both possible outcomes, published and not published.
- - I had time to do all questions. Started with DII, and spent 3h.
- But I was stressed for the last question Q6, and believe it went a bit too fast. 15 more minutes to spend would have helped.
- - The time constraints of the exam, have in my view no basis in the reality of daily practise. While timeliness may be a factor in deciding if a person is 'fit to practise' at the exam it more about a supposedly required high speed of reading, high speed of integrating information and high speed of handwriting. If this high speed is really a requirement to be 'fit to practise' the EPO should consider warning/excluding candidates with dyslexic tendencies.
- - Papers C and D require a lot of pre-study of the cases. This is very time consuming, and does not give any marks (i.e. all matrixes, timelines, etc. that necessarily have to be done are not handed in, and therefore not evaluated). This leads to the situation that a complete, perfect study of the case, if not translated to the official paper of the examination, is not considered at all. Probably questions, requiring a shorter analysis, so that the analysis could be shown on the examination, like in DI part, would be more fair for candidates.
- - C, D and B were very difficult this year. Time pressure is enormous.
- - If you realize that the invention you thought was the invention to protect but then realize that the prior art disclose that there is no time to change or at least not enough time to amend the application and check for essential features etc.
- - I don't agree with doing the exams under such high time pressure. In real life you would never rush such important tasks as given legal advice/drafting opposition. I would like to see that the difficulty of the Exams stays the same but candidates are given at least an additional hour.
- - The time was not sufficient for a non mothertongue candidate
- - The time is not enough to read all the prior art and to write the notice of opposition
- - Especially for B and D there should be more time
- - Ein Großteil der Schwierigkeit der EQE entsteht dadurch, dass unter extremem Zeitdruck gearbeitet werden muss. Das bevorzugt einen bestimmten Typus von Mensch. Es hat aber nicht so viel mit den Anforderungen in der Realität zu tun, wo es um zuverlässige und qualitative Ausarbeitungen geht verbunden mit einer realistischen Zeiteinschätzung und nicht unbedingt darum, wer zuerst fertig ist.
- - The number of dates to consider for paper DII is excessive. The same skills and knowledge can be tested using fewer dates which would also allow the more able students to give more detailed advice and bring in ancilliary points. Time pressure meant that I could not check some dates, details and provisions - this can cause points to be lost for simple mistakes (eg "mis-writing") when the knowing the right answer
- - The D1 part questions (40 points) cost me 3 hours to answer, that leaves 2 hours for the D2 part, analysing and setting up a timeline costs 1 hour, that leaves 1 hour to score the 60 points. Which is nowhere near enough time.
- - Mainly regarding papers C and D : time available has been decreased, but not the quantity of informations to be treated

- - Time should always be too short in a well designed exam in my opinion, therefore it was well designed.
- - Paper C 2014 was very long for 5 hours time
- - I retain that the time was the major difficulty of the papers of this year.
- I retain that both C paper and D paper were too long in view of the cut of time that has been introduced in the last year.
- Both these papers were long as the papers which were made in 6 hours (C paper) and in split time (D paper).
- - For D, there really wasn't enough time to complete D1, in particular fringe bits that could have brought a lot of additional marks - although I was reasonably well prepared.
- - Time is crucial for me. I only felt "ready" on the A-paper.
- - For candidates whose mother tongue is not German, English or French paper C mainly tests how fast you can write. In real life you practically always have all the time you need for preparing a notice of opposition.
- - The pre-exam give adequate time to work through the questions methodically.
- - C 2014 had too many documents, too many claim objects, and too many issues with priority to be handled in 5 hours instead of 6 hours (pre-2013).
- D1 2014 had too many tricky issues to be handled in 2 hrs (typically suggested time for D1), so the 3-minute time limit per mark was too short compared to previous 4.5 minutes (pre-2013). The 3 hour recommended time for D2 seemed accurate and in line with previous papers.
- Both C and D1 seemed to be of the same complexity and difficulty as pre-2013 C and D1 papers, which allocated 1 hour more time for each (20% and 50% more time respectively).
- - It is not too complicated but there is not time enough.
- - Given that the passing marks for the pre-exam has been changed, the time should also be adjusted accordingly.
- - I rather like to face a shorter exam than extending time. Specially in C paper. This year I think there were too many annexes and possible attacks. This makes it much more difficult that it would be with less documents or with the additional sixth hour of previous exams. If I fail, it's because of it.
- - Time allocated is just barely enough to develop one solution. In case there is a single mistake, there is not enough time to correct it and properly finish the exam. Then again, this is also part of the difficulty.
- - For paper C, in the last years, there were maximum four prior art documents, in general one 54(3)-document. It was possible to analyse the subject matters and to find a good argumentation for attacks. This year, it was - as mentioned in Q29 - hardly possible to prepare a good solution in the time available.
- - It seems that we get less and less time available each years for paper C.
- - Since D is reduced to a 5 hours exam, there is a lot of time pressure for the specific D1 questions, due to the time pressure it is very easy to overlook hidden hints in a question
- For paper C it depends on the complexity of the invention. In 2014 for someone no working in a mechanical field, a lot of time was necessary to actually understand and interpretate the relevance of the prior art embodiments. This time was missing for carrying out the attacks.
- - I think that in a case like that, having more time would have been useful to give to the tricky questions some more attention and this could make the difference, and could have helped, for me for sure. As there was more to "think" about that, more time could have helped.
- But the time given was already good.
- I think that a good point is that, in effect for gaining a passrate of 50, the time is really enough, but passing to 70 points, and having those questions, may have deserved some more time, not much just half an hour. (I do not mean this was too difficult, I think the problems, I mean for me, were the misleading points).
- In my opinion, I would have preferred some more clearer matter, and the 4 hours are ok, but experience is all, I know.
- I think in some cases having the opportunity to write some lines of argumentation, this for claim analysis, could have helped to explain our reasoning to examiner, and show that the

way we were thinking could also have been good. Thanks for your attention and sorry for some orthographic error.

- I hope I'll have the opportunity to sit to examination next year, as I'm sure I could have done much more in this exam, and in my claim analysis for sure...!
- Thanks for asking, and for your attention to us!
- - C: the paper was more voluminous than most of the former 6-hour papers and the difficulty was similar!!! To my mind 5 hours and 30 minutes would have been adequate and comparable to the standard of the 6-hours papers of the years 2010 to 2012!
- - No attorney works under such time pressure - I have made mistakes during the exam which I have never done in real practice - and this I only do to time pressure. I feel that by this exam you don't really see whether you are fit for practice, but more whether you are good at going to an exam. This is a really petty.
- - I do not understand why time is, and has apparently always been, so tight in the exams. It should not be a concern how long a candidate takes as this relates to his later speed of work, hence income, but NOT TO HIS SUITABILITY. Being a patent examiner myself I can only say that a very large part (>50%) of patent applications I receive has been drafted in a very sloppy manner: Sloppy use of language (many mistakes, orthographically, grammatically, semantically; as a rule I observed that any patent application that contains at least one non-trivial formula also contains at least one important error in a formula (e.g. misplaced or missing variable/symbol, using undefined quantities, etc.), often such errors cannot be corrected within the limits of A123(2)).
- In summary, it is my impression that the exams push future patent attorney towards a sloppy working style. Such working style not only unnecessarily increases the work to be done at the EPO but more importantly results IN REFUSALS that would not have been necessary otherwise.
- - Time for paper C was surely not adequate. However, it was not by far not enough. One more hour would have been too much for paper C - half an hour was missing in the end to write down all established attacks.
- - most of the time period is completed by reading and understanding of given problems and further time consumption appears to be manually writing
- - For candidates whose mother tongue is not one of the EPO official languages it's a big disadvantage. In my opinion in order to give the same chance to all candidates there should be additional time available for those candidates (0,5 - 1 hour per examination paper)
- - Changing the format of paper B and shortening the time at the same time makes paper B more difficult.
- As the given claims have to be amended, at least an hour more time would have been very helpful to finish the paper.
- I really was very well prepared for A and B (this year I did all former papers of the compendium) and I fully understand this year's paper B, but I had not enough time to write all my arguments on the paper.
- - In D paper it is not clear what topics give you the marks (compendium could be far better); thus you must try to write as much as possible and run out of time
- - D1 3 hours, timeline 1 hour, 1 hour left to score 60 points, ridiculous, one cannot seriously answer all those questions and aspects of D2 in one hour. There should be only 3 D1 questions, to make it possible to obtain a reasonable answer for the D2 part.
- - If exams are made shorter in overall time, as they were from last year, the examination topics may either be made simpler, requiring less time for consideration, or the number of topics reduced, or the amount of analysis or material reduced. Based on the 2013 exams this appeared to have been well judged. But it appears that the examiners felt that last year's papers were too easy and have over-compensated making this year's papers truly hellish.
- - The nuanced points in C led to time pressures because it was necessary to decide on an answer before writing and I didn't want to pick the wrong approach.
- - I find time pressure is my main concern with all the exams. Half an hour extra would make a large difference. Particularly for papers where a large section of time is spent analysing

information, there seems to be very little time to record your conclusions once the (hard) work has been completed.

- - the answer to q31 is not only "yes", but "definitely yes" for each paper a-d
- - C was for the old 6 hour instead of new 5 hour examination
- - The time for answering the questions is with a view to their difficulty by far not enough. It is very hard to tell how much you have to write in order not to lose points but on the other hand not to waste time.
- - For D, 5 hours is quite short when you are doing the exam, but of course you do not have the time to check everything. However, a 6-hour exam would be scary...
- - Time for papers a and b is sufficient, since these papers require some decisions to be taken when deciding on an answer, but not too much reading and writing.
- also, the time for paper d is sufficient in case one is well prepared and can answer the legal questions quickly.
- c is different however. it requires very thorough reading and analysis plus really a lot of writing if one tries to work with the features as thoroughly as the examiners' reports suggest and as is desirable. what really should not be underestimated is that one does not write that paper on the first day, but on the last, thus typically tired, with a headache and to some degree frustrated from the previous two days. This makes things that in principle are quite easy a little bit more difficult.
- - The same comments as those given in the previous box.
- - There are many aspects (in particular in paper D) I missed due to time pressure. E.g. in D1: I am sure (in fact I checked the unofficial solution of delta patents) that I got the "main aspects" in questions 1 and 3-6. However, time pressure surely means that I missed easy points, since I did not write down every single Art/rule etc.
- - Papers B and C were both very time pressured.
- - As above, Paper C 2014 was much too complex to solve adequately in five hours.
- - D: Analysing and discussing four patent families with eight applications/patents is a bulg of time consuming work. Other legal knowledge can hardly be presented during the remaining time.
- - Yes, regarding paper C, there was much to read this year and therefore, the time for proper analysis, review and correction of mistakes was impossible and this although errors could be recognized during writing, but in order to complete the full opposition, no time was left over for review and correction of errors. This is not so good.
- - With reference to pre-exam, available time is not enough. Sometimes even knowing that an answer could be found in reference books it's better to give up if you cannot find it quickly.
- - All papers in 2014 have been quite unfair. Especially C and D were too long and contained a too high number of individual and tricky tasks to discuss.
- - All exams were extremely time pressured, but particularly papers C and D. The time allowed has been recently reduced but the content of the papers seems unchanged compared to previous years when more time was allowed. Particularly for paper C there was a lot more to do compared to previous years, due to the complexity of the priority issues and the number of annexes, but less time in which to do it.
- - 3 hours would be suitable for the pre exam. Otherwise one could get the impression that time is no issue at an ege exam.
- - Although Paper C has been reduced to 5 hours, this time period does not seem adequate to finish the paper, given the number of prior art documents you are required to complete. It is clear that there are a large number of people who use a feature table to complete analysis of the claims and prior art documents. This method does take some time and the exam committee should allow for this.
- - The length of paper D part 1 seems not much shorter than when this part was a separate 3hr paper.
- As stated above, the length of paper C is far too long.
- - New Paper B : To have Client's claims requires more time to analyse. 2 sets of claims instead of 1. In practice, a client NEVER provides a set of claims...

- - see Q29. other than that, I find the EQE to be a good exam which forces potential representatives to get acquainted with the legal construct of the EPC very thoroughly and acquire a style which is helpful in prosecuting patents on European level.
- - In particular time for paper C and D was too short.
- Es kommt im "wahren Leben" darauf an, die Dinge präzise zu machen, nichts zu übersehen, und manchmal unter verschiedenen Alternativen zu wählen.
- In der Prüfung kommt es darauf an, schnell etwas hinzukritzeln, da man nicht die Zeit hat, die Dinge zu überprüfen. Manchmal lässt man in der Prüfung "fünfe grade sein!" was eigentlich nicht sein darf.
- Als Muttersprachler (DE, EN oder FR) hat man es obendrein noch diesbezüglich viel leichter. Es ist klar, dass auch die Spanier, Italiener, Finnen etc. zumindest eine der Amtssprachen gut beherrschen müssen, unter Zeitdruck ist das aber auch schwieriger als bei einem Schriftsatz im Büro oder einer mündlichen Verhandlung.
- - either go back to six hours or do not expect a plain /systematic /explicit application of the problem-solution approach
- - I struggled with time in Paper B (E/M) because I found the client's instructions unclear and spent too long deciding on the amendment.
- Although I ran out of time slightly in Paper D, I do not think that I could concentrate for any longer than 5 hours and therefore more time would not produce a better performance.
- - It was difficult to manage time for new paper D.
- - My proposition to avoid an excessive dedication to read and write: shorter documents to read, write only some parts to demonstrate the EPO standard way to work is known, for instance in A only write claim 1 and note the rest, in B modify claims on papers and scheme novelty and inventive step, in C scheme attacks. The goal would be to give time to candidates to read calmly and evaluate properly the situations on each paper, dedicating most of time to think and reasoning and avoid to waste the most of energy reading a lot a writing too much.
- - I trusted the Examination Board that for paper C it is understood that the reduced amount of time leads to a reduced number of documents to be analyzed. Obviously, the Examination Board did not estimate the time that is necessary to analyze the added document A6 in paper C. Moreover, when considering the effort for presenting the priority and disclosure situation with respect to A6 an additional time of at least 30 minutes was added. This was too much!
- - Too many hidden things in the papers. Time is too short for that.
- - More time would certainly improve the quality of the answers .
- - The time available, especially for papers C and D was not sufficient.
- Parts DI and DII require a break between. There was not sufficient time to consider the situation in DII even not difficult and to write the solution.
- Part C - documents were too long to prepare the opposition in 5 hours. The time available was not sufficient to read them carefully and consider suitable attacks.
- - I think that, with the new, higher pass rate (70%) introduced for the 2014 pre-exam, the time is just about right. It allows you to spend a decent amount of time on each question and to check your answers thoroughly, which is important given the high pass rate and the way in which the questions are marked.
- - I believe that time pressures everybody in specially Paper D but it pressures two times the non-native speakers.
- - Either the papers should be made considerably less difficult, or the time for answering them should be considerably longer.
- - Especially Paper C was much too comprehensive. Too many claims, too many cited documents compared with last year's paper which was also a 5-hour-paper.
- - The time-frame for paper C was absolutely ridiculous for assessing 28 pages of documents and formulating the 10 (?) attacks that were expected. Compared with paper C of 2013, it was about twice as much work in the same time.
- - 2014 paper C seems so long than papers C before 2012 (i.e papers C during 6 hours)
- - Time available for paper C was by far not enough. During the exam, I have seen all the

attacks to be made and also the problem of the "first application" with A6, but I didn't have enough time to write all down on my copy, although I really rushed during the exam. Therefore I have the impression that my mark at this exam will not reflect my real level on paper C. I think it is a serious problem regarding paper C of this year. In particular compared to paper C 2013.

- I found paper DII quite fair, although DI was quite hard and long and I had to force myself to stop working on DI to start working on DII even though if I didn't answer all the questions of DI.
- - During my technical studies, I learnt to know both approaches in written exams:
- - draft a fairly difficult paper, give the candidates way too little time and make the failure rate pretty high; or
- - draft a tricky paper, give the candidates an abundance of time and have their problem solving skills tested.
- I never understood the first approach, since the results do not appropriately reflect the candidates' skills and are meaningless at best and contraindicative at worst.
- Sadly, the EQE gets the worst out of both approaches: Tricky paper (though fair, to be honest) and too little time (though not way too little). However, I don't think this leads to a proper assessment of "fit for practice".
- - C this year was long, but tested all of the appropriate topics. C-2013 was too short and easy. C-2014 was a good paper.
- A, B and D were about the correct length. D-II could be made more complicated. In preparation, we were doing old D-IIs in 3 hours without too much difficulty.
- - The difficulty of this exam is fair for someone well prepared. The main problem is the lack of time which doesn't reflect the reality of the work of a patent attorney. Despite the difficulty of this exam is fair, no sufficient time for reflexion is provided and we have to finish the exam in a hurry. One hour more with the same difficulty of the exam would be more appropriated to pass the exam.
- - This year EQE-C looked like previous 6h exams and not as 5h exam. Too long documents and too many issues to look at in 5h. Too difficult for me to perform it in 5 hours.
- - RAS
- - Time allocated was about right for the Pre-Exam. It allowed me to finish the paper, review any questionable answers, and make sure that my answer card was complete etc.
- - No
- - Please think about giving more time for the different parts, in particular for parts C and D. In my opinion, you don't have to make the parts easier but give more time to really think about the problems. As it is now, you have to choose a way for solving very urgently and then follow that way until the end since there is no time to change the approach during the exam; it is some kind of luck to have the right intuition during the exam. In most cases when doing parts from the compendium, I didn't had any problems at all to find most of the problematic situations.
- - Time is really critical. There is little to no time for revision or correction
- - I believe the time pressure is the most difficult issue for me on the exam. I do not believe the difficulty level is in general too high, but to do the exam in such a short time makes me feel very stressed, and then it is difficult to show the knowledge in a good way.
- - N/A
- - 4h30
- - I know I made some grave mistakes during the eqe which I wouldn't have made even during preparation under exam conditions. I don't know how i made these mistakes, and can only put it down to exam pressure and perhaps a lack of sleep during the exam week. It's very difficult to not think about the exam paper which one has just taken, and to get some sleep ready for the next exam. This was my second attempt at D and I felt well prepared compared to the first time. Under the exam pressure I think I may have rushed a bit too much trying to answer the whole question, and missing some important points along the way. In retrospect it would have been better to go slower spending more time getting the right answer even if it means not finishing the paper.

- - The time was too short for me.
- Therefore I could not answer the last (fourth) question of the D2 part even though I knew a good answer.
- In the end, I finished the answer for the third question of the D2 part in a great hurry, but I had no time left to check the facts again. So I relied on my memory and made unnecessary mistakes. Again, the (right) answer would have been no problem for me.
- - This year Paper C is not a fair paper, including 6 Annexes like in old exams which were 6 hours but the time is insufficient as being 5 hours with those annexes, especially for the ones whose mother language is not EN, FR or DE.
- - Das Zusammenfügen von Teil DI und DII ist für das Time-Management schädlich. Es entsteht ein ständiger Blick auf die Uhr, um im Zeitrahmen zu bleiben, den man aber sowieso nicht einhalten kann. Das hat mich nervös gemacht und verkrampft. Wird für einen Teil zu viel Zeit verwendet, ist der andere Teil nicht mehr zu bewältigen, da beide Teile für sich angelegt sind, dass sie in Hochgeschwindigkeit beantwortet werden müssen. Zeit für das Überdenken einer Aufgabe bleibt nur wenig. Ein festgelegter Zeitrahmen für jeden der beiden Teile, so wie es in früheren Prüfungen gehandhabt wurde, ist wesentlich praktikabler für den Prüfling. Zudem ist die Analyse des komplexen DII Teils viel zu aufwendig, bevor mit der Beantwortung der eigentlichen Fragen begonnen werden kann. Leider fließt diese Analyse nicht in die Bewertung ein, obwohl darin der Großteil der Arbeit steckt. Grundsätzlich ist nicht nachzuvollziehen, warum die Aufgabestellung darauf abzielt, den Prüfling zeitlich unter Druck zu setzen. Die Fragen allein sind bereits komplex und bedürfen bei der Beantwortung einer fundierten, im Gedächtnis verankerten Kenntnis des EPÜ. In der Arbeitspraxis nimmt sich ja schließlich die Zeit, den Sachverhalt korrekt ohne Zeitdruck zu analysieren, um den Mandanten zufriedenstellend und rechtsfehlerfrei beraten zu können.
- - Very little time in Paper C !!
- - Paper C: Had answers all worked out but ran out of time to put them on paper to hand in.
- - I could have answered more questions in the time available. I wouldn't recommend shortening the exam, but more questions could be added.
- - C 2014 : Due to an error on a claim for the French paper inconsistent with whole meaning of A1, too much time was lost.
- - see above
- - maybe having more time can help candidates to review their answer better and can reduce the possibility of failure due to the pressure
- - Left 30 min early on A and B but perhaps I missed something important...
- - Time pressure is a big issue. Sometimes I felt
- - I just had enough time to complete all the questions, and just 15 mn to recheck my answers. More time would have allowed to make less mistakes after rechecking.
- - papers C and D are a clear time-race-writing experience (especially if you not that used to writing my hand)
- - Problem of adaptation of B et C papers with the new timing
- - Although the time available for the C-paper was reduced from 6 to 5 hours since 2013, the number of documents was the same and the number of pages even increased. Because of priority issues to be solved first, time for document analysis and argumentation was extremely short.
- - time pressure is an heavy conditioning in the general approach to the paper, so that it can happen to fall into error due to the hurry
- - Go back to 6 h for C exam please... or at least 30 min more. A lot of text on this exam... takes time to read and when you know all words are there for a reason you really have to read carefully and it takes time.
- B part is really hard even giving the claims as you can not trust the claims given, why give any claims at all?!!
- 5 h for D part is a bit short too... to give some time to breath would be nice. It is more an issue of being born with a big bladder.... Now I really have come to a level of knowledge that is enough but then you get so stressed up so you do stupid mistakes just for that, and that your bloodflow in your brain stops and you forget things you really know! Is that to test my

knowledge or to test my stresslevel? The stress is only for the time...

- - Parts A, B and D were ok - time was short as always but manageable. There was not enough time for Part C (I usually finish within the time given, also during real-time-mock conditions. But this time it was just too much - it was in my view 20-30 minutes short)
- - time consuming and very long examination.
- Paper D with two parts in five hours is inadequate for the long series of questions to answer
- - Paper D was too long. Too much information in the legal advice (many applications and many dates). Although I think that generally the questions (in both parts) were adequate to check the knowledge level of candidates, the time pressure was too big because the proper answers were too long.
- Almost all the legal questions were tricky, I think that to check if the candidates are fit to practice there must be better questions (e.g. the one about appeal seems to me an appropriate kind of question to see if the candidate has understood the practice, although the proper answer was also long).
- - Especially much more time for D is needed. Part II needs more time to put all the information together and think about possible solutions...
- - It was an exam to be done in 6 hours not in 5
- - D was too long, I made the older ones from the compendium in the new shortened time finishing earlier! In contrast the D2014 I needed 2:40 just for part I !!!! And I was not the only one. There is simply no time to carefully check (not searching, just reading!) the applicable law before answering, but that step is relevant for duly answering a legal question.
- - Specially papers C and D are tight on time. An extra half hour would make a big difference.
- - In view of the (in my opinion) increased difficulty of Paper C in 2014 with respect to that in 2013, more time would have been very profitable for me. It seems to me that time management is the most critical for Paper C from all of the papers. Papers C and D are commonly considered more difficult than Papers A and B, which automatically leads to a higher time pressure for Papers C and D than for Papers A and B. However, in Paper D, especially in the first part (corresponding to old Paper DI), lack of time leads to not being able to answer some questions, while others may still be answered properly, which should be enough to receive a pass mark if a sufficient number of questions is answered; in other words, the questions are independent of each other, so not having the time to answer some of them has no impact on the other. In paper C, a detailed overview of all the provided documentation is necessary to determine the right attacks. Therefore an increased time pressure may either lead to determination of wrong attacks or to not being able to formulate the attacks properly after having spent too much time to find the right attacks, which in either case may lead to a fail mark. Increasing the difficulty of Paper C has thus significantly higher influence on the pass rate than e.g. increasing the difficulty of Paper D. If possible, I would recommend allocating more time to Paper C in the future if the level of difficulty of the 2014 Paper C is to be maintained.
- - Limited time is OK, it is a selection criteria too.
- - time pressure was my main issue, it reduced my ability to keep cool and think clear
- - See question 29.
- - I think the time it takes to read everything before one can even start thinking of a solution was underestimated in C and B.
- - More time would improve my performance, however the time sitting the exam is still long, so it is preferred that the complexity of the exam is lower.
- - for paper C, I could have easily use 5-10 more minutes, while for paper D I would have need something like 20-30 more minutes to improve my answers
- - no
- - As stated in Q29 and Q30. The time for paper C was by far too less, since the patent in question and the prior art was very complex.
- - It is my impression that the C paper was hard to complete in a decent way in 5 hours. The completeness of my inventive step argumentation has suffered from the time pressure.
- - Paper C was too long. As many documents to read and (almost) as many objects to attacks as in the previous format of paper (6 hours). Significantly more longer than Paper C

of 2013 (whereas the examination board estimated that duration of C-2013 was fine)

- - More time should be allowed for Paper C, especially if 6 documents are given as in paper C this year.
- The seating for paper D parts DI and DII should be split in two as before, to allow sufficient time and for a break in between.
- - The surveillance of the exam did not announce every hour the time left to spend. In the previous year they did. I prefer such announcements
- - Since when can a letter of opposition be written in 1h 10 in exam conditions?
- - Regarding paper D, if I would have had e.g. 30-45 minutes more time for paper D I definitely would have improved my performance. The risk is quite high that I failed the exam for paper D due to time pressure and not due to knowledge. If I e.g. could get the chance to participate at an oral exam regarding the content of paper D, the chances would be very high that I would pass this exam.
- - D1 and D2 should be split again into two separate sessions (morning and afternoon). It is extremely difficult to stop answering D1 while still knowing things to write down (unfortunately, it is not always clear what the examiners want to hear) or while still researching in the law texts or guidelines for the presumed perfect answer. It is also impossible to stop D1 and get back to it after finishing D2: there won't be any time left after D2! It is easy but extremely unrealistic to demand "perfect time management" in view of very complex examination questions (how many candidates ever exceed 70 points...?) Consequently, the time available for DI and DII should be expanded. In 2013 the time was shortened from 7 to 5 hours, but in case nobody noticed: the volume has not been reduced because there are still 100 points to be obtained. There are less questions in DI, but the questions became more complex (and still add up to 40 points!). So the bottom line is that still 50 points must be achieved for passing the test, but this point limit, which is identical to that of pre-2013 tests, must be achieved in a much shorter time (2 hours less!). Unless examiners are instructed to award 1,4 points for an answer which would have been awarded 1 point in pre-2013 tests, there has been no simplification of the test. So at least give the candidates back more time.
- - In my opinion, the C exam in 2014 required more time than the allocated 5 hours. It would seem better to test candidates' ability to write more thorough and persuasive inventive step attacks with reasons for choice of closest prior art and additional motivation for why a claim is obvious, etc., than rush to write all the basic attacks. The exam in 2014 seemed designed for the old 6 hour format.
- - I believe that the time allocated for A and B is far more generous than that for C and D.
- - Time is critical essentially for C and D
- - As I understand, it was announced that the amount of documents to read should be less, and claims to be attacked should be less for part C, since the available time was reduced by 1 hour. I did not have the feeling that this promise was kept. I had the impression that the total number of pages was even higher than for the 6-hours exam. As if this would not have been enough, the time constraint was additionally severed by a A6 originating from the same applicant as the patent (Art 87(4) problem). Since in the 2014 exam one could not fix the effective dates of the claims only until each claim was assessed in substance against A6. This required additional time. I do not see what such an extreme time constraint for an opposition has to do with reality.
- - For non native speakers it should be more time added to carefully read and analyze the complex content.
- - The examination should be held not only once a year but rather two times every year or even better three times.
- - I would like to have 4 hours for paper A.
- - unfortunately, there is still no extra examination for biologists considering the speciality of life science topics- and for a biologist like me it would take much more time to work on the chemistry issues in Paper B.
- Remarkably, the Examination Committee is not aware that Biologists take part in the EQE (see above) - it was not possible to choose "Biology" in the respective question, only

biochemistry.....

- ...ein Schelm wer Böses dabei dankt.....
- - It is not realistic to pose questions with high time pressure. No attorney would answer questions of a Client without having taken the time to look up the legal basis! Consequently, this time should also be available during EQE.
- - I think the intense time pressure is not representative of working life and does not adequately judge candidates' ability.
- - The 2014 paper C examination was AT LEAST a 6 hours paper, not less.
- - more time or shorter exam needed
- - More time is needed
- - As already mentioned above, the little time available to answer the D1 questions makes the candidate feeling a very strong time pressure. If a little more time would be available, candidates would be able to provide more complete questions, which would be a fair reward for all the time and effort dedicated for preparing for the EQE. Very frustrating knowing the answer and not having enough time to write it down in an exhaustive way. And not consideration for the large number of candidates who write in a language which is not their mother tongue language.
- - Obviously more time would always be a help especially on Paper C.
- - See above
- - I'm considering presenting a complaint (facts and argumentation below) to the examination committee, comparing the papers 2012 (6h); 2013 (5h) and 2014 (5h):
- Facts:
- i) annexes / h:
- 2012 – 1.0;
- 2013 – 1.0
- 2014-1.2
- ii) embodiments / h:
- 2012-1.2;
- 2013-1.0
- 2014-1.4
- iii) description paragraphs / h:
- 2012-2.5;
- 2013-3.4
- 2014-4.4
- iv) total pages / h:
- 2012-4.0;
- 2013-4.8
- 2014-5.8
- Additional arguments:
- a) 2014 has 3 very difficult issues in client letter against 2 in 2013 and 0 in 2012
- b) 2014 has priority vs 2012 and 2013 No claim priority
- c) 2014 has claims with different dates and 2012 and 2013 same dates
- d) 2014 is the ever biggest exam (29 pages), more technical effects, etc
- - Insofar as paper C was concerned, it was frustrating to see that, compared to 2013, the paper contained an additional piece of prior art AND more claim objects to attack, yet the amount of time given stayed the same.
-
- Candidates appreciate that the subjective nature of the exams makes pitching the level of difficulty/complexity challenging for the Examiners. Nonetheless, where possible, it seems that factors such as (i) the number of prior art documents, and (ii) the number of claim objects to attack, should not fluctuate.
- - Examen C and D are very difficult.
- C : the subject is devoted to people more involved in the mechanical activity than chemistry activity.

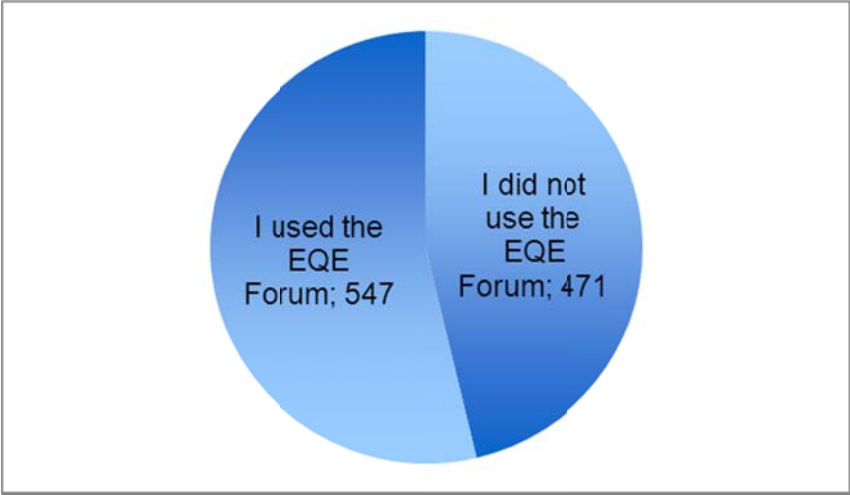
- the difficulty level is higher than examen C 2013. Why ?
- D : time management : separation D1/D2 is quite confusing.
- the difficulty level is higher than examen C 2013. Why ?
-
- paper A :
- the difficulty level is higher than examen A 2013. This biology field is devoted to experts not to common people involved in the chemistry field.
- Biotechnology is a specific domain in chemistry. It is very hard to read a text with unfamiliar vocabulary. 3h1/2 is impossible
- - see above
- - No.
- - It is ridiculous to ask about the page Count that even the Hotline can not answer correctly.
- - It is enough; my brains are not able to keep concentrated for more time...
- - same as Q29
- - See comments for Paper C above.
- - Paper C 2014 requested much longer time to analyze and respond than 5 hours. It was really difficult to fit in time.
- - Personally, I think there is too much time. I ended up reviewing and over analysing questions and ended up turning correct answers to wrong answers.
- - In order to make this an open-book exam, there should be some time allowed, to really actually look into those books.
-
- In particular when under time pressure, people don't dare to actually think things through for a moment, thus making poorer decisions than they may have done during their actual job. Who cares if those super-smartasses leave the room two hours early then but give those who need a few moments to "sort their head" the time to do so.
- - When I worked at home, with the compendium, I have found the right attacks for each claims for a lot of old sitting papers. But for this, I need time to ask myself, to carefully read the documents.
- If I read too quickly, I do not read well - I have noted that sometimes I read what I would like to read, not the reality.
- - Too many pages to read in c paper
- - More time is always better for me.
- - It was enough time to look up details of the answers that I knew in principle, but by far not enough for those where I had no idea.
- - See comment re Q 29
- - See above. The time limit for the pre-exam is ridiculously long. Maybe its necessary for people who don't have DE, EN or FR a first language.
- - I did not get time left to review my answer sheet. I really believe that more time given will certainly improve my performance. In particular, due to rush, I made some mistakes, which I will never make in real life.
- - no
- - C-Paper: 0,5 hour more
- D-paper: 0,5 hour more
- - NO COMMENTS
- - Time is THE issue. Mostly, the issues at stake could/can be answered if the time is available. However, due to time constraints, one often does not achieve the full potential of marks that can be collected. Thus, although maybe proficient in one matter, one fails the exam although capable to answer enough of the questions right.
- - In my view, C2014 is not a good test to check if a person is fit to practice.
- Also, C2014 was a 6 hour paper, not a 5 hour paper.
- I dare to say I was not well prepared last year (C2013), but I dare to say I was very well prepared for C2014, but the time was simply too short.

- I know several people who overlooked the priority-issue, and hence were able to finish in time, but only just, while on previous papers they had about 30 minutes spare.
- I spotted the priority-issue, and spent quite some time on it, because one had to compare the content, not just the dates.
- And then it turned out that the only extra attack was a Novelty-attack to claim 1. However, because of the time spent/lost, I completely missed inventive step attacks to claim 4 and claim 5, which are typically awarded MUCH more points.
- I can only hope that other candidates who spotted the priority-issue had the same problem. ... the statistics will tell.
- (In hind-sight, I think the exam committee might have added A6 last-minute, as well as the priority-issue, considering it probably as a bonus for the candidates who spotted it. But I think the exam committee did not realise how much time this actually required at the beginning of the exam, not at the end! I might be wrong on this..., but if correct, I do hope the exam committee is fair enough to take appropriate corrective action not to fail the candidates who were well prepared, but did not finish in time.) Again, I accept my failure last year, I was not sufficiently prepared, but this year I really was very well prepared!
- - I.e. in paper D very specific questions, which are far away from everyday work, have to be answered perfectly within a few minutes. However, this is far away from the way of solving such problems in the real working life. If a client would come up with such specific problems, you would never answer his questions within 12 or 15 minutes. You would carefully think about the problem and the circumstance and afterwards answer his questions - perfectly - but not within in the small time given during the EQE.
- - Paper C 2014 would have required one hour longer, at least. Comparing to 2013 there was one annex more and also one claim more to attack. Thus, the 2014 paper was in fact comparable with the 6-hours paper in the past.
- - Paper C comprises an equal number of documents and subject-matter to attack compared with previous years when the time available was 6 hours. Quite easy to understand that doing the same with only 5 hours was quite challenging.
- Finishing paper DI within the 2 hours that should be allocated to it was extremely challenging. Having used 30 minutes more to decently complete the answers for DI added even more time pressure on DII. Overall, paper D is again also quite a challenge with regard to time management.
- - The EQE is famous for the time problem. Do you really still need any comments about this issue? Would this Change a thing? MORE TIME !!!!!!!!
- - No
- - More annoying was the pressure of time. The conditions do not represent the daily life of a patent attorney and I seriously don't understand why the candidates get more time - except it is purposely done. I think this is the main reason for the high failure rates in parts C and D
- - Testing detailed knowledge (well, actually it seems not like "knowledge" but more like the ability to find the relevant provisions in time) on very specialized scenarios that almost never occur in practice (e.g., page fees for CN PCT-application in Paper DI 2014) under time pressure seems not very relevant for assessing a sound understanding of the EPO ("fit for practice"). If, e.g., the above-mentioned page-fee situation would have occurred in reality, either a) our administrative department would have known it or looked it up, or b) the attorney would know it or looked it up, but in both scenarios this could be online and not under severe time pressure.
- - The reduction of 1 hour in Paper B may not be a good idea, 3 hours seem to be insufficient. This could be solved by reducing also the complexity of the Paper, how this is measured?
- - I think paper C was far too long and too many problems had to be solved before one could actually start writing down the attacks. Hence, no points if one was too slow...
- - 5 hours was not at all enough for C paper 2014.
- - Better to have more questions to answer to and more time that, proportionally, less questions and less time
- - Paper C is very tough on the amount of time.

- - -
- - I feel given more time many more candidates would pass the EQE.
-
- In day-to-day work I always work as long as it takes to ensure I prepare high quality drafts in good time for my supervisor to review/send out to client/file at the EPO.
- - The time pressure is too high. There is not enough time to take care which is required.
- The situation therefore is not representative to real life.
- There is no time to correct a mistake you recognize during the examination.
- There is no time to explain all mismatches (C-part) in detail, you must (unnecessarily) select.
- The examination verifies velocity, but not knowledge.
- Therefore younger candidates are privileged to pass.
- - Paper C was really too short.
- Paper A comprised a lot of traps, more time would have permitted to analyse them in a better way, and to write a better solution.
- - Everybody I know says that there is not enough time for giving good answers and that time is the main challenge in all of the papers of the EQE, except the pre-examination.
- What's the point of that? The EQE should test whether you have a good command of the EPC, not whether you can give enough mediocre answers in a short time. What do you want? European patent attorney that can give a mediocre answer to a client in short time or European patent attorney that can give a good (and reliable) answer?
- - As already stated above there is too much stuff for the short time given. Examiners should think more about how long it takes to write down a feature that is defined in a sentence of more than one line - in C I was really pissed off by writing such long definitions! This was much better in paper D where compounds were just defined by simple letters.
- I think that time pressure alone should not decide on the quality of a candidate and his/her being fit for practice - in real life you would always take as much time as is required for a good answer.
- - in this exam it is not important to understand a case, but only to find quickly the answer in well prepared/marked books

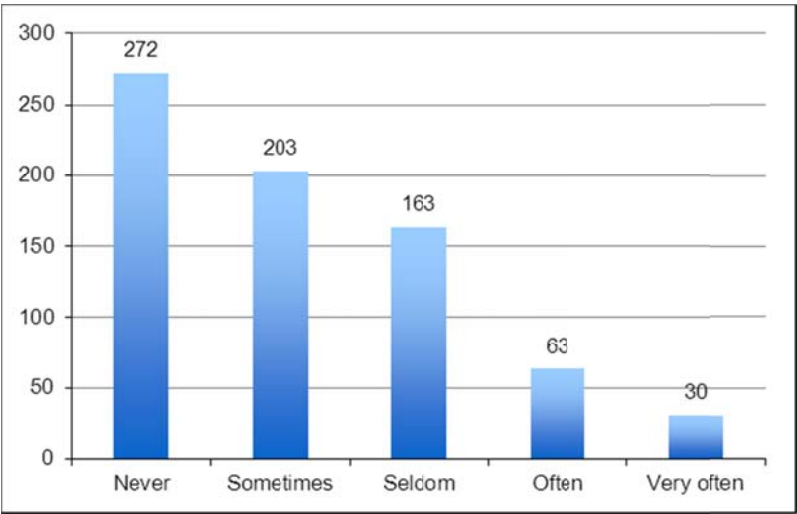
Chapter 4 - Training from the European Patent Academy

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

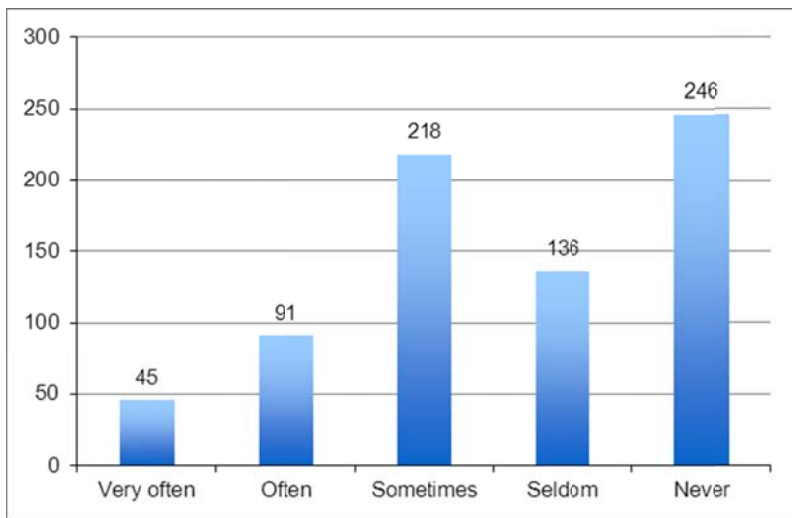


Q34) How actively did you use the following services?

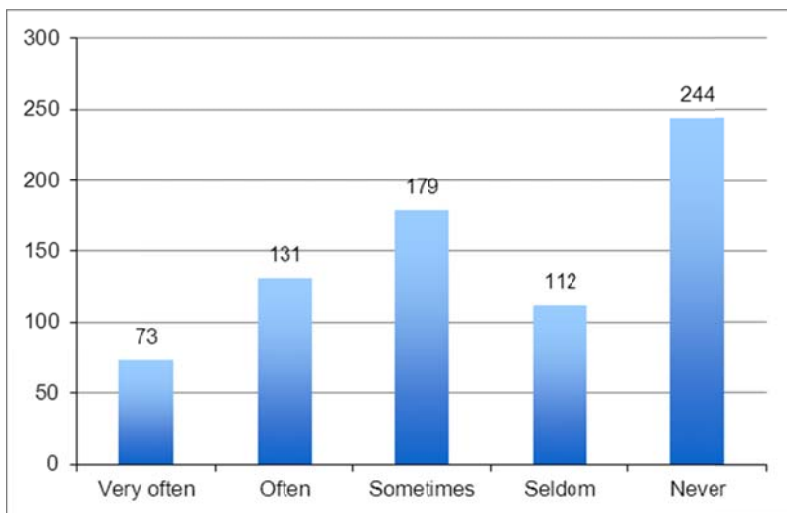
Discussion of general topics



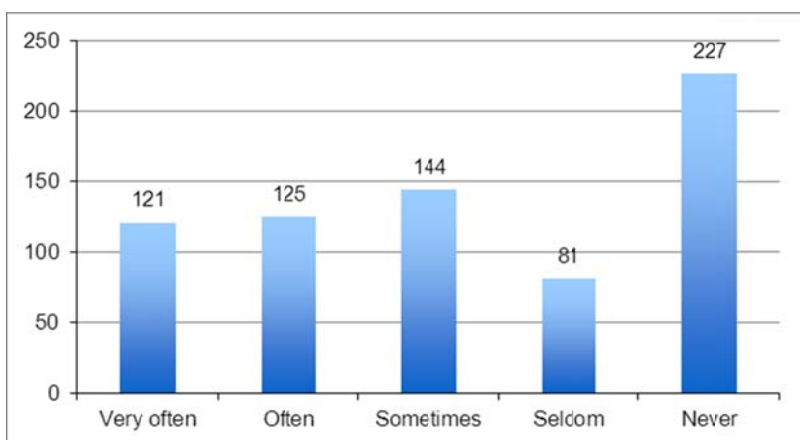
Discussion of Examination Papers



Commented answer papers

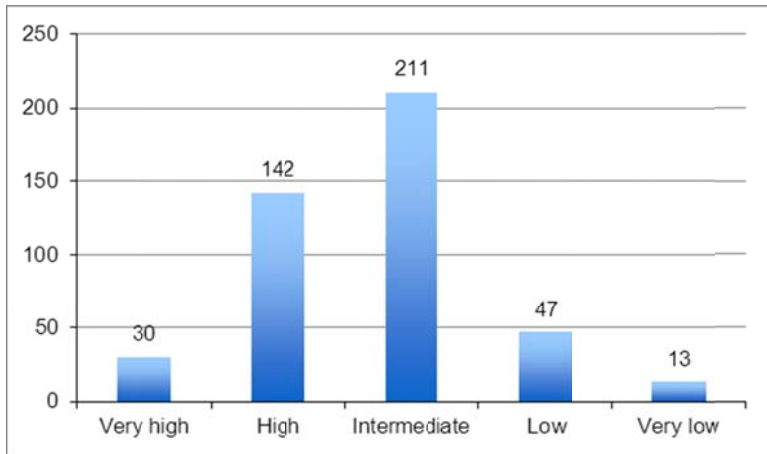


Paper D questions

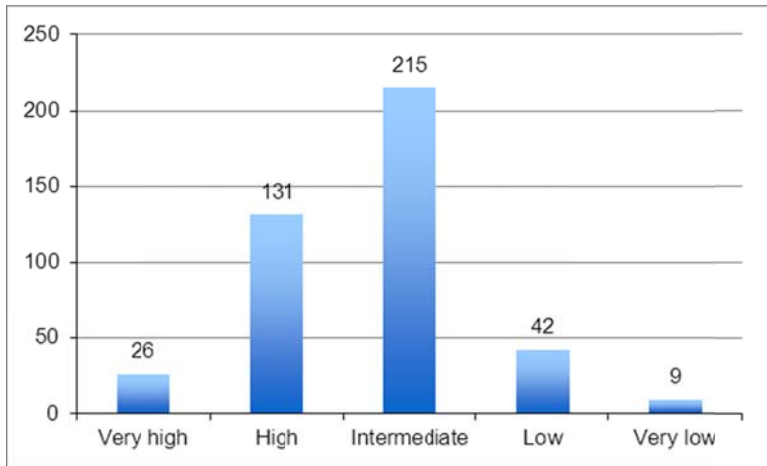


Q35) Please rate the following sections of the EQE Forum on a scale

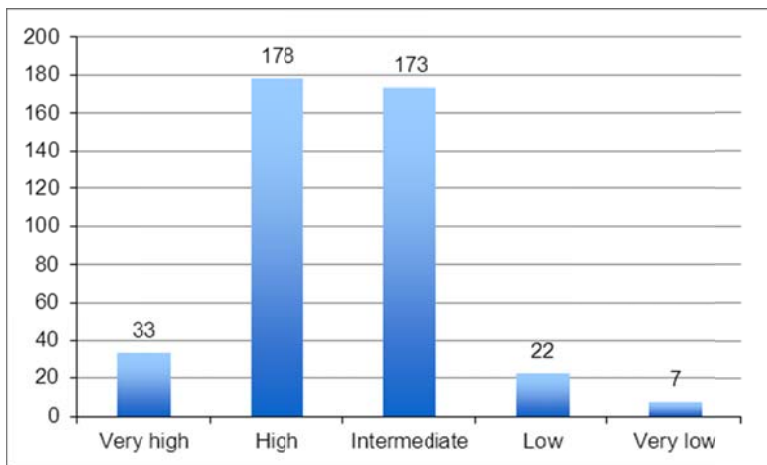
Discussion of general topics: General usefulness



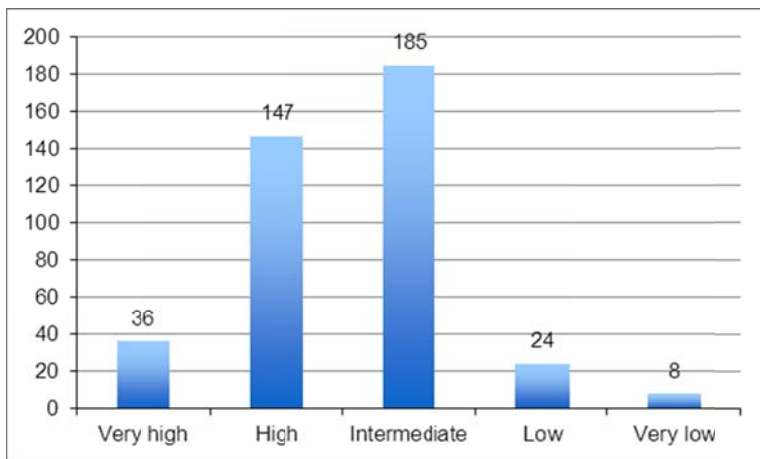
Discussion of general topics: Quality of material



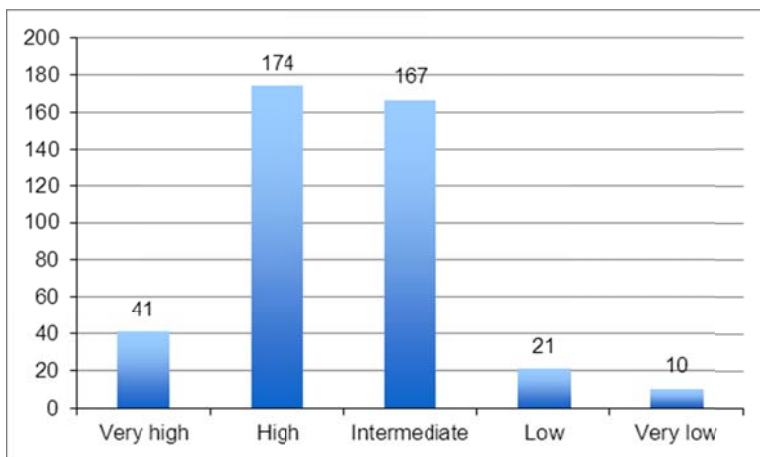
Discussion of general topics: Quality of responses to questions



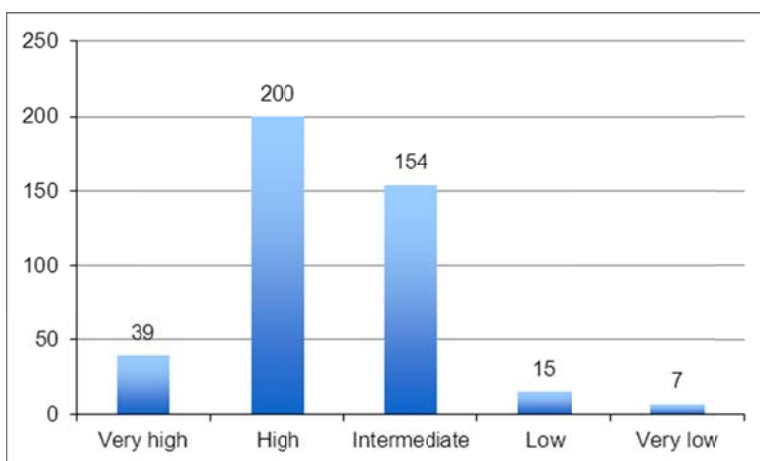
Discussion of general topics: Timeliness of responses



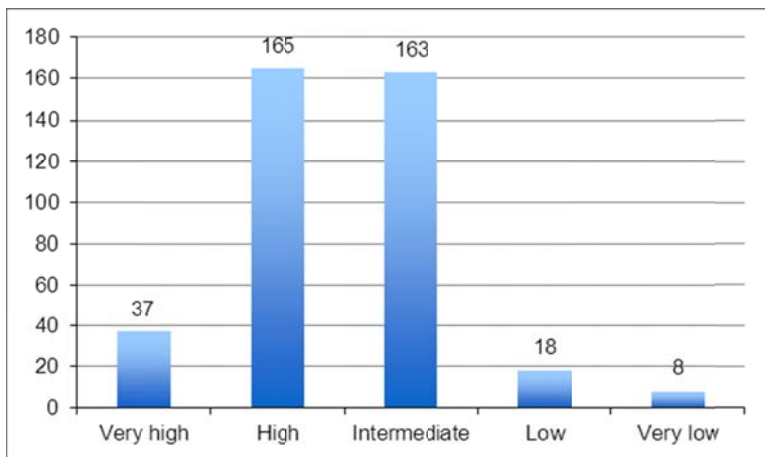
Discussion of examination papers: General usefulness



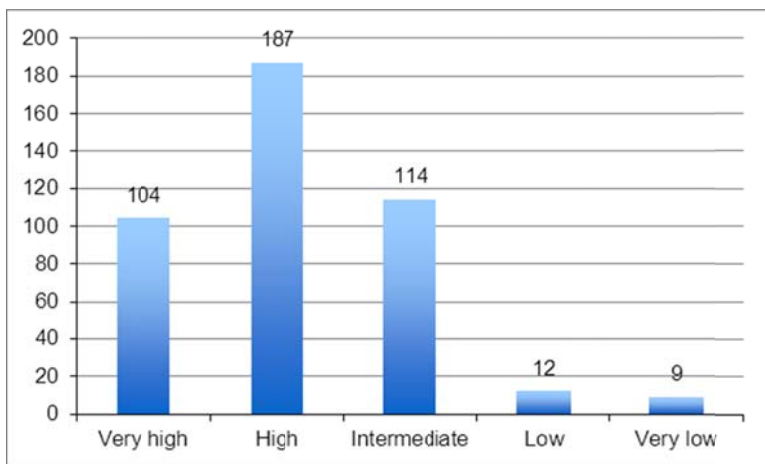
Discussion of examination papers: Quality of responses



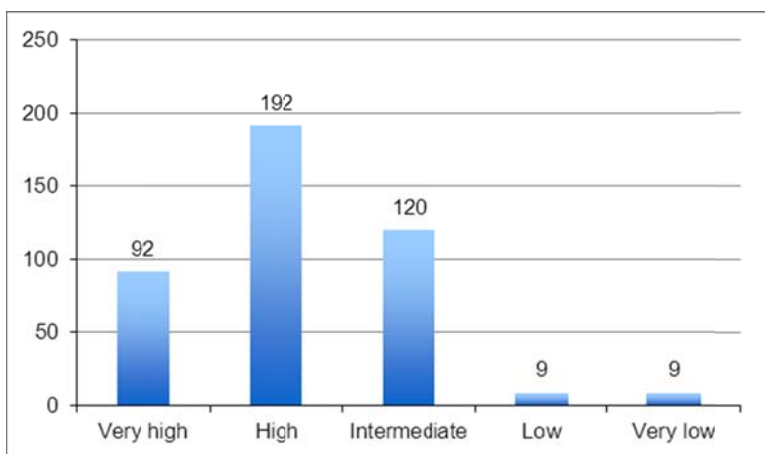
Discussion of examination papers: Timeliness of responses



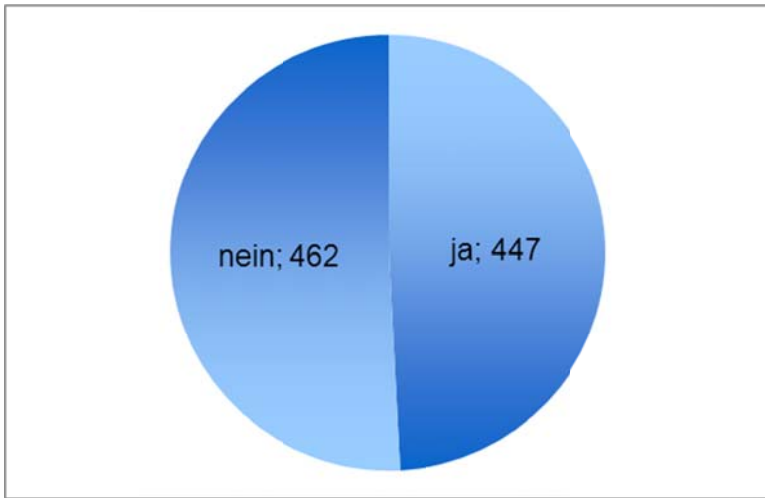
Paper D questions: General usefulness



EQE Commented Answer Papers: General usefulness

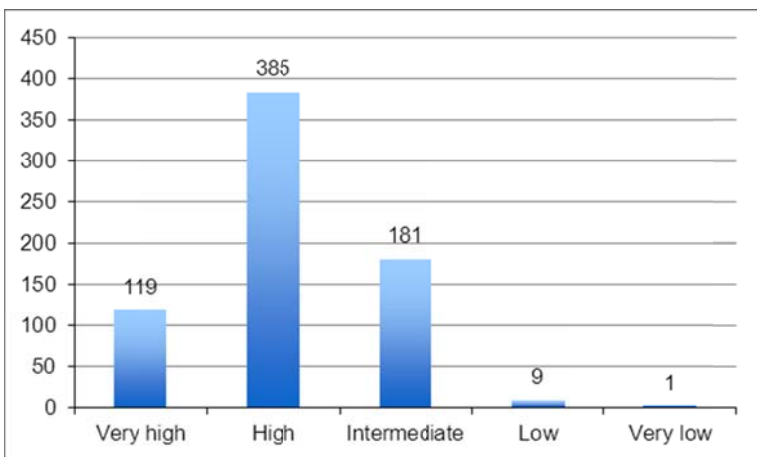


Q36) Are you aware of the programme "Praktika Intern - internships for patent professionals" directed at present and future professional representatives?

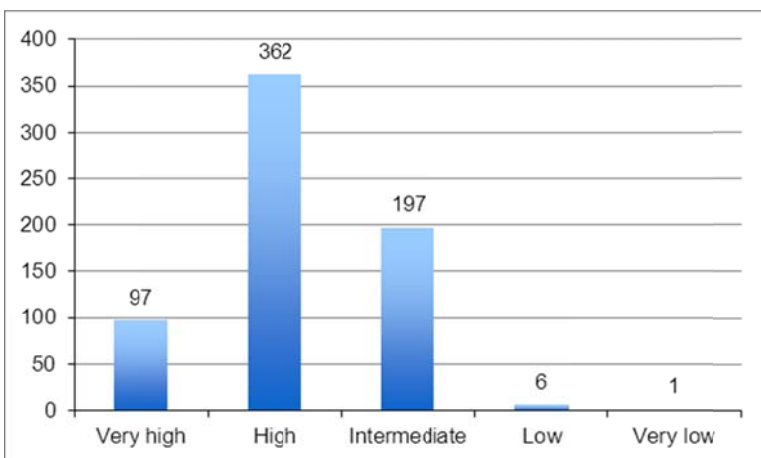


Q37) Please rate the eqe-online.org website on a scale

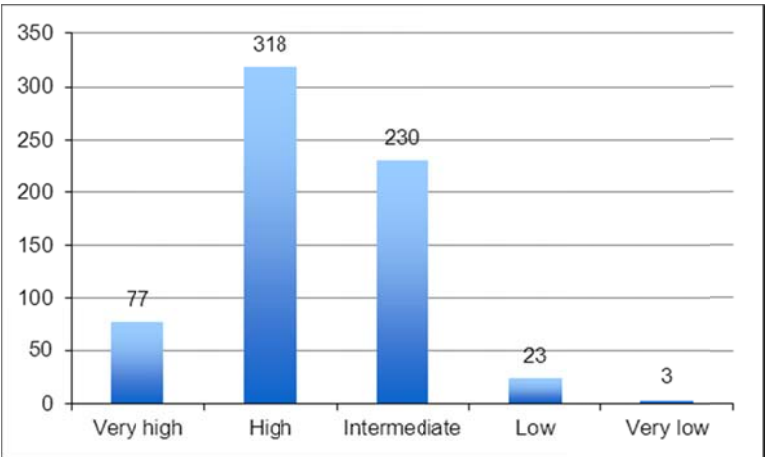
General usefulness



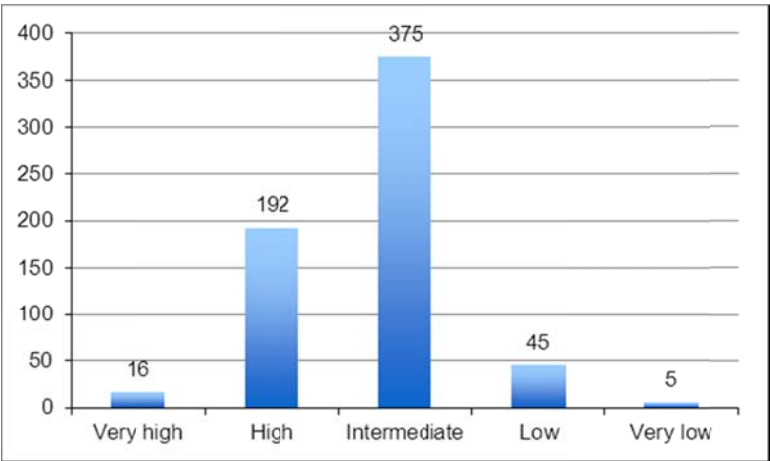
Relevance of covered topics



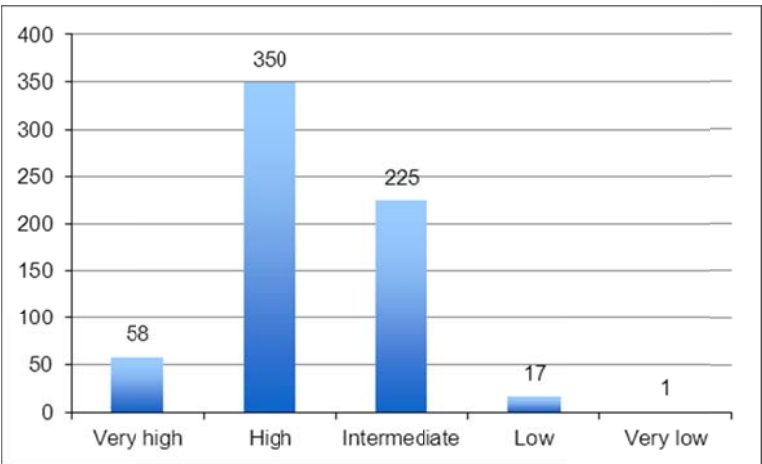
Ease of use of the tool



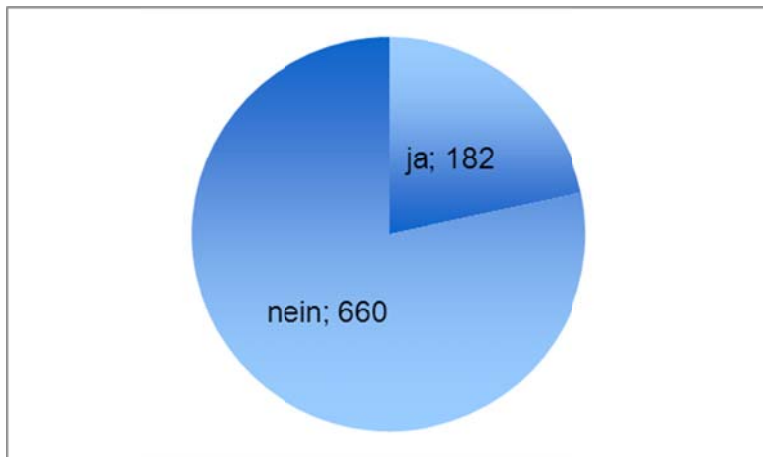
Level of difficulty



Quality of the model answers and comments

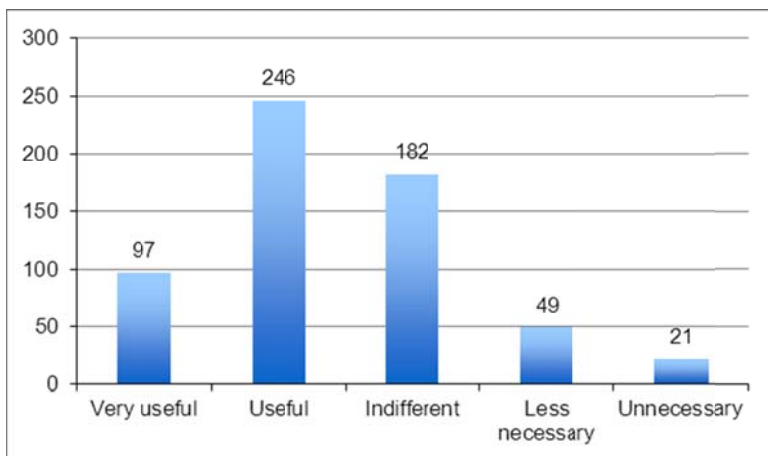


Q38) Did you discuss any of the EQE online exercises with your supervisor/tutor?

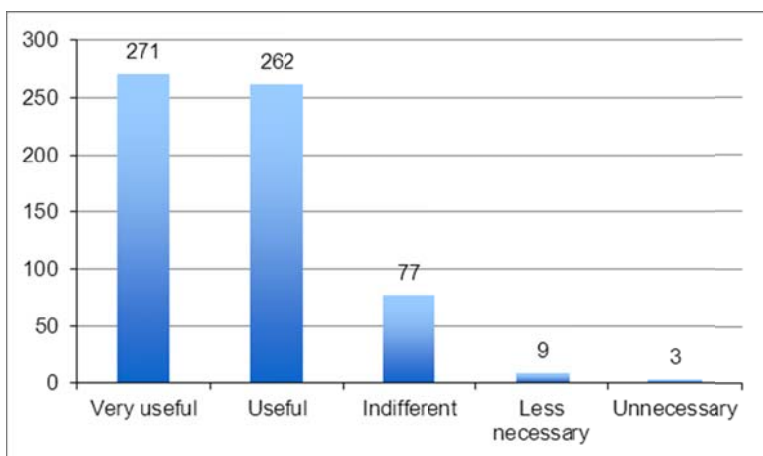


Q39) How could the EQE online service be best integrated into your preparation for the EQE?

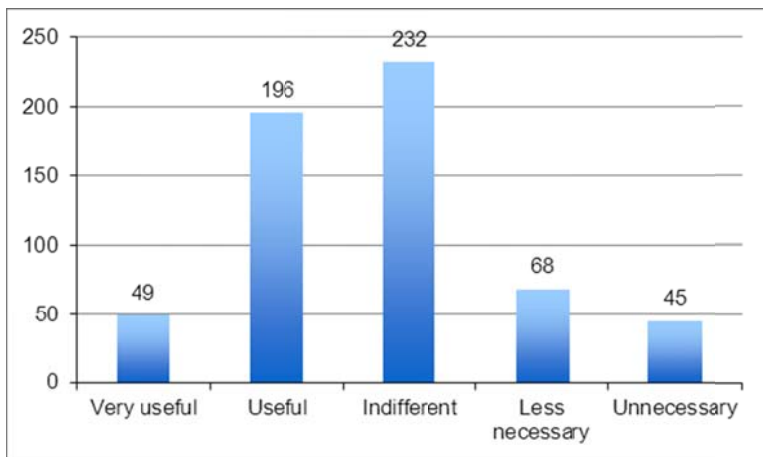
Providing last minute help on a broad range of topics



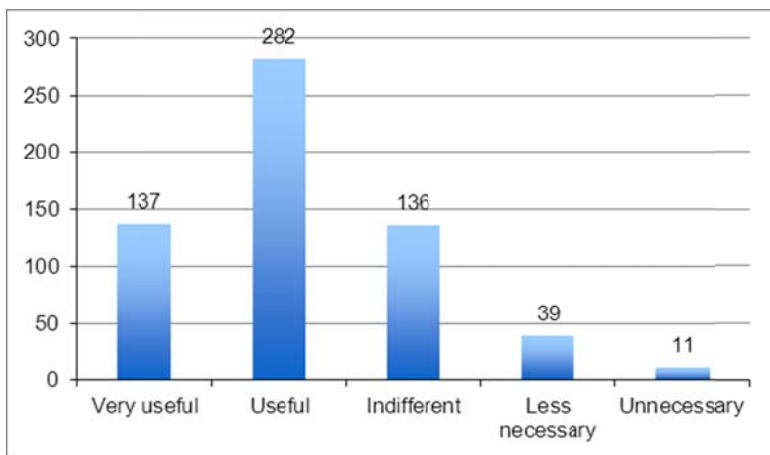
Providing tutorial-like exercises with model answers and an opportunity to discuss



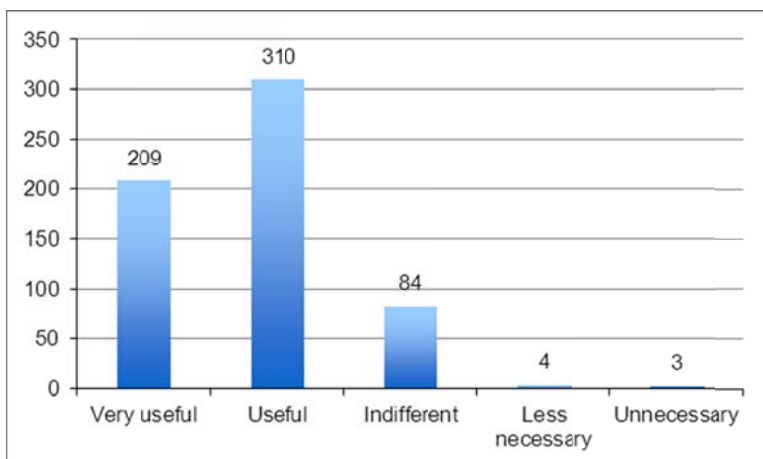
Serving as a basis for discussion with your supervisor/tutor



Time schedule of the exercise



Quality of the model answers and comments



Other, please specify:

- didn't use it
- Translation to other official languages DE, FR
- Better Paper D daily questions - most are suitable for pre-EQE only now.
- Compendium questions shall be made electronically as "time line" exercise with online

correction and time estimation.

- The question and the answer both need to be more clearer.
- When I applied to the pre-the exam, the passing grade was 50. It is not acceptable to change the passing grade after receiving all applications.
- No info concerning c for 2014
- don't know
- I only use European Patent Academy in 2012 for preparing preexamination I took in 2013. I didn't use European Patent Academy for A and B I took in 2014
- Online training course like the one for the pre-exam by the epi/EPO academy also for the main EQE exam
- Nothing else.
- Excellent site!
- practice
- don't know, didn't use it

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

- I appreciate the daily D1 questions
- Exercises should be proposed for DII
- no
- it would be nice to visually distinguish the 'posts to be believed' (usually from tutors) from the questions and comments of 'general' users. There really is a lot of crap in the forum (which is understandable, people are learning, asking questions, trying to get rid of this crap...) which I do not want to go through to find the valuable pieces of knowledge because a/I have very little time, and b/ I do not want to create misconceptions in my mind.
- none
- In discussions it is very important that the titles of topics are informative; I also like that that the tutors are commenting pretty actively
- I'll start using it now. For the main eqe. (Was already planning to do so.)
- The staff of the EQE Forum provide very good support for candidates - many thanks!
- Ein direkter Kontakt zu den Tutoren z.B. telefonisch könnte sehr nützlich sein.
- off topic: where is the blue arrow you refer to on the last page to finish the survey? The choices are PREV or DONE ;-)
- i like that tutors are on-hand to answer any questions - that is very helpful.
- No
- the online training course for the pre-exam was really good, but some of the invitation came very late - sometimes one day before or on the same day, one week in advance should be the latest date
- The pre-examination online training course and D1 daily questions and forum are very useful.
- The exercise "Time line" is good as one gets directly corrected answer and time for his/her response. Give some understanding about answering speed.
- /
- Some of the answers seem to be standard and do not provide a real reply to the question asked; finer points of law or requests to understand these points were not answered adequately; some of the replies from tutors appear to be influenced by practice at national level, particularly in the area of interpretation of the claims and assessment of their scope.
- I don't know whether I could reach all functions of the Forum. I had problems with the registration. In the open part of the forum elaborated discussions about examiner reports seemed to be rare, but I might be wrong.
- PLEASE, visit once a REAL opposition procedure and think about, what are the requirements to perform a good opposition in front of the EPO. Is time-limits and handwriting speed REALLY the key-point of a good attorney?????????

- The question and the answer both need to be more clearer. Some of the questions are organized in an ambiguous way.
- It's not bad, but only very few candidates use it, so it's more or less useless.
- Changing the rules after start of the game cannot accepted.
- There is very little recent material on ege forum.
- The one thing the forum can't teach you is how to write quickly by hand. This actually is probably one of the most important skills for the exam.
- The search function of the Forum could be improved.
- For example, I didn't manage to find the answers to the daily D1-questions 2013-2014 that were mailed to me. Luckily, in each mail, there is a link to the answer, that I used. I also wanted to do questions that were mailed to me last year (daily D1-questions 2012-2013), when I first subscribed to this service (I was studying for the pre-exam), but the links in the mails with the questions no longer worked. Perhaps this is for copywrite reasons, since the questions come from Delta-patents? It was a pity.
- The time needed to study and specially to do compendium papers ,more particularly of paper C and D, is too long and it is very difficult to combine with work and family.
- There was 60+5 daily D1 questions. To cover all possible questions that can be put at exam would may be require 100 questions. I do not know.
- To provide other mock exam for paper C
- I found the guidance of the online training course to be very useful for me personally, as it is a great help in assigning time to the different topics and achieve a good coverage in the given time (although the level of detail should ideally be increased by the individual student to gain most from the course).
- I liked very much the daily D question, I used the questions for my preparation for the pre-exam legal part.
- prompt replies were very helpful
- Did not really have time to use the forum in my preparation, will do for the main exam.
- I like it, I think It shoul be more publicized, I discovered It, my fault, olny late!
- Relevant for that year also important
- Daily D1 questions very good preparation for the pre-exam too!
- Each and every mock exam or set of review questions should have model answers and reasoning for the answer, at least reference to the relevant article or rule.
- I liked most the Coffeebreak Questions but recomend solving them without the multiple choice options.
- With respect to my answers above, it should be noted that I am an EPA (based on socalled grandfathers clause) already, and that I am taking the EQE "voluntarily". Hence, my preparations have been based on self-studies and discussions with other EPA-colleagues. My employer has still allocated time for my preparations.
- The ege-online.org page should be updated more often, some info there is very old.
- I used with much profit the time-limits D questions and the Coffee Break questions.
- Sometimes is mere blog, and are maintained some messages including big errors or bad information that make difficult and takes a long time to follow a discussion. A more strict filter from tutors would be desirable.
- Online training course like the one for the pre-exam by the epi/EPO academy also for the main EQE exam
- update the material
- provide special Forum for recent changes to the EPC and recent case law
- No.
- The standard of comments can usefully be improved
- Moderation of the forum is very good, but I think false answers or confusing answers by forumites should be clearly marked by a moderator.
- Please give some advice how the immense amount of material for the PCT part can be used in an efficient manner
- EQE online trainin should be also for the main exam, not only for pre-exam.

- Perhaps making it easy to view on portable devices or have an app relating to such site might encourage people to view the forum etc more.
- I certainly wanted to view the forum etc on my mobile phone so that I can study whilst I'm on the move but the sites were not very mobile device friendly.
- I think EQE forum is good. I just concentrated on the material from Deltapatents which I found enough this time.
- Sorry, I did not use it. Only the examination papers of past years.
- When they propose doing papers from previous years do not start with last year Exams as normally these are the Exams that you try last.
- I liked the Daily D1 questions. This is very useful
- no
- Please keep going with it
- I only used the Forum occasionally, when a relevant page was found in a Google search. I do not feel as though I used the resource enough to provide input about how it might be improved.
- On line training similar to Pre_Examination on line training could be useful. I appreciate highly eqe coffee break questions and daily questions.
- Online guided Basic preparation course for one year (Sept - Sept) to be followed on a weekly basis, covering all legal topics / parts of EPC.
- I would much appreciated if tutorial-like exercises would be included along with model answers and opportunity to discuss (as above indicated).
- it should be noticed from the EQE examination board
- Actually, I couldn't use the Forum a lot because I had too many things to study in a short time. Whenever I checked the Forum for something it was very helpful. I asked a few questions and djackson replied very quickly. I really appreciate this.
- When not understanding a question (or answer), it was nice to find discussions and answers to it. It often helped me understand.
- Some of the questions in the online exercises were confusing and it was as if they were prepared in haste. Moreover, the last mock exams provided by the online course were unnecessarily long and difficult.
- Providing Material, Schemes.
- add a link from (very useful !) <http://www.epo.org/learning-events/eqe/compendium.html> towards www.eqe-online.org.
- No
- Thank you and please, continue
- Une version française et allemande serait vraiment une grande amélioration.
- NO COMMENTS
- The EQE Forum is the best!
- For D 2013 I practiced a lot with the questions on the Forum. I passed.
- I warmly recommend all candidates to use the Forum.
- No
- The MOCK-exams and the onlie-questions were a good preparaion basis! However, the last Mock-exam ("Handschuh") was - from my perspective - misleading. I could not really understand the answers regarding claim analysis. And there have been much too much PCT quetsions which raised the expectation that the Preexam will cover also a lot of PCT topics - which was compleately misleading
- More exercises related to claim analysis.