

Survey

European qualifying examination 2019

Examination Secretariat

EQE Survey 2019

Table of contents

Introduction	5
The Questionnaire	6
Chapter 1 – Examination centres	16
1.1 Berlin (48 answers received)	16
1.2 Bern (38 answers received)	18
1.3 Helsinki (28 answers received)	20
1.4 Madrid (57 answers received)	22
1.5 Munich (490 answers received)	24
1.6 Paris (127 answers received)	31
1.7 Rome (64 answers received)	33
1.8 Stockholm (35 answers received)	35
1.9 Taastrup (39 answers received)	37
1.10 The Hague (139 answers received)	39
1.11 Walsall (208 answers received)	42
Chapter 2 Preparation for the EQE	48
Q7) Which examination papers did you sit?	48
Q8) Examiners' report in the Compendium – rating	48
Q9) Elements of your personal preparation	48
Q10) What other study aids did you use?	49
Q11) Here is a list of courses offered either by the EPO or in collaboration with the EPO. Which of these course(s) did you follow?	61
Q13) How long before sitting the examination(s) did you start intensive and focused study?	62
Q14) When assessing your preparation and performance retrospectively, what would you consider to have been your greatest weakness and how could you have overcome it?	62
Q15) What advice would you give other candidates preparing for the examination(s)?	84
Chapter 3 Training/Employment under Article 11 (2)(a) REE	108
Q16) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training pursuant to Art. 11(2)(a)REE?	108
Q17) I completed most of the training (Art. 11(2)(a) REE) in	108
Q18) How would you rate the support of your supervisor/employer in view of your preparation for the examination(s)?	109
Q19a) How much time did your supervisor/employer allow for your preparation for the examination(s) in total? Please indicate the number of working days:	109
Q19b) How much time did your supervisor/employer allow for attending courses for	

your preparation for the examination(s)? Please indicate the number of working days:	109
Q20) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your supervisor/employer for attending courses?	110
Q21a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the examination(s) with your supervisor/employer 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:	110
Q21b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the first year of training? Please indicate the percentage:	110
Q21c) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the second year of training? Please indicate the percentage:	111
Q21d) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the third year of training? Please indicate the percentage:	111
Q22) What would you suggest to supervisors/employers in order to improve candidates' preparation for the examination(s)?	111
Q23) How did your supervisor/employer as defined by Art.11(2)(a) REE train you for paper C? Multiple answers are possible	123
Q24) How did you prepare for paper C apart from the training you received from your supervisor/employer?	124
Q25) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-year training period? Please indicate the number of cases:	124
Chapter 4 – EQE Papers	125
Q26) Which of the following best describes the technical area in which you work? .	125
Q27) Please rate the difficulty of the 2019 pre-examination paper	125
Q27a) What reference book was the most useful for the preparation of the pre-examination? Multiple answers are possible	125
Q27b) What reference book was the most useful while sitting the pre-examination? Multiple answers are possible.....	126
Q27c) How did you allocate the available time during the pre-examination?.....	126
Q27d) How did you find the time available for the pre-examination paper?.....	126
Q27e) Any comment on the pre-examination?	127
Q27a) Please rate the difficulty of the 2019 main examination paper(s).....	134
Q27b) Additional comments concerning the difficulty of the main examination papers	134
Q28) Did you feel time pressure during the main examination?	152
Q29) How did you find the time available for each of the main examination papers?	152
Q30) Do you find the additional thirty minutes in the main examination paper(s) helpful?	153
Q31) Do you think that even more time would have improved your performance in the main examination paper(s)?	153
Q32) Do you have any comments concerning the time available for the examination	

papers?.....	153
Chapter 5 – Training materials.....	165
Q33) How would you rate the following learning materials/courses?.....	165
Q34) Please add any comments and suggestions regarding the learning materials/courses:.....	165
Chapter 6 – EQE on a computer	173
Q35) Would you welcome the opportunity to write your EQE answers on a computer?	173
Q36) What advantages/disadvantages do you see in writing your EQE answers on a computer?.....	173
Q37) Would you be prepared to travel a long distance to be able to sit the EQE on a computer??.....	215
Q38) If a computer-based examination were introduced, would you as a candidate be prepared to participate moderately in the costs?	215

Introduction

On 1 March 2019 candidates were invited to participate in a survey concerning the European qualifying examination 2019. 1283 answers were received by 31 March 2019.

Among the candidates who participated in the survey, 773 took part in the EQE for the first time, 506 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

The Questionnaire

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for participating in this year's examination(s). To help us improve the EQE and its organisation, please fill in this survey which will take roughly 10 minutes. Mandatory questions are marked with a red star: *

Please provide your email address or your EQEReg number

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

Q1) Was this your first time sitting either the pre-examination or one of the main examination papers?

- yes
- no

Q2) At which centre did you sit the examination paper(s) 2019?

Please select

- Berlin
- Bern
- Helsinki
- Madrid
- Munich M.O.C
- Paris
- Rome
- Stockholm
- Taastrup
- The Hague
- Walsall

Q3) Examination centres - rating

Please rate

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

Q4) Examination centres - rating

Please rate

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

Q5) Examination centres - rating

Please rate

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

Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

Please add your comments

Q7) Which examination papers did you sit?

- Pre-examination
- Paper A
- Paper B
- Paper C
- Paper D

Q8) Examiners' reports in the Compendium - rating

Please rate

	Enough	Indifferent	Not enough
Is the information contained in the examiners' reports sufficient for you to understand how papers should be answered?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Is the information contained in the examiners' reports sufficient for you to understand how the papers are marked?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q9) Your personal preparation

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

	Very important	Important	Indifferent	Not important	Useless	Not applicable
Compendium	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
epi studentship	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
General external courses regarding intellectual property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specialised courses for EQE papers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In-house training course organized by your company	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dedicated training given by your supervisor/employer as defined by Art. 11(2)(a) REE	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Study in small group with other candidates	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Very Important Indifferent Not important Useless Not applicable
 important

Mock pre-examination on EQE website

Q10) What other study aids did you use?

Q11) Here is a list of courses offered either by the EPO or in collaboration with the EPO. Which of these course(s) did you follow?

- EQE pre-examination 2019 - online training course (EPO)
- Guide to EQE papers (EPO)
- Commented answers to paper C for previous years (EPO)
- Daily D questions (EPO)
- Coffee-break questions (EPO)
- Time-limit questions (EPO)
- Seminars for the EQE pre-examination 2019 (Euro-CEIPI)
- Basic training in European patent law (Euro-CEIPI)
- Introductory course Papers A and B (Euro-CEIPI)
- Main seminar Papers A and B (Euro-CEIPI)
- Intensive last-minute course Papers A and B (Euro-CEIPI)
- Introductory course Paper C (Euro-CEIPI)
- Main seminar Paper C (Euro-CEIPI)
- Intensive last-minute course Paper C (Euro-CEIPI)
- Introductory course Paper D (Euro-CEIPI)
- Main seminar Paper D (Euro-CEIPI)
- Intensive last-minute course Paper D (Euro-CEIPI)
- Mock EQE (epi)
- Flexible tutorials (epi)
- Online course for the preparation to the pre-examination (epi)
- EQE Paper A two-day methodology course (DeltaPatents)
- EQE Paper B two-day methodology course (DeltaPatents)
- EQE Paper C three-day methodology course (DeltaPatents)
- EQE Paper C two-day guided exam course (DeltaPatents)
- EQE Paper D three-day methodology course (DeltaPatents)
- EQE Paper D five- or four-day guided mock examination course (DeltaPatents)
- Other providers/courses (please specify)

Q13) How long before the examination(s) did you start intensive and focused study?

- 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) When assessing your preparation and performance retrospectively, what would you consider to have been your greatest weakness and how could you have overcome it?

Please describe your experiences

Q15) What advice would you give other candidates preparing for the examination(s)?

Q16) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training pursuant 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 supervisor/employer in view of your preparation for the examination(s)?

Please rate

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

Q19a) How much time did your supervisor/employer allow for your preparation for the examination(s) in total? Please indicate the number of working days:

- 0
- 1 - 4
- 5 - 10
- 11 - 49
- 50+

Q19b) How much time did your supervisor/employer allow for attending courses for your preparation for the examination(s)? Please indicate the number of working days:

- 0
- 1 - 4
- 5 - 10
- 11 - 49
- 50+

Q20) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your supervisor/employer for attending courses?

Please rate

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

Q21 a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the examination(s) with your supervisor/employer 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:

- 0
- 1 - 4
- 5 - 10
- 11 - 49
- 50+

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

- 0 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%

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

- 0 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%

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

- 0 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- 41 - 60%
- 61 - 80%
- 81 - 100%

Q22) What would you suggest to supervisors/employers in order to improve candidates' preparation for the examination(s)?

Q23) How did your supervisor/employer as defined by Art.11(2)(a) REE train you for paper C?

Multiple answers are possible

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

Q24) How did you prepare for paper C apart from the training you received from your supervisor/employer?

Multiple answers are possible

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

Q25) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-year training period? Please indicate the number of cases:

- 0 case
- 1 case
- 2 cases
- 3 cases
- 4 cases
- 5 cases
- 6 - 10 cases
- 11 - 15 cases
- 16 - 20 cases
- > 20 cases

Q26) Which of the following best describes the technical area in which you work?

- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Electronics
- Mechanics
- Physics
- Other:

Q27) Please rate the difficulty of the 2019 pre-examination paper

	Too easy	Easy	Adequate	Difficult	Too difficult
Pre-examination as a whole	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pre-examination (legal questions)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pre-examination (claim analysis)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q27a) What reference book was the most useful for the preparation of the pre-examination?

Multiple answers are possible

- EPC
- Guidelines for Examination in the EPO
- A commentary on the EPC
- Other:

Q27b) What reference book was the most useful while sitting the pre-examination?

Multiple answers are possible

- EPC
- Guidelines for Examination in the EPO
- A commentary on the EPC
- Other:

Q27c) How did you allocate the available time during the pre-examination?

- 30% or less of the time for the claim analysis / 70% or more for the legal questions
- 40% of the time for the claim analysis / 60% for the legal questions
- 50% of the time for the claim analysis / 50% for the legal questions
- 60% of the time for the claim analysis / 40% for the legal questions
- 70% or more of the time for the claim analysis / 30% or less for the legal questions

Q27d) How did you find the time available for the pre-examination paper ?

	Too much	Enough	Borderline	Not enough	By far not enough
Pre-examination	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q27e) Any comments on the pre-examination?

Q27a) Please rate the difficulty of the 2019 main examination paper(s)

	Too easy	Easy	Adequate	Difficult	Too difficult
Paper A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q27b) Additional comments concerning the difficulty of the main examination papers

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

- yes
 no

Q29) How did you find the time available for each of the main examination papers?

	Too much	Enough	Borderline	Not enough	By far not enough
Paper A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper C	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Paper D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q30) Do you find the additional thirty minutes in the main examination paper(s) helpful?

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

Q31) Do you think that even more time would have improved your performance in the main examination paper(s) ?

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

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

Q33) How would you rate the following learning materials/courses?

	Very good	Good	Adequate	Bad	Very bad
EQE pre-examination 2019 - online training course (EPO)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Guide to EQE papers (EPO)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Commented answers to paper C for previous years (EPO)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Daily D questions (EPO)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Coffee-break questions (EPO)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Time-limit questions (EPO)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Seminars for the EQE pre-examination 2019 (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basic training in European patent law (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Introductory course Papers A and B (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Main seminar Papers A and B (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intensive last-minute course Papers A and B (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intuductory course Paper C (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Main seminar Paper C (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intensive last-minute course Paper C (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Introductory course Paper D (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Main seminar Paper D (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Intensive last-minute course Paper D (Euro-CEIPI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mock EQE (epi)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Flexible tutorials (epi)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online course for the preparation to the pre-examination (epi)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE Paper C three-day methodology course (DeltaPatents)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE Paper C two-day guided exam course (DeltaPatents)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE Paper D three-day methodology course (DeltaPatents)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EQE Paper D five- or four-day guided mock examination course (DeltaPatents)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q34) Please add any comments and suggestions regarding the learning materials/courses:

Q35) Would you welcome the opportunity to write your EQE answers on a computer?

- Yes
 No

Q36) What advantages/disadvantages do you see in writing your EQE answers on a computer?

Q37) Would you be prepared to travel a long distance to be able to sit the EQE on a computer?

- Yes
- No

Q38) If a computer-based examination were introduced, would you as a candidate be prepared to participate moderately in the costs?

- Yes
- No

Use of dataThe 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 the use of this information will be restricted to a statistical evaluation only. Your name will not be tracked and your anonymity is guaranteed.

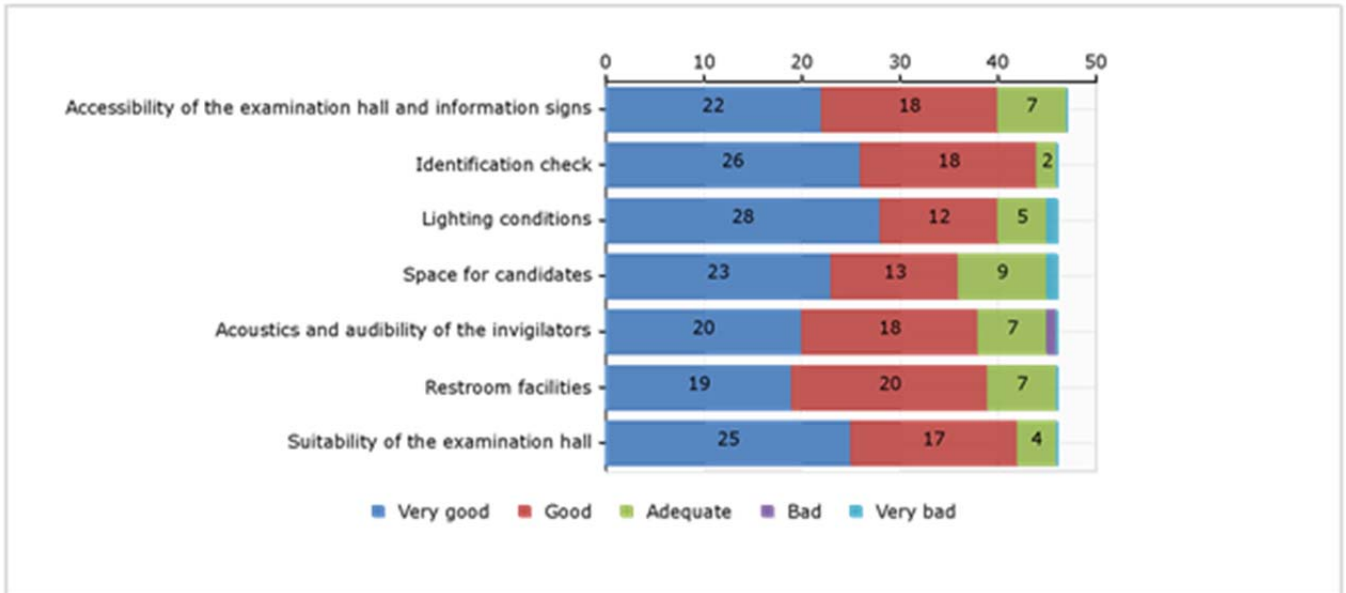
- I agree
- I do not agree

END OF SURVEY

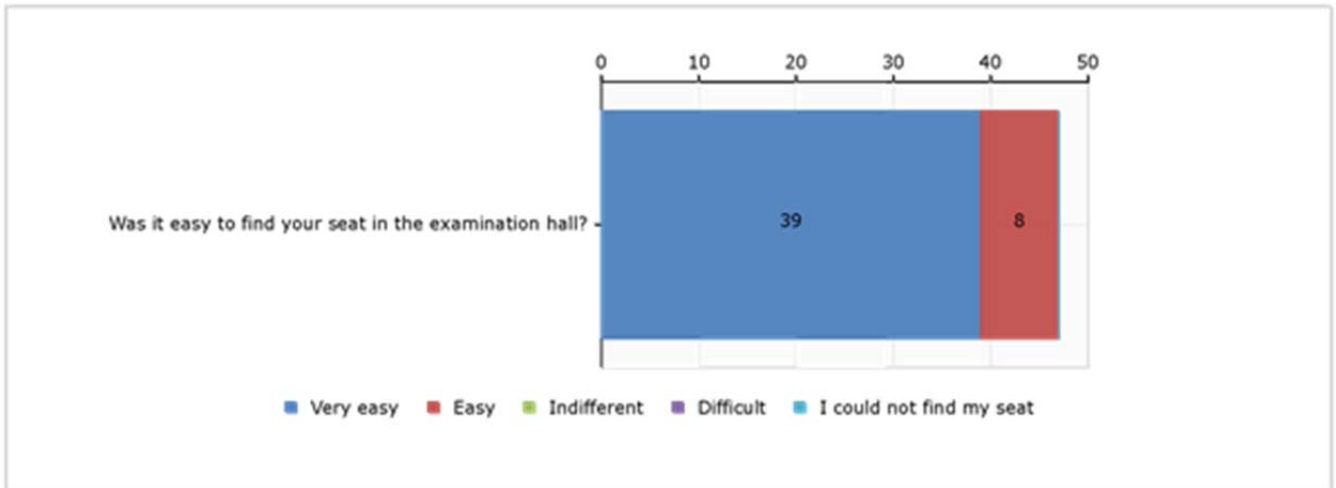
Chapter 1 – Examination centres

1.1 Berlin (48 answers received)

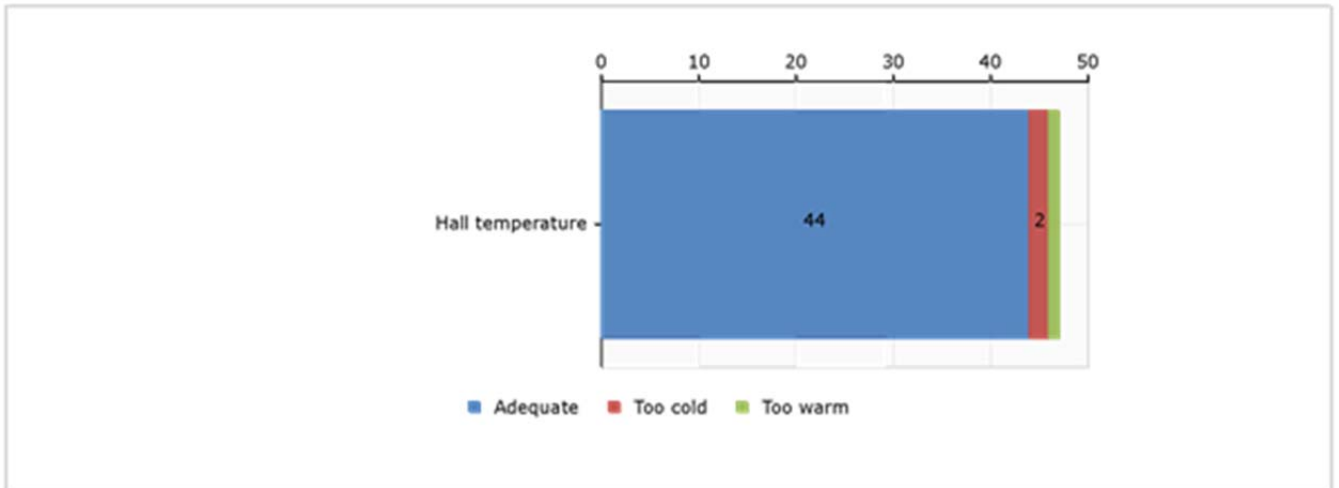
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating

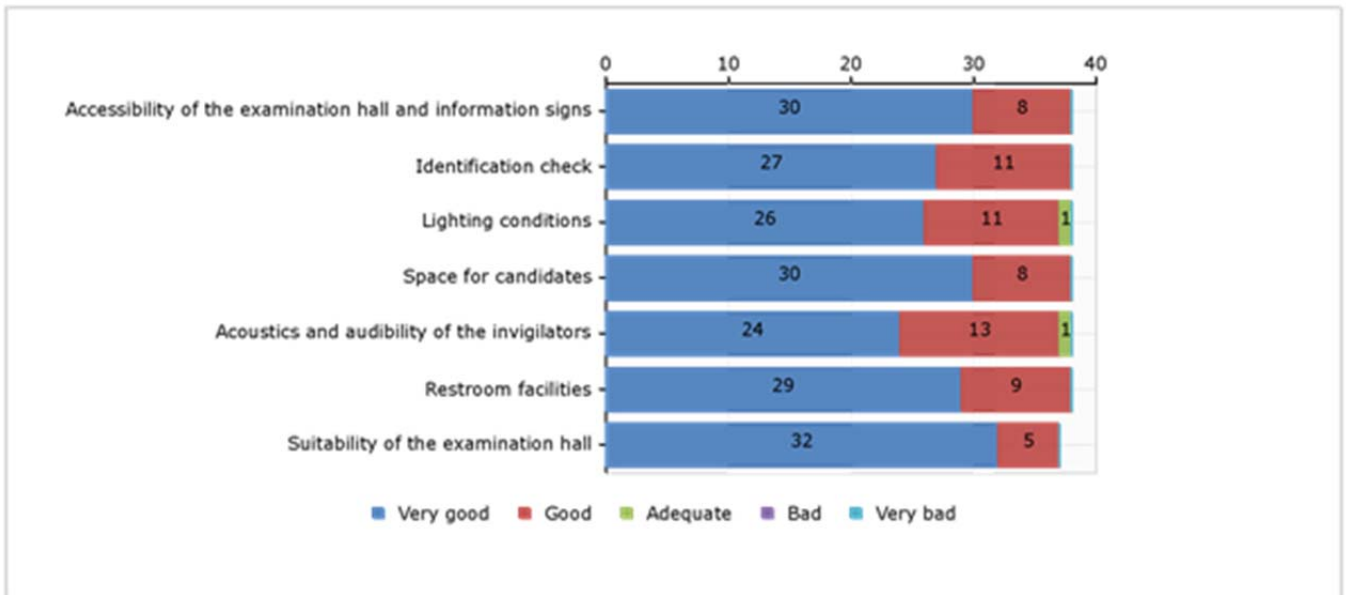


Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

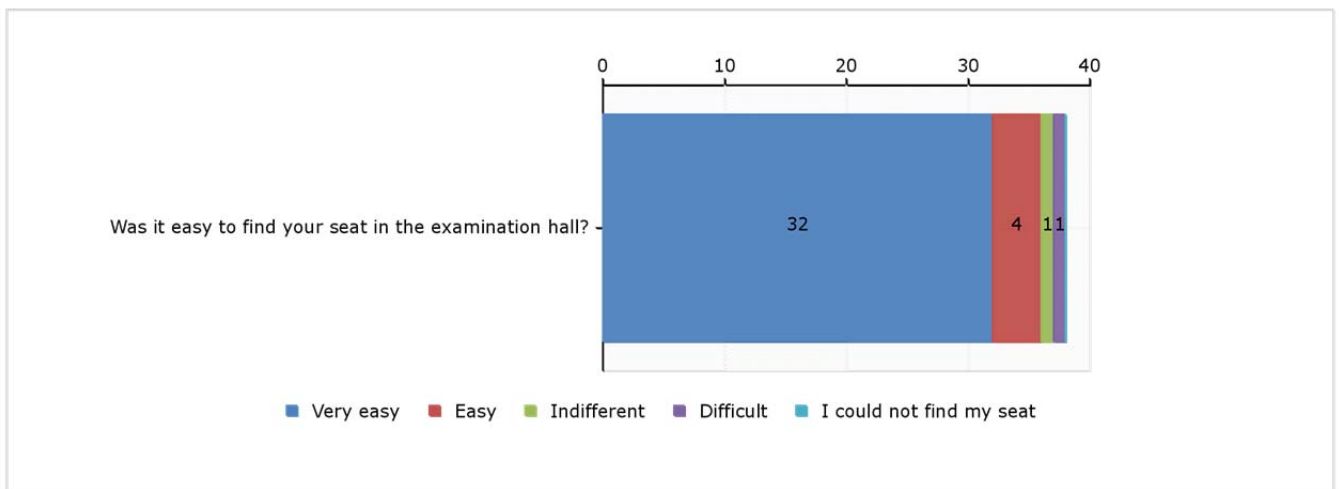
<i>good and adequate location</i>
<i>in gernal too loud - please shift the examination to a month, which lies outside the cold anf flue season</i>
<i>temperature of the hall was rather cold. the position of some of the tables with respect to the luminaries was not good since your own head projected its shadow on the papers you were writing.</i>
<i>good handling of the air-condition (active before the exam, switched off during the exam); otherwise it would have been too cold or draughty, respectively.</i>
<i>a room with a window would have been nice.</i>
<i>everything was fine. good room, very friendly personal</i>
<i>there was a perceivable lack of fresh air at times during the examination, the ventilation should be on more often and for shorter periods.</i>
<i>it took some time to get insider the building due to security processes.</i>
<i>die toiletten sollten besser ausgeschildert werden und der weg zur examination hall.</i>
<i>the examination hall was perfect.</i>

1. 2 Bern (38 answers received)

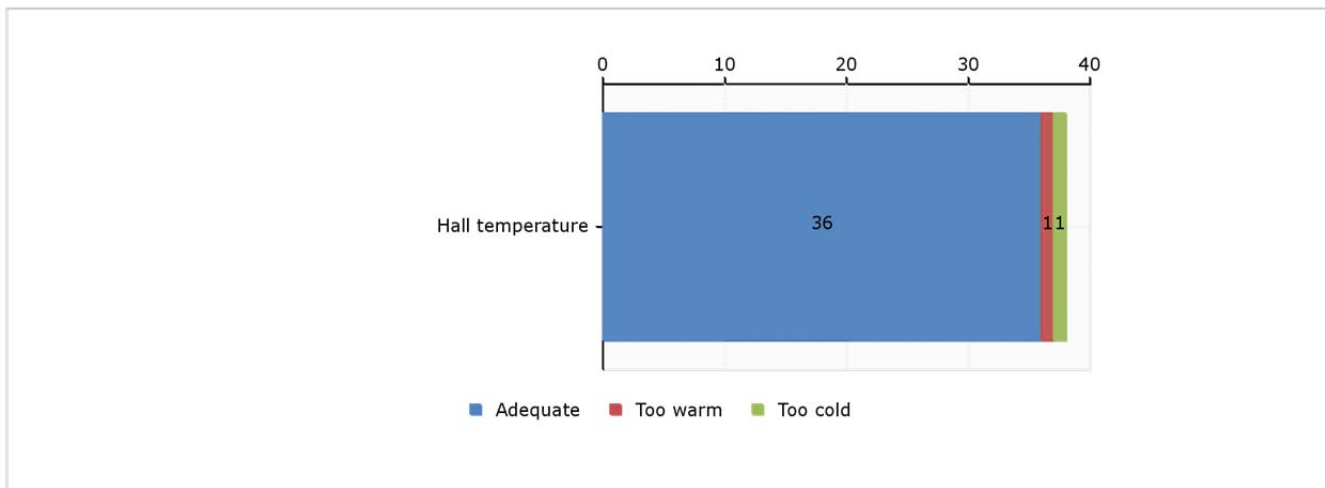
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating

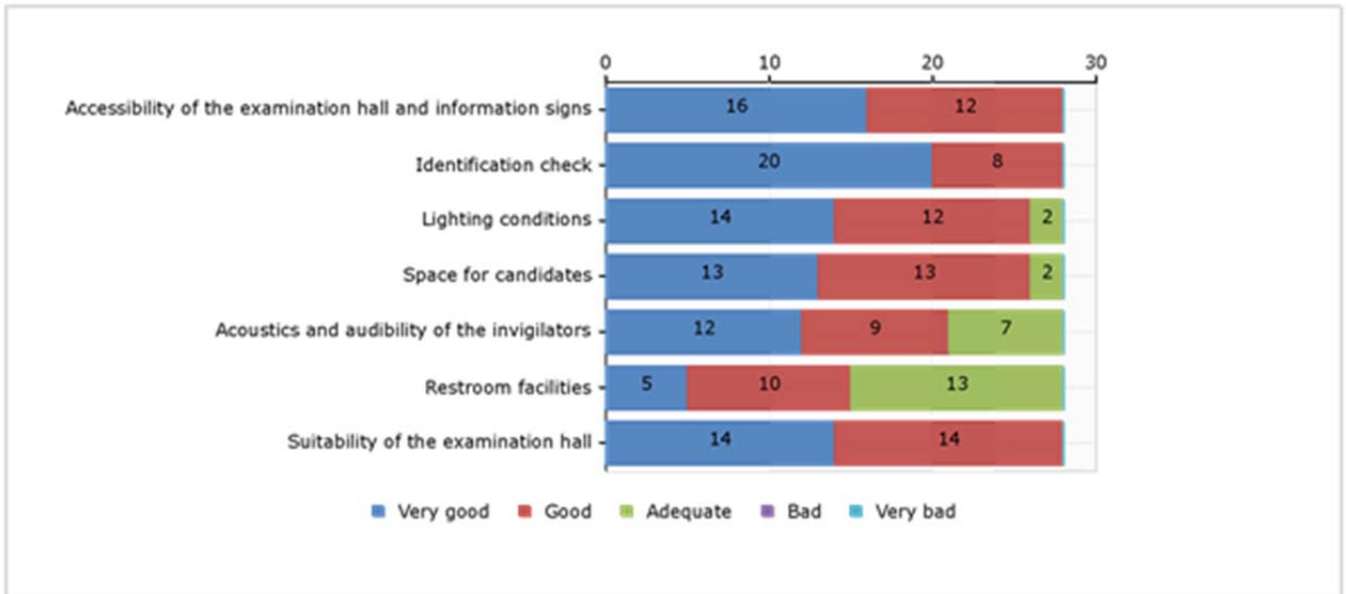


Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

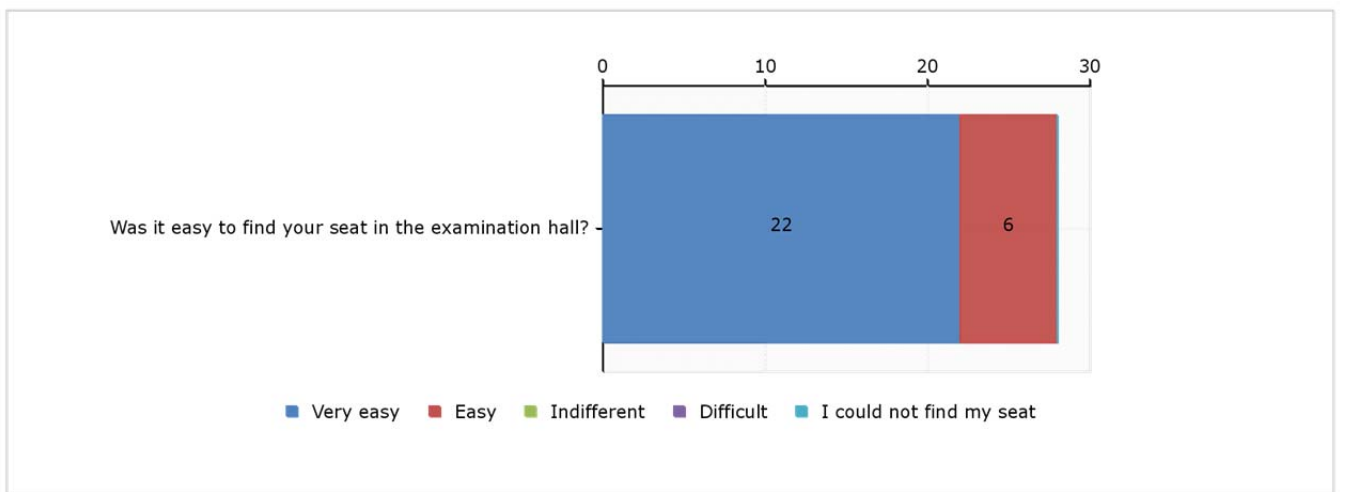
<i>excellent conditions</i>
<i>nice</i>
<i>good table and enough space for all books</i>
<i>very good</i>
<i>sufficient space to work</i>
<i>extremely nice place</i>
<i>very good place. good lightening conditions and temperature. enough space for candidates. suitable desks.</i>
<i>great experience for taking the pre-exam eqe.</i>

1. 3 Helsinki (28 answers received)

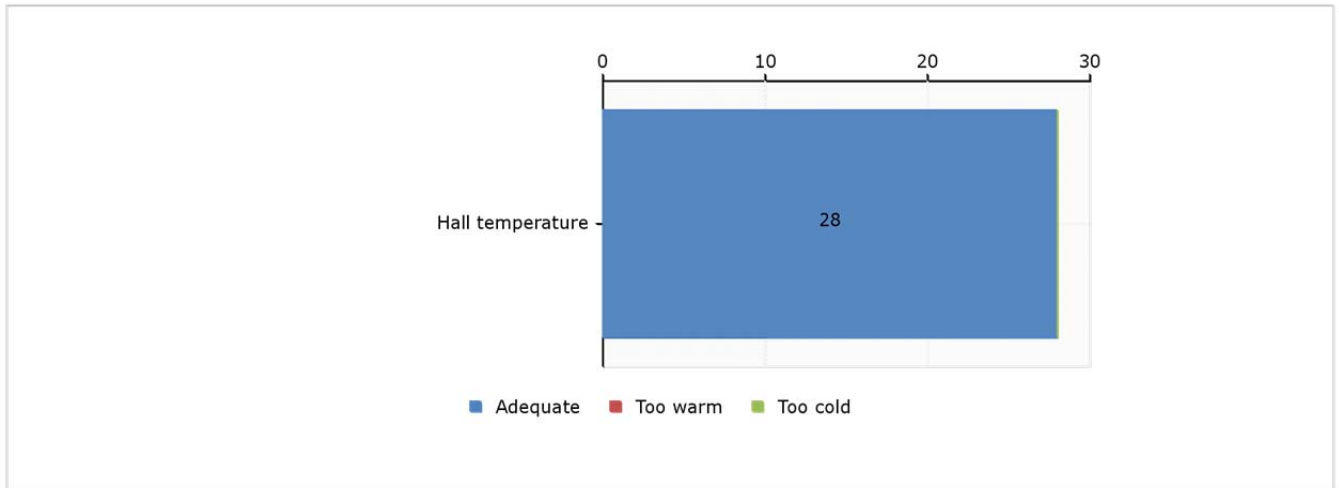
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating

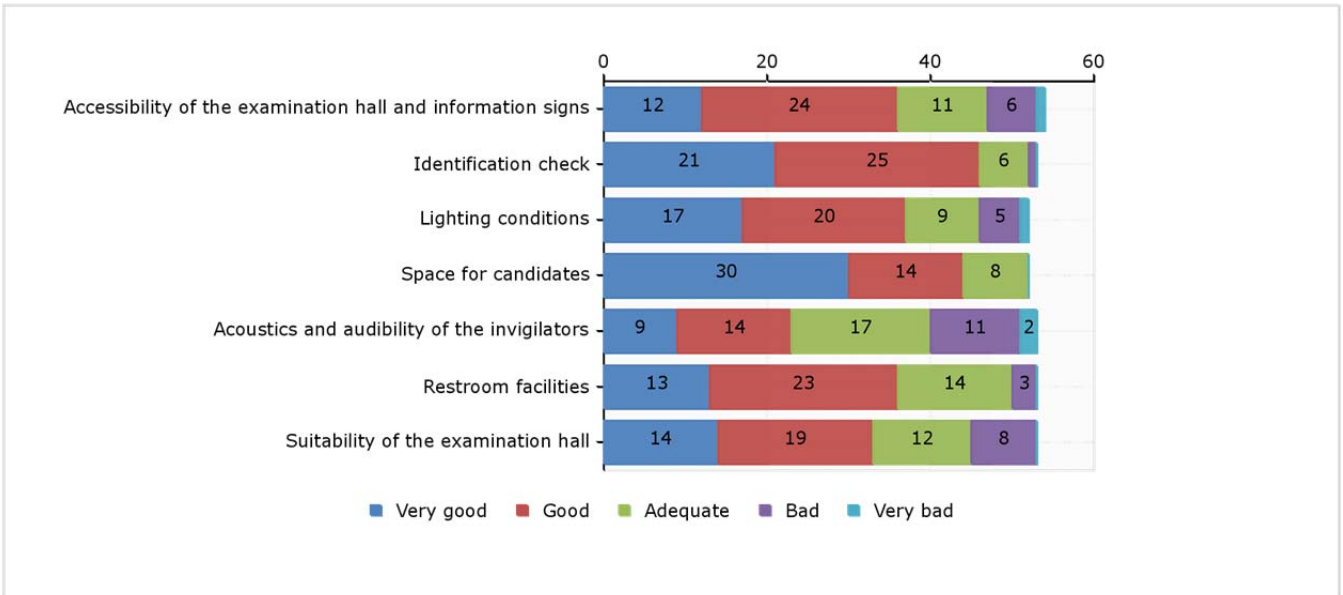


Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

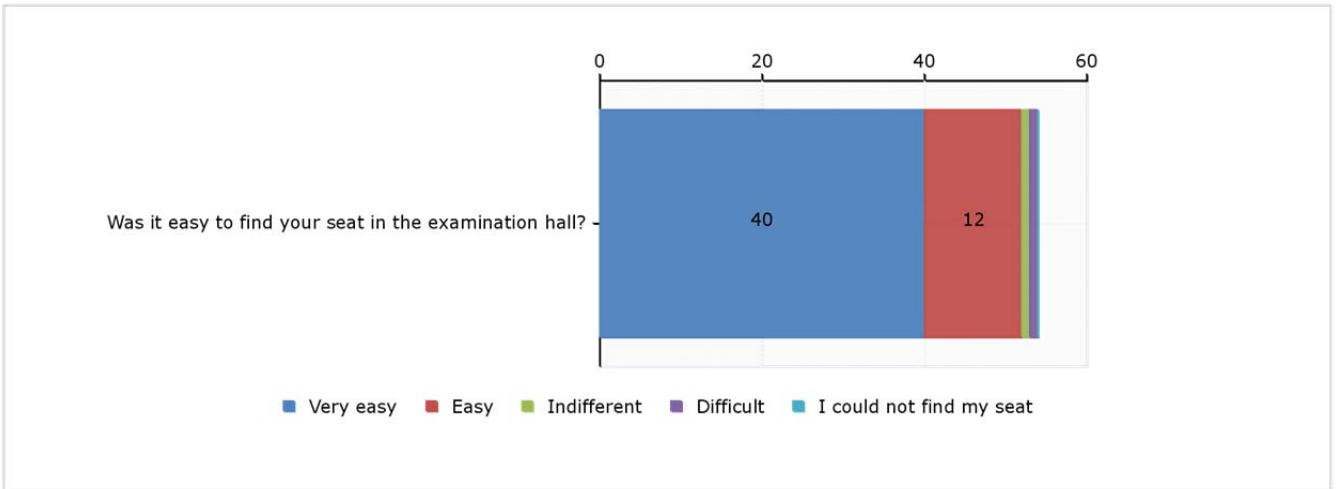
<i>it was impossible to see the one click provided in the room due to sunlight reflecting onto it. invigilator was informed but did nothing to improve the situation.</i>
<i>the hall was all in all very nice and comfortable, especially good chairs compared to last years hall. for some reason there were extra lamps set up behind the last row of tables, and these were at first a little disturbing/glaring.</i>
<i>toilets were pretty far from the examination room.</i>
<i>the lighting could have been better, at least during the b-exam in the late afternoon.</i>
<i>the place where the exams were held comprised several other seminar/lecture halls. meaning that there were other events at the same time and we (the candidates) needed to share toilet facilities with other people, of course. one day massive event was taken place and the queues were very long (over 15 people ahead of me). i kindly asked if i could rush because of my exam. maybe some kind of notice before hand to other people informing the exams or reserving one toilet slot only for candidates or something.... there was remarkable noise during one of the exam days (at least on thursday). there was a big event above our lecture hall.</i>
<i>examination hall was nice but the rest rooms were too far from it. i thought it took too much time to go to toilet during the exam.</i>
<i>noise from other floors on thursday was disturbing. apparently there were other events in the same house, so there was a queue to the restroom in the middle of the exam. please avoid similar situations in the future!</i>
<i>i found it very comfortable.</i>
<i>very good location in the city, was possible to get hotel nearby. the clock in the examination room was rushing few minutes - i think this could have been fixed in advance so you would not need to inform candidates to not trust that clock</i>
<i>very nice, cosy and even historical place. very optimum and suitable for eqe in every sense. very good, stable table with good space for the things. very good chairs. no complains.</i>
<i>very appropriate (helsinki), absolutely nothing that would have had a negative impact on my performance.</i>
<i>biggest disturbance was the coughing of a fellow candidate in the other end of the hall, and i think that happened too often for a normal cough. this started maybe at 2 oclock and ended a bit after three. the official invigilators were quiet and considerate.</i>
<i>toilets a bit far away and may be crowded (every minute counts), but you cannot get everything. the examination hall was otherwise excellent.</i>

1. 4 Madrid (57 answers received)

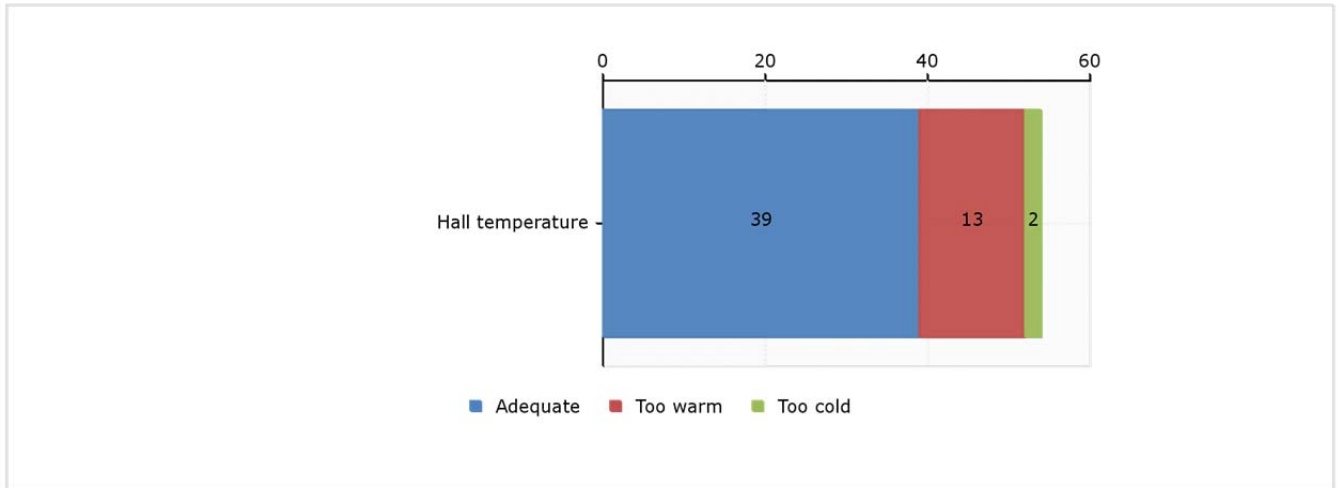
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating



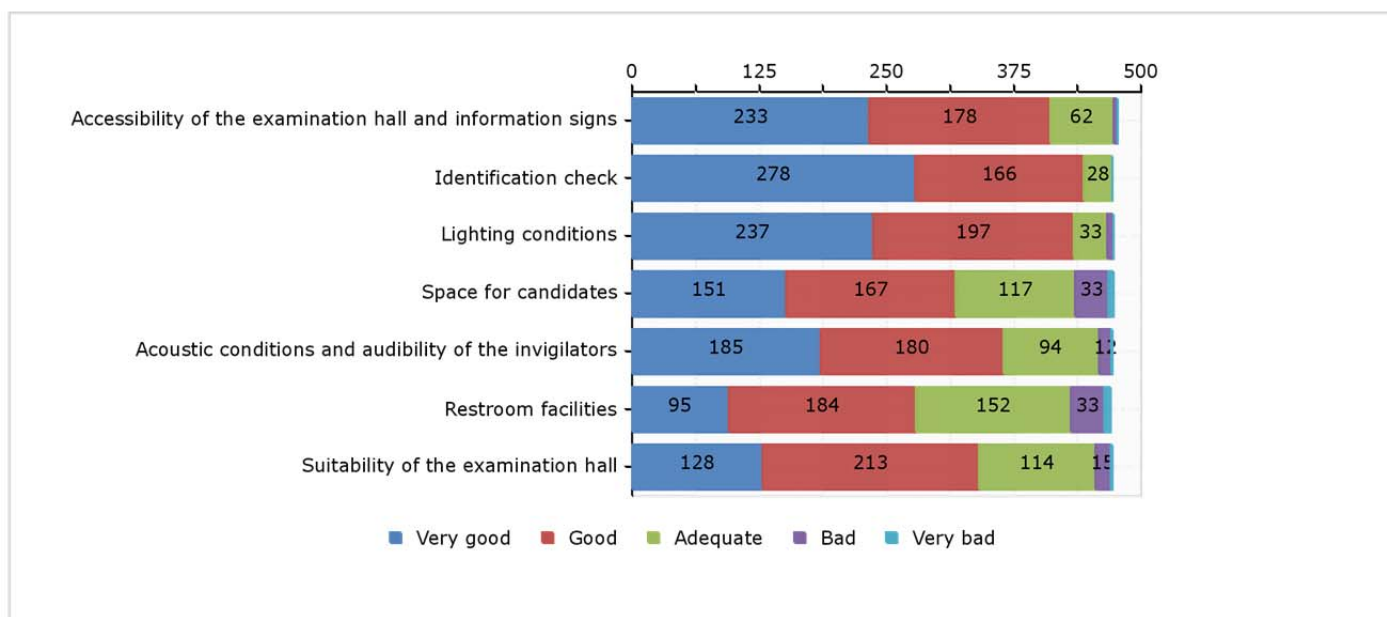
Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

<i>the speaker was not working properly and i had some troubles listening to the instructions given.</i>
<i>perfect, once found.</i>
<i>table covers a little deteriorated, broken and the noise of the train was annoying</i>
<i>it was too noisy. there is a lot of trains running close to the hotel and i was disturbed by the trains running in the proximity</i>
<i>the light conditions were very poor (shadows in the examination paper were really annoying). there was no soap in the restroom.</i>
<i>the madrid examination centre is perfect!</i>
<i>there was a very loud machine noise all through the examination, which oscillated from low to very loud, as kind of a starting engine. i found it very disturbing in such a situation! the lighting was completely artificial even though the room was physically on a top roof. the restroom had no soap to wash hands all day long.</i>
<i>noise corresponding to the opening and closing of the train doors during the whole exam</i>
<i>it was changed from the one of last year, which was far much better</i>
<i>it was difficult to find to be honest. they should have included a map. in case you dont know the madrid exam centre, the entrance is in a sheltered carpark in a big train station and does not look like a hotel! its good that it is beside a metro station however.</i>
<i>this time it has not been necessary to climb stairs to reach the hall, stairs that do not have an elevator as an option.</i>
<i>there were no indications about the examination hall in the building. i had to ask to the hotel reception.</i>
<i>too noisy</i>
<i>the heating system is very noisy. they turned it on because the temperature outside was warm, but in case of a colder winter an the heating on, the noise would be annoying.</i>
<i>the hall was over a railway station. there was a continuous whistle coming from trains recharging into the station that was highly disturbing.</i>
<i>there were different rooms for examination (or at least those rooms were marked with epo/eqe logos); it was not clear in which room the examination would be held. the examination hall was too noisy (there were trains at the station close to the hotel), and the lighting system in the evening was not good (there were shadows on the desk were i had my exam).</i>
<i>the hotel were the examination took place in madrid refused to keep our luggage in the luggage room if we werent staying at the hotel. if they hold such event, they should accept luggage from candidates coming from other cities</i>

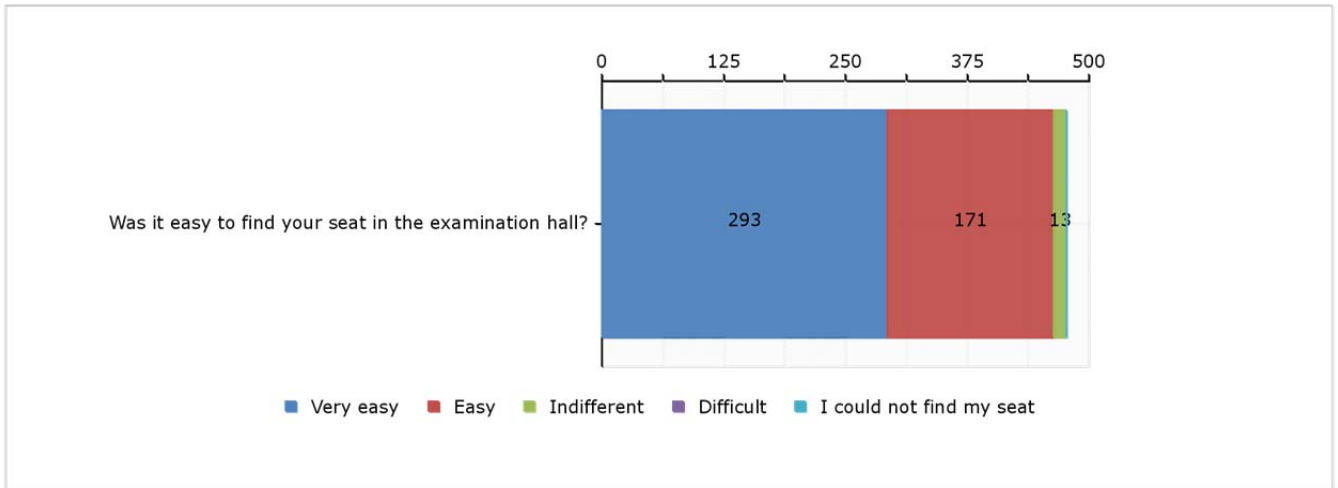
<i>there was this background noise for the ac and some construction noise that was distracting at some point. location of the examination hall was very convenient. the size of the tables was very nice and the number of people in the examination room very adequate. the mic was not working that well and as my appointed seat was located at the back of the room, it was difficult to understand the instructions.</i>
<i>excellent conditions</i>
<i>the examination hall was nice, we had large tables to work on the exam, overall it was very nice, if i have to take other exams (depending upon the results this year) i would definitely prefer to come back to madrid to take the exam.</i>
<i>excellent choice of location and hotel.</i>
<i>noisy, children outside and washing machine-like noises</i>
<i>room was poorly insulated. temperature was cold-ish at the start of examination and definitely too warm by the time we finished.</i>
<i>poor light</i>
<i>it was located in a railwaystation so we could hear the trains.</i>
<i>this year we have made the exam in a bigger and more comfortable hall than in previous years</i>
<i>strong lights facing the candidates when not writing, harmful to the eyes</i>
<i>ok</i>
<i>the examination room is next to a strain station and the trains arriving and departing from there were heard on the room. moreover, noise and vibration from the train station were present.</i>
<i>we were above train rails, and trains were running on them, noise, vibrations,...</i>

1. 5 Munich (490 answers received)

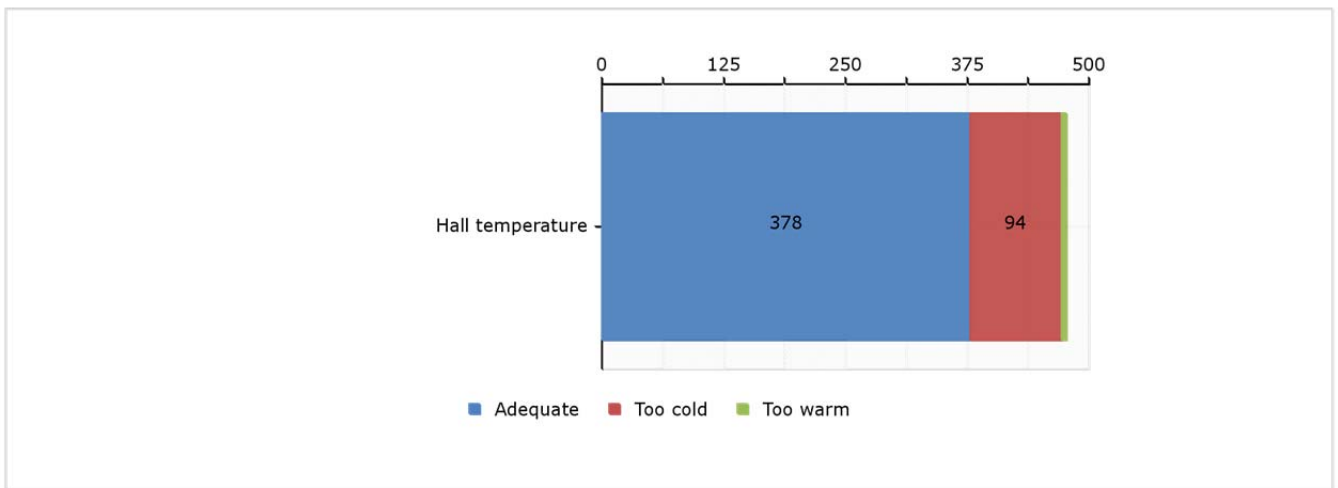
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating



Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

<i>the conditions were very good. if i need to find something to be critical about, i guess it could be a bit noisy at moments.</i>
<i>would be nice to have access to the hall earlier</i>
<i>in sum it is an adequate examination hall and the conditions are proper</i>
<i>not enough toilets</i>
<i>very draughty and loud due to people walking to/from the toilet</i>
<i>parking is rather expensive</i>
<i>a information at which time (not an exact point in time, a time period) the candidates can entry the hall would be great.</i>
<i>the overall temperature was to cold. the airconditioning produced a too cold flow (26.3.2019). i sat on place 72. it was a very long way to the rest rooms. it took too long to get there. there was only this one restroom (one for boys and one for girls) and at paper d the hall was quite full of participants. just bad and by far not adequate since the restrooms are quite small.</i>

<i>there is not very much further to say from my end. slight upside potential exists in space availability (to accommodate materials for the d paper, for example), and i lost a minute or two in waiting for a rest room.</i>
<i>i sat 2 exams, one seat i could not see the clock properly, please hang more clocks up fo easy viewing. towards the end of paper a it took longer to catch attention of invigilator to provide more paper, rather stressful as i just wanted to call out to get their attention, maybe it was just 10s but it felt like 10minutes.</i>
<i>large distance between restrooms and places</i>
<i>none</i>
<i>the accessibility of the moc by public transportation is not very good.</i>
<i>the individual space (table) is too small</i>
<i>tables could be a bit larger and hall a bit warmer</i>
<i>moc is a bit far to reach by public or private transportation means</i>
<i>holding an examination in winter requires more adequatly tempered examination halls. it was very cold inside the hall and i have seen many candidates writing in their coats and full cloathing.</i>
<i>good location</i>
<i>invigilators were „whispering“ quite loud and for an extended period of time during examination.</i>
<i>the number of toilets was not sufficient, the paper towels were empty half of the time and so was the soap.</i>
<i>the hall was very large and therefore a bit noisy and unsettled due to the large number of participants. the toilets were good but it was quite a long walk there.</i>
<i>conditions have been fine, taking into account the huge number of participants</i>
<i>more wall clocks would be useful.</i>
<i>the facilities at the moc are amazing. the temperature of the hall was perfect. the staff were also really helpful.</i>
<i>please make the exam computer based</i>
<i>ich war nun 5x im moc. jedes mal hab ich danach starke kopfschmerzen, mir ist leicht übel und ich bekomme eine halsentzündung und mir fällt die konzentration dort schwar. die ersten 3x male war ich drei tage hintereinander dort, jeden tag ging es mir etwas schlechter und während des c-teil musste ich mich dann sogar übergeben. auch heute sazte ich wieder mit halsschmerzen und kopfschmerzen zuhause. nun habe ich zwischenzeitlich auch schon die deutsche patentanwaltprüfung geschrieben, die ja auch zwei tage hintereinander viele stunden lang ist. diese probleme hatte ich da allerdings keineswegs und ich war danach uneingeschränkt fit. also an der prüfungssituation ansich sollte es nicht liegen.</i>
<i>some seats do not allow seeing the clocks due to columns etc blocking the view - it would be helptul to put the one or other extra clock e.g. near the vigilants table, esp given that digital wathces are not allowed and analog watches became rare...</i>
<i>not enough clocks and clocks are too far away; it was almost impossible to read the clock from my seat</i>
<i>lack of any food facility</i>
<i>parking is expensive, reachability by public transport not ideal</i>
<i>should be more and bigger wall clocks to see the time. from some seats you could not see the watch.</i>

<i>great organization! thanks!</i>
<i>it would be nice to have a few more options to sit down in front of the examination hall during the waiting phase in the morning.</i>
<i>moc: more clocks in the room would be great</i>
<i>too less space for working/exam too cold/bad room temperature conditions</i>
<i>the invigilators were very friendly which contributes to a positive atmosphere.</i>
<i>everything was ok. i would not change the venue.</i>
<i>tisch war leider sehr wacklig. insbesondere für die eqe, bei der sehr viel zu schreiben ist, erscheint mir dieser umstand nicht tragbar.</i>
<i>there was no toilet tissue in the mens toilets inside the examination hall on 27/2/2018.</i>
<i>when i got there, i was unsure of the procedure for entering the actual examination hall. it would be helpful to put up signs saying we will open the doors at ... oclock and then you may enter.</i>
<i>restrooms are far from some of the seats. temperature was too cold for long stay.</i>
<i>could not see clock from my place, i see that as a major drawback.</i>
<i>nothing to complain about; the hall was pleasant</i>
<i>it would be better the opening of the venue have been a bit earlier. the entrance hall was full of people and there were no space to sit down. the lighting was too dark at least for me. the intervals between the tables seemed a bit narrow, and some candidates were struggling with putting their big suitcases.</i>
<i>a good view of one of the clocks in the hall from all seats would be nice.</i>
<i>i could not see the clock from my seat. luckily i had an analogue watch, but another candidate in the same position might not be so fortunate. timing is very important in these exams.</i>
<i>provide clocks in the middle of the hall, for instance on some pillars. clocks on the sidewalls of the hall are too far to be easily seen if you sit in the middle of the hall</i>
<i>it will be useful if more wall clocks were present in the hall, e.g. at some pillars of the building</i>
<i>i would say that the room temperature was about 1° to 2° c too low; it was ok (for me, at least) in the beginning, but i was definitely feeling cold by the end of the exam.</i>
<i>due to the warm weather conditions the room temperature was absolutely ok</i>
<i>very droughty at the back and the metal plates inlaid into the floor make a very loud noise when people step onto them</i>
<i>there was a unpleasing draught, especially on the side opposite to the entry</i>
<i>clock couldt be seen from the rear right corner</i>
<i>it was difficult to see any clock to keep time under control</i>
<i>there are very few hotels in close vicinity to the moc</i>
<i>temperature ok, but weather was good. not sure if this would have been the same under bad weather conditions / a bit.more light would be ok</i>
<i>temperature of ground was very cold so that cold comes to the feet; there were screws in on the ground</i>
<i>since the hall is very big it is difficult to understand the announcements. additionally there should be more watches on the walls in order to watch the time. the one was very far away from my place and i did not have a watch with me.</i>
<i>cold</i>
<i>nothing else to add up. pretty comfortable.</i>

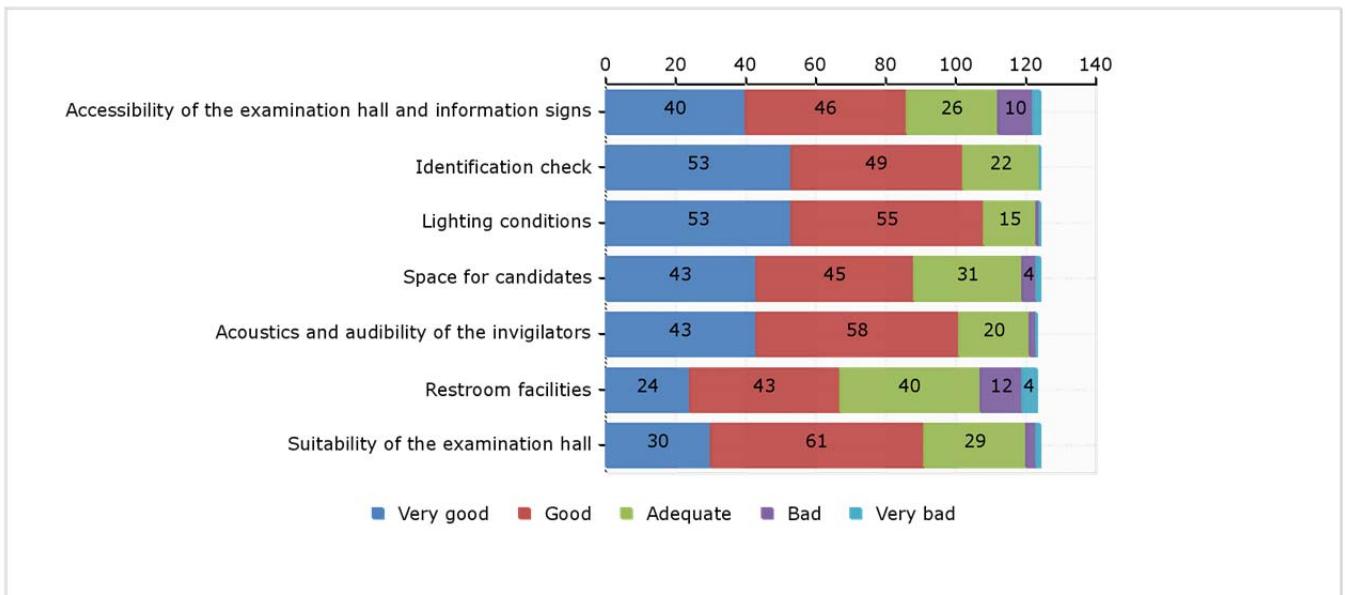
<i>there are clocks on the wall, which are most likely useless for most of the candidates as the time can only be read from certain angles. however, maybe one could also chime a halfway-through-signal after 2 hours additionally to the 10-min-left-signal.</i>
<i>i took the first time in uk but this time in munich. big difference is that in uk there is a big clock projected so that you dont have to bring a small watch. i brought a small watch anyway, but i was taken aback that there is no clock of any sort. munich was a lot better than uk exam venue in that you were free to go to toilet anytime you would like and there could be multiple people in the toilet because one of the invigilators was in there. in uk venue (eqe 2018), they wanted only one person at a time, which created a long waiting list. i had to take exam while raising my left hand for 10 minutes to signal that i wanted to use the toilet. the invigilator did not remember who raised hands first, so the actual usage order was unfair. this was why, in addition to temperature, i decided to take eqe 2019 in munich. so munich (eqe 2019) was a lot more sensible in terms of toilet situation and gave me peace of mind. desk size was comparable, but in munich candidates are a bit closer together than in uk venue. overall, i preferred munich venue a lot more than uk venue because the temperature was good and toilet situation was a lot better. i think i made a right choice and i think it affected the result quite a lot.</i>
<i>more clocks would be needed; they are not visible from some of the places.</i>
<i>no own wastepaper basket</i>
<i>all your question are not relevant for us</i>
<i>there should be more clocks in the hall</i>
<i>not enough clocks. i found it difficult to see a clock in the one exam as it was 90 degrees to me.</i>
<i>the supervisors are very nice, helpful, beautiful and handsome. :)</i>
<i>it is a pity that there is no catering or at least a possibility to get coffee at the moc.</i>
<i>es wäre schön, wenn es eine essensmöglichkeit, insbesondere in der mittagspause am mittwoch, geben würde. vielleicht könnte man einen kleinen lieferdienst engagieren, der snacks und getränke verkauft.</i>
<i>more space, especially bigger tables (+30% in wide) needed for fast access to high amount of legal backup documents, especially for paper d.</i>
<i>it was much better than i thought it would be. temperature was good, a little cold towards the end of the examination.</i>
<i>bitte den prüfungstermin in den monat april verlegen</i>
<i>traffic condition is bad, hard to catch a taxi</i>
<i>there was no wall clock which could be seen from my seat.</i>
<i>it is not very vital but since my seat was at the rear end of the hall, it was rather hard to see the clocks as i am shortsighted. it would have been better if the number of clocks were higher and better distributed inside the hall.</i>
<i>i'd prefer if the chairs were higher (or the tables a little lower).</i>
<i>tables were a bit shaky and moved during writing</i>
<i>it was hard to find the right hall in the moc, there is a lot of buildings. from the u-bahn it was a bit of a problem to find it.</i>
<i>clocks were difficult to see from some seats. but since digital devices are increasingly common and not allowed, providing the time is increasingly important.</i>
<i>unfortunately, the clock was not visible from my seat.</i>

<i>at paper b the air was quite sticky at the back seats... (after a)</i>
<i>clocks were hangign too far away. without classes impossible to read time</i>
<i>examination conditions must be improved as soon as possible. usage of electronical devices should be allowed. every year, articles, rules or guidelines are updated. it is very difficult for us to obtain the latest version of them every year. additionally for the persons coming from the other countries have to carry too heavy luggage for a three or less day.</i>
<i>in the hall there was a strong cold draught, especially on the side opposite to the entrance.</i>
<i>wall clocks are few and not clearly visible from all candidate desks. if electronic devices are not allowed, allowance should be made for candidates not having a mechanical watch, and the number and visibility of the clocks increased.</i>
<i>it was appropriate for examination purposes</i>
<i>-</i>
<i>too much traffic at the restrooms</i>
<i>was cold. wish to have a but more room between candidates.</i>
<i>poor visibility for clock (although it is always mentioned it is something to improve anyway). i believe that temperature was adequate because the outside temperature in munich was surprisingly high (+15°C) - i cannot imagine how it would look like if it was below zero outside. restrooms were quite far from the desk.</i>
<i>clock not (clearly) visible at all sitting places, one needs to have its own watch</i>
<i>clock(s) not visible from everywhere</i>
<i>much too cold. i did not put of my jacked an i had warm wool socks and still cold feet an i mist a cup of hot tea to warm my fingers... it is a long way to the restrooms.</i>
<i>like last year at the pre-exam, the hall temperature was a little bit cold. it is ok when you know it, you bring an extra layer of clothes but it will be worth to mention it beforehand.</i>
<i>toilets are crowded even during the examination and after a while it starts to smell - not a very nice experience during the exam. apart from that the moc is an excellent environment for this exam.</i>
<i>perfect location, close to public transportation u6 kieferngarten or freimann</i>
<i>from my point of view, all in all very good conditions.</i>
<i>maybe it would be better to have several small halls instead of one big hall.</i>
<i>maybe it is better to have several small room instrad of a large hall.</i>
<i>am donnerstag während teil c hat das waschbecken zumindest zeitweise nicht funktioniert. größte tische und mehr platz zwischen den tischen wäre gut.</i>
<i>a place to buy a bottle of water or a snack before the exam - would have been nice :-) maybe a business idea...</i>
<i>toilets ran low on paper. air became rather stale during part d.</i>
<i>some noisy was coming from wc. i think the floor was making noise when people walk on it.</i>
<i>using public transport means about 700 m must be walked.</i>
<i>long distance to the restrooms for many participants due to large exemination hall</i>
<i>clocks were not visible.</i>
<i>desks are a bit small</i>
<i>temperature was ok but the weather was also very good at that time working area could have been a bit larger</i>
<i>m.o.c. is in a very inconvenient location - a nightmare to get to with public transport.</i>

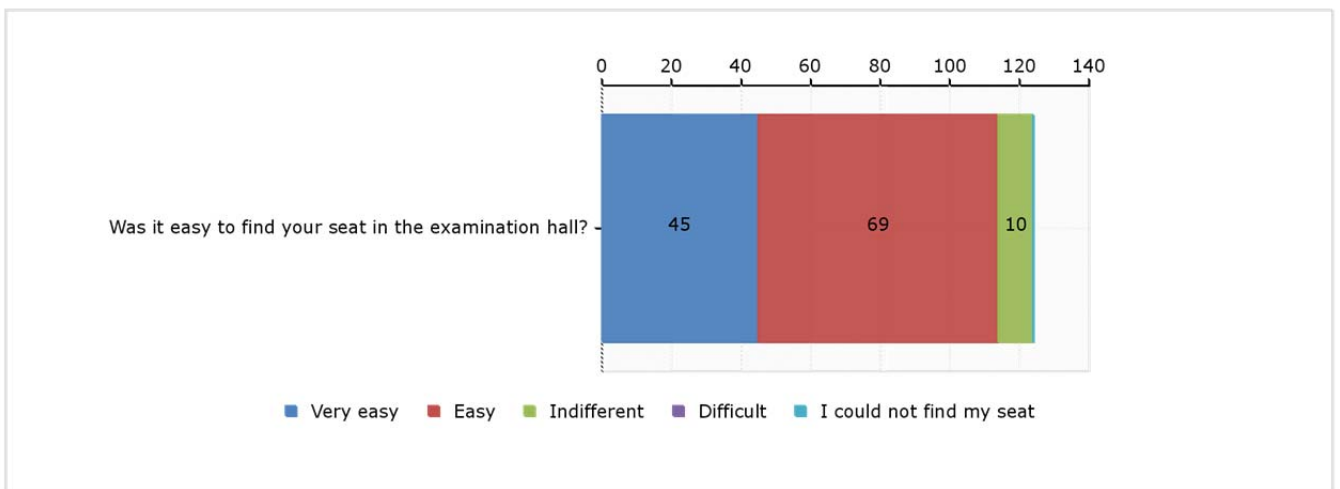
<i>wie jedes jahr war die halle wiedereinmal recht kalt - überraschung! da man das weiss, kann man sich entsprechend vorbereiten. meine finger waren am ende kalt. die halle ist zudem recht laut, ständig wird gekruscht, gehustet, mit stühlen gerutscht, etc. auch hier keine überraschung. ohrenstöpsel sind ein muss.</i>
<i>there should be more clocks in easily viewed locations around the hall.</i>
<i>room temperature was adequate but the floor temperature (no carpets under the tables) was very cold. room an table were adequate and sufficient.</i>
<i>some questions are not clear enough, everything was perfect with the hall and its conditions.</i>
<i>during paper d i was very.cold leading to illness with headaches etc during paper c</i>
<i>too far from the subway, you should take heavy suitcase</i>
<i>hall temperature during paper d too warm, during paper c adequate</i>
<i>the lighting could have been better. it was a bit too dark.</i>
<i>the access to coffee would be great. also, if there could be kind of emergency childcare which gives the possibility to bring children to the exams. nobody would like that, but it can always happen, that in short term nobody at home is available to take care of the children and to be not able to write the exams because of that would be hard</i>
<i>much too cold!</i>
<i>it would be good to have some extra clocks in the hall, such that everyone is able to check the time.</i>
<i>i would like to add a comment on the subjects of temperature and spaces between desks. despite the weather in munich is quite well this year, the last half an hour was cold for me. secondly, i know that there are nearly 500 participants in the munich moc, however desks are too close to each other. the problem is about a need to find a place for the big bags and even luggages. thirdly, most of the candidates arrive early to the exam center not to be late. in munich moc, there is no place for the candidates to have a sit. nevertheless, the exam and physical condisions are well organized. thanks for it!</i>
<i>ok</i>
<i>-there werent enough wall clocks, so that everyone could see one clearly. if the budget does not allow for more wall clocks, candidates should be allowed to use their usual watches. - i had a candidate next to me using a mechanical glueing/sticking device which made a very disturbing noise. other candidates several places away were also disturbed. there should be a restriction on sticking devices to pritt sticks which are more or less silent.</i>
<i>from some seats it is very difficult to see the clocks on the wall, and i really hope next time there can be more clocks in the room.</i>
<i>too cold for sitting over 5 hours in the hall</i>
<i>tabels too close to each other</i>
<i>a bit noisier than expected. however, the noise level appeared to be unavoidable (constant paper rustling).</i>
<i>the temperature seemed to be about 2°c too cold all in all. it was not that noticeable at the beginning of the exam, but i felt cold after about 3 hours.</i>

1. 6 Paris (127 answers received)

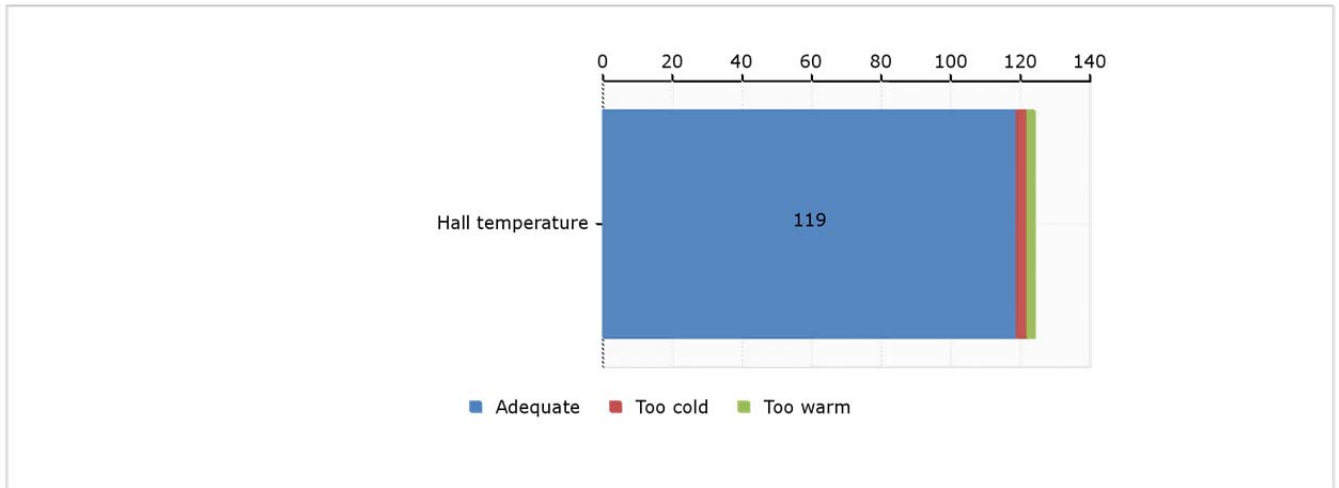
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating



Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

<i>paris place is horrible : located in a bad situation where there is no place to find good hotels nearby, neither restaurant or bakers for lunch.</i>
<i>would be better in paris than in saint-ouen</i>
<i>all my tables creaked when i was writing.</i>
<i>none</i>
<i>the hall, which is located outside of paris, is very difficult to access by public transportation</i>
<i>a center in paris or at least closer to the metro or tram would be better particularly for d</i>
<i>perfect with respect the numerous clocks provided</i>
<i>not really convenient for public transportation access + name has changed, no longer chateau-form</i>
<i>more clocks or bigger clocks or preferably big screens displaying a digital clock would be an improvement. i had to put my glasses on to read the time. the clock hands were quite small and i had to make some unnecessary efforts to read the clock.</i>
<i>le manque de propreté des toilettes est fâcheux !</i>
<i>a bit more space would have been helpful</i>
<i>saint-ouen is close to paris but its really not that accessible, especially if one is dragging a suitcase full of books. luckily there werent any traffic problems or difficulties with the métro for me.</i>
<i>the localisation in saint ouen is not the best...</i>
<i>despite being acceptable, the tables were not in a very good condition. mens restroom are poorly designed and at bit too small.</i>
<i>at least where i was seated, i could hear noise from the outside (in this case, children playing)</i>
<i>there were several wobbling tables.</i>
<i>far away from paris. public transports are bad and stressful to access the examination hall</i>
<i>saint ouen is not close to the main railway stations</i>
<i>a fair distance away of public transport</i>
<i>way to far from the closest metro station, in a very popular district of paris.</i>

i was seated next to the emergency exit leading to the outside. i dont know if there is a school or a nursery near from the examination center, but i heard voices from children shouting outside. i found it quite distracting.

no

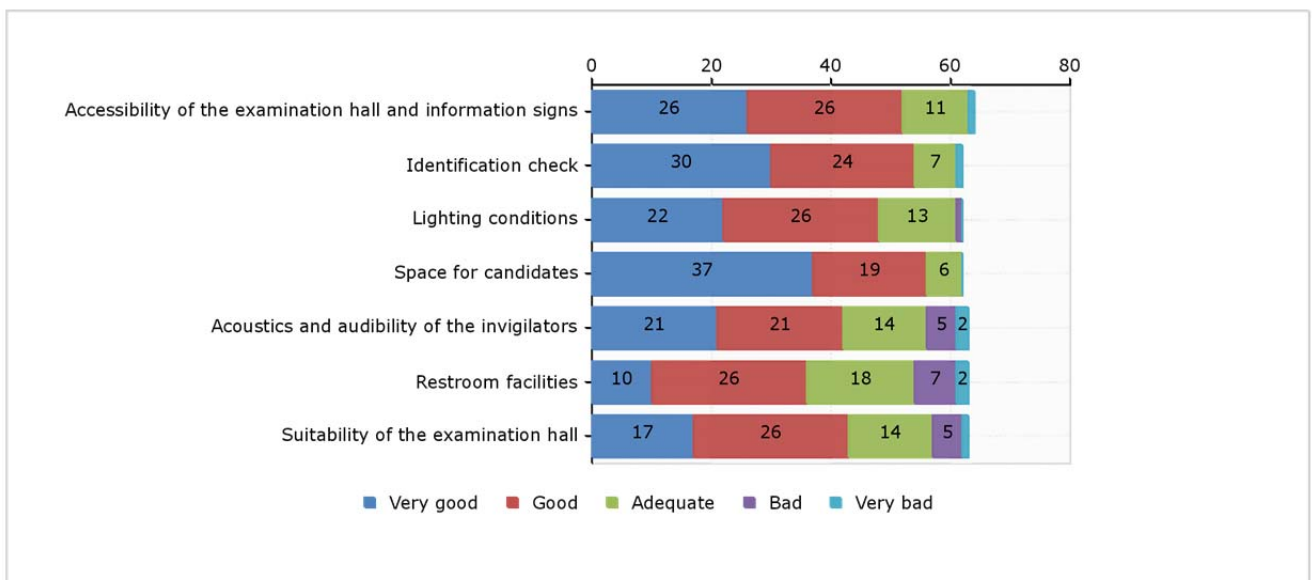
the location of the examination place is not convenient, as the transportations to get there are not reliable and crowded, it adds some unnecessary stress.

my main comment is that tables were very little. impossible to correctly organize and work on all documents with a little table

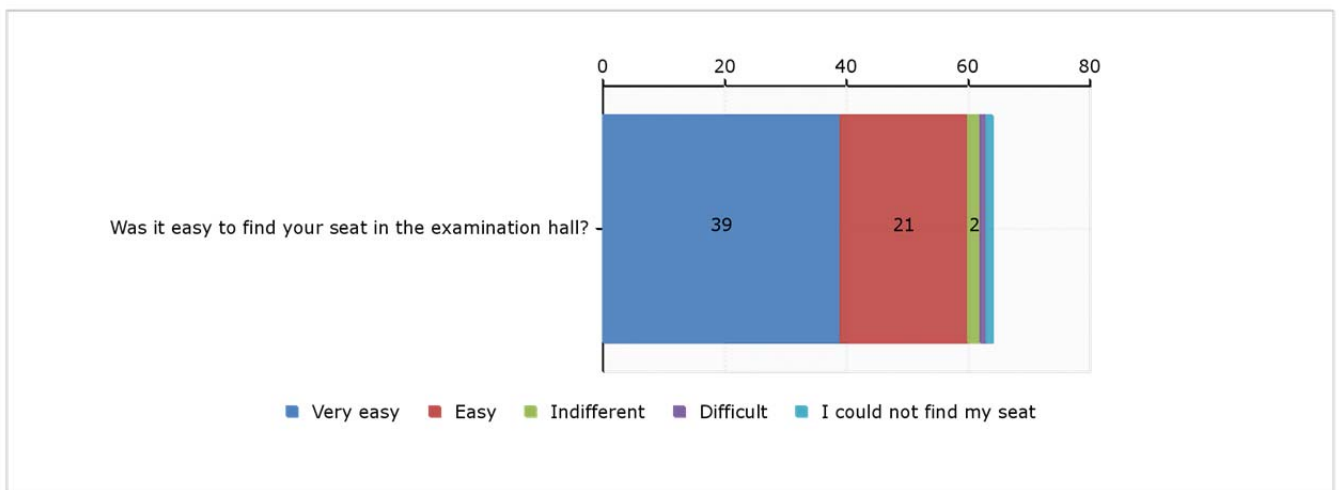
-noise outside -creaky tables

1. 7 Rome (64 answers received)

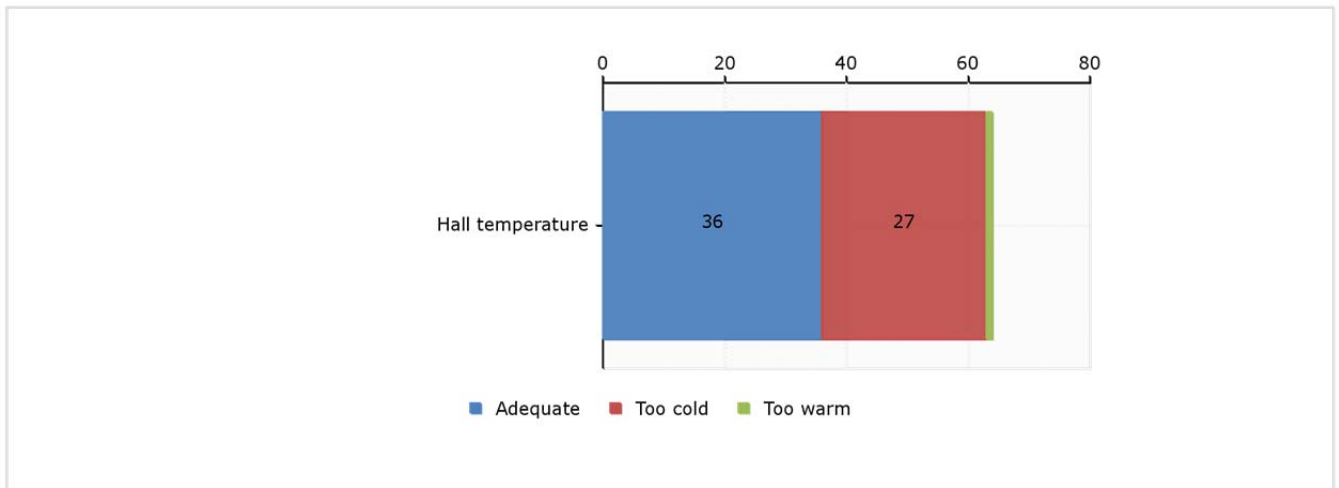
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating



Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

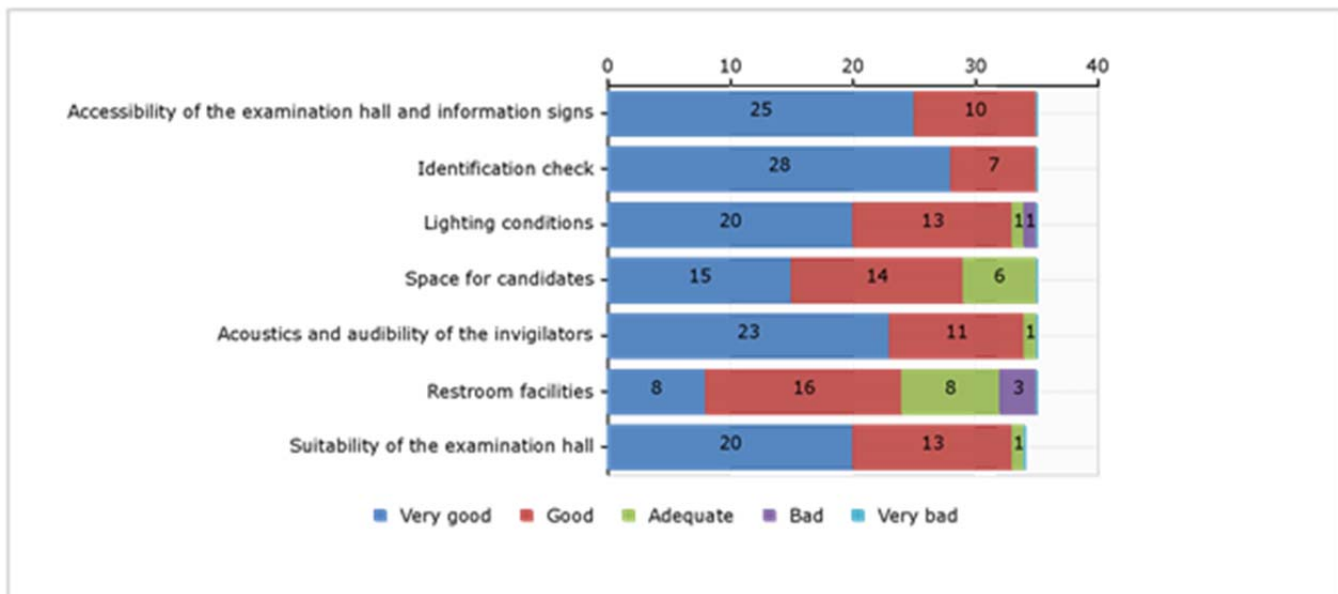
<i>the hall at the ground floor is appropriate for the exam</i>
<i>i could not find my sit because it did not have the number on it. i had to ask to the invigilators to know where to sit. apart from the above, the hall and its conditions were great.</i>
<i>very old and uncomfortable</i>
<i>availability of larger watches</i>
<i>front row seats not allowed to see clocks</i>
<i>at last an examination hall that is warm and it has a lighting system that works!!! it is a minor problem, but the surfaces of the tables have irregularities or other issues.</i>
<i>the sunlight getting in from the windows was annoying.</i>
<i>sala leptis hall, being located in the ground floor, is more accessible than sala pantheon hall where the exam have taken place in the last years. anyway, sala leptis hall should be warmer and no tables should be placed close to the windows as the comfort conditions are worse there with respect to the rest of the hall (sun can shine in the eyes of the candidates).</i>
<i>very confortable not to use stairs</i>
<i>the tablecloths were a little uncomfortable</i>
<i>practically impossible to check the clock.</i>
<i>there was too sunlight in the right part of the room. i was not involved directly.</i>
<i>this years room was better than the one used in the past years in terms of accessibility (no stairs) and light (windows and artificial illumination).</i>
<i>the hall provides sufficient room and it is silent. there has been certainly an improvement compared to the hall fo the previous years (no stairs, no cold). however, the tables closed to the windows were exposed to excessive sun light, because no curtains were available. some of the tables had to be moved onwards to avoid excessive light. this seems quite unfair.</i>
<i>i couldnt read the clocks inside the room, so please provide more visible clocks in the room.... (considering i cannot bring mine and that i need different glasses to write and to look a far away clock in the examination room). thanks</i>
<i>the hall at the ergife palace in rome is old, with no heating and with very old and not clean enough toilets. plus, the venue is not well enough connected and so far from the train stations.</i>

too cold.. no air conditioned room

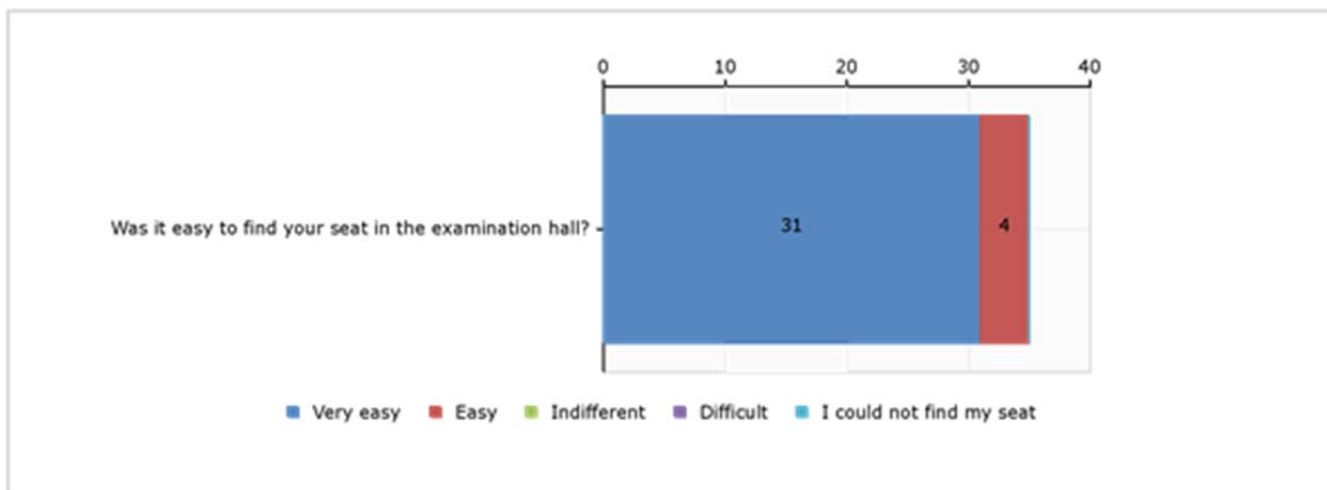
the examination hall is in a very old building, abandoned from years, could you find a best examination hall in italy?

1. 8 Stockholm (35 answers received)

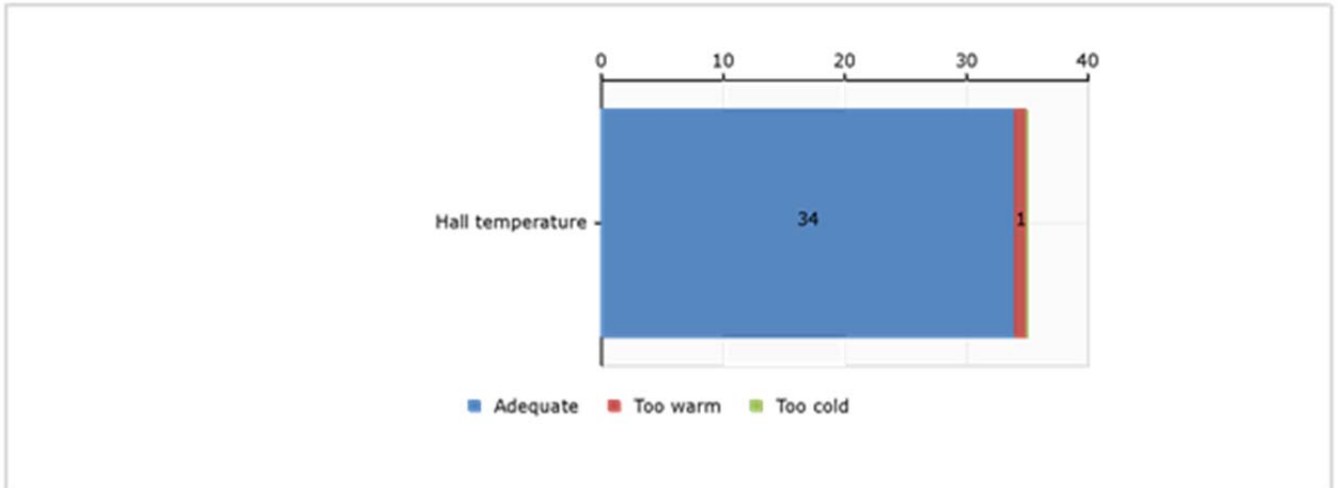
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating

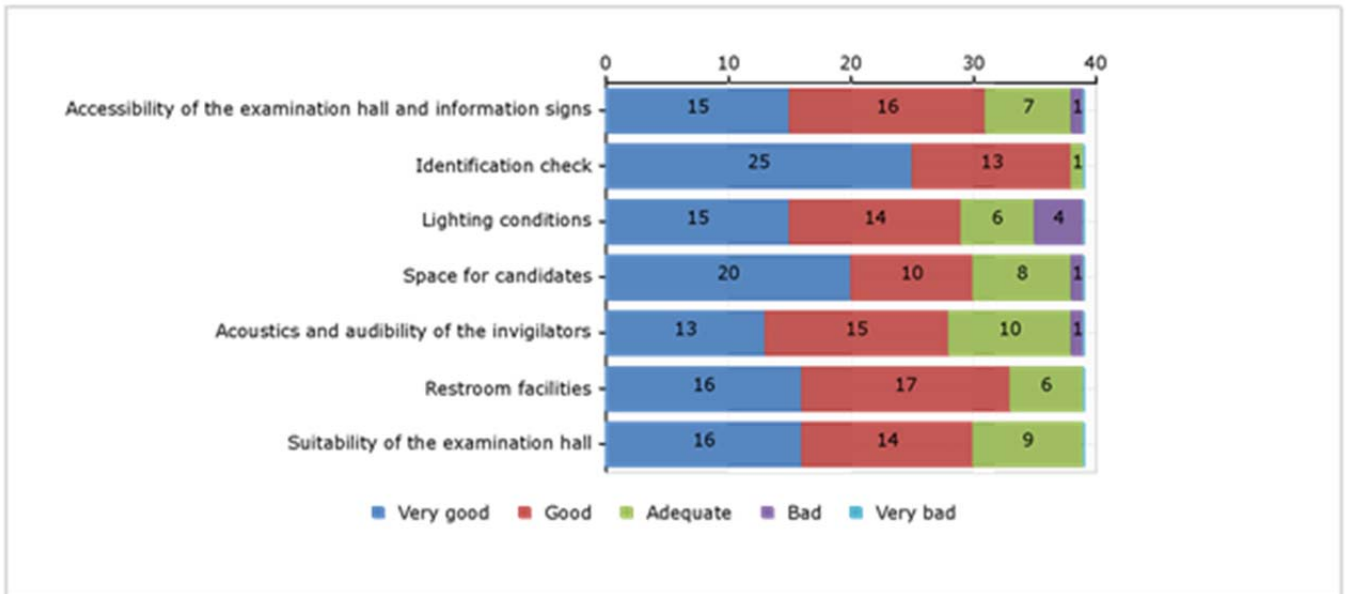


Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

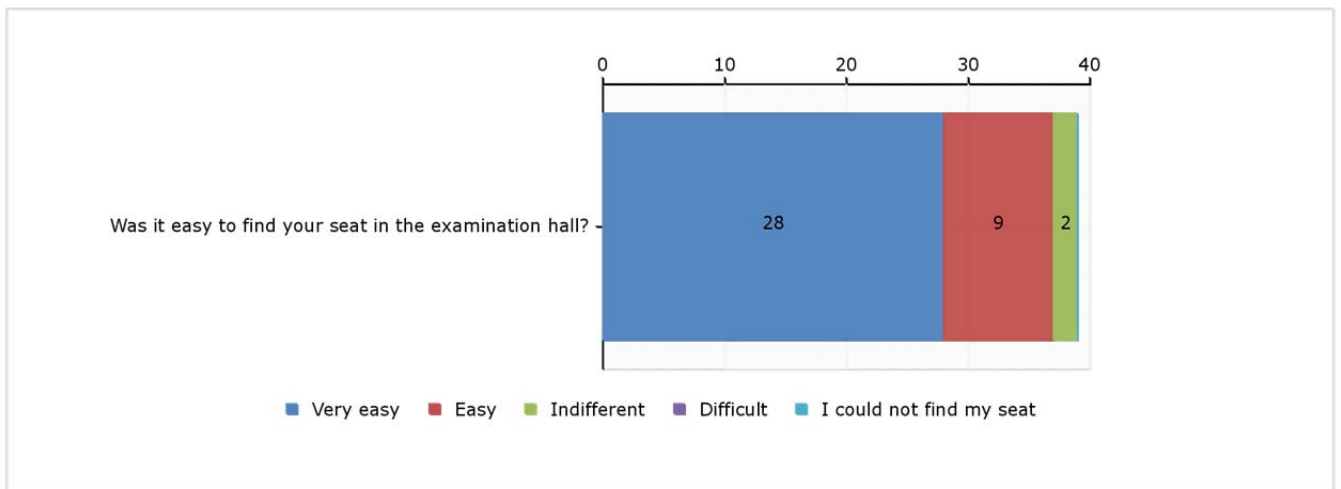
<i>maybe the table could be a little bit bigger, but it was ok.</i>
<i>compared to last year, the space between the table were very narrow and it was a bit more difficult to find a good way to pass by the others on your way to the restrooms without disturbing them to much.</i>
<i>no further comments</i>
<i>a bit to dark, especially towards the evening, the small lamps provided were...small.</i>
<i>kista had better parking facilities.</i>
<i>last day my seat was unnessesarily cramped due to amove of all tables forward (less candidates?), so i had a pillar just behind me. moved my desk to make sure one had enough space for elbows to write. hard to communicate need for paper first day - held up hand several times (1.5 minutes) to no avail. finally had to ask aloud for papers. all else good!!</i>
<i>i am overall very satisfied</i>
<i>an adquate examination hall. absolutely no need to change hall. keep it!</i>
<i>helpful staff</i>
<i>the quality of the air was not that good. never thought about it before, but this time it struck me that the air quality was bad. also, too few restrooms.</i>
<i>a previous workplace of mine, so no trouble finding it.</i>

1. 9 Taastrup (39 answers received)

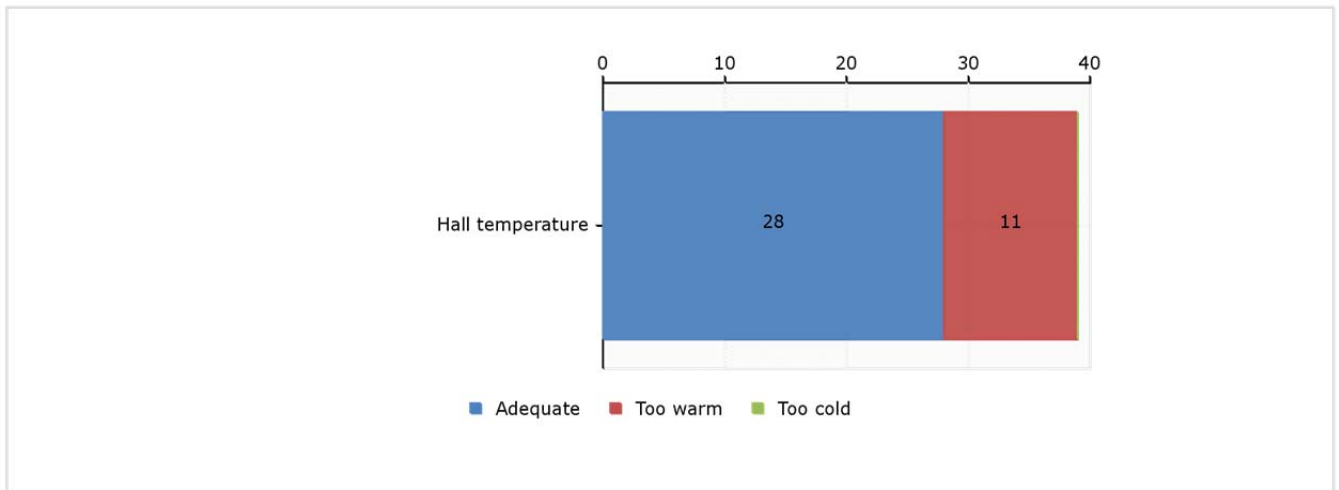
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating

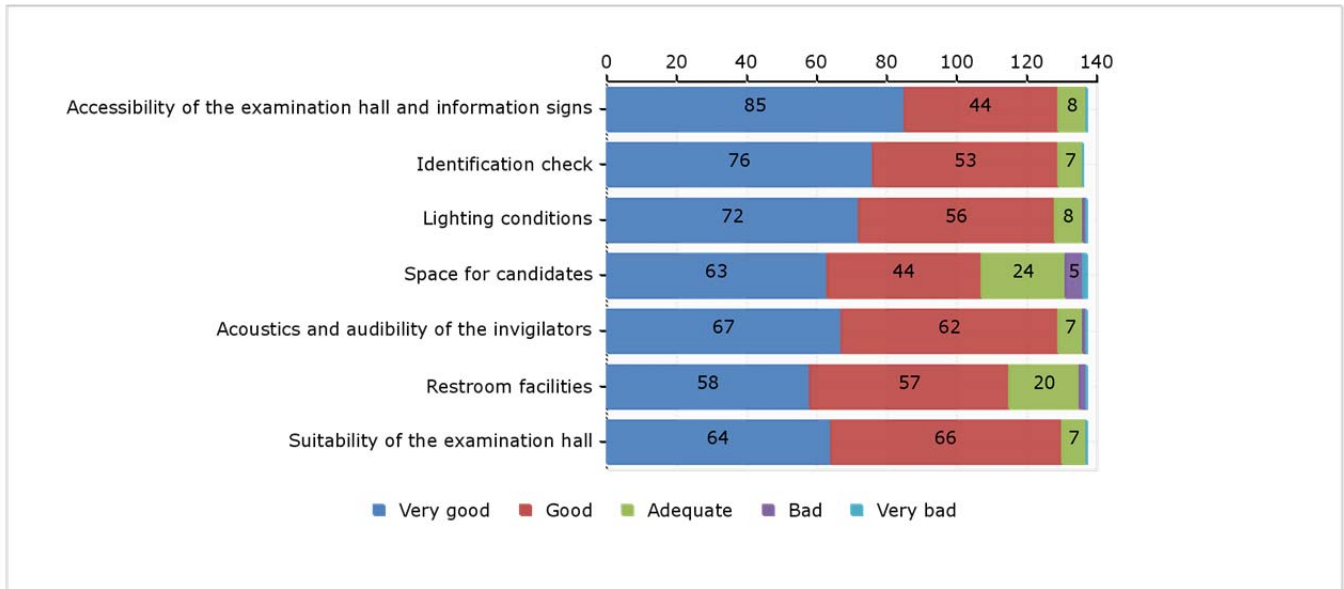


Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

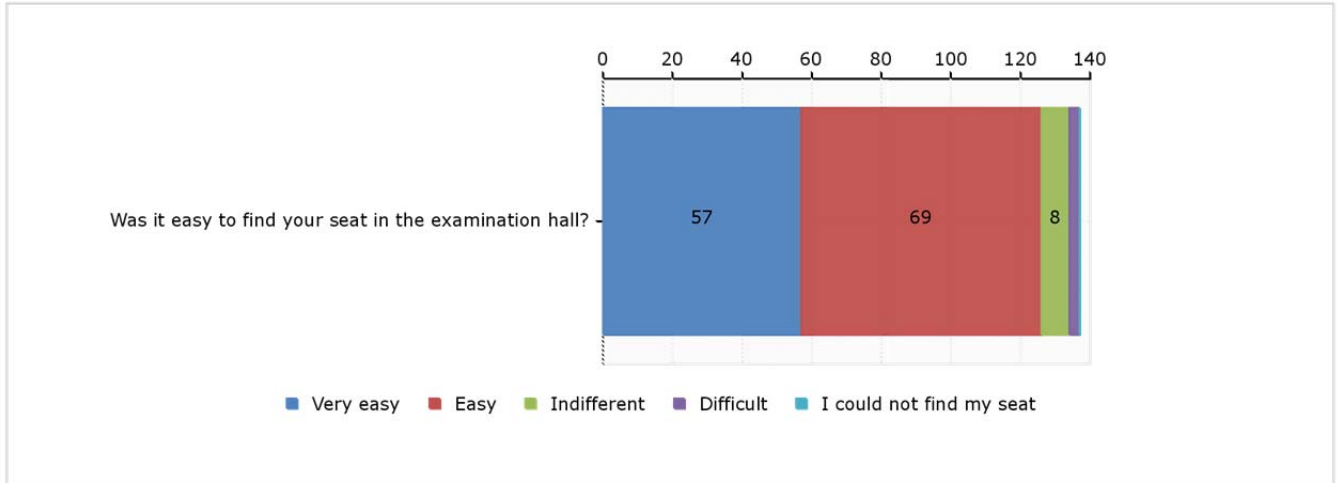
<i>sometimes you would get hit by a very warm ray of light, which would typically hit you in the head.</i>
<i>the tables are to small, it is difficult to have all papers and books on the table. the students needed to use the floor for some om the books.</i>
<i>friendly and helpful staff</i>
<i>i know that when the sun is shining the hall gets incredibly hot with almost no air. luckily it was overcast during the exam. also, i was seated close to one of the large windows which were covered with curtains in order to not let in the sun and more heat hence there were very little light. however, i was relocated to another seat, but maybe the wall seats shouldnt be allocated at all?</i>
<i>several clocks on the wall. most candidates could see a clock even though not everybody could see the official clock. the air may become a bit warm/stuffy if there are many candidates there, but the hall was aired prior to the pre-examination.</i>
<i>very helpful personel</i>
<i>it felt very inviting</i>
<i>very bad lightning conditions for those placed closest to the windows. please do not put desks here next year.</i>
<i>very nice conditions, friendly staff</i>
<i>remote location</i>
<i>it is not pleasant to sit next to candidate who eats salami for lunch, it stinks</i>
<i>its a very good hall. however the possibility to look at an accurate clock from each table would make it even better.</i>
<i>to much sunlight and to little fresh air.</i>

1.10 The Hague (139 answers received)

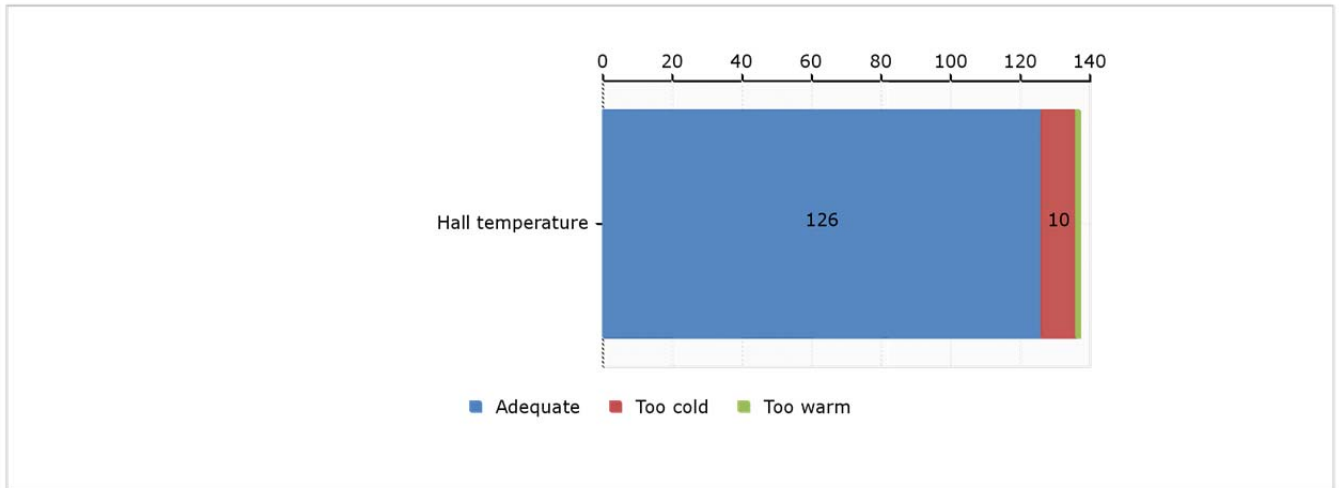
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating



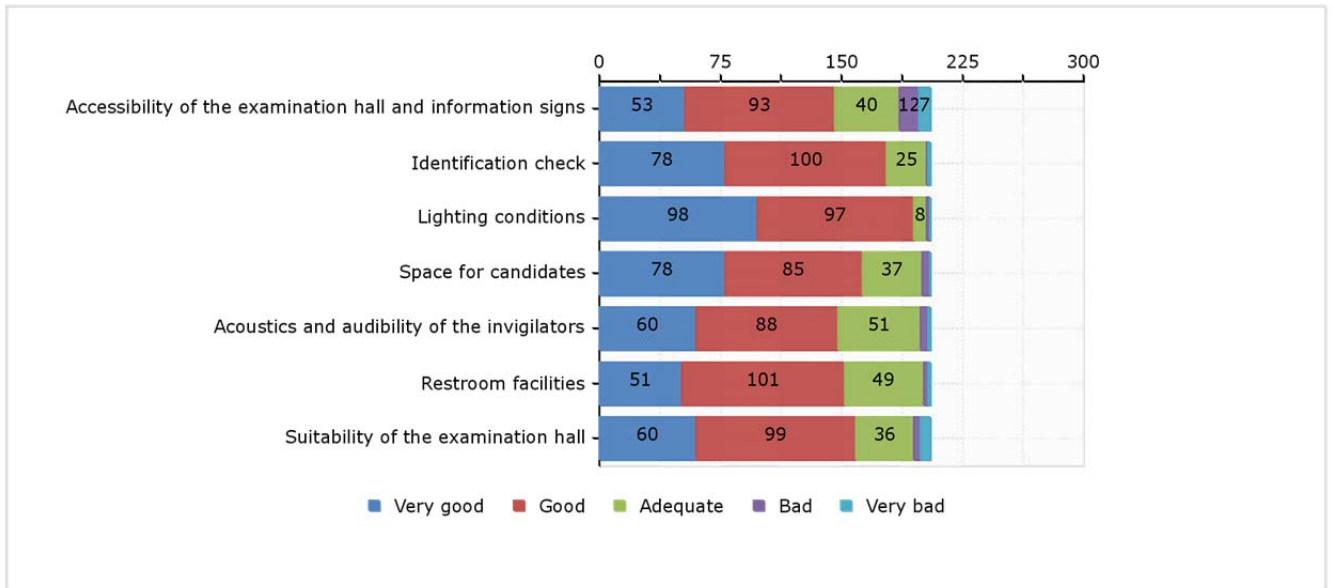
Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

<i>is it possible to provide earplugs for the candidates? furthermore, the toilets are quite far away from the examination hall</i>
<i>in the hague, especially the tables in the middle part are too small people need to be able to spread out their material</i>
<i>ras</i>
<i>in the circular seating section, on the outermost rings, the candidates are seated too close together.</i>
<i>no comments</i>
<i>they use the door the furthes away from the toilets let let people in and out during the exam, why not the door next to the toilets?</i>
<i>would be preferred if the hall could open earlier.</i>
<i>please, especially on paper c, please make sure that candidates have decent amount of space. on paper c, seats 83-89 were squeezed whereas the row in front had plenty of space between candidates.</i>
<i>the hague is a great venue. there is a lot of space on the tables, the room temperature is perfect an devrything is well organized! in addition hotels are in walking distance which avoids any last minute stress. there seems also to always be seats available so if you choose this venue there is a likelihood that your first choice will be respected.</i>
<i>there was thankfully enough space in between candidates and in between seating to walk and almost totally avoid disturbing each other</i>
<i>i was happy with all conditions and circumstances.</i>
<i>light was poor with different sources creating shadows which made it difficult to handwrite properly.</i>
<i>space was generally ok, but for one paper i had a small table in the centre which was not good even the floor space where i put my paperwork had an active airvent which was unhelpful. additionally, the table was too high and the seat too low making it difficult to aquire a comfortable writing position (for 5 1/2 hours). could live with the seat, but not the table height as well.</i>
<i>i found the movements of other candidates who needed (frequent) toiletbreaks quite disruptive despite wearing good earplugs. i felt it through the floor/table. maybe this is more a complaint towards the stomping of the other candidates than the examination room, but it was annoying they all had to pass my desk</i>
<i>light comes from above, in certain positions you cast a shadow with your head. restrooms rather far. good and clearly visible digital clocks (even without glasses).</i>

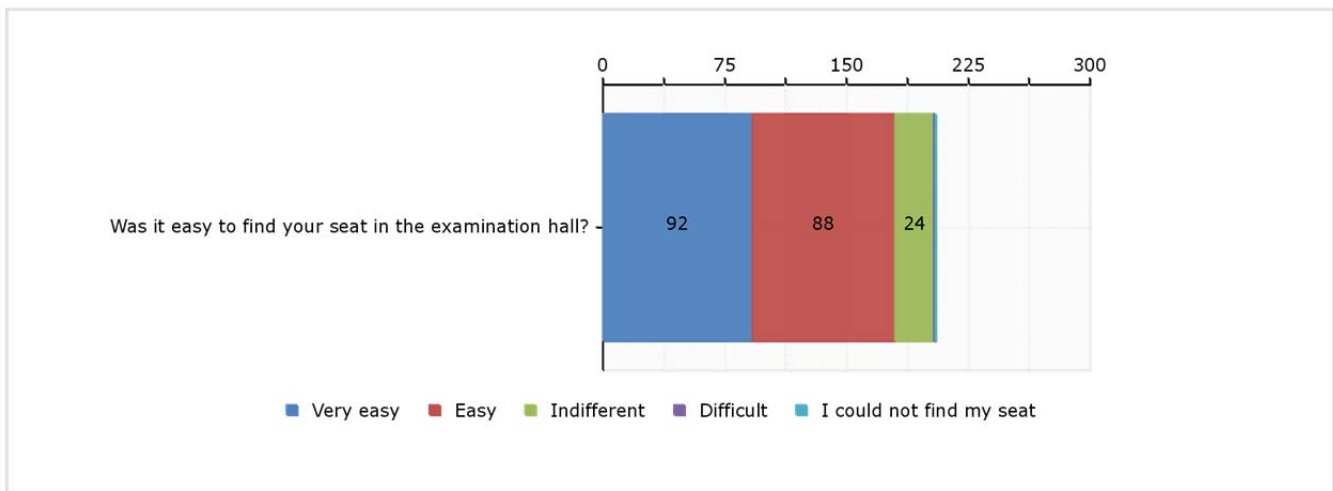
<i>best positions was in the ring around the center, because more space. the separate tables in the center were compared thereto a bit small. espically for c and d this may make a competitive difference between candidates, because space to organize stuff is relevant.</i>
<i>it is congested when one sits at one of the middle (not in the ring) seats. more clocks would be nice.</i>
<i>i had one of the tables in the middle, that was a bit more spaceous than the tables more in the back</i>
<i>optimal conditions</i>
<i>it would have been helpful to have a sitting scheme, with the numbers, before entering the room</i>
<i>very thoroughly and well prepared exam room with sufficient spacing between the candidates. the availability of a clock was also very convenient. im very satisfied about the hall and its conditions.</i>
<i>i noticed that some candidates had relatively less space, i.e. some stand-alone desks.</i>
<i>it is at least my perception that the tables in the middle of the auditorium are having less space to spread all your papers over and sitting on the sides feels more comfortable in general, but that is highly subjective i guess.</i>
<i>tables in the middle are really too small for some papers</i>
<i>as always in rijswijk, light is too weak. a bit more light would make it more comfortable</i>
<i>clock good visible from almost seats</i>
<i>not enough space to put your papers</i>
<i>perfect... no need to make it any better!</i>
<i>much better temperature and lightning conditions. furthermore very relaxed atmosphere.</i>
<i>the hague 2019 was a revelation in comfort and organization.</i>
<i>some spots are behind the invogilators, and therefore barely visible to them. this raises issues when one wants to ask a question.</i>
<i>more space for the candidates, as you can be easily disturbed by the neighbours, especially if they are nervous or under exam pressure.</i>

1. 11 Walsall (208 answers received)

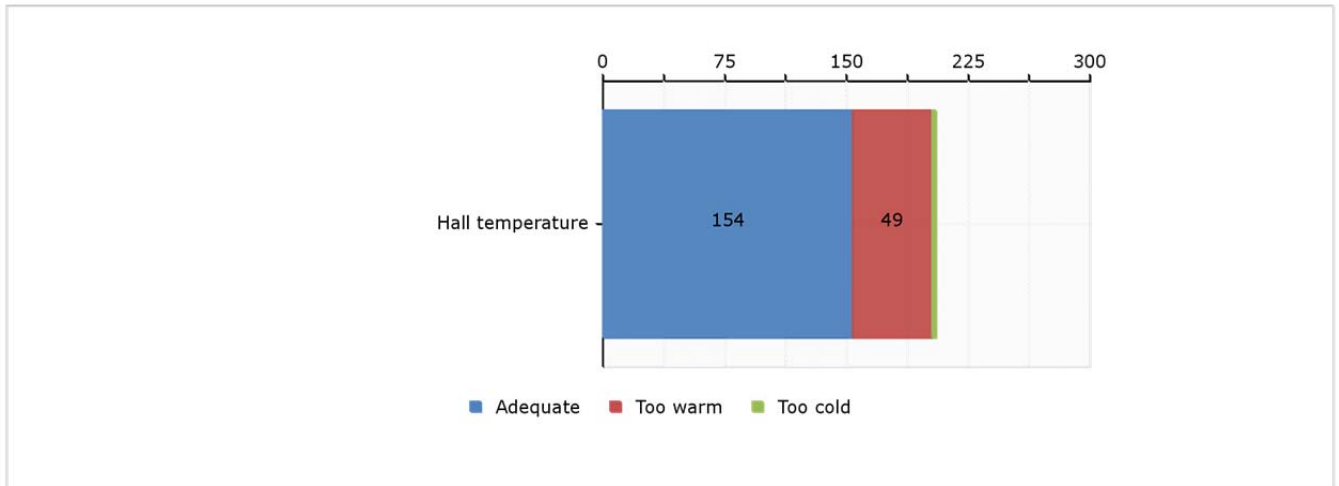
Q3) Examination centres – rating



Q4) Examination centres – rating



Q5) Examination centres – rating



Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

<i>good venue, easy to get to.</i>
<i>very warm in there</i>
<i>desks are too small considering the number of documents needed to be organised particularly for paper c</i>
<i>all fine - would recommend for use again</i>
<i>the location of the venue is not great. whilst i am happy to travel to the exam venue, the facilities (hotels, food outlets, shops etc.) nearby are very limited. being there for a few days without access to a car, its not particularly comfortable, and also rather crowded with an exam hall full of people trying to all get their meals in the only place in the area.</i>
<i>much too warm... (probably by 2-3 degrees c)</i>
<i>on one occasion i was sat directly under the heater, this was too warm.</i>
<i>examination hall was fine, space on desks was good, temperature was acceptable. i was in the first room in the walsall location.</i>
<i>more space between desks would have been appreciated</i>
<i>we were not allowed into the building until quite close to the time of the exam. this was annoying because i arrived by train, quite early to be sure of not being late, and the station does not have toilets. if it had been bad weather it would have been even more annoying.</i>
<i>desks were spaced rather too close together in walsall in one of the rooms. you could practically read the other persons exam scripts. im not sure its quite big enough.</i>
<i>walsall is not a transport hub, and the examination hall itself had only one hotel directly nearby. coming from aberdeen, i found travelling to walsall to be costly, long and inconvenient - not good when you have to sit an exam after this particularly long journey, with many legs. a location with an airport and more hotels would be beneficial. we were only required to even enter the examination venue about 15 minutes before the exam started. if you were early there was no waiting area or place to sit, which is quite disconcerting before sitting an exam. in addition, i had to go to the airport straight after the exam which meant that i had to have my electronic devices in my suitcase, as they could not be left anywhere. i enquired in advance about leaving my suitcase in another room (outside of the examination hall, for obvious reasons) and when i arrived this had not been set up. when leaving (in a rush, to catch my flight) the room that my suitcase had been stored in was locked and there was no attendant. better facilities for travelling candidates are required, especially if the exam is to be held in such an inconvenient location.</i>
<i>tricky location to get to if you dont have access to a car.</i>

<i>document checking could have been more streamlined by not having the bottleneck at the first room just to be sent to the second room. perhaps multiple entrances could be used? would have been useful to have electronic device envelopes dropped off at candidates desks ~5 mins before the end in order to streamline exiting the exam hall</i>
<i>not an ideal location</i>
<i>all good</i>
<i>the toilet door (at the front left of the first exam hall in walsall) made a noise when it slammed shut, which meant whenever someone went to the toilet it was very distracting.</i>
<i>the hall was sometimes too hot and sometimes too cold, it didn't seem to be a consistent temperature.</i>
<i>walsall was warm enough this year and the heater noise seemed reduced compared to last year.</i>
<i>the hall was good. my only minor complaint is that the table i was on squeaked when i was writing. this was a little annoying.</i>
<i>whilst ok this year, i feel that if the weather had been similar to 2018, i.e. -7oc, then due to the large rooms and high ceilings this venue would have been very difficult to heat to an adequate temperature</i>
<i>limited accommodation nearby</i>
<i>i was incredibly warm when i was sat on the front row for paper d. i had to ask for the heaters to be turned off 3 times before the invigilators did anything. as soon as they turned them off, the temperature was fine. i drank a lot of water due to the heat and subsequently needed several toilet breaks, which wasted time. there should be lifts/ramp access to the hall - carrying our suitcases of heavy books up a long flight of stairs is not ideal, especially before an exam.</i>
<i>the examination hall and its conditions were fine; its just the location that is an issue.</i>
<i>its in walsall...</i>
<i>why is it in walsall?</i>
<i>examination hall is in a very poor location with bad transport connections. walsall is an awful place to have an exam, and the places to stay nearby are also of bad quality. would make much more sense to have the exam take place in london where the majority of candidates can access the venue easily, and candidates from other locations in the country can easily access london due to good transport links.</i>
<i>good desk size/amount of space. good temperature and facilities</i>
<i>temperature was perfect this year. desks may have been slightly too close together.</i>
<i>fine, quite hot because it was a mild day but rather too hot than too cold for working</i>
<i>desks a bit close for paper c, but generally fine</i>
<i>the examination was split over two halls. the second hall was not signposted and so there was a delay in finding my seat.</i>
<i>very hot, stairs to exam hall difficult with heavy bag full of books. other than that it was great - the big clock is good!</i>
<i>access to the walsall examination hall is via a long flight of stairs - inconvenient with a heavy suitcase full of ege texts!</i>
<i>would be nice to have an examination centre in london or at least more proximal to a major train line (i.e. birmingham city centre instead of walsall).</i>
<i>i was pressured by an examiner to hand my script in at 14.04pm whilst i was double checking that no pages had gotten mixed up with the rest of my paperwork. the examiner seemed to think he was being generous by allocating me 30 seconds to finish checking. every year there is a candidate who walks out with one of their answer pages, so in an open book exam lasting 5.5 hours it seems reasonable to take 5 or 6 minutes to double and triple check that none of your answer pages are under any other paperwork.</i>

<i>examination hall was slightly too warm, possibly due to the unlikely heatwave in the uk this february.</i>
<i>lighting was adequate but would be better slightly brighter.</i>
<i>more signs pointing to the entrance would be better. walsall is the wrong place to hold the uk exams - they should be in london where the bulk of the profession is. the uk exams are held there every year without significant problems.</i>
<i>upstairs - not sure if lift at venue, but may have been hard for access to less mobile candidates.</i>
<i>examination hall itself was fine, but location is bad. it would be much better if the uk venue was in a large city such a london where the majority of candidates are based.</i>
<i>walsall is too far to travel for most of the uk candidates and the time and preparation required for that could be removed if the test site was in central london. externally, it was not easy to determine where the entrance to the exam hall was- there was no signage. it was up a flight of stairs where we have to carry our luggage. once inside the exam hall, the candidates were split into 2 groups - for the second group, it was not obvious on entry that we have to walk down an additional corridor- no signage. the handing in of mobiles seemed to work fine on the day. the clocks were great. the restrooms great. staff very helpful.</i>
<i>too warm on wednesday, then too cold on thursday (presumably in response to complaints on wednesday)</i>
<i>the venue was good but a bit too far for the travel purposes.</i>
<i>there is only a set of stairs which needs to be climbed with all your books in order to get to the examination room(s). it would be better if there were a lift as the books i brought in were very heavy and i struggled to get up the stairs with them.</i>
<i>the location is very impractical - it is difficult to get to from any part of the uk, and there is only one hotel immediately next to the venue when cannot accommodate all candidates. it would make much more sense to hold the exam in a larger city with better transport connections.</i>
<i>i thought the examination venue was excellent. the temperature was perfect, and the general facilities/ parking/ accessibility were fantastic.</i>
<i>no issues with the hall. heard a lot of horror stories about previous years so was pretty pleased.</i>
<i>please allow the examination to be sat in london. this is where the vast majority of uk attorneys live and practice.</i>
<i>much improved temperature-wise since the previous year! noise levels were very low and there were no problems.</i>
<i>the hotel associated with this examination center interrupted my sleep for roughly two hours due to a fire alarm. consequently this put the people staying there at an unfair disadvantage.</i>
<i>sign posts to the entrance were not provided, resulting in walking around the whole stadium to find the correct door.</i>
<i>only drawback to the hall is that is isnt really near anything (so cant, for example, go get lunch between exams, or find a place to relax before/after a paper without driving)</i>
<i>seeing as most attorneys work in london, i would prefer that the exam take place in london. there are many exam halls available, such as kensington olympia, for example. other exam halls across europe seem to be located in major cities where many attorneys work. however, no attorneys work in walsall. apart from the location, the conditions of the exam hall were good.</i>
<i>the examination hall was extremely warm at the beginning of the exam. this is because it was a warm day and the heating was on. after requesting that the heaters were turned off the examination hall cooled down although towards the end it was slightly cold.</i>
<i>there are 2 halls at the walsall centre: the one at which you arrive at first is better than the other. firstly, the other hall required additional (portable) heating devices, and if the outside temperature had been much colder, such heating may have not have been enough, as it was the case last year. however, this year the hall temperature was fine. secondly, the other hall has only one toilet area, and to get to it, everyone had to squeeze past the candidates seated next to the toilets. i was one of these, and at one point there was a constant stream of people walking by me, and this was very distracting. a wider access area at that location would help.</i>
<i>the exam hall is not centrally or conveniently located.</i>

the examination hall overall is good. however, it is unfortunate that there is no lift, as it means that we all had to carry our heavy suitcases full of books up the stairs. similarly, bescot stadium station also has no step free access.

some of the heaters were very loud and distracting during the exam.

the outside temperature was 25c warmer than in 2018. this helped with the level of comfort in the exam hall.

the exam should be held closer to london or at the very least closer to central birmingham. the local trains to bescot stadium only run once an hour and in my case had a man smoking spice sat in the corner of the carriage. a hotel nearby was recommended. this hotel was not great, and was full of teenagers. one of whom decided to break the smoke alarm in their room and smoke a spliff at 4am therefore waking up all the pre-eqe candidates staying over... this happened three times!!! this was annoying but i didnt feel too perturbed as i was only sitting the pre-eqe, but if i were sitting the harder eqes then the conditions would have affected my performance much more. the exam hall itself was fine and comfortable, as i was wearing lots of layers after reading previous comments. the desks were a bit close (anyone could have cheated very easily). the stairs wouldnt be suitable for someone with mobility issues.

the stairs to the exam hall in the stadium is a real problem. suitcases containing a large number of books (all of the recommended texts for paper d, so this is a necessity) weighs an enormous amount - far more than any worker legally would be allowed to carry according to guidelines widely viewable online. yet we, just before an exam, are expected to carry this up a flight of stairs, including a bend. one man offered to carry some peoples cases, but one man is not enough for the large number of people. he also seemed to suggest he was going out of his way by doing so... the risk of back injury just before the exam is high. i hurt my back. what an appalling choice of venue. cost shouldnt be the only consideration for the exam venue. the epo must be able to afford better than this in the uk. the exam entry fee is so high! the room was way too hot. heating was on full blast, even though it was around 16 degrees that day. i had to ask heating to be turned down. i was told the request was made, but the eqe examiner recommended i continued to complain throughout the exam to ensure something was done about the heat. how ridiculous. i want to focus on my exam during the exam, not making repeat complaints about heat! there was noise from the car park. no idea what it was, but invigilators just looked out the windows curiously without taking any action. one of the eqe examiners sat on the head table had his phone go off during one of the eqe exams. that was very distracting! appalling! we would be removed from the exam and awarded zero marks if this happened to a candidate. i assume this gentleman will face no consequences of the distraction he caused to candidates in his exam hall (the second hall (seats 0-99), i think it was during paper d or a, i cant remember).

was too warm to start but it seemed to get comfortable after someone mentioned the problem.

desks seemed a little close to the neighbouring desks. invigilators seemed overly bothered about things like coats on the back of chairs

i thought the examination hall was perfectly suitable for the examinations.

overall fine. it was quite warm in certain areas (i.e. under the heaters).

not many hotel choices near the examination hall.

there were some minor incidents - an invigilator's phone appeared to quietly go off at some point, there were some odd noises from the heating system, i didn't think there was enough space between desks in one part of the hall (if i wanted to leave, i would've disturbed a lot of people) - but overall very good. other candidates are often quite a distraction. especially in papers a and b when a lot of people use scissors which is quite noisy. someone behind me was using cellotape which was very very noisy. there should be rules about this as it is extremely distracting.

too hot. desks a bit too close together and a bit small.

admittedly, it was a very warm day for february (16 c), but the examination hall was also very warm as a result as i dont think the heating had been adjusted to take this into account.

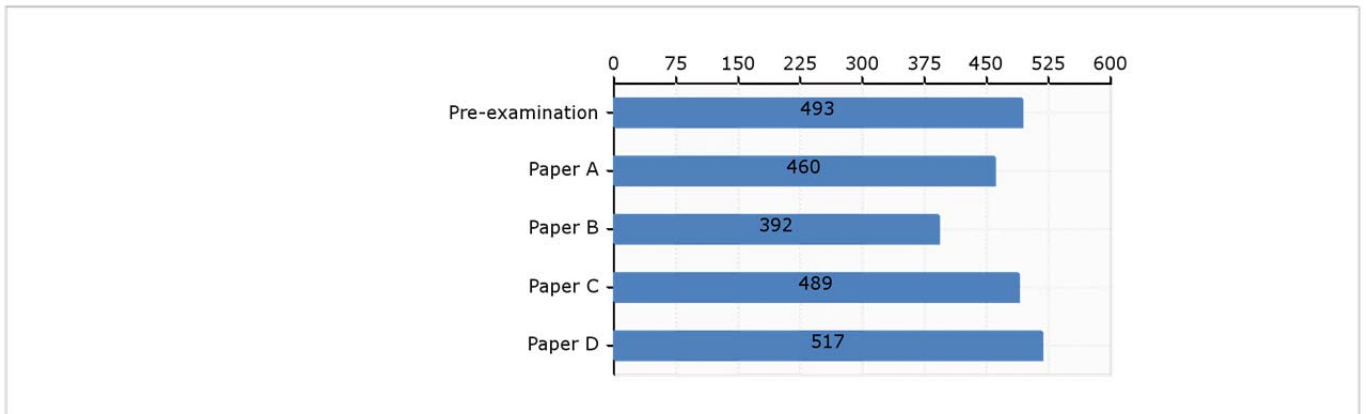
we were lucky in that the weather was exceptionally hot this year, so the examination hall was a normal temperature rather than freezing cold.

<i>location is inconvenient</i>
<i>temperature was very variable and changed a lot during the exams from too hot to too cold.</i>
<i>the examination hall as a venue was quite suitable, and gave good conditions for sitting the exam. one issue though is accessibility, as it required going up a set of stairs, which was difficult for some people with their large bags. i did not see any lifts at the main entrance, although there may have been lifts elsewhere.</i>
<i>the tables a little close together sideways, so the person sitting next to you was a little distracting. would be better if tables slightly further apart.</i>
<i>n/a</i>
<i>the walsall examination centre seemed an unusual location but its proximity to bescott stadium station actually made it very convenient to get to.</i>
<i>other than the room being too hot, everything else was good and comfortable.</i>

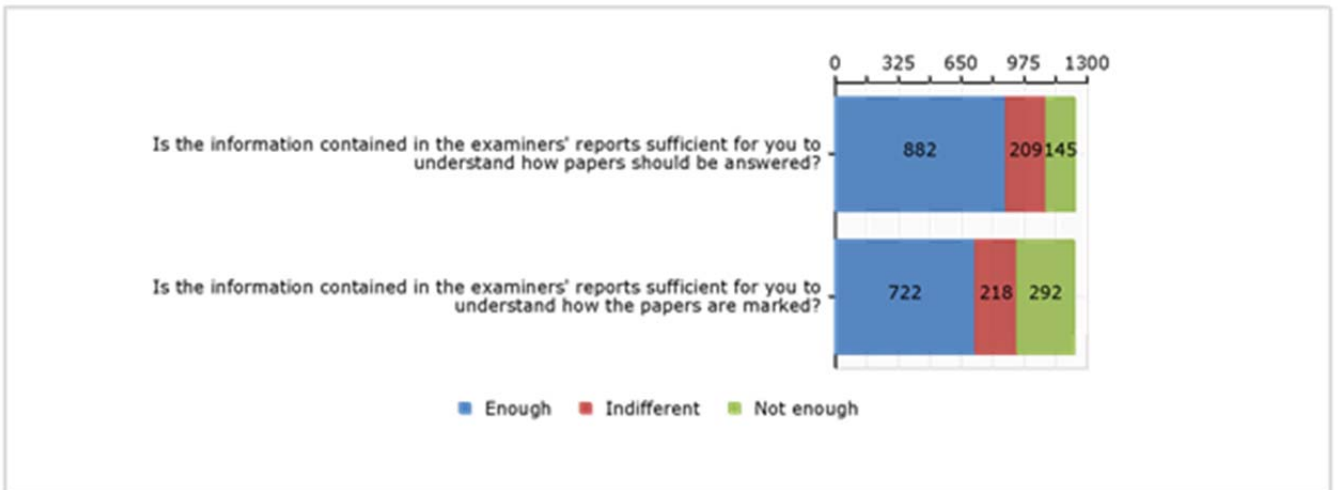
Chapter 2 Preparation for the EQE

Q7) Which examination papers did you sit?

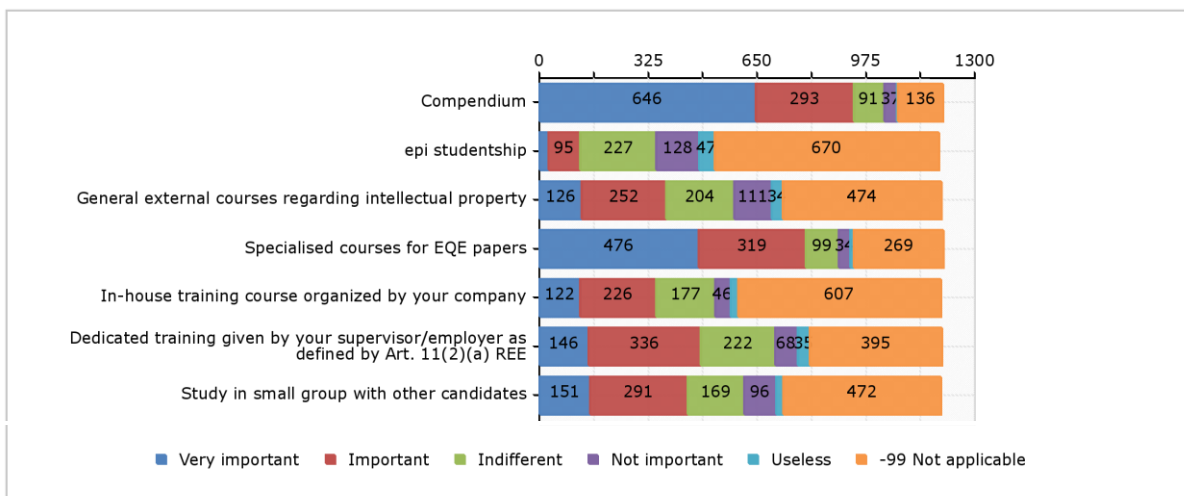
Multiple answers are possible



Q8) Examiners' report in the Compendium – rating



Q9) Elements of your personal preparation



Q10) What other study aids did you use?

<i>self-study guides related to the eqe</i>
<i>delta patents</i>
<i>e-learning centre pre-eqe course on the epo website</i>
<i>deltapatents</i>
<i>past papers and the examiners comments</i>
<i>specialised books</i>
<i>solutions to previous exams from deltapatents</i>
<i>ceipi course strasbourg</i>
<i>text books</i>
<i>textbooks</i>
<i>late evenings and weekends</i>
<i>online cours</i>
<i>delta patents main exam questions for paper d, delta patents paper c methodology book, wäckerlin a-book</i>
<i>pre-exam book delta patents</i>
<i>self study_ books only</i>
<i>annotated epc, cross-referenced pct</i>
<i>visser</i>
<i>europaean patent academy pre-exam course, delta patents basic legal questions book</i>
<i>none</i>
<i>great discussions with mr. van woudenberg.</i>
<i>verfahrenspraxis epü und pct, tactics for d, smart in c, visser, x-referenced pct</i>
<i>i am a csp student and studied with my coach</i>
<i>visser, delta patents</i>
<i>c-book and compendium</i>
<i>a self-study guide for the pre-examination (cees mulder), vissers annotated european patent convention, guidelines</i>
<i>hoekstra, deltapatents basic legal questions, deltapatents pre-exam book</i>
<i>hoekstra, general marking up of source material</i>
<i>i used vissers annotated european patent convention and the notes from our in-house course</i>
<i>delta patents course and material</i>
<i>different literature</i>
<i>hoekstra</i>
<i>delta patents training material</i>

<i>eqelilibrium</i>
<i>deltapatents correction paper programme</i>
<i>past papers, delta patents question books</i>
<i>delta patents pre-eqe book - usually giving more accesible (and better set out) explanations of the answers than the examiners reports</i>
<i>epo eqe pre-examination paper 2019 - online training course</i>
<i>main exam questions by deltapatents</i>
<i>delta patents pre-exam question book and external course</i>
<i>visser, the guidelines, the cross-referenced pct</i>
<i>deltapatents questions for d; ceipi strasbourg course</i>
<i>legal books, including guidelines, an annotated epc version, and the pct ag-ip. official epo/wipo forms. questions/answers books from specialised companies.</i>
<i>made my own summaries</i>
<i>reading the guidelines, commentaries</i>
<i>deltapatents pre-exam book, online training course</i>
<i>delta patent books and course, epo pre-exam course</i>
<i>delta patents p-book, epo online training course</i>
<i>delta patents book I</i>
<i>hoekstra, annotated pct, fox, d book</i>
<i>hoekstra, past exam papers, epo academy pre-eqe course</i>
<i>self-studies by commented epc; d-questions book from deltapatents</i>
<i>visser, hoekstra</i>
<i>the book herrmann, vorbereitung auf die eqe</i>
<i>visser's annotated epc, old exams (compendium), delta patents d exam book</i>
<i>delta patents d book</i>
<i>delta patents book</i>
<i>question books</i>
<i>guide for applicants, epo guidelines, books on epc/pct</i>
<i>daily-d-questions + time limiting questions, both available on the epo homepage</i>
<i>ceipi basic training course</i>
<i>delta patents pre-exam course</i>
<i>csp program, maastricht course, delta patents book, epo academy online training</i>
<i>csp tutoring, delta course</i>
<i>i was in candidate support program, we had a dedicated tutor and attended delta patents training</i>
<i>delta patent paper c course</i>
<i>deltapatents I-book</i>

<i>delta patent c-book</i>
<i>epo on-line training course</i>
<i>epo online training course</i>
<i>ceipi 2-year course</i>
<i>epo academy online course</i>
<i>delta patents course</i>
<i>deltapatents course</i>
<i>notes from previous years epo pre-exam course</i>
<i>ceipi course</i>
<i>epo academy course</i>
<i>eqe online course</i>
<i>epo online course</i>
<i>compendium, documents from ceipi and baque methods</i>
<i>delta patents I, visser, pete pollard guidelines</i>
<i>deltapatents training, ceipi training and their material</i>
<i>online resources from epo (e.g.: delays, daily d questions, etc.)</i>
<i>maastricht university course</i>
<i>hoekstra - references to the epc; epo and pct guidelines</i>
<i>cbook, dbook</i>
<i>compendium and visser.</i>
<i>eqe online course; text books, epo guidelines</i>
<i>annotated epc and epo guidelines</i>
<i>deltapatents, epo examination guidelines</i>
<i>patent academy online course</i>
<i>ceipi curses, epo online training</i>
<i>references to the epc (hoekstra); epo and pct guidelines</i>
<i>i used visser and the guidelines for examination only.</i>
<i>epo online eqe training</i>
<i>i read the entire epc and used it during the exam as first approach for each answer. additional help was given by visser's annotated pvc and the cross-referenced pct by cees mulder. very helpful books. other material was not necessary for the preeqe, but will most likely be for the main exam.</i>
<i>méthodologie de gregory baque</i>
<i>ceipi training</i>
<i>hoekstra, guidelines</i>
<i>model-solution books, guidelines</i>

<i>guidelines</i>
<i>nothing</i>
<i>ceipi and delta patent book</i>
<i>i was in deltapatents course. the appl guide was my basis and then the hoekstra book for special cases.</i>
<i>epo e-learning</i>
<i>mental coach</i>
<i>delta patents paper d book, ciepi course</i>
<i>baque, ceipi</i>
<i>printed epo guidelines</i>
<i>a book (wackerlin); drafting & amendment (cronin)</i>
<i>old exam pappers and examiner reports</i>
<i>visser book, delta patents training</i>
<i>daily questions d course</i>
<i>n/a</i>
<i>specific books and examiners reports</i>
<i>visser, guidelines</i>
<i>epi online course</i>
<i>most important was reading the articles and rules.</i>
<i>self training</i>
<i>delta patents - main exam questions for paper d</i>
<i>visser annotated notes, delta patents, past papers, online study tools, colleagues who sat exam previously</i>
<i>delta patents questions for paper d</i>
<i>deltapatents blog</i>
<i>i have used the delta patents paper c tutorials i.e. correcion of mock exam that i would do. i have done 4 with them and then received the corrected book for 2 others so in total did 6 exams. i think this is the right number if you want to be well prepared and see a variety of subject matters and situations.</i>
<i>epc.app</i>
<i>examinations of the years before and the belonging solution reports</i>
<i>annotated european patent convention (visser), epo guidelines, national law relating to epc, pct applicants guide, cross referenced pct (mulder).</i>
<i>epc</i>
<i>deltapatents legal questions book, previous papers with additional proposed solutions</i>
<i>csp</i>
<i>youtube videos by brian cronin</i>
<i>a commented version of the epc.</i>

<i>na</i>
<i>ceipi d paper course in strasbourg, delta patents d questions book</i>
<i>visser. epo guidelines.</i>
<i>former papers + examiners reports</i>
<i>i read the whole cbe-pct book by grégory baque (in french)</i>
<i>book smart in c and deltapatent book for d</i>
<i>delta patents paper d questions and ege daily d questions</i>
<i>annotated epc,</i>
<i>visser and hoeksra, ag-ip, epo guidelines for examination, mulder cross-referenced pct and paper c book</i>
<i>past papers; delta patents practice questions (1 book); coffee break questions</i>
<i>delta patents reference book and question book</i>
<i>delta patents book, ege coffee break questions</i>
<i>epa coffee break questions, time limit questions</i>
<i>deltapatent was excellent. the problem with epi provided courses is that some of the teachers were really of bad quality.</i>
<i>deltapatent book on paper d legal questions</i>
<i>delta patents basic legal questions</i>
<i>epc, pct reference texts</i>
<i>for this year: visser, d papers 2014-2018, c paper 2015, own summaries prepared earlier. earlier: courses</i>
<i>hoekstra reference book, delta patents book</i>
<i>delta patent books, past exam papers, c-book</i>
<i>wipo youtube channel, spreadsheet-books summarising procedures, daily d questions</i>
<i>coffee break questions</i>
<i>delta patents question book</i>
<i>c paper book from ceipi</i>
<i>hoekstra, epo coffee break questions</i>
<i>deltapatent d book, c book</i>
<i>delta patent question book</i>
<i>ege coffee break questions</i>
<i>deltapatents exam book</i>
<i>delta parents d book</i>
<i>deltapatents methodology for paper c and model solutions for papers b and c</i>
<i>daily d questions</i>
<i>only compendium, directives, baque courses anb book</i>
<i>a dedicated book (french cbe-pct baque) and my colleagues tips</i>

<i>baque book</i>
<i>hoekstra epc reference book</i>
<i>past papers, cipa course, coffee-time questions</i>
<i>préparation sur le site de epo uniquement en anglais. nous souhaitons les avoir dans les autres langues de l'office.</i>
<i>professional representative terminology book</i>
<i>deltapatents d-book</i>
<i>delta d question book for d.</i>
<i>delta patent l-book</i>
-
<i>hoekstra book</i>
<i>old papers and epc reference book</i>
<i>old papers c, deltapatents c book</i>
<i>independent study</i>
<i>epc-tablets provided by düwel et al.; training material provided by deltapatents; internet blogs</i>
<i>commentary on the cbe and pct (baque), personal notes</i>
<i>texts (visser etc) online excersises</i>
<i>ceipi basic training; ceipi preparation courses</i>
<i>baque</i>
<i>c-book</i>
<i>study annotated book</i>
<i>delta patents law questions for main exam (d book)</i>
<i>deltapatents books on d and c</i>
<i>eqe coffee break questions, eqe time limit questions and delta patents books.</i>
<i>visser, deltapatents book</i>
<i>experience of successful candiates</i>
<i>i study by myself</i>
<i>delta patents p</i>
<i>training book</i>
<i>compendium delta courses</i>
<i>deltapatents law books, daily d, coffeebreak questions</i>
<i>ceipi</i>
<i>just personal after-work study with earlier exams, visser and hoekstra books.</i>
<i>delta patents legal questions textbook</i>
<i>delta patent courses</i>

<i>ceipi courses</i>
<i>epo academy courses</i>
<i>eqelilibrium courses</i>
<i>notes from colleagues who recently sat the exams.</i>
<i>most helpful for me was csp program.</i>
<i>eqe courses</i>
<i>deltapatents legal questions</i>
<i>delta patents questions book</i>
<i>delthapatents d questions</i>
<i>delta model solutions</i>
<i>self study using some literature and old exams.</i>
<i>course: how to silence kids whilst revising</i>
<i>delta patent book</i>
<i>ceipi course for pre-exam in strasbourg - very helpful</i>
<i>i work rather alone due to working circumstances. i have a friend in another country attending eqe and we discuss some topics, or how the exam works. i used the previous papers.</i>
<i>c book</i>
<i>eqe-courses study materials, past papers, tutor for feedback</i>
<i>books and exams from preceeding years</i>
<i>the visser and the epo academy course for pre-exam.</i>
<i>kommentar zum epü 2000 (kley)</i>
<i>eqe daily question d + coffee break</i>
<i>coffee-break questions - very important</i>
<i>kley</i>
<i>examiners report</i>
<i>online course for pre-examniation 2019</i>
<i>commentary</i>
<i>textbook</i>
<i>c book chandler meinders</i>
<i>hoekstra references to the epc, mulder tactics for d and smart in c, mulder the cross-refenced pct</i>
<i>daily d, time limit questions, coffee break questions.</i>
<i>candidate support programme (csp)</i>
<i>candidate support project (csp)</i>
<i>self-study</i>
<i>self study</i>

<i>experiences and documents of a colleague who participated in the eqe one year earlier</i>
<i>practicing past papers - very important</i>
<i>compendium, deltapatent training course materials, marked past papers</i>
<i>eqe daily questions, commented epc, cross-referenced pct, old eqe papers</i>
<i>the csp program - very important</i>
<i>books</i>
<i>delta patents book basic legal questions for pre-exam and main exam</i>
<i>daily d questions.</i>
<i>online vorbereitungskurs des epas, prüfungsvorbereitungsbücher</i>
<i>websites</i>
<i>deltapatents books; epo guidelines; past papers</i>
<i>daily d</i>
<i>books specialised for eqe papers</i>
<i>vissers annotated patent convention, ceipi pre-exam course, past pre-exam papers</i>
<i>books for eqe papers</i>
<i>books, past papers</i>
<i>all past papers</i>
<i>hoekstra and visser, past papers</i>
<i>for d: delta patents, daily d questions etc.</i>
<i>vissers book, epo guidelines and previous examination papers</i>
<i>viewer, delta patents textbooks, cross-referenced pct, euro-pct guide, fireball patents abridged pct-ag</i>
<i>set of answered questions provided by course providers.</i>
<i>ciepi book how to past paper a, my colleagues deltapatents course notes, past papers</i>
<i>visser, epo online class</i>
<i>visser, hoekstra, deltapatents I book and d book, how to pass c book, how to pass a book, material list from deltapatents, salted patents pct materials</i>
<i>past exams papers</i>
<i>delta patent</i>
<i>past papers</i>
<i>the book of delta patents, the main questions, is indispensable. the best way to prepare before doing old papers</i>
<i>personal home work is the most important but it is very difficult to determine your rating accurately. in particluar for d paper</i>
<i>past papers.</i>
<i>annotated references to the epc and pct; and question books from deltapatents.</i>
<i>epc related books, question books, course materials</i>
<i>d-book, epü-tabellen</i>

<i>visser's annotated epc. the book is simply irreplaceable.</i>
<i>books (annotated epc by derk visser)</i>
<i>delta patents materials</i>
<i>ceipi materials</i>
<i>books published by dutch professionals</i>
<i>pct und epü tabellen</i>
<i>specialised training books for epe papers</i>
<i>epo online courses, and, most important part of the preparation: individual preparation at home.</i>
<i>deltapatent</i>
<i>les examens précédents.</i>
<i>köllner</i>
<i>i used the compendium, the epo online course for pre-examination and the guidelines of epo.</i>
<i>i have participated in csp program organised by epo, it was extraordinarily useful.</i>
<i>internet</i>
<i>online course - very usefull</i>
<i>books, old exams but law, objectives and marking change, guidelines for examination</i>
<i>commentary to the epc</i>
<i>online training- previous pre exam papers- epc guidelines/visser -</i>
<i>guidelines for examination, derk visser - the annotated european patent convention</i>
<i>i more or less relied only on-line training course for the pre-examination</i>
<i>delta patents books, visser's annotated european patent convention</i>
<i>daily questions d - epo</i>
<i>csp program</i>
<i>different books with exercises for di exam, only compendium for the other exams</i>
<i>praying in a chapel</i>
<i>delta patent book on the epe preparation</i>
<i>references to the epc</i>
<i>epo pre-exam course for legal revision</i>
<i>i followed a 12 day course organised by delta patents. i mainly used their flowchart and slides during the pre-exam</i>
<i>books on epe preparation</i>
<i>delta patents books, annotated epc, salted patents pct references</i>
<i>personally prepared notes and tables because i started my preparation already in beginning of 2018.</i>
<i>hoekstra. guidelines for examination</i>
<i>commented epc (visser), delta patents questions for the main exam, guidelines, applicants guide pct by pete pollard</i>

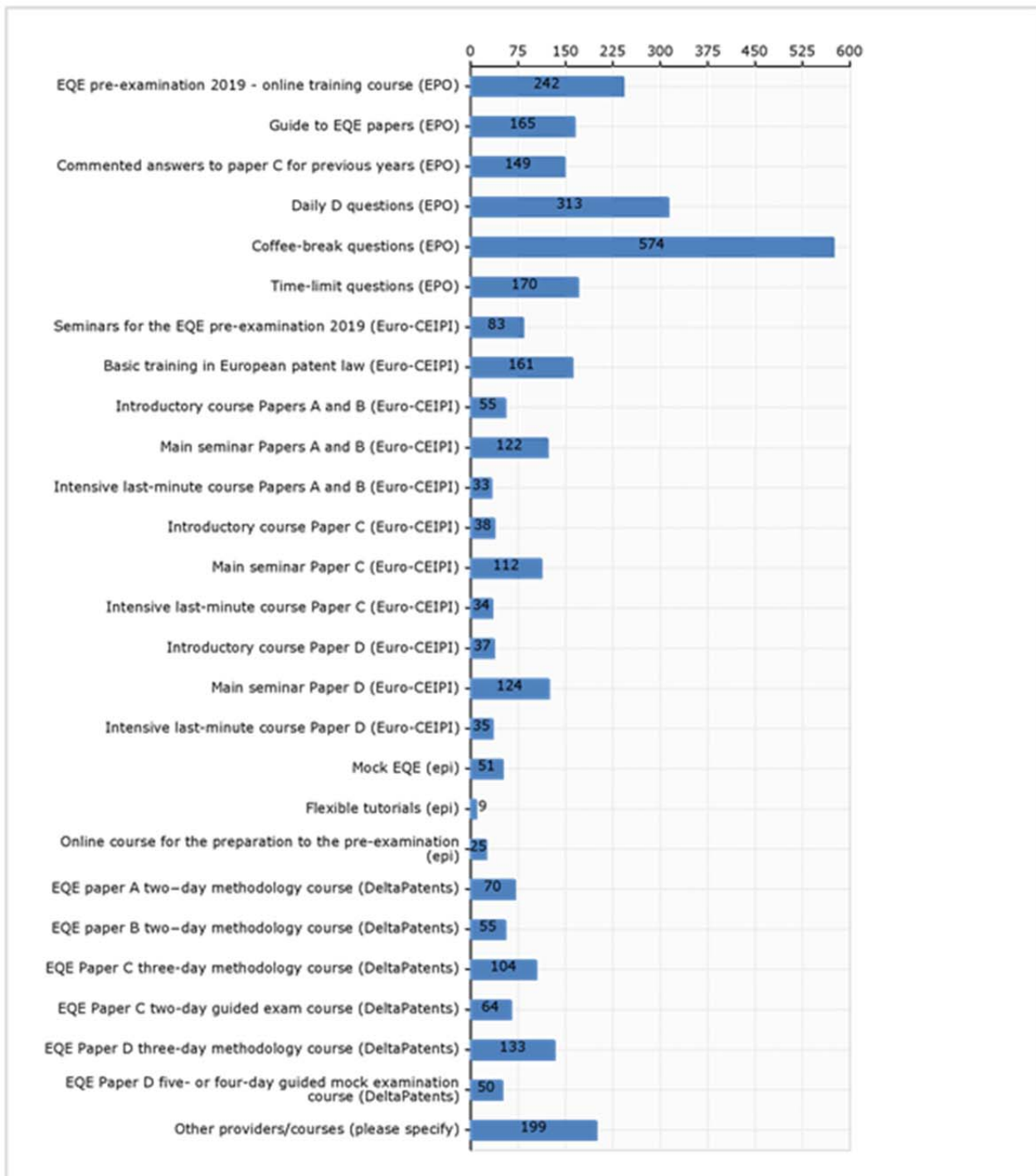
<i>a-book, c-book; guidelines for examination; case law of the boa; visser</i>
<i>delta patents questions for pre-exam and epe, coffee brake questions, handy commentary of the epc incl. jurisdiction</i>
<i>guidelines for examination</i>
<i>preparing your own documents for easy access and localization of the required information during the exam</i>
<i>visser, applicants guides for euro-pct, pct, european application</i>
<i>epo online training, deltapatent correction exams</i>
<i>ceipi course provided at the epo</i>
<i>delta patents main-exam questions for paper d</i>
<i>several books from external authors</i>
<i>csp course: deltapatents, epo onlinecourse, tutor assistance</i>
<i>daily d question</i>
<i>i used all the past papers, course notes from an epi run course and visser</i>
<i>it is the only one i used</i>
<i>reference texts and manuals</i>
<i>ceipi courses were very important for me</i>
<i>deltapatents tools and booklets</i>
<i>csp - very (!) important for me</i>
<i>annotated epc</i>
<i>delta patents: basic legal questions for pre-exam</i>
<i>cipa guide to the eges, and a green book on how to pass the eges, dont have the title handy.</i>
<i>commented epc</i>
<i>the past papers were the most important study tool by far.</i>
<i>delta patent relevant books, visser</i>
<i>vissers epc + guidelines + personal study notes and summary of vissers epc</i>
<i>pre-exam course provided by the epo</i>
<i>hoekstra annotated epc</i>
<i>past exams</i>
<i>i used visser for paper d and for all papers just used past papers and studied the answers and examiners reports. i passed a b and d first time and didnt attempt c first time. so far i havent failed any papers with this method. some people i knew spent more time travelling to and from tutorials and seminars abroad than studying- i never did anything like that.</i>
<i>epo e-learning center</i>
<i>preparation on my own was most important for me</i>
<i>pct/epc tables</i>
<i>epo guidelines, visser</i>
<i>guides to epc</i>

<i>epc and google</i>
<i>coffee break questions, daily d questions, guidelines and pct applicants guide</i>
<i>annotated epc and pct books (in particular visser & mulder); paper-specific study guide books</i>
<i>the annotated european patent convention book by derk visser</i>
<i>guidelines, visser</i>
<i>mock exams</i>
<i>previous exams</i>
<i>old exams</i>
<i>the course on e-learning center</i>
<i>terminology training, self-education (past exams, guidelines), course at maastricht university</i>
<i>annotated epc, pct applicants guide</i>
<i>just past papers and experience from work</i>
<i>books, e.g. visser, euro-pct guide</i>
<i>csp program. very valuable and important part of the training.</i>
<i>eqe pre-examination paper 2019 pd01-2018</i>
<i>own method</i>
<i>books and commented epc</i>
<i>old eqe exams!</i>
<i>deltapatents books/ other preparation books</i>
<i>hoekstra reference book, mulder cross referenced pct</i>
<i>ceipi courses at strassburg</i>
<i>own preparation</i>
<i>extensive study of all resources relevant to the eqe</i>
<i>past exam papers, information from epo website</i>
<i>delta patents paper d course books</i>
<i>deltapatents pre-examination books</i>
<i>applicants guides</i>
<i>vissers book, guidelines for examination in the epo, pct applicants guide, epo online training.</i>
<i>annotated epc by visser</i>
<i>delta patents course books</i>
<i>almost three years of hands-on experience</i>
<i>epa course, reference books</i>
<i>delta patents workbooks</i>
<i>delta patents books</i>
<i>hoekstra and delta patents books</i>

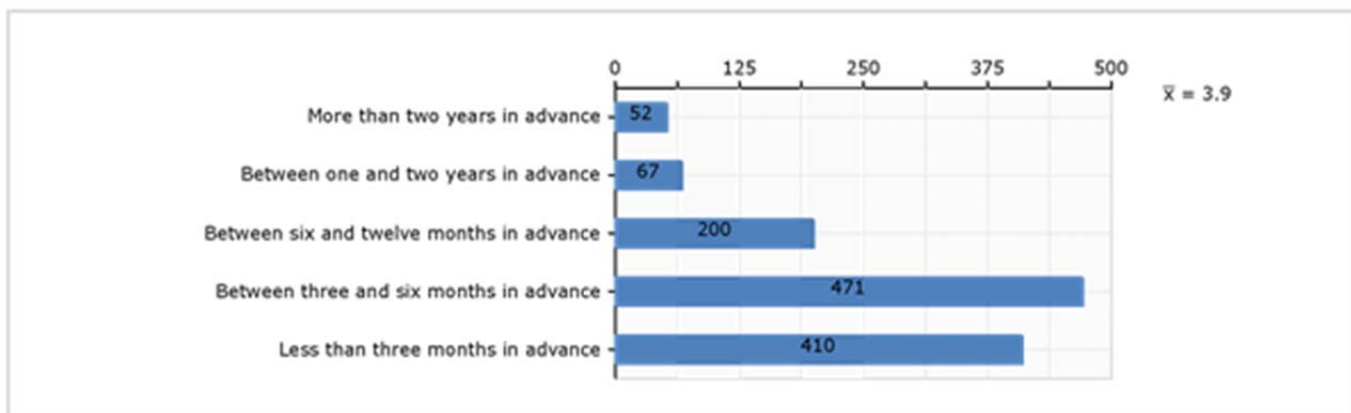
<i>delta patents books</i>
<i>i am the most qualified worker at my company. i do not have any help.</i>
<i>deltapatents books</i>
<i>reading the guidelines of epo</i>
<i>pct, epc, applicants guidelines, different books</i>
<i>exercise books</i>
<i>delta patents solutions for a and b.</i>
<i>books related to eqe</i>
<i>pre-exam epo course, delta patents books</i>
<i>ceipi formations for eqe</i>
<i>epü und pct tabellenbuch (düwel)</i>
<i>books of delta patents</i>
<i>eqe online training course through exam secretariat and hoekstra</i>
<i>main exam questions for paper d by delta patents</i>

Q11) Here is a list of courses offered either by the EPO or in collaboration with the EPO. Which of these course(s) did you follow?

Multiple answers are possible



Q13) How long before sitting the examination(s) did you start intensive and focused study?



Q14) When assessing your preparation and performance retrospectively, what would you consider to have been your greatest weakness and how could you have overcome it?

at an early stage of my preparation, it was difficult for me to find relevant information quickly from the epc or the studying materials i had relied upon. practising with mock exams certainly helped.

- as a chemist, i had troubles learning how to formulate functional e/m claims - getting the right dimensioned scope of protection at first attempt, as in practice i am used to broader formulations which will be later corrected in view of sr. both weakness overcome by practicing on past papers

doing the examination to time was the biggest challenge. although i practiced timed questions more prep was needed.

answering d-i questions in english, as my mother tongue in spanish.

having meanwhile to work, and having two very young kids at home (eqe preparation should offer babysitting services... very helpful).

the greatest weakness still was to approach paper b as a real life case and thus to argue broader than the clients wish.

not knowing which sections will give most marks. overcome this by asking colleagues who took papers last year for their scripts and marking them against mark scheme to see how it is marked.

my greatest weakness in the exams was probably time management. better organisation of myself during the exams might have helped overcome this.

do not underestimate what stress does in relation to overseeing complex problems. where under practice conditions an exam can be remembered, in an exam setting writing down your thoughts is advisable. however this you also have to practice because writing down all is to much. so you need to find an optimum between writing down to maintain an overview while at the same time not writing to much to mess up the overview again.

fast writing

not enough time and support for preparing the exam besides daily work load

time to write. more practice on the drafting

more precise reading for understanding statements required; more concentration would help

i should have started intensive study earlier. i could have overcome it if the gap between christmas and the exams were wider. perhaps having the exams in .. say april, could have led me to start preparing 4 months in advance.

<i>started past papers too early.</i>
<i>huge question in the beginning: where should i start? helpful was the pre-exam course at ceipi in november, which let enough time afterwards to focus on studing with commentary an past exams.</i>
<i>exam nerves - currently no way to overcome</i>
<i>should have spent more time on the guidelines.</i>
<i>memorizing numbers of articles and rules by heart, since only knowing how to apply them is not enough. practicing fast hand writing, since that is something you never do in daily practice, but a very important skill in the exam.</i>
<i>knowledge of pct was weaker than other areas of the law. reading around the pct early on would help with this.</i>
<i>trying to remember too much knowledge which is easily available during the exam from books etc</i>
<i>should hav done more previous papers. do as many papers as possible before the exam, and answer as many questions as possible preparing for paper d.</i>
<i>not enough time spent on preparing for paper b</i>
<i>shallow knowledge of case law</i>
<i>time limit was always the issue. speeding up is a solution, but is always associated with less profound and less detailed answers. next time i would focus on the most important points and skip all the details.</i>
<i>claim analysis part. all the different courses that i have attended are exclusively focused on the legal part. there is very little time dedicated to claim analysis. there is very little training material for this. actually, the only one that i have found is the pre-exams of previous years.</i>
<i>my overview table of relevant articles, rules, board of appeal decisions etc. should have been much more elaborated and up to date. for this, i should have thoroughly updated my notes after each exercise/mock exam.</i>
<i>exam technique</i>
<i>less work and some time off work and preferably also some work hours or days given by my employer for study</i>
<i>should have reduced the number of exams as workload of normal work to heavy to study properly for abd. if i had taken only ab or only d i would have had better chance of studying. i didnt do enough d - questions before exam.</i>
<i>find the right book to use as a basis / starting point for legal questions</i>
<i>lack of experience with ip epo maters only experience with jobs within this matter improve my skills at eqe paper d</i>
<i>i wish i had started preparation a month earlier. however, this was not possible as i was preparing for the uk finals.</i>
<i>time to do the pre-examination r</i>
<i>discipline, it was difficult for me to sit down and study as much as i thought was needed</i>
<i>i would have liked to go on a training course. my firm don't provide for this. i felt like i started studying early enough but it was hard to maintain intensity.</i>
<i>less study of previous questions, more intensive study of the basic epü</i>
<i>not being able to take a quick decision when not sure which answer is correct</i>
<i>hand writing fast enough</i>
<i>reading into older paper a and paper b examiners comments may have been useful. however, it is hard to gauge the relevance of older papers given the recent change in these exams.</i>
<i>i did not know of all the important literature available to adequatly train for the exam, however, i contacted many of my colleagues and they gave me valuable advice.</i>

<i>no tutor, not enough time for learning besides full time job</i>
<i>did not start early enough, so material not absorbed sufficiently and not enough routine in answering the papers. did not prepare for paper d at all.</i>
<i>pct, studying</i>
<i>staying calm when the difficulty of the paper is so much greater than in previous years. the only way for this to be overcome would be for the papers to be written in a manner that candidates feel that they are able to demonstrate their overall ability rather than failing based on a small point of law.</i>
<i>missing to write some aspects which appeared to me quite obvious but are not in the exam context prepare a check list in order to not overlook details under stress conditions</i>
<i>claim analysis part. i would spend more time and concentrated more when doing the claim analysis part of the earlier pre-exams.</i>
<i>problem: too much work, not enough time for preparation. solution: quit job</i>
<i>the lack of time, due to the combination of small children and work. not sure how to solve this.</i>
<i>too much focus on studying the article of the epc at the expenses of the implementing regulations</i>
<i>cannot really answer the question at the moment as i dont know the results yet.</i>
<i>légal question: way to overcome : do again and again legal questions</i>
<i>greatest weakness - missing patches of legal knowledge. could have overcome with more structured approach to attempting di questions much earlier (few questions each week, rather than many questions each week) - and time to repeat near the end.</i>
<i>finding sufficient time at home to work. - i could have gone to a different venue, such as a library to work. getting sufficient feedback on my answers and discussion. being in a small practice means i am the only trainee.</i>
<i>i should perhaps have considered more of the older papers to get a more rounded view of what could potentially come up in the exams.</i>
<i>learning how to efficiently fit in studying around a full time job.</i>
<i>while writing the answer to di, to focus only on the most important issues and not to lose time on things and information that are in fact not asked. the most important is not to lose time. i read the examiners report and did as many as possible main exam questions for paper d (del-tapatents).</i>
<i>claim analysis, proper application of the problem and solution approach, selection of closest prior art</i>
<i>hand writing speed, general time management, overcoming severe arthritis like aches (or actual arthritis?). for me, the eqe becomes an exercise in tactics and exam methodology rather than a test of knowledge.</i>
<i>i would have needed more experience in tackling a, b and c papers. taking specialized seminars would have helped.</i>
<i>not spending enough time studying or not starting earlier. i should have started the intense and focused studying earlier, so that it had been a more relaxed experience.</i>
<i>wasting two months for preparing from study material which was not necessary for passing the exam. choose only one study material as soon as possible when starting the preparation for the exam.</i>
<i>claim amendments during b as b exam is drafted in the part of the day when the brain works less efficient and i am tired after a exam.</i>
<i>lack of time, poor and slow handwriting</i>
<i>doing previous exams of both chemistry and mechanics, as well as studying the reports, give good insight regarding the new type of exam.</i>
<i>dedicating more time to get faster in d2 and paper d</i>
<i>more practice. specific drafting in em inventions</i>

<i>wakness: time efficiency; solution: practice past papers under exam conditions</i>
<i>not enough past papers done under timed conditions</i>
<i>discussing my results in a study group, look for candidates that also prepare and have regular discussion sessions</i>
<i>never having enough time for intensive study between work and family. maybe taking a few days vacation would have been useful</i>
<i>not enough time for personal study alongside day job.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness was the time for solving/answering all the tasks. i checked regularly the time and hurried up respectively, if i lost time for answering the previous question/task (sorry for this simple answer).</i>
<i>claim analysis. further improvement would require more practise with e.g. previous exams.</i>
<i>maybe i should have started with the compendium earlier. maybe i shloud have structured my preparation a bit more in detail.</i>
<i>lack of preparedness in advance of epos online course virtual classrooms due to work and family obligations. if better prepared, i would have gotten much more out of them.</i>
<i>i should have learned/read more as preparation for the first part of the exam concerning legal aspects to answer with more certainty.</i>
<i>to work home - ie. not being under stress exam conditions</i>
<i>nerves.</i>
<i>i had not revised claim analysis of chemical claims sufficiently. i should have read up on percentage ranges etc. before the exam.</i>
<i>claim analysis exercises in the mechanics field</i>
<i>längere lernzeiten /geblockte lernzeiten effektiv nutzen, besser fokussieren/ geeignete umgebung schaffen</i>
<i>understanding and getting an overview of the pct; use a good book from the beginning; dont read and mark the entire pct articles and regulations</i>
<i>di - study</i>
<i>i didnt practice very much with the real time that paper c provides. this way i didnt have enough time during the exam.</i>
<i>i struggle to focus when revising. i overcame it by doing short bursts - some in the morning, some in the evening. also, short questions like in the delta book and coffee break and daily d questions. pct procedural law is incredibly unintuitive and requires extended studies even for a basic understanding</i>
<i>le manque de concentration. moins de fatigue? moins de distraction?</i>
<i>managing both work and study</i>
<i>specific preparation on the claim analysis part. it is very useful to do the practical work and, if possible, attend to the oral hearings</i>
<i>starting to late with intesive preparation of pct related topics. using a more suitable commented pct textbook should help for the main exam.</i>
<i>i should have set myself stricter time limits for completing my mock exams.</i>
<i>it is really hard both work and study.</i>
<i>not starting before and not studying first the theory and then practicing the exams.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness during preparation was to create time and a suitable environment for studying. in order to overcome this issue, i had to stop doing some routines in my life.</i>
<i>understanding how the papers are marked - if i had had more time, or the papers were shorter so i was able to do more in the time that i had, i might have been able to get a better idea of how the papers are assessed.</i>

<i>less preparation time and didnt prepare claim analysis part well</i>
<i>knowing the precise legal basis for everything, especially things that you take for granted.</i>
<i>get marks on mock exams was missing in all courses</i>
<i>balancing private life and work nothing could have been done more than what i did</i>
<i>biggest weakness in preparing for the exam, was the absolute lack of guidance from the epo as to what the syllabus of the exam was to be in regards to subjects to be covered and level of knowledge required. it is ridiculous that this was not made freely available.</i>
<i>i should have printed out the material for sitting the exam (national law tables, pct-guide etc) earlier to label/highlight them more efficiently while training legal questions.</i>
<i>making a plan for getting through the curriculum. however, the schedule and notes provided by the ege pre-exam online course were very helpful</i>
<i>not completely finishing past exam papers once i knew what course of action i would have taken in the exam.</i>
<i>slowness in the exam situation. doing even more excercises might have helped.</i>
<i>lack of motivation to solve old examinations under real examination conditions</i>
<i>i spent a lot of time reading through the pre-ege online course materials. i was not prepared to sit the exam after covering all the online course materials. however, after practising mock exams i got there. i think the combined is the success.</i>
<i>excessive workload in the office. not the right time to take the exam.</i>
<i>time management: balance between thinking to know the answer and wanting to double check how to appreciate every single word</i>
<i>i need to do more cross-cheking and notes</i>
<i>study for paper d part i should have begun earlier, as i was still having to look a lot of things up. i had planned to work through more questions from the delta patents book of d questions.</i>
<i>just knew about the visser. did not knew where to look at g decision effectively, like 2 pages per decision. had to take it from wikipedia and cut/paste decisions.</i>
<i>time management during the exam. i should have done more real-time exams.</i>
<i>did too few old d2 exams.</i>
<i>le choix de l'état de la technique l'envoyer plus proche dans l'épreuve c. rester dans le domaine indiqué dans le titre ou le premier paragraphe et s'y contraindre</i>
<i>time management - i found all of the ege papers to be time pressured, but especially b and d this year. it would have been good to have practised more papers under timed conditions.</i>
<i>performance: a bit nervous</i>
<i>trust myself</i>
<i>not preparing with the materials i was going to use during the exam.</i>
<i>keeping to time. i had planned allotted time to complete certain tasks during the exams, but in both papers a and b i took too long understanding the contents and had to rush writing my answers. i did past papers to time, and did not struggle to fit my work into 3.5/4hrs as appropriate. therefore, it must have been the conditions on the day.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness was nervousness, especially during d exam.</i>
<i>having relaxed the last months before the exam.</i>
<i>understanding the questions. could overcome by practicing more questions</i>
<i>time spent on looking up in material during exam. better marking of books.</i>
<i>i dont know. i identified my weaknesses early on and corrected them.</i>

<i>the timelimit. i got super stressed the first time , however by practicing with timelimit i overcm this problem.</i>
<i>i was handling a very requiring full-time job -a lot of urgent cases - and had no evenings to study or to rest. i would have need more time and i was exhausted prior to sit the papers.</i>
<i>greatest weekness was not to have memorized the epc and pct. could be overcome by doing it, obviously. training my writing hand would have come in handy, but was sufficient.</i>
<i>general context of legal questions. missing experience of claim analysis due to the bad educating law firm. not enough exercise options in the older pre examination papers.</i>
<i>poor knowledge of pct rules. read the pct in advance.</i>
<i>as a biochemist i focussed on paper a mechanics as the new paper a topic is mechanics and i am not used to mechanic patent applications. shortly before examination i learned that last years paper a was a mechanic method and device, but the structure of the exam was more related to the previous paper a chemistry. so was this years and if i had know before i would have practiced more paper a chemistry. so i did not know before that not only the devices / methods of paper a mechanics and chemistry were different but also their structure.</i>
<i>i did not have enough time to adequately study for all 4 exams. in retrospect, it would have been better to split the exam over two years.</i>
<i>analysing the documents in a time-efficient manner. used another strategy this year suggested in the smart in c book.</i>
<i>reading the questions more thoroughly. solution: taking more time to read them.</i>
<i>not enough time dedicated to study</i>
<i>available time to study and at the same dealing with work and family obligations.</i>
<i>time management-do more past examinations</i>
<i>not having en as mother tongue. to be born in the uk. general language is a not a problem for me. however, every case in the papers have a specific technical vocabulary, so i had to use a dictionary to understand the technical issues in the sample invention. the timing of the papers are not designed for non en/fr/de language people.</i>
<i>started a bit late with the general studies, which made me go into a long-ish intensive and focused study period. should have started the general studies earlier to avoid feeling panicky, which could have resulted in a slightly shorter and less tiring intensive period.</i>
<i>lack of students network to discuss questions and strategies with. lack of time (family+work+tiredness).</i>
<i>speed in answering the questions</i>
<i>the time is limited and the information contained in the documents is dense. it is important to feel confident in ones knowledge to be able to make choices very quickly. my greatest weakness was in some moment doubt. a longer term preparation could have been helpful to be more confident in my capabilities and to spare precious time.</i>
<i>i am too slow reader, i have already started read more other books and material outside the patent law.</i>
<i>- having started intnsive study a bit late. - updating the ancillary regulations to the epc to the present state was time-consuming but does not seem to be of major importance, retrospectively. it was waste of time.</i>
<i>pct. study of the pct applicants guide.</i>
<i>hands on in legal issues</i>
<i>structure of answering of the d paper. more practice on providing full answers. consult d paper solutions.</i>
<i>although i enquired about the start date of my ceipi course in early 2018, i was not made aware it had started until july 2018 (there was a question over whether it would run at all because of lack of participants). i found the course with derk visser and simon roberts very helpful in generally discussing the law and how to read and interpret the guidelines and derks book. before then i had no clue about where to start with all of the materials we have to learn.</i>

<i>answering the questions quickly. i have practice reducing the time for answering questions by solving the past papers.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness would be not writing what is obvious (especially in d), i might loose a lot of points because of that. for me the most important is that the comittee sees that i understand the questions and the procedure to follow, not to say obvious statements.</i>
<i>to quickly structure an answer and provide condense formulations to minimise the writing and thereby save time. should have practice more on how to structure and formulate answers.</i>
<i>my preparation was adequate, and my main weakness was losing concentration due to being tired. no way to overcome this due to the structure of the eqe.</i>
<i>i would have done more past examination papers under examination conditions.</i>
<i>i will have to wait for the results to acess this</i>
<i>i shoud have started with the legal questions and quizzes provided by the online training course more earlier</i>
<i>hand writing. it has been a long time since i needed, i never use it extensively in my work: sometimes you need to take notes but not write 20+ pages.i needed to do dedicated training just for write long texts having a calligraphy that could be understood.</i>
<i>no time to prepare</i>
<i>not knowing what points are awarded for to mention trivialities that are meaningless to the actual answer, for example r.131 (4) in connection with a.99</i>
<i>trying to repeatedly sit 5 hour papers is quite depressing. breaking it up into smaller chunks and taking more rest breaks in between may have helped a little, but then i may have learnt less.</i>
<i>gl are very important</i>
<i>time management. overcome by working out a precise method of (subject) information recording technique, and repeatedly training by applying it to past papers.</i>
<i>time management, learning on my own</i>
<i>i would have completed more past papers under exam conditions.</i>
<i>become familiar with the pct regulations.</i>
<i>i should have focussed on time management a bit more intensively. at the end, there was time trouble in 2 of the 4 papers.</i>
<i>i am on the mechanical side and have less familiarity with the chemical side of things. i am weaker on that point. i tried chemical past papers but as they were so focussed on the chemical practice it was not helpful for the mixed papers. other than spending more time on chemical-based case law i am not sure what more i could have done that i did to prepare.</i>
<i>time management in paper d practice of both parts together - no break in between</i>
<i>for d paper: not having started in good time, preparing for di questions by responding to questions at a slow pace. difficulty was always how to balance the preparation with work load. studying requires focus to be efficient. difficulty to pass: thinking too much according to colleagues. passed a at 1st try 2012, b at 4th try 2015, sat c for 6th time 2019, d for 3rd time 2019. advantage of repetition: i have gained experience and updated myself, using what i learn in parallel in my work. studying gives work more meaning.</i>
<i>speed and reading understanding. my main weakness is that sometimes i just do not read precisely enough and hence do not notice important information. basically i know almost everything for solving the questions, but sometimes i just do not recall on details or i am running out of time.</i>
<i>time frame revise methotology</i>
<i>time management. would have required more practising in real exam conditions.</i>
<i>claim analysis. my tutor from csp provided me with a lot of exams. we trained a lot.</i>
<i>legal questions. can be overcome by more intensive studying and solving past papers</i>
<i>i wish i started doing exercises earlier. i learn best solving problems rather than reading and studying legal text with a problem in mind.</i>

<i>more practise on claim analysis questions.</i>
<i>pct related questions for paper d, did lots of questions from delta patents book.</i>
<i>hard to tell since the papers havent been graded and i do not know whether im successful or not.</i>
<i>colleagues around me kept warning me about the lack of time but there was plenty of time to make the test. so my greatest weakness would be starting out stressed because i was afraid there would not be enough time.</i>
<i>as a resitter for paper a motivation and time for preparation is the greatest weakness. external course gave me motivation and focus.</i>
<i>nothing considerable for the pre exam, to be seem for the main papers</i>
<i>practise the legal questions for paper d. i should have started earlier</i>
<i>weakness = managing time strategy: start writing the easier and quicker attacks</i>
<i>meeting time limits for papers a, b, c and d. training by doing a lot of past papers.</i>
<i>quick reading sometimes leading to misunderstanding, like missing not in the sentecnce etc.</i>
<i>understanding the questions and reading them carefully was a key. i practiced a lot of epo question papers.</i>
<i>because of our baby i do not get good sleep. that is my greatest weakness.</i>
<i>time to solve the papers and i try to get better doing over 12 past papers</i>
<i>not having tried to handle the papers in less time than the maximum time allowed (especially for paper b)</i>
<i>i did not make a c paper under exam conditions before the ege.</i>
<i>- invention/amendment spotting in papers a/b when outside comfort zone (could have practiced on older papers in different technical field) - lack of technique for when things go wrong (couldnt really have practiced or worked more at this)</i>
<i>i performed as i had expected, not much room for improvement.</i>
<i>greatest weakness: too time-focussed, ended up moving on from questions when i could still have found things to say, but stuck too stringently to the 3 minutes per mark</i>
<i>non native speaker</i>
<i>i should have started ege preparations earlier. everything was somehow new, of course i have had very good preparation in my daily work, but for ege i should have got familiar at an earlier point in time.</i>
<i>preparation for dii is never easy, since it is not clear on what aspect we have to focus in order to get marks. it is required to do it as an advice to a client but it is silly to think that a complete well-structured advice can be provided for such complex situation within hours.</i>
<i>the pressures of working full time while trying to revise. i dont think it is possible to overcome as i work in house within a very small team and as such need to be accessible in the run up to the exams as well as any other time.</i>
<i>being easily stressed during the exam and wanting to finish as fast as possible.</i>
<i>should have started more intensive study earlier</i>
<i>it is hard to keep a regular study plan. it requires discipline and strong determination. it is hard to manage the stress occurred from work and from the ege preparation at the same time.</i>
<i>lack of focused study and solving the past papers.</i>
<i>variable motivation. not enough compendia performed under examination condition (5h30 in a row)</i>
<i>die verbinding zum case law ist schwierig herzustellen.</i>
<i>knowledge about appealing and pct applications are my greatest weakness.</i>

<i>assessing the information required in the formulated answer. practice of exam questions and review of example answers. further practice of mock exams to time.</i>
<i>i should have carried out more of the past papers under strict exam conditions to get used to working to the time limits.</i>
<i>paper b was quite different this year from the previous years. i did the papers from 2012-2018 for preparation and was really confused when suddenly two independent claims with different closest prior art had to be discussed, in addition to all crucial amendment which could not be justified (wrt art 123 (2)) based other guidelines, but only based on a very specific t decision.</i>
<i>have the opportunity to study with other students in small group, have more time and have a tutor at the work.</i>
<i>constantly learning - dedicating more timr</i>
<i>-</i>
<i>time management</i>
<i>start learning earlier</i>
<i>not a clear methology</i>
<i>time managment</i>
<i>understand the marking scheme for the pre-exam early in preparation. it is important to aim for full marks on each question, due to the negative marking scheme.</i>
<i>should start earlier</i>
<i>knowledge of legal details for d-exam could always be better, but i did the best i could.</i>
<i>i would be able to answer that question once i have the results :)</i>
<i>start earlier</i>
<i>these 2 questions are not so relevant for me as im resitter. i started my study for the pre-examination at the end of 2014. for pre-exam 2019 i started intensive study in september 2018 and i studied intensively totally 4 months</i>
<i>not practising under exam conditions - should have blocked out time to do so.</i>
<i>i had by far not enough time for a decent preparation. studies for the ege-examination could only be performed during free-time and over holly days. besides full-time work and family – this was really tough. how to overcome this “weakness”? no idea at all. “best strategy” so far: passing the examinations in as many tries as necessary – bit by bit - tough, time consuming and exhausting ...</i>
<i>it was studying. i am a bit lazy person. thats why pushed myself to study more and i stayed at 68 points.</i>
<i>careful reading is my greatest weakness, meaning that im used to speed reading and therefore sometimes skip over essential information while i should use speed reading to get to the relevant section and then should focus more on the relevant passage to carefully assess the essential information.</i>
<i>start earlier studying and directly put into practice the knowledge as requested for the pre-exam, a compendium of all previous ege/pre-exam questions and answers grouped by categories, instead of groups made per year, could be very useful.</i>
<i>i should not have started solving papers with a timer so early. first perfection strategy and writing style, then start measuring how quick you are.</i>
<i>time management, creation of a personal and very rigid method of approaching the papers</i>
<i>choosing the wrong strategy, e.g. starting with the wrong part.</i>
<i>material. compactness.</i>
<i>my greatest weekness in last years exam was exhaustion from the other three parts and overestimating available time. this year, i wrote down the paper without any pause and only had to write</i>

<i>the missing c-paper, hence, it all add up.</i>
<i>my speed of handwriting. quite frankly, i have been training to be quicker for months and months (i had uk qualifying exams last summer/autumn as well) and have still struggled to finish papers on time. i am inherently slow at writing and i suffer the consequences in these exams; i am however very good at analysing the questions and coming up with the answers, but writing my answers down in time is another question... arranging papers a and b on the same day does not help my writing stamina either.</i>
<i>to not be prepared as i should to the pre-eqe examen and to have to spend too much time to study d1 part.</i>
<i>in my opinion, my preparation in terms of knowledge was sufficient to pass the papers i sat. my main problem was related to stress-management, i.e. working fully concentrated over many hours under exam conditions. you know a lot of relevant facts to write for a specific question, but you also know you will not have the time to mention everything in a good and structured way with legible handwriting.</i>
<i>some questions seemed to be so simple that i started to wonder whether the direct answer could be really correct. believe in your knowledge, maybe you are just well prepared and these questions are no problem for you.</i>
<i>pct - specific corses, but not many avaiable</i>
<i>never been able to finish paper d part ii (training using past years exams) in 3 hours.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness was timing. i was able to keep practicing and it helped me in the exam to answer questions on time.</i>
<i>beeing to old, feeling young</i>
<i>taking more time for preparation, but it is difficult als meanwhile i am fully working as free lancer. the work is given then to someone else. later it is always difficult to get the job back. so several month continous lerning is financially very difficult as the workflow continous to be gone also after the examination.</i>
<i>less experience in applying law in answering legal questions. i had to focus on answering as many questions as possible.</i>
<i>when handling questions regarding the epc, students should in my view right from the start prepare material as is needed to sit the eqe and work with this material in that fashion right from the start. knowing where something is specified is very important. thus, in my view, right after registration for the eqe some hints could be provided suggesting such a procedure.</i>
<i>no enough time for preparation. learn in eceryday work.</i>
<i>time management was my greatest weakness. i have overcome it by being more efficient with what i write (i notice that in the example scripts which achieve particularly high marks, relatively little is written!)</i>
<i>not practicing past paper c and b papers</i>
<i>my greatest weakness is speed of thought and writing too much. i am also a type 1 diabetic and have to manage my diabetes and blood sugar levels throughout every day of my life. if my blood sugars go low then this affects my brain and thinking, if the blood sugar goes too high then i feel sleepy and lethargic. this coupled with my natural verbose writing style and slower approach to problem solving means it is not helpful for these exams. i have sped up by consciously managing the time taken to do each stage of the paper, and this time i think i did this better.</i>
<i>startet too late on pct. starting ealyer :) three month are a bit too short to start.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness is that i dont doublecheck things. i had one hour left in paper d and instead of going through all the questions again and reading all the details, i skipped over the ones i was sure i had gotten right in the first round. turns out i didnt get those right. so my take away is that i shouldnt be sure of anything and use spare time to doublecheck everything.</i>
<i>since i began the eqe papers there is this unnecassary time pressure. especially with paper d and c. a big why? dies the epo only want super fast hand writers? the quality of a european patent attorney has by far nothing to do with very quick reading/understanding and lightning speed handwriters. for my company i am dealing with everything from imventions, patents as well as</i>

<i>oppositons and appeal. and i am very successful. but i can take the amount of time needed. please amend this to tje positive.</i>
<i>identifying most useful texts for the exam</i>
<i>my greatest weakness was the capability of quickly and efficiently organizing the information contained in the applicants letter. i think that by practicing with past paers this weakness has been faced and, hopefully, overcome.</i>
<i>structuring of the time allocation according to previous pre-eqe (did claim analysis first, since that usually took longer and better concentration was necessary, but 2019 more time at law part was necessary)</i>
<i>too much time spent on preparation made me miserable</i>
<i>1. understand significance of using the correct (as per examiners report) attacks for paper c - overcome by failing the paper c once 2. paper a fallback positions for claims - overcome by failing paper a once</i>
<i>time restriction is a problem. so i made exercises with previous papers.</i>
<i>motivation to study for paper d again was difficult given my failure to hand in a part of my answer in 2018. i don't want to go again</i>
<i>i believe i dropped some marks on the claims analysis section because i was answering as if i was prosecuting an application, whereas i should have taken the more conservative stance of an examiner. in particular with regard to questions on intermediate generalization.</i>
<i>management of time. better preparation, especially training on past years exams in limited time.</i>
<i>i should be more familiar with the content to avoid checking answers all the time.</i>
<i>understanding closest prior art document</i>
<i>time to finish the exam within 5hrs and 30 min.</i>
<i>starting studying earlier</i>
<i>it is difficult to fully assess how paper a will be assessed and marked - this depends in part from the new format</i>
<i>carelessness</i>
<i>lack of time for preparation, due to circumstances beyond my control.</i>
<i>understand how the paper is marked</i>
<i>starting study earlier</i>
<i>greatest weakness - familiarity with the guidelines for examination, overcome by studying the guidelines specifically more</i>
<i>ipree rule 22(3) is the biggest obstacle for c i had to overcome. there is a subcontext, or a maneuverism which only applies to eqe exam and not in real life. i had to spend quite a lot of time to gauge upto which level and in what situation it applies. for example, you can apply your own knowledge that gas will permeate through holes or boiling water will create gas etc in argumentation but you cannot assume a cartridge is something you know from real life. so there is a very thin (obscure & vague) line between common sense and ipree rue 22(3). doing past papers, i learned that the trick is to blindly apply the definitions given mostly in a1 and sometimes in the rest of documents. i think providing examples on the part of exam committee is desired.</i>
<i>focus on issues for the exam exactly couldve done the online course less rigidly and done my own thing more</i>
<i>i felt quite good during the exam and got 94 points, so there has not been a substantial weakness. however, i felt like i confused myself during the exam with respect to some questions, which were not clear in my opinion.</i>
<i>i could have done more practice papers to time.</i>
<i>weakness: no time for preparation due to work load. it is important to organize free time to prepare off from daily work.</i>

<i>only 2 previous paper a under the new system (i.e. one for all) available</i>
<i>very limited papers for the new a+b paper makes preparation difficult</i>
<i>1) stay within time - practicing full paper under real exam conditions is crucial 2) collect all the possible points by indicating also what seems obvious - practicing past paper and reading the examiners comments to understand how to answer in the exam style and where are the points</i>
<i>i would say that i started earlier enough, considering that i had only the a paper to sit.. i practiced a lot of past exams (more than 20). however, at the end of the allocated time, i notice that something was wrong with my claim. i was not happy, but it was too late. in the train back to my home, i re-wrote the independent claim again. this claim, not submitted because too late, is the claim that deltapatent has suggested to his blog dedicated to paper a. although the one i submitted is novel and inventive, it is too narrow and is not covering the second embodiment of the client. i think i might fail because of that. i actually think that i will fail because of that. i am frustrated because it is was bad luck (maybe not real bad luck because i should probably have seen that earlier in the exam, but yeah, i know i could have pass without too much issue and now im really convince that i wont pass.</i>
<i>fast handwriting. as extensive citations of text is required, i.e. for showing disclosure of all features of a claim and text is not structured so that it can be cut out easily, speed of handwriting becomes the limiting factor for argumentation. train in a handwriting course.</i>
<i>pct</i>
<i>time management. by sitting more papers strictly to time.</i>
<i>time</i>
<i>opportunity to do exams in exam style conditions - very difficult at home.</i>
<i>left too much to do with too little time to do it all in. however, the issue is that the uk peb final exams were in october 2018, which is less than 5 month before the eqes. i took too long to regain the motivation to study again after a stressful and tiring time preparing for the peb exams. be disciplined and start intensive study in november.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness is in taking the exam itself, i have some dyslexia and i am a slow reader and easily miss content in sentences and especially in longer texts. so i need to recover the time lost there by fast analysis and fast writing. this results in me making errors i normally (with a bit more time) do not make. you could say it is part of the time pressure applied to the exam but for me there is an additional penalty. so i need a strict planning and methodology at the exam, which i have. but the time limitation is the hardest for me.</i>
<i>lack of 6 hour time in one time.</i>
<i>started preparation too late</i>
<i>level of preparedness - should really have started intensive study much earlier (for personal reasons, was unable to launch into eqe study immediately after uk finals in october as originally planned)</i>
<i>i have not had good support from my employee site. i have struggle a lot, and alone.</i>
<i>between job and family it becomes year to year harder to prepare for the eqe, and to do the same former exams over and over again</i>
<i>handwriting skills, and reading much faster. the exams seems to test more how fast you can read and write, rather than testing you are fit to practice</i>
<i>starting too late</i>
<i>full-time job (with about 10 hours overtime per week) in parallel to the preparation, i.e. preparation only in the evening and at the weekend. quit my job, but that is a bad option.</i>
<i>unable to complete the paper d part ii questions in 3 hours unbroken - could have taken time off from work to allow more opportunities to study for 3 hours without interruption</i>
<i>greatest weakness: too many interruptions during preparation overcome: by organizing longer period for preparation</i>

<i>greatest weakness in the meaning of preparing exams : two children (aged 6 and 2). no solution for that !</i>
<i>finding and practicing a general standardised procedure to handle d2 (and c). if you cant handle the wimmelpicture under the given time pressure, your legal knowledge is of little use.</i>
<i>not doing more old papers and not studying old examiners report.</i>
<i>the lanugages. none of the three official language is my mother tongue. it leads to missunderstand or to require too much time in the preparation phase.</i>
<i>timing</i>
<i>too little number of test-examinations (compendium), mainly because of illness</i>
<i>finding the motivation to resit a paper</i>
<i>work load vs training time.</i>
<i>claims analysis was my biggest weakness. although towards the end of a four hour exam, my brain is also starting to tire.</i>
<i>organizing my notes books etc took me many months</i>
<i>lack of deep understanding of legislative purposes and reasons of details of each provision. i should have started preparation much earlier and read more the book the annotated european patent convention. however, in view of such small letters of this book, i should have had prepare better glasses before starting that...</i>
<i>the time limit for the questions of paper d-i or of paper c</i>
<i>figuring out a solution but then not presenting it clearly and comprehensively. this may have been partly due to excitement, inability to reason clearly as i write, and/or hubris. i could have paid more attention to the form of the solutions published in the compendium, and practised drafting full answers under exam conditions (as opposed to just figuring out the solution). it may also have been good to get feedback on answers e.g. from a course or from delta. on the other hand, figuring out solutions without bothering to write answers down made study much more appealing, and covered a lot of material fast. it might therefore have actually helped.</i>
<i>claim analysis. i think that the claim analysis part can be tricky sometimes. it would have been nice to have had even more claim analysis parts to practice like the ones provided in the ege pre-exam course.</i>
<i>the differences between the work in an ip office and the ege that are not suitable for testing if a candidate is fit-to-practise</i>
<i>focus on past exams more</i>
<i>my problem has always been the answering technique: the knowledge from 15 years in the business is quite good, but there is not enough time to prepare for the exam after work. while i know something about the epc substance itself, the knowledge in actual article and rule numberings has been weaker than i have wanted. and especially in pct articles and rules numberings. solution: more time to prepare, and some time off from work totally.</i>
<i>my geatest weakness was the determination and calculation of time limits. i did overcome it by training, e.g. by repeatetly determine time limits over and over again..</i>
<i>doing everything too early before the exam so that i had forgotten some things by the time it came to sit the exam</i>
<i>weakness: time management and type of questions. overcoming: practicing with old pre-exam tests.</i>
<i>inability to absorb points of law without context - should seek out more diverse work</i>
<i>my greatest weakness is not reading every single word of the questions, which, particularly in the pre-exam, can change the scope of the question.</i>
<i>inability to dedicate more time for studies due to high workload at my primary job. sometimes i had to choose between reading the epo course and doing assignments received from my csp coach as the weekend was not long enough.</i>
<i>proper preparation of materials. better compendium for students or better information on which</i>

<i>materials are best suited on an information site</i>
<i>i now learned in depth the details of the processes and the claim analysis. not focused on specialities, as i have been before.</i>
<i>going too fast since there is not enough time to write everything down. when i take more time to do the analysis, i do not have sufficient time to draft all the response. when i shorten the analysis, i make errors but have sufficient time to write (and be readable).</i>
<i>get more time off to focus on detailed preparation</i>
<i>time management. based on previous examiners reports, its quite hard to determined how much time to spend on argumenting the answers. sometimes fully detailed arguments are expected, sometimes not. given the length of the paper, it may be just not possible to fully justify every answer without risking having not enough time to adress every question, every item of the paper.</i>
<i>study more and get organised more</i>
<i>claims analysis and in particular applying stricter standards than in my day job, where there seems to be greater scope for arguments. i attempted practice quizzes as part of the ege online course and past papers to attempt to improve.</i>
<i>missing details in the questions - have a knowledge level that allows making such mistakes and still pass the exam</i>
<i>stamina for absorbing knowledge. i started with ep applications first, and then pct after, and found by the time i reached pct my brain was full. im not sure what the answers to overcoming it is really, other than to push through.</i>
<i>for d, i did not know what material i would need and aggregate it progressively. starting directly with the final material would help familiarize with it.</i>
<i>the feeling of stress, the feeling that i do not have time enough which stresses me and make my read the questions carelessly. my nerves, thinking that the papers are held only once a year.</i>
<i>starting earlier. but the internship condition (amount of work) hardly allows for more preparation than taking some weeks of vacation.</i>
<i>clearly understand meaning of question</i>
<i>longer to prepare for paper d. needs about 6 months to get through the delta patents questions, i reckon.</i>
<i>my weakness is paper a. there are not a lot of exemples and old compendium is not adapted to new type of examinations. up to now, i do not how to overcome it.</i>
<i>not being prepared for the time pressure and stress. i should have practised past papers whilst living away from home and not eating for a week</i>
<i>interpreting what the deliberately obfuscated question is actually about and removing double/triple negatives. questions relating to areas of practice i have and will never use (ranges/chemistry/selection inventions/medical methods etc).</i>
<i>work overload leaving no time to study or prepare.</i>
<i>i didnt know where to find some information in the epc. i could have overcome that by studying more.</i>
<i>lack of time. which could not be overcome.</i>
<i>i did not have enough time to focus my study on the pct part</i>
<i>problems with a good hand writing with pressure of time. practice</i>
<i>keep regular in my revision</i>
<i>not doing enough paper d in exam condition</i>
<i>more time</i>
<i>understanding which reference materials were going to be useful and that combining these references with the epo training course (tagging your copy of the epc reference text for example) as you worked through the course was not stressed as being as important as it is. knowing what your reference text includes, and how it is organised, helps you to not only remember and recall</i>

<i>the law, but saves enormous amounts of time in the examination. pairing the course and the references material from the start of revision should be highly recommended.</i>
<i>should have practiced more advanced topics</i>
<i>pct is my greatest weakness and i probably could have tried to study a bit more in this regard</i>
<i>staying focused for the 4 hours of examination</i>
<i>speed in reading, understanding and transforming information into the final written form of the opposition.</i>
<i>family and work</i>
<i>time management, no idea</i>
<i>pct questions, overcome with book epc/pct tables</i>
<i>writing incomplete answers. no real way to overcome, but practising helped</i>
<i>my procedure for papers a and b was probably not structured enough. probably i should have done more papers from compendium.</i>
<i>too little time left for pct study; longer study time and better management of the time repartition.</i>
<i>sufficient time for preparation</i>
<i>paper a: not to know what is essential for the and what not, what features have to be in claim 1,... the reports of the last years are not concise...</i>
<i>language skills and interpreting the epc</i>
<i>legal questions. organisation of material for the exam</i>
<i>i think the most difficult thing was figuring out how to start studying; once i really got into a rhythm i think i was fine, but i feel like i spent too much time at the beginning simply devising a study methodology.</i>
<i>i started too late, the study material is too extensive and one should start at least two month in advance...</i>
<i>lacking preparation due to preparing papers c and d</i>
<i>none.</i>
<i>when practicing old exams, i did not always put 100% effort into answering a question. however, when you actually sit the exam and your answer has to be 100% correct, you suddenly approach questions differently. so to practice this approach, i would recommend during practice to always at least attempt to get each question right and to find the answer in your references.</i>
<i>how to understand the examiners model solution.</i>
<i>one of my greatest weakness was the identification of the closest prior art. the "methodology for paper c" of delta patents offered a good overview and detailed explanation of how to identify the cpa.</i>
<i>i should have begun earlier with preparation.</i>
<i>lack of focus for the duration of the exam</i>
<i>greatest weakness was time management. should have practiced under stricter conditions, to take into account the time needed to number the pages and gather the sheets, and the time loss due to stress during the exams. also should have practiced more strategically. going quickly through the less important parts and focusing on the more important parts mostly for b, and also to some extent for c and d.</i>
<i>understanding the fact that pre-examination is increasingly more and more difficult thus requiring a deeper and deeper preparation. plus the fact that not being my mothertongue one of the official epo languages (and being the pre-exam an exam strongly focused on the time per question capacity) i had to be proportionally faster in elaborating the information not being possible to improve my reading/understanding significantly.</i>

<i>time management hand writing how to react, in case you got stuck self confidence</i>
<i>recognizing a lesson from contradictions within the former examiners reports. i just had to guess to overcome it.</i>
<i>time pressure especially resulting from the foreign language candidates should perform the previous exams under time pressure.</i>
<i>should have trained more prior paper like in real exam situation.</i>
<i>underestimated paper a and b</i>
<i>the biggest issue was that i quite early felt comfortable with regards to the difficulty of the examination, and so i felt that i did not need to put much effort into studying.</i>
<i>i had a problem to focus on all details, i could not concentrate because of time pressure.</i>
<i>managing the time during the exam</i>
<i>i was exhausted because a fire alarm repeatedly went off in the hotel at the venue between the hours of 4.15 and 5 am, so i was not able to get much sleep. i could not do anything to overcome this, apart from eat and drink coffee to ensure blood sugar levels did not drop. with regard to the paper, the questions can be written in a fairly ambiguous way, and i fear i misinterpreted what the main goal of the question was in parts. by remaining calm when reading questions</i>
<i>knowing how to answer the question.</i>
<i>at some points, recognition of what was actually asked for was difficult for me, in particular in the dii part (e.g as to whether attacking at-h under national law in light of the second part of [001] and its non-specific disclosure/claim, or as what kind of improvement of ms fasts situation could actually be achieved by claiming priority of ep-f3 for ep-f2, in light of the lower range limit (35 nm) not being disclosed in ep-f2 (-> art 123(2) problem?). also, i missed some easier points in those di questions i worked on towards the end of the exam.</i>
<i>paper a was my greatest weakness as the new e/m & ch combined exams have a different focus than the old divided exams. as there were only three past exams (including the mock), i could not have sufficient preparation for the new style paper a. preparations with earlier divided exams made me rather more confusing for the new style exams. moreover, i did get the feeling that the focus in the a 2017 and a 2018 was also slightly different. at the end, i very much tried to dig deep only into the latest two exams 2017 and 2018 and studied the examiners report in detail.</i>
<i>i was a us attorney, so everything was different in the epo. i had to change my mindset to think like a european attorney.</i>
<i>to focus on the key features and effects of the invention.</i>
<i>lack of preparation regarding the claim analysis part of the pre-eqe ; can be overcome by not neglecting the importance of practising.</i>
<i>not sufficient time for preparation.</i>
<i>limited time for preparation.</i>
<i>i could have study the pct provisions a bit better</i>
<i>not reading carefully, making careless mistakes, overseeing important decisions of the boards of appeal</i>
<i>my weakness was too slow reading and even more too slow handwriting. i believe it can be improved through practicing.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness would be gathering the discipline to study on a regular basis. following a course with a tutor in real life greatly helps with this issue. finishing a phd in the meantime doesnt really help either.</i>
<i>the amount of time i was able to dedicate to study, long commute, family issues, busy at work</i>
<i>should have practiced more</i>
<i>pct revision. done more revision.</i>

<i>timing (e.g. finishing the exam in time). i could have improved this by doing more past papers to time and going on more course to help improve my technique.</i>
<i>consistency to reduce errors. overcome by practise and developing an organised strategy.</i>
<i>i shouldnt have used so much time for the epo online course. this course is in english and it is still more difficult if you are not a native english person. if one of the epo official languages is your mothertongue, it is better to use material in your language. it is difficult enough. there is no need for further difficulties.</i>
<i>not sufficient velocity in writing the notice of opposition</i>
<i>lack of understanding precise marking criteria, until this year.</i>
<i>inattention, wrong reading i could have ignored the time pressure and just focused the question.</i>
<i>need to learn to speed read</i>
<i>to update all the documentation.</i>
<i>preparation on top of the normal daily work load, not easy. overcoming is also not easy, because it is just not possible to free an adequate amount of time</i>
<i>claim analysis</i>
<i>i have already sat paper d several times. only this year i realised that studying more for paper di will not change anything in my (up till now) poor results. preparation for paper dii is just as important and can be done in less time. i have a feeling that by doing so, this year could have been much more successful for me.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness is in the claim part. to overcome, i have solved all of past exams and worked deltapatent documents</i>
<i>again (as last year), due to personal reasons, there was no time for studying.</i>
<i>lack of time for preparation</i>
<i>time to invest was under-estimated</i>
<i>the language (german) is the biggest problem and i dont think ill overcome it entirly. what i can do is to beginn the preparation much earlier ana take more time on it.</i>
<i>focus more on relaxing, especially one week before the exam</i>
<i>not enough focus on claim analysis</i>
<i>do old exams. unfortunately, that is the most important training.</i>
<i>time pressure. being allowed to type.</i>
<i>free time of some days before the exam day</i>
<i>use time effectively - pareto</i>
<i>expectation of the examiners. focus on compendium</i>
<i>pct knowledge, as did not have time to review this subject-matter before the exam - would have been better to start studying two weeks earlier (in my case at the christmas holidays) to have time to review</i>
<i>finding the time to study between a full time job and the family</i>
<i>i should have started working through the d preparation earlier, but it is difficult with uk finals in october.</i>
<i>learning how different pointers in the papers sjould be weighted in answering.</i>
<i>when studying alone, you can miss an overview of the procedures. aid sheets with schemes for the different procedures would help.</i>
<i>focussed too much on di questions, make more dii tests to be faster</i>

<i>exercise cannot be done those documents, that will available during the examination. problem: frequent updates of documents until short time (less than 4 month) prior the examination. old markings and the familiarity with the documents will be lost. the deadline for the documents should be already in the summer, i.e. 31st june of the year before. this will allow training with those documents although being used during the examination later on.</i>
<i>i have prepared myself very well for this exam. time pressure and stress at the exam are major issue for me. otherwise, i had all the tools and knowledge to write a very good paper.</i>
<i>practice a little bit more the dii part</i>
<i>being more strict on timing.</i>
<i>finding the right focus soon enough.</i>
<i>not reading the relevant part of the guidelines as and when a question arose</i>
<i>a few more papers a.</i>
<i>not to be able to discuss my exams with other european attorney (no personnl advice)</i>
<i>lack of clear information which parts of the answers scored marka</i>
<i>time management try to get more points by picking the questions where the most points are</i>
<i>weak motivation</i>
<i>when working for a small company with no in house training schemes or other people to train with there is limited external input. to solve this i would suggest offering a mentoring scheme through cipa.</i>
<i>sleep</i>
<i>didnt have time to only studying.</i>
<i>claim analysis and more specifically the combination of prior art. in order to overcome it i studied in depth all the reasonings behind the replies of previous exams and i did as much cases i could do.</i>
<i>i should have dedicated more time for intensive study.</i>
<i>more detailed analisys of compendium</i>
<i>train under exam pressure.</i>
<i>invest more time for dii training.</i>
<i>the material i have been working with does not cover the steps of the processes at the epo. the on-line training course for the pre-examination lacks an overview of why things happens. previously i worked as a trainer within telecom, and i think a lot could be done to the course from a pedagogical view!</i>
<i>starting too much in advance leads to psychological and physical tiredness when exams come. its important to take some rest and balance preparaation and private/professional life</i>
<i>greatest weakness: learning/ memorizing of the epc based on pure text material, how to overcome: using visual aids like flowcharts</i>
<i>my greates weakness is to overthink the issues which is probably because i have bene practising for a while. often what appears to be the most obvious think to do is what you should do. so a lesson is that once you see something you should just go for it and startd writing; also dont strive for perfection in the way you write because in the end you wont have time to finish which can be frustrating if you ae figured out the attacks. i also think there is little time to explain why you havent done something although the exam committe would be interested to understand why you have not choses a particular cpa for example....</i>
<i>shortage of time between uk exams in october and ege</i>
<i>the capability of finding enough personal time to study properly while working at the same time</i>

<i>not really applicable for just part a</i>
<i>ability to finish the papers on time</i>
<i>too less time. start earlier with learning.</i>
<i>learn more where to find in order to reduce searching time</i>
<i>understanding of biotech and chemistry specific patentability issues (my background is in electronics and software). could be overcome by doing more mock questions on these subjects to practice and understand them better.</i>
<i>the lack of time for preparation the eqe</i>
<i>nothing special</i>
<i>time available to sit 5.5 hour papers to time whilst also working full time</i>
<i>not practicing a whole paper all the way to the end</i>
<i>not familiar with most recent changes to law. try to keep track of the ojs rather than having to specifically look up what has changed since the most recent version of hoekstra/visser.</i>
<i>questions in respect to paper d and therefore i had to use the "epü- und pct-tabellen".</i>
<i>more back-bone knowledge for the d1 would have saved some time. could perhaps have started earlier.</i>
<i>time allocation on the examination is the hardest. so i should have started earlier to do old examination papers, as it doesnt matter that you know the law and the answer, if you do not get it on paper fast in a way that gives points. i think i should have benefited to use anki to memorize the articles and rules. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/anki_(software)</i>
<i>problem: knowledge for paper d1 was not sufficient. solution: starting preparation for paper d1 earlier.</i>
<i>for me, time was the big enemy when doing mock exams. therefore, much effort went into preparing to be efficient in interpreting each question correctly and limit the time needed to search for answers in the material.</i>
<i>navigating the pct. more time and effort to become familiar</i>
<i>not studying where i lost marks in enough detail, focusing too much on where i obtained marks</i>
<i>speed to respond to paper. dont know how to improve.</i>
<i>to be able to concentrate for 4 hours in a row</i>
<i>time pressure. papers are difficult to be done on time</i>
<i>time management. more practice doing papers to time</i>
<i>not being able to focus on intensive study too far ahead of the exam. this could be overcome by not having a day job (impossible!) and so much work at work (unlikely!)</i>
<i>less than optimal choice of closest prior art - i tend to choose the right two documents, but then combine them in the wrong order. study more on that subject specifically.</i>
<i>not doing enough papers to time</i>
<i>the future will show.</i>
<i>not sufficient time for preparing. i would have needed to start studying earlier.</i>
<i>spend more time on claim analysis practice - learn & apply problem-solution approach and its individual aspects more thoroughly (e.g. closest prior art, technical effect, etc.)</i>
<i>practice in claim analysis</i>
<i>my greatest weakness was pct. could have been overcome by focusing more on pct.</i>
<i>time management, allowed more study time</i>

<i>got burnt out by the intensity of my revision and therefore easily distracted. did not expect the level of revision required so required to revise intensely due to 3 month time span i left for preparation. would start revising earlier, and taking part in the epo course earlier, as intended.</i>
<i>greatest weakness: claim analysis due to overlooking important facts and features reading the question slowly, several times</i>
<i>lack of time</i>
<i>pct specifics; overcome: dedicate more time to preparation of pct</i>
<i>i have poor memory, and so need to look up everything for d-1. as a result, i spent so much time indexing the various references.</i>
<i>too slow. by reading faster...</i>
<i>i waited until the very end to print all the material for the exam since i studied form my ipad. i lack some practice with the material i had in the examination with me.</i>
<i>i should have started to study earlier.</i>
<i>doing compendium</i>
<i>pct. i would have had to dedicate more time to the study of pct.</i>
<i>pct knowledge - not sure how to solve this problem</i>
<i>to manage time</i>
<i>the lack of new format past papers for paper a. doing upwards of 15 past papers including old e/m papers and chem papers is of little use. dont know what other preparation i could of done to help me.</i>
<i>finding a methodology and my way in the matter took quite long.</i>
<i>use of time</i>
<i>writing too slow.</i>
<i>lack of continued motivation. overcome by following a meeting or engage in a course</i>
<i>legal aspects related to the relations between epo and ib (mainly related to pct applications) and correlated communications and obligations/duties</i>
<i>for pre-examination: i spent a lot of time studying various topics in detail before practicing exam questions. in hindsight, my time may have been used more effectively understanding the level of detail required for the exam by looking at past papers earlier, then focusing study on key areas identified. having well organised materials is key to passing the pre-exam.</i>
<i>claim analysis. practice paper.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness has been the ability to find the right reference when responding to a question; i have overcome it by focusing more on what was actually asked, in order to focus the topic better and find the answer i was looking for.</i>
<i>thorough reading of the questions and hidden subtleties</i>
<i>formulating and writing the answer</i>
<i>being distracted when preparing - do not practice at home or in the office but try to disappear in a library or similar</i>
<i>the first time i sat the pre-eqe i did not start early enough with my preparation, so i did not manage to get an overall view of all the relevant fields. further, i did not make sure to have prepared my legal texts etc. sufficiently. unfortunately, i also did not have contact to other candidates so we could form a study group.</i>
<i>i started too early</i>
<i>interpreting questions too broad (particularly in paper d), wasting time to side aspects. remedy: investing more time in reviewing solved papers regarding to this aspect.</i>
<i>i find understanding the questions sometimes difficult. although they are supposed to be</i>

<i>true/false, for a number of questions i feel the questions can be explained differently and therefore answered both ways</i>
<i>this is my third year of intense studying. it is a long time having to prioritise studying instead of spending time with my kids.</i>
<i>combination of starting a new job and preparing for the exams wasnt ideal and i had less energy to prepare for the exams due to intensive work days</i>
<i>not having a study plan</i>
<i>late start of the intensive and focused study - it is difficult to start before the end of the year when results are provided in july.</i>
<i>greatest weakness: doing stupid mistakes, dont know whether that can be overcome</i>
<i>reading the question carefully. just read it more i guess!</i>
<i>satisfied with my approach</i>
<i>- too less preparation of pct-law</i>
<i>not having a complete overview of where in the process from application to patent the single epo articles and rules applies.</i>
<i>i experienced some weakness in specific topics which i hadnt been able to study enough</i>
<i>not knowing how to start preparing for paper d, i thought by starting to read the epo-pct guide, guidelines, official documents etc first would help, when in actual fact if i'd known to just start working through the d questions, or practise papers first i would have saved time and got the crux of the knowledge required.</i>
<i>physical resistance (hand writing).</i>
<i>structured plan</i>
<i>pct knowledge</i>
<i>reading too fast and missing information. i can overcome it with slowing down.</i>
<i>not preparing enough for paper b, although this is limited by a lack of online guidance of what past exams are suitable for the new paper format.</i>
<i>it was hard to read everything in 6 moths time. it would be best to start online traing 10-12 moths before, and after finishing it read some more gudelines</i>
<i>none</i>
<i>lack of time next to day-to-day work. best solution is to discuss with your employer.</i>
<i>making silly mistakes</i>
<i>missing time</i>
<i>with c and particularly with a and b papers, there still is a substantially different way of marking depending on whether the papers are chemistry or electrical/mechanics inspired. i did not manage to get to a point to where i could switch easily to c or e/m type and adjust claim drafting according to the respective marking practice.</i>
<i>no time</i>
<i>i never realized how long it would take to go through all of the material properly.</i>
<i>i had a cold which was my greatest weakness. no idea how to overcome that.</i>
<i>timing. i have never been able to finish papers in the allotted time. im not sure how to improve that.</i>
<i>the exam is not very challenging, but it would be a shame to fail because of lack of trying because you wouldnt be able to sit the eqes the following year. therefore you have to revise but it is not very exciting and there is not much motivation. therefore my greatest weakness would be just trying to keep revising up until the exam.</i>

<i>time management to balance work, family and learning. self-discipline</i>
<i>time management. time lost to find legal basis of something known.</i>
<i>less time (due to family, work)</i>
<i>when preparing, i focused too much on coming to all the elements of an answer and not enough on writing those down. when practicing exams from the compendium, should have written down full answers, just to get the habit of doing so (not having to think of standard phrases and having a better grasp on time use)</i>
<i>only being able to mark papers vaguely because the examiners reports do not explain the marking schemes in enough detail - i personally couldnt have improved this! this is particularly problematic for papers a, b, and c. if you dont get the perfect answer, it is unclear whether you lose a few marks or all marks.</i>
<i>slow reading and sensitivity to some topics - electricity, sensors, lasers are a real struggle for me.</i>
<i>not having read extensively the guidelines</i>
<i>my greatest weakness was exam nerves, which made me do some stupid mistakes.</i>
<i>preparing the exams in group. lack of external training</i>
<i>stick with official materials only. use delta patents training</i>
<i>more past papers and intensive reading of examiners reports</i>
<i>more structured way of working</i>
<i>weakness: focusing the details of part d ii overcome: inhouse training</i>
<i>lack of time due to unfortunate family circumstances over the past year (serious illness in family members and the like). unfortunately the last year was just one of those ones where a large number of unfortunate circumstances combined.</i>
<i>i thought that i can find answers to legal question quickly in epc and guidelines.</i>
<i>finding an strategic approach esp. the right material.</i>
<i>nothing</i>
<i>to d: keeping the level of legal knowledge from pre-ex. preparation until main-ex d1 on a suitable detailed level over the whole field was hard, so my greatest weakness was to keep the necessary level of detail by re-re-studying same legal topics to a: i spent too much time on old e/m papers in compendium, which were in my opinion a completely different task than new format combined a papers - so i did practice too less with old ch papers.</i>
<i>i do not have any mentor who would help me understand the mechanics of the epc and the actual tested understanding of the epc. i had to spend extra time to ensure that i was learning correctly. when i had a question, i could not just ask to someone, so i spend extra time and effort to find legal basis for the questions i was asking. i wished so hard to be selected for the csp in 2018, because i would have a mentor to help me through the process. but that was not possible.</i>
<i>imagine what the examiners would invent with the purpose of create a surprising difficulty to the candidates.</i>
<i>greatest weakness: planning of concurrent obligations for the curriculum of a german patent attorney. it would be preferable to have no concurrent obligations in the two weeks preceding the pre-epc and have at least one week of focused preparation leading up to the exam.</i>
<i>my greatest weakness is time management. i should have practiced more in exam conditions instead of just doing exercises.</i>
<i>how to answer.</i>
<i>part ii (claim analysis) - not being able to give a sure fire answer - doubt on how certain aspects would be interpreted by the examiner. @how to overcome: probably more study on the guidelines to be more familiar with an epo-examiners mindset.</i>

i am still slow. it was for me the third time to sit the c paper and every year i studied and intensively prepare. so i dont think i can improve my speed.

i should have started before for consolidating

i felt that i left myself insufficient time to prepare fully for paper d. i could have overcome this by gathering my resources earlier since a large part of my early allotted study time was taken up by printing and binding various resources and gathering textbooks.

i should have practiced paper c a few more times under exam conditions. it is so long it is difficult to find time for.

Q15) What advice would you give other candidates preparing for the examination(s)?

take the delta patents course!

follow deltapatents courses. do not waste time on old a/b papers

take time for studying. so although i might fail (due to what i call bad luck (see above), the fact that i have practiced a lot of papers (more than 20 past exams only for a) has given me confidence for the exam. the proof is that i was able to notice that i did a mistake in my claim and that i was able (without any help from anyone) to write a claim which was better in the train roughly 2 hours after the end of the exams. i did try twice to sit the eqe papers before 2019. the first time, i tried the 4 papers in a row, and i failed all 4. the second time, i tried again the 4 papers, and i validated (not really actually but still i get a compensable) in b. the third time i did it, it was in 2019, and i know that i could have done it (at least for a). i repeat, it was just lack of luck.

i think everybody has its own learning technique. you really should be aware of your books, papers, templates you use. you have to know how to use it, because time is running during the exam. i started with the epc and its rules because these are the basics. a book which allows to find special topics fast may be very helpful.

find your methodology and practice it with past papers

guidelines for examination is significant.

start revision early and do lots of practice questions.

you should begin the study well before september, especially when you choose to sit the paper d along with at least two other papers.

a lot of exercise on previous papers

discuss with your employer that you need time for examination. some tutors are used to ancient exam requirements and, as a consequence, not willing to understand that preparation for the exam takes a lot of time.

prepare by practicing old examinations.

do not rush, and stay calm

organisation of material for the exam. use markers

for paper a: carefully analyse previous papers and learn how to make a clear distinction between your own experience and what it is requested for (successfully) setting the paper

solving the past papers in exam conditions.

practice exams in exam conditions.

make your own decisions.

unbedingt alle alt-prüfungen durchgehen. guten kommentar, bzw. tabellenbuch beschaffen.

take specialized courses and especially for paper d. to limit the material to be used when writing the paper, do not bring too much, better to know the material very well. start training in time. have

<i>the employer to allow studies at working time.</i>
<i>one should start with one or two previous pre-examination papers to get some insights how the questions will be. then focus on general aspects as provided by the online training course. later on, do all previous exams in real time.</i>
<i>prepare textblock for recurring elements in the exams e.g. partial problem,</i>
<i>getting the above overview already in the ceipi basic course - in my opinion, this should be emphasized a lot more by the tutors.</i>
<i>make templates for paper b based on examiners reports of the past papers.</i>
<i>train under exam conditions.</i>
<i>definitely prepare fully and by that i mean attend at least one formal course for each paper, and practice as many past papers as possible. keep building on knowledge learned on the job and through reading the relevant texts.</i>
<i>correction papers program or other program where you receive a detailed marking sheet gives you a very good understanding what is required to score points.</i>
<i>practice past papers, and loads of paper d questions from any source.</i>
<i>practice as much as possible former papers, specially a and d papers.</i>
<i>start early on, make your preparation plan. time management and insight in the marking system is essential try to find your individual preparation including books and courses to be as focused as possible</i>
<i>do practice papers in exam conditions to time (preferably 4 or 5 for each paper)</i>
<i>prepare well for all parts of the exam and not only focus on the popular subjects. grades are easy to be taken also in the legal questions and not only in d-ii part.</i>
<i>attend preparatory courses to get an idea what is expected at ege. then develop your own method.</i>
<i>one must do: - online pre ege course on epo website (there are lots of exercises to practice) - one seminar dedicated to the pre ege - do previous exams - prepare your reference book so you can answer legal questions rapidly</i>
<i>in my view, it is most important to have - as early as possible - a big picture overview of the epc and pct proceedings. i think candidates are generally confronted too early with too many detail knowledge (which is demotivating and which they will forget soon anyway). better: get a good book providing a good overview, and then later when it comes close to the exam, go into the details. get (or better: make) a good index to quickly find literally everything.</i>
<i>write check-lists to be used for standard tasks in the ege. write a list of the mistakes you often make.</i>
<i>keep calm</i>
<i>if your are working, and have any kind of personal difficulty to find enough time (such as taking care of elderly, kids...) do start well in advance. it will be much more difficult than for the rest.</i>
<i>have a good time management.</i>
<i>practice, practice, practice, i have passed a, b, d and this year went for the final paper. for all the exams there is obviously a theoretical part to understand but what has really worked for me is doing a lot of papers and lots of questions (for d). so dont wait to know everything until you practice the papers, just go for it and learn through trial and error. i also think that tutorials either in-house if they exists or with ceipi/delta patents are useful because you understand what you need to improve.</i>
<i>start early, do papers, take methodology courses, find what method suits you best when answer papers, do papers first without time constraints, then under real time constraints.</i>
<i>früh anfangen.</i>
<i>take visser and do the past papers</i>
<i>complete as many past papers under exam conditions as possible.</i>

<i>learning what is required in answers and not writing too much</i>
<i>buy the book epü und pct tabellen</i>
<i>practice past papers</i>
<i>pass the exams at the first try</i>
<i>none, at least whether the preparation only took a week or a year did not seem to make a significant difference as regards the (probable) results.</i>
<i>don't stress out as much</i>
<i>start well in advance cross-referencing articles and rules and gl</i>
<i>whenever practicing for the pre-exam, never try to guess the answer but instead, spend all the time necessary to find the corresponding legal basis or solid arguments.</i>
<i>be confident in your answers</i>
<i>time investment</i>
<i>practice with past papers.</i>
<i>starting your studies early is better than starting too late</i>
<i>do as many past questions as possible.</i>
<i>study hard from day one you enter the profession. make the link between theory and daily practice at work.</i>
<i>do the exams of the previous years.</i>
<i>double check answers</i>
<i>don't become overly focused on learning strategies for passing the exam (eg preprepared charts, highlighting etc.). i saw people in the exam spend ages highlighting their question papers and filling in charts. the same people were still writing at the end of the exam and obviously they hadn't left enough time to answer the paper. the real thing you should know is how to be a patent attorney.</i>
<i>do the past papers to time and go through them afterwards with the mark scheme.</i>
<i>practice in conditions as similar as possible to that of the exams. practice in less time than the allocated time. make the most of the examiners reports.</i>
<i>do not make stress just trust yourself, and use the epc guideliness in your daily works much</i>
<i>learn together with others</i>
<i>start early to get some overview; plan enough time for practising the compendium under real-life conditions and time-restraints.</i>
<i>start preparing as early as you can. sit at least 5 practice papers for c and d (and at least 3 practice papers for a and b). gather your resources for paper d as early as possible and develop an indexing system that works for you.</i>
<i>determination, patience, and try to prepare the exams at the same time than other colleagues try to pass the exams as soon as possible, before having children</i>
<i>study a lot.</i>
<i>candidates should perform the previous exams under time pressure. they should start intensive and focused study at least 3 months in advance. short notes and appendix are very useful.</i>
<i>train a lot.</i>
<i>do not try to memorize everything. key is to find the information in an efficient manner. check every answer, even if you are certain, you know the answer from the top of your head. do the previous exams under exam like conditions and time each exam or at least each block (10 questions) - builds confidence, as you will usually finish with time left (below 2h per 10 questions, or below 4h per 20 questions)</i>

<i>try to find the essence of the invention as soon as possible.</i>
<i>do past papers and read the online candidate answer and examiners comments after each one.</i>
<i>good time management</i>
<i>i dont think studying any earlier than 4-5 months before the exam is very helpful as much of the information is easily forgotten - it is easier to study more intensively in the run-up to the exam so that the intricacies of the epc/pct are able to be remembered while sitting the exam</i>
<i>go to a course, learn the methodology and then train at home or in small groups, a lot !</i>
<i>make a revision plan and do not panic</i>
<i>do not underestimate how long it takes to compile and familiarise yourself with all the documents and notes that you need to take into the exam hall with you, this really does eat into valuable study time. start this asap. there is no possible way to do paper d, part ii unless you have a tried and tested and efficient scheme for extracting all the relevant information. same for paper c. definitely need to either sit a course or have robust guidance from somebody who has already passed the paper.</i>
<i>make sure you do enough exercises and practice. do real cases. work with colleagues in group, and discuss with them. accept all help but build your own planning and system that works for you.</i>
<i>sentraîner sur les épreuves passées en lisant attentivement le rapport des examinateurs.</i>
<i>begin very early (1st of september) delta patent training (not ceipi)</i>
<i>do not underestimate paper a and b train on as much papers c as possible</i>
<i>attend dedicated ege courses and study hard.</i>
<i>probeklausuren üben.</i>
<i>practice as much papers as possible.</i>
<i>for the pre-exam: start studying at least 6 months before and practice with old pre-exam tests.</i>
<i>do not underestimate the importance of completing past examination papers to time.</i>
<i>start early with general studies and be structured when going into the intensive and focused study. plan ahead!</i>
<i>make sure to attempt to all four examinations in the same timeframe, i.e. three days at least once before the real ege.</i>
<i>the last day before sitting the papers, i advice to have rest, to relax and to stop studying unless to sit exhausted. sitting more than 5 hours being stressed is very hard, when the candidate stop writting, he or she may collaspse (i almost collapsed). be prepare and sleep well the whole week before the examination. eat well and take some coca or any sweets in order to take forces and in case of collapsing.</i>
<i>start early. read the how to get a european patent before you start intensive study for ege to get an overview.</i>
<i>get your preparation for the legal questions rock solid such that you can afford some mistakes in the rather artificial questions in the problem solution approach part of the claim analysis section. do not get confused by unclear questions and do not waste time on them. trust your educated guess and do not correct except where you have overlooked something.</i>
<i>practice enough on old papers</i>
<i>take your time and keep calm</i>
<i>start early enough; make a time table</i>
<i>dont work too hard - 70s not too high</i>
<i>do as many past papers as possible</i>

<i>take time and have someone close to you that can assist you as much as possible</i>
<i>they should attend to the epe pre-examination course from the epo. on the one hand, the course gives a plan of when and in what order the topics should be studied. on the other hand, you will get a varied catalogue of questions to practice. furthermore, at least 4 (old) pre-examinations should be practised under examination-conditions.</i>
<i>c-book teaches you all you need to know about the paper c!</i>
<i>start preparing early and do all test exam questions as early as possible</i>
<i>do as many tests as possible</i>
<i>my advice is to read different texts (for example, the annotated european patent convention by visser, the guidelines for examination and the pct applicants guide) and exercise with both past papers and questions from the paper d of the main examination.</i>
<i>spend more time in group work.</i>
<i>the guidelines for examination in the epo are very good.</i>
<i>focus on compendium. prepared in a small group of 2-3 people.</i>
<i>compendium courses learning group</i>
<i>to study regularly + to practise past compendiums as much as possible</i>
<i>do not use guidelines do not use some expansive book (visser etc.) read the epc applicants guide (for overview) and practise to solve the exam with the epc/pct tables</i>
<i>practice answering as many questions as possible, covering the whole syllabus.</i>
<i>to really focus on answering in the correct way. not only give the correct answer but also answer in the correct way. otherwise most of the marks will be lost.</i>
<i>follow a well-established methodology first (ceipi c-book, deltapatents, ...) but then practice all old exam papers that you can using shortcuts based on your way of thinking and playing well to your personal intuition.</i>
<i>start early. i was resitting because i didnt start early enough last time.</i>
<i>allow plenty of time.</i>
<i>do not spend too much time in understanding 100% one annex before passing to the following. sometimes one the following is explanatory for a previous one</i>
<i>try to sleep well the nights after d and a+b</i>
<i>get time to study in the work day.</i>
<i>practice of previous examinations under pressure of time.</i>
<i>start early with your preparation dont spend time on old a and b papers before 2017.</i>
<i>read the guidelines, and try too find as many questions to answer as you can get. timeline questions are pretty good.</i>
<i>to practice to write full length answers and manage your time.</i>
<i>evaluate carefully each question. try to find clear and unambiguous basis for your answer in the epc, even and especially with regards to those question that appears to be trivial to you.</i>
<i>if the exam is in march, start studying before previous september. in my case the september before the exam i had already covered with personal effort a large amount of the material. therefore during the courses, i was trying to identify my weaknesses and learn the details and not to cover the basics. this really helped me not just to read the material but understand and digest in depth how the system works</i>
<i>try doing as many past exams as possible</i>
<i>it is of utmost importance to be able to navigate quickly through the documents you bring with you.</i>

<i>start studying as early as possible</i>
<i>pay for one of the courses that focuses on passing the test.</i>
<i>you have to learn how to score easy points.</i>
<i>intensive study, 5h a day,</i>
<i>do all old papers possible and study examiners report.</i>
<i>read through and grasp all the exam coverage as early as possible, and then work on the mock questions while checking and memorising the details, hopefully including legislative purposes and reasons of details of each provision.</i>
<i>- start the preparation as early as possible (at least one year in advance); - do not allow longer interruptions to occur during your preparation phase; - do as many of the previous exams as possible; - deal with a great variety of legal problems; - prepare the literature you want to use during the examination as detailed as possible;</i>
<i>- practice previous papers under exam conditions (e.g. within applicable time limit) - review results papers with tutor / in group. - focus on systematics behind epc/pct (avoid fragmented build up of knowledge)</i>
<i>start in november. practice papers, to time.</i>
<i>you can come a long way with good notes and visers book. you have time to look up things during the exam if you know where to look. look at at least one old exam so you get a feeling of the questions. once again, own notes of different epc subjects is very good to have.</i>
<i>start with doing practice questions (such as delta patents) then do all the past papers in chronological order. read the sections of the articles, guidelines and regulations as and when you come across a relevant question.</i>
<i>practise many compendium exams under near-to-real conditions, practise your understanding of what is actually being asked for, and keep your legal texts / comments up to date.</i>
<i>strictly practice filling out the matrix form</i>
<i>practice papers to time.</i>
<i>first start with one past paper to get the general idea; then, if deltapatents questions are available, practice them next; then mock exams</i>
<i>richtlinien lesen, anspruchsteil gezielt üben/ konzentriert korrigieren</i>
<i>try and find additional paper a and b exams from pre-2017 that are relevant to the new examination style.</i>
<i>be prepared</i>
<i>start to work, especially for paper d, 6 months before the examination, and try to handle the papers faster than the maximum time allowed in order to be more comfortable during the examination.</i>
<i>consider your workload of regular work when deciding how many exams to take. this is i guess of particular relevance for senior in-house attorneys or senior attorneys from grandfather countries.</i>
<i>once you have a good grip on issues to consider in theory (the law etc) and what to produce, spend less time on diagrams and analysis. start wording with the text in the papers directly and let the your understanding of the content and what measures to take mature while writing.</i>
<i>start d1 preparation with detailed analysis of required structure of the answers and understand from beginning on, what legal basis for your answer really means</i>
<i>starting early!</i>
<i>dont only focus on getting the right answers, but also on getting the answers right</i>
<i>start early!</i>
<i>having dedicated times for sports, relaxing. taking some days off just before examination</i>
<i>get a book containing epc/gl/pct. learn to search anything in it. do all mock exams, keeping the</i>

<i>most recent ones for the end of the préparation.</i>
<i>do not sit all of the main exams:-)</i>
<i>reading the ceipi books was helpful. dont panic in the exam. make decisive decisions and go with them in the exam. dont second guess too much.</i>
<i>there are still few mock exams. do them all. keep the most recent ones for the end of your preparation, only when you are finally familiar with looking up un epc+gl or equivalent. nothing beyond the gl is mandatory anyway.</i>
<i>start preparing early. look at past papers at an early stage of preparation to understand what knowledge is required and how to focus study. with this in mind, identify what materials you will use for the examination (better to have a few primary sources that you know your way around than lots of materials that you arent very familiar with) and make sure these are well organised and cross-referenced so that you can find relevant sections quickly.</i>
<i>- for people who do not speak any official language of epo natively, i suggest to spend extra time to understand what is actually written rather than making assumptions. - make a plan and study systematically - apply the knowledge to the daily tasks in your line of work. - train someone for pre-examination, if possible. teaching my colleagues helped me a lot. - stay calm during the exam! i was really anxious at the first day of the exam and i read questions wrongly/confused myself very much in paper d.</i>
<i>use your own prepared aids instead of taking several books with you.</i>
<i>epe is a running against time. points are lost due to inaccuracy due to hurry, incomplete answers due to lack of time/ due to hurry, selecting/focussing on the wrong parts of an answer for details. you need full concentration for many hours. usually there is no time to correct errors, even if recognized. save time by excellent familiarity with written legal texts, even if the use of written texts is less efficient in comparison to electronic ones in real life. be familiar with the documents, also to find topics seldom needed.</i>
<i>dont worry too much about these exams. theyre not as difficult as uk exams by far.</i>
<i>do mock examinations and past pre-examinations get familiar with the books youll check during the exam</i>
<i>do at least 2 or 3 of each kind of paper in exam condition</i>
<i>first, get an overview over the material to be learned, eg via the online course. then, get familiar with epe specific text books and an annotated copy of the epc and do past exams using your favorite books</i>
<i>prepare your own material to be used during the examination (obviously take into account available books/materials)</i>
<i>start early! know your books and have a good index.</i>
<i>schedule.</i>
<i>take the focus courses for paper a - d either by ceipi or deltapatents, practice at least 5 past papers for a and b and at least 8 for c and d</i>
<i>do not take the mock pre-exam which related to switches. for someone in the life sciences field i found this challenging and it effected my confidence. additionally, this paper is not representative.</i>
<i>solve as much old examinations as possible</i>
<i>don't give up.</i>
<i>solving old examinations under real examination conditions and study the examiners report in detail</i>
<i>prepare sufficiently in advance, sit all the available exams from previous years, use different ressources (books) for the preparation.</i>
<i>practice with the compendium, to understand what is expected</i>
<i>start your focused preparation 1 year in advance, that is the best preparation</i>

<i>start intensive and focused studies at least six months before pre-examination</i>
<i>do as many past papers as possible for chemistry and mech/eng. the types of claims wanted for an answer is not always clear for paper a and it would help to hedge your bets on what they are expecting.</i>
<i>dont try too hard</i>
<i>start as early as possible</i>
<i>keep practising questions and make sure you are familiar with material you are taking into exam</i>
<i>take at least 5 weeks in a row off to focus on detailed preparation</i>
<i>use the book düwel / gabriel / renz / teufel : epü- und pct-tabellen and prepare by studying the examinations of the years before.</i>
<i>they have to study almost every day in order to keep up.</i>
<i>make a detailed plan six months prior to the pre-exam and stick to it</i>
<i>paper a: dont waist too much time with preparation</i>
<i>- focus on exam techniques for all papers - practice working to time whenever possible - bring the case law book...</i>
<i>choose a tutor that knows something about the epc</i>
<i>learn the law as extensively as possible - dont just rely on bringing books into the exam</i>
<i>do the online course and past papers. get familiar with hoekstra/visser</i>
<i>practice doing papers fast and learning where you can cut corners to save time in the exam</i>
<i>ask an epi tutor about the examiners model solution.</i>
<i>no idea</i>
<i>find your own method to answer the papers, the ones provided by the different companies/institutes may not suit you and you will lose time in the exam</i>
<i>start early with exam-like conditions and consider what selection of questions suit your own capability</i>
<i>train d-questions and decide on your own method for paper c to be organised during the exam</i>
<i>do a lot of former exams</i>
<i>respect the exam but dont overdo it</i>
<i>start after christmas</i>
<i>start several months in advance to do some past papers, to understand the type of examination.</i>
<i>working on the past papers in the given time frame</i>
<i>work intensively in longer periods and well in advance. reserve enough time, be aware that regular work in company and also private life (family, kids) take much time, if you do not take measures against that</i>
<i>do previous exams</i>
<i>do not wait until the last 10 minutes of the exam to fill in the answers. the past pre-eqe exams are the best way to study for the exam. for the actual exam, i found the epo guidelines for examination, the kley commentary on the epü and the verfahrenstabellen to be very suitable!</i>
<i>do lots of practice papers under exam conditions - especially claims analysis</i>
<i>start early and practice often</i>
<i>use the compendium, do as many exams as you can, preferably under exam-like conditions and time limits</i>

<i>study hard</i>
<i>start as soon as possible to practice previous exams</i>
<i>training claim analysis and legal part with past exams</i>
<i>start early in a group</i>
<i>to start as soon as possible to read your preferred annotated patent convention,</i>
<i>exercise more</i>
<i>study compendium and practice with old exams</i>
<i>start as early as possible</i>
<i>request more free guidance from the epo about what exactly the syllabus is that you are about to be examined upon.</i>
<i>focus on exercising answering questions and doing claim analysis</i>
<i>start early! revise by doing past papers, and tab up visser</i>
<i>write as many old examination papers as possible under conditions as realistic as possible. i did 9 old c-papers this year.</i>
<i>as q14</i>
<i>when revising the law, do not do so for extended periods - small chunks for each topic is much better</i>
<i>practice the exam style by doing past papers, have a clear methodology - exam is not real life practice</i>
<i>wait for the end of your internship and start preparing in advance</i>
<i>training in conditions similar as for exam</i>
<i>try to avoid overtime work during the preparation.</i>
<i>start early with past papers and question practise.</i>
<i>previous papers are useful, time management during examination</i>
<i>start early and be strict on yourself timewise.</i>
<i>keep in mind that even the well-experienced tutors for the ege seminars are not always able to get 100% of maximum marks in the time allotted for each paper...</i>
<i>start at least 6 months in advance</i>
<i>do as many timed papers as possible as time pressure is one of the biggest challenges</i>
<i>start well before exam</i>
<i>its never too early to start studying. make sure you know the theory before practicing.</i>
<i>start as early as possible and be systematic</i>
<i>work old exams</i>
<i>take your time early in advance</i>
<i>learn to speed read</i>
<i>perseverance</i>
<i>try to exercise as many examinations/questions as possible under examination conditions.</i>
<i>know your material well and organize it. preparing notes on specific topics is also very handy</i>

<i>study hard. and pray.</i>
<i>study well in advance</i>
<i>make a lot of exam papers. practice under time pressure.</i>
<i>organize free time for preparation</i>
<i>at least two papers under exam conditions before the eqe</i>
<i>read the guidelines, epc and rules; make sure your reference books are always up to date; practice to answer questions;</i>
<i>try to sit the exam (but without timing) as early as possible to get to know what you actually need to do. and train at least 4 paper with time as the exam approaches. time is so important!</i>
<i>read fast, do all previous claim analysis</i>
<i>practice papers as much as possible under exam conditions.</i>
<i>prepare in advance and be disciplined. start doing past papers to time from the very beginning.</i>
<i>deep understanding of the epc</i>
<i>do the epo pre-exam course.</i>
<i>dont waste time always doing full past papers, read them and make notes on how you would answer rather than writing a full answer. you can then get through multiple papers in a day. prep for d early, doing as many part 1 questions as possible. read lots of examiner reports, they are very helpful for understanding what the examiners are looking for.</i>
<i>start early with preparation</i>
<i>dont overthink the questions and start revising early. revise pct too.</i>
<i>- check old examiner's reports and model solutions to see what/how is expected - mock-sit as many old papers as possible under realistic conditions and evaluate them with examiner's reports</i>
<i>do not underestimate the time you need to spend studying.</i>
<i>make group of people learning for the exam and discuss your concerns with them</i>
<i>find out where marks are awarded, e. g. follow course with delta patents</i>
<i>read carefully and know well your materials which you bring on the exam</i>
<i>make sure you have enough time to study for all the exams you are sitting.</i>
<i>limit time for analysis, take a risk and have enough time for writing.</i>
<i>do not waste too much time making detailed notes. as the exam is open-book, it is important to be aware of the epc aspects, but not to memorise them. it is mainly important to understand where to look for the answers to a given question in the reference book of your choosing</i>
<i>training hand writing as much as possible. it saves the limited time for thinking.</i>
<i>do exercises and read all the relevant laws and rules carefully and try to explain them to other person.</i>
<i>begin as early as possible your intensive study.</i>
<i>prepare well in advance!</i>
<i>one needs to really understand the guidelines. not just reading and memorying.</i>
<i>more than 10 exams to practice in real time and in advance</i>
<i>read the guidelines and try the old pre exams</i>
<i>attend all deltapatent courses; they are very helpful and the course documents are of great value</i>

<i>work through at least the last five papers for each part in the compendium</i>
<i>take advice from people who already tried /passed the exam</i>
<i>do all the past papers, at least once. watch out for office closed dates on the calendar. read the whole of visser at least once before christmas.</i>
<i>give yourself enough time to read all the material you want to read. do as many past papers and practice questions as possible. the pre-exam legal section seems more of an exercise in finding the answer rather than knowing it - make sure you have all the written material you could need (epc articles and rules, pct articles and rules, guidelines, course notes etc.) and understand how to find what you need from them. claims analysis is a matter of practice.</i>
<i>make arrangements with your work and family to get time to study.</i>
<i>for d-ii, practise all old exams from 2013 onwards, make a list of what you forget. for d-i, use the deltapatents questions book to get familiar enough with all the issues to be able to find them quickly.</i>
<i>take enough time for preparing paper d, because there is a lot of material to study.</i>
<i>- it does not seem that it is possible to carefully consider how to answer the questions due to the time restrictions. - the main difficulty is not to find reasonable answers but to finish the exams in time. - it is of major importance to practise quick handwriting and to prepare answers in a very short manner. - therefore, it seems to be more important to practise (hand-)written exam technique than to strive for a thorough understanding of the epc/pct and the regulations.</i>
<i>try at least 4 past papers under time pressure (3,5 h at max) not too far away before the pre-exam. e.g. i did from mid of jan to mid of feb one in each week and had time in between time to reconsider problematic topics.</i>
<i>start with a and b or c and d at the first attempt</i>
<i>i would explain my take on ipree rule 22(3).</i>
<i>practice papers from compendium</i>
<i>get practical ip experience</i>
<i>stay focus, be fast, dont lose time with questions you cant answer</i>
<i>take more time to assess your own answers: where are points given</i>
<i>- do as many pre-examinations from previous years as possible in real conditions, i.e. within 4 hours and taking the time required for the different parts in order to get a feeling about how long you can afford for each part. - practise with questions, not so much by reading material (ideally both). i can recommend taking the pre-exam online course and/or using appropriate study material (e.g. delta patents - basic legal questions).</i>
<i>although there are some books, which provide the student with information about where to look in the epc and the guidelines, i would recommend to read the law in order to get a feeling about its structure and its contents. further, i highly recommend to work through the exams of earlier years under exam conditions (four hours of time at maximum, no internet, and doing it by yourself). afterwards, check the answers for yourself and go through every question with a colleague, who is also sitting the exam and doing the same preparation. thats how i did it and it was a very helpful way to get confidence in answering the questions of the pre-exam.</i>
<i>sit 2 exams by fully writing down and other 8 exams by just writing down bullet points</i>
<i>start focused study well in advance</i>
<i>prepare well in advance</i>
<i>do not start too early - two months beforehand to begin familiarising yourself with the conventions, and one month to six weeks beforehand to do past papers and exemplary questions is enough</i>
<i>to start early with moc tests under realistic condition. focus on the right tools e.g. epü/pct tables</i>

<i>start early and be thorough.</i>
<i>plan well in advance</i>
<i>if one masters fluently the quizzes of epos online course, one is quite certain to succeed in the pre-exam as well. thus, i would recommend going through the quizzes with a learning attitude (why you answered wrong; make notes), preferably even 2 or 3 times. for me, this was tremendously helpful though i only managed to get one pass with the quizzes.</i>
<i>do lots of papers to time</i>
<i>learn where you get the points and how you get the points</i>
<i>do as many old exam as you can (i did at least 16 old c papers). choose a methodology and practice as much as you can. still, expect to struggle. under exam conditions it is easy to do even stupid mistakes.</i>
<i>get your materials from day 1.</i>
<i>the examiners reports for a and b are essential in preparing for these papers. my first few attempts i failed but every time i could see where i went wrong and you get to know what they are looking for by reading the exam reports. also, dont wait too long to start studying the law again, you might think you still know it from the pre-exam but youve definitely forgotten a lot</i>
<i>start 12 moths before.</i>
<i>focus on essentials and create a hierarchy of items</i>
<i>start early. follow a classroom course to get motivated. follow classroom course to get all the information in blocks. otherwise it is easy to get lost in the amount of topics.</i>
<i>do past examination papers. this is the most useful. prepare methodology flowchart beforehand with bulletpoints, not to forget anything. its all about having the most efficient methodology to apply.</i>
<i>dont worry if you fail because you may be as prepared as you could possibly be but get a bad paper.</i>
<i>learn the methodology for c and d, and stick to it.</i>
<i>start with time and do not do exams until the end</i>
<i>start early, understand the breadth of information required, practise searching for answers under time pressure</i>
<i>tune up your materials (epc, guidelines, etc) with tags, tabs, highlights, etc. in order to make it easier/quicker for you to search. exercise as previous exams as possible and read carefully examiners report even for answers which you answered correctly.</i>
<i>just look at the visser rules comments, some g decision and some pct</i>
<i>do the precedent 2-3 exams under exam-conditions and write the argumentation through until the end</i>
<i>start early enough. at least 6 months before the examination date. you need time to develop your own methodology, by adapting e.g. a method taught in courses and fit it in your preferences.</i>
<i>focus on legal part. practice with deltapatents books</i>
<i>see q14</i>
<i>go to a specialist methodology course (e.g. delta patents) for at least d and c papers. i found these invaluable - personal study also essential, but without these courses, far less effective</i>
<i>1. courses that include practicing and discussing the claims analysis section are especially helpful to understand what is required. 2. it is not easy or obvious to work out what the syllabus is for the pre-exam. however, the epo pre-exam course is very helpful in providing training on a broad range of the epc. 3. leave past papers until after you have studied the epc. especially, leave the later past papers to near the end as the style and scope has changed compared to the earliest papers.</i>
<i>review the mark schemes and examiners comments carefully</i>

<i>don't sit all four exams at once and start revising early</i>
<i>do more examinations from compendium</i>
<i>practise practise practise! buy some good pen and waste a lot of paper sheets. dont rely on information in books, you won t have enough time to find it unless you at least know where to seek.</i>
<i>practice paper d to time</i>
<i>train constantly every week</i>
<i>have a good source book, e.g. „tabellenbuch“ and know it well to quickly find answers or cross references to the law/comment/guidelines</i>
<i>in case of d in addition to the information included in books available, it is very important to follow the official jurnal, to know the recent law changes.</i>
<i>write old exams under real time</i>
<i>start practicing many many exam questions (e.g. delta patents basic legal questions) early before the pre-exam (beginning of january at the latest); prepare and update materials (e.g. add references) that you use for answering questions (epo guidelines, pct applicants guide + annexes, national law relating to the epc, etc.) for german sitters: first choice when answering any legal question: epü- und pct tabellen!</i>
<i>do compendium</i>
<i>try to mark the candidates answers online to see if you can mark it and get same mark as given to paper.</i>
<i>read the guidelines carefully</i>
<i>avoid stress, rest well before the exam. compare the summary and the main claims possibly one and a half hour before the exam ends.</i>
<i>dont neglect pct.</i>
<i>i would recommend to make several old exams from the compendium under exam-like conditions to see how timing and usage of the documents turns out</i>
<i>taking part to training courses and taking compendium</i>
<i>work through as many past examination papers as possible to see what variations are possible and read the examiners comment thoroughly.</i>
<i>work on time</i>
<i>use references to the epc by j. hoekstra and the flow charts from delta patents</i>
<i>methodology courses for part c and d were very helpful. for part d, it is recommended to study the legal syllabus in detail with an exam question book, e.g. main exam questions d (del-tapatents) to know which aspects of the legal syllabus have to be dealt with more focus. in general, mostly important is to practice with past exams and examiners report to understand how to tackle the exam.</i>
<i>do as many old papers as possible under examination condition to get used to the pressure and how to handle situations with difficulties.</i>
<i>practice writing for extended periods of time over several consecutive days (by doing past papers or otherwise) to build up stamina</i>
<i>buy the delta patents I book for the pre-exam. thats all you need really.</i>
<i>use hoekstra</i>
<i>i would recommend the pre-eqe online training course</i>
<i>practice on old papers, and use a methodology that is not too time consuming as that give to little time to write the answer.</i>
<i>starting to work through the epos online training course in an early stage. althoug it is very useful, it is also quite time consuming</i>
<i>do old exams under exam-like conditions. make sure to focus your studies for d1 on the material</i>

<i>that you are going to use. a good annotated epc (with own comments) with comments on the pct takes you a long way. make sure that you are comfortable with your selected material instead of bringing everything under the sun....</i>
<i>use online course offered by epo, but focus what exam committee wants to hear rather than what is acceptable answer. do not overthink, sometimes questions are too simple, which might mislead you</i>
<i>limit the amount of material that you use for studying and bring with you to the exam so that you can maximize the efficiency of using the material.</i>
<i>start in due time follow the deltapatents course and/or the ceipi course</i>
<i>start six months in advance if they are working at the same time</i>
<i>start early and factor in xmas.</i>
<i>start preparation earlier. i was advised that starting after the new year is fine, but i felt this was rather intensive. there is a lot to read.</i>
<i>go through past papers, if you dont understand everything get help, a studygroup or a tutor</i>
<i>start practicing questions early</i>
<i>do full papers to train fast handwriting as well as getting in touch with the preferred language used in the papers. do as much papers since 2013. visit deltapatents courses.</i>
<i>practice the past exams giving your self the right time limit</i>
<i>take your time and relax</i>
<i>find somebody who also sit the same exam as you and train together.</i>
<i>start preparing early</i>
<i>study well in advance; find a resource you look and master that resource</i>
<i>do the past papers and ensure you are comfortable finding your way around your selected books/material.</i>
<i>familiarise yourself well with all aspects of the epc - even if you dont come across them at work. do as many mock exams as you can - and measure your time. seriously consider taking at least a week off in order to prepare yourself. read the law - not just the commentary. very often, the answer is in the wording of the law (articles of the epc or implementing regulations).</i>
<i>highlight important parts of your reference material so they stand out</i>
<i>if you are an engineer - do practice on chemical papers and vice versa - the combination of em and c in paper a and b is a pitfall</i>
<i>start early</i>
<i>prepare your methodology. you dont have time to think</i>
<i>solve plenty of past papers and review your solution thoroughly.</i>
<i>score at least 50 each paper.</i>
<i>planning with milestones from the outset, elements/tracking code in source documents for easy learning and finding</i>
<i>practice past papers under test conditions (time limit etc.)</i>
<i>begin early enough so you dont have to rush, and practice previous exams with exams rules.</i>
<i>do the online version of the previous exams provided on the epos homepage. read each question carefully, dont hurry through the exam. get a good commentary.</i>
<i>work on past papers and try to do at least two of them in real conditions (time limit and working documents)</i>
<i>start reading as early as possible. familiarity with the material is essential and there is a lot to read.</i>

<i>- starting reading the material in september to have the time to familiarise (and to learn). the pre-eqe exam is an opportunity to learn, it is not just an exam we have to pass. - doing the course organised by the epo academy. very good for the legal part. - revising with your peers</i>
<i>do as many legal questions as you can under timed conditions. i found the delta patents question book for paper d to be really useful, and i wish i had done more than the basic set.</i>
<i>the best way to prepare is to write 5 or more papers (for each part), and then very carefully read both the compendium and the deltapatents solutions/comments. then, identify your weak points (write those out with specific examples and take them to the exam with you!), and remember to double check anything you tend to screw up during the exam.</i>
<i>get a good book for an overview in the first year of practice. study another more detailed book (singer/stauder) in the second year. do daily d, deltapatent questions in the third year using some crossreferenced commentary (for me epü kompakt, only german available). organize your own way through dii. consider examiner's reports. don't panic. paper c: still not a clue how it can be done in time (using the maastricht method). will do the same (find my own way) for paper c next year (presumably, unfortunately).</i>
<i>insist on study time and training support from your employer.</i>
<i>start studying as early as possible!</i>
<i>they should begin the preparation much earlier like march / april, if they work in industrial companies.</i>
<i>to take some ceipi course</i>
<i>not to sit the exam before thoroughly understand the matter. not just practice it, but really understand it. thats why joining a suitable courses beforehand is vital.</i>
<i>start in time</i>
<i>do it earlier in the carrier and try to get your employer to back up by reducing workload</i>
<i>follow a structured approach for paper a. delta patents method is very helpful in this respect.</i>
<i>do as much previous years exam questions as possible (eqe compendium); do not start reading guidelines or epc from page 1, but read the relevant passages including all cross references while answering mock exam questions; after having done 2012-present previous exams you should have read at least once every relevant passage.</i>
<i>start reading the epo guidelines early and making the associations with the relevant law early.</i>
<i>study the rules and study the previous tests</i>
<i>train to handle the pct. it is the most confusing part because of the cross references within the articles and rules.</i>
<i>practice with the mock exam reading carefully the examiners reports</i>
<i>do not assume you know how to pass this exam just because you have three years experience working with a european patent attorney. the exam is about how to read and interpret oblique questions and not about what you may know about european practice.</i>
<i>concentrate on papers c and, moreso, d</i>
<i>read the epc + guidelines or a summary book (e.g. visser, bacque) according to the themes provided in the eqe preparation guide of the epo and do the previous pre-examination papers in real conditions</i>
<i>be regular</i>
<i>following online eqe pre exam course and solving past pre-exam papers at least two times. and focusing much more on legal readings from one main reference book</i>
<i>do all the past paper questions and watch out key indicators in the question, for example language like must, may, or be a condition etc. also, prepared for something new that potentially hasnt been examined before in great detail.</i>
<i>examiners reports</i>

<i>time management is very important; in your final preparations the exam-type questions should be practiced/completed in time (approx 3 min/point). it's easy to convince yourself that you know the answers to the questions, yet not realizing that you do not complete them in the time available at the exam.</i>
<i>to start studying 6 months in advance and to have the general knowledge of epc from the guidelines.</i>
<i>do past papers and discuss them with colleagues until you understand what the questions are looking for.</i>
<i>hoekstra is maybe the best book. law changes from 2-3 previous years would be a good thing to study especially. lots of practice by doing earlier exams by hand-writing. ask your boss to give you 2-4 weeks off from work. relax in the few days just before the exam.</i>
<i>learn how to work with the epc and your own commentaries start with 2-4 pre exam questions a day from the beginning</i>
<i>start studying 6-9 months before the test; read all of the relevant articles and rules.</i>
<i>prepare at least 10-18 months if you are not native</i>
<i>start early. use compendium. answer real questions. practise writing</i>
<i>following the learning strategies given by delta patent books; performing previous epc exams, at least a few under real-time conditions</i>
<i>to follow the specific courses for the preparation of the paper c.</i>
<i>(1) have a step-by-step method for a paper and follow this method. (2) dont panic.</i>
<i>use the epos online training course for preparing</i>
<i>start to roughly study all of the topics (main items, articles+rules) and then iteratively refine knowledge in each of the individual topics (+ gl + decisions + mark in book); decide for a book to be used during the exam right at the beginning and stick to this book</i>
<i>reading vissers annotated epc or guidelines or any other source is not enough. they should prepare their own notes.</i>
<i>work on previous papers (especially for paper c) regularly.</i>
<i>do the mock test</i>
<i>start early and regularly</i>
<i>start study early</i>
<i>do not read the guidelines/online-course materials line by line. read online-course materials quickly once and practice quiz, questions, pre-papers for consolidating the skills for the exams.</i>
<i>find time to prepare and use all and only the information contained in the exam paper in order to answer the questions</i>
<i>you need to attend a course or have contact with a mentor who has recent experience of the epc examinations, how they are structured and marked. without this there is insufficient information available to understand what is required to pass the exams.</i>
<i>prepare well for pre-exam as this will facilitate the preparation for paper d</i>
<i>carefully go through previous pre-examinations, including the examiners reports, in a way that enables you to learn not only what they ask for in the questions but also to understand the broader subject surrounding the questions. make sure you understand what they ask for and why they ask.</i>
<i>deta patents books were amazing</i>
<i>for b paper: read the book of hermann, preparation for epc and use it during the epc. check your previous answers with the examination report</i>
<i>intensive study of all relevant topic, ideally via a special course. answer questions, e.g. using the deltapatents books, then relearn, where there are deficits. and finally do some former pre-exams.</i>
<i>know well your reference books and know what you are expecting to answer.</i>

<i>use the ceipi courses as introduction and then start doing old papers as mock exams in small groups. discussion afterwards is very helpful!</i>
<i>start early. memorize the heading of all articles and rules in epc. this makes you very fast to check that your answer is correct if in doubt.</i>
<i>check and understand the past preeqe papers. be familiar with the epc/pct articles, rules and guidelines. at least, you should know where you can find detailed information to each topic. then you are on the safe side.</i>
<i>start preparation early.</i>
<i>past papers are the most helpful preparation. dont spend too much time revising and burn out!</i>
<i>read all the materials of the online course, read the epc thoroughly word-by-word and consider why it is worded that way. ask all the questions to your instructor. when you feel confident start doing the mock exams to learn how to answer the exam.</i>
<i>attend the strasbourg ceipi courses.</i>
<i>start as soon as possible :-)</i>
<i>follow courses to be exposed to writing an exam of each type at least once. then try the exams in the compendium in real time-limited conditions. make sure to bring all relevant material for part d to the exam.</i>
<i>begin in time. continue efter pre-exam with d.</i>
<i>practice handwriting</i>
<i>spending time correcting the paper and not only practicing it, eventually preparing notes/schemes to be used over the exam to pay attention to the mistakes that revealed to be the most common while practicing. find a methodology to face all the informations contained in the paper (matrixes, colour-highlighting)</i>
<i>i dont know if this is good advice, but rather than prepare specifically for the exam, i took time while working to investigate the legal bases and administrivie implications of everything that came over my desk. this reduced productivity substantially, but i think it helped a lot for the exam. more importantly, it has improved the quality of my work a lot.</i>
<i>claim analysis can be tricky, the guidelines are great for preparing these questions</i>
<i>start early.</i>
<i>know your way around our learning materials so you can find answers quickly. do all the past papers, particularly the claim analysis parts as it gives you an idea of what to look out for when analysing claims.</i>
<i>make sure you give yourself plenty of time to fill in the answer sheet.</i>
<i>deltapatent course and eqe materials for study are essential.</i>
<i>1. go through each and every part of the material and learn how to apply the articles and regulations and, for the pre-exam, how to make best use of the epo guidelines 2. attend a basic course and/or work independently e.g. using deltapatents study books 3. prepare own material on basic topics, such as fees etc. to limit time needed for searching for answers at exam. 3. do all mock exams, preferably on time.</i>
<i>practice with the compendium and the gregory baque book or the visser epc.</i>
<i>make an old exam relatively early in your preparation to get a feel for what is expected of you</i>
<i>try to relax!</i>
<i>do the exams in the compendium and read later the candidates answer. try to stablish a line for your replies based in several of these exams.</i>
<i>do claim analysis forst and continue with patent law questions</i>
<i>save the exams of the two previous years for the two weeks before the exam and do the under exam conditions during those two weeks.</i>

<i>do not start with the profession if you have a family, instead try to do it earlier. if you do start while having a family, be very clear and explain to children and spouse that it entails not having a family christmas, shared weekends and winter holiday for a few years.</i>
<i>start revision earlier. do not try to do what you would do in the job, the exams have a specific format which must be copied.</i>
<i>don't underestimate the amount of time it takes to get a good overview and understanding of the different topics. a major part of your preparation should include legal questions and claim analysis. do one or two previous exams under exam conditions.</i>
<i>strategy for learning: more dep learning on the process and the knowledge of handling for patent application, later the details of interpretation of laws and context of claim analysis.</i>
<i>try exercises early on, so you know what kind of level/type of questions to expect</i>
<i>exercise claims analysis earlier than the legal questions</i>
<i>exercising a lot older papers under real time conditions</i>
<i>- specific courses for ege pre-examination are very helpful - practice of former ege pre-examinations - time management is important</i>
<i>start learning earlier. participate courses.</i>
<i>prepare your own material to insight the issues.</i>
<i>ask support from your company (time or formation),</i>
<i>exercise legal questions to improve speed.</i>
<i>make sure you do lots of practice questions around the pct and become familiar with the pct applicants guide as pct does not come up as often in daily practice.</i>
<i>review the guidelines and epc thoroughly, review case law, practice past papers, attend a course if you can.</i>
<i>start early, and do lots of past papers and mock questions. make an effort to look up where to find the answer, even when you know the answer, so that you practice how to find information on the exam.</i>
<i>start doing reading and some questions early on, but do not start intensive study too early, otherwise you will burn out, and/or forget things you learned early on.</i>
<i>you need to know the exam methodology for each exam; everything else is useless unless you know the methodology. deltapatents courses are great. you will understand how marks are collected.</i>
<i>starting preparing ege 6 months in advance if possible, especially knowledge required for paper d.</i>
<i>take epo pre-ege online training</i>
<i>prepare at least one year before the exam - intensive</i>
<i>sitting the examinations from the previous years under real time conditions</i>
<i>find a partner to work with or work in small study groups. do a couple of the old exams within the applicable time limit and exchange your answers and let the other person read and compare it to the compendium. the feedback i got was very important: not only hand-writing was an issue, but structure of answer and arguments was improved. you can then always point out to your partner how not to miss the easy points by not stating the obvious.</i>
<i>use the specialised ege-courses.</i>
<i>prepare full answers and the time needed.</i>
<i>do as many questions and past papers as you can.</i>
<i>the online course provided by the epo is very helpful. previous papers should be trained under examination conditions to train the handling of the material brought into the exam.</i>
<i>do as much claim analysis as they can.</i>

<i>do the past exams as much as you can.</i>
<i>train yourself to perform the tests under examination conditions</i>
<i>start early for d</i>
<i>do as many past papers as you can.</i>
<i>do not try to be perfect. it is impossible even to bring all expected printed material to the exam (e.g. all ojs), not to speak about using them.</i>
<i>make pre-exams from previous years, as many as you can.</i>
<i>focus on law questions as they appear to be more useful for the main eqes than claim analysis.</i>
<i>practice quality first, then speed.</i>
<i>dont waste time doing old drafting papers for the new format paper a theyre of very little benefit.</i>
<i>its important to appreciate from the outset just how many marks are available for statements that may feel so obvious that you may overlook them - such as, its granted/valid, and its the first application for this subject matter, and therefore it can be enforced to stop the other party in validated states, so the key is to learn how to say obvious things (i.e. focus on exam technique), and this is achieved by learning to talk the examiner through from initial assumptions all the way to the conclusion (or conclusions if there are two possible outcomes). preparation by practicing the delta patents book questions, is of more value than reading a whole annotated epc, however you also need to find sources of information that summarise areas at the right level. about 50% of your preparation for legal questions should be on pct - its easy to wrongly think that paper d is mostly about the epc. the epi course for the pre-eqe exam is an excellent and affordable starting point for your study (if you didnt already do it for the pre-eqe exam) to ensure you have a basic grounding of key concepts - finish this (or at least reading the course notes and checking your understanding) before you begin intensive studying. do lots of past questions for part b - i did 12 (which means youll end up doing some of them at least twice), and found that after about 6-8 i got the hang of doing it both well and fast. you need to develop a system whereby you can get the information onto the timeline clearly. one option (which worked for me) was to figure out how you can get every piece of information onto the timeline, so all the necessary information is there for you at a glance. however other people like to have both a timeline and a table. irrespective of what works for you there is tremendous value in honing your part b technique by doing timed questions and practicing not only writing the information clearly so you can analyse it, but analysing how the examiners award marks so you can provide your answer in a systematic and structured fashion that mops up marks. carefully marking your answers each time and analysing weaknesses is absolutely essential because its all about exam technique. start your intensive part a study early enough that you really know your stuff by the time you tackle part b questions. many candidates ramp up slowly during the year and only hit top gear after christmas. this can indeed lead to a pass, but it is not ideal because you ideally want 3 months intense study (i.e. 3 hours every evening plus all day every weekend day) for part a and only then start focussing heavily on part b for the last month. with hindsight i wish i had taken c and d in the same year as they have a lot of overlap and studying for each of them will be beneficial for the other.</i>
<i>do as many claim section questions as you can as it is different to a day to day practice.</i>
<i>prepare as far as possible in advance for paper d. aim to practice 4 full papers each of a, b and c before the exams.</i>
<i>begin early, follow a good course and buy the pre-eqe book of cees mulder</i>
<i>knowing the legal basis helps also in the methodic-focused parts like c, d-ii, and a</i>
<i>take at least 1 practice exam under exam conditions</i>
<i>start early and get used to exam style questions</i>
<i>past papers, tab up your reference book</i>

<i>look at the articles and rules as much as possible and try to understand them. try to be more familiar with the reference books.</i>
<i>read the question, answer the question. read the question again, did you answer the question?</i>
<i>consider doing all 4 papers at once because, in my view, they complement each other. a good understanding of is for paper b helps with paper c and vice versa. good legal knowledge of d paper helps you to spot effective date issues in paper c etc.</i>
<i>take part in the 6 month epo academy course for the pre-eqe and actually start when it does (or at least shortly after).</i>
<i>start early for d, learn in small portions</i>
<i>sleep well</i>
<i>more legal questions</i>
<i>to dedicate enough time to study and balancing it with the work amount (otherwise it would be not possible so pass it).</i>
<i>practise on real conditions</i>
<i>use the compendium and focus on the type of questions/layout of the examination to find out what kind of answers are expected.</i>
<i>to do mock exams in real conditions</i>
<i>do the examinations of previous years</i>
<i>start 6 months before. start as early as possible to practice mock-up exams or previous exams to assess the knowledge required for the exam.</i>
<i>have a lovely christmas and come to it after the holidays or youll have lost your sanity before the exam.</i>
<i>start a little bit earlier with intensive study than i did.</i>
<i>for papers a, b and c, get good sleep the nights before the exams.</i>
<i>start 6 months before and intensive, every week practising questions. i absolutely recomend to attend some course specific for paper d.</i>
<i>for uk students, start as early as you can after the peb exams.</i>
<i>to dedicated a few days full to study</i>
<i>i would advice focussing in dii and ignoring di. but that advice actually depends on my performance.</i>
<i>work through the delta patents p book</i>
<i>studying the past examination intensively. this way, you get familiar on how the questions are formulated.</i>
<i>take enough days off only to study</i>
<i>take more than 3 months to study</i>
<i>id say prepare early, plan your study, and use a structured approach. you cannot open the epc/pct and expect to learn it by reading, you need to challenge and test yourself with appropriate questions that bring your weaknesses to the fore so that you may squish them. the past papers are a good start, but also the question book from delta patents.</i>
<i>try to solve questions as much as you can.</i>
<i>practise lots of papers to time and go through the examiners comments in exhaustive detail.</i>
<i>dont sit the exams until you have enough practical and relevant work experience.</i>
<i>study well in advance for paper d, less for c, and certain less for b and a</i>
<i>sit old papers and read examination report</i>

<i>focus on pct and simply take the statements in the papers for granted.</i>
<i>attend deltapatents courses</i>
<i>expect the unexpected - past papers are often not reflective of the papers you will sit.</i>
<i>study study and study</i>
<i>work through old exams and analyse examerss report</i>
<i>please see above. the importance of practicing past-papers cannot be over stated.</i>
<i>due the previous paper a and carefully read the comments from the committee</i>
<i>it is important to share experience with someone who has already attended the exam.</i>
<i>read and know your study material. know how to use your own books etc. practice ca for 5 months, one every week or every two week. do past exam. study from deltapatents legal questions.</i>
<i>everybody is different, has different style and approach, but generally, the delta patents courses should be attended, especially if done by non-germans.</i>
<i>4 hours a week of revision, from beginning of january</i>
<i>using old exam questions, practice the procedure and the use of auxiliary materials. unfortunately, the compendiums do not give any indication as to which statement of the solution gives how many points. this makes the test arbitrary and the result intransparent.</i>
<i>following the daily d, coffee breaks, and making as exercises as possible of the delta patent book (for d). the week in strasbourg (ceipi - seminar d) was also very helpfull since a lot of topics are scanned and it makes more easier to check for weak points. the medology learned by deltapatent for c (also one week) was to my opinion the best one.</i>
<i>find someone to study with, open and honest discussions</i>
<i>learn to understand the way the questions are phrased.</i>
<i>start early. do not take the exam if not sufficiently prepared.</i>
<i>lots of people seem to think that its enough if you go through the old papers and roughly think about how you would solve them. for me, it was really important to actually sit down and write the papers within the allocated time, just as i would on the day of the exam. i wrote 5 complete papers for each of the papers and i think that gave me a lot of confidence when actually going into the exam. i didnt have time problems in any part because i knew exactly how long it would take me to write something, whereas others struggled with their time management. it also made me calmer when dealing with unknown problems, simply because i had a routine i could stick with. its often advised to start studying in september. for me, that was not possible because of my german bar exam. i started in january and studied for 5 days each week (working the other two days). i spent about three weeks only on d questions and the rest of the time writing and correcting old papers. while i certainly didnt to perfectly, i do feel that i was sufficiently well prepared.</i>
<i>know the basis material without needing to referral to the reference books. failing that, know the reference books inside out. there is very little merit on relying on reference material that you have never seen.</i>
<i>mainly focus on doing mock exams and answering questions. i would not read too much, as one quickly drowns in the sheer amount of text available. i would also lock the epo case law book in a safe and do not touch it until after the pre-eqe.</i>
<i>if at all possible try to take off the last 2-4 weeks before the exam.</i>
<i>systematic study, dedicate at least one hour per day to read the material. get well familiarized with epc and pct, then move to solving legal questions. guidelines are very important, know them well.</i>
<i>use ceipi courses (especially main course) use daily d questions use time limit questions</i>
<i>preparing schemes and templates on how to solve b c and d part 2</i>

<i>dont try to know everything by heart. just focus on annotating your materials well and according to your thinking-method and youll do fine :)</i>
<i>finish all your readings before september</i>
<i>use a single main book (e.g. visser, copy of the guidelines) which is annotated with references to other books as necessary</i>
<i>study hard, focus on legal part for concrete grade and relax before the day of the exam.</i>
<i>they have to study regulary and check past exam papers in detail.</i>
<i>prepare for paper d1 in a highly structured manner and well in advance (at least half a year prior to the exam). for example by using the deltapatents d-book.</i>
<i>a specialised course in time before the exam (pre ex 3 month others more to 5 month before)</i>
<i>practice directly with the previous exams.</i>
<i>practice in time-management during exams.</i>
<i>use the right references. i find vissers annotated european patent convention is a very good reference. also solve as many questions as you can from prior examinations.</i>
<i>to start early and make room in your schedule to study. use the old exams to learn how the questions are asked and how they are to be answered.</i>
<i>start in time; a lot needs to be covered.</i>
<i>make clear which documents you want to work with. only the documents that you have actually used, read and marked during the last six months should be included in the exam. learn to actually solve trial exams with only a pen, as it may be longer ago that you have actually written over five and a half hours.</i>
<i>practice questions! you dont need to learn the content, just where to find it under pressure!</i>
<i>to start one year in advance by doing either old exams or in a study group. try to get an overview of the typical questions, prepare your own overviews over the fields, which are usually relevant.</i>
<i>practice papers timed and in exam conditions</i>
<i>do compendium with examiner report</i>
<i>constant study</i>
<i>i have no advice.</i>
<i>train using past papers and study the examiners reports. know your materials well, particularly the indexes. understand the limitations of your materials. be aware that even past papers performed under exam conditions do not properly reflect the experience on the day, to avoid panic when everything takes longer and seems more difficult on the day.</i>
<i>use specialized courses</i>
<i>practice, practice, practice.</i>
<i>for paper d: the epoe online questions helped a lot, use an annotated guide to the epc to learn application of the epc, then start going through the past papers.</i>
<i>dont underestimate the volume of information needed for paper d. dont overestimate the value of the exams being open book.</i>
<i>when practicing sometimes consider what should i have to change in my technique when im under stress, can i still remember everything, do i need to write something down, and in what detail? practicing your process how to tackle the exam is advisable.</i>
<i>i would advise not to attend a paid course. learning in smal groups is better and more efficient</i>
<i>time management-do more past examinations</i>
<i>manage family well prior to exam.</i>
<i>start early dont practice a papers with old exams before 2017</i>

<i>read c book to understand the papers construction and practice to work out a precise method of (subject) information recording technique and repeatedly train by solving past papers.</i>
<i>work all past exams.</i>
<i>start studying early enough and also allow for nice personal activities during studying time (to prevent nervousness).</i>
<i>practice.</i>
<i>test yourself in as much as possible papers from previous years, in examination conditions analyse the examiners report to understand what they want and what is more important</i>
<i>ill be able to give advices when ill succeed. but preparation and training on compendium seems to be key, although not sure it is sufficient.</i>
<i>bring visser to the examination hall.</i>
<i>pay attention to key words identifying invention and subject-matter of prior art</i>
<i>profound legal understanding is key for every paper a, b, c, d. read the guidelines. practice old exams (5-7 yrs).</i>
<i>dont underestimate the time to spend in learning to be well prepared for d1.</i>
<i>even if you study for many months, put the biggest effort at the end.</i>
<i>prepare better than i did</i>
<i>do a couple of past papers to time and under exam conditions.</i>
<i>create your own method for all possible d2 exam questions.</i>
<i>practice a lot</i>
<i>devote time to reading the guidelines and all the g decisions. it is great for the exam and professional development.</i>
<i>lern the right method for each of the four papers ...</i>
<i>do more cross-checking and notes</i>
<i>start early with preparation and do a lot of old exams, preferably under realistic exam conditions.</i>
<i>doing 4-6 old exams in realtime under real conditions.</i>
<i>make the exams from preceeding years</i>
<i>start in time, join an education program with live classes</i>
<i>do a lot of quizzes to check your level and identify your lacks</i>
<i>do not waste your effort with useless advice. deltapatents and epoacademy courses are useless for the eqe.</i>
<i>practice at least 3 months before subscribe to courses</i>
<i>practice of past papers is most important</i>
<i>learn the technique behind how to answer the questions, in addition to the law.</i>
<i>practice old papers with time limit.</i>
<i>i recommend as study of paper c using "methodology for paper c" of delta patents before starting a and b papers.</i>
<i>bring a staple remover. how ridiculous that you staple the exam papers. we have to hand in the opposition form for paper c, yet you staple it to everything else. what a pain.</i>
<i>do previous exams in exam conditions.</i>
<i>start early with practice and develop your own approach to solving a paper. especially for a and b there is no general algorithm for how to pass.</i>

dont overthink the questions.

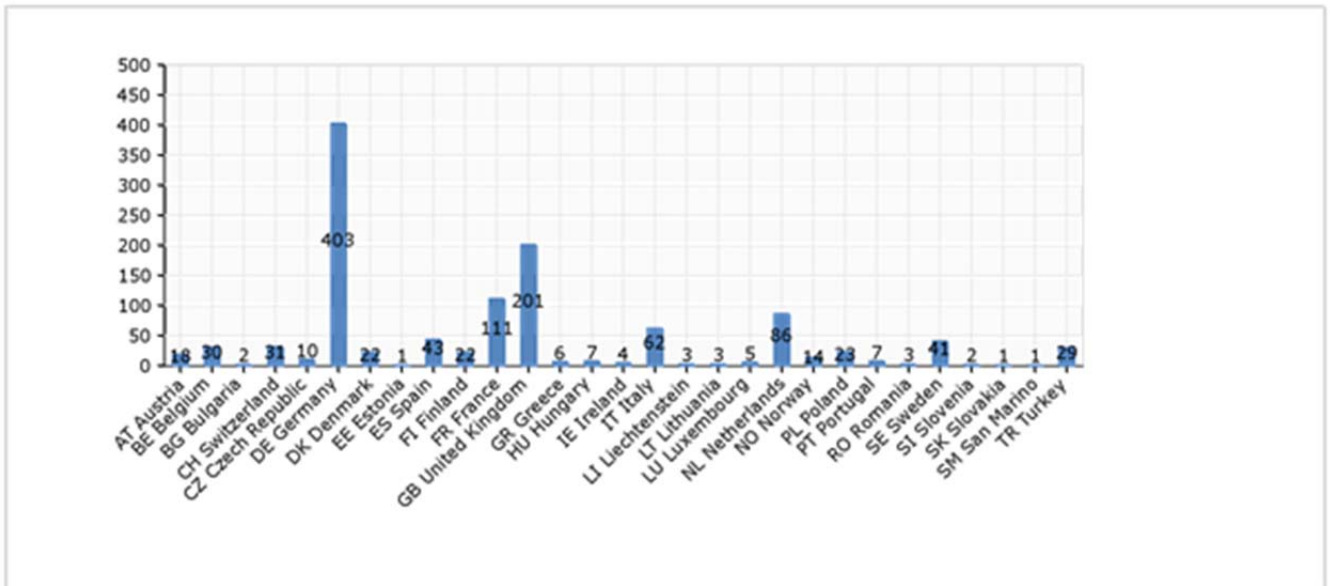
good luck. at the end, its a matter of chance.

take the epis pre-examination course. learn your way around your reference book. that level of preparation is more than sufficient.

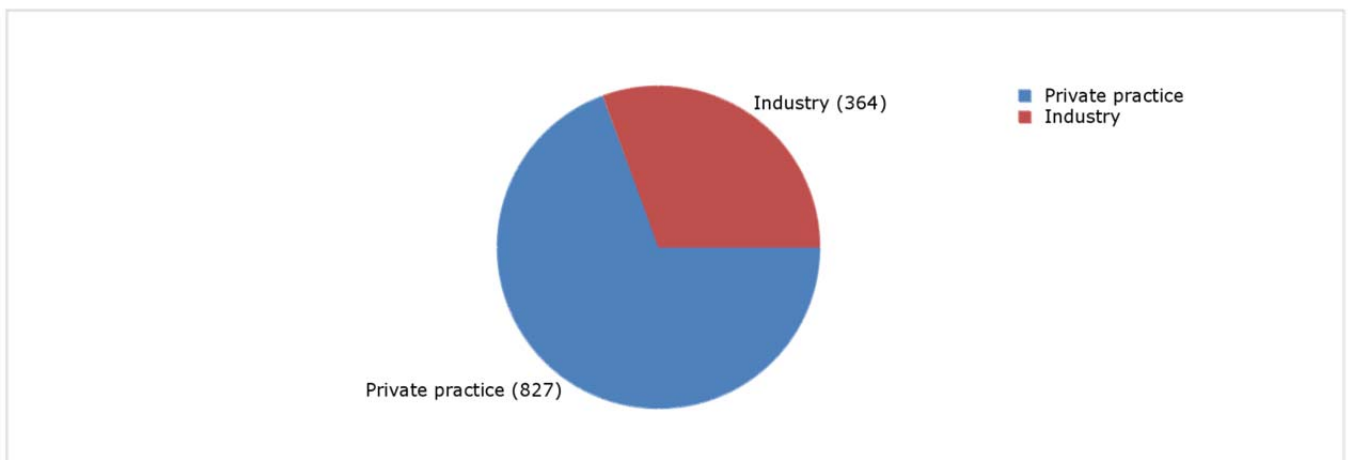
practice doing previous exam papers under exam-like conditions.

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

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



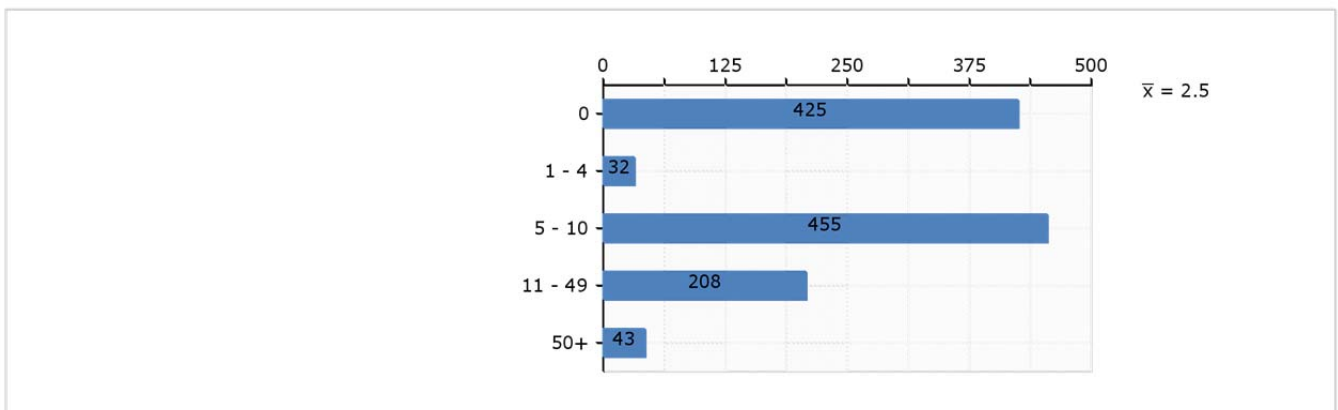
Q17) I completed most of the training (Art. 11(2)(a) REE) in



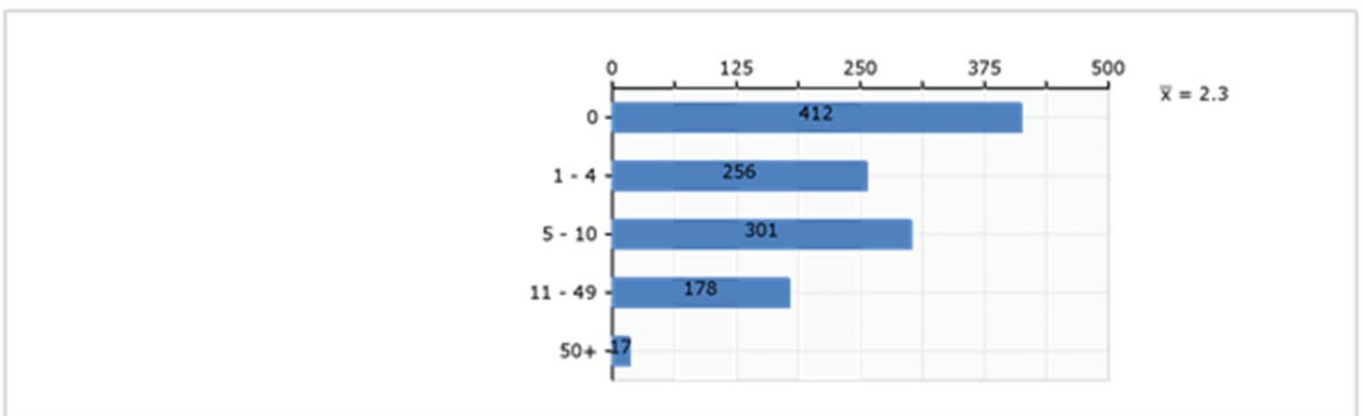
Q18) How would you rate the support of your supervisor/employer in view of your preparation for the examination(s)?



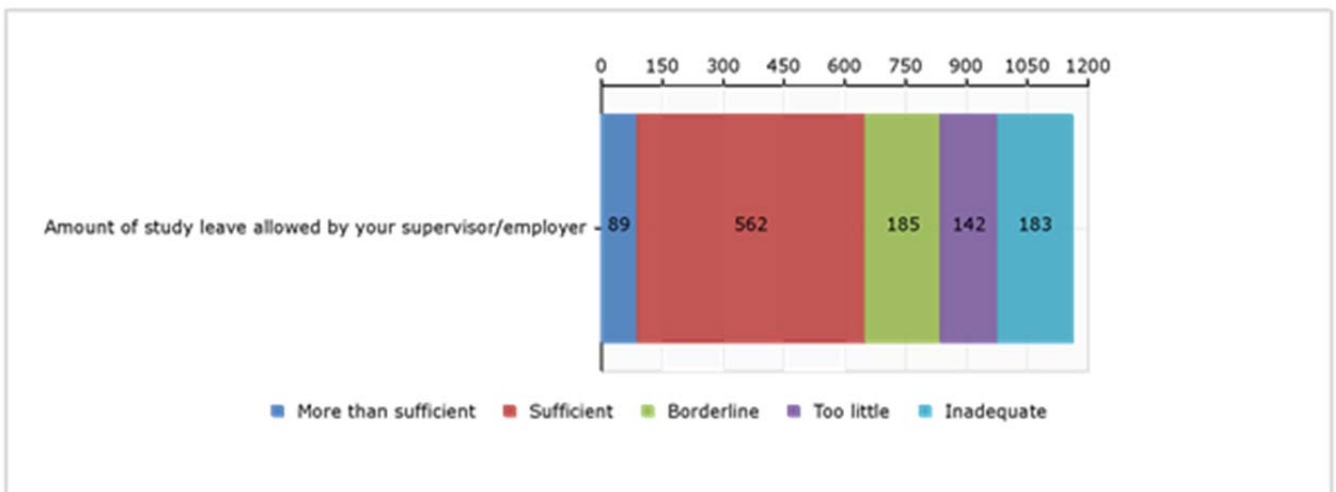
Q19a) How much time did your supervisor/employer allow for your preparation for the examination(s) in total? Please indicate the number of working days:



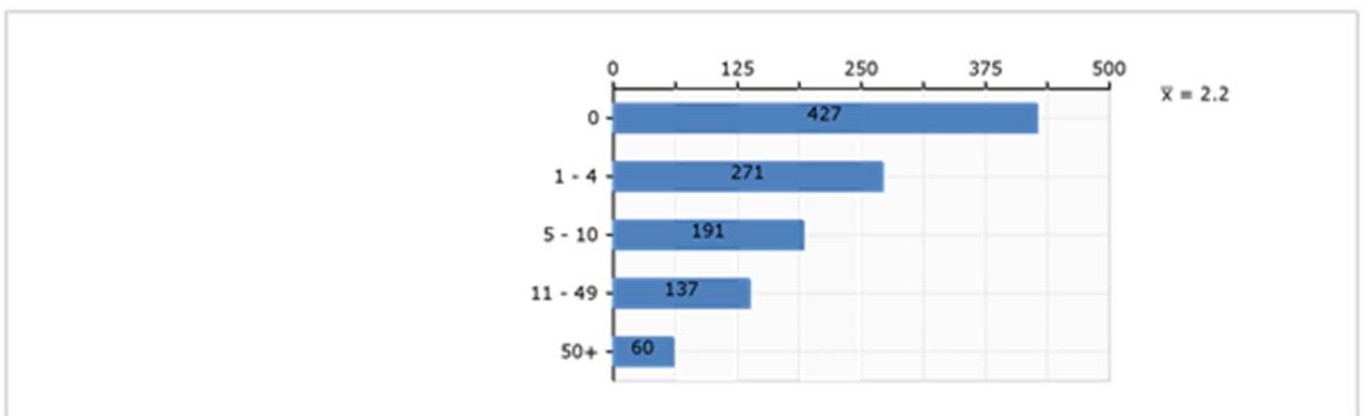
Q19b) How much time did your supervisor/employer allow for attending courses for your preparation for the examination(s)? Please indicate the number of working days:



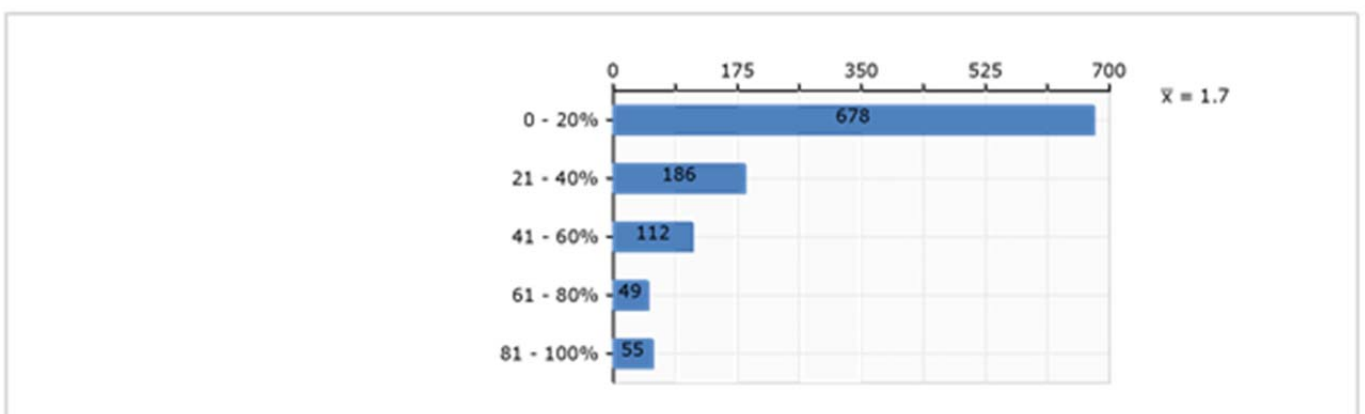
Q20) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your supervisor/employer for attending courses?



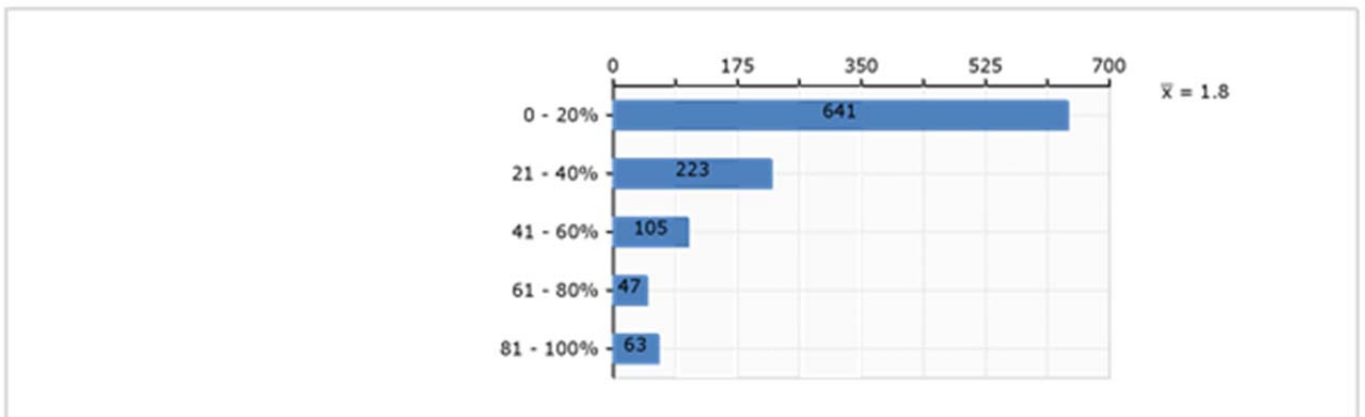
Q21a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the examination(s) with your supervisor/employer as defined by Art.11(2) (a) REE (i.e. the person who signed your certificate of training or employment)? Please indicate the number of working days:



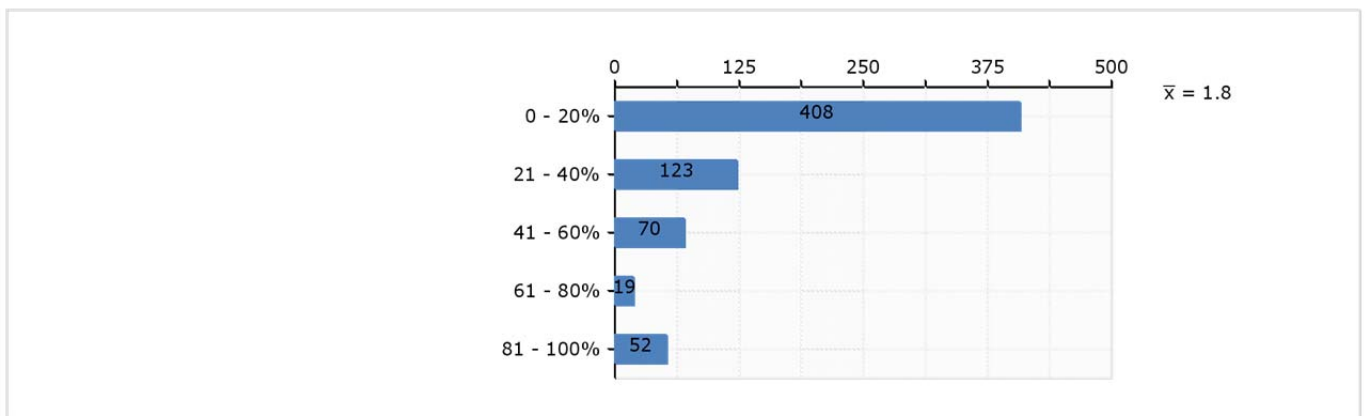
Q21b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 21a) did you spend during the first year of training? Please indicate the percentage:



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/employers in order to improve candidates' preparation for the examination(s)?

- give more free time to study. do not push under pressure candidates with work load while approaching the examining dates*
- encourage the candidate to participate in courses, studygroups etc with other candidates.*
- your questions do not take into account the amount of spare time candidates prepare for, are you never interested in this? i myself must have spent the equivalent of close to a 100 working days preparing in evenings and on weekends over the last three years*
- allocate time to go through papers with your trainees; encourage the problem-solution approach more in response to ep office actions*
- sit down with them and discuss their exam answers during preparation. courses are important and should be followed, but discussion is fundamental.*
- make it possible to take some days off in a row, for concentrated learning phases.*
- let them time to prepare correctly.*
- allow revision at work and prepare to answer questions during this time, especially law-related*

questions
recognise that preparation takes a lot of time. do not try to overstress your exam candidates.
early start of preparation; continuously working
take it more seriously. allow the trainees more time to prepare and provide meaningful training
my firm put a lot of effort into training for the ege, so i dont have any suggestion, since i believe that they are already doing a lot more of what they could be asked for.
send them to deltapatents courses. this courses are way more structured and up-to-date than ceipi.
if you fail to support staff through the ege because you are afraid they will leave when they qualify then it will become a self fulfilling prophecy!
give candidates the option to attend a training course. a minimum of 3 days study leave per exam would also be helpful; or alternatively allow an afternoon a week for study in the lead up to the exam.
industry: - make time available for (claim) drafting (helpful for a exam) - analyze office actions and discuss possible responses
- take your time to regularly (preferably weekly) sit together with the candidate to discuss her/his questions and give advice. - give tasks to the candidate that might improve her/his understanding of the epc/pct and from which he/she might benefit for the ege.
give candidates time to study. trainee level attorneys, especially in the uk, are experiencing an increase in work load as firms become busier. firms therefore need to be more flexible around exam time in terms of work expectations and allow, for example, for trainees to work from home more often. this greatly helps.
more time budget for studying
take initiative for providing the candidates with days where they can fully focus on preparations, arrange some sessions where you sit down with the candidate(s) and discuss aspects of epc/pct/claim analysis.
give them a good book and talk to the candidates about epc. my supervisor did so. but not so much time for dedicated training with me. i think that is ok. we are grownups after all.
familiarise yourself with the new form of the a and b papers. they are not readily comparable to the split e/m and chemical papers. they require a different approach and test different skills.
encourage candidates to get the delta patents p book and reimburse the cost
with the ever changing nature of the papers i dont know how employers could help candidates
give enough time for preparation without economical (in particular salary) draw-backs.
advice in study plan, and be availble for answering questions
nothing
please not: all previous questions/responses related to r. 11(2)((a) ree do not apply to my case since im an epo examiner. i got no training directly given by my employer/daily, appart the delta patent course for paper d taken end of november 2018, one week-end saturday/sunday. thus, mainly, ive taken enough private time to prepare for the ege.
- paying training courses - give tricks and tips
i would suggest employers and supervisors to spend some time discussing with the candidates/teaching the candidates some of the more advanced concepts carefully, and how they may be relevant in the exams (and in real life scenarios). concepts such as intermediary generalization, subject matter of independent claims, etc.
supplying motivation to the candidates.
give them the time to prepare properly for the exam by keeping the working pressure off them at least the final two weeks before the exams.
provide for less working pressure during preparation periods.

<i>continued discussion of ojs and decisions</i>
<i>provide actual training and advice - i think that the rolle is not necessarily taken very serious and must candidates are just sent to courses and must do everything else by themselves</i>
<i>the exams change year on year, and have likely changed since supervisors did it. have someone who knows the recent exams help candidates or make sure you know the exams.</i>
<i>i received no help from my employer for preparation, all work was done off my own back. so more study leave would be useful</i>
<i>allow them enough time to study</i>
<i>sit down with the candidate and explain how you should read the claim analysis exercise. guidance for these exercises is really needed.</i>
<i>they can provide useful tips for preparation. they can promote ege training in the workplace.</i>
<i>increase the in-house training in terms of quantity and quality through a well organised program.</i>
<i>this is a question of investment in the stuff and highly depends on companys philosophy. from supervisors view: the stuff might change job - and the investment is lost. self-evident that providing support and especially allowing time for exercise will improve candidates familiarity with the many details and the huge amount of legal documents. in best case ceipi-course like assistance could be given.</i>
<i>the eqes are not reflective of real life, so it is difficult for an employer to help prepare for the exams. the only thing that an employer could do is to give more time off to study for them.</i>
<i>need more days off before examinations</i>
<i>give more time to study</i>
<i>more time for preparations</i>
<i>it would have been beneficial to have seminars dedicated to each topic.</i>
<i>i genuinely do not know</i>
<i>provide regular tutorials to ensure that trainees develop the necessary skill set to pass the exams.</i>
<i>give their trainees more time for study and run inhouse courses</i>
<i>if you dont have many time to spend with candidates just give them some practical tricks about the exam.</i>
<i>beeing more focused on the apratecip for the exams.</i>
<i>understand that it takes a huge amout of time to prepare for the exams. it is not enough to give a couple of days off just prior to the exam.</i>
<i>there should be a mandated leave period to study for the ege. they should also help candidates study by discussing the past papers with them or even grading them.</i>
<i>provide more time for preparation (decrease the work load for allowing more time to prepare)</i>
<i>always ask for legal basis or reasons for e.g. formulating a claim in a certain way</i>

<i>allow more time in the office to dedicate to exam related study</i>
<i>help the candidate make the link between theory and practice.</i>
<i>give time för training. but also use daily work to practise för the exam.</i>
<i>if the examination papers will be kept as from 2017 on (mixed e/m, ch papers) i would suggest supervisors to make chemists to write some e/m patent applications.</i>
<i>reduce expectations on productivity to allow time and energy for studying (also when studying is done on your free time) - need time to reflect, not only produce when learning!</i>
<i>attend courses</i>
<i>no suggestion - good as it is</i>
<i>start early, reserve longer time periods for studying, train on real exam questions</i>
<i>ege preparartion should be taken more seriously by the supervisor.</i>
<i>time for study groups within company (if other candidats are there) or paid leave for seminars, best would be both</i>
<i>supervisors should let the candidates work on broad variety of problems.</i>
<i>depends very much on the preferences of the candidate. from my personal perspective learning outside office hours (e.g. evenings, weekends and holidays) seems to be most efficient.</i>
<i>let the candidates spend more time on preparations</i>
<i>the exam is different from practice. it shall be understood from employee that it is also beneficial for them.</i>
<i>harmonize the conditions for instuct the supervisors, a lot of different and useless approaches can be seen</i>
<i>the intensive ege methodology courses offered by e.g. delta patents are totally worth it. time off for personal study is essential to give candidates a good shot at the exams - it will be worth it in the long run!</i>
<i>offer more courses</i>
<i>give more time to allow candidates to prepare</i>
<i>more time during work days to prepare for the exam,</i>
<i>constant study</i>
<i>honestly, i think that people who does not manage english, french or german as first language is not in same conditions as the others are. this fact is highly important in order to obtain information from de exams and to explain shortly but effefively the responses, and even more when the time is so a relevant aspect in these exams. this aspect is not compensated and it is not fair. thank you.</i>
<i>more inhouse practice.</i>
<i>allow additional free study time to sit past papers and/or attend tutorial sessions.</i>
<i>take some time to discuss difficult legal questions or cases with your candidate and share your own experience on basic legal knowledge and its importance in order to prepare your candidate for the ege.</i>
<i>let people take more days off work to prepare</i>
<i>in some important legal subjects, they can give lectures</i>
<i>allow them to go training courses</i>
<i>they have to give much time their employers to study the exam and maybe one week before exam should be given as holiday. at least two courses should be provided for their employers.</i>
<i>more cases other than patent applications and reply to office actions, e. g. oppositions.</i>

<i>attending to courses</i>
<i>provide at least with some time for preparation even putting as a prerequisite the success at the exam. its very unfair not helping the people sitting for the exam just because the ege is not crucial for their work.</i>
<i>n/a</i>
<i>be willing to mark attempts at past papers</i>
<i>if you would like the candidate to pass the exam, make sure that there are work time that can be spent on studying, lower the required hours that must be charged to a client.</i>
<i>to enable external courses</i>
<i>nothing. any ordinary problem would be avoided from the examiners that will prepare the papers.</i>
<i>listen to the candidates own wishes. some candidates may prefer a long period with a few hours of training each week. others prefer a more condensed preparation period.</i>
<i>to understand the importance of time for studies. i think my employer was quite understanding. we are however a small firm with not so big economical muscles meaning that the firm has difficulties in allowing to much stuying time and courses on working time.</i>
<i>dedicate some time every month to have coffee with the trainee and discuss his/her progress.</i>
<i>encourage and support. it takes time to develop enough to pass.</i>
<i>nothing to comment, at my firm we get all the freedom to choose courses we need and to take time off.</i>
<i>employers dont want candidates to pass, as such this advice falls on deaf ears. the ideal employee is one who has passed 3/4 papers. she is experienced enough to operate independently and bill at a high hourly rate, but is obligated to continue to serve the professional representative. the existing cadre of professional representatives do not want additional competition.</i>
<i>i had to spend one day of holidays to attend the examination. pay all travel costs myself. both at pre-eqe and eqe. i am in the industry (r+d departments). i suggest them to get to know that this training is enriching for them as well, and not only a personal win for myself.</i>
<i>they should give some free hours to study during the working hours, because for the candidates who have children (and being the mother) especially under 3 years old, it is very difficult to find spare time to study after work or at the weekends. so also they should give some off days at least at last 3 months. the best is to give them tutorial, but in my country most of the supervisors are grandfathers so they have not much idea of the exam and not much interest, so at least they can give off days, off hours for studying.</i>
<i>-</i>
<i>i prefer just being able to work on things in my own time. being given time during the working day was invaluable nearer the exams, so i could prepare crib sheets for the exams and print off materials needed for studying at home.</i>
<i>listen to the candidates when they tell you what works for them - they aint all the same, so some flexibility in training provision (e.g. books v courses) would be good.</i>
<i>give your students work to do that is relevant to the eqes, and then set aside half an hour to give them feedback on their work.</i>
<i>donner une semaine de vacances la semaine précédent lexamen</i>
<i>more time off to do timed papers</i>
<i>start early so that you can query points with if need be with supervisors/employers.</i>
<i>training on methodology for answering questions and going through template answers.</i>
<i>freistellen zur prüfungsvorbereitung</i>
<i>grandfathers usually do not have the sufficent knowledge to properly train candidates in eqe matters, so candidates from new countries have to have training from external providers such as ceipi or delta-patents. furthermore, it would be useful if one could have at least half a day every</i>

<i>week to study, in addition to full days close to the examination. the study time should also give normal work productivity credits so that the candidate is encouraged to study.</i>
<i>more knowledge about how the eqe has changed since 20 years ago, better knowledge of how the papers are marked</i>
<i>the supervisors must realise how much time is need by trainees to prepare for the eqe, and make time available for the trainees to prepare for it, including reducing their daily workload as the exams approach.</i>
<i>start earlier on preparation for the eqe.</i>
<i>give them time off.</i>
<i>try to remember your situation when you started, be patient, do give candidates time to improve their knowledge, maybe indicate the problematic fields of a file and show, where to find the relevant information (e.g. guidelines, visser) instead of leaving them alone with a file</i>
<i>tell them about the mistakes you made during the exams. also, take the chance to discuss different aspects of the law in real practice. for example, when you get a communication, which is not one of the frequent ones, discuss this communication with the trainee, even if it is not his/her case.</i>
<i>provide their experience, insisting with candidates on taking their time to train on papers</i>
<i>have a clear plan in mind</i>
<i>to allow time to focus on the exam and perhaps lower the expectation on performing money yielding work.</i>
<i>epo employee, not applicable</i>
<i>my supervisor didnt allow me to study during working hours, not even attend the virtual classrooms of the epos online training course. there should be some rule that supervisors must allow some time for the candidates to study. i had to prepare everything after work</i>
<i>sent them to ceipi courses and encourage them to use daily d questions, time limit questions etc.</i>
<i>more study days/leave for preparing for the exam papers</i>
<i>provide in-house training. external courses are great, but are only any use for the first attempt.</i>
<i>provide more time out of the office to prepare. the truth is that many candidates have families and other commitments outside of work. i found it very hard to juggle work, exam preparation and childcare.</i>
<i>data compilation is the key</i>
<i>a decrease in workload in the final few months leading to the examination would be really helpfull</i>
<i>i would suggest to prepare some of the papers together so that the employer could more easily learn the way he should approach the papers. the supervisor will be able to immediately identify which mistake or wrong thinking the employer makes. in my case i noticed that i was often repeating the same type of mistakes but it was difficult to change my way of thinking.</i>
<i>in house group tutorials</i>
<i>in a fairly large firm, the epas here could very well give a course similar to epos pre-exam course with just a couple hours of effort per epa, and the result would be significantly more comprehensive than what epos virtual classrooms could offer. personally, i learn by listening and watching, and a significantly more comprehensive video/classroom experience would have been a big help.</i>
<i>allowance to prepare during working time short time before examination. create a structured plan for preparation for all candidates which has to be use by all employers. arrange a fix appointment to discuss questions regarding examination.</i>
<i>not to take in any candidates at all</i>
<i>allow candidates sufficient study leave in advance of the examination(s). provide candidates with a range of work to provide them with exposure to as many concepts as possible. explain the eqe to the candidates, including the nature of the papers and what the examining committee is looking for in each paper. review past papers completed by the candidate, or prepare example</i>

<i>papers for them to complete. send candidates on external courses if it is not feasible to provide comprehensive training internally.</i>
<i>supervisors/employers who make the eqe mandatory should put the means into the training of their employees and this is not just financial means. there should be a clear engagement not only on the side of the trainee but also the side of the employer, also making sure that some of the work of the trainee is taken over especially just before the exam so that the trainee can fully focus. as far as i am concerned, it has been a long journey with a lot of sacrifices since most of my study time was on week-ends and holidays away from family. so fingers corssed that now i have succeeded in passing the last one!</i>
<i>questions 16-22 not relevant - epo examiner</i>
<i>perhaps revision time during working hours.</i>
<i>supervisors should be obliged to prepare the candidates and not only signing the application form</i>
<i>be aware of the courses and books required for the pre-eqe/eques so that time isnt wasted by the candidate in searching for these before preparation</i>
<i>give the candidate time for studying/participating in courses which is not part of the recreational holiday.</i>
<i>they should provide adequate time to spend on dedicated training for the examinations. external courses and training books would also be very useful.</i>
<i>offer tutorials on claim analysis. that is by far the harder part of the pre-eqe.</i>
<i>they should keep more attention to the time intensity for preparing all the papers beside the daily work.</i>
<i>pay only 50% of the course fees and allow 50% of specia leave but allow employees to attend longer courses, 3-4 days or maybe one week of intensive training, such intensive training should take place 2-3-4 weeks before the exam</i>
<i>i would suggest that employers take the pre-examination more seriously. it is regrettable that the earlier pre-examination papers were significantly easier than the more recent iterations. it has left some employers with the perception that the pre-examination is trivial and thus warranting of little training.</i>
<i>the pre exam has changed substantially over the years, the questions are becoming more ambiguous, and they are arguably more difficult to pass now, especially considering the marking scheme. therefore, i believe it would be a good ideas for employers to keep up to date with the exam level, and re-assess the training given more frequently. also, it would be a good idea to involve trainees in complex legal situations from an early stage (as a training exercise), such as opposition, appeal and oral proceedings, and other situations like entitlement. this way, trainees have exposure early on to these more complex legal procedures.</i>
<i>organise working group, they dont necessarily have to be the only trainer</i>
<i>early tutorials explaining exam technique for the pre-exam are very useful, to understand how the exam is different from traditional closed-book exams</i>
<i>give them enough time to attend courses and prepare on their own. my supervisor gave me sufficient time, which im quite glad about.</i>
<i>questions 16-21 in fact not applicable</i>
<i>know the date of the pre-eqe and get an idea of the content and scope of the pre-eqe. ask a couple of times well in advance (1,2 and 3 months in advance for example) how things are going. my supervisor (and employer) does not know the content and date of the pre-eqe, but did allow me a lot of time to study.</i>
<i>give your candidates enough hands on practice. trust them with responsibilities. let them accompany you to oral proceedings at the opposition division and at the appeal division.</i>
<i>discussing old examinations together for learning the way of argumentation required</i>
<i>in general, many candidates are made to feel that they have to sit all the finals papers in one go. for many candidates this is inappropriate.</i>
<i>to be patient with candidates and repeat answers again and again</i>

<i>the pre-examination is ok to tackle alone. it allows you to familiarise yourself with the law, and this is something which does not require a huge amount of external input.</i>
<i>training in industry is challenging, because in small ip departments there simply are not enough ressources for training with the supervisor. it is important for supervisors to understand the stress level of the candidate and to remove some of the daily work from their desk to keep their heads free for studying.</i>
<i>for pre-examination, it is possible for candidates to pass the exam with self-study if they are organised. it would be helpful for supervisors/employers to understand clearly what the exam involves and the level of preparation needed, so that they can at least provide a suggested study plan, rather than requiring to candidate to research this on his own.</i>
<i>allow at least some time for reading and practising answering questions. support the candidate.</i>
<i>to continuously follow up on ones progress and understanding of where in the law and where in the practical process a given case is. and introduce the candidate to cases well outside the candidates work such as oppositions, 3.rd party observations, re-establishment and further processing.</i>
<i>working an all ! relevant situations, meaning application, reply official actions and opposition. maybe separate training beside daily work</i>
<i>try to make candidates look up articles and rules when performing day-to-day work. this way you will become a bit familiar with epc before starting your training for the examination.</i>
<i>it is important to get some days off work in the last month before the examination</i>
<i>more free days for study and organisation of study groups</i>
<i>being a manager myself, i understand and support my direct reports in their career aspirations, however, work in a global size company is very demanding, so both me and my team had to dedicate personal vacation time for the most part of the study. the benefit of being part of such corporation is that we received in-house supervision and training from very experienced epo attorneys from uk and germany.</i>
<i>since a partner in a law firm usually has no time at all for supervision, they should recall an attorney (who is no partner and has more time) to take over the supervision.</i>
<i>due to major changes in the company, no training was provided for the 2019 examinations. this has been better in previous years and i expect this to improve over the next year.</i>
<i>understand the needs of your trainee, help them out as much as possible and, on top of everything, ease the workload when they approaching exams</i>
<i>for supervisors/employers to be up-to-date with the content, style and difficulty of the exams</i>
<i>allow sufficient time for the preparation</i>
<i>questions for 18-21 ate not relevant for me at the moment as i work as a freelancer in the private practice at the moment, do not have supervisor/employer. i had before as im resitter</i>
<i>allow at least some weeks leave of absence for studying and preparing for the exam</i>
<i>just giving space the 3 to 4 months before the eqe and providing a good overview as how to handle the exam</i>
<i>give more time to prepare the examination</i>
<i>employers should be forced to give study time to the candidate.</i>
<i>allow time during the working day to prepare for the exams</i>
<i>give at least some time for preparation</i>
<i>to allow the candidate to practice compendiums/work during working hours 1 day per week during the last month before taking the exam</i>
<i>more desolates courses and an optional unpaid vacation</i>
<i>involve candidates in unusual cases when they arise because once you experience a point of obscure law, rather than just read about it in a textbook, you never forget it.</i>
<i>at the epo, eqe preparation and examination should be compulsory</i>

<i>take them away from office work, give more free time for preparation</i>
<i>expose the tutees to a variety of work and go through the epc</i>
<i>allow the candidates to tame time for the exams</i>
<i>give feedback on past papers. go through past combined papers with candidates as it is not always clear what the examiners are expecting by way of claims for paper a.</i>
<i>have an in-house template to use for the answers, particularly for papers a and b</i>
<i>confidential discussion with candidates who succeeded as well as with candidates who failed in order to get a credible overall picture.</i>
<i>q19a - i had 1 day of study leave but this is not given as an option</i>
<i>provide them with the tools they need (recommended books and materials, guidance with structure). allow them the freedom they require to learn (everyone learns differently), but don't let them do no learning.</i>
<i>give at least 10 days time for the preparation of the exams</i>
<i>encourage them to do questions to time, and mark them together with your employee. suggest they attend the epi pre-exam course which is an affordable and good grounding.</i>
<i>try to reduce the workload 2-3 months before the exam so that the candidate can spend more time preparing the exam</i>
<i>have a good variety of european work</i>
<i>to allow a the candidate a certain percentage of time during a work day at least 1 year before sitting the exam</i>
<i>to consider for example deltapatents advice on required number of hours to prepare the exams</i>
<i>use time</i>
<i>being involved with active cases and being exposed to non-normal everyday events is very beneficial. my supervisor regularly gets me on board with cases detailing a wide variety of objections. i find this to be more beneficial than if my supervisor sat down with me and went through a paper.</i>
<i>allow time and pay for a good course, the investment is worthwhile</i>
<i>in-house study group</i>
<i>nothing to say.</i>
<i>50/50 rule. 1 hour per day given from employers to study from working day, and 1 hour of my life per day to stay at work to study.</i>
<i>allow one week free before taking exam</i>
<i>wide range of cases, time for exam preparation</i>
<i>planning training progression</i>
<i>give them enough time to prepare for the examination.</i>
<i>reduce work load so that we can have more time to study with less stress/fatigue, when questions come up in cases before the epo ask us first !</i>
<i>we need at least a month off work close to exam or distributed when approaching the exam</i>
<i>know something about the epc</i>
<i>try to reach the best psicophysic condition in the days before the exam</i>
<i>allow some days for the preparation for the examination</i>
<i>in my opinion the best is to discuss all the cases and difficult cases issues together and to allow working during different stages of the examination/opposition procedure well as analysing formal issues/fees both in ep applications and pct.</i>

<i>give study leave</i>
<i>more dedicated study leave</i>
<i>manage expectations better (lots of employers think it is easy to pass all four main exams at once)</i>
<i>i sat the pre-exam and i felt preparation in my own time was sufficient. i do not think my employer needed to do anything.</i>
<i>i would suggest not holding back in training, it is much easier to get to grips with materials when you have all the information upfront. having said that i dont mean having all the minute detail up front. it is important to learn the basics and build on that foundation/framework in subsequent years. the core patent concepts should also be supplemented if possible by lots of practical work. the supervisor will have gone through the same examination preparation, they ought to be willing to share their learnings and tips on how they would have done things differently or what worked for them. it is not necessary that it will work for the candidate but a sense of teamwork here is important.</i>
<i>mock exams</i>
<i>weekly training with candidate,</i>
<i>dont limit the accession to formation to other conditions (sufficient invoices from the client...) because formation would benefit both the trainee and the employer</i>
<i>run internal ege papers training and correction.</i>
<i>allow them sufficient time to prepare and dont overburden them with work (one would think this was obvious ...)</i>
<i>give candidates time to study. it is impossible to prepare such a difficult exam studying only at night after working hours and during weekends</i>
<i>show them materials to use during preparation.</i>
<i>provide for the online course and text books required</i>
<i>offer more time for preparation.</i>
<i>allow well prepared candidates to relax and take some days off before the exam. work never ends, but the exam is only once per year. therefore, a hard working and well prepared candidate deserves some days before the exam to calm down and focus on the exam without extensive pressure for the everyday work duties.</i>
<i>practice in real cases is very effective way to learn.</i>
<i>even more practical problems during first year</i>
<i>ensure that sufficient study leave is given before exams, so that candidates have enough time to prepare. ideally the whole week before exams should be given as study leave, with time in the months before exams being allowed for studying (e.g. a few hours each day, or a day per week).</i>
<i>assure that ege training occurs regulary, start early, take into account the difference between daily work and ege specific training (these aspect have been no problem in my case).</i>
<i>free days only for preparation</i>
<i>well, thats difficult to say. i have no basis to compare.</i>
<i>to invest more in the candidate, e.g. giving working days/hours off work for study and a pre-defined schedule for courses and time to attend them...</i>
<i>submit all unusual situations that the employer encounters, related to epc, pct to the candidate, to sharpen real-life experience of the law, thats the best way to remember.</i>
<i>organise courses and grant more special leave.</i>
<i>epo could provide hard copies of texts required, or internally to examiners provide a printing service-it was soo time consuming trying to find the correct documents, print out in batches (not to block/jam printers) the epo provides in house courses but over one specific weekend, if you cannot attend there is no alternative, would be good to offer over different dates.</i>

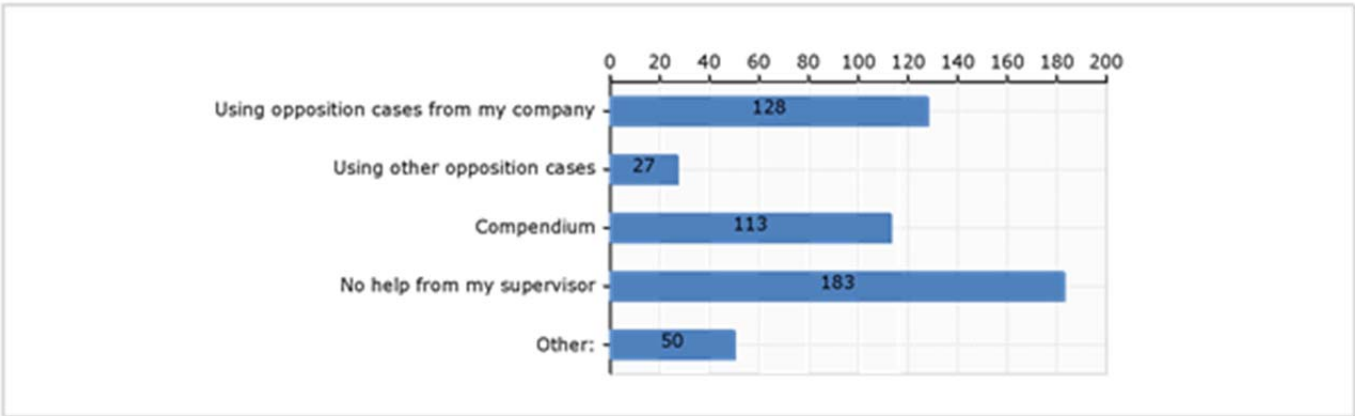
<i>from day one, get familiar with what is requested in the exams. as i said before, providing or supporting to achieve a good overview of everything there possibly is. also, making aware about the clear line between national law and epc/pct</i>
<i>let the candidates study continuously during the year.</i>
<i>actually take an interest in those trying to qualify.</i>
<i>test their preparation.</i>
<i>start preparation for exam much faster</i>
<i>need to give more study leave.</i>
<i>install a fixed day once per week / every other week dedicated only to training.</i>
<i>discuss judicial questions in high detail, also such questions which do not come up during normal work. and also let the candidates search for the exact statement within the epc, implementing regulations, and guidelines - same for pct (even more crucial).</i>
<i>no idea</i>
<i>spend more time with the candidate; tell them what worked for you and what did not; each week check in with them</i>
<i>in discussing legal questions, in special in the first years of training.</i>
<i>dot not consider ege pre exam as a formality</i>
<i>hard to say. since i work in industry, the papers a and b are easy, as prosecuting patents is what you do in the industry (and strategy to build up portfolios). you know the law, but giving legal advise (d) is rarely done and oppositions (c) are at least in our company done only by a few in the german patent department. so to quickly formulate answers that give points is not that easy.</i>
<i>update the older compendium with new responses according to the changes in the epc, specailly for di. mr gérard weiss does that at the ceipi in france and its great but restricted to people attending the ceipi.</i>
<i>less responsibilities during the last month and a 2-week vacation for studying.</i>
<i>emphasize understanding, reasoning and proper argument in the work, to make the examiination preparation easier and more relevant, especially when you can see the quality of your filings improve. even if it reduces turnover.</i>
<i>give more study leave</i>
<i>freistellung für die prüfung unterstützung bei der gebühr</i>
<i>structured study preparations specifically dedicated to the passing of the ege</i>
<i>no suggestion</i>
<i>please allow the candidates sufficient time for preparing the examination(s).</i>
<i>more than one study day per exam</i>
<i>allow time to do practice papers at work i.e 5 hours</i>
<i>das lernen soll/kann während der arbeitszeit stattfinden?</i>
<i>nothing to note.</i>
<i>give people more time for self study.</i>
<i>work on (complicated) real cases as much as possible, it gives much experience</i>
<i>give enough examples out of daily life to practise, especially opposition and appeal</i>
<i>to let them more time to prepare for the examination(s)</i>

<i>in my opinions, supervisors often are limited by their own experience and their own style of studying and tackling issues. not everyone is the same so supervisors should be a bit more open minded on different approaches.</i>
<i>allow extra study time</i>
<i>the last few questions were not relevant for me, as i enrolled for the eqe as a grandfather, and had no supervisor in that sense. however, as the questions were mandatory, and no na was possible to choose, i had to give some answer.</i>
<i>i have repeated the exam and get no support from the employer</i>
<i>nothing.</i>
<i>provide access to a dedicated course - epo or epi provide sufficient study leave to go through the relevant material</i>
<i>regular preparation should be supported from the very beginning. it is important to have access to good study material</i>
<i>give some time</i>
<i>don't know.</i>
<i>give them time for preparation, and not just time after the workday, and some encouraging words. more tangible workload reduction for the candidate is required for a re-sitter like me.</i>
<i>they should be obliged to form the candidates, not only sign being a supervisor</i>
<i>sufficient time to study is most useful. for advice on exams, other candidates or newly qualified attorneys who have previously sat these exams are more helpful than ones supervisor or employer.</i>
<i>highlight more how to interpret the claims and what is expected by an examiner.</i>
<i>they should provide more time for the employees to study without much daily work pressure</i>
<i>do correction of compendium</i>
<i>encourage hand-written work encourage analysis of prior art documents to time</i>
<i>take at least three up to six month before the eqe a sabbatical - minimum</i>
<i>fixed period of time for preparing eqe</i>
<i>develop a dedicated preparation plan</i>
<i>at least one hour per week to comment on a paper.</i>
<i>so every case, every topic , every little task concerning ep and a few pct</i>
<i>when starting strong keep up until the end, also if supervisor change happens be fair and give the candidate the same support until the end when scheduling regular training sessions commit to them and attend prepared when correcting papers: correct them + comment concerning improvements!</i>
<i>nothing, it was fine</i>
<i>it is not up to the supervisor but to the examinee to prepare appropriately.</i>
<i>- more leave time to prepare - less cases to handle in the last 3 months before the main examination - buy the books for the candidates</i>
<i>less workload at work, and more days off for self study/course</i>
<i>nothing special</i>
<i>allow more time for exam related study, and provide more day-to-day training</i>
<i>eqe is a personal preparation. most supervisors would not succeed at the eqe today. eventually that could give more time to prepare during the week and pay for specialized courses.</i>

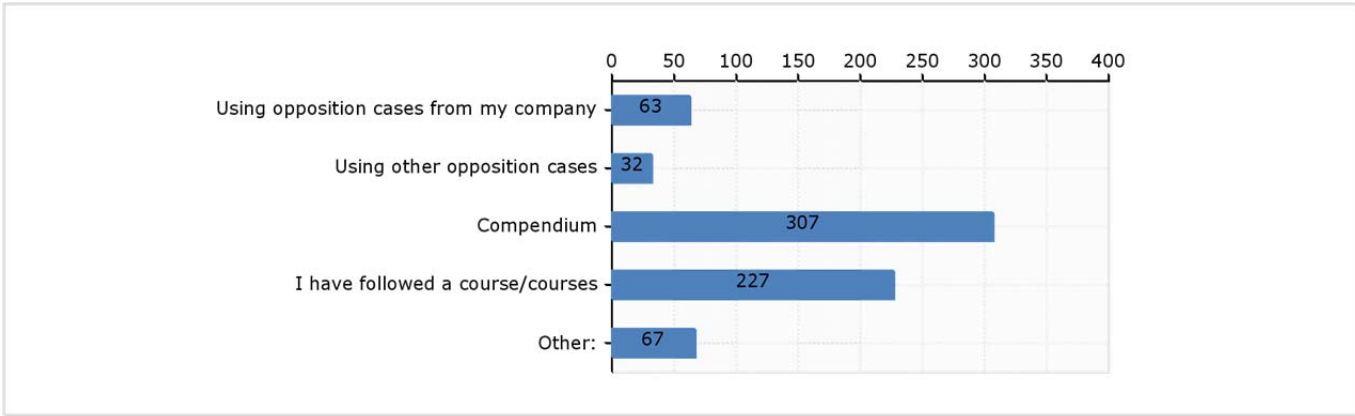
<i>allow suitable chunks of time, an hour grabbed here or there isnt enough to get into something properly.</i>
<i>give more time for the preparation during working days</i>
<i>allow them a good methodology course, and then enough time for self-study and for practising compendium papers (and, for the pre-exam and paper d, for practising legal questions). foster learning groups and collaboration between candidates if there are enough candidates within the given entity.</i>
<i>allow more study days</i>
<i>schedule regular appointments for discussing fixed or current topics.</i>
<i>firstly, do not paint the picture of the ege as an impossible quest that only a select few can/will accomplish. besides from that, make sure to be available for discussions, in particular regarding difficult legal issues. make sure that your candidate gets a lot of ep-work before the exams.</i>
<i>we didnt get any in house training. we got one day study leave per exam. this is not sufficient to do past papers. should give time every week set aside for studying and in house tutorials for helping support the candidates</i>
<i>allow more time to prepare for exams. we are allowed one day per exam for revision. this hardly makes a difference and therefore i had to take personal holiday time, on top of working nights and weekends. this meant no days off for two months.</i>
<i>sent everybody to the ceipi courses in strasbourg</i>
<i>give necessary importance and priority to dedicated training</i>
<i>more time</i>
<i>more time to study during working days</i>
<i>please note that none of questions q17 - q22 apply to me as i am an epo examiner - thus i work neither for private nor for industry and i have no supervisor ;-)</i>
<i>to give more time to prepare the papers (and thus less office work)</i>
<i>my supervisor is an european patent attorney. so he did his best and i am happy with that.</i>
<i>i felt that the amount of exam support i received from work was adequate. however, my workload was far too high before the exams, so a reduced workload would have been useful!</i>
<i>- provide enough time for preperation, - lower the regular workload during the weeks before to examination, - supervisors should not underestimate the pre-exam for the reason that he/she did not have to sit the pre exam on his/her own</i>
<i>allow for sufficient time, and make sure the competence is passed from experienced attorneys to the candidates.</i>
<i>that we could prepare and do the past exams during the work day, and it would be also convenient if the work load would be less than normal.</i>
<i>keep up to date with the current exam formats - often advice was outdated (not for legal, but for the practical aspects/formats of the exams). try to bare in mind the exam formats throughout training so that trainees always learn in the ege style. more drafting practice.</i>
<i>give them good training</i>
<i>please dont expect too much. start with something simple like the simple epc or the guidelines.</i>
<i>study leave for exams organize learning material</i>

Q23) How did your supervisor/employer as defined by Art.11(2)(a) REE train you for paper C?

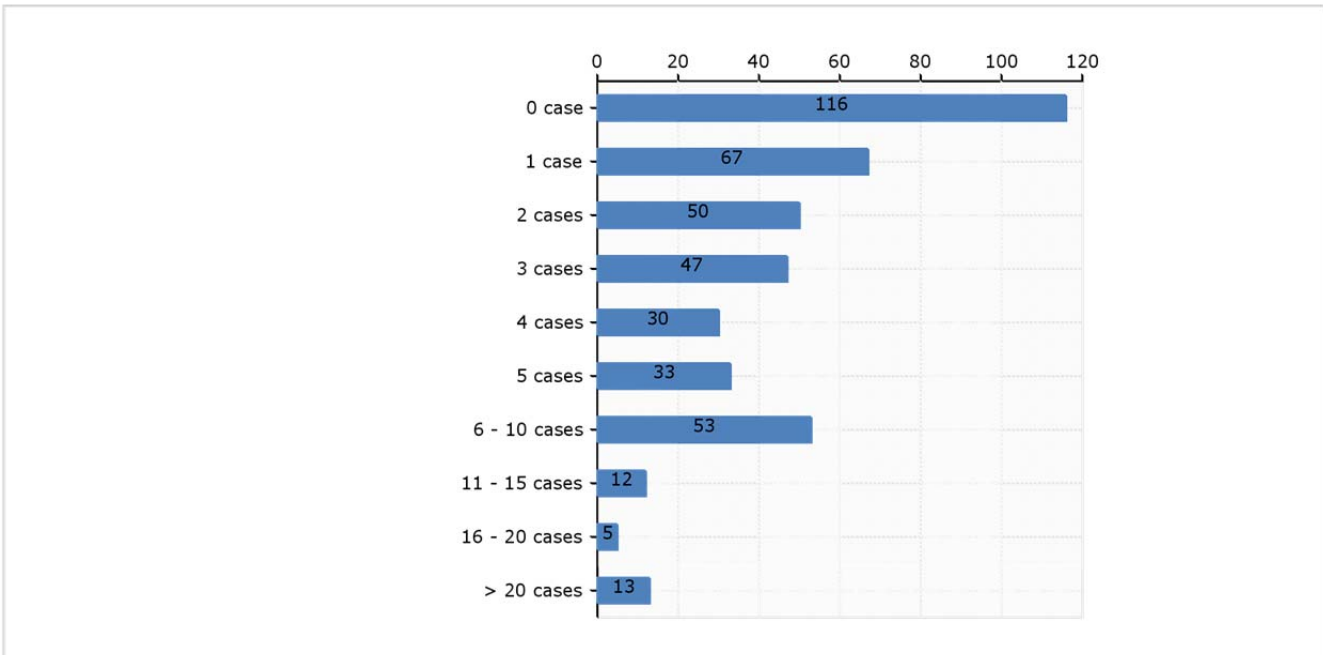
Multiple answers are possible



Q24) How did you prepare for paper C apart from the training you received from your supervisor/employer?
Multiple answers are possible

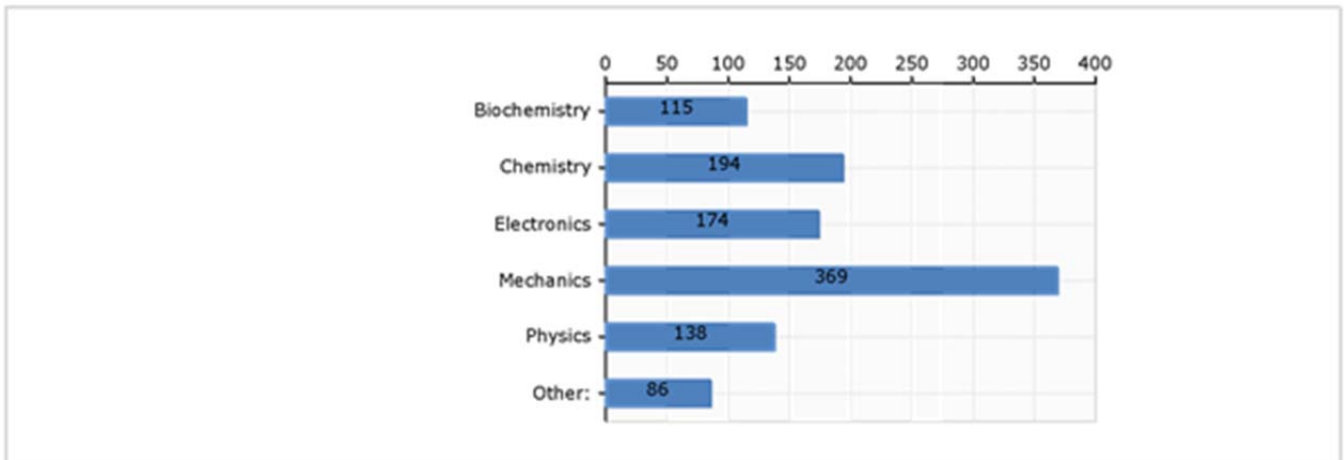


Q25) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-year training period? Please indicate the number of cases:

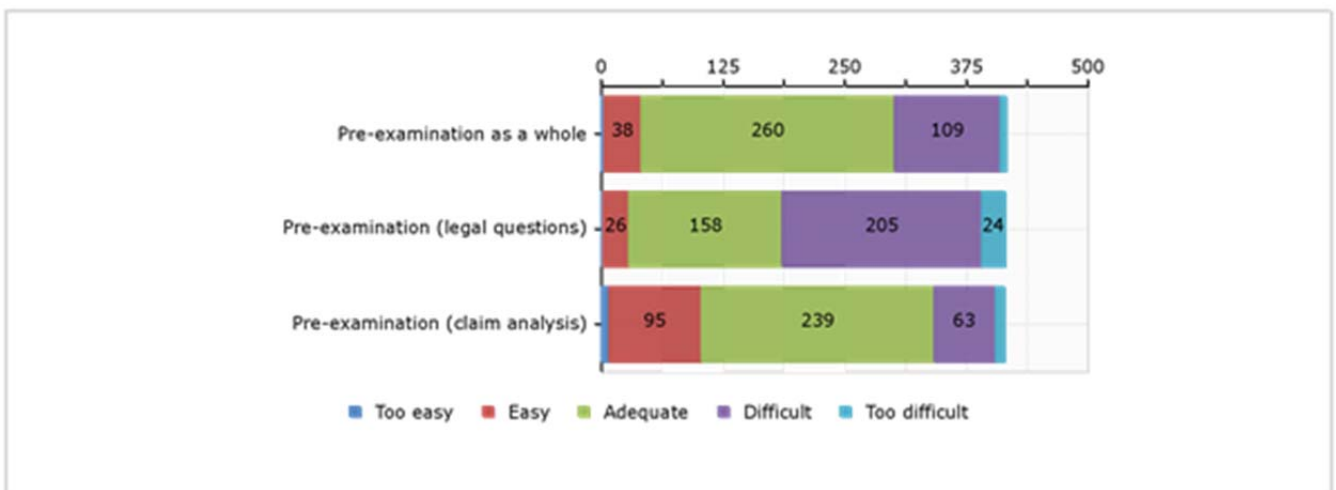


Chapter 4 – EQE Papers

Q26) Which of the following best describes the technical area in which you work?

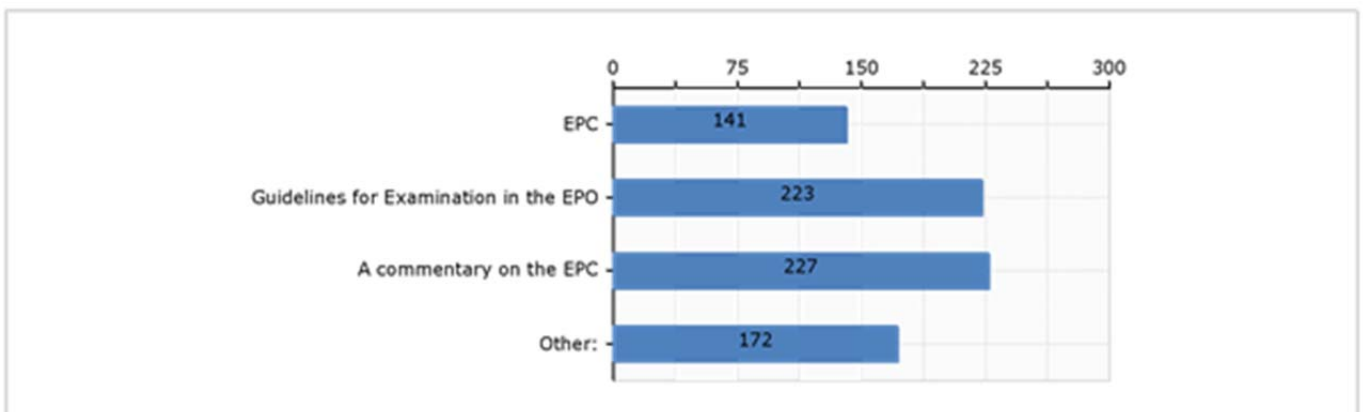


Q27) Please rate the difficulty of the 2019 pre-examination paper



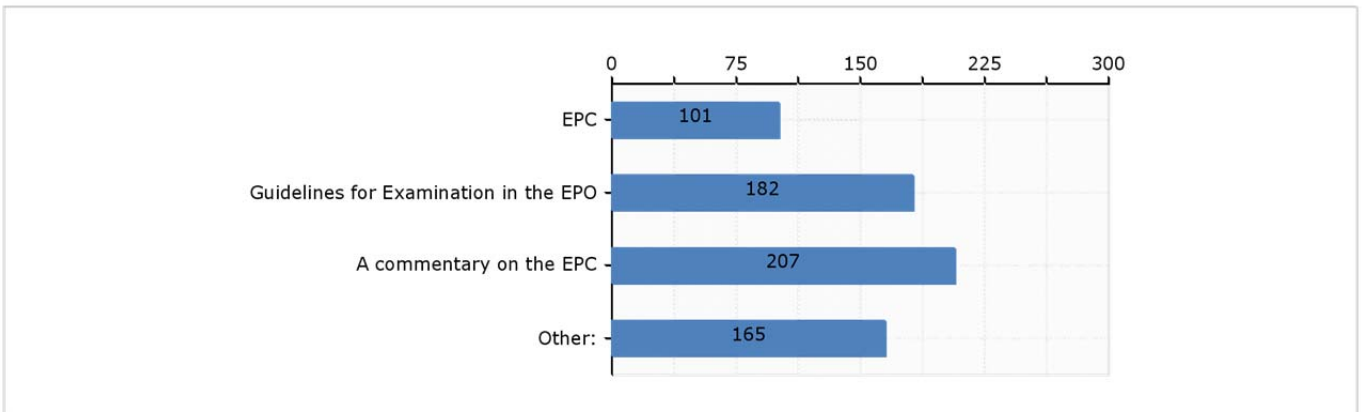
Q27a) What reference book was the most useful for the preparation of the pre-examination?

Multiple answers are possible

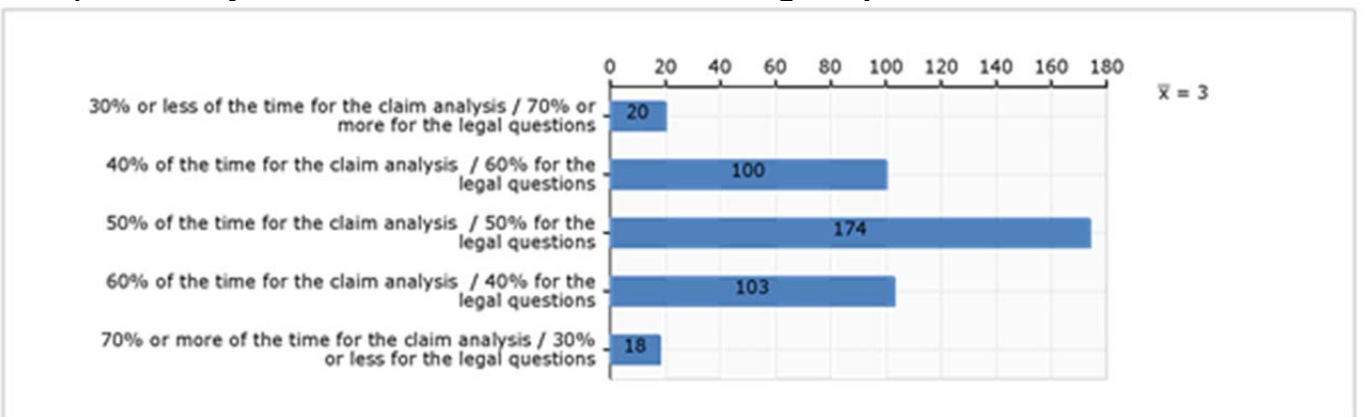


Q27b) What reference book was the most useful while sitting the pre-examination?

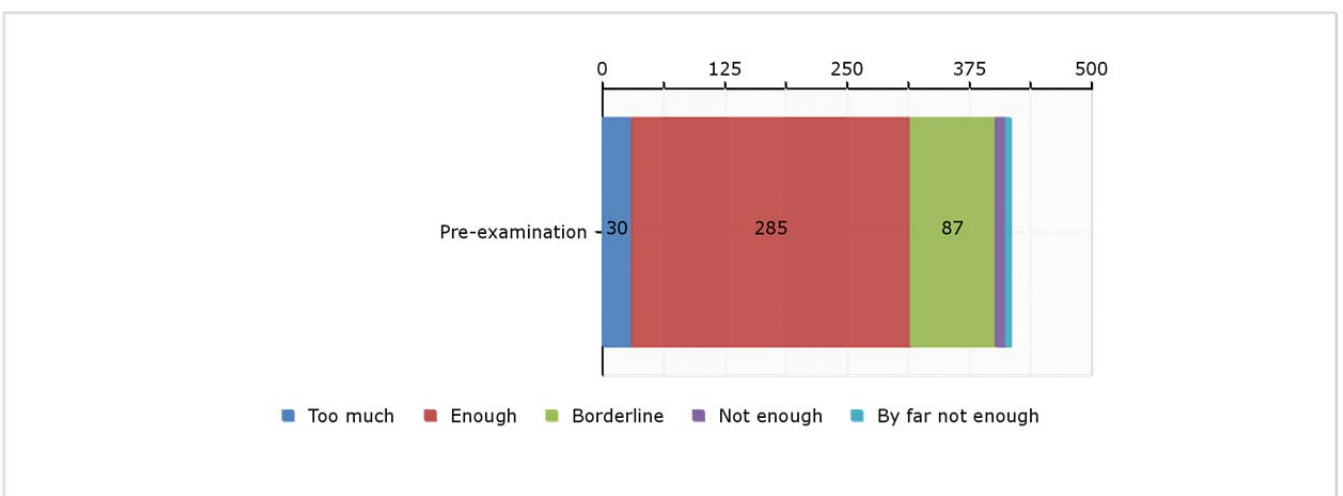
Multiple answers are possible



Q27c) How did you allocate the available time during the pre-examination?



Q27d) How did you find the time available for the pre-examination paper?



Q27e) Any comment on the pre-examination?

teilweise waren fragen nicht eindeutig zu beantworten, bspw. 2.2, 2.3: was heißt grundsätzlich? das ist beliebig auslegbar... fies war 5.4: registrierung findet beim ib statt. bei der anspruchsanalyse fand ich unklar, ob ein anspruchssatz (hier iii) teil der offenbarung ist, und welche folgen dies hat.

im very glad that the claim analysis part, for the first time in history, took into account that not all candidates are practising in the mechanical field and tested both understanding of chemical and mechanical invention applications. it was a big satisfaction for me that at least in one part i did not have any doubts or language issues. thank you for that.

the subject matter of the claim analysis was like no other year and really caught me by surprise - it was so unlike my day to day practice (physics) that i was visiting this for the first time. having to decide on a true or false basis for points of law is so far from real life practice it feels like you are throwing dice when choosing an answer.

i finished the pre-eqe exam between 3 and 3,5 hours, so for me, the available time was quite enough.

one of the legal questions was wether the examination would issue a communication acc. to 71(3). however, it was not clear from the question, wether examination had already started (unfortunately, i dont remember which question it was and i do not have access to my notes right now). generally, some more information in the questions regarding the state of the proceedings would be helpful to avoid misunderstandings.

horrible, sorry

i found some of the questions were open to interpretation.

i think the answers should be published right after the exam. keeping these answers behind for several weeks does not add to the objectivity of the exam. more focus for the legal part on relevant day-to-day issues instead of never occurring issues. take care that the chain from essential feature or distinguishing feature towards technical effect is disclosed in the application. (for example 2018: 17.2 easy to manipulate is not in the text and leads to confusion)

i personally feel that, compared to previous papers, the legal section in particular was ambiguous. for a true/false question, it should be clear what the question is asking, and there should be a clear true/false answer. the way the questions were worded were ambiguous and difficult to interpret, particularly when under time pressure. in addition, i felt that the spread of topics covered was narrower compared to most years, and the paper was heavily based on oral proceedings and opposition. as there are a large number of topics to cover, i do not feel the paper reflected that. with regard to the claim analysis section, having two patents to analyse, which is completely new this year, took people by surprise. once you are in the mind set of one technology, it throws you when faced with another. i am unsure of the purpose of this change. overall, i feel that there was too much ambiguity with the questioning, which is difficult when you can only select true or false.

the questions need to be unambiguous. for example, question 6 posed the scenario: company a filed a european patent application ep-ab with the epo. company a and company b agreed to transfer european patent application ep-ab to company b. all contracting states are designated. statement 6.1: it is possible to register in the european patent register company a as sole applicant for ep-ab for the epc contracting state germany and to register company b as sole applicant for ep-ab for all the other epc contracting states. in one interpretation, having just read that ep-ab will be transferred to company b, then no, a cannot be a sole applicant for germany because they have just transferred their rights. however, if the question means, in general, can two or more applicants designate different contracting states, then yes!

encouraging to see a less ambiguous claim analysis part compared with previous years. this exam is to test that candidates understand the basics of claim analysis before the eqe finals. therefore, there is no reason to make the exam any more ambiguous than this year and put unnecessary stress on candidates.

very well-balanced, both lp and ca, and chemistry vs general engineering.

<i>almost every year, the paper has questions which are open to interpretation. the format of the examination leaves no room for candidates to explain their reasoning. this means that the exam result may not fully reflect the candidates ability as a patent attorney. a different format, perhaps with a mixture of t/f questions and written answers, may provide a better indication of a candidates thought processes and ability.</i>
<i>claim analysis more straightforward than previous years. legal questions slightly more challenging than average</i>
<i>include bold grid lines on the answer sheet to help avoid mistakes</i>
<i>very well set exam. i wouldnt change anything.</i>
<i>why is the result so late...</i>
<i>the decision to examine two inventions during claim analysis by surprise, and added difficulty not so much in the specific questions but in the added stress from needing to switch the brain from one invention to the other - which is not that easy under exam conditions. i think the idea has merit - if a candidate completely messes up on one invention they can recover on the other, whereas in previous exams misunderstanding the invention may cost them a pass - i simply trust that in this exam the question difficulty was set appropriately to account for the shock factor. in future exams candidates will now be aware of the possibility of two inventions. the mark scheme is also not favourable to candidates, as it is possible to get 75% of the statements correct but only score 60% for the paper. im sure this is mentioned time and time again by candidates however i think it must be stated yet again that a fairer scoring system should probably be implemented. two candidates who have the exact same knowledge could score either 75 (15 questions scored 5/5, 5 questions scored 0) or 60 (all questions scored 3/5) depending on how the statements are grouped together, which isnt really fair.</i>
<i>although better than last year, some questions were still ambiguous, in both parts</i>
<i>no comments</i>
<i>this year it felt like the legal section was harder than previous years, whereas the claim analysis was easier.</i>
<i>as a resitter i could say that legal part was harder than last year (2018) as last year i spent on legal 1,15 hour, this year i spent on legal 2 hours. claim analysis this year was a suprise with 2 inventions but the inventions and d documents were well written, shorter than previous years and adequate. last two years inventions and d documents were very complicated, long as text and harder to tackle for 2 hours. this year i had enough time for the claim analysis part. last two years (2017, 2018) it was impossible for me to handle legal and claim analysis parts for 4 hours. this year i had enough time to complete both parts for 4 hours.</i>
<i>hard to answer questions for which the answer comes from case law</i>
<i>some of the questions are worded fairly ambiguously. i anticipate that a few questions could be answered incorrectly despite candidates actually knowing the correct answer.</i>
<i>it was fine</i>
<i>more emphasis should be given to drafting the questions in an unambiguous manner.</i>
<i>was ok, some problems in translation (i think question 9.3), which was not the same in german and english and could lead to confusion. easy to fix, just let somebody do it as mock.</i>
<i>2019 time was not an issue. but this was due to the fact that the amount of text was reduced significantly compared to 2018. so in my opinion in terms of overall length, 2019 was good. pre-exam should be around the 30 page mark</i>
<i>most crucial point in my view is that the questions are drawn in a clear fashion. for some questions, as to the usual circumstances in everydays work the answer could be different (because of special circumstances which usually apply but which are not explicitly mentioned in the questions). of course, the answer has to be based on the question drawn but in my view this sometimes leads to confusion as some questions are artifiially focused on non-usual conditions.</i>
<i>the candidates should have more space. if a neighbor candiate is stressed or nervous, it is very is to be distracted. also, a candiate may see the responses of another candiate sitting nearby,</i>

<i>which is not professional.</i>
<i>too easy for a well prepared candidate. this is something not fair because people with just the basic knowledge and preparation succeeded in the pre-exam, thus resulting in the same position with people that really sacrificed personal time (family etc.), and studied in depth almost all of the material. i would expect more tricky questions in order to reach the 70 /100. i think this will be also shown in the results and in the pass rate, which i believe it will be higher compared to previous years.</i>
<i>demanding</i>
<i>appearance of unclear statements in the questions hampered efficient answering</i>
<i>pre-exam contains mostly questions that require the candidate to use his knowledge to answer correctly the question, but also the pre-exam contains some trivial questions whereby the challenge is to decode correctly the question in order to give the correct answer. i found the latter type of questions actually to not be adapted to prepare future practitioners. since no argumentation can be given besides the true/false mark possible misunderstandings of the question itself are more likely to arise which such kind of questions.</i>
<i>legal questions were relatively difficult compared to the previous years. difficulty of claim analysis part was ok, however it was confusing at first, since it was the first time that the claim analysis part was divided into two separate independent cases.</i>
<i>some of the question were very ambiguous. they should be difficult, but its as if the examination board are trying to be too clever sometimes.</i>
<i>a couple of questions that were not completely clear and could have been either true or false depending on the circumstances. the further processing question springs to mind for this.</i>
<i>time was ok and ex post facto, the difficulty level was most probably appropriate and in line with past years however a big surprise was the different structure of the claim analysis - based on all the past exams, this was unexpected and involved probably a lot of undesired mistakes due to this big and significant change. quite a lot of questions were dependant on each other - also not optimal. some legal questions were too vague, without exact dates, but only before, after, etc.</i>
<i>the legal questions were challenging but enjoyable. the claims analysis section was spot on in terms of structure. im aware the 2018 pre-exam was considered too long and complex. this year, the ege split it into 2 inventions with 2 pieces of prior art. this is a great format for the pre-ege and i think you should consider doing this every year: it prevents us wasting time flipping back between too many prior art documents and claim sets, and allows the trainee to focus on the issues at hand. my one complaint would be statements 19.1 and 19.2 of this year. having discussed it with students and tutors, it appears that the answer could be t or f, and both of these answers are entirely arguable. i suspect if these are not neutralised then a lot of borderline students will be appealing these two statements which could make a difference of 4 marks!</i>
<i>i think its about time to allow materials in eletronic format. in my every-day practice i always go online to read both the epc, guidelines or any other legal text i need.</i>
<i>the claim analysis part involving two inventions in different technical fields seemed fair to me.</i>
<i>no</i>
<i>use better wording when asking. try to avoid possible confusions caused by interpretation by providing additional information to exclude what is not asked for.</i>
<i>regarding claim analysis: when asking multiple choice style questions (true/false format), only questions that can be answered unambiguously should be asked. please leave questions with room for interpretation for part d of the main examination!</i>
<i>maybe consider improving the adhesive on the envelopes containing the examination paper. although there was a warning, that the adhesive is very strong, i ended up sticking the answer sheet on the adhesive strip because i forgot about it by the end of the examination. almost ripped the answer sheet apart while stressfully removing the answer sheet from the envelope 5 minutes before the end. saw other candidates experiencing the same.</i>
<i>i think it was a good idea to divide the technical part into two distinct parts. as chemist i have really seen the difference between the chemical part and the mechanical part. indeed, i found the chemical part easier to understand and i think that it will have a good influence on my final mark.</i>

i found the pre-exam tested different aspects of the law to previous years (based on the past papers) which kept it interesting. i think the legal section was less routine and the claims analysis section did test the core concepts of the law, and the claims section was an improvement on the amount of reading one had to do compared to the more recent past papers. there was a lot of double-checking of reasoning on my part.

question 5.4 very ambiguous

claims questions were very ambiguously worded. in particular, the term subject matter when referring to dependent claims was confusing. e.g. is the subject matter of claim 2 (dependent on claim 1) novel? does this refer to the feature in claim 2 or claim 1 and claim 2 together?

in my opinion, the novel style of the claim analysis part comprising an invention in the field of chemistry and an invention in a technical field, is fairer than having just one technical invention like in previous years. also, it reduces the risk of losing many points due to a misinterpretation of one or more features of the single invention which often caused recurring errors in the claim analysis part.

this paper was balanced but it was slightly different from the previous papers. the chemical composition in the the claim analysis was a surprise. there were some interlinked questions, probably not entirely fair - ie, if you get one wrong, probably all the other answers will be wrong as well.

the topics are so extraordinary special that you need to know completely every topic described in the guidelines in detail. not only reading but interpreted.

it is crazy that you can bring a library to the examination, but not use the internet.

it is good, that there was not much reading in ca part. that gave me more time to focus on questions. lp was very tricky, i wasn't prepared for few tricks.

it was very confusing to see no list of participants to sign, when we arrive but also at the end when we give our answer sheet back. in my case specifically, i was packing my stuffs before returning my answer sheet and leaving, when one of the supervisors passed by me and took my answer sheet. he then wandered in the exam hall with my sheet in hand. how do i know that my sheet is finally gonna end up in the stack with the other ones? probably a list of participants to be signed when returning the sheet, with a dedicated desk to give the answer sheets back at the end (no dedicated place in paris for what i've seen...), would be a good idea.

2019 seemed similar in level of difficulty/time required to 2018. these two being clearly harder and taking longer to complete than previous years.

questions have been designed to adequately measure the knowledge, ability and experience of the candidates to deal with ep applications (unlike previous year). besides, the language of the questions are adequately understood even by the candidates having a language other than the official epo languages. it is appreciated that the candidates' feedbacks have been taken into account.

the mark scheme seems unfair as two people who show a similar amount of knowledge can achieve vastly different marks depending on whether they make mistakes in the same or different sets of 4 questions. the grouping in sets of 4 does not always appear relevant.

the idea of splitting the claim analysis part in two was more than welcomed by all the participants, because this way it is possible to focus on answering the question and it does not turn out to be something like a reading contest, which appeared to be the case with last year's examination where the prior art documents were incomprehensibly long. maybe the question regarding range is a bit out of place insofar as it's a topic where it's kind of hard (in general terms at least) to give a black or white answer without the possibility to comment on it

i'd like to have the possibility to comment on the questions because sometimes it is doubtful what is meant by the question and you have different possibilities to answer the questions.

sometimes questions could be formulated more clearly. i even had to check the other language versions. e.g. the german word sie could mean you or they and from the context of the question it could have meant both (question regarding who is allowed to speak)

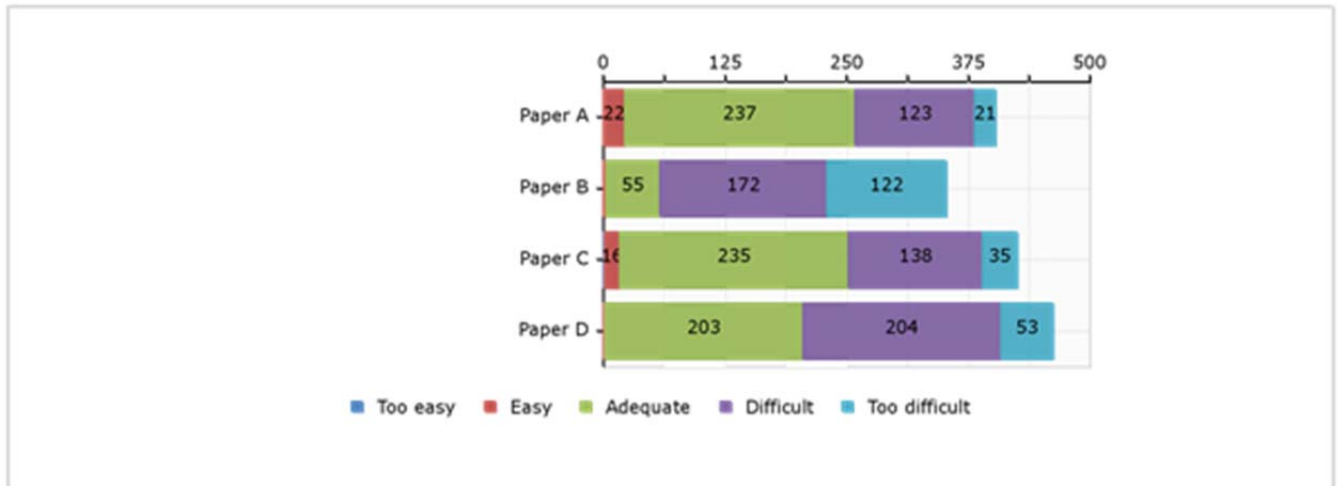
the presence of two shorter subjects for the claims analysis was fantastic (and reassuring to those of us with no mechanical background whatsoever) !! there seemed to be a lot of novelty questions, which is fine for easy points, but a bit more balanced (i.e. more questions concerning a 123(2), 84) might be preferable.

<i>there were some ambiguous questions, which according to ipree should be avoided</i>
<i>the technical description was well drafted and fair, also for candidates outside the field of mechanics. however, clarity of the questions remains an issue. beside the content of the exam the psychological stress component is massive. this is also due to the fact that candidates (beside the reputational damage) are faced with the possibility to loose years in case of failure as there is no option to repeat the pre-eqe (or eqe) before the end of one year. in particular for female candidates this loss of time impairs the compatibility of job and family and heavily impacts any family planning. this observation was shared and discussed by multiple young women taking the pre-exam in 2019.</i>
<i>some questions can lead to interpretations, which should be avoided during a true/false test such as the pre-exam because you cannot explain the reasoning based on that interpretation. some inaccuracies in the french translation (my mother tongue is fr), i had to check several times in the english and german versions for getting the proper interpretation of some elements.</i>
<i>it would be better to have more basic legal questions mostly related to the daily practice an less tricky legal questions representing exceptional situations.</i>
<i>a lot of ambiguous questions which are hard to answer true or false to and so a lot of time is spent working out what could be meant.</i>
<i>very good choice to prepare a claim analysis opart based on two different invenmtions but with significantly less text mass to actually digest. this puts better focus on the candidates knowledge than fast reading skills. i would sincerely hope that the approach from pre-exam 2018 is not used again.</i>
<i>the legal section this year seemed a bit harder than previous years. too much focus on opposi-tions (which dont happen frequently during my regular practice), and not enough on other factors such as renewals and deadlines (which are more common). claims analysis was fine, other than question 19.1 and 19.2 which seem potentially contentious.</i>
<i>the grading seems a bit unusual or even unfair. 70 of 100 points are needed to pass, that is a real challenge. furthermore it also depends how your mistakes allocate. simple example: person a has exact one false answer (20 mistakes at all) for each question. a gets 3 points for each question, 60 points in total and fails. person b collects all his mistakes in 5 questions and has the rest right. b gets 75 points and passes. a and b have the same amount of right and wrong answers but a fails and b passes. so this grading system offers something like a mistake discount.</i>
<i>i only have one observation on the pre-examination worth mentioning: the pre-examination was introduced in 2012, i believe. the pass rate was, at first, very high. the pass rate now, however, is around 70%. that is, around 30% of candidates sitting the pre-examination fail. despite this, the pass rates of the main eqe examinations does not appear to have increased. after accounting for candidates who do not show up to the pre-examination because of illness, or personal rea-sons etc., it seems a reasonable assumption that the pre-examination removes the least capable 15 or 20% of candidates who would have otherwise sat the main eqe examinations. thus, i would have thought that the introduction of the pre-examination would increase the pass rate of the main eqe examinations. i suspect that the examiners for the main eqe examinations are still marking these examinations with the idea in mind that roughly 1 in 2 candidates should fail. in fact, i think that this should have slightly increased in view of the introduction of the pre-examination. it may be worth discussing this internally with the main eqe examiners.</i>
<i>pleasantly surprised that the claim analysis was less mechanical than previous years.</i>
<i>i liked the presence, in claim analysis, of both chemical and mechanical subject-matters.</i>
<i>the paper seemed to be easyer this year than the privious years.</i>
<i>my strength lies in the claim analysis part. i thought that it was perhaps a little bit too easy. the legal part was a mixed bag, with very easy questions and a couple of very detailed and difficult ones. in general, the exam was very well prepared by the epo, nicely done.</i>
<i>claim analysis part was well structured, being basically divided in two parts. not too complex, but sufficient to test all subjects</i>
<i>well organised.</i>

<i>the lawyers must pass the exam too!!!</i>
<i>some of the legal questions targeted highly specialized areas (for example the recording of the change of address by the ib rather than the epo). this seems to be in contrast to previous exams addressing mostly the general understanding of the procedure before the epo. the claim analysis questions actually suffered from having too little text. many features in the application or the prior art were arguably only present implicitly and the questions required additional assumptions on the technical features in the claims. for example, the layers seem to correspond to structurally independent bordering elements, although the wording would in principle allow all layers to be represented by the same element. however, no clear definition is given. further, the structural arrangement of layers in d2 seems to implicitly follow a stacking sequence, but the disclosure does not - strictly speaking - disclose them to be all stacked along the same direction. thus, although a compromise between the amount of text and the sufficiency of information is clearly required, some of the older papers arguably achieved a better balance for the claim analysis part.</i>
<i>nice 2 topics for claim analysis. not too much text. it tested your understanding, not your reading abilities. very good.</i>
<i>still dont like the multiple choice questions.</i>
<i>in comparison to the last pre examinations, the claim analysis was super easy and i finished it in 25% of the available time.</i>
<i>the paper was fair this year and reasonable</i>
<i>some questions are not clear in legal and claim part.</i>
<i>i have practised for the exam by making the 2014 - 2018 pre-exams. in comparison, the 2019 pre-exam was well-structured. the claims analysis part was suitable and the legal part hard, but doable with preparation.</i>
<i>good.</i>
<i>it was a bit startling to have two different inventions in the claim analysis section, as that hasn't arisen before. thankfully there wasn't as much to read as for the 2018 pre-examination.</i>
<i>questions can be hard without being ambiguous.</i>
<i>it was a huge and unpleasant surprise that there were 2 claim analysis parts. moreover due to the limited text it was difficult to grasp the details of the mechanical invention.</i>
<i>sometimes the questions too ambiguous.</i>
<i>19.1 and 19.2 appeared to be very borderline and subjective as to whether they are true or false. also a lot of questions on selection inventions which in itself is reasonably subjective.</i>
<i>too many traps. unfair questions. (partly)</i>
<i>it was really fair. having a split claim analysis part was a really good idea</i>
<i>two applications in one exam was a bit confusing. however, the text to be read was adequate in the claim analysis</i>
<i>the true-false format is great when the questions are clear. however, some questions were not clear and that makes it hard to get points even if you have good reasoning behind your answer. i found 4 questions unclear.</i>
<i>some legal questions were completely unnecessarily worded for a true/false question and answer scenario (where no reasoning for answers can be given). specifically these questions: 1.1) sufficient information for filing date - you would have to use the priority document as the description, or file by reference to it. whilst this is implied from the information, i don't think it was explicit, the client may want information adding, etc. you have to make an assumption to land at the answer. after all, you could file a european patent, in pietros name, filing his email text as the patent and be accorded a date? silly but you see my point? once you make one assumption you could assume all sorts. 4.1) poorly worded question. must file a translation within 2 months rule 6(1) is clear enough on its own but still, the use of must without a qualifier ... or it will result in the application being withdrawn being added to this question would have tested the same legal principle but given a clearer indication of the answer (false, due to r58 remedy). must to avoid a further communication. must to me implies a negative consequence, when really there isn't one from a</i>

<p>r58 communication. 5.4) recordal of change of address at ib i think the wording of the question was ambiguous, the request to record could be at the request of the ib to update the epo perhaps? i went for the r92bis literal wording. but confusing and really what legal principle was this question trying to test?</p>
<p>some questions were a bit unclear. also, a lot of questions were dependent on each other and so there were more chances to lose marks. i also thought that providing so many questions on ranges was a bit too harsh. the paper in itself as a whole was good though.</p>
<p>some questions seemed ambiguous, which is difficult in a multiple choice test.</p>
<p>this years legal section was harder than previous years. 4 hours was sufficient to complete the exam and check answers. however, if i were not a native french, german, or english speaker this may not have been the case. subtle wording is sometimes difficult to pick up on (inclusion of must, only etc) even as a native speaker.</p>
<p>good idea to split the claim analysis into two parts. for me it was much better to have two but easy-to-understand inventions. in my opinion it is much more fair for all candidats - if you make a mistake in understanding one (difficult) invention, it is much more likely to make more mistakes in the exam even if you understand the questions properly. e.g. some parts of claim analysis in pre-exam 2018 were difficult to understand for a chemist. so pre-exam 2019 seemed more fair to all candidates with different backgrounds.</p>
<p>the t/f format can make it difficult to get your knowledge across adequately, especially in the ca part</p>
<p>perfect balance this year. in comparison to 2018, i found legal questions to be harder and claim analysis to be a bit easier. but overall, i thought it was a fair examination paper. i would not change a thing.</p>
<p>questions 19.1 and 19.2 (claim analysis) are ambiguous. both of them can be validly answered as either true or false.</p>
<p>it was a bit of a curveball, as i guess they usually are. most candidates, as far as i know, including all three of us from my company, reported that the legal part felt hard and the claims part felt worryingly difficult. it turned out i had 48/50 points (according to the dp answers) on the legal part and one of my colleagues had 50/50, while we dropped a few more points on the claims part. the claims part took us by surprise by having such short descriptions of the prior art documents and on first glance simple questions, and also by including two different inventions. all-in-all though, it was a fairly well-balanced pre-exam.</p>
<p>it is a shame that the french and english (i do not know for german version) versions do not perfectly match. for instance, claim i.9 recites in english consists of, while the french version mentions se compose de. the gl (f-iv 4.21) mention consist of in english and constitué de in french. therefore, for q11.4, the candidates working on the english version had an advantage, since they had the exact same word as in the gl. french candidates however had to determine whether composed of has to be interpreted as consists of</p>
<p>i found several questions to be somewhat unclear and open to interpretation.</p>
<p>several inconsistencies and typographical errors were found in the fr/de versions, leading to confusion.</p>
<p>it was a new type of exalination. totally different from previous years. the chemistry part in claim analysis was very unclear and without sufficient information to be sure of the answer. i don't understand why there were 2 little parts in analysis because this increase the analysis time and did not permit to dig in the subject</p>
<p>legal questions became tougher. quite detailed knowledge is now required also at pre-eqe stage. claim analysis part was a present this year. well done! - nice to have one chemistry case. good questions. - mechanics case had no overwhelming (and unnecessary) amount of technical detail. clear and nice case also.</p>
<p>split of claims part was good. a few unclear questions/open for interpretation.</p>

Q27a) Please rate the difficulty of the 2019 main examination paper(s)



Q27b) Additional comments concerning the difficulty of the main examination papers

zeit dieses jahr sehr knapp; klarer weg durch die prüfung fehlt, d.h. beschreibung der anmeldung und mandantenschreiben geben zu wenig die gewünschte richtung vor; viele 50:50-entscheidungen zu treffen statt wie sonst üblich 80:20, d.h. schwierig, in der knappen prüfungszeit treffsicher die gewünschte lösung zu finden; prüfung deutlich schwerer als 2017 und 2018.

in the a paper it depends by 90% on luck to see the right combination of features for the independent claim. you have to guess what the epo wants to hear, there is no logic approach.

3 prior art documents of paper b is too much to assess for 3,5 hours.

preparation for future examination papers (60-40/40-60). more dii style questions seems to be in di-part. that was also already in the last year when observing compendium. that is very good. suit for me!

too long to complete the papers

too much to do on papers c and d (particularly part ii) to finish in time. paper b was achievable in terms of volume but there were a number of debatable issues which lead to inadequate writing time.

paper b was straightforward in subject-matter and understanding but 3.5 hours was too short for the amount required to do in this years paper

time

in my view, time-pressure is still a too important criterion biasing the actual results of a candidate. even if you know 99% of what you should know, you can still fail the exam due to a few inconsiderate first steps in an exercise throwing you off. the need for speedy decisions are very exceptional in our line of work, so it is still difficult for me to correlate this with the skills and performance of a good patent attorney.

too many categories and not enough time for writing (analysis of closest prior art and inventive step analysis x2)

despite my best preparations and efforts, my physical limitations and a question of personality (speed of hand writing) reduces the eqe to a test where my suitability to provide quality representation is not tested, but rather whether i can provide a quantity of advise

the exams seem like puzzles testing general intelligence, especially in the cases of c and dii. i did learn a lot and improve in my work as a result of the preparation, so i dont mean to deprecate the examination process. it has definitely been of value to me. its just that i think the difficulty is going to depend much more on talent than preparation.

paragraph [002] in dii paper this year was unclear: some candidates had no doubt that all metals is meant whereas other candidates had no doubt that only cu was meant. candidates dealing with this kind of unclear formulations during the exam panic and make even more mistakes and may fail the exam and it is not fair to fail the exam because the text of the paper was unclear.

paper a - i believe it was neither easy, nor hard. paper b - i found it very tricky. preparing defenses for two independent claims took too much time. paper c - the paper was on par, but one had to write too much. paper d - i would expect a little easier on the application of the partial priority. part i was adequate.

the difficulty for me was in the first try that the exam has to be written in three days in a row. it would be much easier if there was a week between each part. in my point of view in the exam your knowledge should be proven and not your physical toughness. most of candidates do not sleep well after d, and also after a+b because they keep thinking about the just written part. so each day it gets harder to concentrate.

it is very difficult to make a statement on difficulty without knowing the results or whether one got it right or got it wrong. for me personally, the scarcity of eqe lined paper was an additional problem: in paper d i needed to get additional paper at least 5 times and the invigilators would mostly not notice me so i would have to walk up front. my suggestion would be to use different lined paper for each of the papers so the envelope can contain 50 pages. that would be sufficient and had saved me about 15 minutes during the paper.

difficulty was not so much the issue: exams are not supposed to be easy. the main problem for b and d was time.

ambiguous language was the biggest problem. e.g. paragraph [002] of part ii. in [002] the first two lines described the effect of increased energy storage. in my view, this included that the foam structure of a shoe sole should comprise metal nnp. so, because of that, claim 1 of ep-f2 is entitled to priority from ep-f1. however, it could also be interpreted that claim 1 of ep-f2 is not entitled to priority from ep-f1. in the end the candidates just had to guess and this difference had huge ramifications for the ultimate answer and lost mark. new material that has never been examiner before (partial priority) should not feature so predominately in part ii of d because candidates are unsure of how best the structure such an answer and how much detail to provide. i think a question in part i would have adequately been able to test the students knowledge.

there wasnt enough time to complete b. c was also quite pushed for time. the chemistry aspects of the papers were quite complicated. seemed unfair at times when some complicated aspects of the exam were combined - for example in dii - partial priority and ranges. i understand how to explain standard partial priority situations - however it was also combined with an additional chemical style ranges aspect, which seemed far too complex an issue - my boss and other qualified colleagues have said they would not know how to approach that without reading into it thoroughly.

considering the complexity of part ii of paper d, it was a race against time.

since in papers a and b, mostly in a, the candidate cannot explain to the corrector why he/she chose a specific solution, an artificial difficulty is added to the material difficulty of the papers. even if one argues that also in praxis you just file a response without additional comments and therefore this should not be considered as an additional difficulty, the counterarguments would be: 1) the cases in the exams are not like real-life cases 2) solutions that may not be accepted in the exam may still be effective in real-life

paper b was very different to previous years - im not sure what the purpose of such a significant deviation was. a warning of the significant change in difficulty would have been useful.

the balance between workload and time during the b and c exams was not good. it appears the workload increases over time.

many issues to discuss, many unclear or uncertain points.

more time should be given to participants.

the difficulty resides too much on the time given.

paper b - getting the right answer to b required candidates to be aware of the possibility of deriving an end point of a range from a specific example. this is a very narrow area of law which underpinned the whole paper. candidates who missed this one single possibility would likely have

found themselves including a very narrow limitation (e.g. fins) or pursuing a not novel/inventive claim (e.g. by arguing that the examiner was wrong that the radiator of d3 was suitable for a cooking process), and are almost certain to fail. it seems unfair that candidates are almost certain to fail due to a lack of knowledge of one decision of the boards of appeal, notwithstanding that it was published in the oj and the case law book. paper d - the partial priority issue in dii was very difficult. candidates who recognised that there was a potential issue with the overlapping priority claims to copper np up to 40% and metal np from 35 to 80%, leading to a lack of priority for at least part of the latter, were likely to spend a great deal of time dealing with this issue when there are likely to be very few, if any, marks available for it. this takes up valuable time for the other issues dii.

it appears odd that a very well prepared candidate can only expect to get 60-70marks. in other real life tests one starts at 100% and loses marks with every mistake. in the eqe it feels like starting with 60 and nevertheless losing with every mistake, which causes a lot of psychological pressure.

very pushed for time. too much information to read and discuss. did not help when the invigilators told us not to use too much paper as they were running out.

during dii, i had a great concern with a sentence which sounded quite ambiguous concerning what was the content of ep-f2 , and i lost time and concentration

i think the main difficulty is that we still are in a transitional time: big changes started with the combination of em-ch and it seems that the epo is still trying to assess the best way to evaluate candidates. meanwhile, we candidates do not have many examples of what could be the content of an exam, and the past compendium usually leads to false expectations regarding the possible contents. this is specially relevant for paper b.

a: as e/m candidate i had problems to determine expected category of 2nd independent claim and if/how many furthers are expected

i think this paper will become a good example for the future candidate as it shown how the meaning of certain words (here for instance opening and aperture) has to be found within the text and not according to one personal experience

paper b was far too complex for the time on offer. the main amendment required significant consideration, and the multiple independent claims and inventive step arguments on top of everything else was too much and meant the examination was extremely stressful and i became very anxious, so i do not think i performed to the best of my ability, and i also ran out of time entirely and did not complete the inventive step section. paper a seemed to be a reasonable paper.

it was a more traditional c paper then compared with 2018. i liked this c2019. maybe it was a bit too long...and i did not appreciate the and/or language in the first claim. it generated some unnecessary confusion.

time....

they all seemed fair

tio short time for b. the writing took too much time.

two independent claims for paper b was excessive and unfair. the threshold for being pass-worthy should not change year to year, but when you introduce an additional independent claim the challenge is completely different and involves far more time management. the amount of content to get through for paper c was excessive.

i think the level of this exam was good. some nice nuts to crack, a lot of material but not too much. some obvious pointers some i never got. my gut feeling told me it went well, but then again you never know. i did enjoy the exam anyway.

a: quite mechanical, thus difficult for a chemist. lots of features so time consuming to go through them all. b: it took time to find the right claim amendments. too many independent claims so i run out of time while writing the basis, novelty and inventive step arguments. d: all di questions had a) and b) so it took too much time to answer them. dii was too difficult. when comparing to 2012-2017, it was much harder. i did not expect to have partial priority in dii, i think it would have been more clear to have it in di. i dont think its fair that dii is becoming so difficult as can be seen from 2018-2019. its not possible to practise for it, if the older exams are on a much easier level.

very long paper with respect to the available time.

it is very difficult/almost impossible to answer the exam questions of part d within the given time.

time limit was the problem in papers b, c and d. it seemed to me that the answers to be written extended the papers of the previous years by far. paper a was okay.

paper a had an ambiguity that cost me quite some time. paper b, in my opinion, an amendment was needed for a method claim, but in my mind it didnt fulfil art 83, so i struggled with that and went another way. hopefully it works out anyway.

regarding paper a, the paper lacked clarity regarding the essential features making any attempt at drafting an independent claim covering all embodiments (and their essential features) clumsy and unnecessarily limiting for certain embodiments. therefore, it was necessary for candidates to consider including either an and/or clause in the independent claim or draft two separate independent claims. the particular issue arose due to the text in [017] of the examination paper. the paragraph states that for the second embodiment, it is essential that the adhesive is pressure-sensitive... this explicitly demonstrates that any claim to the second embodiment must define that the adhesive is pressure sensitive and this interpretation is supported by the discussion of the third embodiment which states that the pressure-sensitive adhesive is required for a cell culture device comprising both a leak-proof resealable aperture in the frame and resealable membrane which is attached using pressure-sensitive adhesive. this essential feature is not compatible with the first embodiment which includes membranes fixed to the frame using an adhesive, such as a hot-melt adhesive (see paragraph [015] of the exam paper). indeed, the process is limited to the use of such an adhesive for ultrasonic welding (this is considered of commercial interest). therefore, the paper demonstrates the different essential features of the first and second embodiment. a clear way to navigate this issue while maintaining protection of all of the embodiments (ensuring all commercial interests are covered) is to draft the first and second embodiments as separate independent claims (while covering the third embodiment as a dependent claim dependent on the second independent claim). in particular, the second independent claim (covering the second embodiment) requires a limitation that the adhesive is pressure-sensitive. this allows the first independent claim to focus on the leak-proof resealable openings in the frame with the membranes fixed to the frame using adhesive (which is not necessarily pressure-sensitive and in fact preferably is hot-melt adhesive). the separate independent claims are unified by the novel and inventive contribution of opposing gas-permeable and liquid-impermeable membranes. in addition, the multiple independent claims are permitted according to r. 43(2) epc because they represent alternative solutions to a particular problem (i.e. the provision of a cell culture device allowing improved gas exchange to the culture). critically, as outlined in gl f-iv, 3.2, the alternative solutions can be different or mutually exclusive possibilities. as it is not possible to cover the alternative solutions because common wording cannot be selected for the essential features (for example the requirement for pressure-sensitive adhesive in the second embodiment and not necessarily in the first embodiment), the drafting of multiple independent claims is justified and ensures that the claims are clear and cover all of the embodiments.

difficult due to the time pressure and the huge amount of details that need to be sorted out in such short time. never in real life will you need to prepare an opposition in 5,5h.

one has to be extremely familiar with all aspect of the epc and other material even debit orders whihc are not practised in the daily work

so much uncertainty, what do they want? i have gone through the paper without any time pressure and i am really not sure what was meant to be done by the candidate.

time, time, time.

it was hardly understandable what was disclosed in the specifications of ep-f1, in dii.

if you want to change the % of marks available (d1 vs. d2), then do so. however, it is unreasonable to make d2 so complicated that it is impossible to get anywhere near 60 marks. the partial priority component of d2 seemed very large (i.e., as a percentage of the challenge). inasmuch as g1/15 deals with rather more subtle issues than is available in a d2, i found it hard to decide how to apply (to the facts of this d2).

i had between 45 min and 2 hours left in papers a, c and d, but i hardly finished paper b. even taking into account that i was exhausted because the paper took place in the afternoon, i think that it was just too much to finish it in good time. also, i would suggest having only one paper

each day - i found it quite difficult to stay focused during paper b.

the papers are always difficult to complete under the pressure of exam conditions (no sleep the night before; future of your career riding on the outcome) and within the time allowed. this year's paper was more straightforward than last year's paper and this was a good thing.

b was too long and/or complicated

relative to the compendium papers i did, i was somewhat surprised at the amount of material in this years c-paper. i managed to finish it, but i did feel like it was a bit of a closer-run affair than what i had experienced with the papers i did during my training.

for paper b it was too long to do two review of novelty and inventive step. for paper d-ii the double partial priority was difficult to write. for paper a it was difficult to know how to write a method in the domain of the living.

there have only been a few exams since the change from chem/eng split papers to a single a and b papers. therefore, it is still difficult to work out what is/isnt tested by the exam. this appears particularly true for paper b this year, which i suspect involved changing the lower limit of a range based on an example - something that is only found in chemistry case law. as a chemist, i knew this, but decided it wasn't the sort of thing the epo would ask, so went down a different route. silly me.

paper b was difficult. there seemed to be three valid amendment options: the disclaimer, the narrow range, and the unambiguously disclosed range by interpreting d3 not to include the pcm detailed in the final paragraph of that document. it concerns me that the mark schemes normally cater for a single solution whereas there were quite clearly three valid routes that could lead to obtaining a 71(3) covering the clients commercial products. i hope that those who hit upon the alternative amendment strategies compared to the one outlined in the mark scheme are adequately rewarded.

i got into serious time pressure during the b paper. i believe, it was too complex.

dii is not clear with respect to whether ep-f1 discloses in the description soles with metal nanoparticles, which is of uttermost importance for the paper. this opinion is shared by many candidates as well as by the deltapatents tutor. during the examination i decided to cover both possibilities - disclosed and not disclosed - to minimize the risk caused by this ambiguity. however, it cost me so much time. it also discouraged me to apply partial priority (g1/15) to all the claims of ep-f2, as this would make it overly complicated for the exam. so although i was well prepared, i found paper d to be difficult due to the ambiguity.

i always write the same comment, every year...the mothertongue and the non-mothertongue candidates have the same time for the paper and this is not right at all!

i found paper b tricky and still - after have seen the sample solution - not sure if it would work for me next time with a similar question type.

in the previous exams the number of dependent claims you could draft was in line with the maximum allowable number of claims of 15 in total. possibly you could draft 2 or 3 more and had to choose. however this year a lot of possible fallback positions was available. albeit that a lot of them were mere preferences and less a real fallback, however this in combination with the large number of independent claims which you could/should draft resulted in me forgetting the manufacturing method claim, since i was probably focussing too much on the dependent choices. so possibly this also results in an additional tip for future candidates, as you get learned in all the courses: first make the independent claims, then try to draft the dependent ones.. and don't get persuaded to already write down some of the possible dependent ones before you have finished drafting your independent ones... you might forget one..

c felt more doable this year, probably less reading in a, it felt difficult to decide what to leave out from 15 claims, and how to include the rack to the claims

i guess nothing can be changed for paper d, part ii, but please be aware that one can now very well the legal part and know what to advise to a client, but only be so overwhelmed with the amount of information/application/subject-matter to deal with (together) in so few time, even knowing very well the material

the difficulty level of the eqes for uk candidates is still much lower than that of the uk exams (eg pass rate of ~70% for the eqes for uk candidates v. ~40% for uk exams). i think the uk exams

<p>remains the gold standard for uk attorneys even if there are some practice areas (biology, chemistry) that don't bother sitting them. the eqes need to be made more difficult if they are to raise the quality of the european profession in general. de, fr, it colleagues need to ask why their pass rates are lower than gb candidates.</p>
<p>the papers are never too difficult. understanding the correction is.</p>
<p>paper c: more time to write all the expected attacks, the stress is a barrier to understand/decide the attacks as defined in the examiners mind and choose different attacks on the basis of/using other documents is a loss of more time. paper d: time</p>
<p>i think the paper was not overcomplicated in subject matter (although i made some mistakes) but it was mainly time pressure (see my previous remark) that leads to lower performance and loss of points. it is hard to judge sometimes where the points are scored, i think the examiners report could be a bit more detailed on that. i therefore often wonder what the exam really tests! because at a lower pace (=more time) i do much better, will this make me a better or worse european patent attorney if i ever pass? i understand you need to be fit for practice and 50% is enough but still i wonder what with people who have real issues (language, dyslexia, other...) to cope with that? they are punished because of their disability. i find this item is overlooked by the current eqe setting. it is my feeling that not the knowledge and ability is tested but the way the candidate handles the exam in a (too)limited amount of time.</p>
<p>i found that papers c and d are far easier than last year (but maybe i was more prepared)</p>
<p>no allowance for nuance in paper a where some matters are subjective. more leeway for answers that arent strictly what the examiner was looking for but where the candidate had a good reason for the answer that they gave.</p>
<p>the time to answer the questions is too short (paper d)</p>
<p>the very long response that was expected in dii due to the multiple division of the claims of ep-f2 following g1/15 made it almost impossible to answer everything. not just that. to answer enough.</p>
<p>the difficulty appears with regard to the high time pressure. while speed reading candidates miss some important details. and because of that miss lots of marks and do not pass the exam</p>
<p>paper c contained a high number of claims to be attacked and an even higher number of attacks to be made, which reduced the available time per attack to a minimum.</p>
<p>not enough time for paper b (two lines of inventive step argumentation were required)</p>
<p>especially on d1, the first question is very different and it took at least 30 min to understand it, later on 2nd question was also not easy so this makes the candidate a little bit anxious (my mother language is not en, de or fr so in second question i realised that i misread the 2nd question and this lost me the whole question and 30 min. to understand it). in d2 part, this year it is easy to understand, but the partial priority issue is very difficult and made the patent analyse difficult, and time loosing, it is unfortunate to have the difficult questions at the beginning of the exam.</p>
<p>paper b was very time pressured and difficult, far more than past papers (of which i did many). i expect the pass rate to be very low.</p>
<p>time was quite tight</p>
<p>paper d was quite long for 5h30 ; paper b was surprising compared to previous ones (two independent claims)</p>
<p>it is too long for me</p>
<p>the combination of em and c in paper b is not a good compromise.</p>
<p>dii part had left things concerning the disclosure of eap-f1 unclear. that could mess up a whole exam. they should try to avoid such unclear formulations!</p>
<p>-</p>
<p>there was an unclear formulation of par 002 d2part</p>
<p>i found paper b unusually tricky this year, because although we are taught to follow clients wishes we are also prompted to give the broadest possible scope of protection. this is explicit in paper a</p>

but implicit in other papers, when someone reads carefully the comments of the examiners report. it is a very important point of a patent attorneys job, since patents are used to block other people from exploting your technology and should not be confined only to what the client actually uses in his business. in paper b 2019 it was a tricky choice, balancing between the clients instructions to a narrower temperature range vs the possibility to use a disclaimer and keep a more broad range.

paper c this year was too long. i feel that examiners are taking the 30 minutes time given a couple of years ago for the exam and not for the students

having looked at the deltapatents blogspot answer to paper a, i think there were a few too many hidden claims. i also felt like there was not a perfect amendment for paper b as there was in previous years. but on the whole, i thought this years papers were fair.

description was not clear

paper d of last year was very difficult. this year's paper d was more a normally difficult paper, not at all easy but more regular.

paper a should be straightforward for someone who has at least three years experience. i found the 2019 paper a pretty confusing.

general comment on paper d 2018: i was pregnant when sitting the exam last year and it was quite unpleasant to read and write on teats cleaning for 5,5 hours. it's not unusual that women, being pregnant or breastfeeding, participate in the exam. topics should be chosen more carefully.

i think theres no chance to use the extra 30 minutes for arranging papers etc. - they are definitely used for actually writing the paper...

well prepared papers. tested knowledge in subject without demanding exhaustive writing - words used were easy to remember and spell. enjoyed doing the exams - although time is always an issue - result remains to be seen!

paper a, in particular, was difficult in light of the two embodiments and a number of essential features not shared by the two embodiments. this required a commitment to either alternatives in the main claim or two separate independent claims. all papers were very time pressured in light of the amount of material to read.

paper b required two psa for two independent claims starting from different cpas, the time is not enough.

for part b, i have the impression not even deltapatents has a clear idea what was expected as a solution...

i feel that there are a lot of simple points that have to be considered right at the beginning of the exams that, if you do not spot them right at the beginning, have a knock on effect all throughout the exam and cause you to fail because of one silly mistake made at the begining

time management is still a challenge even with 5h30

paber b was inadequately designed in order to be doable in 3,5 h one had the strong impression that the claim set was made in order to confuse the candidates instead of testing their b capabilities

for this years paper a and last year, i resat them for the first time for a few years as i previously only attained 45%. sadly i failed a2018 quite badly. i need a higher score to pass the eqe overall. i prefer the electricity/mechanics style paper since i have an electronics (with some mechanics) technical background. the combined paper a subject matter is really not suitable for the technical background i have. i do my best each time to tackle these combined papers. i hope that i have passed it this time, but the combined paper does not help at all. i would really urge the epo to revert back to separate chemistry and electricity/mechanics papers.

the difficulty was mainly due to time pressure.

paper b seemed uncharacteristically difficult this year. a lot of candidates i have spoken to seemed confused as to what was expected as an amendment. the paper also appeared to favour chemists over non-chemists, which is unfair.

it is difficult to predict what the claims were that were expected. in the 2017 and 2018 paper there were independent product claims and separate independent process claims (no dependence on previous claims). i could easily tell what the technical effect was and the difference from the prior

art but i find it difficult to predict what the examiners are expecting by way of claims for paper a this year. the word juxtaposed was used in a key point of the prior art for the english paper. i am a native english speaker and i thought i knew what this word meant but wasn't completely sure until i checked after the paper. i would imagine it would be difficult for a non-native english speaker to know the meaning of this word, especially if they work outside the mech/eng specialism. if my analysis of the paper was correct, this was a key point for novelty of the claims and so it seemed unfair to use this term.

regarding the questions of the 1st part of paper d, we don't know where to stop in our reply and what are the information that give the points...

paper b was unexpectedly tricky. the time needed to consider one approach was considerably more than in past papers, and hence the time pressure in which to write a letter to the epo was severe. paper c was also pushed for time, due to what seemed to be a high number of arguments including more partial problems than expected. apart from this, paper c was quite straightforward. papers a and d seemed straightforward. they were certainly not easy though, and i only hope i did the papers justice.

in paper d part ii there were decisions that had to be made that would impact the whole of the rest of the answer. sometimes, even with the information in the guidelines and other books allowed, it was not clear what the correct decision was. given that this question comprises more than half the marks of the paper, it seems unfair that a wrong decision early on should make it impossible to achieve much of the marks later in the paper. in this way, it seems you are penalised multiple times for a single error.

i thought that the new paper a is comparable to the previous paper a mechanics until i learned that it is only the device or method, which is mechanics, but the structure of the new paper a is like the previous paper a chemistry. this is quite irritating. and it is especially frustrating as it is difficult to prepare for new paper a without that many examples of the new version and without this experience. it feels a bit like learning by writing exams.

paper c was ok but comprehensive, paper di was ok, dii was complicated (i suppose 4 hours alone for dii would have been sufficient to solve the case).

it was really hard to finish b, c, d in time. for me, situation was worst with b.

paper c has a very good structure! paper a is confusing.

paper b had too much content. the added subject matter trap (range of salt melting temperatures) alongside the disclosure of 115 degrees c in d3 meant that a long time was spent re-writing all possible arguments, and negatively impacted the strength of p-s for claim 2. although there is established case law for creating ranges out of the end points of disclosed ranges, i am not aware of any case law or section of the guidelines which could have helped me in this instance. in my view, support was not clear for adding a melting step to claim 1 easily, without also adding a number of features (e.g. the light absorbing plate 5). however, because adding the melting step in a supported manner required a number of features, i then fell into an issue with potentially unallowable intermediate generalisation - and again spent time considering what i needed to do to get around the issue. it appears that i should simply have added a melting step and ignored the support issues; however i do not consider the paper to reflect what a real-world epo examiner would accept if this is true.

i studied a lot for di part and sensed that the questions did not appear difficult. i did not feel surprised by a question, just the first made me think a little before i realized what they wanted. but that does not mean i expect to receive an awful lot of points. regarding dii, it seemed fair, but still - after having finished di, towards the end of the exam it is quite challenging to think properly and get the right ideas in a few seconds, especially for people who are not in 20s or 30s. i would think that the persons who wrote de when it was still split in morning and afternoon session had a much better environment as they could get into dii with a fresh mind. obviously di and dii are totally different exams requiring a totally different mindset and approach.

there were all quite long from my perspective.

i think it was reasonable, i made some silly mistakes under pressure, but overall think i was able to demonstrate my knowledge

part ii of paper d was not clearly worded with respect to partial priority

<i>as always it is a battle against time. it is very frustrating to not have enough time to complete answers or complete/pass the whole paper merely due to insufficient time. this is the fourth time i've done paper d but i would have passed it at least once before if i'd only have 30-60 more min. one has to keep in mind that it typically involves handing in about 30 hand-written pages. in my opinion the time pressure and hand-writing neither reflects true working conditions nor "fit to practice". hopefully i've passed it this year as i focused on speed/time management.</i>
<i>very complicated, paper a has nothing to do with filing patent application in a company</i>
<i>too informations too low time to manage them</i>
<i>time is still an issue, the difficulty is correct this year but i was left with the choice of correctly answering or completing all parts. i would like to take part in the experiment involvng typing on a computer.</i>
<i>none</i>
<i>time limitation and hand-writing.</i>
<i>exams are really long.</i>
<i>paper b had more than one independent claim but there was not enough time to run two streams of inventive step attacks. it felt like the best approach was to incorporate all the inventive features into claim 1 and rely on the same inventive step attack for all of the independent claims due to the time pressure of the exam. also the limited basis available for amendments meant significantly more time was spent analysing added subject-matter and arguing why the proposed amendment did not add subject-matter than would usually be spent in paper b. the only amendment that seemed risk averse from an added-subject matter perspective was to limit to compounds b-g. however, this approach seemed to limit the scope too much and to not be in the clients interest as it could easily be worked around by a competitor. paper c had seven claims in total and 3 alternatives in claim 1. this increase in the number of objects to analyse was not compensated for with a reduced number of pages to read or reduced complexity of the exam. there was far too much information to process in the time available. examiners are pushing for more complex inventive step arguments in exam reports. however, it is difficult to run inventive step attacks at the level of detail that the examiners are looking for when there are so many objects to attack. i ended up running out of time for later claims because i was focusing on doing detailed inventive step attacks for earlier claims. there is also not time to keep switching between closest prior art documents when going from independent claims to dependent claims. part ii of paper d was much more complex than previous years. it introduced partial priority for the first time alongside a number of other complex issues. i understand that part ii is being made more difficult to discourage candidates from only focusing on part ii and not preparing as much for part i. however, making part ii more difficult also impacts candidates who prepare properly for part i. the candidates who focus on and do part ii first are at an advantage when part ii is made more difficult because your mind is fresher and more focused at the beginning of the exam. processing all the information in this part ii question in the second half of the exam, having done part i, was much more difficult than it was for previous paper d. my answer ended up being rushed due to the time pressures of the end of an exam and did not reflect my understanding of partial priority.</i>
<i>paper a = acceptable paper b = extremely unpredictable! sometimes you have to amend a lot; sometimes not! part ii of paper d asked questions which seemed contradictory to the examiners comments in 2018: the status of applications/patents were asked where as the examiners report said candidates gave the status of the applications instead of referring to the subject matter paper c = acceptable but is more a hand sport than anything else!</i>
<i>based on jurisdiction far too much. part ii was inadequate, as you cannot pass the paper if you dont know the specific decision of the boa, regardless of how well you do in the rest of the paper.</i>
<i>dii contained unprecise statements (first priority document)</i>
<i>paper d-ii was way too difficult due to the legal complications. asking to keep the strategic overview - while putting such legal obstacles - and do it all in three hours is too much. 2017 and 2018 d-ii papers are much more difficult than the previous ones.</i>
<i>i need more time</i>

<i>too much information and/or not enough time</i>
<i>difficult to give a proper answer in 5,5 hours, of course impossible to finish it in 5,5 hours</i>
<i>2019 was very time-demanding</i>
<i>paper b was extremely long.</i>
<i>what appeared to be the amendment required in paper b (either amendment of an endpoint of a range or addition of an undisclosed disclaimer over 54(2) prior art) is very unusual in most attorneys practice and is supported by little guidance in the guidelines, so it seemed a very strange thing to test. paper b appeared to be significantly more difficult than in previous years. part i of paper d seemed of normal difficulty. part ii was needlessly difficult because a lack of clarity in paragraph 2 which meant that candidates essentially had to guess whether a claim was entitled to priority or not. again, focus on a relatively obscure feature of practice (partial priority) as the main point in part ii seems strange, as (although this was an important g decision) it hardly ever comes up for most attorneys.</i>
<i>not enough time</i>
<i>having been training for 5 years and having drafted and prosecuted numerous ep applications to grant its very disheartening when the examination papers reflect odd situations as opposed to material encountered in day to day practice. further as someone with an electrical/mechanical background the recent exams seem to tend towards a chemical focus with little functional wording being required in the claims.</i>
<i>it is difficult to determine the level of difficulty until the results and mark schemes are released. a, c and d seemed challenging but okay. i wrote up until the last second for each of them but i think i wrote everything i wanted to. paper b was a bit unusual as i think the amendment required knowledge of case law that was not in the guidelines but only the case law book. although i think i found the amendment that was required using my real world experience amending ranges, i can see how someone that doesnt have such experience working with ranges might have found it more difficult.</i>
<i>b: too little time. i think the epo made a calculation mistake here. it couldnt finish this paper c: too little time. more attacks than previous years. d: too little time. i dont understand why the epo puts so much time pressure on the exams. people which are not fit to practice cannot solve the papers anyway. for me its more a speed writing game than a test for fit to practice, very annoying. i understood all the papers and knew how to draft the solutions, but the lack of time prevented me from writing down complete answers.</i>
<i>so far, i don't know how to write paper c in time. also, i don't understand why the time in paper c is so limited. for paper d, i understand that fit to practice means that one can give advice immediately, followed up by a more detailed and legally binding written assessment. for paper c however... what's the point in rushing that much?</i>
<i>paper d1 was adequate. paperd2 had same difficulties. paper a seems to have too many features which were marked as essential but were not really important for inventive step and the different embodiments were just distracting from the real invention than specifying it. paper c was easy.</i>
<i>still little time available for the number of questions/annexes for reading</i>
<i>isnt it odd to ask q27a without release the correct or recommended replies to these papers?</i>
<i>very difficult to determine the correct (i.e. wanted by the paper) approach on paper b. this meant that too much time was spent deciding what to do (so not enough time to develop inventive step arguments properly) as there seemed to be multiple approaches (i.e. should you do what the client wants or what will be accepted by epo) with no clear way to determine which was required. everyone seemed to have a different answer, so it seems that the correct answer was not as clearly signposted as in previous years.</i>
<i>paper c was the hardest c i'd done and very long, but i enjoyed it and it just requires a lot of careful thought. paper b was very difficult because there appeared to be very few amendments to make and the clients wishes were already reflected. a lot of people were unsure and nervous about it. paper a was fine, i thought. similar to previous papers. paper d was tough in part ii because there was a lot of complex information. it is often unclear in part ii what is actually de-</i>

<i>scribed in each document (ie of what is claimed is also described). i think this needs to be made more obvious so that candidates are certain.</i>
<i>paper d was made difficult in particular due to partial priority used in part 2. ive never practiced on such a complicated partial priority scenario. paper b was very difficult due to the conflicting need to unify the claims and amend the claims in view of the clients wishes. ive also never had the opportunity to practice setting out a response to a paper b with multiple independent claims, which was unpleasant to be faced with on the day of the exam. paper b was more difficult in 2019 than 2018 by an order of magnitude. paper c seemed reasonable, paper a was complicated by the many essential features across the various embodiments.</i>
<i>teil b war viel zu spezialisiert. es wurde nach sehr detailliertem wissen über auswählerfindungen, das insbesondere aus case law entnommen werden muss, gefragt, um die aufgabe bereits im ansatz zu bearbeiten. teil a, c, d hatten das übliche unangemessen schwierige niveau.</i>
<i>papers a and c felt similar to previous years, and did not contain any major surprises. i thought dii was difficult, due to some of the issues raised (e.g. partial priority), however overall i think d was a fair paper. b this year was very difficult, as it had many complex issues that needed to be addressed in a short period of time (e.g. allowability of amendments, separate inventive step arguments for the two independent claims. the paper felt more time-pressured than previous years.</i>
<i>generally very adequate year with an unusual paper b, which unfortunately threw me off, and i messed it up =(.</i>
<i>for my though : paper a : the wording for essential characteristic was sometimes ambiguous. in particular, it was ambiguous in the client letter if the claims have to be limited to solely the three embodiments. paper b : there was a double difficulty : - how to limit the claims and - defend two independent claims with all the argument steps. accordingly, this year paper b was really too long to complete properly compared to previous years.</i>
<i>the paper was very tricky in part ii where a lot of marks are at stake. other than that it was as difficult as usually.</i>
<i>time is a problem</i>
<i>paper d part ii was unclear on what was disclosed in the first application. paper b had two independent claims that potentially required different arguments for each, time was too short to address this properly..</i>
<i>eqe is first a question of velocity and concentration. usually it is less the problem to find the solution than to find it in the time given. there is no time to correct errors. furthermore it is a question of concentration/mental fitness. time pressure does not allow a break. for 5.5 hours you need 200% concentration - otherwise you fail. i.g. less questions in d1 could shorten the examination and the correction effort as well.</i>
<i>errors in french translations of the exam papers.....(as usual...)</i>
<i>cases are obviously constructed and feel artificial. actual work practice is not always useful and in some cases actually leads to wrong answers, in particular in papers a and b. also, it is obvious, that papers are designed to create time pressure. the cases are too heavily focussing on range problems.</i>
<i>no comments</i>
<i>the exam paper does not allow to ahve time to argue properly</i>
<i>lack of time is the major difficulty</i>
<i>paper b was extremely different from previous years. usually, it is relatively easy to identify a suitable amendment (if not the perfect one) and hence there are usually only approx. 30 marks for this. then, most of the skill (and hence 70% of the marks) is in arguing for the amendment (added matter and inventive step in particular). this year, it felt impossible to identify an amendment that was allowable and also met the needs of the client. therefore, i had to spend an extremely long time identifying the best (but still not very good) amendment and had hardly any time left to argue my case. it was very upsetting to have an exam paper that departed so dramatically from all of the past papers. i had easily passed all of the 12 past papers i completed in preparation, and yet found this years paper extremely difficult. many people were crying by the end of this exam!</i>

<i>i considered it a bit odd in paper c that the claims of annex 1 defined at least four clearly different inventions. i would have preferred a test where the claims of a1 are more unitary.</i>
<i>very long, reading occupied most of the time</i>
<i>time was not enough for me to finish the exam completely.</i>
<i>paper b: not knowing the reference solution yet i was torn apart between an approach that i knew was not ideal for the client but allowed me to finish all the argumentation in handwriting within the given 3.5hrs, and a broadest possible scope approach that would have required twice the amount of argumentation, without any chance to finish in time. in that respect i found paper b 2019 exceptionally difficult compared to the previous years.</i>
<i>ive not got my mark yet for paper a, but as usual i suspect the examiners will decide to disproportionately punish candidates for mistakes which in real life would be relatively minor. my main issue with this exam is that i have now drafted dozens of patent applications yet still seemingly cant figure out what the examiners want on this. it just doesnt map well on to real life.</i>
<i>as the marking scheme is not clear and it is impossible to predict what the exam committee expects, it is a big difficulty to choose between answers where there are more possibilities. here, in paper a, i faced several dependent claim possibilities, however, only 15 claims were allowed.</i>
<i>hard to say until the marks come out</i>
<i>paper b : too much independent claims to address (2+1), compared to the previous papers b. i was able to manage previous papers b in time while training, but i have definitely missed time to finish b 2019. paper c : too much attacks required : 3 attacks for the main claim only, plus at least one for each of the 6 remaining claims... paper d : d2 was ok this year, but d1 was far too long in my opinion, especially if a fully detailed answer was indeed expected for each d1 question. its more about</i>
<i>paper c was very long to provide a complete answer. paper b claims required more time than expected and thus less time was available for writing the reply. in paper d, there were less legal questions with higher scoring rates rendering the first part more complicated.</i>
<i>technical complexity was understandable and therefore not frustrating</i>
<i>not too difficult but lack of time due to slow handwriting</i>
<i>the situations proposed in paper d are way too artificial.</i>
<i>paper b was too long, impossible to finish and adequate argue, taking into the account that the majority of the marks are given for the last part (inventive step argumentation).</i>
<i>as i said, it was bad luck.</i>
<i>i have done more than 20 a-papers and i had never such difficulties as in the exam. the paper was a little bit strange. in paper b it took me too much time to figure out the delimitations of claim 2. i had more problems as usual with the dependent claims.</i>
<i>with more time they would not have been difficult i think. i did not have time to get on paper what i know, and also i directly after having handed in the paper realized mistakes i had done and which i had not done/corrected if i had time to go through the answers. it always takes longer time when not using your mother language.</i>
<i>paper b required amending 3 independent claims differently to overcome objections of novelty/inventive step as opposed to the usual one main claim amendment. this meant that the inventive step had to be written for 3 claims, having different closest prior art combined or not with each of the 2 other documents, and the argument had to be based on a different differing feature. the standard paper b required only one inventive step argumentation with most of the time only 2 prior art documents, not 3 inventive step with 3 documents each.</i>
<i>still some uncertainty what is expected in new paper a format.</i>
<i>paper d was in 2019 written to work with (acronyms in part ii)</i>
<i>paper b brought me into time constraints due to 2 independent claims for arguing and 3 prior art documents for consideration. paper a was challenging due to expected means + function claims and in my field, chemistry, this is unusual and always takes me longer to recheck the independ-</i>

<i>ent claims. therefore, i had time problems in a as well.</i>
<i>c2018 had way too much misleads. please provide a 100% correct answer in the compendium, not just essential steps</i>
<i>time was to short for paper c.</i>
<i>- paper b: based on discussion with other candidates after the exam, it seems that the consensus is that the model answer for paper b expected either a combination of ranges or an undisclosed disclaimer. both of these are highly unusual and do not reflect normal practice. it seems harsh for an exam which is supposed to asses safety to practice to focus on overly legalistic points over scenarios that better assess the candidates abilities in a more routine scenario. - paper d: questions were a good balance between the routine and the more legally testing (translations of priority documents, aad). part ii was much better balanced than in 2018</i>
<i>paper b - not enough time to consider 2 indep claims and 3 prior art documents, each having difference relevance to each indep claim. did not have enough time to elaborate any argumentation on second indep claim either. was expecting more time friendly paper b exam such as in previous years. i am disappointed.</i>
<i>papers a and d appeared to be about as difficult as previous years, but papers b and c this year were unnecessarily difficult. in particular, paper c was far too long, requiring at least two more attacks than most previous years, and only the same amount of time to complete them in. having 9 different attacks in paper c does not demonstrate an attorneys ability or competence any more than having 5 attacks does. the solution is not to give candidates more an more time, but rather to reduce the content in the paper. from what i can gather from the examiners reports, the marking system for papers a and b allows very little discretion for a good amendment or claim. for example, in this years paper b, there were two possible amendments which could have been made, both of which had legal basis and adequately covered what the client indicated that they wanted, but only one amendment would likely result in a pass mark, and the other in a fail. this does not weed out the competent attorneys from the incompetent ones, but merely passes the lucky ones. it is incredibly frustrating to work intensely for months on end for exams which seem so variable, and for which passing appears to be a matter of luck rather than competence.</i>
<i>difficult to answer without having results!</i>
<i>in the last 2 years we got 30 minutes extra but the number of pages to read and the number of claims too attack has increased. hence, the 30 minutes extra are not helping at all.</i>
<i>c was very long</i>
<i>c was too long</i>
<i>c too long</i>
<i>paper b was too difficult. two complete novelty and inventive step argumentations for separate independent claims is not possible within the allotted time slot of 3.5 hours. especially if there are other special topics to deal with such as the use of a disclaimer or using an example from a table as starting point of a range.</i>
<i>partial priority issue in dii was too long to be answered in deep</i>
<i>b and c had a lot of inventive step arguments, which were lengthy to answer, making the exam time-pressured. the range limitation in b was difficult as main text books and guidelines did not clearly explain whether the limitation would be allowable. paper d part ii was more difficult than previous papers.</i>
<i>unclear whether or how the and/or combination should be taken into account in claims 2 and 3. at least the compendia of recent years have not prepared for this and the applicant has been left alone with his handling of art. 100b, which is actually excluded by the examination regulations, so would the practicability be assumed and the attack written? far too little time for such speculations. otherwise: not the qualitative performance is tested, but the ability to work fast.</i>
<i>d2 had an unclarity in what what was and what was not disclosed in the description. i needed exam logic to make the decision that it in fact was not disclosed (so there would be a partial priority issue). like in 2018 it appeared that not enough time was spend on proofreading and testing the paper. also the extra 30 minutes compared to a few years was not there, because in d2 there</i>

were many legal provisions to investigate, and in d1 there was a lot of writing work to do
after 3 years of new paper a format, it is still unclear exactly what is being asked.
- the main difficulty is to finish the exams in time. - the difficulty of the questions / exams as such seems to be adequate but it is very hard to prepare proper answers within the given time limit. - in my opinion, there is not enough time for both careful consideration of the facts and arguments and writing down the answers properly. this leads to incoherent line of argumentation, unnecessary mistakes and - last but not least- bad handwriting. - hence, in my impression, the exams test less a correct and thorough understanding of the epc, pct and the regulations but in fact rather skills in specific exam techniques. i am aware that this allows a particularly comprehensible and technically fair grading of the exams. however, it should be kept in mind that hundreds of participants have to spend a lot of time only for learning and practising the specific exam techniques - independent from the underlying legal bases.
the main difficulty is to write fast enough
paper b seemed especially more difficult than previous papers - it had a tricky amendment related to ranges and required two different inventive arguments for the independent claims. i ran out of time and only managed to the inventive argument for one of the independent claims.
paper d too long
paper c was much too long. i did not attack all claims simply because of lack of time since i decided to keep to giving reasoned statements because i guess this is essential for getting the marks. paper b was very confusing because of the suggested temperature range which had an a123(2) problem. this case was not in the guidelines and it is not possible to check case law during the exam because of lack of time. so i am wondering how candidates were expected to deal with this. concerning paper a, this was also somewhat confusing because it was difficult to decide from the clients letter if the client wants protection only for the three described embodiments since only these are working or whether a broader claim was expected. additionally, the given advantages were somewhat confusing (more oxygen but less carbon dioxide inside the cell culture medium). thinking about the internal logic of the paper takes a lot of time. the papers seem to have more and more details while more claims to attack for c, more independent claims and state of the art documents; you have no time to think about all the details and easily miss any of these details.
i believe inventions are properly chosen to be understood by candidates with any major.
i found the di paper very clear and well-structured, however quite challenging in breadth of subjects, and, in a few questions, also in the level of detail. the main challenge in dii was the number of legal topics and, as mentioned earlier, i found some aspects of the dii paper rather confusing (attackability of at-h under national law, potential art. 123 problem with 35 nm range limit when pursuing that range after claiming priority of ep-f3 for ep-f2 to restore novelty of the respective range under g1/15. overall, i found di adequate and dii difficult, based on the higher weight of dii and the abovementioned points i would rate this d paper overall difficult.
too long
exam was doable, but has some pitfalls.
paper b seemed especially difficult compared to previous years. the papers in general seemed quite chemistry heavy this year which seemed a little mean.
it is too little time on the exams, particularly paper d and also paper c. difficult to manage all the questions in time if english/german or french is not your mother language.
the questions are very long, and are worded intentionally to trip people up, which under stressful examination conditions does not lead to good performance.
b was unexpectedly long and had a different structure than previous exams.
in general, there are so many things to think of that analyzing everything and thinking of everything is very difficult. im sure im capable of much more than what i did at the exams. having more time would be helpful. difficulty is accentuated by the time needed to draft the response so that it is readable. for paper a, i thought not having sufficient information in the description to draft a

manufacturing method claim. for paper b, i had some difficulties to decide how to treat the dependencies between claims. for paper d, i was not sure if the use of metal in the first application was divulgated. i was too in a hurry and missed the g1/15 partial priority... amongst other things probably! the last question of di was tricky. for di, i did not appreciate the number of questions related to pct. regardless from that, it seems to me that the ege should be essentially about epc and should give less importance on pct, although i understand the importance of the pct and relationship with epc.

paper b required much time as two independent claims needed to be defended with inventive step arguments. in paper a it was difficult to determine which features shall be considered as essential for enablement. paper c included various legal aspects that needed to be treated. in paper d it was a surprise that partial priority issue was included in the dii part and not di part.

dont have enough time to write every detail that is to be needed.

paper b was very different from the previous years. i wanted a lot of time trying to figure out how to get both claims 1 and 2 under one closest prior art. also the amendment to the range 130-350 could not be justified in terms of art 123 (2) based on the gl. it seemed weird and unfair that the passing of the exam hinges on finding the one appropriate t decision, which is not even mentioned in the gl, in such short time.

paper c, having 7 claims, some with alternatives made analysis of each claim and alternatives very time pressured.

sometimes it the information in paper a may be interpreted in several ways in the sense that one could reasonably chose from two different paths and it is only the path selected by the examination committee that result in scores... in other words, some papers

i found paper c rather time constrained.

paper c : long, many attacks and many annexes to consider

time in paper c is a big issue, i believe 5.5 hours is not enough to find & write all the argumentation given in the annexes. besides, as discussed in deltapatents blog, wording of the papers are sometimes vague, not clear, this makes hard for non-native speakers to understand

it was too difficult for the time provided

tight time constraints for some of the exams feel unnecessary, for working practice.

time pressure for d2 and c. b surprised with a defense for two independent claims. time pressure observed.

i would like to bemoan the fact that now compared to previous years, there are fewer d1 questions each with more points to get. almost no standard questions anymore. of course, representatives need to be capable of finding solutions to special and/or complex questions, but in an exam with time pressure i think this is not really preparing for real life practice. you could also be a good attorney when you need longer time to get the right solution, or when you want to ask colleagues for advice or to consider extra literature/internet research. have you considered dropping the open book style, but asking rather basic questions?

additional 30 minutes time is a joke. exams are much more elaborate now. it is annoying to see time slip by and not being able to write in as much detail as it is required to score good marks even though you know what the answer is. exam committee as it appears is indifferent in this as papers have become consistently humongous.

not enough time to proper write the exam - because of hand writing hand writing is old school (nigthmare) - computer supported exam highly suggested.

to long and to less time to respond adequatly to all questions

paper c 2019 with 6 inventive steps attacks is too long if a perfect strong argumentation is expected - nearly impossible to finish. whether the number of attacks of 56epc should be reduced, whether do not award 15 points per 56epc attack!

paper b too focused on ranges/chemistry.

paper b: too much argumentation necessary for the time available; too many possible solutions (e.g. claim 2) + no time to deeply think about them. too many changes necessary compared to earlier paper b. its okay too make it a bit more demanding than 2018 but this was too much of it, i

<i>think. paper c: content was okay, understandable and logical, but too many attacks were necessary which could thus not be thought through in the appropriate way.</i>
<i>it was easier than last year. this time i at least managed to answer all the questions.</i>
<i>b was longer than usual</i>
<i>in my opinion, paper b was much more difficult than in previous years. i had practised around 8 paper bs without any significant issues, but struggled with various aspects of this years paper b, e.g. difficult amendment options, and possibly two separate inventive step arguments (different cpa).</i>
<i>generally ok but as every there was too much to do in paper c, even in 5.5 hrs.</i>
<i>the papers as such are manageable but not withing 5.5 hours. 7.5 hours for each exam would have been adequate time, in order not to injure your writing hand.</i>
<i>a&b: not sufficient time to answer questions.</i>
<i>it seems that this year multiple approaches were possible, for isntance different inventive step attack starting from different closest prior art.</i>
<i>unpredicable style of the paper compared to other years</i>
<i>the shear amount of required writing is a problem.</i>
<i>paper b was very difficult compared with the previous two years. it seemed to require different arguments for claims 1 and 2, so i spent a lot of time worrying about whether my claims were unified rather than actually considering and writing the arguments.</i>
<i>paper a: too long, too many different fall-back solutions to select (only 15 claims) - d1 refers to d2: hard to handle paper b: too long, too many independant claims + three prior arts: impossible to draft a plurality of proper inventive step problem-solution methods in the allocated time paper d: long and stressful. i missed time to develop properly the solutions to improve the clients situation</i>
<i>too much time pressure for paper d. insufficient time to adequately write down everything what could have been expected. double checking is impossible due to the time pressure needed for completing d1 and d2.</i>
<i>the lenght of the exam and the amount of writing is too much, should be able to shorten the exam.</i>
<i>we are engineers, sometimes doctors, patent attorneys and study hard after work, on weekend and in holidays with a family and children and didnt reach the goal - is this ok?</i>
<i>time is the crucial issue, as it does not leave enough room for corrections.</i>
<i>paper b very difficult this year - unusual added matter issues biased towards chemists familiar with range case law not present in guidelines, only in case law book. additionally multiple independent claims to make arguments for, which were arguably not unified - all together a difficult and unfair paper with not enough time to put together a decent answer. paper c was interesting and well-structured (i enjoyed this paper). the topic was also good, as not biased towards a particular subject area and familiar to many candidates. some exams seemed biased towards chemists, with ranges a key part of both paper d part ii, and paper b.</i>
<i>paper a: with the new all in one paper it is not clear anymore how many independent claims are required, on what independent claim to focus specially (most points) and what features to take into independent claims in 2018 and 2017 paper, the model solution would have last a major part of points, when corrected as the former mechanical paper... the mechanic ones (2012-2016) have been concise, the new ones not in point of view mechanics... when training mechanical papers (2012-2016) and the new ones (incl. mock) you get unsure how to deal...</i>
<i>too much focus on speed</i>
<i>it was confusing whether the disclosure of d2 discloses a resealable closure (i.e. if the reapplied sheet was the same one, or a fresh one after opening). there was a lot of things to claim for dependent claims, but most of the matter was obvious.</i>
<i>paper b felt very unclear. a range of different types of claims was dissimilar to the previous practice papers.</i>

a, c and d were all as expected. paper b seemed to be unexpectedly difficult compared to previous years. the required amendment was not as clear as in previous years and the required workload seemed to be greater than previous years. all the exams are time-pressured but having consistent difficulty between years allows candidates to plan how to use their time effectively. this wasnt possible (for me and i assume others) this year.

as always, the amount of problems to be tackled in the paper are not well calibrated with the time available.

paper b was much too different fro mprevious years.

my main errors were caused by limited time. 0,5 hour more would have guaranteed passing the exams. in a hurry silly mistakes will always happen.

paper a was in unfamiliar subject-matter for me, which caused an uneasy feeling generally. for the device claim, features that could be claimed were plentiful, and i found it hard to gauge which of these features the examiner might be looking for. in particular, it is not clear if features which are in the prior art, but are nevertheless important to the client, should be claimed. likewise, it is not clear if all features having advantages not found in the prior art should be claimed, or indeed preferred features not found in the prior art should be claimed. the approach to these seems inconsistent between the mock, 2017, and 2018 papers. for the manufacturing claims, i found the reasoning in the paper from the client difficult to decipher, as well as the relevance of the manufacturing method in d2. in particular, the client suggested that manufacturing was important, but only one step having two different options was described by the client. there was also suggestions about a use claim, or a claim including a rack, but it was difficult to ascertain exactly what limitations any such claim should have. i did not have time to finish writing out the advantages for the claims i had chosen. another 15 minutes would suffice. paper b was the most difficult paper this year. the set of claims included two independent claims, each having its own closest prior art (d1 for claim 1, d2 for claim 2). the client suggested diverging amendments for these two independent claims in their letter, such that the amended claims would lack a special technical feature in common and therefore violate article 82 epc. it is not clear whether following the clients wishes and writing out two inventive step arguments was expected, or whether the clients wishes should be ignored and amendments introduced which do not violate article 82 epc and mean that only one inventive step argument is necessary. i spent a long time contemplating this issue in the exam, and unfortunately did not have time to explain my thinking in a note to the examiner. there was some relative controversy about the range amendment in (at least) claim 2 amongst my peers. a few considered that narrowing the range to 130-350 would add subject-matter contrary to article 123(2) since they were not aware of a niche t decision that could be used to justify such an amendment (especially not those that deal with ranges commonly). the other approach used was to use the full range and introduce an undisclosed disclaimer to the specific salt composition, under the reasoning that d3 was an accidental anticipation. the reasoning for either of these approaches is relatively complicated, and not used frequently in every day practice. this is quite different from paper b of old which mainly considered only intermediate generalisation, and removal of a feature, which are arguments commonly run in actual practice. as a result of the two issues above, i ran out of time during inventive step, so arguments were not able to be completed. paper c seemed to be more straightforward than previous years in terms of choosing the attacks. however, there were 10 different attacks to be made, which is a few more than in previous years. this lead to time pressure and ultimately meant i did not have time to completely write down all attacks, despite working them out from the material. an extra 15-30 minutes would have sufficed. paper d seemed reasonably fair. for d-i, i am surprised that a question on third party observations could be stretched out to the number of marks it was worth. i also felt there were some bread-and-butter topics missing. for d-ii, it will be interesting to see how the examiners will choose to tackle partial priority in the mark scheme, as answers seem fairly long winded and aspects of such answers can have little worth (e.g. assessing partial priority of a part of a claim which possibly may not be amended to).

with the knowledge of how the paper (b) was marked, the obligation to comment on two independent claims was inappropriate in terms of time required vs time available

paper b - it was very hard to identify a suitable and safe amendment for claim 2. there seemed to be 3 options: a) a range of 130-350, b) leaving the range as 110-350 but disclaiming salt a, c) reciting the specific salt compositions b-g in the claim. option c seemed the only reasonable op-

tion in the circumstances, as explained below, but no options really seemed ideal which was frustrating. this is not the norm for paper b. option a seemed to do what the client wanted but also seemed very risky under art. 123(2) epc. i was aware of the t201/83 strand of case law but i have come across examiners objecting to similar amendments in practice and the passage in paragraph [007] only seemed to give comfort that other salts that melted within that range were known, not that they were disclosed/contemplated for use in the invention. in practice, only would be extremely wary of concocting a range using a data point from an example as an end-point because of the risk of it being deemed an intermediate generalisation. therefore, this amendment seemed too risky overall. option b (disclaimer) seemed not to do what the client wanted because the lowest melting salt they plan to use is b, whereas the claim would cover salts melting at 110c upwards apart from a. also, in practice, attorneys tend to avoid disclaimers unless absolutely necessary due to a123(2) risks. therefore this option also seemed inappropriate. option c seemed like the only viable option because it was safe under a123(2) and also respected the clients wish to exclude salt composition a but include salt composition b [...] and the remaining salt compositions (third paragraph of client letter). this was therefore the option i went for. i had reservations about the claim being too narrow but the other options either seemed to have a significant risk of adding matter or covering more than the client wanted. it was annoying that the paper was written in such a way that the only viable amendments were non-ideal either by being risky under a123(2), not doing what the client wanted or being quite narrow. this is a far from ideal situation and led to a lot of stress to candidates. i saw three people crying in the exam hall at the end of paper b. it was just unnecessarily stressful. there is no opportunity to explain your thinking in paper b to the examiner. it would be good if you could include an explanation like i have written above to show you have considered the options. you might do this when writing to a client in real life and it is a useful skill. then, even if you dont hit on exactly the amendment the examiner wanted, it would give you the chance to explain that you have appreciated the salient points. i know that in real life you would not write such an explanation to an epo examiner but that should not be the point in this exam - the exam should test if you can think well as a patent attorney. this years paper b did not seem to do that. the paper was also much longer than previous years, which was not what we expected and added to stress on top of the issues with claim 2. the paper seemed to require two full inventive step analyses for claim 1 and claim 2 from two different closest prior arts. this has not been the case on any recent past papers and it seemed unfair that we had to do all that extra work without any extra time. paper c - paper c was far too long this year. although some of the claims did not have that many features, there were around 10 claims/claim parts to analyse in total and it was necessary to do a full inventive step analysis (involving going through the entire problem-solution approach) too many times. this is very time consuming and it is hard to see why this needs to be tested so many times in one paper. it seems as though it would be possible to assess candidates competence and ability with a paper that is about 75% as long. it was really hard to get through the entire paper as somebody whose first language is english. i hate to think what it would be like if your first language was not english, french or german.

lots of independent claims on the b exam made time management a bit tricky

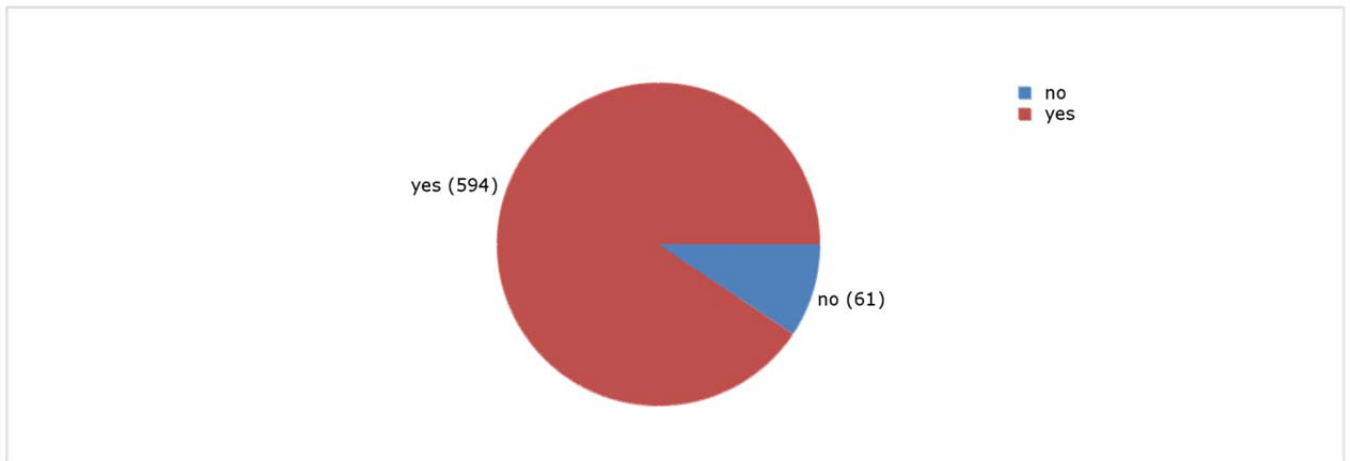
the time allowed to complete paper b was not sufficient for this years exam. dealing with two independent claims along with some tricky amendment issues is too much work for a 3.5 hour paper

b - disclaimer or not was a (very) hard question to handle. having two n and ai reasoning to write (claims 1 and 2) was very difficult to handle correctly within allowed time. d i - q1 was too wide, it was very hard to know what was expected. i tried to answer all d i questions correctly, but i had only 2 hours left for d ii. d i was too long according to me. it seems that d ii was with a normal difficulty (at least the parts i answered, i.e. 1 to 2a and 3).

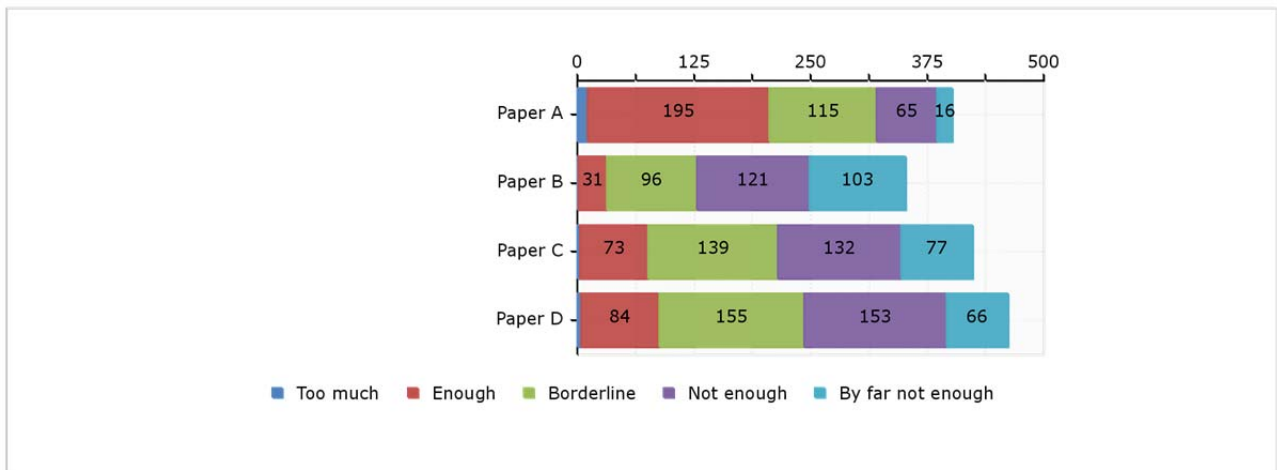
many modes per document

d is definitely the most challenging paper - it would really help if the exam indicated how many marks each part ii question is worth, as it is very difficult to know how many points are expected for each question. c was much fairer this year, and i hope this continues for future candidates. b was far more difficult this year - if delta patents are correct, the expected amendment involved citing a t decision that is only in the case law book and not the guidelines! it seems rather unfair that the whole exam hinges on a reasonably obscure decision, as a cautious approach is normally required for added matter.

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



Q29) How did you find the time available for each of the main examination papers?



Q30) Do you find the additional thirty minutes in the main examination paper(s) helpful?



Q31) Do you think that even more time would have improved your performance in the main examination paper(s)?



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

time-pressured as expected.

i wish that i would have 30 min more... but on the other hand, when the paper d was 5 hours, i wasnt running out of time, but when it becomes 5,30 hours i am now running out of time, i guess the questions getting though or longer so additional 30 min not helpful if the questions are longer or thoufger, again at the borderline.

if unlimited time would be allowed for the same exam types (lets say 8 hours per exam (b or d)), the quality of the output of a candidate could be fully considered, rather then (sometimes) his first impulsive responses... the evaluation of these kind of responses often dont do right to work the candidates put into it. if asked, im pretty sure that at least 50% of the candidates would agree with me that the difference between passing or failing (i.e. obtaining the required critical points for passing beyond 45%) are very often a matter of luck, and not of knowledge/preparation. also the manual writing doesnt give the proper flexibility to re-adjust the answers (swiftly enough) in case you have to reconsider an answer along the way of answering them. fast writers definitely have a huge advantage :-)

<i>the additional 30 minutes are useless if they come combined with papers like this years b which are doubled in terms of work. this is particularly unfair to the non native speakers.</i>
<i>the time given for the papers is borderline for adequately answer them.</i>
<i>paper b should be a 4 hour exam.</i>
<i>if it becomes longer that 5,5 h i think this doesnt help anymore. at some point the concentration is lost, if there is no real break in between.</i>
<i>zeit zu knapp, auch im vergleich zu 2017 und 2018. es entsteht der eindruck, dass die zusätzli- che 30min durch mehr text und/oder komplexere aufgabenstellung überkompensiert werden.</i>
<i>for paper d, there is a container of answers which can be expected. however, it is not predictable which details are to be written down for the obtaining the last points. answering the essence of the question only provides a fraction of the total points. as a result, there is significant time pres- sure for obtaining points. there is no time to write everything down that is relevant for the case.</i>
<i>paper c in particular is too time pressured to the point where full inventive step arguments for claims cannot be put down in writing in the time available, so briefer arguments are sometimes needed just to attack each claim. it isnt good knowing that marks are being lost which have been earned due to time.</i>
<i>papers b and c require more time for non native speakers and not familiar with the technical field.</i>
<i>if the intention was to provide additional time to ensure candidate quality/preparation, rather than candidate speed, is the determinant of success, then either not enough time has been added, or the difficulty of the exam has increased to take advantage of the extra time.</i>
<i>i think that paper b would benefit from an extra 30 minutes, to allow sufficient time for deciding on a suitable amendment.</i>
<i>5h30 is very long, especially when it is the 3rd day of examination... it would be wiser to shorter the size of documents to read and/or number of claims to attack and keep the same time than putting more time.</i>
<i>with more time i would have written more legibly. my answers may also have been more clear and complete, but otherwise are unlikely to have been very different.</i>
<i>there must always be some limit. this years papers were both well adapted for the time available. i am not the fastest person, so even if i can solve the issues, time is never sufficient for me to fi- nalize the papers. i have to go for collecting sufficient amount of marks only. 5 1/2 hours is a long time to sit writing the papers, and it is a relief when time is up in some ways:-)</i>
<i>it is difficult to judge 30 minutes more if that is the first time you sit and dont know it any different.</i>
<i>i believe that the time available to complete paper b was not sufficient and that additional 30 minutes would improve the result.</i>
<i>more please</i>
<i>additional 30 minutes are partially used to analyze a bigger amount of information / establish connections between information scattered throughout the documents.</i>
<i>for me it was very difficult to write down my solutions and argumentation in the time available.</i>
<i>i make decisions and write quite quickly, but only just finished papers b, c and d in time. if i took more time to think and wrote more slowly (and legibly!) i would have struggled to finish in time.</i>
<i>a: +20 min c: +60 min d: +90 min</i>
<i>the time for paper b was inadequate (too short).</i>
<i>the amount of issues to be handled is too high for the available time. thus, i had problems to bol- ster the argumentation (citations, articles) in the way it is expected for receiving more points.</i>
<i>for paper d the time is too short in order to answer all questions.</i>
<i>instead of more time, id prefer less questions. current problems are already extremely complex for covering everything on sight and in 3 to 5 hours.</i>
<i>there was quite a lot of information that might have been relevant for product claims in this years paper a. i think it was a bit too much to deal with in the time given.</i>
<i>if more time is available, especially for paper d part ii, then there might be time to read some that</i>

<i>part of the paper more than once which is often helpful to get the hole picture..</i>
<i>well already addressed in my previous remarks: i am 100% sure that if i get for papers (comparable to past papers) 15- 25 minutes more time, i would gain 10-15 points. i am serious that is easily the amount i loose. it is not i do not know my epc but this is typically the time i loose because as said i am a slow reader (dyslexia) and if i go to fast in reading i will not grasp the text correctly and even do worse loosing 30-40 marks or more, so i need time to read the paper correctly (more than the average candidate) => this is a serious handicap for me. i need to recover that time by being fast in the other parts of the exam => analysis, deciding and writing => which leads to errors and bad writing quality. and i am sure this costs me marks. i did work hard to optimize my methodology which is now specific for me, but still i am short of time not much but at least 15 minutes more would be very beneficial. this is my main concern with the exam.</i>
<i>the time pressure adds to the difficulty of the exam; but clearly there has to be an end-point.</i>
<i>i think this is a difficult question because it is very individual. there are subject matters which are easier for some to understand and harder for others to undersatnd. what is difficult/frustrating with paper c is that there is a lot of time spent with the analysis which can be right but there sometimes lacks time to show that you have the right atattacks. it woul dbe great of we could hand in the analysis and get at least a few points if such analysis is right as wel all know that in real life no one prepares and writes an opposition in 5.5 hours....i have also done a number of past papers and i feel that the level of difficulty is not always the same. some could be done in less than 5.5 hours and some required more time. so for me it is not so much about extending the time but adapting the subjects to fit within the time and when i see that experienced tutors have a hard time finishing a mock exam within the prescribed time, it does raise question on how a trainee could do it.....</i>
<i>time is too short, velocity of hand writing is too important</i>
<i>of course, the committee needs to filter those who have prepared and know the material from those who dont. im wondering if one could not make the cases more complex/deep, really testing the legal knowledge of the candidates in the whole rather (paper d, part ii) than overwhelming with so many information/applications/subject-matter that one looses the overview at a certain point and particularly under so much time pressure.</i>
<i>in real life we have more time to do our work. doing the exam in a few hours in cases which are not necessarily of our field in hard and difficult to achieve in the given time.</i>
<i>i am very curious about the outcome of the test with word processors/computers in munich, was the paper available to copy text from as well? i genuinely feel almost disabled as it is, hand writing literally causes me pain, so even my best efforts only allowed me to complete dii (which i for tactical reasons then have to choose) offering me a very narrow margin of error. for me the use of an ergonomic keyboard or the addition of 30-60 minutes would mean a guaranteed success, as indicated by taking mock exams for deltapatents this and last year, where i had to use a computer to submit the test</i>
<i>see earlier comment</i>
<i>time is ok for the amount of work that is expected, for c, could be done with less ebjects to attack</i>
<i>at least one more hour</i>
<i>depends on the difficulty of the exam, specially on the difficulty of part ii.</i>
<i>i think its not just about time. after 5 1/2 hours without any breaks, the human brain cannot work properly, so it is completely unrealistic to judge if a person is fit to practice by using an exam that is completely different from how is work in reality. if you push your brain to the limit for 4 hours, it is normal that, during the remaining 1 1/2 hours you wont be able to solve complex situations that you would normally be able to solve.</i>
<i>from next year, the ratio of points for d1 and d2 will be flexible. this might make it even harder for candidates to plan their time.</i>
<i>there seems to be arbitrage between available time and tasks to be dealt with - basically the test content (and/or grading) is modified to require the extra time.</i>

<i>time pressure is ok, as it is an equal hurdle for all candidates, as long as it is taken into account in marking - e.g. if a large proportion of the candidates did not prepare arguments for all claims in paper c</i>
<i>9 attacks in the same time of last years, when usually the attack were six. that's ridiculous.</i>
<i>b - very short amount of time for analysing the disclosures, deciding how to proceed and preparing a decent inventive step argument. this year, the difficulty that some candidates had in identifying the appropriate amendment led to a lot of wasted time which detracted from the time available to write a good response.</i>
<i>paper c has far too many annexes for the time available</i>
<i>time management a major point.</i>
<i>why are there so much attacks in paper c? is this helpful to find out the quality of the examinees?</i>
<i>not enough time for the difficulty of the papers</i>
<i>paper b completely caught me off-guard. maybe i missed an important clue, but it seemed you had to do and argue everything twice, and i simply did not have time to do that. if id had one more hour, would have scored a lot better. i knew everything i had to write, but didnt have time to write it. same with paper d, but there at least i had expected it.</i>
<i>time available is borderline, but more time would make the examination unbearable physically, especially for persons sitting the 4 subjects in three days.</i>
<i>it is acceptable</i>
<i>the time was very strict in b, which was unexpected. di was sufficient in my view, dii was difficult to finish in time.</i>
<i>it appears that the 30min in addition are completely consumed by the extensive exam questions ... there is always anything more to answer or to answer in more detail. the 30min more should have been accompanied e.g. by 1 legal question less or a less voluminous part 2. frankly, a candidate fit for practice can show his skills in 3 or 6 or 9 hours, and a non-fit candidatw can not, regardless of the time</i>
<i>i would increase the time for paper b to 4 hours.</i>
<i>it is a shame that time pressure becomes the most important factor in determining your mark. there just is not enough time to do a good job, especially considering we are not used to write so much by hand. it is slow, and gets more and more difficult to write legibly as the end of the exam draws near.</i>
<i>i would suggest to allow more time or not increase the complexity and the length of the test.</i>
<i>i think it is generally okay. exams should always feel a little bit of time pressure. certainly, if the exams were made any longer, papers a and b should be moved to different days. having paper a and paper b on the same day is incredibly taxing and made it feel like my mental stamina was being tested more than my ability as a european patent attorney.</i>
<i>30 more minutes would be adequate</i>
<i>it is too long ! longer and longer.... with the exam stress, it is really too long. no possibility to think for 5 minutes long ! no hesitation possible</i>
<i>i think that 3-3,5 hours for dii is not totally too short, but a candidate has to be extremely fit and have a good day to be still in a good condition to avoid making mistakes and getting the right ideas quickly in the last 30-45 min after having finished the long and tiring q1 of dii. i felt that around 1 hour before end my timing was good and i felt good and confident, but then in the last 30-45 min i lost energy and concentration and made some stupid mistakes and did not get the right ideas quickly, respectively. with a bit more time or a bit more practice that may have ended up differently.</i>
<i>i am sure that i would finish the examination with more time.</i>
<i>faster writing with pc possible</i>
<i>the additional minutes provided in view of the non-native speakers are useful but still a native</i>

<p>speaker has an advantage. therefore, the time should be decided on the basis that an average (adequately prepared) non-native candidate can pass the exam</p>
<p>i do not understand, why you have to write all of the papers under such time pressure. especially c would be absolutely no problem given only one hour of time more. i guess the pass rate would increase by factor 2. why is time a factor when proving the skill of opposing a patent? shouldn't it be just quality?</p>
<p>mehr zeit hat in der vergangenheit einfach zu schwierigeren prüfungen und mehr aufgaben geführt. es mussten dann beispielsweise bei teil c mehr angriffe mittels erfinderischer tätigkeit statt neuheit durchgeführt werden. das reine erhöhen der verfübaren zeit führt nicht zum ziel, die prüfungen in diesem zusammenhang noch aufwändiger zu gestalten ist kontraproduktiv. vielmehr müsste angestrebt werden, die prüfungen zu verkürzen und entsprechend die schwierigkeit zu vermindern. beim beispiel teil c wäre 1 bis 2 angriffe wegen erfinderischer tätigkeit und sonst nur angriffe wegen neuheit (einer pro anspruch) in z.b. 4 stunden wäre ein anstrbbares ziel.</p>
<p>this years paper b was much more difficult than the previous years exams. ! in previous years you had to show novelty and inventiveness of only one claim but this year you you had 2 claims so the amount of writing was doubled!</p>
<p>there is always huge pressure at work up to the year end, and at the start of the year, and if the epo was held during first week in march, rather than the last week of february, the additional week would really help with the preparation.</p>
<p>it depends on the pass rate you want to achieve. if you dont find the trick of the paper into question immediately after data computation, you will not finish, you will consequently have zero out of 10 to 20 to the last question/attack, and probably not reach the pass rate.</p>
<p>after the exam i checked the answers given by delta patents (which have been proven correct in many years) and noticed that i had correctly analysed almost every question or situation given in the papers. however, i was not able to write down my full answer in each paper because time was up. very sad, since 20min more time could have been sufficient to give full answers. this applies to every paper.</p>
<p>in all papers i had timing issues (and im not a slow person...). i think it would be fair to make the exams a bit simpler so that they would be doable in the time available. as the exam situation is very stressing, its a bit too much when you have to hurry with them!</p>
<p>no</p>
<p>paper b seems to be adapted to the additional time available..</p>
<p>i find that, as described above in a previous question, that i am naturally slower than probably the average person. this coupled with my type 1 diabetes limitations means i can sometimes be limited by the time constraints. i have learned to be as concise as possible in the exams. i suspect that most of us rush at the end of the paper to write as much as possible and then number all the sheets of answer paper.</p>
<p>not enough time.</p>
<p>if 30-60 minutes extra is given, the exams will be more easy and also clear, because the exams are in essence not difficult, everybody can do it, but the epo makes it frankly too stressful by imposing a time pressure and handwritten assignment. we are tested on our time pressure and writing skills, not particularly on substance. if more time is given, we could write our answers better and more structuredly.</p>
<p>an extra 30 minutes would make a lot of difference and would allow candidates enough time to finish the exam and check their answers before submission.</p>
<p>i think the time pressure in paper b makes the candidate do mistakes due to superficiality as the time available to do everything is not much.</p>
<p>i only mark paper b down because it was so difficult to determine what to do this year. usually the amount of time provided for paper b is adequate.</p>
<p>i dont think that for the c paper it is necessary to have more time but it is necessary to have shorter documents to read and/or number of attacks to perform.</p>
<p>-</p>
<p>paper b - only one claim has always been expected to be defended. you cannot expect candi-</p>

<i>dates to defend more than one independent claim during the 3.5 hours in the exam nor even provide the possibility to do so which wastes valuable time due to confusion. this was disappointing.</i>
<i>rather than extending the time period, why not try to produce an exam that can be completed in the same or shorter time period whilst still testing the same skills. the exams are far too long! they should not be a test of endurance!</i>
<i>it all depends on the level of verbosity and pedantry the examination board expect in the replies; with the given time, its possible to provide corect & good questions, but dwelling with guidelines and case law in detail would require to know it by heart, because consultation time is only available for what is already well-known</i>
<i>taking into account that the one who have an official language as mother tongue have a clear advantage, i would offer either 30 or more minutes or extra points to those candidates that do not have an official language as mother tongue.</i>
<i>lack of time adds a difficulty to the examination that does not reflect the difficulties you may have at work. lack of time is a big and unnecessary limitation.</i>
<i>time is probably adequate</i>
<i>the time for paper b was by far too short.</i>
<i>more time for paper c</i>
<i>seems fine.</i>
<i>if you provide extra time, dont adapt the exam to take even longer. thats not called extra time then, it only prolongs the examination.</i>
<i>time is always not enough ! i think this is even more true for the non-native speakers. concerning paper d i am wondering if having separated sessions for di and dii could allow for performing better</i>
<i>because of the amount of content in paper b, much more time was necessary. past paper b have been easy to complete in the allotted 3.5hrs. 4hrs for paper a is adequate and encourages quick decision making.</i>
<i>there is far too much to do in all of the exams meaning it is more a test of how quickly you can write rather than if you are good enough to do the job. i think this provides a significant disadvantage to people who aren't able to write and process information extremely quickly. i am very disappointed with how the exams went because although i feel i am more than capable of passing i think the time pressure of the exams and the fact they were so close together will have cost me.</i>
<i>if paper b is going to involve more than one approach for inventive step in the future, 3.5 h, is by far not sufficient anymore.</i>
<i>each year the examination is more difficult. if we have more time it could compensate.</i>
<i>it is a long examine perhasp it should be divided into to days.</i>
<i>very easy: either reduce the complexity of the papers or increase the time available. one major problem is writing by hand which costs a lot of time and in (desperate) hurry legibility becomes worse and worse.</i>
<i>make the tasks more precise and reduce examination time - 5,5h is far too long to work on an examination. also a and b on the same day is crazy with 7.5h examination time on one day</i>
<i>clearly not enough time to answer properly the papers, in my opinion.</i>
<i>speed in writing is very different between individuals. i am one of the slower ones. i understand that we are required to write such that the correctors should be able to read what we have written. but honestly, if we are under time pressure and, the more, if you are a slow-writer like me, it is not possible to finish in time and at the same time write accurately.</i>
<i>5,5 hours is far too much. why raising the time from 4,5 hours, then 5 hours and now 5,5 hours? and also raising number of questions?</i>
<i>having papers a and b on the same day is too much.</i>

as to the language issue, see my comments above. my suggestion: instead of putting the exam papers in three languages in the envelope (what a big environmental load!), put one copy in the chosen epo official language and an other copy in an admissible non-epo language chosen by the candidate. this would reduce by third the amount of paper used, solve the language issues and provide equal opportunity for all of the candidates.

its too tight

what defines improvement of performance? with more time, i could have answered more questions. does this improve performance?

paper b is always the exam that i would prefer to be extended by a half hour or more.

i could certainly use more time to write my answers down - for paper c, for example, within 2.5 hours i had my attacks determined but 3 hours was not quick enough to write them down in time

who works normally under such a time pressure? nobody - only candidates!

maybe extending the time limits will not lead to much better results because, after some hours, the degree of concentration substantially decreases. in particular, this applies for the c- and d-paper. it might be a more reasonable approach to reduce the extend of the expected answers than to prolongue the time. however, for the a- and b-paper, more time seems to be beneficial.

the number of pages (or at least the density of information) show, in my opinion, that the additional 30 minutes do not reduce the time pressure, but only extend the testing.

to me it makes no sense to test ability of a candidate to write fast, rather than his/her preparation

i believe that a good preparation would help and most probably suffice as it is a balance of available time and degree of difficulty of the exam that enables good patent attorneys to develop and pass...

in exam conditions, the time runs faster

in order to answer dii you gotta first extract the information regarding any patent, information made availbale to the public, and sales. then, in order to answer the first question you have to assess all that, which practically means re-writing everything again. if youre allowed to type, it is easy to modify those notes into the answer to the first question, thereby easily saving half an hour. i cannot understand that not every candidate was allowed to enrol in this program, and then a subset of those enrolled would be selected. with the method chosen, a handful of candidates was given an undue advantage.

if you get the clou from the frist moment of the examination, then its fine, but if you need time to do some deliberations and also need to look up something, then youre lost, especially in b.

as mentioned above: eqe is a running against time. points are lost due to inaccuracy due to hurry, incomplete answers due to lack of time/ due to hurry, selecting/focusing on the wrong parts of an answer for details. you need full concentration for many hours. usually there is no time to correct errors, even if recognized. furthermore it is a question of concentration/mental fitness. time pressure does not allow a break. for 5.5 hours you need 200% concentration - otherwise you fail.

it would be useful to know when we have reached the halfway point, during the exam

for a paper, time is definitely sufficient. for d, i would have used extra-time to read what i wrote and possibly correct mistakes

b paper should be the same 4 hours as paper a.

need more time to do proper analysis

i think increasing the length of the examination while increasing the number of documents, does not help that much in the end... i think to have quality reasoning one should decrease the number of references and be rather strict on the accurateness of the argumentation + reasoning

time should be more.

considering i am a native english speaker, i found i was very time pressured. my handwriting suffered. even though i had worked out all my attacks in paper c in note form, there wasnt time to fully attend to each one in my final answer. in b and c, the number of claims (and especially independent claims) was more than usual and the dependencies were also fairly complex. it would be

good if we could number the pages after the exam has finished, like in the uk exams.

the fact is, i do not understand why the selection to become an attorney is made on the ability to write extremely quickly, because in my everyday worklife, i use a keyboard and not a pen. i am not good at writing very fast, even if i trained, and it is frustrating to know what to answer and to miss time to write it properly.

it is often not easy to guess what do they want to see?, especially in paper d-i. there are many aspects that would be worth mentioning but there is not enough time to mention them all. then you have to select the ones you consider most important and hope that the commission does not put the emphasis differently.

time was far too short. i could not finish writing the paper because lack of time. issues to discuss were too many for the allowed time

i do not see the necessity in having the time available for the examination papers based on how candidates are expected to be able to reply under pressure. in other words, if i had 10 hours to do exam b, i would probably have scored better marks. why should i be deprived of scoring better marks for the sake of being efficient? are we supposed to be fast/efficient if we want to pass the ege? why not simply show that we are capable of proper understanding of how ip works? i believe our employers (and ourselves) should worry more about our efficiency during our work, but this should be irrelevant to the ege committee.

time for c is too short. this paper is more about how fast you can write than about writing an opposition...

as said before, one difficulty is drafting. im no more used to write manually 20 pages. the trial of using computer to respond seems promising but it will only be successful if the candidates are used to the applications provided, the applications are modern and copy-pasting from prior art documents is possible. however, i hope to have passed all 4 papers at the time such system will be generalized !

the point of the extra 30 minutes is to compensate non-native speakers, it shouldnt be so that the exam committee can just make the papers even longer... i am a native speaker of an epo language and i did not have enough time to finish c.

all the papers are always rushed all the time

for me in papers b and c there was not enough time for both thorough analysis and a complete write-up. something had to give, the former in case of the former and the latter in case of the latter.

multiple bigger spaced copies of the claims would greatly help.

not enough time (another fifteen minutes would have made a huge amount of difference)

too little time since dii part was time consuming.

for 2019 i think the time was fine for papers a, c and d. but b required a lot more effort than in the last two years (with the same time available)

+30minutes for that kind of paper c with so many inventive steps attacks (as far as correct!) is borderline, nearly not enough

seems ok to me

the group who were allowed to write the exams on the pc had a massive temporal advantage. especially because of the copy paste function and the search function in the c part. this is very unfair.

more time or lap top allowed

it was probably sufficient for d, but for c its really borderline, almost insufficient given the consequences to ones marks that going down an incorrect path with ones reasoning might have. it would be nice to know that you have enough time to correct yourself if you realize halfway through writing your answer that its off-target.

paper d is ok. more would be nice, no doubt. as stated before, paper c it is way too hurried. it is disheartening to analyse and find the attacks and then not having the time to scribble them down. in my case, i noticed maybe 20 minutes before that something in my claim was wrong/missing. that was too late. but i can acknowledge that it is my mistake and that i should have noticed it

<i>earlier. so, if the length of the exam was 4h30, i would probably have ended by submitting something more valuable than i actually did. i think that i can still have a pass, but it depends on how the examiner will deal with the deduction of marks.</i>
<i>as commented earlier, papers b and c were both far too long this year. this means you are even more stressed than you would otherwise be and cannot really show what you know. the papers are already very long, especially c and d. therefore, it seems like the best option would just be to give candidates about 20% less to do, rather than further increasing the duration of the exams.</i>
<i>no comments</i>
<i>the exam tests to a great extent if you are able to organize an enormous lot of information in your head in a minimum of time and if you happen to see the correct links needed to write down a reasoned answer.</i>
<i>paper b was very rushed and i was unable to finish in time. paper c was less rushed and i was able to complete the paper.</i>
<i>c is impossible to complete within the given time in the detail required for scoring most marks even in case of proper previous training</i>
<i>more time would be useful if exams were no longer.</i>
<i>although an extra 30 minutes was provided, some of the papers seemed to have more content than usual, so the extra time did not really feel beneficial.</i>
<i>although more time was allowed, it seemed that the questions were more difficult than in some previous years, meaning that the additional time was spent looking in the guidelines and other books, rather than allowing time to more fully answer the questions</i>
<i>either make the papers shorter or allow more time</i>
<i>an additional half hour would be stress relieving and give time for checking the answers before handing them in.</i>
<i>i selected more time for paper c, but actually there should be less to do because it is already a long and tiring exam. there should be fewer claims to attack, or only one possible attack per claim. i made 9 attacks and could have done an additional inventive step attack. there simply isn't the time to write so many attacks properly. i feel sorry for the examiner who has to read my terrible handwriting and awful grammar!</i>
<i>i think the time available has a good size now but the papers should be kept doable, e.g. in b it should be enough to make one psa.</i>
<i>paper b was particularly time pressured given the presence of two indep claims, two sets of amendments and two inventive step attacks. this was coupled to a lack of guidance on choosing relevant cpas for at least one of the indep claims, which seems like a complete departure from the other papers in the new format. the perfect storm to creating not enough time to adequately tackle the issues</i>
<i>too short for b. the time to get the answer on paper.</i>
<i>no comments</i>
<i>don't you want the c paper to be a game of knowledge, instead of a game of time?</i>
<i>it takes longer time to read when the exam is not in your own language, which makes the time that can be spent on writing the answer shorter.</i>
<i>commented on this earlier, but additionally, the additional 30 minutes added to the b exam have been eroded by increased workload.</i>
<i>more time is not good because 5.5hours is already long, shorter questions would help</i>
<i>available time is too few. provided that difficulty and length of next paper d will not increase, i think that at least 6 hours is the minimum time for completing well reasoned answers to paper d.</i>
<i>split d1 and d2 in two parts again..both 3,5 hrs</i>
<i>even an extra 15 mins would help</i>
<i>epo should provide the maximum number of possible attacks to be expected, then time management would be easier for candidates</i>

regarding the time, i dont understand why candiates cant be given another half or even whole hour. when doing an opposition in real life you usually have several whole working days to spend. since c comprise so much material i really wonder what it really is that the epo is interested in testing? candidates ability to read in ultra rapid and remeber all details? candidates ability to write complete correct answeres without making a single mistake since there simply is no time to redo any attack? candidates donät have time to really ponder a problem but has to really go with the first idea that pops up, and i really dont see how this shows that a candidate is fit to practice so to say.

the limiting factor is the writing speed. a higher writing speed leads to less readable writing

paper b was too much to finish in time and in general part b was the one where i occasionally had time problems when practising. i think paper a should be 3,5 h and paper b 4 h.

please see previous comment on a and b. time was too short for me.

either make the papers shorter or allocate more time. potentially letting everyone type their answers would solve this problem, since writing by hand is a major time drain, and is difficult for three days straight.

i think the way the exams are set up, it is all about time pressure. i normally do not complete past papers in the time - this encourages aggressive shorthand answering to try to cover more during the time available. in particular c and d - these are the toughest exams (i think) primarily due to time pressure. i could still write more answer for at least another hour for either c or d. normally a and b are not quite so bad, but this year b was very tough and it took a long time to decide how to amend the claims - so i ran out of time.

not enough

trying to write down with a time pressure results with a bad handwriting and a constant concern if it would be readable. additionally, we are expected to write everything down with a reference which also takes a lot of time. therefore, although i knew the answers and their basis, i had serious problems writing down in the appropriate format. so i couldnt finish writing answers for all the questions in 3 of the papers.

writing by hand is a real problem when it comes to changing things. although i wrote on every second line to be able to change/add things, i sometimes had to re-write sections which took a lot of time. to be able to write electronically would save a lot of time and would be closer to your everyday work. dii - to be given a time line with the dates and events (at least all patent related dates, filing publ., mog) instead of having to mark them yourself would save a lot of time. so easy to make a mistake and i do not think marking dates on a time line is an important skill to test.

the time for paper b was not adequate with regards to the amount of argumentation and difficulty of the substantive issues.

some additional time would have probably helped me, however this has always to be judged together with the problem load of the paper. for me, the latter was probably the somewhat bigger problem. however, i did neither find the time nor the complexity of the paper outright unreasonable - surely there is clearly upside potential on my end as well.

longer exams dont become easier if the amount of required answers raised as well

i dont understand why the epo puts so much time pressure on the exams. people which are not fit to practice cannot solve the papers anyway. for me its more a speed writing game than a test for fit to practice, very annoying. i understood all the papers and knew how to draft the solutions, but the lack of time prevented me from writing down complete answers.

for most of the papers, there is enough time, but for paper c this year, there was simply not enough time. there does not need to be so much content in paper c to demonstrate an attorneys competence.

personally i found myself with at least 15 minutes left over on each exam paper, however i know it was unusual in this.

they are already very long papers, so it may be difficult to increase time any more. but there is a lot to do, especially in b which means that any small amount of panic causes real issues later on.

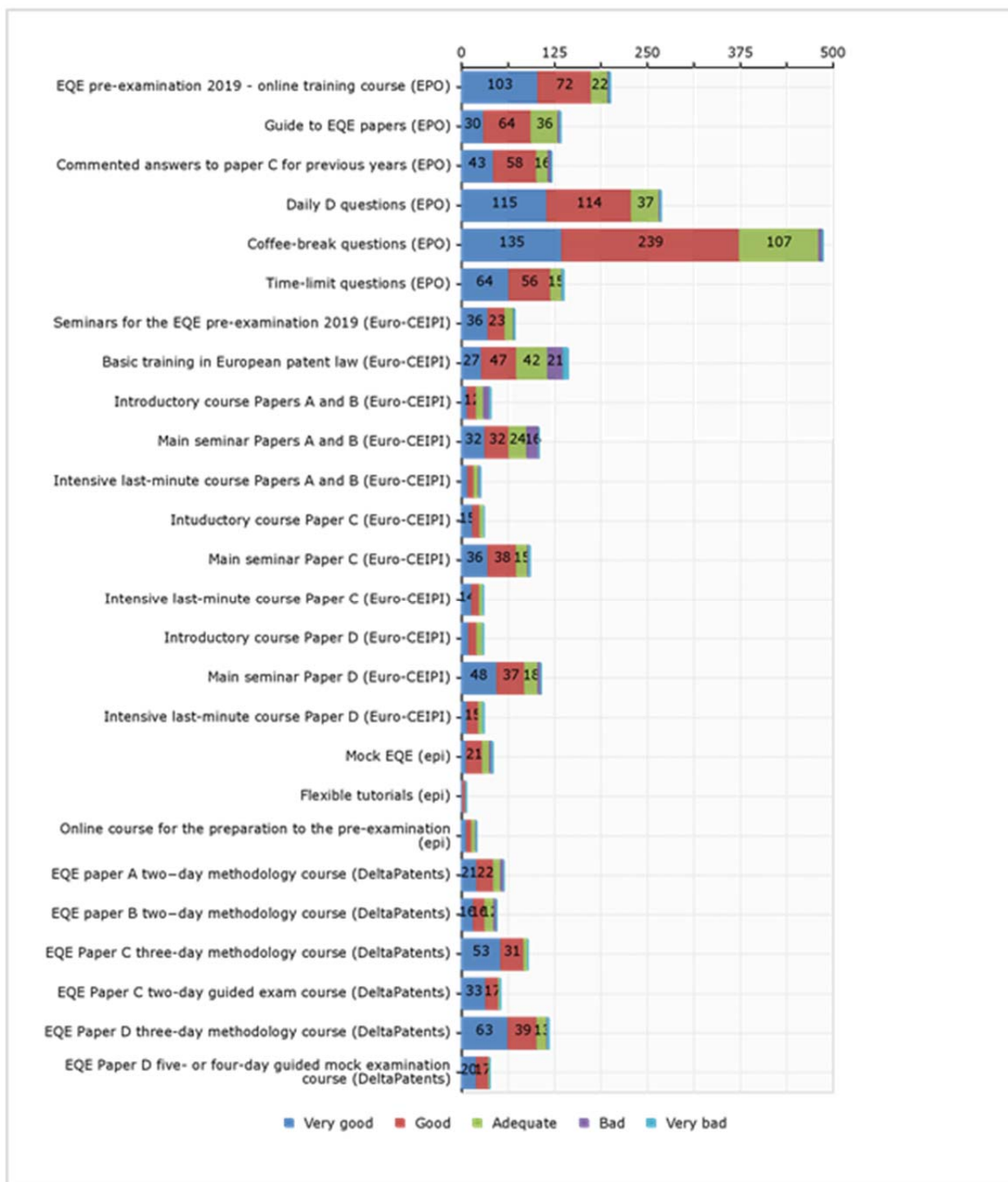
significantly too little time for this years paper b

<i>15 more minutes would have been needed</i>
<i>not enough time for paper b</i>
<i>again, more time for the exam is essential. otherwise, the exam is test on your physical capability of how fast you can write without getting an injury.</i>
<i>there was not enough time for paper b. multiple independent claims which theoretically had different closest prior art documents meant that arguing inventive step was very time-intensive. furthermore, one also had to argue novelty for two independent claims which also demands substantial time when done (correctly) in light of the examiner reports for past papers.</i>
<i>lack of time increases randomness and doesnt select the best candidates, as you are forced to take decisions without enough time for reflection and argumentation. i think it was time-wise rather unfair to non-native speakers (especially b and c).</i>
<i>especially papers a, c and d are totally unrealistic in comparison to the real time you use for such tasks in a daily working basic.</i>
<i>we are all confused by why we have to be able to carry out the exams in such a limited time. attorneys tend to be accurate in what they do, and thats why dont like to write answers in huge hurry.</i>
<i>not adequate for non mothertongue candidates</i>
<i>more time is necessary.</i>
<i>the time available is long enough to handle taking into account physical abilities - it gets very tiring towards the end and i wouldnt want to have to spend any longer under exam conditions. however the time pressure experienced this year for paper b was due to the complexity of the paper, and for paper c perhaps the number of arguments required needs to be reconsidered and reduced slightly. it would not be the right approach to make any of the exams longer than they currently are.</i>
<i>in addition or instead of more time, i think it would be very helpful if all candidates were allowed to use a computer to answer their papers, instead of just a small group of participants in munich. it causes inequality between the candidates, candidates which can use a computer are more likely to pass, especially since handwriting is not an issue, whereas most candidates will nowadays do the majority of their work on a computer (and not in handwriting). (legible) handwriting can thus be quite a challenge and painful.</i>
<i>b was not possible to do in the given time, i believe that there were 2 different cpa to be dealt with</i>
<i>please see comments before: while exam committee assured that papers will not become longer, they actually have and in my opinion beyond the extra time allowed.</i>
<i>time is clearly the limiting factor before knowledge. the exam is a race rather than an evaluation of a specific capacity.</i>
<i>please do not make the exams any longer (in particular a+b = 7.5 hours in one day!) . rather reduce the amount of work (e.g. only 2 state of the art documents instead of 3 in b).</i>
<i>compared to c and d, time was certainly not an issue</i>
<i>i do not find my day to day job to be extremely time pressured (except on rare occasions) and so i do not understand why it is necessary to perform examinations under such rushed conditions.</i>
<i>too little</i>
<i>time is the same for everyone, but one doing the paper in mothers thong has an advantage over another who doesnt have this chance.</i>
<i>i think the time is adequate provided the difficulty level of the exams remains consistent year on year (see previous comment about paper b).</i>
<i>too short</i>
<i>speaking of this years paper d i would recommend additional 30 minutes.</i>
<i>time is ok for the amount of exercises but it requires that somebody is well prepared.</i>
<i>i think that the solution is not to give extra time to do the exam, maybe is better reduce the pressure. di + dii are two exams by hand witting in 5,5 hours, and covering different topics. one</i>

<i>suggestion could be maybe di as answer test in order to write less.</i>
<i>because for paper a you have to be so careful and critical with each word that is included, i found the time pressure doesnt give you the intellectual freedom to deliberate each feature in the required depth</i>
<i>for b and d, again i feel the extra thirty minutes has just led to a longer exam.</i>
<i>its the same story for most candidates every year, it just falls on deaf ears. most if not all candidates can pass the exams as they know their stuff after 3 years, it just boils down to a speed test in a high pressure environment.</i>
<i>the additional time is only helpful if the amount of required answers is not increased.</i>
<i>time is definitely not enough for paper c analysis and writing up</i>
<i>instead of more time, please consider smaller exams.</i>
<i>in d1 there appeared to be more things to write down than in 2013-2018. in d2 there appeared to be more legal provisions to investigate. i would not plead for more time available, but for way better testing of the papers.</i>
<i>keep it as is</i>
<i>the 30 min do not help very much, if the c exam in made longer. 33 pages in 2018 and still 29 pages in 2019 are the longest c exams in resent years; what is the use of giving more time, if the exam is made longer?</i>
<i>30min extra would be very helpful</i>
<i>the approach to time available is in my view flawed. it should be a priority for the committee to remove the physical fitness requirement of the candidates to pass the exams which is unfair and old-fashioned. for example, concieving each paper to be 3 hours long should be possible.</i>
<i>i don't think it's possible to increase the time of the exams any more. 5.5 hours is already too long really. 7.5 hours of exams in one day (i.e., the day of the paper a and b exams) is too much. you should think about reducing the numbers of issues but making each individual issue more difficult, similar to the uk exams. a and b should be held on different days.</i>
<i>this year especially not enough time for paper b because of two independent claims. whilst i think my performance would improve with more time, i think perhaps the exams would be better with less material, rather than more time. it is already exhausting to do 18.5 hours of exams in three days. wednesday was particularly challenging with 7.5 hours in a single day.</i>
<i>having 8 questions each marked with max 5 points, or having 5 questions each marked with max 8 points is indeed a different thing imho. there is no linear relationship between time and total points. to sink oneself into rather complex questions takes time, considering different possibilities and deciding which way to go within the questions takes time. and of course, finding that one particular decision in one of the great tomes i brought to the exam cost a lot more time than handling rather basic questions i probably know already without looking something up for it.</i>
<i>paper a took slightly longer to decide what to claim than usual, perhaps due to the number of different options. this meant i was not able to finish describing the advantages of such claims. paper b had some significant issues to be dealing with which took time to contemplate. particularly the unity/second inventive step considerations, and the range amendment. paper c timing is generally fine, but this year there were more attacks, which made the exam time constraint. paper d timing was adequate.</i>
<i>the additional 30 minutes have been balanced with more text. therefore the effect is lost. rather, the exhaustion begins more strongly at the end.</i>
<i>the last 1h of the exam are very stressed, so answers given very often do not represent applicants knowledge.</i>

Chapter 5 – Training materials

Q33) How would you rate the following learning materials/courses?



Q34) Please add any comments and suggestions regarding the learning materials/courses:

more properly prepared to overcome the exam

the epo course had many mistakes which wasnt good

what materials?

<i>basic training in european patent law (euro-ceipi) run by simon roberts absolutely abysmal course, and an embarrassment for ceipi to associate themselves with it. poorly run, many sessions cancelled, and i came away more confused than before each tutorial because of how bad simon roberts teaching was. this course should be de-accredited by ceipi and scrapped. i am embarrassed my company had to pay for it. i certainly wouldnt have paid for it, given the extremely low standard of teaching. in comparison, the main seminar paper d (euro-ceipi) course was excellent, well-run, and a really good introduction to paper d questions.</i>
<i>the written material was useful, but i stopped attending the classrooms after the first session as it felt like it was more efficient to spend that time studying.</i>
<i>the epi tutors are seriously unequal in quality. some are really poor and should consider to stop teaching whereas others are really really good. this make it really not a reliable source of courses...</i>
<i>breakdown marking in the compendium.</i>
<i>more!</i>
<i>deltapatents book suggested</i>
<i>some times not only comments referred to correct answers are interesting. some times why other options are not correct is also interesting.</i>
<i>main papers a and b did not give any method by hand. even when this is not the main idea of this training it was nevertheless expected from the participants at least to have a rogh idea of how methodically approach the paper. main seminar paper d was perfect in my eyes, especially as it dealt with current changes.</i>
<i>was very good</i>
<i>i follows ege pre-examination 2019 - online training course (epo) since 2014 - every year there are a lot of mistakes in the reading material and quizzes - it is not allowable for an epo training course!!! this year was the same i would change some of the tutors!</i>
<i>great courses, great atmosphere, great lecturers... week d very demanding tough.</i>
<i>online course its great. video classroms are a bit without sesne. to little time to discus everything.</i>
<i>epo online to general coffee breaks - good start</i>
<i>the daily d questions were significantly easier than the actual exam!</i>
<i>ege pre-examination 2019 - online training course (epo) - i find the online videos a bit slow, so didnt really use them. i thought the course material was very useful and used it extensively in my revision. the online legal questions were also really helpful when learning the legal material.</i>
<i>i was too late to sign up for the daily questions, which was disappointing.</i>
<i>the quizzes were very helpful, but i found the way the questions were phrased (in the quizzes) very frustrating because it wasnt always clear to me what was being asked - by comparison the questions in the actual exam were much clearer.</i>
<i>the quality of the ceipi courses are too dependant on the tutor you end up having.</i>
<i>i only used the compendium</i>
<i>generally too detailed for the pre-exam and questions are much harder compared to the questions on the pre-exam. questions should also be set out in the same format as the pre-exam, with four parts to each question and following the same marking scheme used in the pre-exam. this will get candidtaes into the habit of aiming for full marks on a given questions, which is essential to pass due to the negative marking scheme used in the pre-exam.</i>
<i>level of tutors teaching skill and knowledge were rather diverse</i>
<i>the ege pre-examination 2019 - online training course (epo) is very well structured an provides a good overview of the epc and pct</i>
<i>more questions covering more topics is always welcome, practice makes perfect. perhaps more on pct and euro-pct</i>

<i>provide more "old" papers in an updated version. the old mechanics b papers really seem inadequate for training as they were focused on a technical effect and respective means plus function, whereas current papers a more "chemical" with examples and a surprising effect.</i>
<i>on line excercises to help perfecting skills on specific topics of the c paper would be of help (e.g. identification of cpa, analysis of usability of docs, specific novelty issues,time management, etc)</i>
<i>the description part for a remains unclear</i>
<i>none are listed?</i>
<i>two days for the seminars are quite short - three days would be optimal for the presented material</i>
<i>the material was geratly prepared, all tutors were answering questions in a very detailes manner.</i>
<i>delta patents course are the best ones : clear, complete, perfect</i>
<i>seminars for the ege pre-examination 2019 (euro-ceipi): are too short, even two days is not sufficient to treat all matter correctly</i>
<i>this year i took a course in methodology and the course comprised handing in my own answers to an old paper and having my answers corrected and commented. that was very good for me.</i>
<i>d course is very useful; would be worth spending more than 2 days</i>
<i>during the online training course i had the impression that maybe the tutors did not agree in detail which tutor was to teach which subject. further, some tutors allowed questions during the online sessions, others did not. however, all of them answered very patiently to all the questions in the forum, which was very nice.</i>
<i>i wish i had more time on the course beforehand so i could have used it properly because after the initial familiarisation of materials (which was important i.e. deciding which materials to use and will work for you), the discussion of the law was what really helped with the interpretation of the law- and knowing what is expected.</i>
<i>paper a and b material is not adequate because there are not enough joint exam papers to practice from. it is difficult to guess what aspects of the old paper a and b might be introduced in the joint paper. paper c has many exams that can be used to practice from. i used the most recent 5 years and felt this was sufficient. paper d can be learnt by deltapatents questions, which are usually an updated version of the exam questions.</i>
<i>??</i>
<i>coffee-break questions: they are not up-to-date (legally wrong). either too easy or far too difficult. they dont reflect what is important during the exam nor in practice. they should be oriented on pre-ege! when i first did them, i found them very annoying, and redoing them now with 2.5 years experience they still are. just an inadequate resource.</i>
<i>it is extremely expensive, and i think that it is impossible to sit the papers (especially d paper) whithout having used the above-mentionned learning materials/courses.</i>
<i>the commented answers are useful, but they mostly let you know if you would have comfortably passed the paper. they do not give a good idea of what is required to (barely) pass, only what would gain a perfect score. it would thus be useful if the commented answers from the epo gave examples of lower grade answers (e.g. an 80+ answer, a 60+ answer, and an answer which scored 50 marks).</i>
<i>maastricht course for paper d and paper a was also very good for training</i>

the ege pre-examination 2019 - online training course (epo) should provide the quizzes (especially the claim analysis ones) as pdfs that can be done offline. it is clear they dont do this so that people have to pay every year. however, it is not representative of all of the exam conditions when you cant physically see the question and the claims at once. it makes me feel like the epo are putting profit before helping people pass and it is not a good look.

please be realistic in setting the time limits for the main seminar by ceipi, some of the time limits were ridiculous for question being asked. for daily d questions, it would be helpful to know how many marks each question is worth.

na

i think that the questions (quizz) for each module was really good to test your skills. probably the most valuable content of the whole course for me. the reading material was also very well structured. i liked the way it was divided into different subjects. it was easy to read and provided good explanations. i especially liked all the figures/drawings that presented complex information in a way that made it easy to understand. however, i think the online sessions spent a little bit too much time on stuff that was very basic which left very little time for the more complex stuff. i liked the interactive sessions overall, however sometimes they became a bit too interactive such that we did not manage to get around the whole content of the presentation.

i assume that the compendium is the best-suited material. most courses are too costly.

i would have dedicated more time to the guided performance of paper b

i preferred some of the flow charts for learning the process by heart and the background knowledge of the comment on the epc.

ceipi topics were a bit niche

deltapatents are the best!

some corrections needed. there were mistakes about references of guidelines.

euro ceipi class questions were sometimes very ambiguous

-

the online course need to start with an overview (of every chapter) and thereafter the details. an explanation why things are done is also a requirement. the material would benefit from going through the steps of the processes in more detail.

the recorded virtual classrooms should allow to see the comments, questions, etc. being posted during the vc.

even more claim analysis cases.

i would advise every candidate to follow a course with real life meetings.

for the course, i didnt watch a single lecture, as they seemed too slow and didnt go in to the same depth as the notes did.

i would have liked a clearer explanation of what must be submitted in the c paper (e.g. the opposition form).

the paper d three-day methodology course by deltapatents was booked by the epo on a weekend and was squeezed into 2-days. this is too little time for the subject-matter to be covered.

the feature-effect approach is awesome

i like the new epo learning portal.

i would like to indicate that i work in the field of computer implemented inventions, and the ege papers a, b, c are, in this sense, entirely unsuitable to evaluate the ability of the candidate to deal with cii patentability. very disappointing. also, provide in this survey a frame for general feedback such as the one i just wrote, and option to review the survey when the correct replies come out for the paper, and the results.

the online training was very good and thorough. however, it does take a long time to work through. whilst it gives a brilliant grounding in the law and practice of the epc and epo, i was concerned that i would not be prepared for the exam because of the volume of material present.

<i>however, in terms of pre-work for the eges it was time well spent.</i>
<i>in case of daily d questions it is very good that we can post our answer in the forum, we get feedback and we can discuss all issues on a regular basis until the exam.</i>
<i>courses way to expensive. my company refused to pay and i could not afford them. therefore self taught.</i>
<i>people attending to ceipi seminars in november should be aware (by ceipi) that these seminars are for people who already knows how to carry out the exam. they should at least have already done one exam of each type a, b, c and d from compendium before attending the seminars.</i>
<i>i went on this course for the first time i attempted paper a and it was heavily suggested that a product by process claim would come up, without properly explaining when a product process claim should not be used. i think this contributed to me failing paper a on the first go. in contrast, i thought the d course was very valuable.</i>
<i>the virtual classrooms of epos online training course should be far, far more extensive and comprehensive. at present, they turned out to be somewhat of a disappointment as they just sampled one thing here and one thing there, instead of providing a comprehensive coverage of the topics at hand.</i>
<i>practice questions are the most valuable element for the pre-examination. the questions and answers should be more carefully revised to be as clear and as relevant as possible. course material should be revised, there were mistakes and old law.</i>
<i>i would like to have available more training material regarding claims analysis with specific exercises on very difficult topics as genus/species, ranges, sub-ranges, intermediate generalisation, disclaimers, accidental anticipation,..., etc.</i>
<i>material helps, if you can reflect your answers on sampled solutions given in detail.</i>
<i>the c paper method taught by ceipi (paper clipping) to me is outdated and should be revised.</i>
<i>in a i used the deltapatents methodology to collect features and effects in a table. as there was a lot of features, it was too time consuming. if i have to resit, i will do it differently next time. d courses were excellent.</i>
<i>i wanted to subscribe again to the coffee-break questions but unfortunately this is impossible because my e-mail adress was already subscribed. however i dont receive the questions anymore. i would appreciate if there would be some kind of reset to start over with these questions again.</i>
<i>i found that out which learning suited me best for the different papers a and b last year and also this year for paper d. further, i have scceded to gain experience within the pct especially. thus, there is no general rule to which materials are best. i have used some provided by epo and some provided by delta patents.</i>
<i>the claim analysis training during the ceipi has been essential for my preparations</i>
<i>the quality of courses from delta patents depends very on the tutor. some tutors lack experience.</i>
<i>the deltapatents course on paper d is impressively complex and the methodology overviews are so big and detailed that it needs a methodology course for reading the methodology overviews. i would have preferred a more concise and pragmatic approach with overviews / to-do-lists that are actually usable during the exam and focus on the main points.</i>
<i>the ceipi course was too short and very condensed.</i>
<i>it would be useful if the compendium specified how the marks were distributed for the expected points. this would make it easier for us to mark our attempts at past papers.</i>
<i>some of the questions were too specific for the pre-exam.</i>
<i>delta patents helps</i>
<i>too fast paced</i>
<i>the online course was great. lots of questions to praktice. time-limit querstions were great too and they are aked a lot in the pre exam.</i>
<i>csp course is very helpful</i>

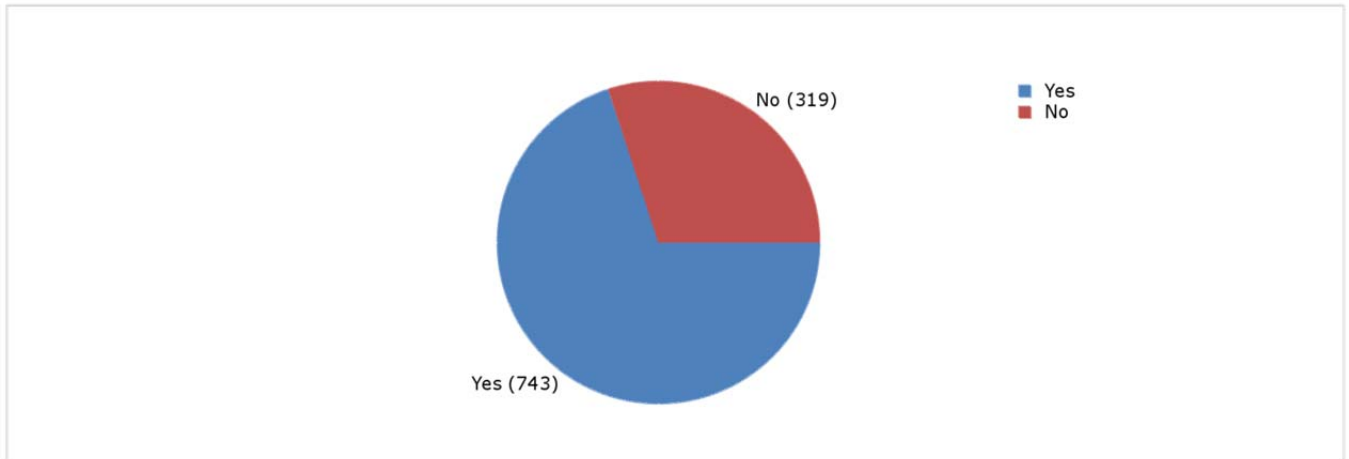
<i>paper c course was ok - but i think practicing past papers is more useful</i>
<i>some guidance regarding the curriculum would be helpful</i>
<i>it would be useful if the past paper solution were adapted taking into account the changes in law, as delta patents do in their expensive pre-examination book.</i>
<i>questions q33) of this survey cannot be answered as no learning materials / courses were listed, that could be rated. only the ratings and the questions were visible.</i>
<i>none</i>
<i>tutors are usually uncertain what the exam committee expects regarding certain aspects of the epc/pct and the papers.</i>
<i>daily d questions - it would have been nice to easily access the questions even when the course was finished, as useful for studying the model answers coffee-break questions sometimes needed more explanation of the answer or better legal basis</i>
<i>reading material from the online course was my key material to refer to and it helped a lot.</i>
<i>c-book is in my opinion all you need to pass.</i>
<i>the coffee-break questions should come more often. i signed up to them well in advance of the exam, but am still only at q48/60</i>
<i>the notes for the eqe pre-examination 2019 - online training course (epo) were very good and detailed. made the revision enjoyable.</i>
<i>a translation in french and german would be welcomed, as well as additional training regarding the claim analysis part.</i>
<i>the intensive last minute d is a special subject made by ceipi, at least the dii part. but uncertainty and misleading informations remains in the subject which give at the end a bad feeling for the exam. however, the effort to give a rating for the d1 paper is very helpful to realize that you haven't really underestooed the expectations of the exam..</i>
<i>good timing for the course in early-november. i did not do the intensive day(s) in january, but heard that this was also quite good.</i>
<i>although the epi course seemed very good i used very little of the available material due to time constraints.</i>
<i>read the epü and the guidelines. every question forcing you to read the epü and the guidelines is good. e.g. a free online course could be implemented having such questions. and the questions should be available in all three languages of the epo.</i>
<i>i found the part of claim analysis to be very profitable.</i>
<i>the seminar of ceipi is very good but somebody should be already very well prepared before they go there. daily d questions were good.</i>
<i>the ceipi course on d was really very good in overview of the epc and most pitfalls. it does not really teach you where the marks are gained, so that could be improved. but i also think they fear that a little bit as it may not be clear how the exam committee would score, so the focus is on a correct answer and not that much on legal base to reach the maximum of points. but all in all really excellent course.</i>
<i>epü- und pct-tabellen</i>
<i>selection inventions and ranges were part of the questions of the 2019 pre-exam. during the online course offered by the epo there were no concrete examples given of how ranges were supposed to be treated with respect to all three relevant areas of novelty, amendments and scope of a claim. questions from candidates had to be dealt with by posting questions in the forum. answers to these questions were still ambiguous. the reading material offered by the course provided no examples whatsoever (eg. the fact that the end values of a range are directly and unambiguously disclosed was nowhere to be found in the notes; no examples were given for how to take this into consideration when assessing novelty, amendments or scope). there is thus a clear need for updating both the notes and the presentations given during the online sessions with concrete examples of how ranges are supposed to be treated when dealing with novelty, allowability of amendments and scope of a claim.</i>

<i>this survey is definitely too long.....</i>
<i>for a, it was not helpful. we just did the 2018 exam and a mock from the ceipi. to be honest, i did not learn anything new. we just make a sheet of paper with a list of all the features of the clients letter and then, we must write in colour which feature is known from the prior art document. at the end, you have a sheet of paper full of features, which is not really readable and which is a bit useless. so i adapted my methodology during my preparation. but yes, i cant find it very useful for the a paper.</i>
<i>material could be overall more detailed; partailly, the material only provides very coarse summaries;</i>
<i>very unbalanced chances between the candiates, english written material is best and most available, however, if you would like to write in another language due to your mother tongue, then your choice of material for learning is less, for example visser, deltapatents, mulder (only in english)</i>
<i>in my view, daily d is too basic to be representative for the d paper</i>
<i>very helpfull to be involved in real oppositions, in the last 5 years it helped me a lot.</i>
<i>not enough training material available for new combined a paper</i>
<i>well... there are all sorts of learning materials and courses. in fact, they are so many, that it becomes a bit hard to orient on which to focus.</i>
<i>daily d questions are questions which are available from other sources (e.g. deltapatens d book). it seems that there is a pool of questions are used for that purpose.newly designed questions would be helpul.</i>
<i>i would appreciate if there was a less intensive course than online training course that was a bit difficult to follow, especially at the beginning. perhaps, it could have started in may/june with a lower pace and than becoming more and more intense.</i>
<i>these courses are useless. i got into contact with other attendees 1 month after the course, and none were able to use what was learned to solve a past paper. what a scam!</i>
<i>coffee break questions were often put together rather carelessly, had a lot of unclarities, half sentences from former questions not deleted properly, spelling mistakes and so on. still great for prep.</i>
<i>deltapatents is trading on its reputation. the daily d answers seem to stress the guidelines a lot - notwithstanding that the guidelines might not be necessary to answer the question.</i>
<i>the delta patents paper a course is fine but the slide sets given to you are printed so small they are impossible to read. i think the number of slides and the folder of examples could perhaps be much more concise.</i>
<i>some sections of the ege pre-examination online course could have been more structured. details tended to be buried within long paragraphs (e.g. module on g decisions, some of the pct sections). other modules, e.g. the module on filing, seemed to have a more orderly structure.</i>
<i>daily d questions are great, and the comments from the epo are very helpful.</i>
<i>no comments with respect to this specific question, but i would like to use this question to say that q33 does not show me any list of learning materials/courses or checkbox to answer the question.</i>
<i>more mock papers for the combined paper a</i>
<i>basic training in european patent law (euro-ceipi) is good, but does not get one through the ege, hence my answer in context.</i>
<i>epo should stop trying to compete with others, but help in letting a market develop</i>
<i>the basic training in european patent law in cologne does not help for the preparation of the pre-examination</i>
<i>vissers annotated patent convention and the guidelines are quite useful.</i>
<i>i found the new commented time schedule template very helpful - as long as one manages not to lose important information while condensing the facts of the case into it.</i>
<i>the delta patents books are very useful.</i>

<i>quite comprehensive material. maybe the amount of material could be reduced without sacrificing important information.</i>
<i>without the csp - therefore without deltapatents courses and without the possibility to discuss cases and issues with a dedicated tutor the preparation would have been much harder. this was the most important part of the training.</i>
<i>very different from the required level of knowledge required by real di question</i>
<i>coffee-break questions seemed higher level than pre-examination level</i>
<i>mock eqe paper b taught me to only provide an inventive step argumentation for the first independent claim, this was clearly not the case this year.</i>
<i>the legal part of the eqe pre -exam 2019 course was excellent! the tutors very well prepared and the reading material very helpful. the chapters on claim analysis were not very clear and the tutor was very confusing.</i>
<i>c-book really helped me understanding the papers construction.</i>
<i>more courses and seminars/weminars organized by the epo</i>
<i>the deltapatents c methodology is too time consuming i could not get the coffee-break questions to work. i think it may be because i have used them another year.</i>
<i>something wrong with the questionnaire, q33 does not show any materials/courses to rate.</i>
<i>the deltapatents methodloly for paper c and the smart in c book are very good books for the preparation.</i>
<i>i was subscribed to the coffee break questions but then i dont receive them anymore.</i>
<i>very useful.</i>
<i>coffee break questions are good</i>
<i>coffee break questions should be every day</i>
<i>would it be possible to provide audio version of materials?</i>
<i>a fine. but b needs to provide examples of more papers candidates can practice that fit with the new examination style, especially if that exam will continue to fluctuate in difficulty</i>
<i>bill chandler deserves a special mention because he was an excellent tutor for the paper c ceipi course.</i>
<i>due to the lack of time for preparing, i prefered books in my mothertongue.</i>

Chapter 6 – EQE on a computer

Q35) Would you welcome the opportunity to write your EQE answers on a computer?



Q36) What advantages/disadvantages do you see in writing your EQE answers on a computer?

<i>no advantages- would only distract, be more cumbersome. however, the answer sheet could be more spaced out. i had to take great care not to mark the wrong circle</i>
<i>advantages - this is the medium that i use on a daily basis for work and as such feel it would be easier to type my answers than write. in addition after hand writing 42 pages my whole arm hurt and i still have numbness in my index finger! this would be avoided if typing on a computer. disadvantages - it may take longer to write answers as it would be harder to use shorthand and notation for answers on a computer.</i>
<i>i personally do not like computer for such intellectual exercise that requires a lot concentration and sort out of information. i really need to underline, highlight and annotate on the paper. only when i do this in handwriting i can follow my thoughts and i remember what i wrote. when typing on the computer it is more difficult to concentrate and i struggle to remember what i have written a couple of paragraphs above. i need the tangibility of the paper in my hands.</i>
<i>faster, easier to read, faster results, easier to get a good structure</i>
<i>all work is carried out using word processing packages. a better quality of answer could be prepared and allows people to reorder their thoughts in real time without having to pre-prepare a structure.</i>
<i>spent well over 10 minutes painting circles in answer sheet. 10 minutes i could have use for substantive matter of the examination</i>
<i>it will take less time to prepare answer, and the final quality of the answer will be better. during the year, i handwrite only during the eqe and its preparation.</i>
<i>-readability of the written text compared to handwriting. -better editability</i>
<i>vorteil: zeitersparnis</i>
<i>i am left handed, it is very painful without a computer (especially the preparation the last 2 weeks before sitting), with the risk that the examiner cannot read the end of my exam, which is written under time pressure.</i>
<i>advantages : copy and paste, searching keywords in documents, typing faster than writing and possibility to erase and restart. disadvantages: if only one screen without the subject of the exam on a paper, difficult to check written description and figures at the same time</i>

<i>copy paste from paper</i>
<i>advantage: copy-paste possible</i>
<i>we could save time.</i>
<i>less wristle pain</i>
<i>i could answer more and consequently earn more marks. particularly apply cypaste in dii part. there are many many many points which needs repetation.</i>
<i>copy paste of standard clauses, better readability for correction</i>
<i>more efficient / data connections may fail</i>
<i>- different countries need different keyboard layouts: qwerty in spain - provide workarounds in the case of a problem with the hardware/software - different countries need different keyboard layouts: qwerty in spain - candidates should be used to the text editor to be used, a demo ver- sion for testing at home before the eqe would be of great help. otherwise, standard software should be used. - we still need paper versions of the exam papers, computer versions would be of great help to copy&paste (as in the case with paper). - keyboard noise could be an issue in a room full of candidates doing an exam.</i>
<i>less pain than writing it all out.</i>
<i>my brain prefers to study on paper</i>
<i>too slow, too loud</i>
<i>aucun</i>
<i>not so much a factor for the pre-eqe exam, but in other exams it would seem to speed up the rate at which we could write answers. in addition, in my day job, i do not have to write anywhere near as much, and i am therefore a lot more proficient at typing.</i>
<i>having to read the paper on paper and then reply on computer. on the other hand typing would make it easier rather than re-writing. on the other hand, im afraid that 80 people typing on a room could be disturbing.</i>
<i>(advantages) save time and write faster. no disadvantages</i>
<i>advantages: possibility of copy/paste to save time. easy and clean amendments of the text. easi- er to read during correction. disadvantages: i do not type fast enough, for me handwriting is faster than typing.</i>
<i>i can hardly read my own handwriting, i worry for the poor examiners ! computer allows for much easier and better organisation of notes. the abilities to cut/paste and shift paragraphs around would reduce wasted time in exam re-organising notes. furthermore, a significant bene- fit of computers would be ability to perform text search of the exam papers. i.e. search for key words. in paper c in particular this would be invaluable, as so much time is wasted hunting for passages that have previously been read. furthermore, the ability to cut and paste directly from exam paper would save a lot of time, particularly for a thorough novelty analysis.</i>
<i>you always work with the latest version of patent law if you have access to sls. and it is the way how the work is done in real life. nobody reads the guidelines in paper form.</i>
<i>easier to work in not-sequential order. possible to copy and pase.</i>
<i>nachteile: geringere übersichtlichkeit; tippen geht langsamer vorteile: gute korrekturmöglichkei- ten</i>
<i>pro: faster and easier to make corrections con: more likely to break during examination</i>
<i>advantages: the possibility to erase and reorganise the answer, that will avoid erasures or difficul- ty to read the answers. disadvantages: i am not sure that i write on a computer as fast as by handwriting.</i>
<i>advantage: less strenous for the hand, easier to read, easier to correct answer during the exam disadvantage: louder, never wrote examns on a computer</i>

<p>advantages : time saving, closer to daily work reality, easiness for examiners disadvantages : risk of bugs, need to be familiar with the software used</p>
<p>-no deformation of the writing because of stress! - in our daily work, we work on a computer</p>
<p>situation would me more the same for the body as the regular working day. excessive writing by hand makes my neck muscles to stiffen, and it results quite easily in bad headaches. however, not this year.</p>
<p>easier to structure answer appropriately</p>
<p>disadvantages: typing noise, likely to overlook mistakes. it's easier to spot mistakes or to efficiently understand information if it is on paper and not on a screen. no pain in arm caused by intense writing. advantages: text can easier be structured and restructured with some kind of text software than it is the case on paper.</p>
<p>unfairly discriminates candidates on typing ability while written answers are inevitably more fair. in addition, the keyboards would be a noise distraction.</p>
<p>advantage: you will be able to read the answer; less problems with hand after writing too much; disadvantage: noise in the examination; possible errors with the systems; could be slower than writing.</p>
<p>answering questions un a faster and cleaner way.</p>
<p>advantages: less fatigue - most people these days write more on a computer while working than by hand legibility of computer written text doesnt decrease over time, handwriting will get worse over the course of the exam no smearing of text its easier to correct mistakes possibility to copy/paste relevant parts is easier than cutting/gluing potential disadvantages: handwriting may be faster than typing</p>
<p>easier to write and edit and keeping it readable throughout.</p>
<p>we would ve appreciated if you could put the latest version of available epc guideline etc. so we dont haber to carry nearly 10 kg books to the examination hall from far away.</p>
<p>1. copy, paste 2. no concerns on legibility</p>
<p>its easier because you will have a search function - specially for paper c</p>
<p>i am untrained in using handwriting; the critical optimization between legibility and velocity of writing would be no issue any more. a more natural use of a cut and paste methodology (e.g. for paper c) would be possible on a computer. possible disadvantages: unusual tools / environment due to security requirements; risk of complete loss of work due to a wrong mouse click.</p>
<p>pre-eqe fine, less keen for the main eqes as time is pressured and most people can write with a pen faster than they can type</p>
<p>as a candidate we have more time to answer the questions, especially for main examination.</p>
<p>as i'm a quick typer it would have immensely influenced the quality of my argumentation.</p>
<p>i can only see advantages - everybody uses computers these days anyway, so insisting on hand-written examinations seems completely outdated!</p>
<p>to write on paper is more direct and flexible</p>
<p>advantages: writing on a computer would be more similar to what we do everyday during our work, and faster</p>
<p>advantagr would be that the examiner could better read the answers. disadvantage may be that i am not fast enough to type on a computer</p>
<p>noise on the room opportunity to have orthographic correction</p>
<p>faster writing and better overview. easier to correct mistakes and add or delete text.</p>
<p>mostly the fact, that writing on a computer represents every day work better than hand-writing pages of text.</p>
<p>advantage--to cut and paste to organize my thoughts disadvantage--less able to brainstorm/write timelines (if pen and paper not allowed)</p>
<p>advantages: quick solution - possibility to copy-paste parts of arguments needed in multiple at-</p>

tacks - tidier writing - easier to correct/cancel and rewrite
much quicker hand writing is not by far not up to date - nobody is used to hand writing any more
advantage : easily correcting mistakes disadvantage : it would take me more time than writing my response manually
major advantage concerning time.
disadvantage: requires additional training and practicing for writing on a computer with high time pressure advantage: easier for adding/ correcting answers; easier for structuring all answers di / dii
becomes a test of typing speed, which isnt the point. the exams test competency. working proficiency via computer based work is a different matter and isnt a better way to assess competence in patents
advantages: for a and c, a lot of time is spent/wasted merely writing out the text of the question (claims, disclosures, description etc.) being able to use a computer would reduce the amount of time needed to write out these parts, allowing candidates to focus more on their answer. for all exams, the ability to more quickly prepare an answer that is legible would be incredibly useful. a large part of the challenge of these papers is handwriting a 30-50 page document that another person can read, in a short amount of time. also, the ability to revise part of an answer before submitting, without creating a mess of crossings out and overwriting, would make the process far easier. it would also presumably be easier for examiners to mark.
adv,: being able to write faster and easy to edit answers, definitely less physical fatigue, easy to read for everyone. disadv.: typing sounds could be disturbing.
some write very fast on the computer, others dont. equal opportunities are not mandatory. possibly too much text for correction.
advantages: search function, cut and paste, faster writing, faster correction, disadvantages: i like to have things on paper in order to have an better overview, risk of deleting,
much time lost by copy-pasting. writing errors can be difficult to amend, thus leading to a dirty exam
depends on computer literacy.
copy paste function
copy/paste function and text search would be helpful. fast work is not a prerequisite for a good patent attorney. instead, it could be used to check how useful you are working.
easier to amend answers, no issues with page numbering, no muscle strain in hand from writing, less errant paper on desk, no worries about eligibility
writing exams (not applicable for the multiple choice questions of the preeq but for the main exam) on a computer gives those students an advantage who are able to write quickly on a computer. this appears to be more unfair than handwriting.
pros: less handwriting (which can be physically demanding over a large number of hours/days of the exam) cons: more noise, loss of concentrations due to screen exposure.
advantages: ability to structure answers, hand doesnt get tired, can type quicker than i can write disadvantages: i like making notes on the exam paper. i would not like it if all the papers were read on the computer as well. the ideal for me would be physical exam papers and then typing up answers only, rather than all materials being available on the computer only.
more similar to normal work situation
advantage: speed disadvantage: unfamiliarity, errors
additional time taken to write answers. distinct advantage for those who can touch-type.
adv - quicker to type; dis - noise level in the exam
not used to. need to write down anyway some precious informations. taking the main exam on computer should mean practising onto computer. out of the possibility of giving back a very clean copy...i do not see any advantage. but may be i am old!

<i>disadvantage: it is not possible to typewrite in adequate speed. disadvantage: it might be rather loud if everybody in the examination hall uses a computer for typewriting.</i>
<i>no change in pre-examination for main exam: + i suppose it saves time + more possibilities to reformulate - maybe it is better to have to focus on preparing the arguments and writing them all down at once</i>
<i>maybe more available time for answering/searching for passages to be cited in the exam</i>
<i>noise and trouble of concentration</i>
<i>avoid hand pain, would help with stamina for the main exam by taking away some of the physical stress on your body.</i>
<i>close to daily practice</i>
<i>the different speed of writing could be a big problem, the noise of writing definitely will be a big problem. the searchability of documents like the guidelines is often said to be an advantage. nether do i think this will be necessary nor really helpful. so, although i work almost always on a computer, also in private life, i dont see any advantage in writing the eqe on a computer.</i>
<i>it depends about the general conditions allowed for performing the exam</i>
<i>would have to be considered and trained during preparation</i>
<i>advantages: it would be much easier for a candidate to focus on the contents rather than the technical aspect of handwriting, which is for a lot of candidates a great challenge, considering that we do not write much in our daily work. this would give also the candidate far more chances to edit / rewrite the answers easily. i guess it will make the correction process of the examiner way easier, as the legibility problem disappears. disadvantages: if introduced, it should be introduced for all candidates at once, as it could actually make a difference in time management for answering the questions. thus, this introductory phase may involve some sensible problems which may be difficult to avoid in such a huge change.</i>
<i>faster, no issues with handwriting and legibility, easier to correct mistakes/make changes, particularly when drafting or amending claims</i>
<i>in the c-paper, being able to copy-paste portions of the answers, instead of having to cut and glue. being able to modify parts of the answers, while still being able to render a clean copy. avoiding problems for correctors who may not always be able to read each individual writing. having a grammar check.</i>
<i>more difficult to make notes in the question</i>
<i>the whole world is digitalised and nobody is used anymore to write. the eqe is difficult enough and it is a shame that an additional layer of difficulty is introduced by making the exam in writing especially since this additional layer is completely irrelevant to the job and skills of a patent attorney.</i>
<i>disadvantage: it is more difficult to read the text.</i>
<i>copy/paste of textblocks, better structure of the reply - include text inbetween so that still readable noise of keyboards. reliability of saved documents - sdd should be used as mechanical disc poses higher risk of damage</i>
<i>...</i>
<i>it would be faster and therefore safe time for thinking. it would be easier to correct passages</i>
<i>handwriting is not the usual practice anymore. by using a computer it is easier to correct answers or to reformulate arguments. and typing is faster. but - with handwriting it is necessary to stay to the principle - first think than write, otherwise too much time is lost for rewriting the sentence. with a computer it is easier to correct sentences.</i>
<i>it will be first time experience for the eqe candidates. it is a disadvantage for the computer based exam. however, we can write our answer on a computer faster than in writing.</i>
<i>easy to edit text</i>

<i>hardly any time is spent writing by hand nowadays and so one could type much faster than one could write.</i>
<i>i type faster than i can write, but may be difficult to quickly switch between sheets of paper/ questions if on a computer</i>
<i>pre-examination: immediate, or at least quicker, results main examination: easier drafting of answers, e.g. parts of the client letter could be copied. no loss of marks due to illegible handwriting.</i>
<i>documents must be provided in electronic format. if i would have to type the paper version of the pc instead copy and paste, this is even worse than hand-writing.</i>
<i>writing by hand is cumbersome; it imposes difficulties which are not relevant for the daily work as european patent attorney and therefore shouldnt be decisive over your success in sitting the ege. i would love to write on a computer!!</i>
<i>advantages: the selection is made on the ability to work as required in real life, and not on the ability to write fast and well. disadvantages: no disadvantages</i>
<i>after a long time of writing the wrist hurts what is not very helpful for the concentration. the focus of the thest is not on how fast can you write. the focus is more on what do you know.</i>
<i>disadvantages : additional burden of everything what can go wrong with computers, namely batteries, wifi connection, advantages: the official results for the pre-exam could be issued very soon</i>
<i>takes more time.</i>
<i>the problem is that we are not use anymore to hand-write. with the computer it is much easier to correct mistakes and moving part with the copy-and-past tool</i>
<i>save time, more reminiscent of working practices</i>
<i>it may be time efficient way, but the difficulty may be not getting used to write with given type of keyboard</i>
<i>more similar to daily work</i>
<i>more similar to real work</i>
<i>screen black and white vision</i>
<i>nobody works writing in paper as the exam is conducted. it is very hard to write for several hours, when our daily work is using a computer. moreover, we write faster by typing.</i>
<i>increased legibility. be able to edit/correct text.</i>
<i>some people are fast in writing, some people are slow in writing. both of them may be equally skilled in legal and analysis questions. fast writers may then have an advantage due to fast writing.</i>
<i>my handwriting is poor and significantly slower than my typing. my marks would be much higher working on a computer</i>
<i>quicker, more like daily practice, no reduction of hand writing quality</i>
<i>writing for hours straight is painful when youre not used to anymore</i>
<i>advantages: 1) much less stress on the hand, which makes the examination more fair, as candidates are not used to writing by hand for consecutive hours. 2) stress on the hand can result in stress of the mind towards the end of the examination, as it may be difficult to forget about your physical pain and focus on actually writing the paper. 3) the candidate can search for specific terms in the paper on the computer which is more realistic than manually flicking through the printed pages. disadvantages: 1) overview of both the paper itself and your response can be more difficult, as you only see one page at a time on the screen. 2) for some reason, i find the form more difficult to fill out on screen.</i>
<i>faster, enables deleting, copy and paste, so the answer is more readable and organised</i>
<i>i would still need the questions in paper form.</i>
<i>much less eco-friendly</i>
<i>easy to read for examiners easy to re-order or to fix phrases already written</i>

<i>noise will be a problem and also sometimes i can need to read the passages by underlining or using colors</i>
<i>written text is more readable writing on a computer is more quick</i>
<i>-easier for quick correction -copy/paste of text that must be repeated for several questions, mostly for claims analyses - legal text can be more easily and quickly searched with computer tools</i>
<i>for me there is only advantages. i have hardly written anything by hand in more than 10 years, so it will be close to impossible to write by hand for several hours a day. as everything is done on a computer, it seems completely idiotic to write an exam such as the ege by hand. on a computer it will resemble more how we actually work in real life. additionally, it will be much easier to edit the answers while working, so i expect the quality of the answer to be higher. the answers will therefore be easier to mark, also because it will be much easier to actually read what people have written. for the student i dont see any disadvantages, but there will of course be some practical aspects which need to be considered by the organizers.</i>
<i>faster writing, less errors</i>
<i>in my case i have doubts if it would help me, my typing is as slow as my reading unfortunately. so at this point i am not sure that i would benefit. i would suggest to make the computer tool used on the ege exam available before hand so that the candidates can practice upfront. it would help with the quality of writing and improve the reading. if it really works it could buy me time hopefully, but for now i am skeptical.</i>
<i>disadvantages: noisy when typing, public and therefore most likely dirty keyboard advantage: in case of reference material (epc, guidelines etc.) is available on the computer</i>
<i>especially in paper c, i tend to make the arguments shorter near the end, simply because i couldnt physically write anymore. i had practised a lot of handwriting, but still, three days in a row is a challenge. i certainly could structure my arguments better and write them out more completely on a computer.</i>
<i>advantage: my copy would be much more readable, and it would be possible to adapt/move the paragraphs instead of re-writing them in case of a mistake; disadvantage: im afraid to write too slowly on a computer, i would prefer but i would need more time</i>
<i>we are all used to write on a computer. it is more similar to the real life, in accordance with the aims of the ege. please take into account to provide the compendium available in the computer!!!!</i>
<i>obvious question</i>
<i>advantage: would solve the issue of non-readable hand-writing (it is very difficult to write clear under time pressure), much painless for the arm/hand disadvantage: one should have good typing skills</i>
<i>advantage is that we can avoid to be exhausted with hand writing and to be more efficient and easier to amend the answer during the examination. disadvantage is the problem of safe and reliability of the electronic devices. another problem is we should adapt to the keyboard arrangement in different languages.</i>
<i>i can write faster than i can type</i>
<i>avantages : corrections are easy to make during the exam. corrections could be realized faster by correctors. no more scissors needed ! disavantages : some people write very fast on a computer compared to others (and more faster to hand writing).</i>
<i>i have trained in writing by hand. for me there would be no advantage in using a computer</i>
<i>time pressure forces candidates to write at great speed, taking risks that their scripts cannot be marked. there is no way to know whether you lost marks due to poor handwriting because no individual feedback on this matter is given. use of computers would solve this, and would make life much easier for the examiners. note that some candidates have learned to type using non english keyboards, for example keyboards designed for users with carpal tunnel syndrome, so its important that the candidate will be able to select from any microsoft keyboard, otherwise they will be severely disadvantaged.</i>
<i>correcting the text and rearranging the text is much easier on the computer, whereas on paper this often requires rewriting of section(s).</i>

<i>would be annoying hearing the constant tapping of keyboards in the exam</i>
<i>increased readability, ability to write more than 120 pages in 3 days more easily. but writing the answer on a computer is much different and needs to be practiced as well. it is closer to daily work and redacting of sentences easier.</i>
<i>more adequate for today's working reality</i>
<i>am faster in writing by hand. this should be equal for all having learned to hand write</i>
<i>exam papers would hopefully still be in paper form. disadvantage: cannot browse own answers the same way as in paper form. unergonomic 5,5 hours. advantage: could copy-paste some phrases in paper c. however, please do not make the exam time shorter or exam longer, if answers written on a computer.</i>
<i>i see many advantages, such as speed, capacity to amend as many times as needed...</i>
<i>typewriting is faster than manual writing; clearer text.</i>
<i>it gives an unfair advantage to those who can touch-type.</i>
<i>answering may be done faster</i>
<i>faster to type</i>
<i>not too much.</i>
<i>easier and faster but need a different preparation</i>
<i>it would be really great if the paper could be written on a computer. it would be much more realistic and give you the opportunity to revise and correct your answer also at later stages. it would also make the correction easier.</i>
<i>no disadvantages advantages faster writing easier corrections i would not worry whether anyone can read my text. copy-paste option.</i>
<i>typing at speed may be difficult however, for open book exams, the savings on printing, carrying, etc. would be massively reduced if we could use digital copies of documents</i>
<i>quicker, and hence able to write more explanation.</i>
<i>my hand would not get injured. it would be easier to read what i write.</i>
<i>more similar to real work situation.</i>
<i>slower writing by far.</i>
<i>it could take too much time to write so much words down</i>
<i>focussing on the problem to be solved better</i>
<i>unexpected failure of the device</i>
<i>speed, especially if allowed to use search function.</i>
<i>flexibility</i>
<i>noisyness during the exam</i>
<i>it would be good to have searchable copies of the nat law table, case law book, guidelines, ojs, ancillary regs, pct and epc on each computer to save desk and luggage space. it would also more realistically represent how an attorney works nowadays. i could also envisage a feature that autodetects and helps to add basis (e.g. writing a.123(2) epc) in such a way that it may be possible for a computer to assist examiners in marking the eqe paper d. one could also envisage similar ways of assisting the examiner in papers a, b and c by detecting keywords in certain claims or sections of the grounds for opposition. of course, i do not think it is feasible for the eqes to be entirely marked by computer at present.</i>
<i>not practicable and people who are able to type via ten-finger-system are advantaged. furthermore it is maybe difficult to prevent cheating.</i>

<p>advantages: possibility to copy/paste/erase, quickness of writing (i personally type faster than i write with a pen), no need to number the pages. disadvantage: noise in the hall</p>
<p>faster, readable by others, easy correction</p>
<p>more readable for the examiners and better editable for the examinees</p>
<p>pro: copying and pasting is possible contra: noise</p>
<p>if writing on a computer becomes allowed, the preparation becomes more difficult i think it the possibility to delete content makes it hard not to do so and it might end up in not finishing because one tries to write a even better answer</p>
<p>for me personally, i am not a fast typer, so it would probably mean that the time would not be enough.</p>
<p>i have bad hand-writing so i can see the advantages. on the other hand my typing speed is not fast either. sketches are hard to make on computer, tables and other ways of presenting information are also difficult. my real issue with this is the possibility of cheating. especially when we can bring anything into the exam, the screens are upright so it is easy to see what other people are typing, extra pages may be added to someone's answer as they are not handwritten etc. etc.</p>
<p>advantages: paper a: quick adaptations in the already written text in other papers: depends on the speed of typing, but e.g. in paper c standard phrases e.g. for the solution problem approach could be easily copied. in general, a more clean answer is available disadvantages: it would be noisy due to typing</p>
<p>i only see advantages: being able to edit your answer in a clean way without having to rewrite everything.</p>
<p>familiarity - most of our work is done on computers. health - we are not used to writing by hand so intensely and for so many hours. possible disadvantage: if the system used is unstable or breaks down :(</p>
<p>computer ist ein gutes hilfsmittel</p>
<p>it is more similar to a practical working condition</p>
<p>+higher writing speed, less hand fatigue, easy correction, more realistic. -need to constantly switch between books (paper) and computer (answering).</p>
<p>i would not like to do multiple choice on a computer, but it would be a great help when writing, because one hardly writes by hand anymore. further, it is easier and faster to copy/paste. however, the documents should be supplied on paper.</p>
<p>it would be easier and faster</p>
<p>general advantage: it would be easier and tidier to add parts to the answers or reorganise them. likely disadvantage: uneven speed of typing of different candidates may make the exam bit unfair since time constraint is a major issue.</p>
<p>disadvantage: logistics of providing 500+ computers, tech issues, software and hardware problems</p>
<p>advantages - much faster, much neater, and much easier to correct or change answers. it would be *much* better to use a computer to provide answers. the only disadvantage id envisage is the noise of typing in the exam hall, but this does not outweigh the many advantages.</p>
<p>the advantage is editing the answer is much more easier than writing on a paper. the disadvantage of writing on the computer is while reading the questions writing marks and highlights may be harder.</p>
<p>advantages: massive advantage that it would be quicker to prepare your answers so the papers would be less time-pressured. you would therefore have a better opportunity to show what you know, rather than rushing. that is what the exams should be about. the time pressure of the exams is totally unrealistic compared to almost all real life work. the exams would be more representative of the way we really work. nobody works by hand any more and everything is done on computers. it seems odd the only thing you do by hand is eqe exams which are meant to test how well you can do your job. you would not have to worry about your handwriting. lots of us now dont have great handwriting because we dont write anything by hand at work. disadvantages:</p>

<i>possible risk of technical problems e.g. computer crashing and losing work. im sure this risk could be mitigated adequately with good testing of software/hardware.</i>
<i>on my opinion handwriting will be faster than writing on a computer</i>
<i>might not be enough space for all the paperwork and legal texts i brought with me. would need to be very clear how to go back and amend answers in a short space of time if you suddenly realise in the last 5mins that you have filled in the wrong box/ made a mistake of reasoning and need to correct an answer.</i>
<i>this should allow more clarity and convenience</i>
<i>losing overview noise</i>
<i>avoids the possibility of being misunderstood due to a not so clear writing.</i>
<i>advantage: easy to amend the answers, to add sentences at appropriate places in the answers disadvantage: running low in battery, or forget to bring the computer cord, the sound from buttoning the keys from other persons, in some way not saving the latest version before handing in.</i>
<i>no disadvantage, maybe just the noise of the keyboard</i>
<i>it is how we work in the real world, so why not do it.</i>
<i>you dont have to write the whole claim 1 when you want to add a feature in the middle of it.</i>
<i>it is faster</i>
<i>easyness for correction in case of mistake. may have some bug...</i>
<i>different from how i practiced for the exams</i>
<i>there is a risk that it will lead to longer and longer texts. if doing it by hand there will most probably be a need to keep the exam and answers quite short and focused. which i prefer.</i>
<i>disadvantage it is not possible to prepare different parts apart from each other and renumber them in the end</i>
<i>computer could crash or be slow. doesnt place everyone on an even footing.</i>
<i>you dont have to rewrite the whole claim 1, if you want to add a feature in the middle of claim 1.</i>
<i>advantage: searchability of documents disadvantage: organisation of documents</i>
<i>i think that if you are used to writing the answers schematically and using arrows, symbolsyou waist time doing this on a computer. advantages: to make copy/paste is easier.</i>
<i>to be fatser</i>
<i>you cann not take notes and marks in the text of the claim analysis</i>
<i>unfortunately, i am not very good in quick typing on a keyboard</i>
<i>i type faster than i write i can correct neater copy paste comes in handy</i>
<i>we will be faster. similar parts could be copy pasted so we could concentrate more into the content instead losing time writing.</i>
<i>i would write faster, dedicating less time for writing and more for thinking.</i>
<i>no disadvantages</i>
<i>ease of correcting answers searchable reference books</i>
<i>more time-efficient, easier copy-paste of text, easier (re)formulation, less pain in hands</i>
<i>advantage: - comparable to daily work and the motion (writing with a keyboard) - maybe faster in writing and especially correcting errors/erroneous formulations disadvantage: - would make some noise i think</i>
<i>we are not use anymore to write by hand (high risk of developing physical complains such as tendinitis) and surely it would be easier to be allowed to use a computer</i>

<i>less concentration</i>
<i>for the multiple choice nature of the pre-eqe, it would be very helpful to be able to switch your answers easily. also, the grading could be available earlier.</i>
<i>faster writing, possibility of copy/paste and faster searching through the documents</i>
<i>no advantages</i>
<i>i see just advantages because we are use to use it on our daily work and we are not use to write with a pen over 5 hours</i>
<i>faster writing easy and was faster to correct mistakes possible to restructure your answer</i>
<i>i would hinder me in the preparation of the exam, since my preparation would be on paper. further, i dont have any experience of making exams on a computer, at the university they are also all on paper.</i>
<i>i just prefer writing. advantage coulbe a possible copy/paste and time saving.</i>
<i>advantage: copy pasting disadvantage: slower</i>
<i>copy and pasting, searching prior art, less achy hands</i>
<i>might be accidantly deleted</i>
<i>filling the answer sheet for the pre-eqe by hand is laborious, time-consuming and error-prone. clicking true or false on a computer would be much easier.</i>
<i>reformulating claims, copying and pasting. i expect computer typing would be less time consuming.</i>
<i>advantages - being able to copy/paste parts of answers/the question into your script; more freedom to rewrite or insert sections into an answer; no issue of handwriting disadvantage - thinking processes work better on paper; difficulty to practice at home (unless the software is available for download at home)</i>
<i>being less dependent on writing skills</i>
<i>it may become difficult to read on the screen and takes time to shuffle back and forward</i>
<i>true / false format of pre-exam would suit computer</i>
<i>we are more accostumed to do it. the writing would not have doubts. possibility of copy and paste.</i>
<i>manque dorganisation et de rapidité</i>
<i>only advantages: easier to write, no mistake while copying, better readability</i>
<i>legibility. correcting errors. copy-paste...</i>
<i>lack of ability to annotate paper documents and cut and paste parts of the exam paper into answer</i>
<i>my handwriting is kinda bad, and i had to focus on writing in a readable manner to ensure the examiner would be able to read my scribbles</i>
<i>increased speed, less hand cramping, legibility, changes could be done very easy. disadvantage: perhaps a little louder.</i>
<i>easier to read vs typing errors</i>
<i>handwriting for long periods of time has become tough, we all work on computers all day long.</i>
<i>- more diffucult to focus on a computer screen than on a paper sheet - easier to correct mistakes. pssibilities to copy and paste</i>
<i>1. working nowadays is done on a computer. you have to specifically practice your writing skills. 2. at least i am much faster writing on a computer than writing by hand. 3. much easier editing/correcting/deleting</i>
<i>i am not sure typing is necessarely easier than handwriting.</i>

<i>i am too old (not computer games generation) - writing on computer not necessarily faster (but maybe easier to read for people correcting papers)</i>
<i>if i had a viewer with highlights as the internal epo tools, it would help.</i>
<i>advantage: faster finding words in documents</i>
<i>thats too different from the way i prepared my exams</i>
<i>structuring the answer would be easier with a word processor. bad handwriting under pressure will not be an issue.</i>
<i>faster typing possibility of deleting/correcting passages</i>
<i>easier to correct mistakes and to have an overview of the answer</i>
<i>only for the main examination, which the following answers relate to. the preexamination does not need a computer</i>
<i>advantages: easier to edit, more legible, more satisfying for candidates, less strenuous (after 3 days of writing for at least 6 hours, i was very sore) disadvantages: noisier, potential tech issues, cleanliness, desk space, exam hall difficulties.</i>
<i>better mode for corrections within texts (less chaotic)</i>
<i>advantage is that you can easily revise the answer</i>
<i>no risk of insufficiently marking the answer sheet (as can be the case when using pencil)</i>
<i>i dont think it would be much faster. there will be lot of noise in the examination room. but the issue of having tired hands will be solved. it will be easier to correct papers. it will be probably be a bit faster.</i>
<i>easier to copy/paste.</i>
<i>neatness and speed, and not dependent on handwriting/state of hand after 3 days of non stop writing! disadvantage - less versatile</i>
<i>it is faster and no need to practice handwriting.</i>
<i>better readability</i>
<i>unfamiliarity</i>
<i>depending on the software it may be hard to keep a clear overview of what you have already done and how you have done it. but maybe if the software includes a window showing something like a summary of all the answers (like a portion of the screen always showing the answering sheet) using a computer may be a feasible and practical alternative</i>
<i>faster writing. better text setting.</i>
<i>we work nowadays essentially on computers. we are not used to write with pens anymore.</i>
<i>better overview over full answer. matches daily work practice and office interface more closely. select phrases can be copy-pasted to save time. legibility is improved for examiners and hence a component that adds stress completely unrelated to the profession (can someone else read my handwriting) is reduced for candidates. i personally sat the dutch qualifying exams in a transitory period and passed the general law exam in handwriting, the others on a computer. the computer is more relaxing, but there is one drawback to me: you are more forced to write pithy and poignant answers by hand.</i>
<i>advantages : easier / faster</i>
<i>faster to respond</i>
<i>i do not see any in particular.</i>
<i>i am not trained in touch typing.</i>
<i>handwriting is extremely tiring.</i>

<i>it is easier to edit and adapt claims without creating a mess... (much easier to correct, epo has the biggest benefit!)</i>
<i>for c and d part ii in particular, a template answer could be typed once and then copied as many times as required. this would save a lot of time and ensure consistency in approach. for c in particular, the ability to word-search the question papers would be extremely useful, especially for definitions. for a, b and c, it would be a disadvantage if it was not possible to look at more than one page at a time (e.g, at the description and drawings of a document). for all papers, it would be a great advantage to be able to edit answers, insert text, and not have to worry about the quality of handwritten answers.</i>
<i>would take longer time for me...</i>
<i>might be more prone to technical problems</i>
<i>eligibility to read</i>
<i>advantage: 1 - candidate can be sure that it is possible to read what is written under time pressure 2 - it is much more related to daily work as handwriting 3:- test candidates 2019 had search function available in pdf version of the papers - which is especially in paper c and a tremendous advantage disadvantage: 1: i did spend a lot of time for training - always answer in handwriting - i did not spend this time on training speed typing - at the moment i dont know if i am slower or faster in writing and this would mean additionally preparation time in case of re-sitting. 2: my typing speed is dependent from the keyboard available</i>
<i>i might be slower</i>
<i>advantages: being more used to it and significant increase of legibility and structure</i>
<i>- faster typing - less physical challenges (hard to write by hand when not used to it) - dont have to worry about misunderstandings when marking due to poor handwriting</i>
<i>hard to switch between documents</i>
<i>- easier to correct and order answers - faster writing (more thinking possible)</i>
<i>maybe not necessary to travel?</i>
<i>spelling mistakes, typing speed etc are important to get right. pre-eqe on a computer is ok since it is all multiple choice and also would not require taking in so much printed material for the exams. since the law changes almost every year all the candidates need to take in printed notes and it is a lot of waste of paper to try to print so many things.</i>
<i>advantages: less effort needed for writing and erasing. disadvantages: reading many papers in hand and writing on a computer might be difficult to organize efficiently. because during writing you need to look up the papers many times.</i>
<i>for venting.</i>
<i>too slow - the chance to correct continuously will cause people to take too much time</i>
<i>i would prefer using my own computer to mitigate risks of getting a bad computer. in day to day business we do not write by hand anymore, so eqe requires us dedicated preparation for writing by hand quickly enough</i>
<i>advantage: we as trainees are more used to typing in computer than writing in papers. so this is a great advantage to give the exam in computer. disadvantage: maybe exam software glitches.</i>
<i>less chance of error in transcribing the answer</i>
<i>advantage: you can correct the text much easier disadvantage: the sound of the keyboards may be disturbing</i>
<i>difficult use of a different keyboard</i>
<i>faster writing possible than without computer</i>
<i>there is often a lot of repetition which takes a long time to write legibly by hand. be able to write on a computer would save time, and allow for additions as well, if something is thought of later.</i>

advantages: easier to make corrections and faster editing process disadvantage: new format and maybe unknown text processor
harderto organize in my mind the answer on computer
handwriting avoidance and ability to modify answers easily, copy and paste and other computer based facilities
advantages: writing the answers would take less time; it would be possible to move sentences/paragraphs around; it is closer to a real work situation disadvantages:
writing on a computer is faster and certainly legible. if the time stays the same then more questions could be added in order to cover more parts of the epc/pct.
an important advantage, it is much closer to the real everyday life in our profession. i can see no disadvantage
faster typing, possibility of copying parts of the text, easier introduction of chages in the claims and in the answer
in previous years i was thinking writing ona a computer could be a good idea, because of my handwriting (it is not much eligible) but with a time pressure i am not sure if i can write quicker than hand writing. but it shuld be good for the markers, because it may be difficult to read such a different handwritings.
through daily practice, i am more used to writing on a computer than hand writing. it is easier to amend your answers and much easier to read for the examiner.
might think less about the chosen answer
advantage : possibility to delete some parts of my response if i realize that they are wrong + possibility to copy/past (usefull for paper c for example when you have to rewrite the wording of the claims everytime)
this is an additional disadvantage to whom are not good on writing on a computer
pro: bad handwriting will be avoided con: reliability of computer
assembling fragments at end
it is much faster
a computer can crash or be infected. or can i use internet during the exam?? a paper and a pencil always work, a computer may crash, persistently asking for updates or have another problem. to unsure for me.
it is much easier compared to writing especially for the main exams and prone to fewer mistakes. if a search function is provided one can easily search the material and find the answers quicker. this corresponds much better to real life practice. i agree that in this case the time allocated to the legal part has to be reduced.
typing is a lot quicker than writing.
not being able to draw things and point to drawings easily
advantages: if the texts have been uploaded to the computer and copy/paste option is available, it would be very useful. it provides opportunities to rearrange the construction and content of the paper easily. disadvantages: technical errors which may result from the computer (i think it might be rare)
legibility guaranteed, cut and paste of features for drafting claims
advantage : it will be easier to read for the examiner. cut and paste will be better than with paper.
better readable, faster correction and results
no significant advantages
advantage - i can type faster than i can write and there are no legibility problems, it is also useful when having to amend things multiple times and correct mistakes (e.g. claim drafting) disadvantage - it is harder to scribble notes to yourself for working notes etc
es ist schneller und belastet die arme/hände weniger.

<i>i doubt id actually be any faster. i want to hear over 400 people in the moc banging on their computer keyboards. i doubt that the epo will reduce the examination fees, although the exams, typed on computer, would be much easier to read and correct.</i>
<i>too high risk for cheating.</i>
<i>its faster, one can more easily correct mistakes, copy-paste, rather than crossing out or scratching out the paper.</i>
<i>getting a better overview during writing since you can go back an add things easier. if you can search in the examination paper that can be a great advantage to find specific information, especially for paper c.</i>
<i>writing the answers on a computer would probably take too much time</i>
<i>advantage: easier typing instead of hand writing disadvantage: limited screen size.</i>
<i>no disadvantages</i>
<i>dont like it.</i>
<i>advantage: avoiding cramps, typing faster than writing. re q37: i already travelled a long distance to sit the pre-eqe, so i would not consider travelling even further than that.</i>
<i>i am a very slow hand writer, i could have completed the exam with lots of time to spare on a computer. writing by hand made me have to shorten and not adquatly answer the questions, this has been a issue for me in the past (i have mild dyslexia, hence a spell checker in the word processor would also be useful).</i>
<i>answering on a computer is generally a bit slower. mistakes in answers can be more easily corrected. reading the answers is more easily.</i>
<i>still need paper to work from. key difficulty is being able to review answers from different part side by side (especially in c or dii), easy with paper, but not necessarily on a computer.</i>
<i>better readability of the written text faster than handwriting not that hard (i had tendinitis in advance because of my training for the eqe)</i>
<i>strg c + strg v</i>
<i>i find it much easier to write on paper and order my thoughts when writing on paper. i would find it very difficult to answer questions on a computer.</i>
<i>less hand cramp.</i>
<i>disadvantage: hand-writing is faster, hand-writing does not create any technical difficulties, it is easier to quickly scroll through printed material</i>
<i>less writing time</i>
<i>cons: privacy ads: could copy and paste parts of e.g. clients letter to save time rewriting or cutting and sticking</i>
<i>none</i>
<i>more usually</i>
<i>+ faster writing, readability of the written, easier to organize the answer, papers can be searched for buzzwords</i>
<i>my handwriting is not that perfect..</i>
<i>time managment can be done by using computer</i>
<i>i would not have to spend so much time worrying about making my handwriting legible. except for these exams, i have not written anything substantial by hand for over 20 years. i am much faster and more secure writing on a computer. also, it is easier to rectify mistakes when using a word processing program, so you would spend much less time correcting mistakes, therefore giving more time to actually write the exam.</i>
<i>im faster in typing than writing by hand. ill get more information from my head to paper.</i>
<i>it would be distracting to have people using computers given the noise of typing. additionally, certain candidates would unfairly benefit in light of the speed of their typing - written papers provide</i>

<i>a more level playing field for all candidates.</i>
<i>i write faster than i type. i assume the exam room would be noisy due to typing on keyboards</i>
<i>write an awful amount o sheets in few time</i>
<i>time used efficiently for writing, clearer/more legible answers, the opportunity to correct the answer clearly cons: remembering to save the answer, possible technical difficulties taking up time from answering</i>
<i>faster results turnaround</i>
<i>none.</i>
<i>typing</i>
<i>only advantages seen, since this is what we do day to day already. it is so much quicker to type on a keyboard than to provide hand written answers, especially in this day and age. the time pressure of the exam would be less apparent using a computer.</i>
<i>disadvantage: typing under time pressure</i>
<i>it is the standard way of working. however doing the examination in hand is ok. the risk of technical problems during examination shaould be handled carefully.</i>
<i>easier to make a mistake on pre-eqe</i>
<i>no disadvantages</i>
<i>you have to be too quick in writing on a computer</i>
<i>advantages: higher flexibility, no paper chaos disadvantages: speed, reliability of hardware might be a problem</i>
<i>writing faster</i>
<i>all depends if we have access to our material on thecomputer, or if it is just tu write the answers. if it just to write the answers i don t see the advantage</i>
<i>i am more likely to get migraine attacks on the computer than when working on paper.</i>
<i>advantage - use keyboard every day, and writing very little. disadvantages - inadvertently deleting responses / noise level of 100+ candidates banging away at keyboards.</i>
<i>easier to write</i>
<i>easier to think and write by hand at the same time. too tempting to go back and edit answers when writing on a computer.</i>
<i>pre-examination: no advantage main examination: as writing 3 days long often leads to pain in the hands of the candidates, a computer might be a good solution. additionally, everybody is used to write patent applications etc. with the computer.</i>
<i>advantage: allows to easy correct answers. allows to copy and paste. allows to search the papers electronically.</i>
<i>less time required to correct the mistakes or insert some information in thw answer paper.</i>
<i>typing is quicker and less painful than writing. also gives the ability to re-order text, which is very helpful and much more reflective of how i write letters at work!</i>
<i>regarding the pre-exam i prefer paper over a computer because it seems easier to me to mark some circles by pencil than to answer the questions using a computer wchich takes up space on the desk im working on. furthermore i would live in constant fear of seeing the computer crash and all answers be gone. however regarding the main exam, where larger amounts of written answers are demanded a computer with the ability to write your answers using a word processor as for example microsoft word may outweigh the beforementioned disadvantages. you would have the opportunity to easily switch the order of sentences or copy and paste single passages from the state of the art documents.</i>
<i>replicating text, and thus more explicit argumentation becomes much easier.</i>

<p>advantages: editing / correction and re-assembling during exam is much facilitated disadvantages: much more space needed, i have established a good workflow with books and handwriting and need to pass d only so i dont feel i can gain very much by adapting my workflow</p>
<p>easier to edit, less pain writing, less paper management required. my handwriting is terrible, i feel bad for the examiner that has to read it. we all use computers in our daily roles as trainee attorneys, why not continue it to a pc? i guess the difficulty is if there is a technical breakdown, what would be the remedy?</p>
<p>faster and easier to reply</p>
<p>just advantages. more like real life. quicker.</p>
<p>language correction. no lisibility problem</p>
<p>given a same amount of information and time: an examination of what i know that is more fair.</p>
<p>most of the task are completed on the computers. i cannot write by hand anymore. it is more difficult to write exams without computer.</p>
<p>more easy to draft a response</p>
<p>advantage for paper a: faster writing, better to read, easier to draft claim (delete, copy, paste...)</p>
<p>corrections are easier.</p>
<p>examiner can read the answers better. writing is not usual in praxis. in praxis one writes with a computer.</p>
<p>easier for me and for the marker to keep the overview</p>
<p>it is easier to update/edit claims and dependencies while responding</p>
<p>would be able to put more sturcture in the answer, make it easier to find something back in your answer</p>
<p>advantage: legibility disadvantage: speed of writing, marking of documents, organisation of the material</p>
<p>lack of familiarity with the software and the workflow. it would be helpful to have be able to use the software prior to the examination to become familiar with both the software and how the use of the computer affects the examination workflow and timings.</p>
<p>ease time pressure</p>
<p>na</p>
<p>nowadays were more used to working on a computer than by hand. by the end of paper c my wrist was hurting :-)</p>
<p>it is not so important for paper d. but it is vital for papers a, b and c, because being allowed to copy-paste parts of the text which must be cited in the answer would alleviate much time pressure of the candidates.</p>
<p>technical faults</p>
<p>i have taken the us patent bar on a computer and i appreciated getting my score instantly. however, for the eqe, the questions which necessitate analysis should be available in a paper format, so that students can take notes.</p>
<p>distracting.</p>
<p>faster, easier.</p>
<p>it will be faster, so i would not loose time on writing by hand (ang getting muscle cramps)</p>
<p>more legible than handwriting possibility to restructure text afterwards</p>
<p>advantages - quick and easy to type or amend work by copying and pasting, more true to real life working. disadvantages - if the computer is not one you are used to, it may hinder fast working. i would personally like it if two screens were provided for comparing documents. it would be useful to have a paper copy of everything too for reading the exam.</p>

order in writing, no cancelling, etc. velocity increase, eventually... maybe not! i am not sure whether it s better.
disadvantage: speed of typing dependent on ability to type with 10 fingers advantage: less painful; not dependent on legibility of handwriting
time
less paper use and less sillabus material to be printed out (guidelines, ancillary regulations, of etc.)
legibility. ability to rearrange facts and arguments so that reasoning flows logically. reduce the value of the contrived methodologies people learn to write down things that score marks by making it easier to present a good answer through a process more like normal work (which involves a lot of rearranging and redrafting reasoning on a computer).
i feel much comfortable with a pen and paper. besides it would be slower to write on a computer.
the writing can be more legible but i am not used to reading long letters/documents in the computer display. it would be nice if one can be provided with paper documents and then s/he can respond the questions on a computer.
claim drafting/amendment would be faster and more easily corrected. handwriting quality would not be an issue that can affect examination outcomes.
easier to modify the answer. have more time to give more legal sources, more details in the answer.
noise in the examination room when numerous people type. i never mistype when i write. formatting the copy is easier by hand. advantage: less paper.
avantages: my hand writing is pretty bad. copy and paste for claims in b and c disadvantage: typing slower than writing
spell checker automatic completion of a technical term structuring the output on paper by moving up and down using argumentation about i.s. for a second attack on a further claim by mark-copy-paste
advantages: saving time
advantage: quicker response, more time to think
- improved speed of writing - different and more versatile working method - possibility to search for terms
more similar to what we do in daily life
disadvantage: not everyone is onfident in writing fast and effectively with a keyboard, while everyone is confiden with hand-writing
- issue of bad handwriting would be solved - easy copying and pasting
allow for easy and clean correction. plus it is faster.
it isnmore difficult to have a global overview of the answer sheets on a computer.
to me it is all advantage; i think almost all of us are nowadays much more comfortable with computers rather than with papers and pencils. for the next year, i strongly prefer typing my answer on a computer. i hope epo considers this as one of their priorities in improving eqe. honestly, this type of paper-based tests belong to decades ago; nowadays they are close to unacceptable. everybody i know who has taken the main exam complains about long hours of writing on paper and having a painful wrist at the end of the day. in addition, in a paper-based test, one is very limited with respect to amending his answers, or he will end up with a messy answer sheet. i can imagine that it will be also much easier for those who correct the papers to read a typed text instead of tens of hundreds of different handwritings, some of which would be not easy to read. this will cause both sides to suffer, as the test-taker may even lose points because of his handwriting.
i think paper c should be done on a computer because in real life opposition requires an enormous amount of copy-pasting which is difficult by hand. otherwise i would like to see a candidate answer which doesnt include long quotations but just references to paragraphs getting high marks - all of the reproduction take so much time. i was quite happy with doing the other papers in a traditional exam hall.

advantages: in real life, everything is made by computer.
-
0
quicker and easier for marker.
writing answers on a computer does not seem particularly advantageous for the pre-examination. for all other papers (a-d), however, there are significant advantages in terms of the speed with which answers can be input and edited. it is also far more representative of modern working practices and diminishes the impact of factors like handwriting speed and legibility. if it is the case that ege examinations are going to be digitised, it would also be advantageous if the papers themselves could be digitised. this would allow candidates to use document search functions, digital highlights and the like.
more like every day life
difficult to have an overview of what was written on the previous pages.
advantages: correcting of writing, legibility disadvantages: complicated and not faster than hand writing
quicker and easier to edit but would take some getting used to perhaps
advantages: faster and easier. i dont see any disadvantages.
i would prefer to have a hard copy too if the subject
accidentally deleting sections, some people may type slower, which puts them at a disadvantage
the only disadvantage could be the need of moving the eyes from table to screen frequently, risking to miss lines or features whe reading
i believe answering the ege in writing is much easier and faster.
advantage: the ability to write faster.
main disadvantages are: -some candidates may be slower in writing using a keyboard than others -it requires additional time for editing -it is more difficult to apply methodologies that were originally thought for paper based examinations
clearer to read even for us, and better to structure the answer.
advantage: possibility to copy/paste disadvantage: not easy to write on a keyboard as fast as with a pen
i am so used to writing the exam papers by hand that a change now would be too much. the ege exams keep changing all the time, and in my opinion this trend needs to stop. we do not need them to keep changing both in content/style and in how we provide the answers. although, as said previously i think these combined chemistry and electricity/mechanics papers need to revert to the older style of separate papers. this to me would be the only welcome change.
less errors, more clear writings and less hand ache in writing on a computer; however, hand writing allows for a quicker writing
my hand starts hurting 1 hour after i have started writing. it is so unmodern and conservative to not allow participants to use computers; there is no logic behind it. in my case, i have trained martial arts for over 10 years and my hands are too damaged to write for 5:50 hours by handwriting. it would really help if writing on computer would be allowed.
vorteile: lesbare schrift nachteile: starke abhängigkeit von individueller tippgeschwindigkeit und fehlerate, ungewohnte arbeitsumgebung (eigenschaften der verwendeten programme unklar). gibt es die möglichkeit, die texte der aufgabenstellung in die lösung zu kopieren? gibt es die möglichkeit, die vorlagen anzumarkern (unterstreichungen/farbe) oder werden weiterhin papier-unterlagen gestellt? unklar, ob dies die prüfung beschleunigt oder verlangsamt.
advantage: more clean, readable answers. disadvantage: typing might be slower than writing
advantage: maybe easier to track changes in claim amendments; cleaner copies maybe disad-

<i>vantage: noise in the room due to typing; maybe takes more time to type for some candidates than handwriting</i>
<i>corrections derreurs plus simples</i>
<i>the amount of writing is not the issue with regard to paper a. working out the correct answer is what takes most of the time allocated. i would still do the analysis of the paper in handwriting. the only advantage a computer might bring is that due to the copy/paste function one could easily move certain elements around even in the last 30 minutes of the exam.</i>
<i>+ readability for examiners (main advantage) + may be easier to write legible (hardly any advantage for candidates) - not easy to jump from one part of exam to another and jumping from paper text and figs. etc. to computer and back - needs training e.g. for finding special keys on unfamiliar keyboard - somewhat risky to lose parts of text, not saving correctly, total crash etc. - another 2000 euros for special training courses (how to successfully write eqe on computer)</i>
<i>as long as we have the hardcopies of the exam printed, i do not mind selecting t/f on a computer. but i think it is important to have papers where the candidate can scribble and/or highlight features in the claim analysis section, or take notes.</i>
<i>writing speed, scrolling, reading</i>
<i>i think there would be several advantages: - it would save a lot of time for candidates sitting the exam; - i think a lot of candidates these days are not used to writing by hand, and that some find it difficult to then do so for many hours, several days in a row (i know one of my colleagues are seriously considering postponing the exams until it becomes possible to write the answers on a computer); - would eliminate the problem of having to interpret handwritten answers.</i>
<i>i cannot touch type, so this would slow me down.</i>
<i>easier to revise the text, insert paragraphs. easier for markers to read.</i>
<i>advantages - could fill in the computer readable sheet as you go on and be able to change your answer more easily disadvantages - not really worth it, its not too onerous to fill in by hand</i>
<i>possibly difficult to add timelines or drawings if needed. otherwise only advantages.</i>
<i>since i do all my responsibilities for work with the aid of a computer, it is very difficult to switch to writing to a real paper, looking from books etc. working from a computer is a part of my daily working routine, and therefore, it would make it possible for me to be more successful, especially during the main exams.</i>
<i>more user to type on machine</i>
<i>time consuming as disadvantage</i>
<i>takes too much time for candidate, writing is faster and you are already under time pressure</i>
<i>no overview</i>
<i>its quicker; i wont be bother by hand cramps; easier to add or erase part of the answer by moving pieces of information from a point to the other. it should be added the possibility to copy and paste parts of the given paper it should be possible to have both the paper in hard copy and a searchable pdf version. about q.37: i do already travel a long distance to sit papers so nothing new....</i>
<i>can type, edit faster.</i>
<i>you can use cppy/paste function and save time</i>
<i>+ no extra training for hand-writing is needed + being able to fit in missing parts even in a late stage of time - i assume it would be much louder in the examination hall due to typing - fairness between typers and hand writers: would typers get their examination documents on the computer in a fully searchable format? in my opinion this would be a huge advantage for them. on the other hand they would need a snipping tool to copy + paste parts of the documents.</i>
<i>it would be helpful to write faster.</i>
<i>difficulty in drawing timelines</i>

<i>the format of the test is quite important part of the preparation, to know where to write your answers, how to check them, etc. my experience with computer tests is that it is a way more difficult to check the answers and you are always a bit under pressure that all your results can disappear due to malfunction of the device.</i>
<i>not all candidates will be proficient at typing - it could slow some people down and provide a disadvantage. if answers are to be typed, candidates should be given the option to write by hand if they prefer. typing answers may be beneficial for clarity, since text can more easily be amended/deleted.</i>
<i>much faster, at least 5 times</i>
<i>different levels in writing speed among candidates easier to correct</i>
<i>the ease with which to label and annotate the relevant documents would be hindered together with my attention to detail (i struggle to read from a computer screen).</i>
<i>advantage: better time management/usage writing on a keyboard instead of by hand. possibility to search words in documents and to copy/past parts of text (for the main examination).</i>
<i>maybe the evaluation would be faster.</i>
<i>speed of writing answers and ability to edit answers easily.</i>
<i>i type faster than i write. the answers written on a computer are legible to anyone who marks them (which perhaps helps in tilting that extra mark). the answers on paper may be full of strikethrough text and misspelling.. the only disadvantage i see in writing the answers on a computer are a) that the keyboard is not the one i am used to working with (qwerty).</i>
<i>saving time</i>
<i>it would be annoying to listen to all the people hacking nervously into the keyboards.</i>
<i>easier to erase changed answer.</i>
<i>writing answers on a computer would take some getting used to on the basis that i personally have only ever used a computer for very few examinations and they were predominantly multiple choice papers. an obvious advantage is readability of answers. use of a computer would also allow mistakes to be easily deleted.</i>
<i>fast and legible writing; copy/paste (expecially in a, b, c)</i>
<i>only advantages. i wrote eqe on computer.</i>
<i>for someone who is not accustomed to write on pc under time pressure, it could be disasterous</i>
<i>cons: technical problems; pros: typing is quicker than writing</i>
<i>possibility of copy-paste</i>
<i>saving on paper and more realistic to real-world working</i>
<i>i have a horrible handwiting and would be much faster when typing</i>
<i>none, time would be saved and people would feel more comfortable typing rather than writing</i>
<i>copy and paste fragments of the test, as well as quick search for keywords.</i>
<i>advantages : time disadvantages : cheating</i>
<i>advantage: easy to correct mistakes.</i>
<i>problem would be the slower writing speed. on the other hand would the readability and ability to correct get significantly better.</i>
<i>easier correction of typos; not used to extensive handwriting</i>
<i>in the context of the pre-examination, it would make it easier to change your answer rather than having to erase pencil markings on the answer sheet.</i>
<i>adv: find tool dis: speed of typing</i>

<i>searchability, copy paste</i>
<i>advantage: we can cancel entire statements easily + we can write statements quickly remaining understandable disadvantage: finger noise on the keys</i>
<i>easy copy and paste of previous written sentences, reducing time lost. hand writing never used anymore after university studies.</i>
<i>my handwriting is terrible, so i am very concerned about legibility of my answers. also, i type faster than i write. inbuilt spellchecker would be also very valuable when you are writing in the stressed condition as well as text editing (copy-paste) possibility.</i>
<i>being able to copy paste use keyboard instead of pen</i>
<i>wouldnt want to read too much on a screen and scrolling/going back and forth between pages is a pain, but wouldnt have to worry about handwriting/typing is definitely a lot faster than handwriting</i>
<i>search function copy & paste put in corrections enumeration of pages clean writing</i>
<i>easy to delete/ correct mistakes.</i>
<i>it would be difficult to write item list and tables.</i>
<i>i am more concentrated and comfortable with hand writing</i>
<i>advantage for pre-eqe only, in that there would not be any worry about spoiling the examination answer sheet.</i>
<i>copy/paste the claims wording</i>
<i>for the candidates having a residence in a country other those of an exam center, it would be advantageous not to travel. i assume to have the exam in the country in which he/she lives (contarcti,ng state)</i>
<i>improved legibility of written text; easier editing</i>
<i>legible writing. easy correction of mistakes.</i>
<i>the ability to edit and search text i have already written. this would be particularly useful for a and b, where it would be beneficial to easily make changes to the claims without having to do a large amount of re-writing. this would reduce time pressure on these exams.</i>
<i>easier to amend mistakes.</i>
<i>ergonomic improvements (especially if i had an ergonomic keyboard and mouse... i would pay to be able to bring my own), getting rid of time consuming repeats of certain text passages. would allow fewer passages crossed out and clearer text. more environmentally friendly as less paper is consumed. no need to sort through a bunch of chaotic pages and numbering them. must be easier to review and mark. however computers may add error sources... and it would require adaptation of a new way of writing the paper</i>
<i>writing is no longer used in daily life in the amounts required for the eqe. consequently the writing itself is a burden on the candidates.</i>
<i>deleting parts of an answer and numbering pages would be a simple task. copy paste would also be easier. however, working on a screen might make concentration difficult, particularly for people who experience concentration problems.</i>
<i>easier to correct mistakes and it must be easier to correct.</i>
<i>faster and less tiring</i>
<i>as long as the editor provides standard editing commands, only advantages.</i>
<i>only disadvantages.</i>
<i>easier and faster to correct</i>
<i>disadvantage, slower writing</i>
<i>advantages: faster writing, possibility to edit/restructure the answer; disadvantages: none</i>

<i>easyier, better to correct</i>
<i>i am not fast enough in typing</i>
<i>faster, not used to handwriting</i>
<i>less of a handwriting competition/speed writing</i>
<i>material</i>
<i>no additional stress due to my unreadable handwriting</i>
<i>there is no disadvantage actually. in general as attorney we use laptops to answer clients not using the epc :)</i>
<i>writing will be slower, so far there is no indication on the functions of the writing program. i.e. would copy-paste be available? the preparation would be different than it is now. for example would the exam be handed in an ocr version such that parts could be copied as it done now with scissors and glue?</i>
<i>advantages: easy to read and correct the answers throughout the duration of the exam disadvantages: you need to study the paper on actual paper sheets to highlight and annotate stuff, continuously pass from paper to pc-monitor and viceversa.</i>
<i>handwritten answers do not reflect daily work - thus, answering on a computer does more reflect usual working conditions nowadays; easier to amend answers already written down by additional information which arise at a later stage during the exam.</i>
<i>to have a clearer handwriting for reading</i>
<i>disadvantages - accidental loss of written work. advantages - time saving/more modern and realistic/less stress on the hand</i>
<i>pros: it could be easier/quicker for coping parts of the text cons: if it were not my personal computer, i could have problems for managing some applications</i>
<i>less easy to double check answers before submitting</i>
<i>maybe no travel time?</i>
<i>faster, clear writing</i>
<i>the light will not be good and it is a problem to the eyes which get dry.</i>
<i>drawing timelines would be more difficult but changing your answer would be easier since you can copy/paste things .</i>
<i>pro: writing the answers on a computer is faster and easier to correct.</i>
<i>sd</i>
<i>faster writing</i>
<i>none. perhaps a bit old fashioned, but i much prefer paper. i can write faster than i am able to type. for the pre-exe this is irrelevant, but for the main exam, it certainly isnt.</i>
<i>i prefer reading on print rather than on screen. i am experienced only in the pre-exam thus far. especially in the claims analysis part i like to underline/mark text passages and phrases in different colors and while reading make notes in the text or on the figures. this is much easier when you have the printed text at hand than do the comments/underlining on screen.</i>
<i>noise made from typing</i>
<i>it is much faster to write on a computer, and muscle fatigue is less of an issue. however, the ability to draw/sketch/link different features is reduced, as is the ability to simultaneously look at several pages at once. it would have to be a big monitor.</i>
<i>no training, slower than writing</i>
<i>only advantages in terms of time saving</i>
<i>for the pre-examination it would be easier and clearer to fill out the answer sheet.</i>

<i>editing answers using copy/paste features for paper-text avoid cramps as a result of handwriting</i>
<i>advantages: (i) computer writing is more legible than hand writing - makes it easier to mark; (ii) less painful to write on computer - may make it easier to endure the examinations; (iii) allows for easier editing if needed. disadvantages: (i) the expectations may be higher concerning the content of the answers and may make it more difficult to pass.</i>
<i>difficult to read multiple papers simultaneously</i>
<i>advantage: no waste of paper; easier to analyze the results disadvantage: availability of a huge number of computers in the examination facility; inconvenient for the eyes</i>
<i>copy/paste</i>
<i>advantage: less paper used; i would consider it more appropriate for the pre-exam, no experience with the rest of the papers yet.</i>
<i>advantages: it is more realistic of everyday practice. it is easier to edit your answer as you progress and your arguments evolve. disadvantages: lots of loud typing could be distracting in an exam.</i>
<i>no advantage</i>
<i>much faster writing</i>
<i>quick correction and editing</i>
<i>advantages: - corrections! easy to correct text, avoiding striking through / rewriting text --> saves time. - also copying text (standard phrases, shortcuts to expressions) saves time. - nowadays standard method of writing, speaking for myself i am not really used to handwriting anymore - less physical strain on hands/fingers given large amount of text to be written during exams - more straightforward for the assessors (no doubt on what is written down) disadvantages - for some handwriting may still be preferred as they are slow typers - handwriting is less noisy than typing on a keyboard - keyboard may have language dependent layout</i>
<i>not so fast writing</i>
<i>higher probability of wrong marking</i>
<i>more like day-to-day work. quicker than hand writing. disadvantages = typing sounds in the exam hall. lack of hard copy of exam paper so harder to make notes.</i>
<i>the possibility of technical failure seems very relevant. further, the variance in typing speed of eqe applicants would greatly affect the variance in achievable results, making it necessary to train fast typing on a computer prior to the exam.</i>
<i>cant flip between pages easily, it might take longer than handwriting</i>
<i>might take even more time. would give the opportunity to modify / partly delete parts of the already written answer if you realize that you are on a wrong track. having to use a standard computer provided by the epa would give the problem of having to type on a keyboard one is not used to which could be a killing factor.</i>
<i>i would speed up writing my answer and since time was my hardest issue, i am sure my answers would have been full and complete if i have had the chance to write on a computer. in all papers a to d, my analysis of the questions seems to be correct, however i did not have enough time to write them down completely. this applies for all four papers.</i>
<i>that it will be very noisy due to the typrwriting on the keyboard. furthermore, maybe the space on the table will then be a little bit too less. what happens if one of the computers breaks down. maybe older particiants will not be able to have adequate keyboard writing skills, insofar the candidates should have the choise how to write on a computer or by hand.</i>
<i>advantages : easier to correct errors in answers, quicker to tap on a computer rather than writing on a paper disadvantages: none</i>
<i>adv: probably faster dis: probably less focused writing</i>
<i>.provided the exam is still handed out in paper format to enable better overview of the whole case</i>
<i>to be more readable!</i>

<i>advantage: the answer is 100% legible. disadvantage: for most people typing is slower than writing, so precious time lost</i>
<i>search function. copy /paste</i>
<i>for daily work, it is very rare that the patent attorneys write on paper. the conditions of the examination should be keep aline with the condition of daily practice.</i>
<i>typing is faster, accurate (well readable), we are used to typing more than to writing so it is less tiring</i>
<i>more convenient. no-one writes by hand nowadays. its a shame part of the difficulty is to write fast enough and its really difficult to structure your claims when writing by hand (a).</i>
<i>my answer being more legible. easier to provide the information more quickly as day to day i am typing and very rarely write for hours these day, apart from in thee exams.</i>
<i>advantages - dont need to worry about handwriting; less cramp; neater and easier to check. disadvantages - none</i>
<i>lautstärke tippgeschwindigkeit sehr unterschiedlich</i>
<i>advantages: better reflects the skills required in practice. physical limitations of writing by hand are avoided. handwriting legibility no longer an issue. easier to amend and adapt your answers with clarity. disadvantages: cost overhead, more points of failure, requires a new system for submitting answers.</i>
<i>we are more used to it since our daily work is done on a computer. physical fatigue would be reduced.</i>
<i>(yes for pre-exam, not for full eqe) less paper to deal with</i>
<i>advantages: clearer writing. disadvantages: noise of the keyboard typing from other candidates could be very annoying. if the paper is not given physically on paper i would see it also as a disadvantage.</i>
<i>i think my handwriting speed is much faster than my typing speed.</i>
<i>adding extra info between lines. copy pasting</i>
<i>difficult to prepare/simulate the exact same conditions</i>
<i>faster evaluation, probably faster than filling the fields answer sheet, probably less error-prone than filling the fileds on the answer sheet, more up-to-date</i>
<i>would be nice to be able to use pcs like everyone does in daily life - it is really old fashioned to do by hand</i>
<i>advantage is saving on paper. disadvantage is the effect of the illumination conditions, which may give extra pressure in the eyes of the students. the place should be well illuminated. however having a group of people doing it on computers and others in paper may give unfair advantages over the other group. if it is allowed to cut and paste text from the exam papers, then i believe there would be an unfair advantage for the c exam on those with computer. on the other hand if no cut and paste is allowed but the screen is small, then the ones doing the exam on paper would have an unfair advantage, in my opinion.</i>
<i>now we mostly work on computers, so possibly we could write faster, we would not worry about lisible handwriting. possibly it would be also more practical for examiners. if the exam could be available as word file, it would not require scanning it, less paper would be used.</i>
<i>for pre-exam, it would not make any big difference of course. for the main exam, i guess the massive amounts of text presently in need of writing by hand, woulb me much easier and faster to write at a computer. risks involved is of course technical problems, such as computer crashed, corrupt text files etc.</i>
<i>advantages - you can copy and paste so the answers would be neater and less confusing. disadvantages - i dont want to hear so many people typing all at once.</i>
<i>i think that it should be an opportunity to improve the commentary on the epc in function of which answers were the most wrogly answered.</i>
<i>+ more reflective of the job + does not disadvantage those who are slow writers but fast typists - inevitably, a computer will malfunction and this will result in a very upset student... there will have to be some plan in place for such an event</i>

<i>less time consuming</i>
<i>advantages - makes the examiners life easier disadvantages - typing skills (need to learn to touch type), working from a screen is not the same as from paper, the clatter of hundreds of keyboards, it issues (and there will be some... guaranteed), the format of the exams is not really compatible with computers</i>
<i>lacking possibility of practising beforehand in real exam conditions</i>
<i>++ = speed and the possibility make clean modifications - = noise during exam and 5h30 on a screen</i>
<i>easier to change correct things as you go. less need to space things out so that answers are more concise, and you get a better impression as you go of the shape and structure of your answers. better matches working life.</i>
<i>advantages: - similar to real life - corrections in already written text are possible - insertions possible - better readability - timeline of events can be extended or detailed flexible (no trouble with scaling) disadvantage: - you can just see one page, if you do not have a printer or several screens. - e.g. the timeline is needed in parallel to the screen.</i>
<i>it would be faster, easier to read, easier to correct. there might be differences compared to your own computer so this could give technical problems.</i>
<i>increased intelligibility of answers; increased speed of working; more possibilities for adapting answers without having to strike-through parts of answers (which reduces legibility); less waste; easier to organise and correct</i>
<i>advantage - easier to change and make it easy to follow by the examiner disadvantage - none</i>
<i>quicker and better spelled. however, it depends on usability of the computer setup - what editor is used, what space the computer takes. in general, for best results, an exam should be either entirely on paper or entirely on computer. any hybrid solution will be hard to balance.</i>
<i>a big advantage would be the possibility to easily and quickly adjust and change your answer. a lot of time would be saved.</i>
<i>correcting</i>
<i>only if also the relevant legal text (pdf searchable) would be made available for copy paste on the computer/terminal and if a simple timeline drawing tool also. all these made available to the candidates at least 1 year before the examination day to train and get acquainted with writing tools.</i>
<i>copy/pasting text for part a and b. searchable epc, pct, guidelines as electronic documents. closer to working reality than paper exam.</i>
<i>too many variables on a computer, and too much potential for papers to become too lengthy. i type loudly and am pretty sure this would annoy lots of people. i also would not want to hear anyone elses loud typing. preparation for the exams is done under handwritten conditions, i would not welcome a change.</i>
<i>closer resemblance to real life practice, therefore a test of more relevant skills. handwriting speed is totally irrelevant in the profession as far as i can see, so i cant understand why it is effectively tested as a significant component of fitness to practice by the ege.</i>
<i>ease of editing</i>
<i>+ higher output per unit of time (candidates are used to a computer, instead of handwriting) + easier consultation of books which are only available in a digital manner (guidelines) + no more worries about legible handwriting + easier copying and pasting, therefore abandoning the need for epo-proof scissors, speeding up security check + closer to real life work conditions, less stress - investment in infrastructure at epo - typing noise</i>
<i>not helpful when compared with handwriting</i>
<i>performance depends on training in type-writing</i>
<i>advantage: write paragraphys and later structure the answers disadvantage: typing noise, typing speed, better overview on papersheet than on screen</i>
<i>it takes more time than writing by hand</i>

<i>advantage: for paper c, a cut & paste facility would help for setting out the claim analysis for each prior art document. disadvantage: noise, expense, setting out the exam hall.</i>
<i>i write faster on computer than by hand</i>
<i>advantage: copy paste of textblocks may be helpful, readability disadvantage. writing might be tooslow</i>
<i>more in line with work done on a daily basis. typing may be faster. more possibilities to amend answers later on.</i>
<i>it is much faster and im only used to writing on a computer. thats what we do every day, so this is also how we should be tested.</i>
<i>one needs to be very fast in eqe, only those who are fast in typing on keyboards will benefit. this has to be considered.</i>
<i>adv: copy/paste/delete function typing is also long</i>
<i>legibility is less of an issue, but typos could be more of an issue. there would be a greater risk of tech failure affecting an exam performance.</i>
<i>searchable pdf, faster writting, no pain in the writting hand</i>
<i>extra faff</i>
<i>typing timelines, tables and diagrams, mainly. timelines and tables are important at least for part d.</i>
<i>better understanding of handwriting, better forming of a structured answer, better for time constraints of the exam.</i>
<i>no disadvantages (of course having the possibility to correct answers and paper material too).</i>
<i>more writing speed, easier corrections</i>
<i>that way you can modify your answer along the exam and the order of the issues will be clearer. in a, it is quite slow to first plan the claim and then write it clean.</i>
<i>the screen is irritating for the eyes.</i>
<i>advantage: making corrections on wordings, sentences and paragraphs easier; one does not have to care about ones own handwriting, especially when under time-pressure; disadvantage: one could be unfamiliar with the software/operating systems etc.</i>
<i>problems with the speed of writing</i>
<i>ability to mark answers as you go along, as you can edit later on.</i>
<i>quick typing, legible handwriting</i>
<i>you cannot write schemes or drawings.</i>
<i>more time to answer the questions</i>
<i>usually, i highlight the most important information, i organize papers in my own way. when using a computer i would have to change the whole way of taking the exam.</i>
<i>only advantages. writing the papers by hand is not representative of our everydays work. plus, it leads to more stress (dealing with pens not working, hard to modify our answers ...).</i>
<i>large differences in typing speed between candidates (probably larger than in hand writing) would unfairly affect their performance.</i>
<i>save effort o using hand writing</i>
<i>i am not able to write fast enough on a computer. i would surely fail. i cannot see any advantages at all.</i>
<i>one disadvantage would be to not be able to return to questions i already answered, but that depends on how the software is conceived.</i>
<i>easier to change or amend certain parts. it might be a bit slower, so i am not fully sure on my preference.</i>
<i>students that are not so comfortable / fast with typing using a keyboard would have a disadvantage compared to students that are able to type quickly (especially for main eqe exams).</i>

<i>disadvantage: unpredictable behaviour / usability of the hardware: keyboard, screen, ...</i>
<i>i cannot say</i>
<i>easier, more efficient and mistakes may be corrected rapidly but i still need to use papers for notes, calculations, timelines, etc. combination of both would be perfect. it will be much more important for main exams - for writing all the papers.</i>
<i>i see no disadvantage to the candidates in allowing this, assuming that it is organised competently (though it should not be compulsory). obviously there are disadvantages to the organisers in finding suitable venues, preventing technical difficulties etc.</i>
<i>this depends on how the paper and reference material is organized. if epc and guidelines are available on the computer in searchable format, it could be valuable for the candidates as this is how it is real life.</i>
<i>little or no disadvantages. all our day to day practice is on a computer and it makes no sense to have to write in an exam.</i>
<i>i am not used to write and edit texts fast on computer .</i>
<i>it would be much faster to type than write by hand. it would be more realistic, as we all work on computers in private practice. it would be much easier copy + paste text, rearrange text, or insert text when reviewing the final answers. candidates would not have to worry about their handwriting being legible.</i>
<i>dont know</i>
<i>difference between fast and slow writers by computer would probably be much bigger then by hand. noise will definitely be a problem.</i>
<i>i cant type fast enough, i would probably spend too much time formatting and getting sections in the right order</i>
<i>i may need a paper version of the paper and work on the paper before writing the answer per se on the computer. space management may be a problem.</i>
<i>annotation of documents for instance in claim analysis.</i>
<i>copy/paste function to save time in writing standard expressions required and i would certainly be quicker (if no special symbols are required!)</i>
<i>too much focus on formatting</i>
<i>faster to write, easier to read. copy/paste/search functionality,</i>
<i>hand writing is not adequate anymore and the speed of hand writing is currently decisive in passing the exam - it is time to bring the exam into a modern formate to be able to gain new candidates for private firms otherwise the shortage of candidates will further increase</i>
<i>i can type a lot faster than i can write. no issues with legibility.</i>
<i>it could be faster, and the examiners can easily read what you have written. but you can also have problems with the computer, like i had in an examen at the university.</i>
<i>we have to be familiar with the computer, especially the keyboard. the main drawback would be that it is difficult to read our answers on the screen without being able to print. moreover, if the use of the computer has to be implemented, i believe that for it to be fair, the candidates have to be informed well in advance, so that they have the opportunity to train.</i>
<i>we should have the possibility to go back to the previous responses</i>
<i>faster, easy to correct. but it is a different approach. would also offer handwritten exam.</i>
<i>i dont find it very useful for the pre - exam, but definitely very useful for main parts of exam.</i>
<i>avantages: copier-coller des parties du sujets (notamment a pour la description et b pour le jeu de revendications), enregistrer les raccourcis fréquemment utilisés pour qu'ils apparaissent en entier dans la copie (hdm, edt, pto, edtpp, dde, tqd...) -> gains de temps dans la rédaction de la réponse rédaction de la réponse dans n'importe quel ordre (avantageux notamment pour c) désavantages nous ne sommes pas tous égaux devant la vitesse de frappe, il se pourrait qu'il y ait donc des candidats défavorisés.</i>

<i>is copy and paste available? moving answers around would be easier then, and be an advantage. is the search function available? searching of the exam papers would be a big advantage. is there a spell-check? that would also be an advantage. pretty sure i can type faster than i can hand-write, so the scripts would get longer. not necessarily a good thing. i suspect youd get a lot of formulaic problem-and-solution answers in c as it only needs to be written once, then can be copied and pasted throughout.</i>
<i>working on a screen and with your reference material simultaneously</i>
<i>disadvantages - noise advantages - speed of writing - neatness - no smudging or handwriting issues</i>
<i>i only see advantages. it is also more conform with every day practice.</i>
<i>i have recently been diagnosed with dyspraxia and struggle with pain in the right-hand side of my body due to tensing when writing by hand. this becomes a very large problem during exams which are long and involve lots of writing, as is the case with the main eqes. i was particularly affected during paper b this year as i had already sat paper a in the morning and found that my right hand, wrist, shoulder, ribs and lower back were very sore after this. a computer would enable me to write my answer without pain, which would of course help my concentration.</i>
<i>i would want to know a year in advance at least, in order to practice.</i>
<i>improved clarity of answers (avoid poor handwriting, ability to make corrections easily). lack of desk space may be a problem.</i>
<i>the pre-eqe would be best done on a computer. i would prefer to hand write the main exams.</i>
<i>it would be much better to use computer to answer the questions because i use computer in work and i write much quicker. it would be also easy to read for evaluators. correcting spelling mistakes would be also very convenient.</i>
<i>advantages: quickly amend and correct, with no need for a second clean copy</i>
<i>copy and paste of your own sentences. overview over your written pages, instead of many single pages in your desk. structure of your answer to the paper. searchable documents of prior art and clients letters.</i>
<i>actually none</i>
<i>to go back for inserting additional sentences; correcting sentences. it is the standard way of working do not worry about readability issues</i>
<i>advantage - neater and easier to formulate answers in a logical way</i>
<i>language auto-correction (not native speaker).</i>
<i>for candidates who write fast on a pc is an advantage but for those which are not so fast i do not see any advantage.</i>
<i>harder to draw pictures</i>
<i>only advantages. in particular regarding speed and legibility.</i>
<i>in principle, writing the answers on a computer is very nice, since most of us write on computers during regular work. however, if this means that the prior art and application documents and the exams sheets would also only be electronical, i would not like this, because i am used to print documents and make hand written comments.</i>
<i>to be sure not to do any mistake while filing in the answers on the sheet</i>
<i>for pre-eqe, none</i>
<i>vorteil: handschrift wäre nicht mehr entscheidend nachteil: die schneelligkeit beim tippen unterscheidet sich zu drastisch, um eine adäquate prüfung zu garantieren. hier müsste der komplette aufbau der prüfung überarbeitet werden.</i>
<i>disadvantage: very loud when all candidates are typing, concentration is an issue during the exam advantage: better readable for the correction of the paper important: you should separate candidates with computer and without computer due to the noises of typing, no advantage in time, since computer writing takes also time and takes all the concentration but this would be needed for the</i>

content of the paper
better readability.
advantage : copy-paste available, cleaner copy in the end. disadvantage : less visible track of what we are doing, with paper we can spread many leaves on the table, with only a computer screen we can see a lot less.
i had a infected thumb and could not hold the pen previous year (attached it to index finger in the end). contacted the epo and got the reply will you expect to be able to use your thumb in the future? yes? oh, then we cannot help you. if i could have used a keyboard that year, i could have had a normal chance at passing (and much less pain). however, i expect that results written by hand or by computer cannot be statistically comparable, since one does work in a very different manner if one can copy/paste & move text.
our responses will be edited much more easily and a few trees will be saved.
advantage: less time consumed just by writing. disadvantage: would not welcome having exam paper and prior art only in electronic form. making notes very important.
disadvantages - computer may corrupt/may cause text to re-order etc, and looking at a screen for 5.5 hours may be tiring advantages- i can type quicker than i can write and easy to add amendments later without messing up the pages. text is legible.
pros text will be legible easier to adapt claims cons disadvantage for persons which do not master touch typing the exams are going to become longer
more time would be needed to answer the exam.
very bad
marking on paper works just fine. using computer will just add uncertainty.
i prepare my answers better when writing by hand because the time it takes to rewrite is very costly. on a computer, i may not think things through as well and will need to correct. reading computer-typed text is much easier, of course, which would give me an easier time reviewing my work.
advantages: - a little more environment-friendly... - no need to bring so much heavy printed documents (guidelines, etc.) - no need to cut and paste part of the paper with cisors and glue - answers would be more easy to collect, read and mark - candidates may bring their own computer disadvantages: - most people write faster by hand than with a keyboard - the examination hall may be quite noisy
you have to go through several documents at the same time for the claim analysis.
advantage - legibility much improved disadvantage - possibility to delete/revise is dangerous - too much scope for wasting time instead of moving on
typing faster than handwriting. no worry about legibility.
first of all, im using computer in my daily work all the time, and i almost never use paper/pen/pencil - i cant imagine writing more than a page of text with a pen because im not used to do it. my handwriting is terrible and hardly readable. it would be really excellent if writing ege on a computer would be allowed. other advantages: copying/pasting or moving parts of text across the page is much easier on a computer. correcting the text is much easier on a computer. potential disadvantages: ive heard that typical practice on ege is to have some pre-written text fragments which can be then glued to an answer - with computer it would not be possible. computer may hang up, paper not. but anyway i strongly believe that possibility of writing on a computer has more advantages than disadvantages.
the big advantage is that we can write faster on a computer and it is always readable for the corrector.
reflects true working conditions. not worry about having right low friction pen, enough pens, cramping arm/hand and sorting out a bunch of written pages at the end.
ticking the answers could be faster than filling them in with a pencil.
+ copy&paste possible, more ergonomical, legibility - danger of expanding the scope of papers

<i>even further</i>
<i>99% of texts that i write i do write on a keyboard on a computer. my hand is not used to write pages and pages of text with a pen.</i>
<i>easier to make changes throughout exam.</i>
<i>none, why is this not an option already? i struggle to write fast/legibly by hand and it is a clear disadvantage.</i>
<i>saving time using for example copy/paste function or corrections</i>
<i>more structured answers, but i do believe that computer written exam will cost more time, because handwriting is actually faster, you dont have to be very neat in writing, if under time pressure, handwriting declines in neatness, but still oke.</i>
<i>nobody is used to write so much text any more using pen & paper, so one of the challenges right now is the writing itself. so an advantage of writing ege answers on a computer would be to focus the challenges of the exam where they belong: patent law.</i>
<i>+: faster in writing, easy to copy & paste and to rearrange passages; online guidelines and search would be very helpful; bad handwriting is no problem; no sheet numbering required; -: needs dedicated preparation, to connect thinking and tiping; takes a lot of time to tipe the legal basis (hard to reliably type the right numbers on keyboard); need to know the conditions (which editor, online guidelines, epc, pct: yes/no) well in advance;</i>
<i>can structure / edit thoughts more effectively on a computer. also more similar to real world applications.</i>
<i>bessere möglichkeit, anpassungen am schon geschriebenen text vorzunehmen; entspricht auch eher dem heute üblichen arbeitsstil.</i>
<i>advantages: being able to cut and paste. being able to search for specific terms. disadvantages: i find it difficult to focus when reading documents on computers.</i>
<i>no special disadvantage, but not needed for the preexam.</i>
<i>im alltäglichen leben schreibt man nicht mehr so viel von hand, daher ist die körperliche belastung mit dem pc nicht so hoch. weiters kann man (ich) am pc schneller schreiben. auch das epa hat eine chance meine antworten besser lesen zu können. zusammenfassung: fast nur vorteile.</i>
<i>advantages * can copy and paste any relevant pieces of law * neater * easier to add things at a later stage and generally amend</i>
<i>easier to erase and/or rewrite an attack. quicker to write too maybe.</i>
<i>less exhausting than writing by hand being able to structure the answer after writing it (by inserting text before other text) readability for the examiners</i>
<i>(-) you could lost time on the layout and neglect the content (-) has to be bug-free/stable/quick/ergonomic/flexible to allow going back on former questions (-) questions should still be on paper and not on screen (+) avoid tiredness of wrist after some pages (+) no problem of writing quality for correctors (+) easier to modify for the candidate (+) could allow several attempts per year if implemented</i>
<i>easier to correct sentences without having to completely rewrite them. legibility of the answers. much less pain and discomfort of the writing hand.</i>
<i>advantages: possibility to copy model answers and parts of the description, readability of the answers disadvantages: possibility of technical problems with the hardware of software</i>
<i>advantages - spell checking and copy pasting. disadvantages - risk of computer crashing. unfamiliar keyboard. faster to write by hand.</i>
<i>nobody is used to handwriting many pages anymore. that requires a specific training, to get used (again) to write legibly by hand. using a computer would relieve candidates from this burden. additionally, it would make it easier for the ones marking the papers to read the candidates answers.</i>
<i>the software should allow cut and paste like with paper for speeding up the process. by having the need to avoid drafting phase a lot of time would be saved. and for the final version, refinements would be still easy to make.</i>
<i>i think it may be advantageous about timing. we are used to write on computer in working life.</i>

<i>no potential for issues with handwriting legibility faster than handwriting ability to copy/paste may be beneficial more expensive to implement</i>
<i>habitudes. its easier to work on a computer as it is what we do everyday</i>
<i>marking problem motive problem overview limited by screen</i>
<i>advantages: less pain in hand, arm and shoulder more time for thinking, less time needed for writing disadvantages: will typing skills be crucial for passing the eqe? what if the computer system breaks down?</i>
<i>adv: copy & paste, easier editing disadv: slower at typing than writing!</i>
<i>this applies to the main exam, which i didn't sit, however: depends on how fast you can type. but when being a quick typer, i guess your all in all faster, as you can copy&paste rearrange etc.</i>
<i>we do not have to spend time just writing by hand</i>
<i>time probably too short</i>
<i>advantage: corresponds to daily work; easier to rework in case of mistakes; disadvantage: noise in the examination hall due to typing;</i>
<i>advantages: easily correcting typos/mistakes, copying/pasting text on the screen if necessary, most candidates are more accustomed to writing on a computer instead of writing by hand for hours. disadvantages: none that i can think of from a candidates point-of-view.</i>
<i>it would be easier to concentrate on the content of the answers if you were able to do write with the computer where it is easier to amend/rephrase the answers.</i>
<i>improved legibility for the markers; gain of time for the examinees (typing is - or should be - much faster than writing) however, a question mark hangs over exactly how the test would be administered. as practice is of vital importance in preparation for sitting any eqe exam, being confronted with an alien text-editor or any unfamiliar computing environment on an already-stressful day is unlikely to bring many benefits to the candidate.</i>
<i>was part of the pilot project, and was very happy to be. a minor advantage is being able to copy and paste pieces of text, but the main reason is that everyone these days is used to work on a computer, and reverting to pen and paper simply adds an unnecessary layer of stress and time loss.</i>
<i>advantages: search function (if allowed) and copy/paste (if allowed) makes it easier to work efficiently. also its easier to correct mistakes or add/amend/move paragraphs without making the answers confusing/hard to read (helps candidates during the exam, but also examiners when correcting the exams). typing faster than writing for some candidates (see below). easier to read for examiners. no possibility of losing pages and no scans of exams required. disadvantages: candidates who are quick in typing have a clear advantage. (there might be a larger span between slow and fast typers than there is with handwriting; this should be checked. therefore, candidates might feel the pressure to attend typing courses.) computer problems are foreseeable and to some extend unavoidable. due to the large number of examinees and the long duration of the exams the computers have to be extremely stable. clear regulations have to be in place for cases like, e.g., computer failure in the middle of the exam.</i>
<i>that would definitely be less stressful. i would be able to write faster and it would be a lot easier to make corrections.</i>
<i>besseres schriftbild; bessere möglichkeit zum strukturieren; näher an der realität; weniger chaos auf dem tisch</i>
<i>different types of keyboards i cannot type blindly and very fast. people who can type blindly and fast have certainly an advantage.</i>
<i>if a computer is used it should be equipped with a speech recognition software</i>
<i>hand writing not necessary</i>
<i>advantages: i type faster than i write. i can insert fragments of text in between already written paragraphs. disadvantages: if the source documents of the exam were not printed, i think it would be a disadvantage to compare documents.</i>
<i>- main benefit: ability to (more) easily change ones answer when discovering a mistake or insert additional ideas - less specific preparation required since it is closer to my usual working method</i>

<i>- readability (not just for the examiner but also oneself when reviewing ones answer, provided one has the time for this)</i>
<i>disadvantages: -fast typing skills additional requirement -noisy -logistics nightmare</i>
<i>my age is 50+, so i learned good handwriting at school. i would not be faster on a computer. for younger candidates, i.e. digital natives, it would be different.</i>
<i>i dont see any disadvantage, on the contrary, it would make it easier for everyone because some hadwritings can be hard to understand.</i>
<i>claim analysis is more handy on paper when comparing features, for example. answering the questions, however, would be faster in a computer when ticking the answers</i>
<i>failure of technology</i>
<i>no doubt about readability issues</i>
<i>easier editing of answers. faster typing speed avoiding fiddling with scissoring and gluing paragraphs</i>
<i>i am fairly neutral about it, i imagine that technical problems, lack of familiarity with the software used, which would have to be specialised, and noise during the exam of multiple people using them could be a problem. setting up a hall with 500 computers for the exams might not justify the benefits, thought trials could be carried out.</i>
<i>advantage : copy paste, search function disatvantage : slow typing, eyes, use of screen for 5h30, are the text still available in paper?</i>
<i>less hand cramping, ability to restructure answers and add additional arguments later. also basic copy-paste would be a major advantage for paper c where so much time is spent copying the claims over and over again.</i>
<i>for papers a-d: no problems with readability of handwriting for the examiners, greater ease to shuffle around pieces of text or add further arguments. for the pre-exam, i do not see any advantage except a possibly faster evaluation of the results. to the contrary, i think that marking the answer sheet on a computer is more error prone.</i>
<i>advantage, use of type writing ist much more common, no one writes on paper any more these dass.</i>
<i>easier to organize information and make corrections.</i>
<i>(+) zeitersparnis (-) weniger übersichtlich (-) größerer betrugsgefahr</i>
<i>i see only advantages in writing the eqe on a computer: it both speeds up the actual writing (reduces time pressure) and eliminates the problems that may arise if/as candidates have not been writing much by hand recently (cramps etc). if it is possible to copy and paste if the distraction caused by the sound of typing is seen as an issue, this could possibly be resolved by e.g. ear-plugs. if the technical aspects of writing the eqe on a computer are a concern, the secretariat might want to look into e.g. the secure-boot system used in the matriculation examination in finland where the students are required to bring their own computer that is then booted into a secure environment. see e.g. www.abitti.fi (only in finnish and swedish).</i>
<i>it would be much easier to write long texts relatively rapidly without the risk of cramping in the hand.</i>
<i>none for the pre-eqe, full eqe could be better with computer however, since hand muscles are more used to typing instead of writing. might also be better for corrections.</i>
<i>enhances the speed, easy to make corrections.</i>
<i>resolves issues with handwriting. often there is a lot of repeated writing. the copy/paste function on a computer would speed up writing up the answers.</i>
<i>copy and paste function. i am more proficient at typing than i am writing by hand.</i>
<i>advantage: copy/paste parts from text, easily make changes / rewrite sections, faster, no hand cramp/pen issues disadvantage: the computer could malfunction, you need the keyboard you are used to, less desk space</i>
<i>no wasting time on filing answer sheet and smaller chance of making a mistake while doing so</i>

<p>- due to the extent of the expected answers, the participants speed of typing will be tested instead of their speed of handwriting. naturally, this is no improvement. - the examiners will benefit because they will not have to cope with badly legible handwritings which has to be highly appreciated. - as one will need additional place for a keyboard and a display on the table, it will be more difficult in paper d to handle all necessary documents required (epc, pct, applicants guide, guidelines, guidelines pct, epc ancillary regulations, ...) - it would be beneficial, especially regarding the a-paper, if the questions are provided in electronic form in addition such that text passages can be added to the answers by copy and paste. - basically, i would appreciate the opportunity of answering on a computer. however, it should not be mandatory.</p>
<p>maybe speed</p>
<p>advantage: possibility to correct/fine tune answers and improve structure disadvantage: takes longer</p>
<p>main work namely decoding of the exam is done on paper. writing the answers on a computer would negatively impact the workflow. in addition, not all candidates are fast in writing the questions using the computers keyboard.</p>
<p>advantage: no papers get lost disadvantage: individual working style</p>
<p>cant spread out answer sheets across the desk</p>
<p>uncertainty in how the text editing software will work, is it ms word or is it another text editor that only for the purpose of the eqe? uncertainty in which functions that are available.</p>
<p>disadvantages: high cost, reliability, anonymity, training necessary</p>
<p>increase of legibility,</p>
<p>advantage: reduced risk of careless mistakes while filling the dots in the answer table disadvantage: if the questions are only displayed on a screen, handwritten notes and highlighting are not possible</p>
<p>advantages: improved legibility, improved copy/paste, less wear on hands and fingers disadvantages: potentially noise, speed comparison between hand-writing and typing is not clear (perhaps hand-writing is quicker?)</p>
<p>tools need to be standard tools or if a custom application is provided, then it must be simple to use. acrobat reader for reading the annexes and notepad for the response drafting would be perfect. advantages: much more readable. more efficient. copy pasting allows to save some time, for example if multiple problem-solution approaches are required, or to copy-paste parts of the claims... disadvantage: risk of it failure. additional burden for candidates that are not computer savvy (do these people still exist?).</p>
<p>advantages: can easily edit answers, may be able to search for key words in the examination papers, may stop my hand/wrist aching, easier for examiners to read the answers disadvantages: i can write faster and with better flow than i can type, the computer may crash, irritating noise from people typing around me in the examination</p>
<p>i am very undecided on this point. to be able to do copy&paste and avoid rsi from handwriting dozens of pages seems highly welcome. working with documents, however, (highlighting, putting them next to each other for comparing, etc.) is still highly preferable over computer work. so i would not be in favour of a computer-only exam. if only the answers are typed that seems reasonable to me. it might, however, be a noisy experience with 100+ people typing at the same time...</p>
<p>writing velocity would still be an issue</p>
<p>no advantages, only disadvantages to working on a computer - i can write far faster than i can type and physically writing helps me process my answers</p>
<p>taking the exam on a computer makes to be concentrated on the exam and to follow up to the huge information given in the invention and prior art documents difficult.</p>
<p>easier to write (faster). so that we can consider different aspects for answering a response, and have a choice at the end. for instance, i could write 2 or 3 different independent claims for the a paper, and then chose the best one. in my bad luck case, i would have simply chosen the one i wrote in the train 2 hours after the end of the exam, and my solution would fit the one displayed</p>

<i>on deltapatents blog. easier to erase and/or change something. no stress regarding the legibility of handwriting.</i>
<i>i do not know the software before. i am not able to write fast with 10 fingers.</i>
<i>i prepare to write my answers, thus on a computer it will be novel environment, it might affect my flow that i trained for. advantage though, it might be faster?</i>
<i>dont know yet</i>
<i>less finger cramps, easier to insert extra information inside the logic flow of an argument.</i>
<i>easier to make changes to the text</i>
<i>readable writing. no time spent to copy parts of the subject (claims, etc.) instead of developing argument.</i>
<i>the main advantage is that the examiner will be able to read my answer! i will also be able to more easily edit my answer, instead of crossing out large amounts of text when something goes wrong (for example, i will not have to write out claim 1 in papers a and b about 4 times). being able to copy and paste text is also very useful, especially for paper c where there is a lot of repetition. i think the analysis part of each paper (which is not seen by the examiner) will be difficult on a computer, though i expect this can still be completed online. i would be interested about whether the exam itself is supplied as a hard copy or a digital copy. digital copy is useful for copying/pasting text. hard copy is useful for analysis and making notes. both copies is probably optimal.</i>
<i>writing on a computeur would be closer to the daily work condition. for my personal, it would be advantageous because more im stressed (by the time left for example), worse is my hand writing. and worse is my hand writing, more im stressed to not be readable for the examiner, and over and over. it would be more simple to correct, to rewrite, and write on a computer is often faster for my generation. but overall, i think its important for us to keep hand write.</i>
<i>better readability, better to edit and correct, no option to copy/past paper parts from the task papers to the answer papers</i>
<i>i like writing notes on the paper and highlighting, also it is very helpful to see different annexes at the same time and i think this would be harder when using a computer. on the other hand no one ever hand writes their responses to the epo. seriously, how is this medieval method of examination at all useful in assessing if we are fit to practice if it uses a method that no-one ever uses in practice?</i>
<i>nowadays you write less, therefore i currently type faster than i write, and really had to relearn writing to speed up again. also the readability of course increases. and i think the most important advantage would be the ability to copy past and move parts. when drafting claims you frequently think of elements later on, and want to add details. on a computer this simply creates a better readable situation.</i>
<i>adv: modifications can be made easily. adv: better readable dis: maybe not familiar with the program available</i>
<i>possibility to copy paste some longer texts. possibility to modify your answer by adding further arguments without making the whole text illegible.</i>
<i>i would be quicker e.g. by copy and paste paragraphs</i>
<i>advantage: would be faster to type than to write disadvantage: may not have the flexibility in formatting/drawing/annotating that you do with a pen and paper</i>
<i>pro: faster, less tiring; in particular correcting mistakes without creating a mess contra: i am afraid the room will become loud, so probably one would need to use earplugs</i>
<i>no advantage or disadvantage, but everyone uses computers now. in practice, computers are the most common for drafting and working. thus, if the exam is supposed to test your ability to work in the field, computers should be used for the test.</i>
<i>arthritis in my fingers, some joints fixed in one position makes handwriting difficult, still movable joints very painful when i am handwriting for hours.</i>
<i>different preparation necessary</i>
<i>it is less direct, does not allow to make notes, underline etc.</i>

<p>500 people writing is already a bit noisy, but i do not want to sit in an examination hall with 500 people typing. so the keyboards required should be very quiet or there should be other measures to keep the examination hall quiet, especially as some people have the tendency to hammer on their keyboard when typing. further, in my experience, i always have to get used to a new keyboard. this would cost me some time. the computers need to be quiet, too,</p>
<p>no native english speaker</p>
<p>more readable copy paste possible editable lower writing speed</p>
<p>copy and paste. less painful for the hands. perhaps reducing the time of the exams as we would gain time. can look up a particular word on documents. difficult to see multiple documents only in one screen. tiredness when we look at a screen for hours.</p>
<p>advantages: saving time and material (paper, pens), facilitating reading of answers for examiners</p>
<p>my hand writing is really bad. on computer the examiner can read it much better. i guess i would need more time for typing than for writing by hand.</p>
<p>i'm not that good with typing (speed!). and i would have to find some time to practice this and presumably also different methods of putting the answer together. and usually, i don't have the time.</p>
<p>my handwriting is not very readable and the possibility to improve or complete the answer is difficult.</p>
<p>it will be clear and clean to write. it will save much more time. reduce the ambiguity as much as possible.</p>
<p>correction of mistakes would be easier</p>
<p>depends on what is on the computer - only a typewriter, or also the claims, the state of the art, or even access to the epc / pct regulations. just a typewriter: it is easier to collect the information given on different parts of the exam paper and do corrections also exam papers: possibility to search in the text, copying the claims access to the epc / pct: much more real life situation</p>
<p>i am quicker at writing by hand.</p>
<p>i could write more quickly, and my neck would strain less</p>
<p>keyboard takes up too much space on the table i can type much faster on the computer than writing by hand correcting and reorganizing text is much easier</p>
<p>timing</p>
<p>advantages: i) you don't need to be anxious if the examining division will understand what you are writing. disadvantages: i) more time probably is needed. in general i prefer the current status.</p>
<p>i started my training on paper and i'm used to it by now. also it is quite difficult to find relevant page on computer screen, you can not comfortably look at few pages at the same time.</p>
<p>faster writing, corrections are easier</p>
<p>advantages: readability of answers, daily practice is writing on a computer too disadvantage: drawing timelines and such needs to be possible</p>
<p>easier to formulate a structured answer (easier to edit), and easier to keep track of answer papers</p>
<p>faster, less issues with readability, less stressful, better possibility to focus on what is important to practice: the content, and not the method on how to write fast and readable</p>
<p>my handwriting was not trained at all, because in your normal working day no one writes with their hands anymore. so it was difficult to write everything in that short timescale with a pencil. so writing on a computer would significantly improve the quality of the papers. furthermore it would really help the marking of the papers, because on a computer, there is no difficulty in reading the language, whereas the individual handwriting might not be recognizable. i consider it unfair, if a candidate is downgraded just because the examiner might not decipher his handwriting.</p>
<p>advantage: readability for the corrector, no ambiguity because of bad handwriting, faster writing, easier/faster amendments can be made, no parts of written paper can be lost disadvantages: risk of accidentally deleting text (depending on computer program), noise of the many keyboards in the examination hall, technical errors</p>

<i>advantage: copy and paste, searchable text disadvantage: hacker</i>
<i>much faster (for candidate and examiner!) no problems for the examiner when reading the eqe (compared to a hand-written one) possibility of inserting text anywhere --> also better for examiner!</i>
<i>drafting and amending the claims, description and the response would be easier. i think writing eqe answers on a computer especially in paper a and b would be advantage and more than welcome.</i>
<i>easier copy and paste of parts of documents and easier correction of typos and/or other errors.</i>
<i>i think dont write fast enough. it will be easier to read for the examiners. it will ne to noisy du- raing the examination. might generate technical problems/stress</i>
<i>i completely support writing the exam on a computer, because it is similar with my everyday work and i feel really comfortable and also can write fast.</i>
<i>multiple choice may be hard on computer, but sounds very advantages for paper a-d.</i>
<i>we are all used to using computers. easy to correct and add to answers. main disadvantage is that computers are not 100% reliable</i>
<i>not fast enough if you are not able to write with 10 fingers</i>
<i>no prior practicing availability at present.</i>
<i>lisibility for the markers.</i>
<i>clearly helpful: cut & paste! searchable text of the paper!</i>
<i>computer - faster to type. does not require examiners to read bad handwriting. ability to be able to flick back at previous answers quickly and efficiently which allows candidates. its also an envi- ronment where many candidates will be used to as computers are used in modern day work life. disadvantages - still need paper version to do notes. dont put question paper on computer. would it be fair for those with computers compared with those in writing i.e. we will still need a big desk with books on the table and space to write + make notes. maybe difficult to draw a timeline on a computer.</i>
<i>quicker but typo errors and noise ...</i>
<i>pro: readability con: lessing flexibility in answering and space</i>
<i>no drawbacks. just a step forward to be in line with the progress.</i>
<i>strongly dependent on the ability of computer writing (typing)</i>
<i>indiferent</i>
<i>it will be easier</i>
<i>technical challenge (reliability of computer), handling for candidates is difficult.</i>
<i>advantages : it is faster to write on a computer, the possibily to erase in case of mistakes in a proper manner</i>
<i>no disadvantages but i am so used to writing on a computer exclusively that i am almost fright- ened having to write by hand for this exam. i predict that there is a reasonable chance to fail the exam due to having to write by hand alone.</i>
<i>less paper, better for the earth more adequate with the everyday work</i>
<i>being able to write quickly on paper is not relevant in my actual work.</i>
<i>advantage: more easy and quick disadvantage: the management of the reading of the ex- am/paper</i>
<i>much much much easier</i>
<i>i do not like computers</i>

<i>easy to correct our answers</i>
<i>easier for the marker to read and also easy to correct. for me this would be slower than writing and it would penalise slow typists.</i>
<i>i believe it will be quicker and also neater since there will be no crossing and random paragraphs. the only downside would be to people who are not very comfortable with computers. i would find it massively useful.</i>
<i>advantages are less time needed for writing and correcting mistakes. also no anxiety for transferring the answers correctly to the official answer sheet. disadvantages could be a possible malfunction of the hardware.</i>
<i>i think writing it on a computer is too distracting, as one would be stimulated to correct answers and thus would lose valuable time.</i>
<i>time for typing the answers.</i>
<i>changing the answers may be difficult. going back to the questions left unattended might be a bit difficult</i>
<i>useful for proofreaders (clarity of writing)</i>
<i>comprehensibility for the examiners</i>
<i>disadvantage: overview of the paper as a whole, unless there would be double screens for instance. spelling, time.</i>
<i>it is easier to correct and improve the answers; it is easier to write legibly</i>
<i>for paper c it would be good if you have the opportunity to copy and use some text components or passages to spare time.</i>
<i>faster writing, more readable</i>
<i>a lot of typo sentences could be used that let the candidate to earn points.</i>
<i>adv. time in typing disadvantage. easier to read / comment on paper</i>
<i>it would allow examiners to read my script more easily. however, i am not quite as fast at typing as i am at writing, so more time may need to be allocated if my answers had to be typed out.</i>
<i>my handwriting isn't suited for writing fast, so i lose time when using pen and paper. also, if you need to rephrase or rewrite a part it's easier to just delete a sentence or paragraph and rewrite it. the disadvantage is that you may lose track of your progress in answering, especially when copying and pasting from the client's letter, whereas with pen and paper you are more actively aware of what you're writing.</i>
<i>advantage - using find function in the prior art documents; copying text from annexes disadvantage - no overview of all papers and separate pages filled-in already; hard for slow typing people; too much temptation to delete/edit text; what if computer breaks; what keyboard will be used?</i>
<i>legibility of text, access to guidelines and other online materials</i>
<i>less chance of making a mistake</i>
<i>i can type almost as fast as i think; this is a significant bottleneck when writing by hand. i feel like my answers could be much more complete and reasoned if i were to type them out.</i>
<i>no advantages for the candidate</i>
<i>we may have access to the guidelines and epc on a computer, search will be quicker, same as in work.</i>
<i>i can be more efficient and faster in writing and answer will obviously be more legible</i>
<i>i do not prefer sitting an exam on a computer, i feel better when i write on a paper</i>
<i>for pre examination not necessary for ege: faster writing, easier to read, search function. i still do prefer paper for reading and marking text</i>
<i>quicker writing and clearer answers</i>

<i>applies only to pre-eqe: no need for it for f/t questions. would require power supply for each computer, may be difficult in larger halls such as moc munich.</i>
<i>a more comprehensible writing for the examiner</i>
<i>adv: more used to write on a computer dis: noisier</i>
<i>we type much faster today than writing, and as time seems to be an issue for the eqe, this might be worthwhile.</i>
<i>the possibility to rework your answers</i>
<i>to write faster and therefore better time management</i>
<i>my thought processes are better with pen and paper. would worry about the noise of lots of typing/potential issues with computer crashing etc - i would find this stressful. i would still need pen and paper to sketch out my ideas and notes. would need paper copy of exam to annotate.</i>
<i>we were given a glossy answer sheet which means pencil doesnt really show up very well at all</i>
<i>i do not how the system looks like.</i>
<i>+ less pain in hand + in c-exam: ctrl+f would of course be very helpful... + easier to re-arrange parts of the answer +copy pasting for a-exam would be easier +easier to correct (no bad handwriting) -would still need pen and paper for e.g. timelining -might be tricky to get an overview of documents</i>
<i>advantages : -closer to the real practice. - possibility to modify the answer without rewriting the whole page. disadvantages : noise</i>
<i>advantage: faster, more organized paper</i>
<i>faster to write, able to edit answer easier</i>
<i>corrections during writing easier</i>
<i>save time on writing and thus leave more time to think about and find the answers.</i>
<i>slower and possibility of accidentally deleting whats already written.</i>
<i>advantages: i can type quicker and neater than i write under time pressure. can cut and paste easily... disadvantage: i prefer to have an answer sheet and notes on several sheets which might not be practical to incorporate on one screen? maybe 2 screens would alleviate. my worry would be cut and past and somehow deleting an entire answer-technical hitches can and will occur!</i>
<i>i think i can type quicker than i can write so this would allow me greater thinking time.</i>
<i>you can easily edit your answers</i>
<i>already stressful as it is, why add computer worries on top?</i>
<i>no disadvantage. time savings are the amin advantage. i lost at least 20 points due to lack of time.</i>
<i>faster, but possibility to make handwritten notes shall be kept</i>
<i>more like day to day work so a better reflection of skills. easier to read scripts.</i>
<i>you can correct your answers</i>
<i>results appear quicker</i>
<i>more comfortable</i>
<i>i was in the pilot group. a prefer writing on the computer because i am traned on it because of my daily work.</i>
<i>imporved structuring of answers.</i>
<i>new format to get used to.</i>

<i>easier than filling on paper</i>
<i>inability to make doodles on the paper</i>
<i>- zuverlässigkeit der elektronischen einrichtung - überblick</i>
<i>advantage: faster writing. disadvantage: additional costs.</i>
<i>disadvantages: 1.) makes the organization of the exam more complicated (installation of hard- and software) 2) risk of computer/software errors during exam will bring disadvantage to candi- date 3.) requires a lot of space in the examination hall 4.) candidate have to take care about something additional (computer). this distracts candidates from exam. advantages: 1.) answers are easily editable during exam (good for candidates) 2.) correction of paper might be easier (good for correctors)</i>
<i>adv: -by the end of the day my hand hurt from writing as i almos never ever write. this took away concentration of answering the exam. -a lot of the text we write is used several places in the pa- per (ab especially). copy and paste would be helpful -i write a lot quicker on a computer dis: - timelines difficult to draw (d), but that is not really necessary to put into the paper anyway</i>
<i>i was involved in the pilot project already. advantages: - when there is a mistake, it is easy to correct. - compared to writing, typing does not strain or cause any back pain. - being able to search documents in paper c was a lot easier. disadvantages: - i got used to thinking while writing for the exam. it was harder for me to change it to typing. - working on the paper and transferring my thoughts to the computer was tricky.</i>
<i>indifferent</i>
<i>legibility would be no more problem. i wonder how trainig could then be achieved. there has to be developed a fair standard.</i>
<i>advantages - could fill in the machine readable boxes as you go and be able to change them more easily, removing the panic of filling them in at the end its not too onerous to do the pre- ege by hand, i do not think that its necessary to answer using a computer</i>
<i>potential for hardware defects</i>
<i>i prefear writing in paper</i>
<i>easy to read for the marker, standard condition to write on computer nowadays.</i>
<i>- spread between candidates in writing fast may be bigger than for manual writing - technical is- sues - no options for quick drawings - better readability</i>
<i>i had the opportunity to write my exam on a computer this year. i thought it would be quicker than writing; but i don't think it was significantly quicker. what was better was the ability to organise my answer; and i think it will improve legibility for the examiners (i have terrible handwriting!).</i>
<i>higher velocity in preparing the ege answers</i>
<i>advantage : no paper disadvantage: we cannot cut and paste and having all docs in front of us</i>
<i>massive temporal advantage. especially because of the copy paste function and the search func- tion in the c part.</i>
<i>under sterss it is easier to use a pen than a keyboard.</i>
<i>no difference compared to paper</i>
<i>writing in hand is very time consuming and is so outdated. everybody use a computer nowadays. i fear the day the examiner has to read my handwriting in the real ege exams. i think the ege fa- vour candidates capable of writing fast and still readable. personally i have to write very slow if another person should be able to read it afterwards. the ege exam should not be concerned with the hand writing skills of a candidate but rather his knowledge regarding patent law. in my opinion writing on a computer would be more fair.</i>
<i>i prefer paper</i>
<i>writing by hand is slower and physically intense than writing with a computer. therefore, writing on a computer would be quicker and less painfull. in addition, it is easier to cut parts of what already</i>

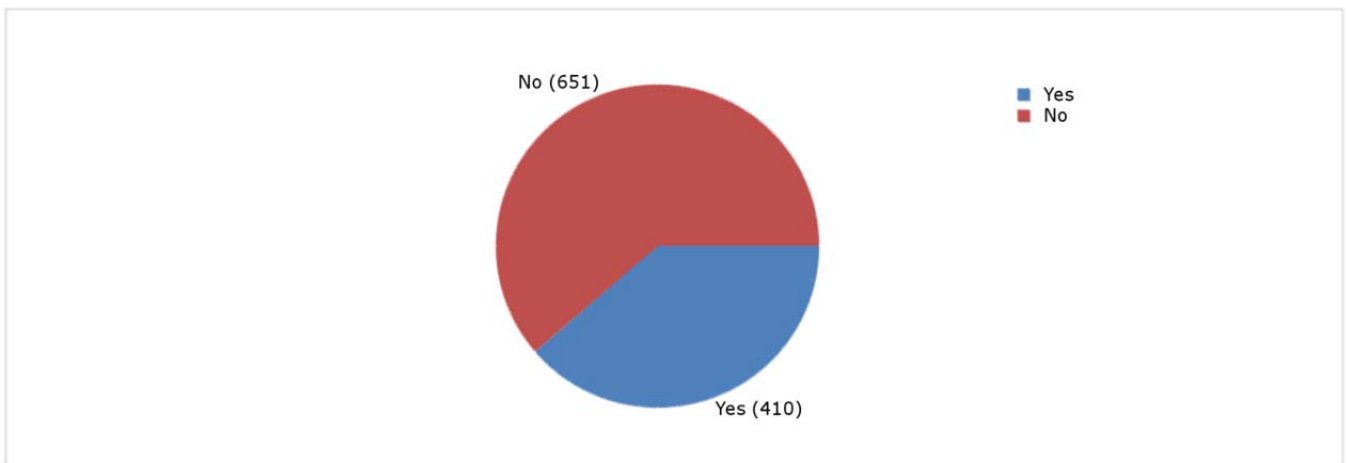
<i>has been written and paste it somewhere else in the text.</i>
<i>advantage: this is how you work in your daily work. that is, you do not write claims from top to bottom. you start with a couple of important words and then you work from there. disadvantage: if you do not have access to the exam text digitally you need to copy parts of the text that you could otherwise glue onto your answer</i>
<i>in front of a screen it is more difficult to concentrate on a question in which you have to be careful to every detail. i would prefer the possibility to keep the material (like the guidelines or the applicants guide) in digital form, in order to avoid wasting a lot of paper to print it.</i>
<i>similar to dayly work not trained</i>
<i>amin advantage would be for those correcting it i guess. another advantage would be that it would be easier to amend text. drawback would be that time might be spent on formatting nice, and maybe not so good overview. how do you draw the timelines quickly? another drawback may be that you need a lot of space on the desk for the paper and annexes, and your reference books. a computer may mess that up. in all it does not matter to me if it is on paper or on computer.</i>
<i>i am faster on a computer. my hands dont suffer from writing on a computer. it is always legible. it reflects our jobs in the 21st century and our daily practice. basically, i am not used to handwriting anymore. my mother complains she cannot decipher a single postcard from me...</i>
<i>i am no longer used to wright by hand. usually you start with a thought and then add things before and after. when you right by hand you must plan you writing in another way.</i>
<i>useless</i>
<i>advantage: handwriting not an issue so for those with bad hand writing it is fairer</i>
<i>advantage: possible to revise, probably easier to write fast. disadvantage: none.</i>
<i>for the pre-examination it would not be necessary, but for the eqe papers a-d i believe it would be a great advantage due to the large amount of text that is needed to put down in writing. with a computer its quicker to write, easier to modify, and should be easier to evaluate since handwriting which is hard to interpret would not be an issue.</i>
<i>no advantages as the pre-eqe answers are only true or wrong, nothing else to write. advantage eqe: much to write, faster by computer, more easy to correct during the exam. (more easy for examiners to read and correct, too) disadvantage: claim analysis part: prior art cannot be distributed on the table, no parallel overview on the documents</i>
<i>looking at the screen for a too long time.</i>
<i>i can type only with three fingers. a speech recognition software would be the best for me, but this seems not practical for an exam. consequently, paper exam. and the condition for the exam should be for all the same! either a computer exam or a paper exam. no mixture.</i>
<i>speed might be less</i>
<i>copy/paste and possibility to rearrange text. this would better fit my non-linear work style.</i>
<i>more like real life. would be able to rearrange text, especially important in paper c</i>
<i>1. ability to amend your answer on the go, without creating a time-wasting mess. this is of particular importance when answering the exams question require you to compose claims. 2. we are all much more used to typing than to handwriting.</i>
<i>advantages - it reflects our actual job (most patent firms are now paper light if not paper free). younger people now often type faster than they write. it solves the problem of bad handwriting and hand pain/injury. it enables you to change/adjust your answer during the exam without making a huge mess of the paper. this is a normal part of the job and there is no need to discourage it. it would probably make examiners lives easier too! disadvantages - i would prefer the actual question paper to be available in paper for highlighting etc as this is difficult on a computer. small screens could be difficult to work with. technical glitches during the middle of an exam could be hugely problematic.</i>
<i>easy to amend but may spend too much time getting used to the system/keyboard layout</i>

<p>advantages- pre-eqe is a tick-box exercise so yes it will save time blocking out answers - easier to change. if open-book and your own laptop allowed then candidates can save a lot more accessible material to their hard drives such as national law tables, etc, rather than carrying them around on paper everywhere. esp. if the test site is half-way up the country! disadvantages - bringing a laptop and charger etc with you everywhere if you have to bring your own. staring at a screen can be worse than paper sometimes.</p>
<p>undoubtedly at least the a paper will be helpful to be made by computer. i am not sure that for the others the interest is so big..</p>
<p>-easier to correct -cut and paste facilitated</p>
<p>advantage - easier to practice real time questions on computer than writing by hand. hence, better preparation for the real exam. disadvantage - speed might be an issue for those not used to typing on their own. few aspects such as drawing timelines might be time consuming.</p>
<p>depending on the functionality the text editor would support, it would be a huge advantage if one could cleanly delete and overwrite entire passages in his/her answer. also i believe that typing would increase my writing speed..</p>
<p>the paper is outdated, writing down has almost become extinct in everyday work.</p>
<p>1) more resemblance with my work, so better preparation for my work as patent attorney 2) i specifically need to train for handwriting as it is not my normal way of work; which is a waste of considerable and precious time considering the digital age we live in 3) less effort for the epo in marking the documents 4) more efficient for most exams considering the copy-paste options 5) it gives focus on what should be really tested; my ability as patent attorney</p>
<p>nothing in pre-ex</p>
<p>+ : faster writing, easier correction, less physical tiredness - : much noise for the others, more optical tiredness, risk of bugs of the computer</p>
<p>- write faster - correct faster - no problems regarding readability - more practice-oriented i can see no disadvantages</p>
<p>computer not necessary at all</p>
<p>presuming that i can use legal text on the computer, too: - not to have this much paperwork with me (poor trees...) - allways have the current version</p>
<p>for me, it is expected that on a computer we can write faster and the hand is less tired during the examination</p>
<p>it will be possible to change your answer easier and it takes less time to write on a computer, which means that more time can be spent on acutally reading and finding the information.</p>
<p>advantages - hand doesnt get tired, easier to go back and edit. disadvantages - some people are quicker at typing than others. also word can sometimes have funny formatting rules and that can get frustrating if youre trying to correct incorrect formatting.</p>
<p>i fear the screen might be too small and therefore not confortable. could be tiring for the ryes to change from screen to paper (when reading the exam paper)during the exam</p>
<p>the dutch exams are taken on a computer and it works fine. i have ugly handwriting thus this would be useful.</p>
<p>spell check. as a non epo language native i would benefit form a simple spell check module. it would give me a lot of time.</p>
<p>writing by hand takes too much time.</p>
<p>less space on the table</p>
<p>the noise of the rest of the candidates is a big disadvantage the possibility to amend answers would be better than in the current situation</p>
<p>easier to structure the answers copy and paste function (useful for paper c)</p>
<p>time. since im not used to write with pens nowadays.</p>
<p>to be sure that the computer will not crash to be able to copy/paste text from paper</p>
<p>quick correction, reformatting, , structuring, cleanliness</p>

advantage: i use computers, so i am more familiar with using a keyboard than pens. less use of papers, that is - probably more environmentally friendly. disadvantage: possible technical issues, e.g. if i am used to a different type of keyboards (e.g. in hungarian keyboards z and y are interchanged compared to the internationally used keyboards.) legal aspects: in hungary an employee shall have 10 minutes break in each hour free of monitor usage. this regulation might have violated if my employers sends me to the eqe and i have to do my d paper in front of a monitor through 5.5 hours. due to the time pressure i would definitely not look out of the window for 55 mins to get my eyes relaxed.

advantage: possibility to delete wrong answers and thereby maintaining an overall readable structur disadvantage: probably takes more time for those who are not skilled writing on a computer

Q37) Would you be prepared to travel a long distance to be able to sit the EQE on a computer??



Q38) If a computer-based examination were introduced, would you as a candidate be prepared to participate moderately in the costs?

