Survey

European qualifying examination 2011

Examination Secretariat
# EQE Survey 2011

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</table>

**Chapter 2 - Preparation for the EQE**

Q7) Examiner's report – rating

- Does the examiner's report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how an answer should be composed?
- Does the examiner's report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how the papers are marked?

Q8) Elements of your personal preparation

- Compendium
- General external courses regarding intellectual property
- Specialised courses for EQE papers
- In-house courses organised by your company
- Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in the Art. 10(2)(a) REE - Study in a small group with other candidates

Q9) Which other books/study aids did you use?

Q10) Which course(s) did you follow?

Q11) Which other elements did you consider important for your personal preparation?

Q12) How long before sitting the EQE did you start intensive focused study?

Q13) What was your greatest weakness if you assess your own preparation for the EQE and how could you have overcome it?

Q14) Do you have any comments or suggestions for other candidates preparing for the EQE?
Chapter 3 - Training/Employment under Art. 10(2)(a) REE

Q15) In which member EPC state did you complete most of your training according to Art 10(2)(a) REE?  

Q16) Did you complete most of your training in industry or in private practice?  

Q17) How would you rate the support of your employer in view of your preparation for the EQE?  

Q18) How much time did your employer allow for your participation in courses regarding your preparation for the EQE?  

Q19) How would you rate the amount of free time allowed for your personal preparation by your employer?  

Q20a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art. 10(2)(a) REE?  

Q20b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the first year of training?  

Q20c) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the second year of training?  

Q20d) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the third year of training?  

Q21) What would you propose to supervisors in order to improve candidates' preparation for the EQE?  

Q22) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-year training period?  

Q23) How did your supervisor as defined by Art. 10(2)(a) train you for paper C?  

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

Chapter 4 - EQE Papers

Q25) How would you rate the difficulty of the examination papers you sat in 2011?  

Q26) Did you feel time pressure during the exam?  

Q27) Do you have any comments about the difficulty of the examination papers?  

Q28) What is your opinion about the time available for each of the examination papers you sat in 2011?  

Q29) Do you think that more time for preparing your answer would have improved your performance in the examination papers you sat?
Q30) Do you have comments concerning the time available for the examination papers?  

Chapter 5 - EQE Forum of the European Patent Academy and on-line services

Q31) Did you use the EQE Forum?  

Q32) How actively did you use the following services?  

Q33) Please rate the following sections of the EQE Forum on a scale  

Q34) Please rate the on-line service (www.eqe-online.org/questions) on a scale  

Q35) Did you discuss any of the EQE on-line exercises with your supervisor/tutor?  

Q36) How could the EQE on-line exercises be best integrated into your preparation for the EQE?  

Q37) Do you have any suggestions for how the EQE Forum or the other on-line exercises might be improved?
**Introduction**

On 04 March 2011 candidates were invited to participate in a survey concerning the European qualifying examination 2011. 1296 answers were received by 11 April 2011.

Among the candidates who participated in the survey, 453 took part in the EQE for the first time, 454 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
* Please give your EQE registration number as provided by e-mail of 4th March 2011. 

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

---

Q1) Did you participate in the EQE for the first time?
- yes
- no

Q2) In which centre did you sit the EQE 2011?
- Berlin
- Berne
- Bristol
- Helsinki
- Madrid
- Munich DPMA
- Munich M,O,C
- Paris
- Rome
- Stockholm
- Taastrup
- The Hague

Q3) Examination centres - rating

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please rate</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Adequate</th>
<th>Bad</th>
<th>Very bad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Identification check</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighting conditions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space for candidates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restroom facilities</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suitability of the examination hall</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Q4) Examination centres - rating

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Please rate</th>
<th>Very easy</th>
<th>Easy</th>
<th>Indifferent</th>
<th>Difficult</th>
<th>I could not find my seat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Was ist easy to find your seat in the examination hall?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Q5) Examination centres - rating

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Too warm</th>
<th>Ideal</th>
<th>Too cold</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hall temperature</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q6) Additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions

Please add your comments

Q7) Examiners' report in the Compendium - rating

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Enough</th>
<th>Indifferent</th>
<th>Not enough</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how an answer should be composed?</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the examiners' report in the Compendium give enough information to understand how the papers are marked?</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Q8) Elements of your personal preparation

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>I didn't make use of it</th>
<th>Very important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Indifferent</th>
<th>Not important</th>
<th>Useless</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compendium</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General external courses regarding intellectual property</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized courses for EQE papers</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In-house training organized by your company</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in Art. 11(2)(a)REE</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study in small group with other candidates</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td>⬜️ ⬜️ ⬜️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q9) What other books and/or study aids did you use?

Q10) Which course(s) did you follow?

Several answers are possible.

- The full eight months' training with the German authorities
- The "Diplôme d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle", obtained after completing the one-year period of study with CEIPI in Strasbourg
- The "Master of Advanced Studies in Intellectual Property" at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
- CEIPI/epi basic training course (2 years)
- CEIPI pre-preparatory course(s)
Q11) Which other elements did you consider important for your personal preparation for the EQE?

Please add comments


Q12) How long before sitting the EQE did you start intensive focused study?

Please choose

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

Q13) What was your greatest weakness when assessing your preparation for the EQE and your performance, and how, in retrospect, could you have overcome it?

Please describe your experiences


Q14) Do you have comments or suggestions for other candidates preparing for the EQE?


Q15) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training according to Art. 10(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
Q16) I completed most of the training (Art. 11(2)(a) REE) in

- Private practice
- Industry

Q17) How would you rate the support of your employer in view of your preparation for the EQE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Very good</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Adequate</th>
<th>Bad</th>
<th>Very bad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support of your employer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q18) How much time did your employer allow for attending courses for your preparation for the EQE?

Please indicate the number of working days: [ ] days

Q19) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your employer for participation in courses?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>More than sufficient</th>
<th>Sufficient</th>
<th>Borderline</th>
<th>Too little</th>
<th>Inadequate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of study leave allowed by your employer</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Q20a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art. 11(2)(a) REE (i.e. the person who signed your Certificate of Training on Employment)?

Please indicate the number of working days: [_____] days

Q20b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the first year of training?

Please indicate the percentage: [_____] %

Q20c) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the second year of training?

Please indicate the percentage: [_____] %

Q20d) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the third year of training?

Please indicate the percentage: [_____] %

Q21) What would you suggest to supervisors in order to improve candidates’ preparation for the EQE?

Please add comments, suggestions...

Q22) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-years training period?

Please indicate the number of cases: [_____] cases

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

Several answers are possible.

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

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

Several answers are possible.

- Using opposition cases from my company
- Using other opposition cases
- Compendium
- [_____] I have followed a course/courses
Q25) EQE papers

Please rate the difficulty of the examination papers you sat in 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Too easy</th>
<th>Easy</th>
<th>Adequate</th>
<th>Difficult</th>
<th>Too difficult</th>
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<tr>
<td>Paper A (E/M)</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper A (Ch)</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<td>Paper B (E/M)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper B (Ch)</td>
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<td>Paper D II</td>
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<td>☐</td>
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</table>

Q26) Did you feel time pressure during the examination?

☐ yes  ☐ no

Q27) Comments concerning the difficulty of the EQE papers

Please add comments concerning the difficulty of the EQE papers

Q28) What is your opinion about the time available for each of the examination papers you sat in 2011?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Paper A (Ch)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper B (E/M)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper B (Ch)</td>
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<td>Paper C</td>
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<td>Paper D II</td>
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</table>

Q29) Do you think that more time during the examination would have improved your performance in the examination papers you sat?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>Indifferent</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please choose</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q30) Do you have comments concerning the time available for the examination papers?

Please add your comments

Further use of data

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

☐ I agree
☐ I do not agree

Q31) EQE Forum of the European Patent Academy and online services

☐ I used the EQE Forum
☐ I did not use the EQE Forum

Q32) How actively did you use the following services?

Please rate on a scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Very often</th>
<th>Often</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Seldom</th>
<th>Never</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion of general topics</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of Examination Papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>EQE Expert Online 2011</td>
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Q33) Please rate the following sections of the EQE Forum on a scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
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<th>High</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Very low</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion of general topics: General usefulness</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of general topics: Quality of material</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of general topics: Quality of responses to questions</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion of general topics: Timeliness of responses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of Examination Papers: General usefulness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion of Examination Papers: Quality of responses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expert Online 2011: General usefulness</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expert Online 2011: Quality of expert's responses</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Q34) Please rate the online service (www.eqe-online.org/questions) on a scale

<table>
<thead>
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<th>High</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
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<th>Very low</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General usefulness</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevance of covered topics</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ease of use of the tool</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level of difficulty</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the model answers and comments</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q35) Did you discuss any of the EQE online exercises with your supervisor/tutor?

- [ ] yes
- [ ] no

Q36) How could the EQE online service be best integrated into your preparation for the EQE?

Please rate on a scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Very useful</th>
<th>Useful</th>
<th>Indifferent</th>
<th>Less necessary</th>
<th>Unnecessary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Providing last minute help on a broad range of topics</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing tutorial-like exercises with model answers and an opportunity to discuss</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serving as a basis for discussion with your supervisor/tutor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Time schedule of the exercise</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of the model answers and comments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

other, please specify:

Q37) Do you have any suggestions for how the EQE Forum or the other online exercises might be improved?

Please specify
You have finished the survey now. Please submit the form by clicking on the blue arrow below.
Chapter 1 – Examination Centres

1.1 Berlin (32 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- a little bit more fresh air would be nice
- Fine from my side.
- Halle West of the EPA building was definitely not a all suitable for the EQE, at least not in 2011. Every table was provided with a hanging lamp. The lamp blinded me a lot; I tried to cast a shadow on the exam paper with the upper part of body in order to be able to read the task and to see what I was writing. Thus, my position at the table was quite uncomfortable. Furthermore, there were ongoing construction works on the floor above. We could often hear angle grinders, hammers and impact drills. This noise was very disruptive to work. However, the most disrupting factor was the candidate who sat exactly behind me. Obviously, he got a severe cold shortly before the EQE. Instead of blowing his nose from time to time or using a nose spray to mitigate the mucus formation, he snuffled loudly every few seconds. Terrible! Besides from the fact that I consider snuffling to be one of the most disgusting and obnoxious things one can do, I could hardly focus on the exam paper due to the loud, frequent and disgusting snuffling. After D I, I asked the candidate to buy a nose spray (a pharmacy is not far away from the EPO building) and offered him some of my packages of paper tissues, but he only stared at me as if I had spoken Chinese (although we are both native speakers of German!) and ignored me. During D II, he continued snuffling. Another candidate who sat diagonally behind me grunted frequently. I am not the only one who heard the snuffling and grunting, nor am I the only one who felt that this was very disruptive to work. The candidate who sat in front of me turned to me after D II and said that he felt very much disturbed by the snuffling and grunting as well.
- just fine
- no additional comments
- On the fist day we heard some motor saw work. If possible, those work should be scheduled for another day in advance.
- The condition of the air itself is rather bad and sticky. It feels that there is not much oxygen left in the air.
- the light was sometime flickering and sometimes it was noisy because of building activities
- The lights have been in a very bad condition, there was a noise from the electric system. It was a bit disturbing.
1.2 Berne (44 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- It is perfect that the examination hall is in a hotel!
- It was perfect!
- It was really quiet. Nothing can disturb a candidate in these conditions.
- Manchmal etwas Durchzug in den hinteren Reihen...aber sonst wirklich sehr gut organisiert.
- Tables could have been a little bigger.
- The examination hall has an excellent ambiance
- The hotel room was too hot and the church bell near the hotel really prohibits opening the window in the night during sleep. It is not easy to get a good sleep in this hotel. The food in the hotel is not recommended either.
- Verstellbare Sitzhöhe bei Stuhl wünschenswert, da das Tischblatt sehr tief angeordnet war.
1.3 Bristol (78 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Bad</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Identification check

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Bad</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Lighting conditions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very Good</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bad</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Bad</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- alarm went off several times which definitely disturbed concentration more than the 1 minute compensation time given
- Although still slightly too cold, the temperature was much improved over that of last year. This year, although my feet were still frozen, the legibility of my handwriting was not impaired due to shivering as it was last year!
- Apart from being in Bristol, the hall is ideal.
- Apart from the toilets, the examination hall was fine.
- as usual, far too cold when sitting the paper C in the morning. The hall needs to be heated far in advance to provide suitable warmth.
- As with last year, the examination hall was very cold.
- Burglar alarm went off during one paper - very disturbing.
- Everything was alright, the only problem was that the hall was too cold. My hands were freezing and I had to wear a lot of clothes and scarf to make sure I was not shivering.; ; The location of the hall was very convenient within the city, and the sign posted was very helpful.
- Exam hall was very cold.
- Far too cold. Otherwise fine.
- Having use of a lift was excellent.; The lighting could have been better. If the sun was not shining it was quite dimly lit, especially for those at the sides of the hall.; It was absolutely freezing on the first day. I was warned of this by last years candidates and wore ski thermals and ski socks yet still could not feel my feet by the end of D2. The invigilators were wearing gloves. It was slightly better buy the end of Paper C. ; Whilst the exam hall is is spacious and the large desks were good I think there needs to be a more effective way of heating such a large space and providing more light in order that this location is ideal for these exams.
- I was sat on the right hand side facing the front of the hall. There are windows on this wall and the hall in this area was cold. I had to wear the fleece lining from my coat during the exam.
- Invigilators were friendly and helpful
- It was a little bit cold, but I prefer that as it is easier to get warmed up than to cool down under exam conditions! ; ; Good location.
- It was difficult to see any of the clocks if you were sat in the middle of the hall.
- It would be nice to able to take the EQE's in London rather than Bristol as this would probably be alot easier for most of the candidates.
- Noisy
- On the longest examination day - finishing at 17.30 - the light levels in the centre of the hall were not bright enough to read and write comfortably. I noticed this in about the last hour between 16.30 and 17.30. There were no artificial lights directly overhead and light from the windows and artificial lights on sides of the hall was inadequate.
- The carpet in the examination hall stank. I was constantly reminded of the smell during the examination and it was distracting.
- The enforcement of the rule regarding use of noisy equipment was somewhat lacking - the gluing implement many people used was very noisy and yet nobody did anything about it. Furthermore, the specific ban on electronic timing devices was completely ignored by a very small number of people, and again nothing was done about this. Whilst it is perhaps harsh to remove glue from people who have planned to use a technique in the exam that requires gluing, it is similarly harsh to force everyone to be disturbed by noise made by your gluing tool, when normal glue sticks are perfectly adequate.
- The exam hall was so cold that both I and the woman next to me required blankets/coats over both our legs and backs.; ; Bristol appears to be chosen due to proximity to the UK Patent Office, from where the invigilators are recruited. However, Bristol is not a convenient location for most of the profession, particularly those travelling from London, North England & Scotland, and Ireland. A primary location in London, and a secondary location in the North of
England would be better, with a surcharge covering extra pay & travel costs for the invigilators.

- The examination hall was far too cold. I sat paper C with my hat and scarf on, and I had to sit on my hands in between writing. I found it quite difficult to concentrate when the hall was so cold. I know other candidates felt the same.
- The hall was much warmer than last year!
- The hall was so cold at times that I was shivering, which is very distracting for the exams.
- Too cold on some days
- Very cold on the 1st day, not much better 2nd & 3rd days, it's a huge space to heat, very high ceilings
- Very difficult to see a clock when your seat is directly in the middle of the hall.
- very good. conditions helped to be relaxed before exam.
- Very handy for the railway station.
- Very noisy floor. Those going to the lavatory facilities caused unfortunate audible resonance and reverberation.
1.4 Helsinki 

(34 answers received)

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

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

![Bar graph showing ratings for accessibility](image)

Identification check

![Bar graph showing ratings for identification check](image)

Lighting conditions

![Bar graph showing ratings for lighting conditions](image)
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Lightning conditions could be improved.
- There was a considerably thick layer of dust on my desk ...
- Excellent table space. Extra lights and clocks had been added from my previous sitting, that's good.
- Identification check: Actually, what documents are needed? The seat card received via post, too? It appeared that only the invitation letter and identity card was enough. The space is very limited in the table, so please check that only the relevant documents have been asked to bring along and set on the table. Thank you.
- Identification check: what is actually needed? The invitation said that identity card, seating card and invitation is required. It was obvious that only identity card was checked.; ; The helicopter(s) annoyed from time to time.
Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

![Graph showing accessibility ratings]

Identification check

![Graph showing identification check ratings]

Lighting conditions

![Graph showing lighting conditions ratings]
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- For paper D, the temperature was too cold. However, the day for paper A the temperature was too warm
- Perfect location
- Chair and table not very comfortable.; Specially, in my opinion, the heigh of the table (low) did not correspond to the adequate heigh of the chair.
- Desks as large as possible are always welcome, though these in Madrid are adequate. The location is practical. A few of us were in a particularly dark corner, but we were provided with a floor lamp - thanks. Also, the EQE ruled paper had much clearer lines this year - thank, thanks, thanks!
- I'd like to insist on the temperature factor. It was excessively hot to the point that it made me sweat and develope a headache, which -no doubt- slowed me down at taking decisions in both papers. Eventually the heater was turned off, at the end of paper B.
- Sometimes it getting so cold and sometimes it gets so warm... depending on when the A/C starts or not.
- Nothing to comment. Everything was ok
- The tables are long enough but very narrow. Not confortables.
- The room was silent and even other events were ongoing around, we were not disturbed
- Excellent location
- Some problems with air-condicioning. Sometimes it was little cold.
- Q5) Warm and cool in different moments. Ideal not, but they tried to make comfortable atmosphere depending on each moment.
- No comments.
1.6 Munich DPMA (35 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- The Examiners supervising the examination did a great job in providing a relaxed atmosphere reducing the stress of the candidates!
- Overall temperature was ok, however, air conditioning was too strong (cold wind).
- Digital clock at the wall would be nice
Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- A bit too far from the city
- A have a complaint regarding the link in the enrolment letter;
  http://www.epo.org/patents/learning/qualifying-examination/eqe2011centres.html; This link did only cover one centre in Munic, the DPMA.; There was no link to M.O.C map and hotels list.; This led me to believe that M.O.C was located close to the DPMA and the travel dept. booked a hotel close to Zweibr¨cken strasse.; In this context it should be noted that I did not ask for M.ninc, my choice was Copenhagen.; This led to unnecessary extra effort and uncertainty when arriving to the hotel and finding out that MOC was in a completely different part of the city.; Bad.
- announcements should be performed by native speakers
- At least for the M.O.C, a map of the different sections could have been useful (at least to calm the candidates down...)
- Bigger tables would be helpful.; I really enjoyed the smaller K3/K4 Room.
- Carpet could have been placed all over the hall in order to reduce noise.
- completely unsufficient lightning conditions, too long to walk to the restrooms
- Da die Halle sehr abgelegen ist, muss man wirklich die kleinste Kleinigkeit mitbringen. Es sollte wenigstens die M*glichkeit bestehen in der Halle Kleinigkeiten zu Essen und zu trinken zu erstehen.
- Didn't find a nice place to relax in the lunch breaks
- Die L†ftung macht st†rende Ger†usche (an manchen Stellen der Halle). Das Ger†usch ist periodisch und tritt †fter auf. Es ist und nicht sehr laut, aber nervend. ; ; Die Toiletten sind berlastet.
- Einige Empfehlen das DMA als Ort zum Schreiben, aber das MOC war schon OK. Nebenger†usche gibt es immer.; Getr†nkeverkauf w†rre sinnvoll gewesen f,r diejenigen, die nichts dabei hatten/haben konnten.; ; Comment concerning this survey: Please state explicitly the paragraphs of REE to make time wasting by looking them up unnecessary.;
- Everything was fine. Fortunately no mobile phones were ringing during examination this year.
- for Paper C there were too many candidates for the examination hall.; hence it was too loud/noisy and restrooms etc. were too crowded
- For waiting before the examination there should be more seats available.
- Fresh air would be great.
- Habe in einem Nebenraum mit ca. 70 Kandidaten mitgeschrieben. Der Raum im ERdgeschoss war komplett verglast, deshalb von den Lichtverh‰ltnissen super. Leider stand zeitweise direkt neben dem Raum ein LKW mit laufendem Motor (sehr st†rend). Außerdem war kurzzeitig ein G†rtener mit einer elektrischen Heckenschere neben dem Raum am arbeiten!
- I could not see any of the wall clocks from my place (and I was not allowed to use my analog clock, because it was not a wrist-watch)
- I could not see the watch on the wall.
- I had a seat in an extra hall, not the large hall where most candidates sit - the small room was a lot more comfortable in all regards, i.e. lighting, temperature, silent, .... excellent!
- I sat in block K3 which was not located in the big hall but in a smaller room at the M.O.C. in Munich. The restrooms were next door. The supervisory staff was very kind. The lightning conditions were ideal. All in all, perfekt conditions.
- I used earplugs, which, in my opinion is mandatory, owing to the number of participants and the noise of the start/shutdown of the air condition.
- I was aside from the big M.O.C. hall in K3/K4 which was much better than the very ugly exhibition hall.; In the beginning too warm, end of the day 1 quite cool.
- I was aside in K-area, which was much better than the big hall of M.O.C.
- I was in hall K3 (the small one), which was really good, there was enough space between tables, which is important. The only problem was with module C, after 4 hours the air/oxygen
was not particularly good any more. Unfortunately the toilets were rather dirty, probably it would be necessary to clean them all the time during the day, not only 2-3 times.

- I was in K4, which was - I think - just perfect. Not too big, and plenty of room between the desks. The situation in the large hall seemed very different, with the desks very close together. The fact that the restrooms were outside K4 was also positive. I had heard very negative reports about distracting noise in the vicinity of the restrooms for participants in the large hall.

- I was sitting in the K-area in the separate, smaller room of M.O.C.; This place is very convenient - and much better than the big hall.

- I was sitting relatively close to one of the walls and experienced a slight steady movement of cold air in the back, which was not really annoying, but a bit unpleasant at times.

- I would have preferred a good view to a big watch to help me in my time management.

- In the morning (paper A) the hall was very cold, but later on it becomes warmer. I prefer it to be warmer.

- IT would be great to get a coffee in the hall during the exam.

- It would be more comfortable to have larger table size.

- It would be nice to have a subway stop next to the hall -- otherwise, just fine.

- It would have been appreciated that the invigilators emphasize the efficiency of the glue of the envelope and may be to give the tip to stick it to the table and then put the answer sheet in it (this would have avoid the first page to be have been damaged!!!)

- Light not bright enough, one male restroom for 500 people is not enough by far.

- Lightning conditions are certainly not easy to improve.

- Munich MOC: except for the restrooms (4 seats for 400+ people) fine!

- No

- No comments.

- None

- None.

- Not enough restrooms, very crowded during "rush hours".

- Not enough toilets available. Candidates have to wait and thus lost some of the valuable time.

- Overall it was a good atmosphere for sitting the exam.

- Please allow the use of staplers within the first five minutes!

- Please provide more litter boxes.

- Procedure of handing out papers was generally smooth. However, I was handed another person's paper instead of mine on two of the three days. This is a critical mistake that must not happen.

- Si je ne m'empêche pas, les tapis/moquettes insonorisant et formant les allées jusqu'aux toilettes et devant les bureaux des surveillants étaient différents de l'année précédente, et mieux.

- Since only toilets in the exam room could be used, for some seats (those close to the main door) the distance to the toilets was too large.

- Sometimes no paper in the restroom facilities.

- Space for reading and writing simple too small.

- Space restrictions are a serious problem for all the stuff you have to take with you for sitting paper C and D.

- Table wobbled.

- The hall was draughty.

- The air seemed to be quite sticky.

- The air temperature was alright, but the cold concrete floor was horrible.

- The air was simply bad.

- The air was very dry.

- The big hall in M, O, C is quite inconvenient, less people in smaller rooms would be much more comfortable.

- The desk for candidates was too small!
The desks could be little greater to better allow handling of the (particulaly C) papers.
The examination hall was just fine.
The MOC is at an ugly location in an otherwise nice city (Munich), the food and beverages are overpriced and of bad quality in the MOC, but who really cares when passing an exam? Maybe another location might offer a better environment (messestadt?), but those are (tiny) details which might rather affect the invigilators than the candidates.
The plastic bags have very sticky tags... somewhat annoying after the exam. You should advise people to attach the sticky label to the surface of the desk and then to flip bag over so that it can be conveniently loaded with papers.;
The restaurant is too small for so many people.
The restroom facilities themselves were not bad, there were just too few to accommodate the run right before the test (even when including the facilities outside the actual examination hall).
The table size was too small.
The watches on the wall could be seen from all seats.
This time I was sitting in a small room and all of the candidates had to leave the room to reach the toilets, which caused noise.
To improve the light conditions for my person the secretariat was so kind to allow me to use an additional light source. Thank you!
to much people and too noisy.
Too big and thus too loud.
Too big, too many candidates.
too few clocks, given the non-admission of anything but the simplest wristwatch.
too large, too many people in one room.
Too warm and no ventilation.
Too warm and too dry air.
Unfortuantely I always get cold feet after a while, but I do not know how to change that.
Unfortunately, the examination hall is far away from the center of munich, so that it is not possible to go to the hotel or to a good restaurant during lunch break in order to relax.
Very big and very many people, so not too quiet. ; However I did not feel too much disturbed.
very dry air.
Very limited restroom facilities. Depending on the seat, clock was not visible. Additional clocks would be helpful.
Very warm at the beginning, I suppose because the heating was at the maximum in order to warm up properly such a big room.
why is the use of a stapler prohibited in such a noisy area?
1.8 Paris (95 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Access from Metro to the EQE center should be signed at least in the vicinity of the exam center. Tables were too small.
- Accessibility by means of common transportation is not ideal but less difficult as it was for the past year (examination hall at La plaine). That said, the hall is really more suited for the exam: no cold air stream, few echoes. And the restaurant is just nearby, that is a great improvement.
- An examination hall inside Paris would be much more adequate. Saint Ouen or Saint Denis are difficult to reach so that even those living in the region of Paris have to take an hotel in order to be on time to the examination.
- Better than before but still in "bad part" of Paris
- De nouveau cette année, la localisation du centre d'examen Parisien était mauvaise car 1) éloignée des transports en communs (15 minutes du pied de la ligne de métro 13, difficile avec une grosse et lourde valise), il ne faut pas compter sur les lignes de bus prises dans les embouteillages parisiens le matin pour arriver au centre d'examen dans de bonnes conditions, 2) situé encore une fois dans un quartier mal fréquenté, ce qui diminue encore la possibilité de prendre les transports en communs, et 3) encore une fois quartier en travaux, d'où du bruit gênant pendant l'examen. Je me doute bien que les locations de salles dans le 93 doivent être moins onéreuses que dans Paris ou dans d'autres banlieues "fréquentables", mais n'y a-t-il vraiment pas d'alternatives?? Par exemple la maison des examens de Laplace (Arcueil-94)? Je croise les doigts pour l'an prochain.
- Depuis ma place de l'arrière de la salle, les instructions données n'étaient absolument pas compréhensibles.
- Il aurait fallu indiquer dans la lettre de convocation le changement d'adresse du lieu d'examen (Paris) par rapport aux années précédentes. Le fait que le lieu s'appelle eurosites comme l'année précédente m'a induit en erreur. En arrivant au mauvais adresse (St Denis) je me suis rendue compte que c'était un autre eurosites à St Ouen !; Tables très serrées, peu de place pour circuler rapidement et sans déranger les gens pendant l'Épreuve (par exemple pour aller aux toilettes); ; Etant au fond de la salle, je n'ai rien compris de ce que disait le jury même avec le micro.
- It could be suitable to finding an examination center in a more central place in Paris.
- It would be great if you could send (with the convocation) a map showing the accessibility of the center, for the next sessions.
- It would be preferable to have an examination center in Paris (not near Paris)
- La localisation du centre d'examen Était vraiment parfaite cette année contrairement aux années précédentes. Il Était vraiment appréciable d'avoir la possibilité de manger sur place. Je suis ravi de voir que les remarques concernant l'ancien centre d'examen qui Était vraiment mal adapté pour le déroulement d'un tel examen aient enfin été prises en compte par les organisateurs. J'espère que l'examen 2012 se passera au même endroit.
- Le centre d'examen de Saint Ouen est très difficilement accessible.; 2) Le bruit des marteaux-piqueurs pendant une bonne partie de l'Épreuve A et de l'Épreuve B : pas admissible!!!; 3) La restauration sur place : elle Était possible mais personne n'Était au courant. C'est une information intÉressante surtout Étant donné le quartier.; ; En transport en commun, la station de métro la plus proche est située sur la ligne 13, bien connue des parisiens comme la ligne de métro sur laquelle se produisent le plus d'incidents et de perturbations. Le mercredi 3 mars au matin par exemple le service Était perturbé. En voiture ou en taxi, la circulation pour sortir de Paris est très importante et oblige à arriver au moins 1 heure et demi avant le début de l'Épreuve pour être tranquille. Ces problèmes sont renforcés par le fait de devoir traîner une valise de 50 kg.
Le lieu du centre d'examen à Paris (i.e. Saint-Ouen) est difficile d'accès et dans une banlieue peu sûre de Paris! Même remarques pour le centre d'examen de SAINT-DENIS où j'ai passé l'examen EQE 2010.

Les surveillants étaient très bien.

Located in a bad part of town, far from public transportation, hotels, and restaurants. Plus, they were doing construction right next door.

Located in a not so nice area of Paris - fine during the day but not great at night for those who were staying in a hotel nearby. Difficult to access by public transportation.

Lunch facilities were available...but announced 5 minutes before D1....

Regarding the choice of the exam's place: inside Paris would have been much more convenient for people travelling.

Some disturbing noise outside the hall during paper B and C.

Some exterior noises such as pneumatic drill or the like...... really disturbing.

The access to the Examination centre of Saint-Denis (ex. in 2010) was easier.; The centre of Saint-Ouen is far from the metro and buses.

The examination hall for the 2011 session was really better than the one for the 2010 session. If it is possible, try to keep it for next sessions. Moreover, the hotels around were also much better than the ones for the 2010 session. And it was much easier to access the examination site.

The examination hall was quite some distance from the town centre.; It was not accessible by public transport: underground and taxis far away from the examination hall (even, no taxis in the "nearest" taxis stop); No hotels around the examination hall.; District of ill fame. It was difficult to go to the examination hall with serenity.

The hall was badly placed: the area is very bad and no choice for transport means (only one "metro" line). It would be easier in Paris and not in the subway...

The hotels (formule 1 and Etap hotel) closer to the examination center was in a dangerous area.; One of my colleague has been mugged. Policeman said that this street (rue du dr Babinski) was very famous for this. This location is not good. We have enough stress with the EQE exam!

The tables could be larger.; The location of the examination centre is not ideal. There are very few restaurants and bakeries, and the examination centre is not easily accessible by public transportation.; We were not informed about the possibility to eat at the canteen onsite.

The venue itself was quite nice and it was very good that there were some lunch possibilities. A problem however was the lack of parking space around the center making it hard to reach when not coming by public transport (which is no real option when coming from north of Paris).

There was some noise during the examination coming from works that were taking place outside the examination centre.

There were building works outside the hall and it made a lot of noise.; The lighting was emitting a disturbing noise.

There were urban works in the street, so that it was hard to concentrate...

They were doing construction work next door - very noisy. Also, not the best part of Paris - far from public transport and hotels.

This examination center is located in Paris suburbs and difficult to reach using the underground when you have a heavy suitcase dedicated to the exam.; Why not the Eurosite Austerlitz which is located close to the metro station, close to places for lunch? Eurosite Austerlitz is also in Paris town center.; ; EQE already gives some stress and it appears not necessary to add some more stress because of the place and location of the examination center...

trop Éloigné de Paris; ligne de mÈtro 13 qui est la pire de paris

very far from transportation (mÈtro).

works in surrounding area with use of hammers or pneumatic drills.

Worse location of the centre than before: not easy for access with public transport - not many facilities around (hotels, restaurants). Would be better to find a center inside Paris...
Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

![Bar chart showing space for candidates]

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

![Bar chart showing acoustic conditions and audibility]

Restroom facilities

![Bar chart showing restroom facilities]
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- definitely improved respect to the previous years; initially too cold (first day morning) than ideal temperature already from the afternoon first day
- droughty room, faint light.; The hall of the previous years was really better
- during DI the hall temperature was extremely cold
- During the paper D in Rome, the heating system did not work properly. I have sat the examination with two pullovers, other candidates were wearing a scarf or gloves. It was very uncomfortable to sit in such a condition for 7 hours during a so hard paper.
- Examination hall was quiet with good light and each seating place had space enough. As per Q5) answer the hall was felt cold, albeit this may be a "seasonal" issue due to unexpected bad weather.
- freezing at the end of the paper !!!!
- I terminated the D1 paper in a freezed condition
- Identification was made after the starting of the examination. Temperature in Parts B and C was good.
- It was not so simple to find the examination hall since it was not inside the hotel and there was only one small information sign outside the hotel. The examination hall was really cold.
- It was really too cold;
- It was too cold because the hall was too big for the number of people sitting the exam
- It was too cold!!!
- last rows are quite far from the invigilator's desk
- no comments
- None
- really too cold
- Signs pointing to the examination hall were not so easy to spot. The hall was seriously cold and, despite our repeated requests to do something about it, things did not change much over the whole day. Many candidates resorted to putting on their winter coats, yet not even that seemed to be fully of help.
- The examination hall was really cold during Paper D-I
- The first day (paper D) the temperature was unacceptable!!!!. It was very cold and all of us were obliged to work with pull-over and winter jackets. I was really concerned for my health especially in view of the paper B and C to be sit the day after.
- The hall temperature was very cold (unhealthy)
- The light above my desk was not sufficient and for this reason I moved my desk where there was more light (it was possible because the desk was at one side).
- very dirty toilets
- water should be provided
1.10  Stockholm  (78 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Friendly and well-informed invigilators
- I sat almost at the front of the hall. Every time somebody went to the toilet (happened quite some time during the C exam) I was disturbed by the hall door being shut by a bang. ; ; It would be good if that door was silenced for the next exam. ; ; When I was at university, the toilets used to be inside the examination hall. It think that is better.
- I would have liked a larger table.
- I would have liked to have more light at the table. Since the table lamps were powered by cords and distribution stations taped to the floor, lots of people stumbled over the cords and disconnected the lamps. That was a bit annoying, especially since it continued day after day. ; ; Other than that, I think everything was fine. Information was readily accessible and the invigilators were friendly and gave good information.
- I would have preferred a larger table. Further, the hall was too crowded on the C-exam.
- I would like a room separated from the examination hall where one could pause and take something to eat and drink.
- I've got a place situated in the very dark and cold corner of the hall. First I've been offered an extra lamp, but later have changed the place at all.
- It was hard to hear what the examination people said when seating on the "stage" in the hall. I sat by the curtain which absorbed the sound.
- Mobile phones and the like were not collected by the invigilators but left with the candidates
- My table was rather unsturdy. Also very uncomfortable chair which made me lose blood flow in my legs. I had to change positions frequently.
- People who tripping on the electric wiring that was temporarily fixed to the flooring.
- Small tables
- Small tables; ; Too far away from city centre!
- Street and building markings were bad, this could have been solved by sending a link to a map (the link provided by you to the examination center did not work the 3 times I tried to access it). I sat in a corner, and could not hear what the invigilators said at all.
- Tables a bit rickety
- The tables are very very poor, they are not stable. They have the standard like tables you use on a flee market...
- too much echoes...
- ventilation in the hall could be better
- Very good lunch!
1.11 Taastrup (48 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- As the examination took place in the cantina, there was no possibility to buy lunch. Otherwise, there was provided drinks, fruit and candy which was nice.
- Clear improvement in temperature and ventilation as compared to the EQE 2010 - Thumbs up!
- Good if an cafeteria had been open
- I was sitting close to the inlet of the airconditioner and consequently could hear a constant low sound from the air flow
- It is a problem that a lot of tables are empty, yet people are sent to Munich to sit the examination
- Knowing from last year, this hall is extremely sensitive to afternoon sunlight. Fortunately, this year it was cloudy...
- Nice - clean hall and friendly helpful people.
- Nice, with the snacks.; It should have been mentioned somewhere that the was no place to buy lunch!
- Not the best public transportation possibilities
- Only 4 toilets available thus queue just before the Exams.
- Some noise from air condition and ventilators
- Taastrup provides great service for candidates with cake, candy, soft drinks, water, fresh fruit, etc.; I understand this is of own initiative, and it is really good.
- The room is too large for oral announcements to be heard in the front and in the back.
- The temperature was un pleasently hot. Between the A and B-exams, I asked one of the invigilators to get the temperature lowered. He said he would address the problem with a local person. He also said that external doors were opened to get fresh air, but that there was a concern by the seats close to the doors that the temperature could be to low. I commented that a thermostat could present problems with open doors anyway.
- There was a little draft from the ventilation, causing my papers to flatter a little.
- This year it was possible to hear the announcement before the examination.
1.12 The Hague (92 answers received)

Q3) Please rate the following aspects:

Accessibility of the examination hall and information signs

Identification check

Lighting conditions
Space for candidates

Acoustic conditions and audibility of the invigilators

Restroom facilities
Suitability of the examination hall

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

Q5) Hall temperature
Q6) Candidates could make additional comments about the examination hall and its conditions. These comments are listed below.

- Although light was adequate, the way the spots were positioned was such that one's head cast a shadow over the paper. That was not ideal.
- As I had to bring my eight week old son due to breast-feeding reasons I again want to thank very much the inviligators and especially Ms Melanie Feus for the kind support and help which made it much more easier for me to take part in the exam.
- Bad air quality esp. first day afternoon
- During paper DII and paper B it was extremely warm in the examination hall
- Excellent.
- Good and professional staff
- I could do with some more table space (was sitting at the end of a table in outer ring)
- I feel the room still excellent for writing. In view of my answers, please take care of, that I only prepare part B of the examination.
- I found that light conditions could be improved, sometimes, there are too many dark shadows on the paper.
- In the examination hall, there was a central space using separate tables and seats in the rings surrounding the central space with permanent long tables at which multiple candidates were situated. Due to the long tables it is not easy to determine what exactly is your "space" and where the "space"of an adjacent neighbour begins. This is considered to be irritating. The central space with the separate tables well defined the space for each candidate.
- It is a pity that we have to stay 3 days in a blind room with bad lightening conditions.
- It was not very clear what/how big our working space was with respect to our neighbours. Maybe in the future, there could be a clear indication separating clearly between the candidates, in order to avoid material from others coming too close and disturbing while working (limiting our own space too much).
- It was not well ventilated. Some of the desks had a light but others did not. They were all however well illuminated.
- Maybe some more light.
- More space required on the desk; - Too many different lights, too much shadows; - When I need to concentrate I want absolute silence
- no comments
- No comments
- No further comments
- Noise from mobiles and from discussions between persons watching the people passing the exams
- none
- Not enough oxygine during the first day. Opening of the doors on the "balcon" provided an improvement.
- partially too dark. ; The provision of additional lights was very helpful.
- Rest rooms too far, faint noise from airco or similar.
- Room was basicyl OK, but ventilation was not good enough.
- Sitting first ring I was highly disturbed by all people passing my place to go to the restroom. Also the identification check took a long time with a person continuously walking around. The acoustics of the floor were bad, therefore the walking around was very annoying. The restrooms are quite far away from the hall, takes a lot of time to go there! The door of the hall made terrible noise.
- Some difficulties with the loadspeaker system, difficult to hear the chief invigilator.
- Staff was very friendly, but the temperature of the hall was way to warm.
- Temperature was OK, but the air quality was less than good.
- The examination hall in The Hague has a very pleasant atmosphere. Enough space for participants and a comfortable working area.
- The Hague centre is a very nice and comfortable location. The facilities are good. The hall
feel very spacious.

- The lack of natural light gives a feeling of discomfort.
- The table could have been slightly bigger.
- The ventilation issues of the first day were solved elegantly by the invigilators on the 2 remaining days.
- The ventilation system was a bit too noisy.
- Three years ago I needed more space for papers A and B; this time I had sufficient space for paper C.
- Tuesday afternoon a little too warm; other days excellent.
- Ventilation of hall was rather poor. Even with outside temperatures just above freezing the hall got quite warm during the day.
Chapter 2 - Preparation for the EQE

Q7) Examiners' Report

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

![Bar chart showing 571 for Enough, 232 for Indifferent, and 174 for Not enough.]

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

![Bar chart showing 390 for Enough, 257 for Indifferent, and 328 for Not enough.]
Q8) Elements of the candidate's preparation for the EQE

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

Compendium

General external courses regarding intellectual property

Specialized courses for EQE papers
In-house courses organized by your company

Dedicated training given by your supervisor as mentioned in the Art. 10(2)(a)REE

Study in a small study group with other candidates
Q9) Which other books/study aids did you use?

- 'C' Book; Hoekstra; Mulder
- "Delta Patents" for D part
- "EP‹ direkt" of Gautschi; Guidelines for Examination; "PCT- Handbuch" of Malte K"llner; PCT Applicant's Guide; "Paper D- basic questions and exam-related questions" of Delta Patents
- A complete guide to passing EQE, Patskills, Visser
- A Complete guide to passing the EQE
- A Complete Guide to Passing the EQE
- A Complete Guide to Passing the EQE (EQE 2010)
- A complete guide to passing the EQE (Roberts)
- A Complete Guide to Passing the EQEs, the EQE e-learning resource centre
- A complete guide to passing the European qualifying exam
- A Complete Guide To Passing The European Qualifying Exam
- A complete guide to passing the European Qualifying Exam - Simon Roberts & Andrew Ruge
- A Complete Guide to Passing the European Qualifying Exam and Qualifying as a European Patent Attorney"
- A Complete Guide to Passing the European Qualifying Examination
- A guide to the EPC 2000 - Nick Fox
- Annotated by Visser, Cross-referenced PCT by Mulder, Case Law, Guidelines, Applicants Guide, National Law, How to get 1 and 2, OJ, and more
- Annotated EPC
- Annotated EPC - D. Visser
- annotated EPC : Visser and Hoekstra; annotated PCT : Mulder; EPC guidelines; PCT applicants guide; and many more information from the EPO and WIPO website
- Annotated EPC (Visser) / C-book / Annotated PCT (Hoekstra)
- Annotated EPC & PCT, DeltaPatents question books
- ASPI training
- Bacq
- Bacque
- Bacque's "CBE-PCT" + C-Book
- Baque
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• C-book
• C-book
• C-book
• C-book
• C-book - second edition
• C-Book; Baque
• C-book(!)
• C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)
• C-book (Chandler/Meinders)
• C-book (Chandler/Meinders), EPO Guidelines, Annotated EPC (Visser), EPO Case-Law 6th edition
• C-Book / Derk Visser / Delta Patents Question Books
• C-Book and DII Book
• C-Book and G. Baque
• C-Book Baque
• C-Book by Chandler/Meinders
• C-Book, 3. ed., Guidelines
• c-book, Bacque
• C-Book, Baque
• C-Book, Chandler
• C-Book, Complet Guide for Passing the EQE, Kley, Visser
• C-book, Complete Guide, Delta patents questions, Visser
• C-Book, Delta Patent DII, Gregory Baque’s book
• c-book, delta patents
• C-Book, delta patents
• C-Book, Delta Patents books, Annotated EPC, EPC References, Cross-referenced PCT
• C-Book, Delta Patents Paper D, PCT-Handbuch
• C-book, delta patents, kley
• C-Book, Delta-Patents Question-Books
• C-Book, Deltapatents
• C-book, Deltapatents
• C-Book, Deltapatents (A,B and D), Kley, PCT-Handbuch, EPO publications
• C-Book, DeltaPatentsQ&A, EP<2000 Kommentar
• C-book, DII-book
• C-Book, DII-Book, Kley
• C-book, DII-book, Kley, PCT in der Praxis
• C-Book, FU-Hagen Examinatorium Europaeum, Ceipi A-D, Delta Patents D-Questions;
• C-Book, Hoekstra
• C-Book, Kley, Delta Patents
• C-Book, Kley, Gruber, Visser
• C-Book, Singer-Stauder, Delta Patents Questions
• C-Book, The Annotated European Patent Convention
• C-Book, Visser
• C-book, Visser
• C-Book, Visser, Watchhorn
• C-book;
• C-Book; A Complete Guide to Passing the EQE
• C-Book; A complete guide to passing the EQE; Annotated EPC, Visser
• C-Book; Delta Patents-D; Kley
• C-book; Delta-Patents
• C-Book; Kley; Delta-Patents Questions
• C-Book/ DeltaPatents
• C-paper
• case law book
• Case Law of the Boards of Appeal, EQE online forum, WikiEQE, Oficiul Journal, Delta Patents, Guidelines, EPC
• Case Law, Guidelines, Complete Guide to Passing EQE
• Case law; Course compendium from Deltapatents
• CBE AnnotÈe BAQUE
• CBE-PCT Gregory Baque
• CBE-PCT Gregory Baque
• CBE-PCT GrÈgory BAQUE
• CBE/PCT de GrÈgory Baque
• CEIPI "C Book"
• CEIPI C Book
• CEIPI C-Book
• Ceipi C-Book
• CEIPI C-Book + thomson's guide to passing EQE
• CEIPI documents
• CEIPI material
• CEIPI's book on Paper C
• Chandler C book - Mulder crossreferenced PCT - Visser Annotated EPC - deltapatents books
• comentary for the EP‹, EQE Skript of the Fernuni (FU) Hagen
• Commentated EPC, Applicant's Guide
• Commented EPC by Visser
• Compendium, EPO-Guidelines, EPC-Book, CEIPI-Papers
• Complete Guide to Pass EQE
• Complete Guide to passing EQE
• Complete guide to passing EQEs, A guide to the EPC2000 (Fox)
• Complete Guide to passing the EQE
• Complete Guide to Passing the EQE by Roberts and Rudge
• complete guide to passing the EQE... by Andrew Rudge
• correction of papers made as preparation by epi tutor + deltapatents
• Cronin's ABC/D comprehensive + Baque
• D.Visser-Annnotated EPC
• Da ich nur noch A und C mitschreiben mußte: die entsprechenden Unterlagen (CEIPI, C- Book, etc.) von fr, heren Vorbereitungen.
• Daily DI like questions on EQE Tools
• Delta
• Delta
• Delta patent
• Delta Patent
• Delta Patent
• Delta Patent Books
• DELTA PATENT books
• Delta patent bsic and exam related questions
• Delta patent C book
• Delta patent methodology book C
• delta patent methodology for C
• Delta Patent questions and old exams
• delta patent, C book
• Delta Patent, G. Baque, Visser
• Delta patent's books
• Delta Patent's methodology books
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• Delta Patents
• Delta Patents - EQE on line forum
• Delta Patents (Questions for D), C-Book
• Delta Patents / Steffen Exner
• Delta patents & Baque
• Delta patents and c-book
• Delta Patents Basic Questions and Exam related Questions; Chandler C-Book; Visser
• Delta patents book c
• delta patents book, EP< Kommentar Kley
• Delta Patents Books
• delta patents books
• Delta patents books
• Delta Patents Books 'Questions D' and 'Methodology C'
• Delta Patents books (D +C)
• Delta Patents Books, C Book by CEIPI
• Delta Patents C and D books
• Delta Patents C Methodology
• Delta patents compenium
• Delta Patents course books questions DI/DII
• Delta Patents course material
• delta patents D book
• Delta Patents D-Books
• Delta Patents D-I-book, C-Book by Chandler/Meinders
• Delta Patents D, C-Book
• DELTA PATENTS Exam related DI questions; Kley; Guide for Applicants 2; PCT; Office journal
• Delta Patents Exam Related Questions
• Delta Patents Exam related Questions
• DELTA Patents literature
• Delta patents paper A and B preparation
• Delta Patents Paper D
• Delta Patents Paper D booklets
• Delta Patents Part D Questions, C Book, Kley Comentary on EPO
• Delta Patents Part D, C-Book
• Delta patents questions
• Delta patents questions
• Delta patents questions books for paper D
• Delta Patents Questions for D
• delta patents questions/answers
• Delta patents series
• Delta Patents Study books
• Delta Patents, Basic Questions for Paper D
• Delta Patents, C-book, Baque
• DELTA PATENTS, CEIPI
• Delta Patents, Kley, Visser, Kllner
• Delta Patents, Singer/Stauder
• Delta Patents, Visser, Guidelines, Case Law, PCT IP+NP
• Delta Patents, Visser, PCT applicants' guide
• Delta Patents: PCT Handbuch; Kommentar zum EP< 2000
• Delta Patents/ C-Book
• Delta Questions
• Delta-Patent, Kley, Malte Kllner - PCT
• Delta-patents DI and DII books, in-house commented EPC
• Delta, caselaw, visser
deltabooks (DII, DI), ceipi (C)
• DeltaPatens; EQE Online-Forum
• DeltaPatens' books
• Deltapatent C-book
• Deltapatent course material
• Deltapatent D1/Cbook
• Deltapatents
• Deltapatents
• DeltaPatents
• DeltaPatents
• Delatapatents
• Deltapatents
• deltapatents
• DeltaPatents
• Deltapatents - Self study
• DeltaPatents A Book
• Deltapatents A/B study material
• Deltapatents and Visser
• Deltapatents booklets
• Deltapatents books
deltapatents C
• Deltapatents C-book and materials prepared by my supervisor.
• DeltaPatents compendiums
• Deltapatents course material
• DeltaPatents D books 1 and 2
• DeltaPatents Guides and question books
deltapatents material
• DeltaPatents Methodology book
• Deltapatents ones - Visser
• Deltapatents Paper C
- DeltaPatents PaperC
- DeltaPatents Q/A
- Deltapatents Q&A booklets, Visser
- DeltaPatents Questions
- DeltaPatents study guide
- deltapatents training material
- DeltaPatents, C-Book
- DeltaPatents, Hoekstra
- Deltapatents; Kley
- Deltapatents; Kley EP‹ 2000
- derek visser, delta patents questions, etc
- Derk Visser
- Derk Visser "The Annotated EPC"
- Derk Visser Annotated EPC; Cees Mulder PCT refs
- derk visser book, delta patent course material.
- Derk Visser-Annnotated EPC, Stephane Speich EPC 2000
- Derk Visser's 'The Annotated EPC'
- Dil book, Exner
- Documents from the CEIPI Course
- E-learning tools EPO
- E.g. Visser
- EP‹ / PCT / Kley / Deltapatents
- EP‹, PCT, C-Book, Kley, case law, EPO web, Delta Questions, Coffee Break Questions, ...
- EPC
- EPC 2000 CD Rom (Speich)
- EPC 2000, Stephane Speich
- EPC commented VISSER, Guidelines, EQE Forum
- EPC, Directives, Jurisprudence book
- EPC, Guidelines for Examination before EPO, Case Law
- EPC2000 comment by Kley; PCT law by Koellner
- EPO & Visser annotated
- EPO Examination guidelines, my script from previous CEIPI courses at Strasbourg
- EPO online questions forum
- eqe forum
- EQE forum
- EQE forum online; Guidelines; CEIPI material; O'Reilly guides for paper A/B
- EQE Forum, Visser, Thomson
- EQE internet forum
- EQE ONLINE
- EQE online forum
- EQE online forum; CEIPI materials
- EQE-Forum, Guidelines
- eqe-online.org, kley, Gruber, delta-patents
- EQEtools, Delta, Hoekstra, Mulder, (Visser)
- European Guidelines for Examination
- European Patent Convention by Derk Visser
- Exam-related questions (Delta Patents)
- Examinatorium Europaeum Skripte, DeltaPatents and C-Book
- G Cases
- G. Bacque + Delta Patents
- Gautschi, EP‹ direkt
- general legal materials like commented EPC by Visser, Guidelines, Applicant's Guide etc; I purchased Delta Patents Paper D1 books but did not make use of them
• GL, Viesser, Hoekstra
• Gregory Baque - CBE PCT
• Gregory Baque / Livre blanc
• Gregory Baque, Delta Patents study guides
• gruber adam haberl; EP< und PCT
• Guide Lines, case law book, Kley mind maps, Delta patents D questions
• Guidelines
• Guidelines
• Guidelines
• Guidelines
• Guidelines
• Guidelines
• Guidelines
• Guidelines and case law
• Guidelines EPO, Visser, C-book (in this order)
• Guidelines EPO; EPC; Delta Patents; EQE Forum
• Guidelines for Examination
• guidelines for examination
• Guidelines for examination
• Guidelines for Examination (Part C)
• Guidelines for Examination and Case Law
• Guidelines for Examination in the EPO
• Guidelines, Case Law, Delta Patents, Kley
• Guidelines, Case Law, Nicholas Fox, C-Book, Cees Mulder, Veronese
• guidelines, deltapatents booklets A and B
• Guidelines, EP<, EP< Kommentar (Singer Stauder), Rechtsprechung, Kommentar zum EP< (Kley, Gundlach)
• Guidelines, European Patent Convention, Leitfaden für Anmelder, Amtsblatt, Derk Visser: The annotated European Patent Convention, C-Book, Kley
• Guidelines, Hoekstra, Deltapatents study material
• Guidelines, Hoekstra/Visser/Mulder books, C-book, Delta patents
• Guidelines, Kley, PCT Handbook, C-Book, Deltapatents-Books
• Guidelines, Visser
• guidelines, visser, pct andrea veronese, daily questions, coffee break EQE, my own summaries
• Guidelines; Visser; Hoekstra; Mulder; PCT Applicant's Guide
• Hagen IV
• Hoeckstra
• Hoekstra
• Hoekstra
• hoekstra
• Hoekstra
• Hoekstra
• Hoekstra
• Hoekstra (updated for 2011), Roberts & Rudge (updated for 2010)
• Hoekstra EPC reference
• Hoekstra, and PCT Cross-Ref. Guide
• Hoekstra, C-Book, Delta Patents Questions
• Hoekstra, Delta question books, Visser
• Hoekstra, Guidelines, Annotated EPC 2000
• Hoekstra, Mulder (PCT)
• Hoekstra, References to EPC; Visser, Annotated EPC; Mulder, Cross-Referenced PCT; Delta Patents D question books
• Hoekstra, Visser
• Hoesktra, Mulder
How to pass EQE: C Book
how to pass the EQE examination; delta patents
I only sit A & B, so mostly I used the compendium, and Gui. part C, Some parts of Case aw and Dirk Visser's Annotated EPC and "How to pass the EQE"-Simon Roberts
in erster Linie alle alten Pr¸fungen, dann Richtlinien f¸r die Pr¸fung, Kley-Skript, PCT-Seminar
Internet and Visser
Key, Kommentar zum EPœ 2000; K’Ilner, PCT Handbuch
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Kley - EPœ; K’Ilner - PCT Handbuch
Kley (EPœ-Kommentar), PCT-Handbuch
Kley (extremely useful), Delta Patents exam related question DI, Ceipi basic training material, Guidelines, Office journal, Exner DII book
Kley and Ceipi C-Book
Kley Commentary
Kley Commentry
Kley Delta
kley kommentar
Kley Kommentar
Kley Kommentar zu EPœ
Kley Kommentar, DeltaPatents Questions
Kley Kommentar, PCT Handbook, Delta Patents questions
Kley Kommentar zum EPœ 2000; Trinks, PCT in der Praxis; CEIPI Question books
Kley Skript
Kley-Kommentar zum EPœ, EPA-Richtlinien, Rechtsprechung der Beschwerdekammern, TaBu Internationaler Teil
Kley, C-Book
Kley, C-Book, Deltapatents C-book, Deltapatent exams
Kley, C-Book, several other books
Kley, Delta Patents Questionaire: Part D
Kley, Delta Patents Questions
Kley, Delta Patents, C-Book, Guidelines
Kley, DeltaPatents
Kley, DeltaPatents Questions
Kley, Deltapatents, C-Book
Kley, K’Ilner
Kley, K’Ilner, PCT-Applicantœs Guide, Tobias Bremi, Richtlinien
kley, mulder, k’iller, singer, eqe-online
Kley, Pct-Handbuch, DELTA-Patents-Aufgabensammlung, Singer-Stauder
kley, visser
Kley, Visser, C-book
Kley, Visser, Singer/Stauder
Kley, Visser, Watchorn, Veronese
- Kley; Ceipi; C-book
- Kley; Singer Stauder
- Kley; Singer/Stauder
- Kommentar von Hansjrg Kley
- Meinders/Chandler C book
- My own summaries of EPC and PCT
- Nicholas Fox - Guide to the EPC, Roberts & Rudge - Complete Guide to passing the EQE
- no
- no books, no study aids
- None
- none
- none
- none
- none
- None, had no time for studies.
- old exams
- Ole Trinks / Kley
- Paper B's from earlier years incl. examiners notes
- Paper C-book Chandler, annotated EPC Visser, PCT in practice Trinks
- papr C- Delta Patents course material, EPC, GL-EPC, (Visser)
- Passing Paper C
- Passing the eqe- simon roberts
- PatSkills documentation
- Patskills, Visser, Deltapatents
- PCT Handbook from Kllner
- PCT Malte-Kllner; Delta Patents D questions; Delta Patents C-Book; C-Book Ceipi; PCT Applicant's Guide; EPA Guidelines; EPA National Law, EPA Leitfaden I, II; Boards of Appeal Case Law; Exner D-Book; EP© Kommentar Singer/Stauder; Kommentar EP© Kley
- Praxis der Patent und Gebrauchsmusteranmeldung
- Previous exam papers
- References to EPC (Hoekstra), PCT crossed Reference, Exam related Delta patents
- References to the European Patent Convention (Jelle Hoekstra), The cross-referenced PCT (Cees Mulder), Training for the EQE - Basic questions for paper D (Cees Mulder, Jelle Hoekstra and Pete Pollard, Delta Patents)
- Rilis
- Roberts
- Roberts & Rudge
- Roberts, Complete Guide to Passing ... 2010 edition
- Schickedanz "Formulierung von Patentansprchen"
- Schickedanz "Formulierung von Patentansprchen"
- Schulte
- selfmade
- Simon Robers and Andre Rudge A complete guide to passing the EQE
- Singer and Stauder, C-Book, Preu-Kurs, own documentation
- Singer Stauder
- Singer Stauder, Visscher, CEIPI Material
- Singer/Stauder
- Singer/Stauder
- Singer/Stauder (Europäisches Patentbereinkommen, Kommentar, 5. Auflage); Kley Kommentar zum EP (2000); Rechtsprechung der Beschwerdekammern EPA (6. Auflage); PCT-Handbuch (Malte Külner, 5. Auflage)
- Singer/Stauder, Deltapatents
- Singer/Stauder, Guidelines
- Speich, self edited and updated (EPC), Guidelines, PCT applicant's guide, Complete Guide to passing EQE, C Book
- The annotated EPC (Visser) and Delta Patent Questions for Paper D
- The annotated EPC by Visser and A complete Guide to passing EQE by Simon and Rudge
- The annotated European Patent Convention - Derk Visser
- The Annotated European Patent convention by Derck Visser, Guidelines for Examination in the EPO
- The book of Mr Baque
- The C-Book
- the C-book Chandler Meinders
- The C-Book, PCT applicants guide
- The delta patents paper D books
- The Visser book
- Vischer, Watchhom&Veronese
- Viser
- VIISS$ER, EPO Study material; MALTE-Külner; Delta-Patents Basic and Exam-related questions
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- visser hoekestra mulder
- Visser mostly, Delta Patents books I & II and Hoekstra refs a bit
- Visser-EPC Annotated, Chandler&Meinders-C-Book
- Visser, Annotated EPC
- Visser, Annotated EPC; Roberts - Rudge, Complete guide to passing EQE
- Visser, Annotated PCT Cees Mulder, Annotated EPC by Hoekstra, Delta Patents Model
Solutions

- Visser, Applicant's guide PCT/EPC, PCT X-Ref (Mulder)
- Visser, C-book
- Visser, C-book
- Visser, Case Law
- Visser, Complete Guide to Passing the EQE
- Visser, cross ref PCT, AG
- Visser, delta patents
- Visser, delta patent
- Visser, delta patent
- Visser, Delta Patent Books, Kley
- Visser, Delta Patent Questions, C-Book
- Visser, delta patents
- Visser, delta patents
- Visser, Delta Patents basic and exam questions, Delta patents PCT compendium.
- Visser, Delta patents courses
- Visser, Delta Patents Questions
- Visser, delta patents questions
- Visser, Delta Patents, CBook
- Visser, Deltapatent's basic & exam related questions
- Visser, Deltapatents
- Visser, Deltapatents
- Visser, DeltaPatents
- Visser, Deltapatents materials
- Visser, Deltapatents... and the usual material: Guidelines, PCT Applicant's Guidelines,...
- Visser, DeltaPatents’ materials
- Visser, Deltaquestions
- Visser, EPO Guidlines, OJ, Case law
- Visser, EPO's caselaw book
- Visser, GL, AG, Nat. Law
- Visser, Guidelines, EQE forum,
- Visser, Guidelines, Mulder PCT, all DeltaPatents books
- visser, guidelines, PCT applicant's guide
- Visser, Guidelines.
- Visser, Helze, Hoekstra
- Visser, Hoekstra
- Visser, Hoekstra
- Visser, Hoekstra
- Visser, Hoekstra and EPO case law book and Delta question books
- Visser, Hoekstra on the EPC and Mulder for the PCT
- Visser, Hoekstra, Delta Patents D books, Rudge and Roberts, Annotated PCT
- Visser, Hoekstra, Delta patents exam-related questions, the C book, EQE-online questions, EQE-forum
- Visser, Hoekstra, Delta Patents questions
- Visser, Hoekstra, DeltaPatents
- Visser, Hoekstra, DeltaPatents course books
- Visser, Hoekstra, Guidelines
- Visser, Hoekstra, Guidelines
- Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder
- Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder, Delta Patents
• Visser, Hoekstra, Mulder, Roberts and Rudge, Delta Patents Questions
• Visser, Hoekstra, Roberts & Rudge
• Visser, Hoekstra, Roberts/Rudge, Mulder, Deltapatents C methodology book
• Visser, Hoestra
• Visser, How to pass the EQE, Stauder/Singer
• Visser, Kley, C-Book, CEIPI course material
• Visser, Kley, Singer-Stauder, Guidelines, C-Book
• Visser, Mulder Cross-ref PCT
• Visser, Mulder, Breml
• Visser, Mulder, Hoekstra, Delta Patents course material
• Visser, PCT X-Ref (Mulder), Delta Q&A books
• Visser, PCT, Guidelines for examination etc etc.
• Visser, prepared own schedule/method
• Visser, Roberts and Rudge
• Visser, Roberts-Rudge
• Visser, Roberts, C-Book
• Visser, Rudge
• Visser, Singer, DeltaPatent-Questions
• Visser, Singer/Stauder
• Visser, Singer/Stauder,
• Visser, Sweet
• Visser, The annotated EPC and DeltaPatents Books
• Visser, Veronese
• Visser, Watchorn, Mulder, Roberts and Rudge, C book, Delta Patent Q for D
• Visser; C book
• Visser; Delta Patents D Book
• Visser; DeltaPatents Booklets
• Visser; Jelle Hoekstra's Book; Cees Mulder's book
• Visser; Mulder; Hoekstra
• Visser's Roberts and Rudge; Delta Patents Correction Papers
• Visser's Annotated EPC, Roberts' Complete Guide to EQE, PCT Applicants' Guide
• Visser's Annotated EPC; Mulder's The cross-referenced PCT; C Book: How to write a successful opposition and pass paper C of the European Qualifying Examination; Deltapatents training material
• Visser's book and Chandler/Meinders C-book
• Visser's book on EPC, official guidelines, and Delta patents specialised booklets for paper D
• Visser/Guidelines
• Visser/Hoekstra/CMulder/Deltapatents Exam Questions
• Vissers, Hoekstra, Mulder, Basic Questions for Paper D by Deltapatents
• Watchorn/Veronese EPC+PCT, DeltaPatents A/B/C/D books
• websides EQE forum and EQE tools
• Wisser
• Wisser
• wisser
• www.eqe-online.org
Q10) Which courses did you follow?

German authorities:
the full eight months' training with the German authorities

CEIPI "cycle long":
The "Diplôme d'études internationales de la propriété industrielle", obtained after completing the one-year period of study with CEIPI in Strasbourg/CEIPI seminars preparing the EQE

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

CEIPI/epi basic training course:
CEIPI seminars preparing the EQE

CEIPI prep course(s):
CEIPI preparatory course(s)

CEIPI seminars

CEIPI paper C:
CEIPI special course on paper C

CEIPI cramming course paper C

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

- 16-month DeltaPatents training courses
- 2 days courses in EPA for parts A,B and C - they were very good
- 2 year training for Dutch Patent Attorney
- 2-day course in EPO
- 3 weeks paper C+D (Delta patents)
- A+B at IP Akademin in Sweden
- ASPI
- ASPI
- aspi
- ASPI
- ASPI (France)
- ASPI (France)
- ASPI mock exam and correction
- ASPI seminars
- book a tutor, paper C
- bootcamp
- Brian Cronin A+B
- C and D part session offered by a patent law firm
- C-/D-Seminar of Michalski Höttermann in Düsseldorf, Germany
- Case-law seminar organised by Management Forum
- CEIPI "C Book" self-study
- CEIPI Accelerated Patents course
- CEIPI Basic EPC The Hague (1 year)
- CEIPI book a tutor, Paper C
- CEIPI course at EPO The Hague
- CEIPI courses C, D
- CEIPI D
- ceipi epo
- CEIPI Patents-Accelerated course
- CEIPI seminars -D only
- CEIPI Strasbourg paper D course
- CEIPI-book-a-tutor, EQE online
- CIPA informals tutorials
- company internal patent law course
- course at Michalski/Höttermann in Düsseldorf
- Cronin
- Cronin
- Cronin C
- Cronin Paskills Course
- Curs Preparació EQE (A/B) - Centre de Patents de la Universitat de Barcelona
- Curso EQE de la Universidad de Barcelona- Very good!!
- Curso EQE, University of Barcelona, Centro de Patentes
- Curso práctico para preparar el EQE
- Curso práctico para preparar el European Qualifying Examination (Centro de Patentes de la Universidad de Barcelona and Oficina Española de Patentes y Marcas)
- Curso práctico para preparar el European Qualifying Examination (EQE)" (Pruebas A y B). Centro Patentes UB y OEPM
- Daily D1 und Coffee Break EQE Quesitons von EQE Online
- dela patents
- Delta
- DELTA 2/3 days courses for ABCD
- Delta C+D, short
- Delta courses
- Delta D-course The Hague
- Delta Paper A and B training
- Delta patens ABD; CEIPI C
- Delta patens C and D
- Delta patent 3 day C-course
- Delta patent C, Patskills C
- Delta patent exam paper marking
- Delta patent inhouse at Albinns.Zacco
- Delta Patents
- Delta Patents
- Delta Patents
- Delta Patents
- delta patents
- Delta Patents
- Delta Patents
- Delta Patents
- Delta patents
- Delta Patents 'C' Methodology
- Delta Patents 2- or 3-day courses
- Delta Patents 2-3 day courses
- Delta patents 3-day C and D courses
- Delta Patents 3-day courses on EQE
- Delta patents A paper course here in NL
- Delta Patents A+B
- Delta patents A+B 3-day course
- Delta patents AB methodology, 2 days
- Delta Patents AB/EM EQE prep.
- Delta Patents and several others
- Delta Patents books
- Delta Patents C and D-Book
- Delta Patents C course
- Delta patents C course for resitters
- Delta Patents C-course, A und B-Kurs der Kanzlei Hards & Franke in München
- Delta Patents C, D / EPO in house training A-D
- Delta Patents C&D
- Delta Patents C&D
- Delta patents correction of papers
- Delta Patents correction programs for A and B
- Delta Patents course paper C
- delta patents course
- delta patents course
- Delta patents Course on A & B Methodology + Correction Papers Course
- Delta Patents course Paper C
- Delta patents courses
- Delta Patents courses & IP akademi courses (Sweden)
- delta patents courses in stockholm
- Delta Patents D-preparation (1 year 1/2; Delta Patents preparation for DII (2 days) and C (3 days))
- Delta Patents dist. learning
- Delta patents for paper D
- Delta Patents full course
- Delta Patents Methodology + guided exam training courses - Paper D
- Delta Patents Paper C and D courses
- Delta Patents paper C course
- delta patents paper d
- delta patents preparation to DI and DII
- delta patents preparing for D
- Delta patents three-weeks course
- Delta Patents’ courses
- Delta Patents/IPR university, Helsinki
- Delta Patents training - 16 months
- Delta-Patents C-Course
- deltapatent
- deltapatent
- DeltaPatent
- DeltaPatent Course
- Deltapatent courses
- Deltapatent Courses
- Deltapatent courses
- Deltapatent's C and D methodology courses
- DeltaPatent's Courses
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- Deltapatents - D and C Methodology
- DELTAPATENTS - Paper DI - DII Methodology course
- DeltaPatents 16 month EQE training (A, B, C and D)
- DeltaPatents A,B,C,D
- DeltaPatents AB courses
- Deltapatents and Dutch national education
- DeltaPatents Basic Course D, Course DII, Course C
- Deltapatents Basic D; Deltapatents C methodology
- DELTAPATENTS C
- DeltaPatents C
- deltapatents C
- DeltaPatents C and D
- DeltaPATents C and D course
- DeltaPatents C and D courses
- Deltapatents C methodology course
- DeltaPatents C Paper Methodology
- DeltaPatents C-Course
- deltapatents C-discussion course
- Deltapatents C&D integrated
- DeltaPatents C+D courses (10 days altogether)
- DeltaPatents course
- Deltapatents course
- Deltapatents course
- DeltaPatents course
- DeltaPatents Course A/B
- DeltaPatents course for papers A and B
- DeltaPatents course on paper C
- DeltaPatents courses
- DeltaPatents courses
- DeltaPatents courses
- DeltaPatents Courses in 2009/2010
- Deltapatents DI, DII preparation courses
- DeltaPatents distance learning + module A/B
- Deltapatents EQE training
- Deltapatents integrated C/D course
- Deltapatents Methodology A+B
- DeltaPatents methodology and discussions courses
- DeltaPatents mock exam A/B
- Deltapatents Netherlands
- DeltaPatents paper C
- Deltapatents Paper C
- DeltaPatents PaperC
- DeltaPatents prep.courses
- Deltapatents three weeks course for C and D
- DeltaPatents training for papers A, B, C, D
- DeltaPatents, Cronin, Ceipi D
- Deltapatents, EPO inhouse course
- DeltaPatents: Methodology D + Discussion D + Exam trial run D + Exam corrections DI+DII
- DeltaPatents’ A+B course
- Deutsche Patentanwaltskammer / Hagen course - Examinatorium Europaeum
- E-Prep-Klausurenkurs von der VPP
- EP: Seminar Preu Bohlig & Partner
- EPO course for examiners
- EPO courses
- EPO courses over 1.5 days for A and B
- EPO In house Training (4 times Friday and Saturday in The Hague)
- EPO in-house courses
- EPO internal courses
- EPO internal courses
- EPO in-house courses
- EPO L&D courses A-C, DI
- EPO training courses
- EQE Centro Patentes Univ Barcelona & OEPM
- EQE course organized in EPO
- EQE curse universidad barcelona
- Eqe mock exam with Preu Bohlig law firm
- EQE preparation course by OEPM and UB
• EQE training SPTO
• Examinatorium Europaeum
• Examinatorium Europaeum
• Examinatorium Europaeum
• Examinatorium Europaeum DPAK
• Examinatorium Europaeum DPAK
• Examinatorium Europaeum FernUni Hagen
• Examinatorium Europaeum of University of Hagen
• Examinatorium Europaeum, FU Hagen
• Examinatorium Europeaum
• Examinatorium europeum (Fernuniversität Hagen)
• Fernstudium "Gewerblicher Rechtsschutz fü r Ingenieure"
• Fernuni Hagen
• FernUni Hagen Modul C/D
• Fernuniversität Hagen "Examinatorium Europaeum"
• Forum
• Forum-Seminare
• Full DeltaPatents training ABCD
• full training Deltapatents, NL
• general course on IP
• Hagen Europaeum Examinatorium
• Hagen IV
• Hagen Studium
• I had been examiner with the German Patent and Trademark Office
• In house course provided by Deltapatents
• In house training course
• in-house
• In-house, Deltapatents C+D methodology
• Inhouse training led by DeltaPatents
• inhouse, deltapatents
• Internal courses for papers A and B organized by the EPO
• internal EPO course
• IP Academy Stockholm
• IP akademien
• IP Akademin (Stockholm) for paper C and D
• IP akademín EQE course, 2 years
• IP Akademín in Stockholm
• IP-akademín EQE course
• JBB course - Milton Keynes, UK
• JDD
• JDD
• JDD
• jdd
• JDD (UK)
• JDD course
• JDD course
• JDD course
• JDD Course
• JDD course
• JDD courses
• JDD courses in Milton Keynes, UK
• JDD EQE course
• JDD EQE Courses
- JDD EQE courses UK
- JDD revision course
- JDD Revision Courses held in Milton Keynes, UK
- JJD
- M.Cronin conference
- Madrid-barcelona
- Methodology courses C & D (Deltapatents)
- Michalski Huttermann C&D Course
- Michalski Huettermann & Partner, Düsseldorf
- MIPLC LL.M. Intellectual Property Law
- mock exam organized by VESPA
- Mock-EQE
- My firm conducted in house training
- no course
- no courses
- no one
- no time none of them
- None
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- none
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- none
- None this time, CEIPI + prep/Strasbourg earlier
- none this year
- none this year, did several last year
- not this time but I used CEIPI (C,D) in the last year
- OEPM-UB Preparatory course for A and B (Spain)
- Official Dutch course for Dutch Patent Attorney and inhouse training with 3 other candidates for A/B paper (only sat A/B paper)
- only for A & B
- only self study
- PatSkills
- PatSkills
- PATSKILLS + CEIPI/epi basic training course (1 year)
- PatSkills B paper, DeltaPatents 18 month course, CEIPI paper D
- Patskills courses for paper C and D, Geneva
- Patskills for part C
- Patskills, Deltapatents
- Preparation courses for papers A and B organized by the EPO
- Preparatory course on papers A and B in Madrid
- preu bohlig ep, seminar m, nchen
- Preu Bohlig Exam Course
- Preu Klausurenkurs Paper C
- Preu Seminar on EQE papers
- Preu-Bohlig EQE seminar and written exam course
- Preu-Kurs
- QMW c-course in London
- Queen Mark University London EQE Prep Course
- Queen Mary (University of London) EQE course
- Queen Mary EQE course, London, UK
- Queen Mary EQE revision course, London
- Resitter Hagen Germany
- Seminars papers A and B, Centre de Patents de la UB and OEPM
- Special course on paper C
- Specialised 1.5 day EQE courses in UK
- Sweedish IP academy
- University of Barcelona
- Various cources by Norwegian Patent Office
- VESPA
- VIPS/VESPA mock exam
- VPP - Part D
Q 11) Which other elements did you consider important for your personal preparation?

- Discussing results of mock papers with other candidates in the light of the examiner's report;
- Training of handwriting
- enough study time; a "readytouse" commentary like the Kley is fine, however it must be worked through and annotated by oneself; regular every day learning
- Having a workflow table for each Paper. This has beed a good guide for an optimized evaluation of the Paper and for an optimized distribution of the time spent
- having advice from past candidates in my office; the eqe forum
- Training with a colleague, making old papers in exam like time & conditions
- write mock exams under "real" examination conditions; prepare "overlook" sheets (e.g for entry in european phase; filing application; priority; divisional application) for EPC and (EPO as RO, as ISA, as SISA, as IPEA)
- "Daily Questions" from the EQE Forum provided by the EPAcademy was good basic training, should be in any case kept or even enhanced
- (I only did A-paper) Practising off papers in the main issue for A-paper. Furthermore trying to learn from mistakes as made in previous exams.
- 1 month preparation holiday before examination
- A commented EPC
- A good environment: support from people around (at work, family etc.)
- A personal supervisor but it is quite impossible
- Advices from colleague
- Agreements with family and days free from work for studyin
- Allowed to take some vacation days off work for study.
- Am wichtigsten f,r A, B C und DI: Alte Klausuren ,ben; An wichtigsten f,r DI:Online- Material des EPA
- Amount of time stolen from the family is the most important factor for success.
- Ample personal preparation time allowed by employer before EQE. Real-life experience in examination, opposition and appeal (incl. oral proceedings).
- Analysis of Compendium previous exercises and Examiner's comments
- answer the questions of the last EQE's concerning part D
- answering previous exams as a mock trial
- AS many past papers as possible. This is only of value if you look at the examiner's comments.... but in my opinion insufficient detail is present in these comments.
- As the only person in the company working with IP, I miss all the possibilities of discussing papers with other people, tutors or students. Two I live in an area distant from the main population of IP people in the country. If I need advice, high charges will incur. Thus I try my very best to help myself. This is difficult when the workload is also high. I work in the industry so the need for passing EQE to do my job is not urgent. The company does not support my training fully since it will not directly benefit them.
- Attempting as many past papers under exam conditions as possible
- Attempting past papers
- Avoiding the flu
- Bacq; Delta Patents
- Being able to answer as many exercises as possible. I used those from Delta Patent's books as well as from the EQE compendias for preparing D1 questions. Furthermore, I participated in a small study group together with a CEIPI tutor, where we focussed on answering D2 papers from 2005 through 2010. This turned out to be a very valuable way of preparing paper D2 questions.
- C-Book is very important, old pappers and examiner reports necessary, but not sufficient
- C-Book, D II book
- Candidate's answers (papers A and B) provided by the EPO.
Candidates answers (the Compendium) and the EQE Forum
cases and issues encountered during my daily work and taking more time to sort them out.
CEIPI bachelors C et D
Ceipi preparatory courses and tutorials are very good if you have excellent tutors, which I had.
CIPA tutorials
CIPA tutorials (UK); Personal study; Delta Patents training books
Coffee Break Questions tool
Coffee break questions.
commented EPC and PCT
Commented issues of the PCT and EPC, Complete Guide to passing the EQE
Compendium, doing old exams
Compendium
Compendium and compendium....
Compendium, Compendium, Compendium; Altogether, the preparation is a success in that it forced me to go in depth through most of the Convention, Guidelines, Decisions, and commented texts such as the Baque.
Compiling all the relevant source materials. Having an annotated EPC (in my case Visser) and PCT (Mulder) which were tabbed for easy reference.
Compendium and study of previous papers
corrected hand in exams at delta patents.
correction of papers by a tutor
correction of papers by epi-tutor + deltapatents; time-related questions on eqe-online; coffee-break questions; Visser
Courses with focus on how to pass the EQE, not general knowledge courses is important.
Creation of own documentation to know all available information and quick access.;
Day to day work at the office relevant for A and B
Dedicate enough time, support from family/work, start early, especially for D.; The studyguide in Deltapatents Basic Question booklet was indispensable together with the basic/exam questions
Dedicated training given by EPO examiners/managers to better understand my errors.
Dedication
Definitely the Delta Patents Courses and Training Material.
Delta D: Question and Answer book.; C-Book (Meinders); Delta material for A and B.
DELTA patent questions
Delta Patents Books (C and D) very relevant!
Delta Patents Question and Answers
Delta Patents Questions
Delta Patents Questions; D-II Book; PCT in der Praxis (O. Trinks)
Delta Patents training Paper D
Delta-Patents
Delta-Patents courses
DeltaPatents Course in the Netherlands; Book of Derk Visser for paper DI - DII; Book of Jelle Hoekstra for paper C; Basic D questions and D-EQE-questions of Deltapatents; Book of Cees Mulder for PCT; Application Guide of the PCT; Guidelines for Examiners of the EPO; National Law Tables
DeltaPatents D-methodology was invaluable. Unfortunately I was not adequately knowledgeable at the time I followed it.
Deltapatents; EQE-online
developing a method for any paper; exercising the method with old exams
Devising my own method. The right methodology is crucial.
Discipline and humility; Motivated study colleagues; Patience and understanding of my family members
Discipline and never giving up!
• discussing compendium solutions together with a friend, solving old exams under real time together with a friend
• Discussing the Examiner’s Report with other colleagues preparing the EQE with me.; Following the threads on the forum online for EQE.; Making statistics on the papers of the Compendium and revising the most frequent mistakes in order to improve.; Preparing short check list to be used during the exam
• Discussion with successful candidates of previous year
• discussions
• Discussions with colleagues on interpretation of the EPC and case law.; Sports (take your mind off things for a little while and be in good condition to sit the EQE)
• Discussions with my colleagues.
• Discussions with peers
• Discussions with previous candidates
• Discussions with tutor
• Doing 37 past papers in total
• Doing old papers on my own, preparation of EPC-book and Guidelines
• Doing papers in real duration.
• doing past exams papers
• doing past papers (A and B) and discussing my efforts with my supervisor, who was able to give very helpful remarks and advice.
• Doing past papers although limited amount of papers available.
• Doing past papers and reading examiner's reports
• Doing past papers, ; advice from colleagues who sat the EQEs in the last couple of years
• Doing past papers, EQE forum online questions, and questions emailed to my inbox daily
• Doing previous EQE papers as requested by German Patentanwaltskammer, before starting the 8-months training with German authorities.
• Doing previous EQE-exams on my own based on the Compendium (printed from the Internet). Internet - EQE-Online, EQE-Wiki, general Google searches.
• Doing previous examination papers to time
• doing tests nearly under real conditions, examinor's reports and sample solutions
• Doing the exams of the previous years under exam conditions, i.e. small table, standard chair etc.
• ebooks for reading in trains/U-Bahn
• electronic versions of EPC, Guidelines, Case Law ... on the EPO website
• EPC, Guidelines for Examination
• epi Tutorial
• epo eqe internet
• epoline
• eqe forum
• EQE Forum for D exam, preparing own summaries and checklists
• EQE forum questions and study cases are important but when it comes to DII there is unfortunately one 1 case and it should be more.
• EQE forum was of good help e.g. questions and Mock exams
• EQE Forum which I found very well organized and very usefull in providing expert answers
• eqe forum, very important.
• EQE online forum, Delta Patents Question compendium
• EQE Online Forum; Discussion with other candidates
• EQE related questions provided on EQE forums homepage.
• EQE-coffe-break questions and Daily D1 questions (although less helpfull as doubled with most of the compendium questions)
• Eqe-online forum. Djackson did an excellent effort.
• eqe-online, repeating many of old exams
• eqe-online.org questions by email and online forum; Unfortunately, I only got access in October, which is much too late.
• Exam-type questions (for DI), lots of them...
• Examination Guidelines, slides from EQE training courses, question books, past papers
• Examiner’s reports
• Exams from previous years.
• exercise with exams of previous years in real time conditions
• exercise!
• exercising on past papers. There are not enough papers to work on.
• expérience passée d’autres candidats
• feedback from EP attorneys & successful candidates
• Finding enough time for preparation.
• finding enough time to prepare with our high (full time) work load at the office and a busy family life with a more than full time working partner and having 3 little children.
• Finding enough time to prepare!
• For A and B, it is important to make mock exam in order to test the chosen method and adapt it to the real conditions. A good method is the base for these parts.
• For A and B: analyze the examiner’s reports of several years to understand what they want to hear and how the marks are given. Then do this, and really nothing else.
• For me the Compendium is the most important means for training
• forum
• free time
• General on the job practice.
• Getting all information together
• Good comment to EPC
• Gregory Baque, DeltaPatents study guides
• Group discussion of previous papers
• guidelines for examination
• Guidelines, Visser and the case law. Nothing more and nothing less
• hard work, personal time
• Have a good rest before the exams
• Having somebody to look at your papers of previous year(s)
• Having well-prepared learning materials. Do as many previous papers (of the compendium) as possible, in particular for Papers A, B and DII. Study the Examiner’s reports (but with caution). For paper DI use the DeltaPatents questions (very helpful!).
• health condition.
• Help and support from people who already sat the EQE
• Hints and comments of former candidates
• Hints from former participants
• Home studies and study time during working hours which were too little, only five days...
• I consider important to use the epo-homepage
• I feel that my time best spent was by self study; old exams + compendium. In addition the books with questions + answers from DeltaPatents
• I had little or no support from my employer for the exams, either in terms of funding for courses, books or specific tuition from a supervising patent attorney. Preparation consisted of printing out my own copies of all of the relevant legal texts and guidelines (as are freely available) reading the legal text, reviewing as much of the guidelines as possible, and annotating the texts based upon past paper questions (including further reading following from each question). It is quite possible that this is a completely inadequate preparation for the EQEs.
• I have long experience as a patent counsel and this is important. The exams are often very different from real life patent work tasks.
• I only prepare part B. I prepare the examination mainly on base of the compendium, case law and the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO.
• I studied the EPC itself and think this was very helpful for me to get a feeling for the EPC and the relations therebetween and differences between EPC and PCT, EPC and national laws
etc. This was especially helpful for me during the examination as I was able to find the relevant law basis in a relatively short time. Moreover, as I was running short of time during preparation, I tried to prepare my documents such as to be able to find the requested information in a time interval leaving me enough time for preparing the examination answers.

- I think that the hint to prepare your own study material which was given during the CEIPI-Preprep-Course was useless, because it is so time consuming and it is quite probable that one will not include everything that is necessary. I would rather recommend to use such commented EPC and PCT-guide such as Kley or Malte K‘llner and add your comments. Also, I think that one should not atst by reading complicated secondary literature in the first place witout having fundamental knwoledge of the EPC and PCT, in other words: Read (and learn by heart at least the titles of) all the Articles and Rules of the EPC and the PCT, then continue with the Guidelines and G-decisions.

- I think use of the above books and the above courses was good preparation in addition to past papers. I also attended the Management Forum case law training which I found very useful. The EQE forum and daily D1 questions are also an excellent resource.

- I took the two weeks before the exam off from work, to get better focus.

- I would like to highlight the EQE Online tool, which was of the most importance for me since I had no study group or in-house training. Moreover, I could receive advice whenever the Tuition of Delta Patents was insufficient (due to the low quality of 1 of the Tutors) and/or conflitng with the Examination Reports of the Compedium, frequently not in line along the years ans sometimes pretty uncomplete.

- I wrote my own annotated EPC; Real time mock exam;
- In house commentary
- In house tutorials
- in-house tutorials
- incentive study of the examiners reports; diskuussion with collegs
- Individual in-house coaching by a number of patent attorneys
- Individual study
- information from previous candidates
- Internal EPO courses for examiners
- Internal working group, EQE Forum
- Internet and EPO news.
- internet forum (academy)
- it is important to do exercises controlling the time. For the exam, it is not enough to known the answer but to known to answer it quickly without wasting time.

- körperliche und geistige Fitneß, Klausurtraining
- Keep excellent physical conditions
- Kley Kommentar
- Kley, commented PCT applicants guide
- kley, kommtentiertes ep¸
- Lack of a single book or guide giving the main elements. I find it pity. Necessary knowledge is not abundant. But confusion due to various books, etc. makes the subject more difficult than it is.

- Le blog European patent case law
- Learning the EPC and Regulations off-by-heart and all G and some T decisions seem to have been the only thing that has really helped me improve.; Courses and methodolgy have just confused me and give ideas that spend your time in the exam but ultimately don't help because you run out of time. I followed some training centre’s ideas on point scoring and feel like I haven't done justice to myself.

- Learning with a small group of people and preparing by wrinting old exams under real "time" conditions and afterwards exchanging the exams and discussing the results.
- Listen to tips from friends who have passed.
- Looking at the old exams
- Lots and lots of study, because every day pratice does not actually prepare you for the kind
of questions you are to face in either paper D1 or D2

- Lots of personal time to make exercises.
- make my own material
- Make old exams and carefully analyse my own answer in comparison to the Model Solution.; I prepared for D exam by using DeltaPatents Question books.
- Make previous examination sets
- Making enough previous papers from the compendium, time management exercises.
- Making my own EPC-abstract
- making papers of previous years under exam conditions.
- Methods and timemanagement
- Mock exam, continous learning at very steady pace
- more time ...
- most important id to find the time
- most important was DeltaPatents C-Course, DeltaPatents D Questions, and Kley Kommentar EP as well as practising with old EQE-Exams
- Mostly doing old exams. Detailed examiner's reports very important to understand what was expected and why!
- Motivation!
- Much time and studying by myself
- my colleagues experiences in previous years
- my personal job experience
- my self-prepared excel sheet summary of the epc and case law
- N/A
- No social life
- none
- None
- none
- OJ and case law reading, PCT applicant's guide.
- OJ, Guidelines, Case Law
- old exams, examiners guide,
- On line training with daily D1-like questions : extremely useful thanks to the detailed answers from tutors and discussions of proposals from other candidates.; "EQE coffee break" questions are also useful but were less regular and a bit too late, they should come first, before D1 like daily questions; EQE Forum discussions on past papers : very useful; The EQE forum is particularly useful for candidates, as me, working far from the others
- One of the most important thing is to have time for preparing the exam.
- Organization... especially with two toddlers at home
- own summaries and comments
- Own time spent on analysing the EPC
- PAPER CORRECTION PROGRAM DELTA PATENTS
- past papers
- Past papers. ; EQE question and answer book
- patience
- pct applicants guide.; visser.; case law book.;
- Personal study was by far the most important.
- Personal Study, training from supervisor, in-house tutorials. External training courses would probably have been very useful.
- Personal training
- Personal training.
- Personal work
- personal working at home
- Physical exercise - it helps with motivation and alertness.; Starting preparation for the exam early.
- physical fitness
- Please note that the answers above (and below up to Q14) only apply for this year (re-sitting of paper B). I did follow CEIPI courses and used several books in preparing for the four exams, which was very useful. However, this didn't apply this year.
- Please post more and updated questions with regard to the EPC and PCT on the Online European Patent Academy - not only questions with regard to timelines. The case study for D II "Toothbrush" was very helpful - add new cases working after the same step-by-step-answering principle which give you a complete sample solution at the end.
- Positive attitude
- Practical experience & mentoring
- Practical training of the exams under exam condition, time management
- practical work on IP matters, EPO publications, WIPO publications, solving exam-related question for D and prior c-exams for C
- practical work writing new applications and PBEs
- Practice and practice...
- practice past papers!
- practice under time pressure
- practice, practice, practice
- Practice, practice, practice
- Practice, reading the Examiners' Comments
- Practicing earlier papers from 2003 to 2010
- practicing old exams
- Practicing past papers
- Practicing solving of past papers
- Practicing with the compendium in real-time condition
- practise real EQE exams.; DeltaPatents has updated old exams to bring them into conformity with current law, which is very helpful. Especially the discussions after preparing the exam questions.
- Practising past papers
- Practising past papers
- Practising the papers under exam condition to address shortage of time issues
- Practising the questions prepared by Delta Patents.
- Preparation of Material
- Preparation of own materials to help navigate the law and to help structure the information in questions
- preparation of summaries and overviews of important topics, getting familiar with the material for use in the exam
- prepare an excel table covering all legal procedures, e.g: what actions to be taken to file an application (e.g. file transalation, legal basis of this action), what time limit (legal basis of time limit), what happens if time limit expires (e.g. deemed to be withdrawn according to rule, receive R112.1 communication), what legal remedies are available (legal basis),...; ; This is of particular importance for the PCT!
- Prepare my own documents: GL summary, PCT summary, EPC summary
- Prepare your own commentar
- Preparing an aggregated version with Articles + rules + references to case law, OJ & guidelines/applicant's guides was an "overkill" preparation, for which probably too much time was invested (much time to edit the material). The result was an enormous gain in time, and I am almost sure I will pass, but it leaves the impression that such efforts are a bit useless, as having 15-20' more for D1 would enable one to look-up in the books. The ratio time/degree of precision expected in the answers does not seem appropriate to me. my impression is that more time, with negative marks for completely absurd/wrong answers would be fairer.
• preparing statistics concerning papers A/B
• priority questions for paper D.; to a lesser degree representation, procedure matter in opposition
• private studying and exercising
• professional experience
• Professional experience
• Professional practice at work
• read G decisions and opinions in full
• Reading and summarizing patent procedures, especially using the Guidelines for examination (making mindmaps describing search procedure at the EPO, for instance). Using the EPC itself and making notes for use in the exam.
• Reading decisions of the Enlarged Board of Appeal
• Reading Guidelines; doing C exam papers to time; reading Visser/C book; doing A/B papers to test speed with unfamiliar exam papers.
• Reading the EPC with the guidelines
• Reading, practice papers
• Real cases of applications prosecuted by the EPO. That is to say, examiner’s objections regarding claims I previously drafted are very good practice. In general, the examiners’ objections seem to follow the GL.
• Real life work
• Real-life work and situations. Perhaps EPO could provide real-life course? Why not attending an oral proceeding during opposition including preparation before and discussions afterwards?
• Real-time mock exams
• Reduced workload at the office.
• Regular study throughout the 16 months preparation. Homework in Delta Patnts course DI.
• Responding to questions in Deltapatents' D books
• Richtlinien, Eigene Kommentierung des EP
• s'etrainer ‡ rÈpondre ‡ des questions D1
• Self preparation at home
• self study
• Self study is the most important
• Self-directed revision, past papers, tutorials with other candidates using past papers
• self-preparation with the Delta Patents Study Guide
• self-study; you need to sit down and recapitulate on the information you receive during course session.
• selfstudy
• Seminar: Forum EQE "C" and "D"
• simulate eqe sitting conditions at home.
• Sitting as many past papers as possible under real exam conditions.
• Sitting past papers under time management
• Solving the papers from previous years
• Sorry for do not understand this part of the survey, because unfortunately, I went to the exam one day later, I mean, I jast have to go to the Paper A an B, And I confused the date, and I went to the Paper C. Late I was talking with the Chief commissioner.
• spending much time for getting familiar not only with articles, rules, guidelines etc. but also with tactics for written examination
• Start studying as earliest as possible. Read and understand the guidelines.
• studying older papers
• study group with dedicated fellow candidates and professional feed-back from an experienced tutor;
• Study leave from work in order to do full papers.
• Study leave/holiday for doing past papers, past candidates marking and commenting on my
attempts of past papers

- study of the EPO guidelines for examination
- study recent case law, discuss specific problems with colleagues, study EPO Official Journal
- study time
- Study time off from my employer
- studying examens, examiner's report
- Studying Kley, Following the course with Delta
- Studying lots of old EQE Exams
- Studying the Case Law of the Boards of Appeal Of EPO and discussing the decisions with colleagues
- Studying the EPC and the Guidelines and preparing the texts for quick reference during the exam (e.g. by highlighting parts, adding notes etc.).
- Substantial personal study
- Take enough time, I started in mid of September and dedicated most of last three months before the EQE for preparation.
- take your time and learn on your own or with other candidates
- Taking past papers.
- Talk with many IP-people, including from various law-firms, industrial companies and examiners. Luckily friends of mine are examiners.; Try mock exam in your old university, to avoid distraction.
- Talking to colleagues that had already sat for the EQE
- talking to former candidates who have passed the EQE
- Talking to successful candidates.
- Testing my preparation during mock examinations
- That I only had to focus on paper B this time, as I passed the remaining papers in 2010.; Only therefore did I not attend any courses and only therefore did I start focused studies at as late a point in time as I did.; I note that quite a few of the answers I have given herein are also affected by this fact.
- The annotated EPC/PCT in French by Gregory Baque was greatly helpful, but mostly in the light of the preparation courses (that is, in the last weeks before EQE).
- The blog K's law
- The commented past candidates papers on EQE-Forum were very helpful to identify where mistakes are made, and where points can potentially be reaped.
- The DI time limit questions, Coffee Break EQE and Daily DI questions, and the DI quiz were very good online resources.
- The Dutch general education, which also has an A and B type exam.
- The elaboration of glossary of terms with references to Articles, rules, decisions, OJ, GL, etc.
- The EQE Forum online (DeltaPatents) questions and other information and discussions there.
- The EQE forum was fundamental.
- The Guidelines
- The Guidelines for Examination are key - not only for the EQE but also for your daily work.
- The JDD revision course
- The most important thing is to forget how answers are compiled in the German patent attorneys' exam.
- The Paper D questions of the EQEonline forum give a good idea what to expect.
- There is a lot of information and books available. But we found that it is hard to work with a lot of different types of information. For this reason we created our own study aids. So we know on which position we can find what information.; A problem is that the preparation for the EQE takes a lot of time. I have family and two children, I had to prepare in the evenings and on weekends. We have no time for training in our office. So it is important to start early with the preparation in a small study group.;
• This year the coffee-break questions and the daily D1 questions by e-mail.
• Thorough knowledge of the Guidelines for Examination
• Time
• Time
• Time
• time
• Time
• time
• Time - i.e. to time you have to comprehend the specific details in depth. It is not enough just reading - the understanding of the teachings increases as time goes
• time (too little of which I had), reading EPC with brain on, eqe-online training
• Time for studying. Book a tutor for the study group.
• Time management; Understanding of the organization of the different papers
• Time schedule - to be able to answer paper satisfactory in the certain time limit.
• time to a complete knowledge of EPC and practice
• time to be dedicated to training and study
• time to prepare for the exam
• Time to train with past exams under exam conditions.
• Time, and a lot of it.
• Time, stamina & luck, a lot of the latter.
• TIME!!!
• Time.
• Timing, i.e. real-time mock exams
• To be able to write quickly all the answers or texts of the paper to be passed.
• To be given some work time to study, and have said time respected.
• To handle a lot of EP and PCT files by my own.
• To have enough time, I had to take a month off for a full-time preparations before the exam: my employee does not offer any possibilities for study during the working time.
• To practise doing papers in quasi-exam conditions
• To train schemes in order to gain the ability to get the exam done in time.
• To work in a continuous way two hours per day; then in intense manner, eight hours per day, during the three weeks previous the examination (Compendium in real time) then total rest three days preceding the examination.
• To work really closely with an experienced patent attorney.
• Took time off
• Training by making past years papers (A;B;C), and the pre-prep course for Paper C
• training by writing old papers
• Training of D1-questions (EQE-Forum and Delta patents), commended papers D1 (from EQE-Forum-excellent)
• Training of fast and legible handwriting
• Training under exam conditions
• Training with other candidates (group of 4) on each paper between 2002 and 2008 (2009 and 2010 papers done during the seminars).
• Trying to understand how the examiners expect answers, aside from reality.; Think the unthinkable....
• Tutorials arranged by CIPA
• Two main aspects: ; For papers A, B, C: doing the old exam papers from Compendium and dedicating a lot of time (!) to analyzing my results as compared to the examiner’s report and to compiling a list/outline of important aspects to keep in mind when sitting the paper; ; For paper D: going rigorously through the material (books, guidelines, old questions) and preparing books/guidelines/etc. in a well-organized manner
• Understanding the logic of the examiners and being able to find info fast
• Urlaub direkt vor der Prüfung
• Urlaub zur Vorbereitung genutzt.
• various blogs, especially:; - saltedpatent.blogspot.com; - eqetools.blogspot.com; - eqe-c.blogspot.com
• Very good course
• Week-end mock-exams at home with compendium
• Weekly meeting with colleagues discussing 3-4 D-Paper questions
• Wiki EQE internet pages
• work experience - having already tried the exam (re-sitter)
• Working Group and discussions regarding the recent amendments which enter in force during the last year
• Workload decrease prior to attend the exam, regular reading of case law
• Writing mock-exams and discussing my shortcomings with the study group (on the basis of the Examiner’s reports)
• Writing old exams and comparing my answers to the solutions and examiners comments
• Writing previous exams (compendium) under nearly real-time conditions in order to improve my time management.
• Writing the exams of previous years (all papers); Answering DeltaPatent questions
• Writing the previous papers under examination-like conditions.
• Zeitmanagement und Schreiben ,ben durch komplettes Schreiben mehrerer Prüfungsdurchgänge
Q12) How long before the EQE did you start intensive focused study?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More than two</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>years in advance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between one and</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two years in</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>advance</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Between six and</td>
<td>236</td>
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<tr>
<td>twelve months in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>advance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between three and</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>six months in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>advance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than three</td>
<td>286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>months in advance</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q13) What was your greatest weakness if you assess your own preparation for the EQE and your performance, and how, in retrospect, could you have overcome it?

- complex situations, as in DII, I am weak in study complex case situations in that small time. ; argumentation in C (problemsolution approach)
- Zu viel Arbeit, daher zu wenig Zeit zur Vorbereitung - das nächstes Mal (??) werde ich mir etwas mehr Zeit nehmen :)
- Zeitmangel aufgrund von eigenen Mandaten und Fristen während der Vorbereitung. Als selbständiger nationaler Patentanwalt führt die Vorbereitung auch zu deutlichen finanziellen Einbußen.
- yes, even taking eqe 2011 helps me what is the important topics for epo
- Writing!: I do not use to write in my job (mostly dictation and typin on computer) and it is hard for someone else to read my writing even harder when i have to write quickly.; It is not possible to overcome it!
- writing on a computer would be more practically proven method then by hand
- writing faster
- writing claims containing the necessary features
- Workload only allowed for a limited amount of study hours and limited number of mock exams.
- Workload
- Working and studying at the same time
- Work more on exam’s conditions with time limits.
- Work load and time left for eqe preparation.; Length of exam papers.
- work less, learn more
- When working with the Compendium, checking "my" solutions against the examiners opinion; was sometimes so frustrating, that it took me some days to continue with the preparation.; I would have needed a higher frustration threshold.
- When taking the past A and B exams (Compendium) I didn’t have anybody specialized in
chemistry to discuss my (often different) answer with.

- When practising with older papers, it is relatively "easy" to find the right answers, because commented texts are updated year after year also in view of what was made the object of the exam the year before. Unfortunately, at the exam, finding the answers is less straightforward and takes more time, so that catches you slightly unaware.
- When practicing old exams, firstly do them correct and then look at the time you need for them.
- Weaknesses: Missing details in the questions; "slips of the pen" (like March 1st 2011 + 18 months = Sept. 1st 2011); Overcoming: I simply don't know yet
- Weaknesses: ; 1) impatience when not understanding something at the first go; 2) aversion against the stuff at close to the EQE; 3) time problems when sitting mock exam; Solution:; 1) put it aside - it will getting clear with other topics; 2) start early and concentrate it not too long before the exam - make "holidays" from learning, allow yourself free time to clear your mind; 3) for this I do not have a solution ...
- Weakness: to find enough time for preparation - besides work, and to try to write old exam papers in real time
  weakness: time; overcome: even more practice under real time conditions
  weakness: time management; --> overcome by practice with the Compendium
- Weakness: time and concentration; how to overcome: more training (test examinations)
- Weakness: No practical experience in my job to file patent applications / file responses to Official Actions; To gain more experience to draft patent applications responses to official actions
- Weakness: Difficulty in reading the papers and further provide a complete answer in the time limit. ; I tried to overcome it by trying as much past papers as possible.;
- Weakness was the fairly obscure aspects of law (for example in D2), rather than the day to day practice aspects.
- wanting to be too detailed on all parts, legal and notice, thereby ending up facing time shortage
- very little time available
- Unfortunately, real work of a patent agent and the EQE are not the same. During preparation it was hard to see, particularly in A+B, the expected solution. In the compendium the "right" answers often remain unclear to me. A better reference to the guidelines and the board of appeal decisions would be helpful to the candidates.
- unfortunately I have no idea
- Understanding how "Argumentation" is valued by the markers.
- Underestimation of the complexity of the regulations and time necessary for preparing the Examination.
- Uncertainty of required level of detail for the DII.; No strategy for how to tackle DII when getting stuck on a crucial issue. ; Could be improved by practicing on more exams.
- Turmoil in private life making 2010 stressfull without the EQE preparations. Mental exhaustion early 2011. Adjust study efforts to meet possibilities in times of other stress.
- Trying to squeeze in too much information before the examination.
  training under exam conditions
  Training in real-time conditions is important
  Took only C this year - will know answer to that question when results come out...
  Too narrow claims; by practice.
  Too much work, no much time to prepar the EQE
- Too much work load. And i got the flue. And it is necessary to train to write by hand !
- Too much to do at work! (Disputes and licensing discussions....); I need to take vacation to study and to deligate more of my work for a period of time.
- Too much time preparing the documents and not enough training
- too little time for intensive preparation, but I have to pay my rent and my food etc. so I had to
work a lot; during the exam time was a big issue, however, during my preparation for which I used a stop watch, time was never such a big issue; maybe I should have tried to solve the training papers in less than the official time available, e.g. only 3 hours for paper A etc.

- too little time (due to extensive workload and other circumstances) - couldn't have this year
- Too less time for preparation
- too less time for finishing the papers; More practical training required (MOC examinations) (however, I have not enough time to learn for the exam due to work overload)
- too less knowledge of law and case law; furthermore it is strange to look for "special hints" in Paper A and B to be guided to the solution - this leads to the need for a special training for the EQE that is expensive but worthless for "real life"
- Too few time to prepare, just finished the full eight months' training with the German authorities in December 2010.
- Too few C-paper mock exams real time. Drill and good technique in solving C-part.
- To understand the logic and pattern behind the Examination part and to understand the rating.
- To tired...I did not manage to cope with preparation and too many professional duties
- To solve the problems in the given time. Training with a clock.
- to respect the time of the examination, the hours given are insufficient for me for finish the examination and to check it properly, with practice I become more fast but not enough to properly check the answer
- To put more time into preparations.
- To much work in the office. I should have denied to take over any work about 4 month in advance.
- To much work and family responsibility. To few quit moments to concentrate more hours on the preparation. No one to ask without having to pay high salaries to greedy patent attorneys. It is highly needed that there is a forum where you can get personal assistance at least some hours without the need to empty your bank account.
- To know about the tasks of the different papers;; Having a more detailed Examiner's report.
- to have enough time; I should have been more focussed on exam-related questions and should not have spent that much time with basic matters
- To finish in time. I did papers in real duration.;
- to find enough time for preparation next to the family and the job; -> create a plan and learning directly afterwards the daily job, i.e. learning in the office in a separate room
- To find an answer to the question: Which is the topic to start preparation with?; Just start with any topic, but it is necessary to start
- To extract the right information from paper C and to see how to use it. Overcome by intensive training of paper C compendiums.
- To do the whole thing besides daily work.
- To do more compendium exercises under real-life time constrictions.
- To dedicate enough time even long before the EQE. I started really focussing and organizing dedicated time for EQE preparations starting in November 2010, that was bit late.
- To become a legal person explaining the details of a given case was not so easy, because as a technical person you were trained in the past to give the shortest answer possible.
- Tiredness and loss of concentration during the afternoon papers. It is difficult to find a way to overcome it, maybe by preparing at home under "real exam" conditions, i.e., doing two papers in one day.
- timing
- Timely learning from own mistakes
- Time. Spent more time studying.
- Time! Build a time machine.. Seriously though, work sometimes gets in the way and impacts on time and motivation
- time, would be good to have spare time to study for the exam
- time, time, tiem, because family, job and study is a little difficult to manage, but I have to try.
- time, start studying earlier
Time, start earlier. I was a resitter and thought I had read it all already.

Time-Management: It took me too long to study epc with decisions, guidelines, and pct thoroughly enough. Initially, I planned to do most of the delta patents questions. However, I was only able to do very few of these questions. In addition, I should have started earlier with former papers.

Time-keeping under pressure, unsure.

Time to study. No solution. Just to be concentrated during the few time I could study in order to retain the most of the information.

Time pressure during the Exam - prepare for the time pressure.

Time pressure, relations between different articles and rules (EQE itself and also PCT and others). Must: learn articles and rules very intensive/off pat and learn to use it without books; Compendium: Examiners reports - please more detailed.

Time pressure and time management during the exams.

Time pressure and the excitement/panic at an exam - hard to train.

Time necessary for preparing the D part besides heavy workload in the job. Solution in 2011: Postponing of D part to 2012!

Time management, learning rapidly writing.

Time management of the EQE exams during personal training.; I may have overcome by doing little daily exercises focusing on Time management, not necessarily directed to EQE questions, but rather on various daily tasks.

Time management.

Time management in relation to work load.

Time managing, no mother language, handwriting.

Time management.; Practice more past papers in timed conditions.

Time management. ; I guess that I could overcome it by being able to take more time to test different methods and work on the paper drafting aspect (concise sentences, etc...).

Time management; the best way is to make several mocking tests.

Time management; practice papers in real exam conditions.

Time management; clarifying methodology and doing sufficient exercise: believe not possible to do without adequate training courses (delta patent the best for D and C - CEIPI the best for A and B).

Time management, tried to overcome by making a few mock exams.

Time management, to be overcome with more exercises.

Time management, speed in processing written information.

Time management, slow reading & comprehension.

Time management, practice full exams.

Time management, it is quite difficult - if possible at all - to make a fixed schedule for the several steps required during part C.

Time management, especially for the C-paper.

Time management, due to family situation with many small children. Impossible to overcome.; Moreover, getting always the latest available documentation for learning. Quite difficult because so many changes in short time.

Time management with work, family, life (work, life, study balance).

Time management was the most severe issue. Should have trained my handwriting speed with more rigor.

Time management was main problem, run out of time.

Time management in relation to the paper difficulty. I could have made more papers under examination conditions.

Time management for Paper C.

Time management during the exam.; I prepared some papers under exam conditions at home, but being at the "real" examination is still different and more stressful, having an impact on good time management.

Time management during the exam.
• Time management during EQE: I did a lot of old exam. However, mostly I wrote down my answers in keywords. During examination the time for writing the answer completely took more time than I have expected.
• time management during D1; doing more D1 exams of former years in real time
• time management C/D ;
• Time management and quick understanding the claimed technology, as chemist.
• time management => more previous & EQE-style papers should've been done under exam conditions
• time management
• time management
• time management
• Time management
• Time management
• time limits
• Time limit managing
• Time keeping while sitting the exercises, studying recent case law and ancillary regulations ; ;
• Time is an always an issue.
• Time handling. I need longer time to understand the questions as English is not my mother toung. In DI-2011 part I did not understand 2 questions (therefore coudl not answer them); I'm training to do Delta Exam Questions on time.
• time for studying next to family and work
• Time for performing previous years examination papers
• Time for DII, done more previous DII. However, not so many to do on EPC 2000
• Time during the exam
• Time constraints due to work obligations - it would have helped to start preparing earlier, but that is not possible with many employers.
• Time apportionment; ability of quickly finding legal basis.
• time
• time
• Time

There was not sufficient time for the preparation beside the job.
• The whole concept of this test is not well considered. People who have the right schemes are quick enough to answer the questions. You do not test a good understanding of the law. Only how quick can you write and answer. I do not like this kind of test. Has nothing to do with the real every day business of an attorney
• The very big amount of information related with D-part ; - what is important to know for EQE???: - what about PCT???: I tried to concentrate on main important questions and not regarding side aspects.
• The understanding what information is needed to get all points was a problem. So we started to analyse the examiner reports to get a feeling how to answer all the question.; ; A problem was the less time for writing. Normally we all write with our computers and do not use handwriting. So we really have to train the handwriting and to write all down in the given time.;
• The underestimation of the huge information to be assimilated and organize
• The time. More practice
• The time management. Finding the correct key aspects for preparing the main claims for papers A and B with the high number of information given, number of “traps” usually introduced, and specially in view of the small time available. Taking the decision for starting the response writing at an appropriate time.; To overcome this one should have a quick and good analysis approach (preferably with the help of a workflow table), have read very extensively the Guidelines (part C) so that the GL are in you head and you can reason quickly, and also you should have trained (with real conditions) with at least 5 papers of the
compendium. At the end, you should take a decision (good or even still doubtful), at the appropriate time. If not, no time for writing a response with chances to pass the Exam.

- The time for studying is a problem for an Italian student like me. Italian firms do not give days for studying. We have to spend our holidays by studying. At the same time EQE training course are few and very expensive in Italy.

- The squeezed time issue under D1 exam. Normally, I need some time to feel consensus by myself. Consequently, I did not have time to answer all the questions in D1, I missed two. I have to improve on this if the examiner decides not to let me pass ;)

- The physical fitness. It was a very hard time, working on a very high level of concentration for three days and reading a large amount of text in such a short time. The process of writing was not a problem at all, but it was exhausting.

- The papers were too long for the time given, it would have been helpful to have more papers to work on during the preparation. The published papers are not enough.

- The number oh holyday - days I took for preparation ... would have needed more sleep...

- The number mock runs based on the Compendium esp. on Paper C and D2; but more seems to impossible with fulltime job and three small children at home waiting for daddy...

- The need to balance working full-time with EQE preparations. This would have been difficult to overcome, other than by reducing my paid working hours.

- The most important problem was lack of time. It was very hard to find time to learn with everyday work and other family duties. It is also hard to overcome this problem. The most helpful were courses, which made me focused on the EQE issues.

- The main problem is the time available in the exams: during the preparation, one should try to write old papers under conditions as similar as possible to the real ones...

- The identification of the closest prior art is a matter of lack. The persons creating the paper C seem to be absolutely arbitrary on that. There is no way to overcome it, mere Russian Roulette.

- The greatest weakness is not making enough time for preparations; to overcome this it would have helped to start focused preparations at least 6 months before the exam.

- The greatest weakness comes from the structure of the examination itself (I just talk about paper C, which I attended). Time is unnecessary kept as a limiting factor. It is hard to understand, why there must be this kind of pressure since this is absolutely not representing, how oppositions are being prepared in daily life and puts the focus (instead of a deeper understanding to the subject matter, most important things in the examination is time handling etc.)

- The EQE is sometimes closer to the Mad territory than to real life. It is harder for persons in daily contact with real life files to sit for the EQE than for young practitioners, as we can't believe what we see, typically in the text of DII paper, where the customer makes so many mistakes it's hardly believable.; The best way to get prepared for DII is to forget about real life, and search for exam traps.

- The EQE has nothing to do with real work (see Q27). ; The only way to overcome these artificial obstacles seems to be training based on old EQE papers and the related Examiner's reports.

- The biggest weakness have been to work fulltime as a attorney. ; The only way to overcome this problem seems to be splitting the whole EQE in four parts (A, B, C, D), what on the other hand means to need at least 4 Years passing the EQE.

- The big difficulty of EQE is time management especially for students having a NON-EPO language.; ; i could only over come this problem by training more with the compendium.

- That I have a very good training for practise but that I do not have a specific training for the EQE. ;

- Taking UK exams in November which limited the time available for preparing for the EQEs. This could have been overcome by starting EQE preparation before the UK Exam preparation

- take vacation for preparing correctly the examination and thus to have intensive training and dedicate time

- superficial reading
• Studying in foreign language is a huge disadvantage. Language problems (I have not an EPO official language as mother tongue).
• Studying alone without discussing problems with other candidates.
• Study for paper D was based on the Delta Patents books, so I waited for this year's books to become available. This resulted in starting studying later than I would have liked.
• Stress, short of time, it makes arrive at an answer you would not get if you were not under so much pressure.
• Stick to the compendium and the questions provided by delta-patents, discuss questions in small groups. Work yourself through old exams beginning with the oldest and ending with the latest.
• Start learning, I did not overcome it
• Starting with general preparation in advance to doing the compendium; In fact "real world" problems are distinct to what is being asked in the EQE, thus preparation on the basis of actual problems was not helpful.
• Starting with exam related questions and compendium cases earlier. Training Time and information management - speed reading -speed writing and speed organization of information drill.
• Starting too late with preparation for D, lack of time due to extensive amount of work
• Starting the preparation earlier
• Starting practising D1 questions too late
• Started intensive focussed study late. Should have spent more time on PCT.
• Start intensive study earlier. However, the necessary reference books (Hoekstra, Visser) are not published early enough!
• Start earlier with preparation.
• Spotting the issues in various papers, particularly DII. Could have done more past papers.
• spend less time in courses - study more on my own - starting preparations 1,5 years in advance does not make sense as it starts too early. Study to work under time pressure.
• Speed. Especially in C, where there is a lot to read, I feel the fact of doing the EQE in a non-mother language as a strong handicap. The high-level meaning of a word can sometimes be understood from the context wherein it is used. However, the exact import of the words, which you only "feel" when you are dealing with your own mother language, is of huge importance for the papers. I was several times obliged to look it up in the dictionary, losing very important minutes.
• Speed on C paper and D1 paper
• speed of writing by hand
• Speed and intensive knowledge required in paper D - more study earlier would have helped.
• Specific knowledge of the law required for Paper D. To a large extent this cannot be overcome as the questions are ridiculously specific and put undue time pressure on the candidate. However, more attention to the OJ over the course of the year previous may have been advantageous.
• Special cases of patentability (e.g. selection inventions from short lists, special ways to deal with product-by-process claims etc), assessment of same invention. They are clear in theory, but borderline cases in reality are more difficult. I will study Delta Patent's C methodology book in more detail (which I unfortunately did not prioritize this time).
• Sometimes, there are questions behind the question, sometimes not. It hard to find out in which situations answering more than just written in the question is wanted, and in which situation it is a waste of time. ; Often questions allow several kind of answers. Even if you have a deep knowledge, it is hard to identify which aspect is wanted.; I still do not know how I can find that out.
• so far I don't know which parts I have passed and which parts I have missed ...
• slowness. more exam's simulation; not easy when working
• Slow handwriting, actually I haven’t overcome it.
• Should have sat at least one paper at home in advance with a target to finalize in the time
given in the exam.

- Should have read through the given documents more quickly. Time became an issue on both papers A and B.
- Should have made one learning block some month ago.
- Should have begun annotating the Convention earlier.
- Serious illness last year affected both planning of study and energy/fitness. Would have made some more time for exercise to increase stamina sooner, although this would have been somewhat restricted in implementation.
- Running your own practice gives you minimum amount of time for preparation - time management when studying is essential for preparation for Paper D.
- RiLi sind oftmaus zu langatmig und redundant geschrieben - bessere Struktur, kürzere Fassung unter Beibehaltung der rechtlichen Präzision.; Selber besser machen: genau dies selbst in den wichtigsten rechtlichen Gebieten ergänzen.
- Regarding with the subject: PCT; Regarding other aspects: you may leave time every day to study after working and it is not easy, you may keep the balance otherwise you are lost.
- Reading the question and answer the question; I have a tendency to misunderstand the question.
- Reading specialized literature like the case law book without really knowing the actual Articles and Rules.
- Reading and writing relatively slow. Hard to overcome it, leads to stress during the examination.
- Psychological preparation...how to overcome ???? I am not sure !!!
- Probably (even more) paper solving could have helped me in identifying (all) the traps of the 2011 papers.
- Prepartion time is very short regarding all the other things coming up in daily life. So, I think it would be better to begin earlier with studying EPC and BA and EBA decisions leaving me enough time to do more old examination papers.
- Prepartion went well. I should have attended the EQE earlier, as it seems the material to be considered in the papers A and B (especially in paper A) is increasing, particularly when compared to papers of previous years, whereas the time given to the candidates remains the same.; As this was the first time I have attended the EQE, I was too nervous because it was a completely new location and situation which entailed a lot of open questions (like how do I get there ?, will I have enough space to ensure an efficient working ?, what are the regulations for visiting the rest rooms (some people said you have to wait at least 1/2 an hour until its your turn to visit the rest rooms) ?, where can I have lunch and what am I going to eat ? I went to M.O.C. two days in advance in order to inspect the location and also saw the canteen. However, it was not possible to get the menu for the exam day. At the exam day the food they served was indeed poor.)
- preparing tables concerning procedure e.g. ep entry, conditions for application date and so on
- Preparing inventive step arguments - just keep practicing
- preparing for the EQE next to full-time job ;
- Preparing for Paper D. If it had not been for Hoekstra, it would have been very difficult to prepare adequately for Paper D.
- Preparing for D1 took a very long time. Could have started even earlier.
- Preparing for A paper as an EPO examiner was really difficult. Maybe attending a claim drafting course could help.; Stress level very very high.
- Prepare more overviews for international procedures and problems.
- Preparation: Prioritized business overrules the planned hours for study. No way to overcome this aspect.; Performance: Executing the exam is a different from the preparation in a study environment, even under exam conditions. Overcome by more practicing, if time allows.
- Preparation: ; I had some difficulties in Paper B to amend the claims only just enough. My fear was that a lack of support combining the support in the description and within the examples could have arisen. Therefore I tended to limit the claims on file too drastically to overcome the lack of novelty/inventiveness, obviously risking to file too limited claims.;
Performance: The stress (which I did not feel when studying at home) was an enormous pressure during the exam, rendering an "obvious" answer not that obvious, hence doubtful. I feel that if the time allowed for Paper A was sufficient, the one for Paper B was slightly too short...

- Preparation was sufficient. I had problems getting done in time and also did not double-check data used for the exam (I mixed up a date when assessing a priority right). In retrospect, I could have overcome these issues by taking more exams under "real" conditions at home and being more concentrated and diligent on the day of the exam.
- Preparation was not thorough enough, too stressed and difficult to focus under time pressure (especially on the first day), lack of sleep during the examination period, making mistakes which should have happened under time pressure; More thorough preparations and practice would help and be more careful when reading the papers
- Practising the exams in the amount of time you were actually given at the exam in order to deal with and adjust to the time pressure.
- Practising speed for C part... but more importantly D2 parts where you get stuck...
- Practise with a larger variety of EQE level questions. D2 in this case has been more of the same in last years and now it was surprisingly different. The current CEIPI way of dividing the knowledge and questions does no longer justify the actual heaviness of knowledge. It covers well the basic procedural understanding but no longer the aspects in relation to patentability. Also rights and property is such an aspect not well covered and important for D2.
- Practfung zielt nicht darauf ab, das Wissen zu berprfen, sondern ideales Zeitmanagement zu beherrschen.
- Pour l'Épreuve D, il est difficile d'Évaluer au dÉpart l'ampleur de la tâche. J'ai compris trop tard quelles Étaient les connaissance à avoir et celles qu'on pouvait retrouver.; DifficultÉ à comprendre rapidement comment fonctionne les inventions présentées
- possible weakness: clearly structured writing when under time pressure, tendency is to write down all thought processes too; by knowing legal matter by heart > gives more time to write;; possible weakness: knowledge of legal matter >; can be overcome by studying for paper D?
- poor documentation as a first sitter. super fast as a resitter.
- Personally, I believe that the days of the C and D papers should be switched to take place on the first and third day, respectively, as the degree of stress and nervously gradually decreases during the course of the three days.
- PCT. Reading, marking, exercising.
- PCT. Did not come very well with DII because of my lack of intensive knowledge on PCT. Should read more intensive PCT GL
- PCT; Time
- PCT; Case law; to get used to the way, how EPO "thinks"; => Delta Patents, Kley, CEIPI preparation course, compendium
- PCT, preparation by doing old exam-questions relating to PCT
- PCT Applicants guid not well-enough structure for answering questions relating to part D
- pas de dÉfaut, on verra en fonction des rÉsultats
- Part C, because they set certain snares for the candidates.
- Paper D: Start earlier with compendium and Delta-Patent Questions
- Paper B approch; Using delta patent Book
- Panick /black out when not understanding fully the invention (paper DII); Follow course with mock exam under real examination conditions might have helped. I practiced 9 papers, of which several under time constraints, but at home I never experienced such stress /panick.;;
- organize informations and transform them into attacks (talking about paper C)
- only the last compendium have a real expectations from the examiners
- Not studying hard enough from the beginning.
- Not studying all the texts that are relevant. Better overcome if I knw better the full scope of knowledge required
- Not panicking. There's such a huge volume of work that I had to work hard to ignore the
volume and just learn small parts in the hope that eventually I would end up knowing or at least understanding the majority of the work.; Then there's the difficult choice of when to stop trying to learn and preparing the templates for the exam.; I still went to the exams feeling incredibly unprepared. I had spend months studying and still ended up without a pre-prepared strategy for each eventuality that may come up.

- Not having enough time to study for all four papers at once; this was necessitated since I took UK final exams 4 months earlier.; There was no way to overcome this problem, other than by waiting until next year.
- Not having enough time to practise paper C.; Not sure how to overcome it unless EQE starts later in March, as UK finals took place in November so not practical to start studying EQE until after November.;
- Not giving myself sufficient time to study the entire syllabus.
- Not enough in-house training and time spent in studying and training
- Not enough time spent studying - not possible to overcome with a job
- Not enough understanding of "mechanisms" of EPC.; Dedicated EPO-person to answer very specific EPO amnd EPc related questions?; Internship at EPO?
- Not enough training in handwriting. Hence problems with writing on the 3rd day.
- Not enough training for the old papers. If I failed A and/or B, I started a little bit earlier to study the old papers. Anyway, the problem of the training by studying old A papers is the mixed signals of different papers. Some years it needed very specific determinations in order to avoid unclarity contrary to other years’ papers where the interpretation is much more open. In addition, determinations concerning connections between essential features of independent claims, especially in paper A, have been very labile during 2000-2010.
- Not enough time. Take more time (severe problem when having to work for your money).
- Not enough time to try each paper at least one in advance. More than an additional week should have one the job.
- Not enough time to spare. Nothing could have been done.
- Not enough time to fully study all the law for Paper D: Start preparation earlier
- Not enough time for training on past exams from the compendium
- Not enough TIME for responding the paper. I really would like to know whether this can be overcome by hocus-pocus or else. Anyway, I'll pray for a shorter paper next time.
- Not enough time for preparation besides work and family
- Not enough time for preparation
- Not enough time for paper DI.; More exercises could have helped me to overcome this problem.
- Not enough time during the examination to give an accurate answer
- Not enough time doing past papers and online questions. Could overcome by starting earlier and spending more time (hard to do with kids).
- Not enough time (weekends+ "holidays") for preparation.
- Not enough time
- Not enough time
- Not enough specific formal training.
- Not enough rest/sleep - not fresh and alert enough on the day.
- Not enough preparation time given by employer
- Not enough preparation for the D-Part. I should have started studying the Delta Patents questions earlier. More discipline would have helped in the C-Part. I shouldn't have spent so much time on the legal questions.
- Not enough papers done in exam time to improve speed; do more papers under exam conditions
- Not enough experience drafting claims.
- Not enough time for preparation, can't overcome it if not given less work.
- Not doing enough old papers from the Compendium, not knowing the materials well enough
- Not able to know by head the number of the article/rule relating to certain subject. I do not how how to overcome this
• None :)  
• No weaknesses indicated  
• no time to focus on (too much daily work)  
• No time for preparation  
• No overcomes was detected. In August, when the Examiners mark my exam, please, repeat this question.  
• No much time to dedicate to intense study.  
• no handbook for preparation to the EQE  
• No comments  
• Nervousity, too excited ...  
• Needed to be much more familiar with secondary materials, such as Ancilliary Regulations, National Law, etc.  
• Needed more time to read updates in EPC and broad based revision of EPC.  
• N/A  
• My work at office left me to little time to prepare the exam...  
• My weakness is the time management of the exams and the amount of stress experienced during the exams. When training my answers are most often correct and fairly well written, and I do find all information to use. However, this changes during the exam... :(  
• My problem was reading incorrectly the subjects : i was afraid by the time, and i used to do the performance very quickly. ; ; I hope I have read the subject correctly this year.  
• My problem was the time.; I had too less time to answer all the questions in DI.; Training of DI papers under time pressure.  
• my preparation time was too short (only 3 weeks) because of the German qualifying examination in February 2011  
• My preparation has no weaknesses, but it is hard to realise in advance the effects of lack of time and stress during the exam.  
• My greatest weakness was paper DII, as I did not see all details to recite. I have tried to change my method with a more detailed timeline to overcome it, but I don't know if I manage to do it...  
• My firm does not provide in house tutoring. Therefore, I had nobody to look over any past papers I completed. The only solution would have been to move to a more training-friendly firm.  
• Move from industry to private practice - breadth of prosecution work seems to be broader in private practice  
• Motivation of me during a long preparation  
• Motivation after multiple attempts at paper C.; ;  
• More training papers; better discussion how the answers have to be structured  
• More training in 1:1 EQE situation.  
• More training  
• More time to study, no I could not. I used all the weekends in the last year.  
• More time off from work for preparation would have been nice. I did not enjoy revising after work at all, that was not very efficient.  
• more study hours and the real time practice before the exam (none), which made the time management during the exam the mayor failing issue...  
• More rigor in the method, especially in writing some claims vs. prior art.  
• more practice needed  
• More personal practice for paper D-II  
• More Mock exams should have been sat under real examination conditions (under time pressure).  
• More focused studying in the last month before the exam  
• More feedback on my questions - I could have attended a tutorial with other tutees  
• More exercises and consultation of solutions in view of the EPC 2000 and application of the amendments  
• More emphasis on paper D1 and PCT
• more DI study
• Missing details in papers; I always done so and I'm not sure how I could overcome it
• method(s) to prepare the EQE. The method for paper C is well structured. For paper D, it's not the same thing, each candidate has to find his/her method... I guess I should have started working on paper D one year before, at least. I've missed time for paper D training...
• Maybe I started delta patent questions a little late.; Surely it was a bad that I didn't decide on one strategie to tackle DII
• Matching the case law on proceedings with the various proceedings before the EPO (filing / search / examination / opposition / appeal etc.)
• manque de rapidité; c'est frustrant car je pouvais mieux faire !; manque de pratique en terme de méthodologie (feuilles d'analyse pour Épreuve C et Étérmination des attaques).
• Managing the time pressure was the hardest; ; I spent a lot of time getting out my answers in a more structured and condensed way
• Making correct and complete argumentation for the inventive step.
• Long time learning.
• little time, due to job and family. No way to change this.
• limited knowledge of EPC and guidelines
• Learning time during a full-time job
• Learning how to locate information under time pressure.; ; Practice!
• laziness—>More learning
• laziness - I have been struggling all my life;; at some point I lost overview of which materials are essential for preparation and which ones are for further reading, since subjects repeat; I sometimes got confused between EPC and PCT regulations, which is also a personal problem
• language and slowness
• Lacking time to complete my answers. I haven't overcome it although I was trying.
• Lack of training
• Lack of time. Not possible to overcome given current exam format.
• Lack of time. No.
• Lack of time. Hard to overcome if you have two small children and are not given that much worktime to prepare.
• Lack of time. After reading the paper and preparing summary of paper and comparing it with the prior art, it remains only time for writing already ready answer, there is no time for analysis and trying different ways of answering.; To overcome it, the further practice would be very useful, but I afraid, mybe not enough to pass exam.
• lack of time; just exercising old papers under real conditions
• lack of time, interrupt working?
• Lack of time which is hard to train.
• Lack of time given by employer for preparation
• lack of time for the preparaion; no solution for overcoming it, except long hollydays, but impossible with a family
• Lack of time
• Lack of supervisor. Can be compensated partly by external courses and self study.
• Lack of preparation time and unpredictability of what brings points in paper c
• Lack of preparation that can be overcome by starting studying much in advance
• lack of practise, start preparation earlier
• Lack of practice with past papers / could have attended more tutorials
• Lack of overview over the whole procedure. I would probably try to go through the whole material quickly first before starting to study in depth any of it.; ; Also: the way of answering to papers A and B is far from my everyday practice. I found it difficult to understand how they are marked and i probably would have needed more time to prepare them.
• Lack of focus on DII.; ; Needed to do more past DII papers and have them formally marked by supervisor
• Lack of Feedback.; ; More material for self-control comprising possibilities to assess own
answers compared to the expectations of the EQE examiners.

- Lack of experienced colleagues/tutor with whom to discuss matters/issues.
- Lack of concentration for studying. Lack of motivation. This is natural, because I think that studying has marginal effect to success in EPO. It is more the experience that counts.
- Lack of communication with other candidates. Formed study group.
- La pression de l'examen et la gestion du temps pendant l'examen est difficilement prévisible. Le fait de faire des Épreuves en tant réel ne permet pas de s'y prÉparer complÈtement.
- Lesen alter Pr, fungen unter Zeitdruck war sehr hilfreich und hat geholfen, das Zeitmanagement an der EQE unter Kontrole zu halten.
- knowledge of PCT provisions, I think it would have been useful to have some form of commented treaty, such as Mulder's book.
- knowledge and finding the information in a short time as given in the exam.
- Knowing where to find information- CaseLaw, Guidelines, Ancilliary Regulations, PCT, etc.
- Knowing where to begin. A lot of initial study hours could have been better spent with a clearer idea of how to study for paper D, rather than starting reading the EPC from Article 1. Not enough time was spent practising past papers.
- Knowing the articles and rules out of your head, a good index in the books is very helpful.; A modular exam may be preferable over a full sit exam since you may focus on one paper at a time. Disadvantage of modular exams is that it will take longer in time for all exams to enter.
- Job and family!
- It's not clear what the EQE wants. It could be very easy that Committee issue a booklet explaining, very clearly, the structure of the exams in the answers. Examiner's report sometimes is not enough clear. I think that this could improve the chances of success.
- It would have been useful to do more tests of the last years under real examination conditions i.e. time limitation.
- It would have been better to do the papers of the compendium more seriously right from the beginning, i.e. writing the whole papers and not looking up the solution in the Examiner's report before finishing the paper.
- it was sometimes difficult being and staying sufficiently motivated to work disciplined for several month, but I have no idea how to improve this
- It was difficult to prepare for the EQE while also studying for the GB final exams which were held the preceding November, so I only started my most intensive EQE study after the GB final exams were over. But apart from not taking the GB finals, which was not an option I wanted to use, I do not think there is anything else I could have done.
- It was difficult to find the proper scope for what to claim for paper A. What seemed like hints in the previous exams were misleading.
- it took a while for me to realise that an EQE A or B paper has little to do with Real Life. at work, i draft applications and answer A28 and A94 communications all the time, and i think i do it quite well!!! but the A and B tests are completely different. there, it's just about identifying traps. i think a candidate's ability to draft applications or to answer communications could be tested in other, less stressful ways!
- It takes a very long time in order to get all the details together, even when sitting again. This means that one has to spend a lot of time before really having the feeling of "getting it". I think that it is kind of strange that one has either to visit courses or at least to study in a group in order to pass the exam. I would even say that one is highly likely to fail if one does not do either, which indicates to me that the whole exam is a bit of an overkill. It should be well possible to pass without any courses and with only "private" preparation. This is only my personal opinion, though.
- It is unclear which part of the answer in part DII is worth how many marks. Thus, it was difficult to decide, how much time should be allocated to each part.
- It is tough to do a comprehensive preparation on all the different exams. I was not mentally prepared on all different aspects in papers A and B, and did not see all issues in paper C, though I answered most of the questions and got most of the attacks right.
- It is hard to assess what level of detail is required in the DI and DII exams. It would be nice to
have some general guidance rules as to this level.

- It is difficult to manage time, so it is important to prepare the exams of the Compendium in real time.
- It is difficult to create the same time pressure and exam conditions during the preparation.
- It is difficult to be able to check all the provided information and to note only the important information to write these papers only on the base of the Examiner demand, which is very limited.
- Insufficient preparation.
- Insufficient knowledge of EPC and Guidelines.; In future, I intend to study less compedia, but more carefully and deeply.; My main difficulty is gestion of time.; For C paper, I intend to study in more details each step, without necessary trying to make the paper in due time: state of the art and priority, claims interpretation, document analysis.
- In general - lack of legal knowledge / Good question.
- In 2010 I was first time sitter for A, B, C and D and my focus was mainly to pass C and D. I also prepared A and B (including DeltaPatents course A and B), but maybe spent less time than I should have done. Nevertheless, I passed A, C and D. For 2011 I needed to resit paper B and I prepared by doing several B papers, some of them twice to see whether I could improve my skills and learn from previous mistakes. I think I could have further optimized my preparation by doing papers over and over again until they are almost completely correct. However, I decided that for now it was better to do more different papers to encounter different problems that can be asked in the chemistry B paper.
- improve my time management; select a proper method of how to tackle the exam (e.g. in my case paper A) at a very early stage of my preparations and then stick to this method when doing the "mock-exams".
- illness-broken ankle -> not to cure/overcome; on the exams: time-shortage - hard to overcome as in preparations, I trained on writing down answers I already knew within the time available on the exams themselves and it was still hardly possible for me to write it down in the available time.
- I would have liked to have been more tactful in preparation. It was hard to figure out a starting point for D papers. Attending external course I think would have been very helpful because starting a revision.
- I would better start preparing at least six months in advance and make more "preparatory" papers. A small set of "easy" (targeted to 2 hrs work) pre-prep mock papers, like the ones used by CEIPI for pre-prep C, would also be good for A and B. When doing the first papers in the compendium (say 2001 onwards), at the beginning of preparation, it always takes almost twice the allowable time, which means it is impossible to make it in only one session of study.
- I wish I had started earlier intensive focused study (6m - 1 year in advance).
- I was weak prepared in PCT issues. Possibly a good short commentary book would have been helpful.
- I was totally unused to writing so much by hand, so I got problems with my right arm.; However, in my daily work I only write on the computer, so it is difficult to train really.
- I was quite nervous on day 1 (D1 exam) which clearly costed me some time and points. Otherwise preparing for PCT questions was a challenge.
- I was not sure enough of myself. I need to have more confidence in me. Stay calm and read carefully the texte of the exam is key. And using good tools and methods.
- I was not quick enough to write everything down that I knew. I suppose I must practise to write quicker and avoid writing down things that are not essential. This is especially true for the C and D exams.
- I was not fully used to the stress situation in the exam.
- I was just sitting for part A and B. I also had to do A and B during my education of the German Patentanwaltskammer. In the beginning I was drafting as broad applications as possible (as you usually do for your client), and therefore did not focus on the legal key issue. Later I realized the actual idea of the A and B tests and I started to work more systemically. This helped me a lot to gather a deeper understanding of the basic principles, and I think it also improved my "real life" work.
• I was bad prepared for DI
• I was analyzing and writing to slow.; I should have trained more under time pressure.
• I used this first sitting as preparation for EQE 2012. Consider it very effective.
• I underestimated how much time it takes to go through the whole material and to do old D parts / D part questions (for example from Delta Patents), when looking up different aspects in the course of it and preparing the exam material. I only started the process 6 weeks before the EQE, which was too ambitious.
• I tried papers from the compendium not writing down the whole paper but just claim 1.
• I took C this year and focussed on claims attacks. Greatest weakness became insufficient speed when finding answers to legal questions like those in the opponents letter, probably to insufficient rehearsal of these type of questions.
• I think my preparation was okay. Starting earlier with intensive study might have been helpful, but you can only study that intensively for so long and in any case work and home commitments, plus studying for the Nov UK finals made it impractical to start any earlier. I wouldn't change the way I studied.
• I studied the European patents convention in more or less the order it appears in the law. However, it may have been more sensible to study on a topic by topic basis.
• I spent too much time in DII gathering information and too little time trying to work out the big picture of what the issue(s) was, this was due to time pressure. Its difficult to identify how to overcome this without stating that the time given in DII is simply too little for the complexity of the questions. Gathering information is vital however one needs to do it in combination with identification of the issues the client is facing wrt said information.
• I spend too mush time looking for the relevant provisions, and hence for answering the exam paper. I especially noticed this in connection with paper D1, in which a few of the questions took too much time, leaving rather limited time for the last one or two questions. I think that I have a quite good overview of the different text materials, so really I think, is’s mainly a matter of sufficient routine in using these materials.
• I sometimes did not know how to tackle a "hint" in the A paper. I probably should have practised more A papers from the Compendium.
• I should not have trust the ceipi C methodology (Chandler). I failed twice because I blindly followed it and as a result had not enough time to finish. Delta patent method (adapted by me to further improve its speed) suited me much better. I am confident I passed this year and had no time problem.
• I should have worked on the daily D-I challenges from EQE forum
• I should have studied the legal texts harder.
• I should have studied more continuously and intensively.
• I should have started training much earlier, which, however, was difficult as I was busy studying for and taking the German patent attorney exam until November. ; Also, I relied too much on the CEIPI method of approaching paper C, which has good elements but followed to the letter is just too time-consuming to arrive at an acceptable, sufficiently complete solution within the time constraints given.
• I should have sat the exams a year later and started preparing earlier.
• I should have started training much earlier, which, however, was difficult as I was busy studying for and taking the German patent attorney exam until November. ; Also, I relied too much on the CEIPI method of approaching paper C, which has good elements but followed to the letter is just too time-consuming to arrive at an acceptable, sufficiently complete solution within the time constraints given.
• I should have started my intensive program earlier and used more intensively the EQE-Online Tools (Forum, WikiEQE, etc).
• I should have started earlier to do old papers but did not find the time and energy for it.
• I should have sat the exams a year later and started preparing earlier.
• I should have reproduced the conditions of the test.
• I should have practised more previous exam papers not by just analysing them, but by writing them out in full detail.
• I should have participated in more courses, just to allocate more time for studying.
• I should have learned more.
• I should have learned more by heart. both method for C and regular facts for D.
• I should have invested more time in corrections of former papers.
• I should have had more time (days off) just before the exam to avoid tiredness.
• I should have focussed harder on a systematic approach to attack paper DII. There I had a
problem with the vast variety of information and the time. Mistakes were made not due to a lack of knowledge but due to confusion and panic not to get finished in time.; A systematic approach as for paper C - which definitely helped there - would most likely also help to overcome the problems with paper DII.

- I prepared well, given that I have small children and could not study during work time.
- I overlooked the difference between doing the papers at home and doing them for real (the pressure is different); I have spread work equally between the 4 papers, but I should have dedicated more time on C and D (DII in particular)
- I only answered question 12 with respect to the C-part (dedicated studying by reading C-book and taking compendium-exams), and have excluded the time of the pre-prep and prep-C-courses by CEIP!
- I now realise that I had too little awareness of what aspects in an answer are awarded with points. Assessing a legal situation is one thing, writing the assessment in the form of an answer another. For writing down the assessment, there is little time available, so basically you have to pick between aspects that are relevant for the assessment itself, but not for the answer as such, and aspects that are relevant for the assessment and that yield marks when put in the answer. In retrospect, I would have made better use of the Examiner reports in the Compendium to get a feel for that.
- I need more time
- I might have begun earlier to prepare the aids. I did not plan enough time for annual leave + other activities. Starting (a bit) earlier, e.g. by Oct/Nov., should allow one to better integrate exam preparation and social life.
- I have problems with the examination time, specially for paper A. I also have problems in determining the scope of protection in writing the claims since in real practice there is a tendency not to give up subject-matter that is only possible patentable. I sometimes have difficulties in adapting to only clearly patentable claims, since sometimes it is not so clear.
- I have not yet had my results; therefore I cannot accurately comment!
- I have not enough time to think about the subject
- I have family which is important to me, so I could have used more time on preparation, but I preferred spending time with my family
- I had very much work for my clients in the period before the EQE, I should have delegated more of to my colleagues.
- I had no time to read the Guideline and relevant T-decisions.
- I had no sufficient time to study;
- I had great preparation, no real weakness. Except perhaps faster writing skills would be nice.
- I had familiar problems that made me impossible to prepare for the EQE. I hope I will be able
to find time to prepare it

- I had a short period between UK finals and EQE's, during which I had to prepare essentially in isolation. I imagine that this is insufficient preparation.; Ideally, I would have had the opportunity to go through some exam style tutoring within the firm and undertaken training courses for at least two of the four exams. Other than this, simply more time would be required between the sets of exams.; A difficulty when tackling the papers, more generally, lies in the emphasis given in any one year on the law as it had changed in preceding years. Whilst very useful to know, a great deal of time can be consumed attempting to determine whether, or how, the question applies to the current law. Some general "examiner's comments" within the compendium relating to key changes in the years since a given paper was set, would be very helpful.

- I got sick with a bad cold the weekend before the exam, resulting in a ruptured eardrum on the plane to get to the exam, and got sicker while there so that I had a serious pneumonia when I returned home. I don't see how I could have overcome this. I wish the exam was offered twice yearly, then this kind of setback would not be as bad.

- I felt well-prepared.; During the (2nd day) exam, I felt tired from not sleeping the night before. I probably should have done sports the previous evening to get rid of adrenaline.

- I felt very much the time pressure; I think candidates need more time.

- I faced serious problems with the time management - although I was able to meet the time constraints during preparation with the help of the compendium at home, I was not able to answer all questions of D I and D II within the time given.

- I enrolled for the wrong course (Vereenigde instead of Delta Patents)

- I don't have enough time to read documentation and so, to adequately chose and carefully argument the attacks. This year (paper C), for example, I correctly realize the added matter issue, I wrote it in the notice to the client but I have no time yo write the attack based on 123(2) !!! For claim I chose the wrong closest prior art one (incomprehensible!) one one doc for directed for tubes, and I didn't chose it as CL PA!!! It is very easy to wrong the answers and no to properly arguments the attacks because the pressure of time ...

- I don't have a sufficient overview of some aspects of proceedings, so in certain areas I could not find my answers quickly enough in the DI exam. I could have spent more time making mindmaps and similar aids for those aspects, that would have saved me time in the exam. I also need to practice using the problem solution approach more for the C exam, didn't have time to do that properly before and so fumbled it a bit during the exam.

- I don't know if I passed C and D, so it's hard to tell...; I passed A and B with good marks, so I did not identify my greater weakness.

- I do not have time to practice in exam conditions.

- I disregarded the requirement to provide a legal basis in DI and just focused on learning in the beginning. I should have started x-referencing my material and started making a quick index sheet from the very beginning, in order to be able to find the legal basis quickly at the exam.

- I didn't manage to practice more in real time (fake exam) this year but this was due to personal matters (birth of a child in December); So this year I had more difficulties to manage my time during the exam than the past years.

- I didn't know about all the resources available on the EQE forum website until late on in my preparation.

- I didn't have much time for preparation, there was no other way. Maybe I should have focused on writing only papers A, B and C.

- I did not sufficiently justify my answers in D, I was a bit disapointed by the DII questions of this year.

- I did not solve enough exam-related questions prior to the exam.

- I did not sleep well due to the hotel room quality. I would be better off if I stay in another hotel with better room quality.

- I did not find the deciding parts in my Kley commentary and therefore need to better read an learn with it, e.g. using Delta-Patents questions for part D.

- I did not attend any methodolgy training for A & B.
I could not have overcome my weaknesses because all the time I had was already used for that purpose.

I believe my preparation was good enough. One big misstep was not indicating the publication of documents clearly enough in my timelines. I tend to make timelines, and then, due to stress, simply miss important facts (publication, in this case) when looking at the timelines.

I became pregnant and worked a lot, not a good combination before the EQE-exam

I assumed too much, I should have checked my books from the appropriate chapter before answering.

I am too bad guessing the contorted choices you are supposed to make; for example, this there was a PCT publication being published later than the patent to be opposed, but being filed prior to the patent to be opposed in the Paper C. There was no indication that the PCT publication had entered the European phase, which is required for it to be a prior right. Whether to use such a document or not is a key issue for gaining marks, if you do not use it, you lose marks, if you use it, you lose time.

I always run out of time and have to do the last minute corrections and at that moment I may do the wrong changes. I don't know how to overcome it.

I'm slow in reading English language, slow in thinking in any language and slow in writing. I have no realistic ways of overcoming these weaknesses.

How to respond to D questions and to draft DII letter in a non-mother language.

How detailed has an answer to be.

how an answer should be composed and how understand and correct my errors.; I think that the best way to overcome these, it is to have personal lessons by EPO examiners/managers.

honestly there are no weaknesses and I do not see how I could have done better

Having too little "office time" for using during the preparation -> should be less work assignments for the candidates in Jan-Feb -> more real training time! Second weakness was being a little bit too tired in the exam day, that was maybe because of nervousness in the night before the exam..

Having to study for UK exams. This was unavoidable.

Having not enough time for preparing due to the birth of my son.; thank god I only had to prepare for part A

Having no learning group, which would help a lot

having 2 little children at home!

Hard to combine family, work and study

Handwriting was a weak point, but there is seldom a chance to practice this skill.; Another weakness is in the organization of information: this works best if one is aware of the important points, but these points are only readily apparent if the information is well organized: an insoluble problem as far as I can see.

Handwriting speed, never use handwriting in daily work. I usually have correct attacks in C but cannot write them down. This year spent 4 hours just writing, still run out of time.

Handwriting

Handwriting

greatest weakness: time management in part DII; however, this year's DII-part was relatively voluminous in comparison to the questions of the last years.

greatest weakness: time management

Greatest weakness: making connections between different parts of the EPC.; Solution: to start intensive focused study in advance.

Greatest weakness was the reduced familiarity with PCT Articles/Rules. Not much more to do to overcome this problem than studying more in-depth the PCT.

Greatest weakness was remembering case law. Although I studied a lot of case law, it is difficult to remember exact details and legal basis. I used annotated books concerning the EPC and PCT. The EPC book contained references to the case law, but are sometimes hard to find. I think I could not have overcome this weakness. I was well prepared.

Greatest weakness is to find the balance between time to do my job, time to prepare for the
EQE and free-time (the latter was mostly absent...).

- Greatest problem is time: the best way of preparing the exam is by making them in full in exam conditions - which means that you need 4 hours at a stretch, hardly compatible with full-time employment. It would probably have been better to make time in weekends to do full exams more often than to interchange full exams with 'half exams', i.e. finding the solution without completely writing it out. Also, specific writing exercises are useful, as writing a lot by hand is not something I'm used to do, and my handwriting is very poorly legible when writing fast - writing legibly but slow is a big handicap in exam settings!
- Größte Schwäche: Ich habe mich nicht genug auf die Besonderheiten der Prüfungsaufgaben, wie sie nur in der EQE vorkommen vorbereitet. Dies gilt insbesondere für C und DII.;
- Bessere Vorbereitung: Mehr alte Klausuren bearbeiten und die Ergebnisse sorgfältiger ausarbeiten. Letzteres gilt vor allem für den C-Teil.
- Going on holiday the week before the EQE
- Getting past papers corrected by someone, and receiving constructive comments. Mentors willing to spend time correcting papers are difficult to come by. Most supervisors don't make the time to commit to correcting and commenting on practice papers- sad.
- Getting into the peculiarities of the EPC.
- getting free time; I couldn't overcome it
- Getting feedback for the answers of the previous papers. Perhaps I should have made the papers earlier to have enough time to get them marked. Also, in the mock EQE arranged in Helsinki, my tutor had done good work to give feedback than could be used for improvement. Some others had not.
- Gesundheitsprobleme, auf genügend Erholungspausen achten
- gestion du stress
- General: my kid kept me awake the evening before the first exam. Next time (if required): sleep in hotel; Part DI: Too rushed to get as complete as possible answers, too stressed about the time pressure. Next time I will take more time to get to the core of the questions, get the most essential points right.
- For Paper D, time is the biggest problem. I need to learn how to read and write faster, in particular, I need to learn how to write concisely.
- For Paper A, I had difficulties to correctly manage an "intermediate checking" of my draft response. Following a strict methodology helped me to overcome these difficulties.
- For family problems I did not have any time to prepare.
- For D paper the compendium is rather out of the date in most cases. I did use the D questions in the EQE online forum, but an updated possible solution of D papers of 2007 and before would be a very valuable help. Even if one knows the law, the exam questions are hard as one has to look at the law from various perspectives.
- for any problem, decide between "best solution" and "correct solution in terms of EQE expectation"
- Following a specialised course. However, the answer will also depend on the results !
- Focusing on the type of answers that the examiners want.; More by-heart learning of these objectives.
- Focusing more on answering questions and training to rapidly find the right answer rather than only reading. ; Could have been overcome by starting to answer questions parallel to reading and getting acquainted with the litterature at an earlier stage.
- Finding time to study, working full time during the day and having sat UK exams in the preceding November.
- Finding time for personal study. With a job and a family, there is little more I feel I could have done
- Finding the time to practice.
- find your way through all possible studying material
• Fastness of writing, training by writing EQEs of former years
• Family and me getting sick twice during this winter.
• Faire plus d'annales
• Extreme workload due to understaffing of my companies IPR department.
• Even though I have a very good skill in English, it is a real disadvantage that my mother language is not English, French or German. There is no problem in understanding the texts given. But it requires more time, than for the average candidate from countries which has one of the official languages of the EPO as their mother languages.
• Even if I sort of "knew" it from before - the timing. When sitting on your own, even if you sit the right time, I tend to skip the last processes of getting all properly on paper, numbering of papers etc. takes much more time than anticipated. I was surprised that the papers were pinned together in one single heap and not separated as the different papers they are. I also would like to have the papers that are prone to be cut to get pasted into the answers duplicated so that I could have one version for noting and highlighting with pens and one cutting version. (For instance instead of the two other languages.)
• EQE-specific requirements, not related to real-life situations.; specific marking requirements.
• EQE 2010: started to practice past papers too late; EQE 2011: +/- 1 paper per week for 6 months
• Entre les impératifs professionnels et ceux de la vie privée, il reste souvent peu de temps pour préparer correctement l'examen européen. La préparation intensive devrait donc être engagée au moins un an avant l'examen.
• Effectiveness
• During the EQE, I did not strictly stick to my time schedule - therefore I had not enough time for important parts in the papers.
• Due to personal issues I did not attend any preparatory courses, which would have been useful (did go CEIPI several years ago).
• due to lack of time (have to work) and privat problems i could not focus my preparations for the EQE
• done everything possible
• don't take time for learning can get overcome by settled meetings with other candidates
• Do not know as results of the EQE are not there yet.
• DII, training in writing past DII-parts
• DII-Teile: es erschließt sich nicht was der Pr.fer h°ren m°chte, habe deshalb CEIPI DII-Teile versucht zu l°sen, zu denen es eine ausführliche Antwort gab, wobei sie immer zwischen Überlegung und Niederschrift unterschieden haben, in der Pr fung hat man aber keine Zeit diese Unterscheidung zu machen. Ausführliche Lösungen von DII-Teilen und wie man sie angeht, w°ren mich toll gewesen.
• Difficulty to manage time in paper C. Not sure I was able to overcome it (let's see when the results come), but used a matrix of the claim features/prior art documents to help.
• Difficulty to find 6 consecutive hours to train with past C papers.; Solution : to take two full week of holidays such as to concentrate on the training only; More efficient than working nights and week-ends;
• Difficulties regarding time management. To overcome them I should have made more exercises.
• Difficulties in maintaining focus and prioritize EQE preparationin a busy, and often stressful work environment, and some kind of family life!
• difficult to prepare while having to work
• Difficult to find time to study with full time job and family.; I currently do not work with filing patent applications or answering communications, i.e. I do not get any daily training (A+B).
• difficult to complete task in so short time - difficult to keep concentrated for so long time; ; to overcome, exercise more and more and more
• Differentiating the exam relevant topics - By reviewing past exams
• didn't start early enough
• Didn't practice enough full D papers under exam conditions
- Didn't allow enough time for preparation
- Did not have/spend much time on studying for the D exam. If I have to sit it again I will start intensive study earlier.
- Did not have enough time to complete detailed answers. Difficult to overcome, maybe even more training in writing faster (although difficult to imagine how)?
- Creativity at drafting claims. I would have overcome it better with more practice and being able to compare my response with other students/candidates
- Could have been more careful to the time allowed for sitting the Exam.
- Coping with time pressure
- Continuous time of 3-4hrs in one block.; I have a young family and extensive work commitments - when am I supposed to find time to do 4hr past papers?
- Considering time restrictions.
- Concerning D, doubts on certain legal questions on part DI. Not a proper approach on DII. Solution: use more time for D preparation.; Concerning C: not enough time to finish C. I don't think more preparation time would improve my position during the test.
- Concentration, most probably due to pregnancy, but to a certain level always a problem. Hard to overcome, afternoon was better than morning.
- Complete past papers in full, instead of giving up halfway through because I got bored!
- Combining it with my private life.
- Color calendar the days when epo is closed
- Clarity, By preparing the past exams and study the Examiner's reports
- Case law, appeal procedure.
- C part; Overcome: more compendium prep and more time
- Biggest challenge was the limited time for solving complex problems. So in retrospect, after learning and understanding all problems, solutions and procedures it is absolutely necessary to practice real examination situations under limited time windows.
- Being unaccustomed to write in handwritten form as long texts in such a short time (as it is required during eqe); Only by several month of training, which is not combinable with and usefull in the daily practice and is therefore a kind of waste of time.
- Being better finding info and trying more exams
- Being a multiple resitter of the C-Paper, attending of DeltaPatents C-Paper course was very helpful, giving a different and new approach to the Paper. Thus I hope to pass it this time...
- Because most candidates have to work as well as prepare for the exams, there is usually not enough dedicated time available for the candidate to live up to the expected difficulty of the exam
- Available time for preparation
- Attention to detail, could have been overcome by better time management
- As every year: We have an extensive workload, in particular from October to March. I work about 60 to 70 hours a week. After work, I am just too tired to focus an the exam preparation.
- As always, not enough time...
- As a technical person you are trained to give short and precise answers. To master the EQE you have to explain the PSA stepwise in detail. Therefore you have to explain things which a technical person never would mention because these things are obvious and clear. To manage this kind of brainwash was the greatest task for me.
- As a partner in a big law firm, it is not easy to organize enough preparation time...
- Approach to paper DII - more training with old exams (or assignments of a similar kind) would have been useful.
- Applying the problem solution approach to paper A - reading the papers in terms of problems, technical effects and solutions
- Application of the law; to overcome by answering more Delta Patents Questions
- Answering questions too broadly or too briefly
- Analysis of how the information on disclosure is conveyed in paper D2. I could have taken
examples from past papers and linked the language used to the interpretation provided in the examiner's reports.

- An extra week off before the eqe for short term memorisation of all the detail knowledge needed D paper, which is completely irrelevant to the practical real world work.
- Always difficult to find the time
- Although the intention to support my preparation from my employer was evident, the workload at the office was too high within the preparation period, with a lot of rush assignments. I should have included my employer in my personal study schedule planning.
- After having to sit the UK finals in November there was not enough time to prepare fully for the EQE's.
- actual jurisdiction => reading the Kley
- a lot of inforamtion is provided. but in the beginning it is very very hard to clarify which information is neccessary and which not. also the courses. you can’t see in the beginning which courses make sense!!; a kind of guidline and COMPLETE overview would be very helpfull; Even if your company does not support you and you have to do everything on your own
- Writing of various old exams under time pressure; 2) More information required how to decide which the closest prior art is; 3) If choosing the "2nd closest prior art", e.g. 75% of the points should be given and not 0; 4) More information required on how detailed the argumentation (e.g. in part C) should be (for receiving the required amount of points for "use of information")
- Not enough Time for preparation; 2) I missed a reference book to the PCT
- Timing issues when writing former EQEs from the compendium - overcome by training.; 2. Determination of the closest prior art for A.100(a)/A.56 attacks in part C appears far from what would be chosen in practice. It is not adequate to NOT be awarded a reasonable amount of points when providing good arguments with a different, but also suitable "closest prior art". Have I overcome it? I shall find out in August...
- I would need to be more systematic in approaching different papers. One has to shift his approach from one paper to another in order to be able to provide solution under such stringent time conditions.; ; Simply drawing attention to this fact would suffice.; ; 2. Being very familiar with case law is very important.; ; To put more stress to case law (among all other materials used in preparations).
- ; I felt certain stress because of the time limit for papers, especially in paper B; therefore I think that it is important to train to be able to answer all points in the given time limit.
- time management; by practising again and again!
- not continuously following EPO and PCT publications over the year (OJ ...); just do it ;); ; doing too few papers of recent years in preparation under exam conditions; doing more papers to get more practice in methodology and in writing fast and legible
- difficulties in understanding Examiner’s Reports especially concerning older exam papers (Paper B and C 2007 and before); ; sometimes difficult to understand whether there is a consistency how exam papers are marked and which kind of solutions are desired (Paper B and C 2007 and before)
Q14) Do you have comments or suggestions for other candidates preparing for the EQE?

- at least 8 weeks time for intensiv prep; DELTA patents exam related questions DI; Kley Kommentar;
- Attend tutorials.; Prepare 'crib sheets' for use in the exam.; Practice using compendium papers.;
- For A and B papers; the candidate should do timemanagement based real exam rehearsals more than just once; headache pill may be crucial to have :) at least for me it was.
- mainly focuss on patentability (Art. 5289) issues which are the more examined
- Papers A, B and C, DII: Do at least one compendium paper for each exam under exam conditions in the summer (i.e. before the date at which you can still withdraw, around 21 Sept.). This allows you to see you strengths and weaknesses. You then can decide what paper(s) to focus on. Except for D1, the compendium is very important for preparation. You do not need to do any further compendium paper under (close to) exam conditions. You must however do them completely, not just claim 1. ; Paper D1: eqeonline.org questions keep you sharp after / during an initial training course.; You need a single good book, e.g. Roberts, Complete Guide to Passing, or Visser. Buy it at least a year in advance and make it your own.; Start treating PCT questions early (spring). The PCT itself is very hard to read. You can only learn it via questions.;
- start early with learning; work harder than others; "do not reinvent the wheel", i.e. use commentary books etc., but prepare them by yourself; do a lot exam training (compendium) before; do not waste money on overpriced preparation courses
- start early, ; prepare and train mock exams a lot; read the guidelines
- try understanding the issues/methodology for each of the papers; make sure you understood what is expected; practice with focus on the conditions of the actual exam situation; get professional feedback on your work from an experienced EQEtutor; practice again; use Examiner¥s reports. (Despite my evaluation above) they are extremely useful in finding out what is probed by the exams, and for understanding the jigsaw you are expected to solve
- ...do it as early as possible and before taking over responsibility in a department or law firm...
- "Weniger ist mehr" lieber auf einzelne Module konzentrieren und die dann effektiv vorbereiten
- (In particular for D:) Practice writing "staccato" answers rather than time consuming full sentences.
- => Delta Patents, Kley, CEIPI preparation course, compendium
- 1. Prepare your documents (commented EPC, Guidelines, commented PCT, Ancillary Regulations...); 2. Write Exams / Answer Questions; 3. Seek for Recreation! Do not do any preparation on the last day or even the last two days before the EQE Save your Energy!
- 1) Writing of various old exams under time pressure; 2) More information required how to decide which the closest prior art is; 3) If choosing the "2nd closest prior art", e.g. 75% of the points should be given and not 0; 4) More information required on how detailed the argumentation (e.g. in part C) should be (for receiving the required amount of points for "use of information")
- A deep analysis of the examiner reports of the recent compendiums
- A lot, but particularly the timing problem and a structure to combat that particular problem.
- a) The CEIPI training course for the Dpart; b) write at least 4 mockexams for each module (A, B, C, D); c) form a study group and discuss intensively; d) buy the deltapatents books containing questions for the Dpart and do as many of them as you can
- A/B : practice sports and just find the trick (reverse engineer the papers). C : be fast and know your problem-solution approach by heart. D have a super-super-fast access to your documentation (and be lucky). Examination Guidelines is the KEY document, start very early with it and read it line by line. ;
- always time
- Analyse the examiner's reports carefully to understand where the trick are.

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anticipate the preparation (mainly for paper D)

As with physical exercise, the rest (contemplative) days are just as important as the active exercise (intensive study) days.

Assess your own preparation in real examination conditions

Attend as many external courses / tutorials as you can in the years before the EQEs. That way, you will feel more prepared by the time focussed preparation should begin (and focussed preparation doesn’t have to take more than 3 or so months).; As a UK candidate, it’s a good idea to sit a few UK exams in November in order to get yourself back in the 'feel' of exams. ; ; DO AS MANY PAST PAPERS AS POSSIBLE, and have them marked by your tutors.

Attend courses, use tutorials, take time of prior to exams to make intensive study

Attention Èpreuve C: attaque de nouveautÈ souvent poussÈe ‡ l'extrÈme. C'est assez dÈstabilisant!

Avoid work work!

Balance length of answer with the time at disposal in order to write down the full paper

Be careful solving former exam papers under realistic conditions.

Begin to study as early as possible and be very systematic

Beginning as soon as possible.; Studying carefully legal basis.; Making a sufficient number of papers, but not necessary in the prescribed delay. Eventually, making papers step by step.; Studying very carefully and in depth the Examiner's report.

Besides the advice of starting to study as earlier as possible and because I found a lot of support on the EQE-Online tools, particularly the Case-Study models in the EQE-Online Forum, having the possibility to have our answers corrected and commented by a Tutor, I would also suggest other candidates to use it more often and keep its dynamic.

Book a tutor and look at old exams

Bring a “complete” copy of the PCT Applicant's Guide with you, not just parts of it.

Buy and read the C-book, 3rd ed

CEIPI EQE Course were very helpfull.

CEIPI Seminars & studies of compendium strongly recommended.

Check for the pitfalls which become worse and more unfair every year. The later you sit the exam, the lower your chances are.

Check the patent department you intend to join as carefully as possible and try to gain information in advance about the supervising qualities of the patent attorneys who will train you.

Choose your strategy for modular in stead of full sit exam.

commencer par des questions juridiques pour bien avoir la bonne facon de reflechir

compendium is very useful

Compendium, Compendium, Compendium !!!

Concentrate on one per year.; Try not to panic, most people probably run out of time.;

Conduct a lot of D1 questions.

Consider the modular approach

dedicate a lot of time and practice

Dedicate time for doing past papers under exam conditions.

dedication - discipline - determination ; start early

Definitely attend the Ceipi seminars for preparation of C and D papers.

definitely keep an eye on the EQE forum which is very useful.

Delta Patent materials was useful. Use Visser as a starting guide and branch out from there to other materials.

delta patents

DeltaPatents C-Paper course

Develop routine approach to analyse and solve each type of exam, in particular the most recent exam papers, including standard work flow plans and texts; and ensure a broad based knowledge of EPC/PCT to address the problems presented in each exam.

DI is relatively easy but nonetheless you will need at least 20 marks from DII to pass, focus...
your study on getting these 20 marks and not on DI which will come naturally once you know the EPC.

• Discuss with others, use the Online Forum with the tutors, practise the exams from the previous years, but don't use too old exams as the "style" has changed over the years
• do all compendium tests
• Do as many Delta Questions as possible, they lead you through the EPC and the PCT. Further I found the time limit questions on the "http://www.eqe-online.org/questions/" very usefull as well as the Delta questions form the tool on the same web page.
• Do it your way
• Do lots and lots of old exams with an excellent EPC commentary (like Vissers commentary)!
• Do lots of past papers.
• Do many questions in the D books by Deltapatents, make many old EQE exams
• Do mock-examination in real conditions, preferably at the same hours in the day as for the real day (only way to know how much starving can be an issue). If time is other do not continue writing during mock examination : the frustration will help you to find time improvement solutions and writing short-cuts (I did not do it, thus had to experience it during the exam, which is not ideal)
• Do not attempt to pass paper C without reading the CEIPI "C Book" or a good equivalent. I tried to pass Paper C last year based upon practice with past papers, tutorials and a dedicated short course, but still completely missed many major principles which come into play in the Paper. This year, I read the above book and (admittedly, perhaps benefitting from past experience) subsequently realised just how bad my answer to last year's paper was!
• Do not follow the external courses. Do not target 100% points when preparing. Take the main points regarding time limits. Put your own ideas in understanding the subjects. Do not listen to what people say about the exam. Do not simulate exam conditions alone. Take it easy.; Do follow EPO in-house Friday+Saturday. They are very good.
• Do not forget, that there is not only part D, that needs preparation, but also at least part C.
• do not give up
• Do not only focus on legal issues but also do a lot of patentability training, also in other fields of technology than you usually work in. Even if you think you know it in principle there are always special cases that need deeper knowledge. Delta patent's books were very good for me.
• do not take too much material to the eqe, you do not need it, because you have not enough time to search all of them. focus on one, preferred own-written, comentary with references. take one official example for each part with you.
• Do not trust reputation of courses or organizations. My CEIPI pre-preparatory course and specially the CEIPI seminar for parts A and B were a complete waste of time and money. It may depend on the tutot: the one I had for the seminar did not explain any of the techniques or strategies supposedly dealt with in the seminar.
• do not underestimate the "real examination conditions". For all papers, time is a crucial factor, and exams questions which appear easy "from your desk" may be much more difficult to answer in a stress situation
• Do not waste time on the preparation. It is a matter of luck, anyway.
• Do old exams and do not underestimate the time to prepare your books you want to work with in the exam.
• Do papers. A lot of papers. Read the examiner's reports, candidate's answers, and get feedback for your own papers.
• Do past papers
• Do plenty of past papers/ practice questions for DI and DII. Complete at least 3 past papers to time for each of A,B,C and D, to ensure that you have a a good exam strategy in each case.
• do some mock exams
• Do the compendium papers on time, preferably in a group.
• Do the compendium, but do not prepare on the basis of the compendium before 2004 (the EQE has significantly changed since then).
Doing papers in real duration
• don't panic if your neighbour starts writing like crazy upon hearing the starting signal while
  you haven't yet written anything after 1 hour. Exception: d1 - in this case: PANIC.
• Don't sit all 4 exams at one time unless you feel confident that you can pass them. It may be
  better to spread them out a bit.
• Don't sit all four exams at once. Sit papers A & B first, sit papers C & D the following year
  with more experience in the work itself, and with the EPC.
• Don't try them straight after UK finals. There simply isn't enough time to prepare, unless you
  are at a firm where essentially all of your day to day work is European prosecution.
• Don't underestimate A/B/C -- it's an exam, not an assessment of how you do things in daily
  practice.
• Don't underestimate the D2-part
• Don't understimate the stress factor of sitting at the exam with many other candidates, and
  the lack of time to properly think through your answers, and no chance to re-iterate! ; The
  amount of desk space available at home may be significantly more than at the exam!
• During the exam there is hardly time to look things up, there is only time to refer to the notes
  you already know. Therefore prepare yourself to know the general picture by heart and to
  know where you have indicated some details that you may want to use.
• eat, drink and inhale the compendium and the examiner's reports...
• Either commit all of your free time, or don't bother. If you only partially commit to the exams
  you are wasting whatever time you do set aside for revision. With this in mind, you need
  absolute 100% buy-in from your partner/spouse. (Be aware that this is highly unlikely if they
  are expected to look after two young children every weekend for several months.)
• Enrol for the Delta Patents course.
• Especially for part C, do not approach the exam as you would handle an opposition in real
  life.
• Even though I put down maybe 2-3 0000 hours during the past four years, my conclusion is
  that a large part of passing the exam comes down to be able to manage the stress. Practice
  methods to cope with time management.
• Exercise in small groups and CEIPI course
• Faire une premiÈre formation au plus tard un an avant l'Èpreuve
• Find a study group and an experienced tutor.
• Find a study group and discuss topics, start early with this; Go through Delta Patents
  Questions or the like - start early (one year before exam at the latest); Concentrate on the
  EQE - parallel "battle fields" will definitely lead into a collapse; For the exam: use earplugs
• Find the good time balance and make many exercises. If you think you have the answer, dig
  deeper and substantiate you answer (even) more.
• focus on Compendium
• Focus on the main line; do not get distracted by details such as T decisions from 1982.
• Focus on the question to save time.
• For A/B, efficient working technique is essential. CEIPI prep course highly recommended.
• for examiners, C is purely a matter of time balance and knowing how to put down your
  knowledge efficiently
• For Paper A and B nothing more then practice practice practice - more you write the better
  you are; For Paper C - practice pracite probem solution approach all steps need good
  "understanding" why these steops are performed - not only memorizing the steps - C-Book
  Methodology helps to save much time ;
• For Paper C, try a lot of mock exams.
• For Papers A to C do at least four of the previous exams to see how the tests work.; For
  paper D I do the delta Patents questions and the previous tests on EPC 2000.; For Paper D
  II it is though to give a good answer. I studied the DII-Book but think it prepares rather for the
  tests before 2008. At least do the previous DII papers form 2008 on.
• For part C: Ask successful candidates about their method; For part D: find good PCT
  overwiew; For parts A and B: get a knack for using functional features in the right way,
compendium for B gives same examples

- Forget preparation courses, they only bring benefit to the ones taking your money. Trust your own abilities and remember the golden rule: Practice, practice, practice!
- Fr\hzeitig mit Echtzeitbedingungen ,ben.
- Get proper training from a recognised training provider. In house training is generally no good.
- get used to doing paper D under time pressure and fully write down the answers
- Go on courses as early as possible. Try to arrange to work in groups with other trainees in your area. Working in groups exposes your weaknesses and you pick up information far more quickly than working alone.
- Go to San Marino and become grandfathers. Then forget about the EQE.
- go to the CEIPI courses, prepare your stuff, answer delta patent questions
- Good luck!
- Guidelines and C-Book carefully reading, old papers under real conditions
- Have a method and to be efficient (assuming you are enough prepared) BE IN TOP FORM
- Have a plan and follow it!
- have good knowledges, training (for obtaining good automatism) and keep time to read correctly the subject.
- Have no friends or social life. Start early. Don't believe anyone who tells you it's easy or you are starting too early.
- I cannot overemphasize the importance of the examiner's comments in the Compendium.
- I liked the Delta Patents courses
- I might have in August
- I re-sat only paper A, my suggestion is to do a lot of practice.
- I think it is better to take time to read the guidelines and to annotate your own epc instead of using an annotated EPC like Visser and the like.
- I think its best to have at least four weeks off from work before the examination. It would be good to do the basic questions by Delta Patents for about a year. As far as A, B and C are concerned, they should be considered little treats inbetween endless hours of D-Part preparation and the last four should be preserved until very close to the examination.
- I think that reading the C-book is recommendable.
- I think this is difficult to give unique guidelines because it depends in the manner each one organizes informations then looks for them.
- I took papers A, B and C - and left D for next year, as all four seemed too much with a full-time job and my family also. I think that division was good, and better than the 'usual' A and B first (because that is a little to little). A few colleagues have indicated they thought it was a good plan - I had time to focus on preparing for these papers, so - in my understanding - I was better prepared for those, because people also sitting paper D tend to prioritise paper D to such an extent that they neglect papers A, B and C somewhat.; BUT - its all up to who you are and the efforts you put in, and the total time you allocate.
- I very much appreciated doing the exam in 2 times (first A/B, then C/D). It is easier to prepare that way, and you have a welcome 1-day break between D and C.
- if ti is possible with your boss, try to work more deeply on the domains of the exam. It is necessary to use the Compendium. it is really helpful.
- If you take the CEIPI-courses, you don't need to be prepared well for ABC, but it's useless to participate for D if you are not prepared (lets say: tried 3 D1-compendias); Find your way of learning, how you get focussed without distraction, do you need to be on your own or better learn with somebody else.; Take every chance to make contacts to other candidates (especially in CEIPI-courses, don't stick to your already known colleagues, there will be nothing new for you).; Ask very practical questions about handling (not that silly stuff about what to eat, in which colour to write, or which pen to take), find your preferred solution, i.e. C-Paper Claim-Attack vs. Feature-Method -> develop own variant, i.e. the one of examiners daily working method.
- In order to pass the EQE, the CEIPI basic course is useless. I would recommend, instead,
the CEIPI seminars preparing the EQE because they should be focused on the exams.

- In paper A, FORGET your work! It's absurd and incredibly far from your work!
- Instructions to Candidates are no longer provided with the Exam or sent to us in advance, although apparently if you hunt for them you can find them (on the internet??) in advance. The EPO said they would provide an extra set of claims for Paper B but didn't. So don't take these things for granted.
- It helped me a lot to use different colours for highlighting obligatory and optional features, key words, and effects of these features.
- It is better to stop normal work for 1-2 months than trying to pass the EQE in several consecutive attempts. CEIPI D course is extremely needful.
- It is important to start preparing as early as possible; however, I am aware that this is extremely difficult if there is no support as in my law firm (there it is quite important to achieve a good turnover) and if the training for the German degree terminates just before it is possible to take part in the EQE for the first time.
- It is necessary to have any chance to pass said exam. It is dependent on the language used and perhaps the nationality.
- It's never too early to start but don't try to do too much in the last few days before the exam.
- Join a study group, spend two months (at least) for preparing D1 and D2.
- Just because you can sit the exams after three years training, doesn't mean you have to.
- Keep in mind that you will have to write a lot and really fast...
- Keep practicing.
- Keeping high motivation and good physical condition is essential. Good luck!
- Knowledge of the EPC and PCT is one, but do not underestimate the importance of a proper mental preparation.
- Learn as early as you can for D part in cycles with increasing complexity. One learning cycle is not enough.
- Learn Guidelines by heart:) 
- Learning group, preparatory course in Strasbourg, Preu-Kurs;
- Mâöglichst frö,zeitig anfangen und sich gerade f_r die Vorbereitung setzen. Viele Prfungsaufgaben durcharbeiten, die ersten nicht in Echtzeit aber die letzten Aufgaben mâöglichst in Echtzeit bearbeiten.
- Make a lot of exams and write by hand.
- Make a lot of previous exam papers under exam related conditions.
- Make your own material and use compendium.
- Make sure to know the basic patent law articles and rules by heart. And do have a general understanding about all other stuff. There is no time for learning new stuff during the exams.
- Meiner Meinung nach sollte man f_r die DII-Teil einen Kurs besuchen, da sich dieser als sehr problematisch herausstellt (da er auch sehr viele Punkte gibt). Von Kandidaten, die im prinzip die richtige Lösung hatten, weiss ich dass sie teilweise nur mit 50 Punkten bestanden haben, wie ist das mâöglich??
- Method "matrix claims-attacks" - somewhat amended to personal preferences - works fine for paper C. Also important is a schedule, what to do when.; Study Examiner's reports to find out the machinery of papers A and B.; Develop a systematic approach to paper DII.; CEIPI course definitely did help.
- Most candidates will (or at least should) be familiar with Substantial law as it harmonised within the Contracting States (including the problem-solution approach); the Procedural law is what should be the focus on.
- Most important: Learn in a group. Second: REALLY start at least three months in advance. Third: Learn or practice before visiting courses, otherwise you could also leave this out, because the courses' effect is quite small then.
- My personal impression based on my review of the compendium up to the year 2000 is that papers become increasingly more difficult to handle every year.
- never give up training; hope, that you have an appreciative partner!
- Never underestimate the difficulty of EQE in general.
• Nicht verrückt machen lassen - mit Ruhe und Fokus sind alle Teile schaffbar
• No
• NO
• No
• No - not this time
• no (I don’t know if my strategy was successful)
• No comments.
• no, because there is so much material and so many courses available and at the end of the day study techniques are dependent on the schooling system one was brought up in. In my country the rules are continuous studying and frequent exams. In the UK it is not completely unknown to follow courses for a given period of time followed by a complex exam. Thus having to adopt a new style after all schooling and academic studying is done is something big.
• NO, it is very individual
• No.
• No.
• none
• None
• none
• None
• Normally I would say you learn for life, not for the exam. But in this case I would say stay focused on learning for the exam and only for the exam (you don't have time for anything else). Don't get lost in "what if" kind of questions and legal grey-zones (there won't be any questions on that...) and take a break from studying every now and then...
• not before I know that I have passed after several resittings ;-) 
• Note, that you need a remarkable amount of preparation time
• Of course the 2 years preparation is important but for me the Delta Patent exam related courses are the most relevant
• Ordentliche alte Klausuren bearbeiten und anschließend analysieren. Vor allem beim C-Teil sehr ausführlich alles zur Auswahl des nächstliegenden Standes der Technik lesen und in den alten Klausuren diesen Aspekt sorgfältig untersuchen.
• organizing small study groups and work intensively with the compendium
• Paper A: Easy structured independent claims, as easy as possible.; Paper B: Do not add a feature just because you think novelty is more important than avoiding unnecessary limitations. You will need all points, so focus on that which you think is the correct answer.
• Participation to CEIPI or equivalent seminars for learning a method for each paper, and training on the compendium which is very useful, and if possible in a small group.
• Practice
• Practice a lot
• Practice by doing old papers and have a colleague to look at them.
• Practice old papers
• Practice under exam conditions
• practice with as many old exams as you can; with every old exam you will learn something. Then read the Examiner's report thoroughly.
• practice, practice, practice & visit the L&D courses at the EPO (if available to you)
• Practice!
• practise
• Practise old exams under "real" conditions.
• practise the full paper (full 6 hours) in a small group beforehand
• Practising a lot of questions and case studies. Reading the guidelines was very useful, it helps to understand the meaning of articles and rules, and you have to consider it by yourself.
• Pray your employer/ supervising partner is sympathetic and supportive
• Preparation courses in methodology are very important.
• Prepare for the intensive time pressure during the examination
• Prepare thoroughly well in advance. Also train fast handwriting! Don't panic.
• Prepare your own excel sheet summary of the epc, pct and case law in one excel document (takes about one week, can be automatically ordered in excel by topic and sub-topic)
• Put the hours into preparing.
• Read C-Book and work through (in real time) and analyse compendia!
• Read fast. Think fast. Write fast.
• Read the Guidelines! It is better than most textbooks and gives references to Articles and Rules as well as Case law and important Decisions of the president. It is also very useful for the A and B exam. Also, read the Applicant's guide for the PCT thoroughly, it is really very good. And also, don't panic but try to see the preparations for the exam as a good opportunity to learn more for the day-to-day work rather than memorising stuff and forgetting it as soon as the exam has passed. I do feel that the preparations have significantly improved my work and my ability to give good advice to my clients, regardless of whether I pass the exam or not.
• Really and thoroughly understand how it works and know where to find the details; There is too much detail to know it all by heart.
• Regarding D: begin 6 months in advance using both the Visser and the Deltapatents. Read the legal parts related to a certain chapter in Deltapatents first in the Visser. "Digest" it properly and go afterwards to make the Deltapatents questions. If you do it that way, you will pass DI, or at least you will have a lot of chances; DON'T forget to prepare DII properly. I haven't taken enough time to prepare it and they are 60 points for it...
• Relax
• Revising is a long preparation, not a short burst of work before the exam; Ensure you are comfortable with all the phases of the patent life from filing to national entry; Mark your PCT: the book from the WIPO is ABSOLUTELY USELESS!!!!
• Revision with past paper questions for paper D is essential, which is why the Delta patents book is good; the questions in there have been updated to cover current law.
• Search for useful literature and find that one which is the best for you; Then prepare your own auxiliary material based on this literature.
• see above
• See above.
• See comments and suggestions in Q13. Time management is a key thing. Then, you should practise at least with 5 papers in real conditions + study Guidelines (part C)
• See Q11 (do old papers, preferably under exam conditions)
• Select the right accommodation and keep excellent physical conditions
• Sit down in time and learn on good prepared documents.
• Sitting as many past papers as possible under real exam conditions.
• small study groups with regular meetings and discussions have proven to be very useful
• Solve as many questions as absolutely possible, for instance focusing on a specific topic at a time, as it is subdivided in the Delta Patent books; Be sure to know exactly what is asked in the different questions and answer this; In reading a specific legal provision, be sure to read it all, there is often a kind of introductory part of a provision specifying for instance what it relates to (and consequently - although this is not stated in the provision - what it does not relate to). For instance, further processing is a possibility open for APPLICATIONS, not for granted patents; In D2 it is important to try to put yourself in the notional patent attorney's place. Try not to address the examiner but address your client, who has bothered to write to you, and advise him. This includes answering any specific questions set forth in the client's letter.
• Solve papers for training.
• Some of the difficulties is to know when and how starting the preparation; I would recommend to start reading the EPC and the Implementing regulations first, about six months before examination. Then, other readings can come, like the Guidelines.
• Speed is essential. Thorough knowledge helps up speed. But speed must be addressed alone as a key factor for success.
• Spend time to make previous exams with compendium, during the time for examination (3h, 6h...) and in exam conditions.; By comparing with examiner reports, spend time to analyse the mistakes in order to improve.
• Split it up. 3 days in a row is far too intense. How about Mo. We. and Fr. with a days break in between?
• Start 6 to 12 months before
• Start already in the first year with writing papers (A, B, C) of the compendium; start already in the second year with writing the other papers (D1, D2) of the compendium
• Start annotating your materials very early. Do lots of past papers, the delta patent questions for paper D and attend the CEIPI seminars, particularly for paper C. Get plenty of rest the week before the exams!
• Start at least six months in advance e.g. with training questions from DELTA patents. Start working on former papers at least two months ahead of the EQE.
• Start at least two years before the exam with preparation.
• Start at least a year before the examination deadline, otherwise you get problems
• Start D study as early as possible
• Start earlier and try to convince your employer to give you more study time during working hours...
• Start early
• Start early
• Start early doing one old EQE for each part and work out your own solution without time limit (even take days for your solution). When you are finished, carefully go through every comment in the Examiners' report. Write down the teaching from your mistakes.
• Start early enough.
• Start early preparation and do a preparatio seminar like CEIPI.
• Start early to do old papers, one year in advance.
• Start early with a set plan. Don't take national examinations a few months before the EQE and then start preparing for the EQE.
• Start early with intensive preparation. Practice as many as possible former exams under real time conditions
• Start early with older papers and delta patents questions. Don't spend too much time on decisions.
• Start early with preparations, do not underestimate the workload for preparation and the impact of three days of examination. Try to be fit (sports) and take rest before the examination.
• Start early with preparation and make own summaries of the PCT and the EPC to quickly find the information you need to start answering questions.
• Start early with reading comments (e.g. in Visser) related to the Articles and Rule. Read the entire Applicants guide.
• Start early with the preparation
• Start early with your studies, so that you have sufficient time to practise real exam questions. The exam is not only about knowledge but also about strategy and speed.
• Start early,
• Start early, do lots of past papers, drink lots of coffee and Red Bull (other energy drinks are available), try to relax a little the night before each exam!
• Start early, make a plan and stick to it.
• Start early, make a plan, especially for D
• Start early, particularly on part D.
• Start early, practice a lot, use your brain
• Start early!
• Start early!
• Start early!
• Start early.
• Start early, at least 1 year before
- Start learning early enough and have enough time for intense studying before the exam at least three to four weeks of ultimate intensity
- Start practising ALL papers in good time
- Start preparation early
- Start preparation early, as the volume of law for Paper D is horrific.
- Start preparation for D early (will be the case anyhow as soon as the pre-examination starts)
- Start preparations as early as you and make good notes in your reference books so that answers can be found easily
- Start preparing at least one year before EQE
- Start preparing yourself much in advance and get relax!; Study real prosecution cases (e.g., how the EPO interacts with Applicants regarding lack of Novelty/inventiveness/Unity, etc...) and how to draft a successful Problem Solution Approach answer.
- Start slowly only for part D, by reading EPC and PCT completely and by trying to answer some basic questions to make sure you understand. Only in the second round go in depth in every topic and try to answer more difficult (exam) questions. ; ; Train at least 3 or 4 papers of each type under exam conditions.
- Start studying early
- Start studying early on!
- Start studying early, but not too early.
- Start studying for the D-Part as early as possible.
- Start studying intensively and follow preparatory courses as soon as you start the profession.
- Start studying well ahead of time!
- Start to prepare at least a half year in advance and try to study a little every day!
- Start to study before the preceding Easter period.
- Start very early, don't think that EQE is easy, stop all other private activities during preparing for EQE, inform about EQE before first application for EQE, study the answers to the DI-Questions, examiners report - all very, very in detail - write down your findings and your errors. Read questions and letter from the client very, very, very in detail and write down all ideas (before you forget it)
- Start well ahead of the exam, be very thorough, don’t underestimate it’s complexity.
- start well in advance
- Start well in time and practise the exams under time pressure.
- Start with D, because that is the only part that needs time for preparation. If you pass, you'll find the time and motivation to get the 3 other modules. The other way round seems harder, and you'll have your time & money and that of correctors wasted. A, B, C parts are quite similar and need much less preparation.; Spend time on the compendium, preferably shortly before passing the exam, in order to understand the relation between questions/papers and answers. Exam and real-life cases are quite different.
- start working on Delta Patents Questions one year before the exam
- Start working through old papers ("compendium") early: 2 years in advance!
- Starting early to study for A/B. Taking some time for summarising the personal results on the Compendium's papers and, if possible, discussing with other candidates (otherwise, use the online forum).
- Stay clam and try to relax the days before the exam.
- Stay healthy! You are under a lot of stress, this is not the time to slack off on eating healthy or working out or getting enough sleep, being sick at the exams is a very bad idea.; ; For the A, B and C exams - try as many old exams as possible. In the beginning, start with older exams and take your time with them, take breaks to look up things you wonder about, and look at the EQE forum - usually somebody else will have had the same problems. Closer to the exams, do more recent exams as realistically as possible - for example do A and B in the same day with a lunchbreak, like at the exams, and write your reply exactly as you would "live". Passing the exams is just as much about knowing and being comfortable with the format so you can apply your knowledge of the subjects as about what you do know.
- stay relaxed
• stop earn money and learn for 6 months
• Stop thinking about reality - it's just an examination. So prepare for the artificial world of EQE.; Try to understand for what marks are given, do not try to solve big problems but try to collect marks for simple matters of course - write down anything that you find out - it might bring marks.
• students should be asked to start C and D study groups of 2-4 participants.
• Study and practice the using the compendium
• Study and study the compendium, especially examiners reports very useful and full of material useful for learning.
• Study examiners reports to identify the way answers are expected to be and to find an efficient way to structure the answers.
• study hard
• Study hard, it is not easy and cannot be passed with "I'll give it a try" attitude
• study in groups; have a tuotor
• Study in small group and, mainly, attend the EQE before havingbaby/ies.
• Study the Compendium in detail
• study the guidelines and prepare yourself trying to do the more exercises as you can. Try to attend a specific EQE course in order to learn how to answer the exam, and be patient, constant, and make a study program, be methodical.
• Study the Guidelines and the Case law
• Study the legal texts, do earlier paper in a "Mock-Exam" way. Begin to study early, study every day. Do questions, in that the information in the legal texts will be found as answer to a problem, for a greater understanding.
• Study thoroughly EPC guidelines and case law to identify situations that are only described there. Of course, this should not be done to the detriment of being completely versed in international and European patent law basics.
• Study, study, study.
• Studying very well the Examiner's report
• Take at least two months time of full time preparation
• Take care for what you will get marks - do not spend time of preparation for things that will not be rewarded with marks.
• Take CEIPI pre-preps, start preparations early, preparing your material takes way more time than you would expect.
• Take enough time to train for the EQE. And try to read and solve as many papers as possible after having learned the topics.
• Take it seriously and start studying well in advance.
• Take the DeltaPatent Course
• take time and learn on your own or with other candidates
• The CEIPI course for the C-part is very useful. Without a system of how to approach this paper it is virtually impossible to tackle it efficiently. On the other hand, I found the CEIPI courses for the A,B and D part not very useful. Specifically, the CEIPI course for the DII part should be much more elaborate for the following reasons: a) the DII part give more points than DI, b) DII is much less straightforward and requires practicing/development of a technique to have an efficient approach. In contrary to the C-part, such an approach is missing for DII by CEIPI.
• the CEIPI-course is very importend ; for ABC just practise at least three exams of the past years; for D the a well commented EPC is necessary ;
• The Delta Patent questions for paper D are really helpful, you get a broad scope of the stuff and the questions are all adapted to EPC 2000.
• The elaboration of personal glossary of terms (Keywords) with references to Articles, rules, decissions, OJ, GL, etc.
• The examination itself is not too difficult, which makes it rather difficult is the time factor. So be prepared in a formal sense, so that you could concentrate on important matters.
• The existing texts are good enough, the problem is always to find the time after the working
Supervisors tend to give advice which is very valuable for "real life" but not as much for the EQE, especially for C.

- The most important aspect is doing past questions and mock exams. The peculiar nature of the way the questions are set means a candidate with a full knowledge of the EPC can still fail due to insufficient appreciation of the level of analysis and interpretation of the questions required. The questions repeatedly contain tricks or are deliberately confusing, and only when this is appreciated through practice can a candidate pass.
- The preparation of EQE requires a great number of hours, and it is very difficult to combine work and study. So, it is very important to start intensive study many months in advance.
- The trainings (such as organised by CEIPi) were essential to me for learning a methodology, and for doing exercises in a short time frame.
- They should take more time to digest the information. Unfortunately it is not always possible with German candidates / candidates doing the German Patent Attorney education, like myself, since we have our finals in November - December. Then, unfortunately, the time left for the preparation for EQE is not really adequate.

- **Time**
  - time management seems vital
  - to do at least 5 mock exams in real condition (time, drafting etc.)
  - To do at least one course or study with other people, to have a more independent and more objective measure of the candidate's preparation.
  - To start intensive focused study at least six months in advance (particularly for Paper D)
  - To start preparing when very young
  - to start to try the papers as soon as possible
  - To take time to understand the mistakes.; Not underestimate the difficulty of paper C
  - train a lot in examining conditions
  - train in real time, without any breaks
  - Train old papers and questions for DI, plenty of those are available.
  - train the handwriting so as to improve legibility
  - train to write everything down in as short as time possible - then it is still hardly possible to do the exams in the time available
  - Train, train and train + understand the importance of timing in the exam + read the question CAREFULLY.
  - Train, train and train over. Good time management is very important.; It is also important to understand well what is expected in each paper and how are the marks allowed (for instance, in the C paper, if you are running out of time to report your attacks in your answer paper, focus on the inventive steps attacks rather than novelty because the marks allowed are double).

- Training and more training.
  - Training, training, training,...
  - Try to do it before you have children or try having lots of study time from your employer.
  - Try to do past exams and have a good knowledge of the Guidelines!
  - Try to find a single good book that you annotate. Don't start working in 3-4 different books because you won't have time to check them all during the exam. Use a single book (Visser) together with guidelines for instance.
  - Try to increase speed in writing and thinking.
  - Try to prepare the methodology and do some mock training for A, B, and C (where it is not so much about "learning" but mor about practice) really early; do not prepare your material for D too early since you will forget a lot till the EQE and some things will become obsolete. There is enough room for doing this in the last couple of months, provided, you have cared for A, B, and C early enough.
  - Try to understand the commissions expectations.
  - Unfortunately, it is no time for analysis
  - Use a good reference book for study.
  - Use C method of Delta patent together with matrix of attacks of Ceipi. Replace matrix of
features by underlining features in claims and indicating under each feature which document discloses it
• use less sources, but know them
• Use the compendium
• Use the Compendium as much as possible.
• Use the EQE forum.
• Vier Monate Urlaub nehmen.
• Visser is the best source for studying PCT.
• Vraiment se motiver pour faire toutes les Épreuves blanches en temps réel et en se mettant un max de pression.
• Wait until you are ready. The best way to learn is the everyday work.
• Werde Single und verlass Deine Familie für die EQE
• When doing all four: start in time (a year in advance), follow exam courses (especially in the last year) and do full exams (especially C) and lots of legal questions (paper D). For resitting one: try to make as much full exams as possible.
• Work out a strategy for each paper and discuss it with tutors/supervisors
• Work through the compendium with previous papers - and do it in an examination-like environment, by turning off your computer and answer the paper by using pen and paper
• Working through at least 6 to 10 EQE’s for preparation and analyze what the Examiner’s like to hear. Ignore all facts that are drawn to the real life concerning oppositions.
• working with former papers
• Write as many previous papers as possible. Start early and make a list of personal “weaknesses” to be overcome. Prepare your individual time schedule for each paper. Train your handwriting skills.; For Paper D: know the materials you bring along to the exam like the back of your hand.
• Write as much as possible.
• Write as much schematic answers as possible such as what to do if you enter a regional phase.
• Writing C without D does not make sense
• Writing lots of exams of previous years seems a good way to get to know the expected style and trains time-management the best.; Do sports in the evenings of the real exam to get rid of stress and for sleeping well at night.
• Writing old papers is very important.
• yes they should answer previous years questions
• Yes; to study the compendium with a great attention
• Yes. It is just an Exam, not a traumatic life episode!
• You should have an official language as your mother tongue.
• Zuerst für Rechtsteil lernen, dann praktische Teile prüfen
Q15) In which EPC member state did you complete most of your training according to Art. 10(2)(a) REE?
Q16) Did you complete most of the training (Art. 11(2) (a) REE) in private practice or industry?

![Bar chart showing preference between Industry and Private practice]

Q17) How would you rate the support of your employer in view of their preparation for the EQE?

![Bar chart showing ratings of employer support]

Q18) How much time did your employer allow for your participation in courses regarding your preparation for the EQE?

Number of working days indicated by the candidates

![Bar chart showing distribution of working days]

Average: 11.8 working days
Q19) How would you rate the amount of time allowed by your employer for participation in courses?

![Bar chart showing ratings]

Q20a) How much time did you spend on dedicated training for the EQE with your supervisor as defined by Art. 11 (2)(a) REE (i.e. the person who signed your Certificate of Training on Employment)?

Average: 14.9 working days

Q20b) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the first year of training?
20c) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the second year of training?

Q20d) Which percentage of the working days mentioned under 20a) did you spend during the third year of training?
Q21) What would you propose to supervisors in order to improve candidates’ preparation for the EQE?

- be more focussed on general problem and not too specific problems.
- Instruct candidates on how to best prepare for EQE; Discuss answers of compendium with candidate; Send candidates to preparatory Seminar; Allow candidates to prepare for EQE
- Mark candidates’ attempts at compendium papers.
- supervisors should inform the candidates in first few month where to attend external courses because no attorney at least in privat practice has to time for dedicated training of candidates; supervisors could pay the course fee
- Tell the candidates WHAT to read to get involved with the subject matter, i.e. have them read the EPC and PCT first and then start reading secondary literature.; 2) Control that the candidate reads the respective literature by e.g. having weekly discussions etc.; 3) Gibe them time to make mock exams, especially during the last “ear.
- Writing of various old exams under time pressure;
- A different organization of the firm to allow the supervisors to dedicate time to the training of candidates
- accept that this takes so much time and effort that it needs time for preparation allowed, also tutoring would be helpful. To expect a candidate to prepare only in their free time is unrealistic.
- Accept the idea that EQE is a difficult examination and alleviate/decrease workload
- All of my raining was "on-the-job", i.e. carried out as part of my normal duties. Very little time was spent in dedicated training, with the exception of claim drafting training for which we received dedicated tuition. The remainder is impossible to quantify as it comprises everything which I have learnt by making mistakes and having them corrected. I would have appreciated more targeted training for the legal aspects - i.e. priority etc.
- Allocate a specific time slot for study and coaching. Limit workload.
- Allocating less work in the months before the EQE
- allow candidates to attend courses held by Delta patents and CEIPI
- Allow candidates to experience more of the varied work of the EPO as observers to get a flavour of how things go, especially in the early stages. Then the study can be connected more easily to real life.
- Allow for sufficient time
- Allow half a day free per week for the whole training period to study for the EQE at work, 1 entire day per week in the last six months prior to the exam and additionally 3 to 4 weeks immediately prior to the examination days. Discuss the time schedule for learning with the candidate and allow for exam preparation related discussions e.g. old exams on a weekly basis.
- allow half a day per week for compendia-solving
- Allow more study leave.
- Allow some time at work for studying.
- allow the candidates more time
- Allow the candidates to have 8-12 weeks off prior to the exam on unpaid leave.
- Allow them one work day every three weeks to do a past paper at work, in their office, uninterrupted. Mark their attempts at past papers yourself and give them feedback.
- Allow them to take off more time to prepare.
- allow them to train and prepare for the EQE’s during working time. It's virtually impossible to carry a heavy workload and prepare for the EQE’s at the same time.
- Allow time.
- Allow your candidates to go on external revision courses (and get the company to pay for it!).
- Although I did not spend a lot of training with my supervisor I spend a lot of time training with my EQE studying colleagues and that was really useful.
- analyze the answers of the candidate and comment them to provide specific
feedback/correction on the errors
• As Norway became a member state of EPO in 2008, dedicated preparation for the EQE is not expected from your peers who never took the EQE.
• As you can see I didn't train to examination with my supervisor as he is a grandfather and does not have a glue about the examination. The problem in Finland is that we do not yet have in every firm supervisors who have actually passed the examination and even if some firms have they seem to choose grandfather as a supervisor and tutors of newcomers.
• Ask the candidate EQE related questions "related to the daily work" more often and follow up more.
• Attending a course with foreign candidates (not only with Italian ones)
• Be aware of their own knowledge/lack of knowledge. If knowledge regarding the EQE is insufficient e.g. because of grandfather, let professionals o the training work.
• be sure that candidates know the very basic before starting preparation
• be up to date
• Begin revision in plenty of time
• better documentation.
• Change the concept of this test.
• Coffee break EQE course
• comment new decisions from the Boards o Appeal and recurrent topics (not only for EQE but also for normal practice) such as selection inventions and unity criteria.
• Comment on the papers done my candidates in preparing the EQE
• Conducted Preparation
• Consider focusing on A, B, C first time and just seeing how D is, then spend next year focusing intensively on D
• continuer
• Continuously discuss EP Law
• Dans mons cas, les Èchanges au quotidien avec mon supÈrieur hiÈrarchique n'Ètaient pas spÈcifiquement orientÈs vers la prÈparation de l'examen EQE, car celui-ci Ètait mandataire europÈen par dispositions transitoires et admettait ne pas avoir une maÔtrise suffisante des connaissances thÈoriques et pratiques requises pour cet examen.
• Dedicate much more time
• dedicate time to the students
• Difficult to give answers to questions above as the training i spread over a large period and the amount of training varies throughout the year.
• Discuss actual papers with candidate.; If very EQE experienced (repeated supervisors) - evaluate and pseudo-mark papers.; If less experienced - have external markings (DeltaPatents) and discuss paper and marks (and missing marks) with candidate.
• discuss problems
• do not compare nowadays exams with those more than 10 years ago
• Do not consider time spent preparing EQE as irrelevant for the job: personally I experienced the greatest jump forward in the quality of my job only after preparing the EQE, particularly papers C and D
• Do not misuse candidates for other things
• Do not only support daily practise but also recent legal issues (like recent G-decisions).
• Do not only train yor candidate by supervising daily work. Discussions in the daily work are important and neccessary but not enough for the exams. Such training will not be strucured and certain aspect that do not arise in daily life will not be trained. You will also need training specifically for the exams, e.g. by letting the student do past exams from the compendium and giving feed back to those. Also, in house training taking up specific issues and leading to discussions among co-workers.
• Does not apply to my situation as I am an EPO examiner.
• Don't know.
• Emphasize working under realistic time constrains
• encourage candidtates to prepare ther stuff an answer questions much in advance
• encourage them early to start dedicated preparation
• encouraging mock exams well before the due date
• Ensure that candidates know about all the important source materials early on in the training together with all the resources available on the EQE forum.
• EQE nicht als Privatvergnügen anzusehen
• EQE training is not a prize to an employee but a necessary investment to continue improving the quality of services in our profession.
• Es sollte frühzeitig damit angefangen werden, in dem man den Kandidaten die entsprechenden Druckschriften des EPa zu lesen gibt (z.B. der Weg zum europäischen Patent etc und die Richtlinien) und anschließend auch berprft, ob sie tatsächlich gelesen und verstanden worden sind. Vor allem sollten die Kandidaten schon vom ersten Jahr an angehalten werden, DI Aufgaben zu lren. Auch dies sollte kontrolliert werden und es sollte Anleitung gegeben werden.
• exercise old papers and discuss the answers
• Explain practical backgrounds to regulations, at best by real life examples
• Find gaps in your busy schedule to focus on EQE teaching.
• Find real life examples, that do not occur in daily practice, to train these aspects.
• first introduce supervisors for the EQ at the EPO, then let's talk again...
• Focus on training thoroughly your upcoming colleagues in your law office instead of exploiting them!
• For grandfathers: Do not even try to teach EQE candidates. You have no idea of what is required to pass the EQE.
• For me it is helpful to analyse, how the EQE questiones are created. This in some cases is rather different to real live problems.
• General support, training and encouragement from supervisors is very helpful. Specific EQE training is often more usefully provided by someone who recently sat the EQE's or a dedicated course, rather than a very experienced supervisor.
• Get involved!
• Get students to read the Guidelines and the PCT Applicants' Guide early on, and make them aware of the preparation they need to do well in advance of the exams.
• Get the Candidate to sit past papers, and provide them with comments on their answers. Start this very early, i.e. before they might be considering starting their intensive revision.
• Give a true explanation as to how hard the questions are.
• Give advice how to prepare, provide good learning material, give enough time, motivate to attend courses.
• Give candidates more time to study
• Give candidates more D-module related tasks and checking them.
• Give him at least one A and B paper and let him correct it himself. Paper C is too difficult to squeeze it in between, if that is to be trained, proper instructions are necessary, you cannot simply give him a Paper C and expect him to be able to write an Opposition with half an hours explanation.
• Give hints on the books to use in the exam and also on the order of reading the books
• give hints on the legal basis of real cases; show extraordinary cases to make candidates familiar with further processing ...
• give more time
• Give more time off and support study courses financially
• Give people time to study instead of working.
• Give the candidates more time
• Give them legal consultations to do, not just patent drafting and translating!
• Give them time to study.
• Go back to the roots and be informed about today's practice of EQE
• Halve a day per week for preparation would be great
• Have a good work with a good employer...
• Have nothing to say
• help them more than this
• Help them set up aids by giving them instructions.; give them compendium papers.
• Help them to do small sections at a time and make sure they know the main point(s) of the associated G decision and EPC/implementing regulations. Encourage reading the case law but make sure the overall message is clear - I found the case law very difficult to read and then put into context for a long time. The basic training course I went on focussed on reciting case law and I felt embarrassed that I was struggling to actually understand the language, let alone the message. If someone had told me that that was actually normal and it was just important to learn the main points, i.e. the headnotes first, that would have been really good. I liked the delta patents basic D questions - essentially that's how I started to really learn.;
• Honestly, I don't know any EQE candidates in law firms in Germany who got real dedicated training for the EQE from their employer, apart from the allowance to visit courses. I heard that this shall exist, though. Of course, every day work also prepares, but by far not as dedicated training.
• I am in Industry - my supervisor in an external firm several hundreds of km away... I find this set-up challenging (in particular having an supervisor from an external firm)
• I bit more personalized preparation for the EQE.
• I can't separate the number of days spend on training during the working days, cause most of the work was relevant for mastering the skills of a patent attorney. My main tutor did never take the exam himself but got the title via the grandfather clause. He is a very experienced patent attorney but does not at all have an idea of the demands of the exam.
• I did not look up the relevant references mentioned above
• I did not spend dedicated time with my supervisor preparing for the EQE due my attendance on CEIPI courses but support was always there if I needed it. I think the best suggestion is to allow candidates some time during office hours to use for preparation.
• I did not spend whole days with dedicated training for the EQE with my supervisor. But my supervisor was very good at always discussing articles, rules, GL, case law etc me when we discussed our patent cases in the daily work
• I don't know.
• I had 2 supervisors: 1 from industry which took a lot of time for my training during the 6.5 years I was working with him. After I moved to private practice where my supervisor did not had much time for trainees.; Patent attorneys from private practice may try to dedicate a little more time for their trainees
• I had no support of my supervisor for preparation for the EQE.
• I think it is important to help the students prepare for the EQE and not just to expect a good turnover; learning by doing if of course a possible way but it is much less efficient than real supervision
• I was very pleased that my supervisor also put me on difficult cases, which needed more supervision.
• I work in industry and got training from external patent attorneys during my work and in external courses, which I had to attend in my spare time - therefore it is not possible to give a reasonable answer to the questions above.
• I would suggest to get more free time, but who will do my job ?; ; I would formulate it in another way : what would the EPO suggest to supervisors to improve candidates' preparation for the EQE ? May be postpone some deadlines...
• I'd have liked to have more "quick" training exercises relating to papers A and B, i.e. similar to electronic mock pre-exams or other compendium fac-simile.
• if they are not able to provide means (courses, training) for preparing to the exam, at least they should allow time for self study and preparation during the working hours.
• If you prepare for the German Patent Attorney examination, this leaves little time for anything else, especially if you have family. Therefore, I think supervisors can do little to improve candidates' preparation for the EQE. I would recommend focusing on EQE only after passing the German exam, at least if you have family.
• Il serait plus que nécessaire de laisser/d'offrir un peu de temps aux candidats qui passent l'EQE, en particulier lorsque ces candidats sont fortement poussés à passer les 4 Épreuves
In a specific case, not only discuss the specific solution but also the more general mechanisms in the law that for the basis for this solution.

- In house seminars or suggestions and more training with EPO files
- In my experience, supervisors are often not the best people to help trainees study for EQE's. The skills for passing the EQE's differ from the skills required to work in practice and every supervisor I have had has lost a real grip of what is required to pass the exams. There advice is most often based on distant and imperfect recollection. I believe that dedicated training courses and experienced tutors are required to assist with the EQEs.
- In my opinion, the supervisor's task is to help the candidate to get the hang of the job -- not specifically to tutor them for the exams; there are specialized courses for that. However, even with a minimal amount of dedicated time, the supervisor can provide useful additional tips for passing the EQE, and monitor the general progress of the candidate's study plan.
- Increase amount of paid study leave and training budget available to attend courses. Few of us can afford to take an appropriate amount of unpaid study leave for these exams.
- Increase time for courses
- individual learning, more learning time
- Inolve them in as many aspects of the profession as possible. Having trainees devote most of their time to drafting new applications and to basic prosecution does not prepare them for the other procedural stages.
- Install training groups and invite competent guy's who teach how to handle the EQE.
- Introduce trainees to the various aspects of patent law. Take them with you to meet clients, to oppositions, appeals, etc. Spend considerable time giving feedback based on work made by the trainee. Perhaps discuss relevant topics (Priority/novelty/correction of errors/etc.) on a monthly basis topic by topic
- Is it possible to train for the EQE's entirely alone? Do you have the time to train someone in addition to your full case load? If not there MUST be a training budget. A lack of a training budget is simply a false economy in the long run.
- It is not possible to undertake dedicated training for the EQEs as my supervisor is an EQE examiner
- It is very important to train the basics in the first year.;
- It's difficult. Real cases are far from EQE papers.
- It's important to relieve candidates from pressure of work, so that enough training can be put into the last months of preparation.
- Just more dedicated training days for the candidates, and starting earlier than 10-11 months ago..
- Keep up-to-date with developments
- Later in the training, more time shuld be spent on training together with the supervisor, since more intricate framings of the questions relating to EQE can then be discussed.
- Let candidates participate in normal practice as much as possible such that they are able to com across many different issues and topics, for instance, assisting in opposition and appeal proceedings at an early stage is very helpful for a proper preparation although I understand that it may not be profitable for my employer.
- Let candidates spend more working dates for practicising exams ....
- Let half a day per week to prepare the examination.
- Let supervisor xamine compendium exams, discuss answers with student
- Let them check the calculated deadlines etc.
- let them write previous papers and take time to correct and to discuss with candidates the (desired) solution
- Light on a candle to the Saints..
- logical struture of the improfement
- Make a precise plan and please spend time on EQE topics with the trainee !!!!!
- Make candidates answer legal questions early, starting in the first year, so studying for part D does not come as a huge work-load in the third year
• make more time for discussion / analysis
• Make special training sessions for EQE. Send candidates to seminars. Make them clear that EQE and day to day work are different.
• Make sure the candidate has possibility to spend time on relevant work (drafting, prosecution, oppositions) and is not overloaded with work but has time to study the EPC, PCT etc.
• make the candidates read the EPC and Kley as early as possible
• Make them aware of the differences between "real life" and the EQE. Train them to give short and concise answers.
• Make time for the candidates.
• Make use of the forum and EQE website
• Mark exam papers completed under exam conditions and provide feedback
• Maybe a one-day a week study day during Training period
• maybe the supervisors can prepare training questions every weeks, for example between september and february (very short questions) - the answer could be given one week latter (sghort answer) , with the new question. This could help candidates to review their knoweldges...; Each candidate could try to find the response by himself and could coreect himself each week.
• More realistic in terms of balancing work load with exam pressures.
• More sample marked papers - I don't understand the marking scheme for DI or DII
• More study leave.
• more supervision not only learning by doing
• more time
• more time off from work to be able to endure the long study period...
• More time off to study would be useful
• More tutorials and more guidance on exam technique
• Most helpful is practical advice: how are the exam days organized (really small practical things: do you get enough paper, can you take bathroom breaks, should you take food/drinks, ...), what does the exam look like, what is expected, where should you focus on, what is the best strategy, which things should you focus on learning (articles, case law, ...)
• Most supervisors just let candidates work. Therefore the candidate just comes into contact with the subject matters of papers A, B and C. So was my supervisor. Dedicate more time for discussion of aspects of paper D.
• My situation is not a straightforward one, since I moved Company, business and even Country during the last 3 years. I was working in private practice, when I first enrolled for the EQE; neither the supervisor or the Company gave any support. In fact, the supervisor was a lawyer who acquired the Representative before the EPO as a "grandfather". Then I moved country and started to work in industry but had no support at all, again, either by the supervisor; it was even the opposite! Finally, I left said Company and joined the present one last September. Here I got the adequate support, materials and time to study. Even if no internal courses or in-house training was available, just the possibility to attend specialized courses and receive time to study out of the courses was extremely important. ; ; Therefore, what I may suggest to other supervisors is: i) to get as much involved as possible with the training program of the Candidate; ii) make materials and courses available; and also very important iii) give free time, ex 1 day/week to the Candidate, so he/she may study at home or at the office quietly.
• My training period was conducted in two different firms. Supervisors should support candidates in obtaining training at external training courses as well as in house training. They should also support candidates by allowing them to have time off to study before exams.
• n.a.
• n/a
• No comments possible from my side, because currently I have no supervisor.
• No comments.
• No comments.
no idea
No suggestions
None
Note to your questions Q20 a- c):; ; Do supervisors usually spend explicit time for EQE coaching?; In my case, we never spoke about the EQE cases, we always had nice disputes about real cases from which I learned a tremendous amount. The 5 days in total are estimates (1 hour every week for the last 2 years)
nothing
On Q's 20a-d: I gave the answers last year, and as I cannot remember what I wrote then, I take the liberty of abstaining from answering the questions again.
One fixed "EQE" day per week
Only be a supervisor if you have enough time or if the company gives him/her enough space to coach the candidate.
Only work should be done that is useful for the preparation for the EQE.
Our Employer does not supervise for specific preparation to the EQE.
Our supervisors do not give us any time to prepare the exam
Parfait
paying courses; giving prep time besides holidays; more oral proceedings, oppositions
Please give us free time to prepare the EQE and reduce the amount of work when approaching the exam.
Please note that I participated in A and B only. Supervisors mainly need to give you trust.
Please note that the days and percentages given above are very approx!
Please see Q14.
Point the candidate to a good source of information (Guidelines for Examination or some other book) and give him/her an hour a day to study.
Practice old exams/exam questions in groups and regularly. I heard of some candidates who participate in daily working groups for half an hour - after lunch.
Practice on real cases which are relevant for the EQE.
Preparation through the every day working practice is not enough, more time should be dedicated to a targeted preparation of the real EQE exam.
Prepare and follow a plan.
problem-solution approach and would-could should be explained in the first days of training, this is the most important part.
Provide all necessary literature. Instruct the candidates to make exercises of past papers on regular basis and correct individually together with candidate. Make sure the candidate is aware of the time pressure during the EQE.
Provide and allow according to an official way the required time for studying. Be clear within the company. If you want your employees to go for the EQE, act accordingly.
provide candidates with Delta Patents, Kley, CEIPI preparation course, compendium
provide study time
Provide sufficient funds for EQE preparatory courses
Push them to start early and keep going till the Exams, making a time table and sticking to it.
Question Q20 is senseless, because learning on the job is the main part and cannot be calculated in "working days dedicated for".; ; Push them to learn. I.e. make tests. Give them compendias to work and check the answer.; Get them to handle comments and literature early.; Give them contacts to other candidates or let them make trainings with other "teachers" with other experiences.; Often, a working place has a single sided focus to EPC-topics. Fill this gap, i.e. take part at oral proceedings, infringements, special cases with seldom topics.;
Read the Compendium exams to know what EQE examiners want.
recommend the CEIPI Basic course; very important is that any discussion about an invention/application/patent can only be helpful for the trainee if the supervisor has gotten into the details of the invention/application/patent - this is needed more at the beginning of the training period and less at the end; besides the supervisor could help making a plan for
the preparation

- Reduce the workload of the candidate in the last months before the eqe.
- refaire journées de préparation type CEIPI d'une année sur l'autre
- Select dedicated tutors within the company
- Send your trainees on a proper training course, such as the CEIPI courses. Invariably the supervisor only passed with just above 50% or even 45%, so they are not best placed to train people to pass.
- serious approach to the role as supervisor
- Set a goal and have a plan ;)
- Show interest, dedicate time. It's Don't let the preparations come after work - there is always too much work, and then it never happens. Don't just assume everything is going ok, ask.
- sie sollten sich im Klaren über die Aufgabenstellung sein, insbesondere daß sich die Klausuraufgaben im Laufe der Jahre verändern (also nicht mehr so sind, wie sie sie selbst kennelehrn haben)
- Since Norway acceded as late as in 2008 there is a shortage of supervisors with relevant experience. Most are grandfathers, skills are mainly in translations and reporting official actions. There is a shortage of drafting experience, moreso for opposition experience.
- Sorry, no suggestions to provide at the moment...
- Special case: I was Examiner at the EPO before (more than 4 year) so did not need the three years training.
- Spend some time with trainees.
- spend time on it on a regular basis
- Spend time with your candidate.
- Start as early as possible
- Start as early as possible using the EPC
- Start early
- Start early and use the Compendium, especially the old A and B exams, as a training not only for the EQE but also for understanding patentability, priority and similar issues better. It makes a good starting point for discussions in many areas and my supervisor extracted interesting themes for small lectures and exercises. It was very good and helped me a lot.
- Start early to prepare!
- Start in time for first time sitters more than a half year intensive training.
- start preparation early
- stay current - the focus of EQE changes permanently, so must the advice a supervisor gives
- staying updated on current EQE requirements
- study in groups!
- Supervisor should have time for candidate - even if time is expensive.
- Supervisor's who got the EQE as grandfather's are not qualified for helping EQE candidates
- Supervisors need only focus on the relationship between real-world cases and EQE questions, leaving the rest to specialized classes.
- Supervisors play no role in preparation for the EQE. This is to be expected as most of day-to-day practice does not relate to the questions posed in the EQE. The exams comprise manufactured scenarios that occur infrequently in the real world. Preparation for the EQE is much better supported by those that have recently sat the EQE.
- Supervisors should be aware of the actual A, B, C and D Parts.
- Supervisors: Please inform about the changes that happened since you took part the EQE. It is not the EQE of the 90's any more!!!
- supervise
- Switch from supervisor over time in order to get familiar with differing practices of dealing with proceedings before the EPO; as each supervisor has developed his own way of working and practice before the EPO. This can also mean that your supervisor sees to it that you work with different European Patent attorneys. This allows you to detect what is at the core of practice.
- Take any action
- Take some time with the candidate.
- Take their problems more seriously.
- Take time for support and allow time for studies.
- Take time to correct previous year papers and discuss what went wrong, why, what should have been written and why.
- Talk through requirements for papers and structure of the exams. Give advice on how to begin preparation and areas of the EPC to focus initially on. Talk through past papers with candidates.
- Teach the candidates to concentrate more in the relationship between features and problems.
- Teaching also methodology based on personal experience.
- They should answer clearly for DI or DII questions of candidates.
- There's no days isn't really representative of what actually happened, just that my supervisor talked me through actual work, and EQE intensive work was done by other people within the firm. Thus, I didn't spend any EQE dedicated time with my supervisor, but he was essential for my training.
- The Ceipi courses are really good, allow people to follow them.
- The exam element could probably be incorporated into every day work much better.
- The examiners has to apply to the EQE many months prior the examination date, not knowing whether he will have the preparation time he intends to spend. Often the employer has "very important" and "firefighter actions" preventing the candidate from necessary preparation.; But current EQE level of examination needs 100% preparation over weeks.; An option for the candidates of a short time withdrawal from all and/or singular valuations could reduce number of fails, if candidate don't feel well prepared due to interrupts during preparation period.;
- The supervision is not in adequation with the demands of EQE !; the supervisors have often no idea of the changes occurred in the EQE and the advises are therefore useless. They have to do an effort because they are often "out of date"
- The supervisor should spend enough time for EQE preparation, best would be to spend regularly time windows.
- The supervisors should be aware of at least the last two EQEs.
- The three years pre-EQE should be focused on preparation for the EQE and not so much on getting work done.
- There should be a european "Amtsjahr" as with the German authorities. This may help to understand how the EPO is thinking.
- There should be something like a seminar, wherein important topics regarding the EPC legal texts and new aspects of jurisdiction are discussed. I usually only dissuses such issues with my boss once I stumbled over them in practice.
- These questions do not apply in my case.
- They should not want all to be done after work at home.
- They should really, really significantly reduce the workload of candidates who intend to sit the EQE during the months preceding the exam. Who can really focus on a complex topic such as the EQE preparation after 60-70 hours of work a week? I suppose (almost) nobody. Even if the employer allows for a "learning sabbatical" during some weeks in February, this is very kind of his/hers, but not sufficient if the candidate did not have the time (see workload) to prepare a bit for Paper D from October to January. Particularly preparation for Paper D requires some time to consolidate the newly acquired knowledge. It might be better to learn for two hours every day, but from October to February, than to learn ten hours every day, but only in February. But constant learning requires "fresh brains" and thus a decreased workload, see above.
- This is an individual issue. Some people need more personal training, some less.
- This is difficult to answer; but after this paper, it is obvious that most of the training is done on the job, and that the more situations you encounter, the better your preparation; so early responsabilisation and being given first the occasion to deal with an issue is the best training.
• TIME OF TO STUDY
  • Time, time, time
  • To allow participation in training courses, to offer to mark past years papers (swiftly, i.e. within 2-3 weeks tops), to allow time off to study at home.
  • To be strict with the problem-solution aproach, i.e. make sure that your candidate always use this approach and that it is done properly.
  • To discuss the problems directed to each paper sufficiently
  • To give their candidates more time for preparartion
  • To look after specific EQE preparation, and not only daily working.
  • To make a schedule of regular meetings with the candidate for such preparation
  • To set internal courses or to pay Euro-SEAD course to candidates
  • To spend more time discussing old papers with candidates.
  • To spend time on specific topics chosen according to the papers the candidate will have to pass. Create "real-life" tricky situations (e.g., as the ones proposed in the exam).
  • To take time to explain all points.
  • To tell about their experiences in the EQE.
  • To train candidates specifically for EQE and not only for practice.
  • Training was not dedicated to EQE, but performed "on the job/on the fly", because I worked under an experienced grandfather, who nevertheless spends time / is always available for discussion/advice/sparrings on any issue of patent practice.; ; My employer gave me very good support for participating in external courses, such as CEIP and/or DELTA, which are directed to EQE.; ; It would help for the understanding of EQE-specific training if the supervisor would try solving exam papers him/herself.
  • try to give candidates appropriate work: office actions, writing; and allow them time to participate to external formations, and to train themselves with the Compendium; Do not give a lot of urgent work just before the exam.
  • Update.
  • Use the old exams in training.
  • Utiliser leur bon sens
  • Vier Monate bezahlten Sonderurlaub gewähren...
  • Wrt to Q16 and the percentages above: I am an EPO examiner, we basically don't get any time.
Q22) In how many opposition cases were you involved during your 3-year training period?

![Bar chart showing the number of opposition cases involved in each category.]

Q23) How did your supervisor as defined by Art. 10(2)(a) REE train you for paper C?
(Multiple selections possible)

![Bar chart showing the number of responses for each training method.]

- Using opposition cases from my company: 250
- Using other opposition cases: 28
- Compendium: 216
- No help from my supervisor: 338
Candidates were asked to make comments concerning Q23. The comments are listed below.

- a single past paper
- Allowed me to participate in DeltaPatents Courses.
- At previous firm (compendium at current firm)
- Bereitschaft zur Diskussion
- Brief discussions relating to the one case
- CASES FROM NATIONAL PROCEEDINGS
- ceipi book for C
- Did not sit C yet
- did not sit for C, but course planned
- did not sit for paper C
- did not sit paper C
- Did not sit paper C
- Did not sit paper C yet
- did not take paper C this year
- Did not write paper C
- Didn't participate to C paper
- Didn't sit paper C this year
- Discussions in opposition cases in general
- discussions old paper
- epo course
- filing two opposition cases under supervision and attended one at oral proceedings under supervision
- from his own experience
- Gave a lot of feedback on my work, and always answered my questions. also the ones I kept asking over and over again.
- gave me one compendium to write as prescribed by the german Patentanwaltskammer
- Gave me templates and advice
- general advices
- General Discussions
- guiged discussions with co-candidates
- have not done C
- Have not sat C yet
- have not yet sat paper C
- Haven't sat this paper yet
- Haven't sit for paper C yet
- he didn't specifically train me but let me work on opposition cases
- help from recently qualified attorneys reviewing answers to past papers
- I am a patent examiner at EPO
- I did not ask for help
- I did not ask for help, as it was not necessary
- I did not sit C
- I did not sit C yet.
- I did not sit paper C
- i did not take paper C
- I did not take paper C in 2011
- I did not try exam C only A and B
- I did not yet take paper C & D
- I did only A and B this year.
- I didn't make paper C
- I didn't sit C
- I have more oppositions than by supervisor
- I have not prepared paper C yet
- I have not taken C
- I have not taken part in this year.
- I have not trained for paper C yet.
- I haven't sat paper C yet
- I made only A & B
- I was allowed to pick a suitable course
- I will sit paper C in 2012
- it was not necessary
- literature
- many paper A and paper B cases
- My own Opposition cases
- n/a
- Next year I will attend the paper C exam
- No particular EQE training
- No Supervisor
- no supervisor
- No suprevisor; EPO staff
- none
- Not applicable
- not applicable
- not applicable
- Not attempted paper C yet
- not participated in C yet
- not sit for paper C yet
- not sitted
- not yet prepared (A and B only)
- not yet written Paper C
- old EQE Exams
- On the job training.
- only paper A and B
- open for questions
- Paper C nicht abgelegt.
- Participate in training courses for paper C (pre-prep + prep)
- prepared for A and B
- previous exam papers
- Structure of answers, Matrixes etc
- Studying past papers
- superviser did not train
- Supervisor is an EQE Paper C Examiner
- Taking part at an opposition case
- The chandler/meinders ceipi method
- Used external teacher
- Using opposition cases from my Company is planned for this year, since I only start now the intensive preparation for Paper C, to sit in 2013
- we discussed different methods
- worked on a lot of national litigations
- writing an opposition
Q24) How did you prepare for paper C apart from the training you received from your supervisor?

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

- "C-Book", Chandler/Meinders
- alte Klausuren
- Book: Roberts, Complete Guide to Passing ... 2010 edition
- books
- C book
- C book
- C book Chandler/Meinders
- C-Book
- C-book
- C-Book
- C-book
- C-Book
- C-Book
- C-Book
- C-Book
- C-Book
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- C-book
- C-book
- c-book
- C-Book
- C-Book
- C-Book (Chandler/Meinders)
- C-book / practicing previous exams
- C-Book and Delta Patents book
- C-Book by Chandler/Meinders
- C-book, CIPA tutorials
- C-Book, course organized by employer
- C-book!
- case law book, guide lines
- CEIPI "C Book"
- CEIPI book-a-tutor (study group)
- CEIPI C, grammar C
- CEIPI course
- CEIPI method
- CEIPI PRE-Prep and Prep courses
- CEIPI'S C-BOOK
- Chandler Cbook
- Chandler Paper C
- Complete Guide
- Delta Patents C-Book
- Delta Patents Paper C correction
- Delta Patents Part C Book
- Delta Patents’ book, have worked as an examiner
- Deltapatents
- Deltapatents
- DeltaPatents
- deltapatents C book
- DeltaPatents course + mock exam papers
- DeltaPatents Course was most helpful
- Did not sit C yet
- did not sit paper C
- Did not sit paper C
- Did not sit paper C yet
- did not take paper C this year
- Did not write paper C
- did only A/B
- did'n't pass paper C
- Didn't participate to C paper
- Didn't sit paper C this year
- discussion with former candidates
- Diskussion mit anderen
- epi tutor
- epi tutorial
- EPO internal course
- eqe forum
- Guidelines
- Guidelines, C-Book
- have not done C
- Have not sat C yet
have not yet sat paper C
Haven't sat this paper yet
help from colleagues
I did not prepare for Paper C, and was lucky enough to get 45 marks
I did not sit C
I did not sit C yet.
I did not sit paper C
I did not take C this year
i did not take paper C
I did not take paper C in 2011
I did not yet sit paper C
I did only A and B this year.
I didn't make paper C
I didn't prepare it.
I have not yet attended paper C
I have not yet prepared paper C
I haven't
I made only A & B
I prepare only papers A and B
i will attend a course
I will follow a course
In house tutorials (not from supervisor)
in-house tutorials by past candidates
Intense training with other candidates
Internal tutorials with people who recently took and passed the EQE
lieterature
literature
Litigations
Michalski H¸ttermann C-Course
Michalski Huettermann & Partner, Dsseldorf
Next year I will attend the paper C exam
not applicable
not participated in C yet
not sit for paper C yet
not sitted
Not yet applicable.
not yet prepared (A and B only)
Old exams
only A and B
Only old EQE Exams
only paper A and B
oppo course for examiner
Opposition of former position
oppositions of my earlier company
Paper C nicht abgelegt.
paper c was allready done
Past papers
past papers
Personal learning and revision
Planned for this year. Sitting Paper C in 2013
practiced on past papers
Prepared my own commented EPC
previous exam papers
- QMW
- read Case Law
- read paper C-book Chandler and deltapatents
- reading C-book
- Reality & Paper C are different
- self study
- self study
- Study C-book 2nd ed
- study group
- study of c-book
- The C-Book
- the C-book and internal tutorial
- The C-Book.
- throwing dice
- tutorials
- Tutorials with other candidates. Specialist 1.5 day course.
- wisser and Guidelines
- With collegous
Chapter 4 - EQE papers

Q25) How would you rate the difficulty of the examination papers you sat in 2010?

Paper A (E/M)

Paper A (Ch)

Paper B (E/M)
Q26) Did you feel time pressure during the exam?
Q27) Candidates were asked to make comments concerning the difficulty of the examination papers. Their answers are listed below.

- writing the answers took too long since relation of marks and legal basis required is unclear; difficulties in limiting the amount of legal basis required in an answer to a specific question in order to receive a high number of marks.
- C: it is difficult with a biochemical background to understand the invention; DI: too much time pressure; DII: it would be more fair if it was indicated how many marks that could be gained per question 1-4;
- (Comments just for A this year); Time pressure especially high since there were 18 pages to read (in French, at least). In comparison, the 2008 paper was less than 10 pages which makes it not really consistent from one year to another...
- Too many attacks in Part C. ; 2. Understanding the technology first, takes too long for a chemist, even with regard to the fact that I have completely done the heating installation in our house by myself, understanding the described technology takes time before writing any attacks. I recommend, less features and superfluous additional (jolly) description would be much better.
- 2nd part of DII was not a real DII question.
- A (Ch) = --; A (E/M) = Adequate; It was very difficult to "see" the perfect approach for the solution (paper B and C).
- A and B were OK, C was rather tricky this year. All modules were slightly longer than last years, which is very tiring and examines more the nerves and concentration of a candidate than understanding of law. I perceived D as more difficult than other years. D1 was this year more D2-like, with several open questions (to give advice), which produced a lot of time pressure and uncertainty regarding how deep the response is expected to be.
- a lot of documents this year both in A and B
- A paper: too many embodiments.; B paper: too long notification.; C paper: too many information, claims interpretation.
- A-B-C were not that difficult and I didn't run into time problems.; DI and DII were borderline, no time to spare
- A, B and C were very much doable, although for A and B it seemed that the number of material pages was increased. ; ; To me it seemed that D1 had many questions with a lot of points available, thereby indicating long answers. This was different from previous years and made it a bit hard. ; ; D2 was very difficult. Not so much legal stuff but more analysis on claim scope, etc. First of all, I have to say that I had a trouble with the priority. If someone had told me the current situation in speech, I would have known how to act. That is to say, I did know all there was to know about the priority in the current situation, but while reading, the issue of the two-list principle did not "pop" into my eyes. ; ; Having troubles in the beginning of the paper, made it difficult all the way. If I had not had any troubles in the beginning, I would guess that the rest of the paper would have been a lot easier (=no time pressure, no stress).
- A: Information in D1 and D2 was clear but client's remarks on prior art (supermarket) were confusing.; B: Lots of paper to read, but consistent information.; C: A long prior art document with unclear usability - quite uncomfortable; D II: No question for behaviour against competitor, just analysis. Maybe the information for available marks for each question would help.
- A: sehr viele Ausführungsbeispiele; C: prinzipiell machbar, aber zu wenig Zeit; DI: hoher Zeitdruck; DII: zu wenig Zeit; B: o.k.
- A: There were too many embodiments and the text was too long to read (difficult for candidates who are not German, French or English native speakers). It was very difficult to draft dependent claims in a logical structure.; ; B: The text was too long to read (again difficult for candidates who are not German, French or English native speakers) and in the end there was little time to make proper inventive step arguments. Very difficult to select the closest prior art.; ; C: The examination time was too long. In the end it was very easy to lose tracks and make silly mistakes.; ; DII: The description about the invention (i.e. different
embodiments or subject matter) was mostly not very clear and therefore it was not easy to make proper assessment. There was no allocations of points to each question. It would be very helpful to have this information similar to DI so that candidates at least have a chance to decide which questions should receive more attention.

- A(Ch), B(Ch) and C were manageable, DI was surprisingly difficult and so was DII.
- About right - I feel they should be hard. But DII seems to want to trip you up.
- all difficult because of lack of preparation time and above-mentioned unpredictability of assessment (especially paper C)
- all EQE paper have been difficult because of the time pressure and the expected details in the answers.
- always going to difficult
- amount of information in paper A and especially in paper B
- As already mentioned, the real challenge is the time factor
- As always the time pressure is the most difficult, also I think that if points were indicated in DII 2011 one would not rush Q1 and Q2 to find the time for Q3 and Q4 as these did not require
- As EQE shall test "fitness for practice" ther should not be so very incommon specialties as there were in C and D-II in this year.; Also in D-I there was one very unusual case that really never will occur in reality.; ; If you find a combination of more than three exemptions in one case (=question) you will leave reality!
- as in the last years, the amount and complexity of information to handle with increased further
- As mentioned above, I have time problems in paper A. I never seem to be able to give enough consideration to the possibilities
- Basically the time, and the "traps" of the exam.
- Both papers A and B were too long this year.
- C and DI papers: more time is needed to think about the answers because they are not impossible to solve, but one should calm down and carefully think about, which means time pressure.
- C attacks on claims were too long. Medium numbers of attacks on claims are 6, EQE2011 C paper had 9 attacks!! and many partial problem were presented. The time for writing attacks was really too short. Moreover it was not simple how to attack by inventive step Claim 4.; ; D1 was too long; in particular the question were too long. Many question take at least 2 or 3 minutes for reading and comprising them.
- C presented data which were pointing into wrong directions, not to so easy to tackle this entrapments in the rather short time
- C was very tricky; very many hidden traps; D II: as usual; B: non-working embodiment was a little too much for a B-paper
- C-Part: In my opinion the set of claims contains too much features which have to be attacked. When a candidate has shown with 3-4 Problem-Solution- Approach (PSA)-Attackes, that the PSA has been understood, it is not necessary to have 8 claims (EQE 2011) with more than one feature per claim...Why?
- C-Teil: Aufgabe ist zu umfangreich für die zur Verfügung stehende Zeit
- c'est normal que ce soit difficile
- can only give my opinion for A and B: i think a lot of the difficulty in A and B is in identifying traps and not falling into them. in real life, one has lots more time for considering a sensible set of claims or a sensible restriction when answering a communication. it might make more sense to assess a candidate's ability by having him describe the mistakes one could make and by giving examples instead of drafting a phony application or answering a phony communication :-)

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• Chemistry Paper B was difficult in terms of subject-matter for a non-chemist (i.e. I work in the field of biotechnology)
• Complexity and difficulty are increasing from year to year.
• Concerning A, B, C and DII if you do not start properly, i.e. you answer wrong to the first question, you have no chances of passing.
• Concerning part DII it was not clear how much time to spent for each question since there were no information about the points to score for each question like in DI.
• D I and D II were a very frustrating experience after two years of hard work spent on preparation for EPC and PCT. Paper C became a kind of parforce hunt during the last hour.
• D II questions 3 was not clear.
• D II was ok; D I questions were ok, but time for answer were to short in view of the difficulty of the questions
• D-paper was very difficult this year compared to the previous years.; A, B, C: adequate (i.e. challenging but feasible)
• D1 and C have been rather time consuming, but in the end it was just at the edge of sufficient time.; A is a game to meet the exact expected solution; D1 was feasible if the right answer was known, otherwise problems with time
• D1 is not so much difficult as more a significant amount of issues to deal with.
• D1 longer and more difficult. It would be better more questions with less points. When the amount of pints is high (6-7) it is difficult to know the amount of information is required for the answer and that makes spend too much time in those questions.
• D1 too much pressure time so that quality of answer cannot be provided : reduce of 25% the amount of questions
• D1 was far too long and had lots of difficult questions. No questions were related to new R 36(1) a) and b), R 70a and to EPA=SISA. I spent lots of time studying these issues. D2 was in my opinion not too difficult, but compared to other years it was a difficult one. The difficulty of A and B was ok, but B was also very long with a lot to read. Paper C was very difficult compared to the last years. It was not too much to read, but very much to write and work. Also, i found the structure of the claims in paper C rather unusual.
• D1 was too complex from my point of view. Too many complicated and long questions. I felt that it is not possible to answer all the questions as expected during the given time, even if one is writing all the time. Compared to D1 2010 this was much more difficult D1 part.
• D2 not enough time to see all the different aspects of the subject : one more hour is needed for D2; D1 is OK; C is OK; A as well; B remains difficult (lack of time)
• D2: it is not clear how the marks will be divided between the two parts. adding this info would be very helpful in making the decision how much time to spend on which part.; part 1 of d2 had a lot of dates to cope with, a few less would have been easier to handle (i'm talking numbers here, not difficulty)
• Day by day increase the number of documents for reading.
• D1 - first DI paper that I have faced in which I felt under time pressure - which affected my performance. Greater number of more obscure legal matters than ever before. Q8 seemed
far more suited to DII, and not to DI which is more time restrictive.; DII - an obscure legal point (validity or otherwise of EP-PAN1 priority claim to JPU-PAN1) seems to be central to Q2 (which is presumably quite a lot of marks) yet none of my qualified colleagues have any certainty as to that legal point - I couldn't (and can't) find basis either way for the assessment. Re Q1: the necessity to have the ADA regulations hampered my attempt at part of this question - just how much paper can we be expected to take into the exam??!! ; ; A(Ch) - completely unclear from client what the essential features of the invention were (e.g. to what extent or otherwise the nature of the polymer was dependent on the process, and hence could be defined by structure or had to be defined in relation to the process). Of course, in real life, one consults the client to get to grips with the invention, but this is not possible in the ridiculous world of the EQE. ; ;

- DI - questions too specific requiring candidates to take in suitcases filled with references, which is ridiculous; time pressure too great as this is not representative of a 'real life' practice situation (would practising attorneys pass this exam? Probably not).; DII - this exam was exceedingly difficult; there was no clue as to the split of marks and so candidates could not judge where to spend their time.
- DI and DII were both very difficult in my opinion this year. Both parts had - in parts thereof - fairly unusual questions. This made the whole DII part very difficult, because the answers to the different legal problems were all interrelated
- DI and DII were extremely difficult. Many new aspects needed checking details in the books, but there was not enough time for doing this. The material to be reviewed for the first two questions for DII was too much so that there was rarely time left for adequately dealing with the second part of DII.
- DI and DII were harder than previous papers this year - the split of DII into two separate questions leaves applicants unsure on how marks are being awarded
- DI paper involved more strategy than in the past, but one was still required to answer 8 questions in the 3 hours. I think that if more questions involving strategy are to be included in DI, there should then be less questions or more time given.
- DI questions this year were very time intensive to answer.; It was not so difficult but to much to write and therefore I had problems with the time.
- DI was much to much --> to complex situations compared to other years.
- DI: A though, but fair paper.; DII: Seemed a different type of paper to previous years - difficult to see how candidates could pick up 60 marks from the question.; B: A hard paper - v. difficult for non-chemists to contend with the subject matter. For example, the biologists really struggled with the various permutations of the functional groups listed in the exam this year.
- Die Frage kann ich beantworten, wenn ich mein Ergebnis weiβ.
- Die Schwierigkeit schwankt, aber damit muß man wohl leben.
- Difficult this year to determine how much time to spend on the different aspects of DII
- Difficult to decide if several claims per category would violate R: 43(2). There is no law with regard to this rule (who would appeal such an objection?), so it is really hard to know what is correct within the EQE setting, looking at the old exams it can be either way, and the examiner's reports do not really motivate this aspect. ; ; B(ch) had a bit nasty Art. 123(2) situation with the information scattered in [0007]-[0009]. What was the correct interpretation of the context of each sentence? In the EQE-setting it is easy to get paranoid about this, since someone actually might be trying to trick you to the wrong conclusion. This is rarely the case in real practice.
- Difficulty and fairness are entirely subjective and difficult to measure. However I think it is extremely unfair when a significant number of marks derive from a small point of law which is easy to miss in an exam.
- Difficulty is not such a problem, the problem is time pressure. The time pressure leads to mistakes that would be avoidable in reasonable time.
- Difficulty of DII mainly results from the large number and confusing subjects and property rights, which are hard to gather and order in the given time. The actual legal questions are therefore difficult to handle.
- Difficulty was adequate but time available was not always enough. See below why.
DII is too much of an IQ test. The text seems written in order to confuse. I think it should relate to patent matters. Keep the inventions to be protected simple! Also, please stop confusing candidates with difficult expressions and names (of companies, inventors and products!)

DII of 2011 was a bit disappointing and atypical
DII was the HELL!

DII: many questions
Doing papers DI and DII in the same day is an unduly gruelling experience. I think that these papers need to be on different days. Most candidates are mentally exhausted after DI alone, let alone having to sit DII 1.5 hrs later. Makes the DII paper more difficult because you are tired after DI.
Due to time constraints, it is not always immediately very clear what is meant by the question or where the focus in the question lies and hence what answer is expected and where the candidate should elaborate on. You always know the basics but you also need to work in depth. Due to time pressure, you easily think or hope that your answer will be sufficient and that you can move on to the next question.
During the first day (DI and DII) I was really nervous, which did not help me to finish in time and which caused that I have overlooked some things which I just know. The second day (A and B Ch), I was more calm and I succeeded in finishing both papers in time. I was most worried about the C paper (time-wise), but I kept a tight schedule and I managed to write what I wanted to write. I was no longer nervous.
Each and every year I am wondering about the long model solutions and whether one of the examination committee would be able to write correct answers in time...

Épreuves moins calibrées
EQE A: quite hazardous...
EQE is a professional examination and for that reason, it is difficult to understand why a so big time pressure is added to this exam?
Especially difficult is part DII due to the fact that no marks (points) are given, as in part DI, for scheduling the time.
Especially for C time is very restricted for writing down a reasoned opposition and a letter to the client with responses to the extra questions. Perhaps some extra copies of the claims of the patent to oppose would allow reducing writing (you can then recycle them to incorporate in the opposition document when discussing the teachings of the prior art documents (I usually mess up the single copy now by annotating with different highlighting colors and remarks). The extra copies could be cut and slightly amended (references to prior art) in the opposition paper.

essentially time pressure
f_r die Auswertung des Fragebogens: Ich fand den C-Teil angemessen, werde ihn aber nicht bestanden haben, da ich durch einen anfänglichen Lesefehler des Mandantenschreibens leider viele Folgefehler in der Arbeit habe (Hinzufügung eines Absatzes im Prüfungsverfahren in einem StdT-Dok., ich habe diese Hinzufügung aufs Streitpatent bezogen). Der Lesefehler hat sich f_r mich erst nach der Prüfung aufgeteiflert.
Far too contrived and disjointed with the facts, its a test of knowledge not pressure (& memory, OK if one has a photographic)
Fine as they are
For D2, last years D2 had a similar way of set-up and one focusses in training on the required methods to solve it. When then a whole new concept appears one gets lost for a while and has first to make a plan on how to tackle the paper.
For DI: Please don't put a 7 point tricky but doable question at the end (question 8 of 2011). Any psychologist will tell you that no human being can fully concentrate for 3 hours in a row, so putting one of the most difficult questions all the way at the end gives the impression of being a deliberate design of the exam to fail people. It has nothing to do with testing whether
people are fit for practice.; Furthermore, in DII it is nearly always ambiguous what is exactly disclosed in what application or piece of prior art. Must DII really be about guessing what the client intends to say?; I think A and B were very fair exams this year.; I think in C of this year the interpretation of at least some pieces of prior art was quite tricky.

- For me B was the hardest part. There was too much material to read. Then by correcting the claims too late, I ran out of time and blew it. In C and D1 I ran out of time also: in C, I could not write all the attacks, which I had identified. In D1 I could not answer the last questions carefully.

- For me paper B was difficult because it was very hard to understand the technical affair in the first reading.; And paper B had a lot of documents! it was too much in my point of view!; I had to spend too much time on reading and understanding and dividing the several "Rauchmelder" in the paper B

- For me the problem was pressure of time nor difficulty of the subject/problem to resolve

- For non-native speaker, D1 and D2 can be difficult to understand as well as to answer, therefore, simple and normal wording should be used.

- For paper A, it is difficult to determine if claim 1 has to comprise the essential technical characteristics for carrying out the invention or only the objective technical problem to be solved.

- For paper A: too many embodiments to protect, very long to read;

- for paper B, there is a lot of materials to be read and understood. And there is no time to read them twice.

- Found D2 difficult, as I did not know what percentage of marks were allocated for each question.

- Generally they were about right, but I felt that DII was particularly difficult relative to other years.

- good feasible, but only with an hour extra on each exam to write everything down you want to write down - the most difficult aspect is writing you answer within the time available

- Great time pressure due to the difficulty of the task but also the sheer load of it; too extensive (Paper C)

- handling of 27 pages on this small place

- Hard to tell before the answers are published. DII was a bit put together in a chaotic manner. Others appeared to be do-able.

- I am not sure that this is a terribly sensible question. The marks aren't out for another 4 months. How on earth is a candidate supposed to sensibly comment on how they have done? I answered all questions and finished all of the exams. Therefore, if I am confident, I will suggest that the papers are easy and I'll have sailed through. If I am lacking on confidence or naturally conservative, I will imagine that I have failed some or all of the exams.; ; All this said, a substantial part of the difficulty of the exams is the unnecessary scheduling of 5 papers in 3 days, with between 6 and 7.5 hours of examinations per day. This seems purposefully engineered to ensure that as many candidates as possible are caused to resit exams due to exhaustion by the end of the week.

- I am very unhappy that both main questions of DII were focused on very special topics relevant - in practice - only for Chemical patent attorneys (Disclaimer, selection from lists). ; ; So, candidates with mechanical/electrical background were STRONGLY disadvantaged this year!!!

- I believe that the enormous time pressure leads to the fact that a number of candidates being fit to practice are frequently kicked out, because not anybody has the ability to perform under this time pressure. Though, in my point of view, this is not a qualification necessary for a patent attorney.

- I cannot assess the 2011 difficulties without knowing my result!

- I cannot comment until I know what I did wrong or what was expected. I am only sure that I didn't pass D but that was because it simply wasn't my day but that doesn't mean I found the questions unfair.

- I do not have English as a mother tongue and that makes my reading and writing slower, which contribute to the time pressure.
I do not understand two things in the EQE setup: why do you have to write by hand, and why is there not enough time? Nobody writes patent applications (with the client interview) in three hours, and definitely not by hand. The time used for stupid activities during the EQE is too large compared to what the people do for living. Instead of testing whether people learned to write, cut and paste at elementary school, we should test their ability to understand more difficult technical matters. That is real life and fitness to practice, not the ability to glue papers together. On the time aspect: I think there should be enough time so that everyone can complete their answers. There is only one shot per year, so what's the rush?

I do not understand why the candidates are met under such a time pressure - I guess that half of teh candidtaes that fail Paper D might habe passed it if they would have had 1 hour more. Subdivision Paper DII in two parts does not make sense as it is even more difficult for teh candidate to calculate the time that is needed for the second part.

I felt a strong increase in the diffiulty of the papers in the compendium since 2007.

I felt that paper C was quite different and quite a bit harder than previous years - as if it was specially designed to counter the training I had received.

I felt that the Paper B Ch paper was far too biased towards chemists. As a biochemist the subject matter took a long time to comprehend, I'm sure much longer than it took an organic chemist. I hate to think how a poor plant biologist or some such felt.

I felt the papers were fair and in line with the difficulty standard of previous years, so one knew what to expect

I found DII too difficult. Except for the client & the competitor, the two cases (i.e. questions 1,2 & 3,4) are completely unrelated. You can guess that case two (2 appeal or not 2 appeal?) is less complicated than case 1, but is that what the examiners wanted? And if so, how much less? No marks indicated.; Its really difficult switching from one legal case to the next under exam conditions!; Part 1 would’ve been enough as it was for a DII paper (very detailed looking up in ADA regulations was inter alia required).

I found especially DII a strange paper compared to the previous years: not much about exploitation. I was confused because I did not understand the invention correctly, and I was also very confused because I found it not clear what was in the US-P application and what was made available to the standard committee. This made me really panic. ; Although in a way I appreciate that there are 2 cases in DII, I find it difficult to predict how much time is needed for the second case. This adds a difficulty from a time-management point of view.; ; For DI, I would have expected more questions on Raising the Bar. ; I also found it strange that both DI and DII had a question on appeal / reformatio in peius.

I found it difficult since a full answer would be accessible if one had more time.

I found it difficult this year for paper D to deal with the uncertainty about how recent EPC amendments would be reflected in the paper - the questions in D I seemd more complex and "tricky" (less straight-forward) as compared to last previous years.

I found it too too voluminous compared to previous years (A and B). This is not fair at all in particular for non-native official language speakers (including me). Because we take too much time only to read, and there is no time to think, and answer. This is not an exam for evaluating the linguistic ability. And the fact that most of the EPO member states do not have such 3 languages as the official language has to be seriously taken account.

I found Paper D2 very long and more intricated than in the previous years.

I found paper DI/II more difficult than in the previous year.

I found that papers A and C were quite similar to papers A and C 2010. ; Part 2 of paper DII was surprising !

I found the time pressure harder this year than any previous year (except maybe for 2007). I found the D1 questions very hard while the D2 part was not too difficult but contained too much information to deal with within the 4 hours. As regards the quality of the exams I think part C was a good exam, part D1 was good but too difficult, whereas part D2 was not that well drafted and was sometimes unclear which made you spend a lot of time thinking about irrelevant things that you were not meant to spend so much time on - although you had to in order to get the rest of the paper right.

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I found this year's paper D I especially difficult in comparison with last papers.

I generally felt the level of knowledge and skill tested to be fair. I also believe the exams were of good quality.

I got the impression that there was more information to assess than in the last years, at least more sheets of paper to read. This obviously leads to time pressure. Paper D II included not so many dates and terms to tackle with but other problems which maybe were more difficult to solve.

I have written this before, and I cannot see the point in the extreme time pressure.

I like that the D II and C exams are focused on real-life questions. Simple and straightforward solutions are preferred. However, in that case there must be a time pressure.

I noted a "raising the bar" in EQE paper D with respect to the last year.

I only had time pressure during the D I exam, which was the reason why I thought it was difficult.

I only meant to mark the chemistry exams above. A was too easy - I spent a lot of time worrying about what I was not seeing, because it was so obvious. B was difficult because there were too many issues to consider.

I only sat paper D. The difficulty of paper D I was average, but the time was a bit to short. D II was extremely difficult, I think. Most D II papers have a length of about 5 pages, but this year's paper D II comprised 7 pages. As the text in D II is never written for mere entertaining, it required much more time than usual to read it and to solve critical issues. Generally I need about two of the four hours to read and analyze the text. This year, I needed about two and a half hours, thus 30 minutes were "lacking" for writing the answer. Furthermore, the level of difficulty of D II was far beyond the difficulty of previous D II papers.

I ran out of time because I spent too long trying to make the early parts of my answer too perfect. I should have cut down on those parts and spent longer on the end part of paper B - the inventive step section.

I ran out of time in paper C, D and A.

I still had energy during D I but was pretty exhausted during D II.

I think EPO needs to emphasize the detail required in responses by providing detailed marking sheets in the compendium.

I think EQE papers should be more similar to day by day practice and less academic.

I think I have found the right subject matter to be claimed, and I have noted down what to claim; but, I finally ran out of time and could not write down all I have noted.

I think it has not to be a speed race, but an exam. Candidates should be demonstrate to be able to approach the situation and not to read fast. Rapidity leads to a negligent work!!

I think that people do not having a mother tongue as on of the EPO languages have to have at least 1 hour longer time for the same exam comparing to those speaking EN, DE; FR.; The most difficulty is to read/understand papers as fast as native speakers.

I think that papers are becoming longer and longer. The most part of the available time goes for reading the paper!

I think they are a reasonable standard given that you will become fully qualified if you pass
them all.

- I thought paper C this year was a good paper, I should take care to call it 'easy' because it may be because I had prepared for it well (I hope) - but I felt I could solve it within the time given, more so than past papers made during training.; Papers A and B were also good this year, I think for paper B there was a little time pressure at the end. More 'chemical' than some past years, but for me that was nice to see - since it is a 'Ch' paper.; There is also the element of doubt when solving the papers, the scope and width of the claims, but that was expected.

- I thought that there was way too many embodiments (of the invention) presented in Paper A. I think that perhaps three embodiments is acceptable but more than that (and further modifications) becomes too much to deal with adequately in the time allowed for the exam even though it may be easily dealt with in more time in practice.;

- I understand the purpose of the exam is to test you, but the cases for D should be more real, and I find it discouraging that it is focused on borderline cases. it should be more about real life and not about the exceptionally complex situation arising once in a decade. we don't have the time to go into the details of providing answers when the analysis is so long (most practitioner would triple check the situation before completing analysis and responding); and not everybody masters the language sufficiently to be equally quick.

- I was glad that the technique was suitable also for us who work with telecom. I find mechanical devices, such as the roof tile a few years ago rather complicated to analyze and describe.

- I was surprised by the fact that the applicant in paper B filed a new set of claims after the search report. There was no similar paper B in the past. Therefore was not sure if the task was to file different set of claims for the different embodiments within different divisionals. I lost about half an hour to realize that the changes I would propose for claim 1 fall within the scope of the original search and that no divisional is needed.

- I wish I had had more time for the C-Part.

- I would prefer more questions in paper D1, where each question count less marks. if you miss one 7 mark question it is very difficult to pass.

- Paper B 2011.; 1. hint in clients' letter that US patent will proceed to grant with certain amendments made me unsure whether this is a pitfal or a hint to a possible solution (appeared to be unlikely that the exam paper itself provides a possible solution in such an obvious manner); 2. unity of invention (compounds with alkyl/aryl-groups on the one hand and alkyl/alkyl-residues on the other hand) doubtful, since: no common technical feature that carried inventive step (alkyl group with 3 to 6 C atoms not sufficient to successfully treat gastric cancer - combination with aryl or another alkyl group necessary). ; ; Also no common inventive concept clearly detectable - no "improved" treatment of gastric ulcer by both compounds versus the respective closest prior art;; ; - for alkyl/aryl compounds (only antibiotic activity) "complete" treatment of gastric ulcer with antibiotics and protonpump inhibitors known from closest prior art D1, no improvement detectable vs. D1; - for alkyl/aryl compounds (antibiotic and protonpump inhibitor activity) "complete" (i.e. improved) treatment of gastric ulcer vs. closest prior art D2 (only compounds with protonpump inhibitor activity), i.e. improvement observed vs. D2; ; ; - the concept of "treatment of gastric ulcer by Belliak compounds" already known from the prior art D1 and D2.; ; From previous paper known that points are deducted if claimed subject-matter lacks unity; however, also points are deducted if subject-matter is not claimed which may be patentable. ; ; In view of this, I decided to propose a divisional application for alkyl/alkyl-compounds based on the finding of their potent activity as antibiotics against Helicobacter. Not sure whether this was the "desired" solution.; ; ; Paper C 2011.; - unsure whether document A5 was really prior art under Art. 54(3) EPC - no information whether EP phase validly entered; therefore, I haven't used it; ; - unsure whether document A6 could represent closest prior art for claims 1 and 4 (and dependent claims), usually such "old" prior art is provided in the exam as evidence of "common general knowledge; However, I objectively judge that A6 is the most promising springboard (more promising than e.g. A3), since it is directed to the same purpose (avoid oxidation by use of a "Flussmittel") and, in particular relates to aluminium "W%m metauscher" where oxidation is a particular problem. In contrast, A3 does not mention "Flussmittel" in the preparation of the
radiator disclosed therein and the radiator is made of iron, not aluminium. Therefore, A3 is not directed to the same problem and has, in addition, less features in common with claims 1 and 4, respectively, making A6 a more appropriate choice. Therefore, I chose A6 as closest prior art for claim 1 (and dependent claims) and claims dependent on claim 4 (e.g. claim 5). Further, I attacked claim 4 under novelty in view of A6, since the method of preparing the "wärmetauscher" together with the structural features of a "wärmetauscher" disclosed therein and which could obviously prepared according to the method of A6, implicitly disclosed the product of claim 4. Not sure whether this was a desired solution (but I think it was a reasonable attack).

- If it was easier it wouldn’t be as desirable.
- If one does not find the right path at the first time, there is little chance for correction and recovery later.
- If you are an EPO examiner then paper A and DII are the most difficult papers.
- If you are good prepared it is possible to pass the examination.
- If you haven’t the right idea a once it is nearly impossible to solve the paper.
- In DII it was too difficult to find out what exactly is claimed and disclosed in the mentioned patents and utility models.
- In DII, it was hard to decide how much time to spend on the second part. Rather than a practical situation, the second part of DII seemed to be contrived to test an unrealistic interplay between G decisions. It seems like it was designed to confuse. Of course it will be clear with the benefit of hindsight.
- in general papers are too complex for the time given: DII was too complex with two different story lines and two different technical contexts; A was stuffed with too many details which took too much time to analyze and thus the claims suffered; C was also to much to cope with seen the time
- in Hindsight view clear, during Exam to less time for long thoughts
- in most cases, the difficulty of the papers is adequate in my opinion. Instead, I see more a problem in the assessment of the solutions and in the thoughts behind the model solutions, which are - sometimes - difficult to follow.
- In my opinion D1 was more difficult than in other years!
- In my opinion it's easier to pass the exam when you are "fresh" in the field, the content of the examination is very far from the daily practice and it's hard to put the brain "apart" after ten years or so of profession
- In Paper C it's difficult to have an overview to the time
- In Paper DII it is very difficult to realise issues according to substantive patent law without having access to the patent applications or patent documents the client writing about. In practice, what to do first is to get the patent documents from espacenet and cross-check them to get a picture of effective priority dates and so on.
- In the C-Part - attacking the claims is like solving a puzzle with too much parts.; I never had to keep track and to combine so many features in my daily practice as a patent examiner at the EPO (and I do the work since 8 years). This is hard to achieve under the time conditions during examination and ; boring when doing the compendium at home.
- In the past D papers, there have always been some trick questions, so you start looking for them and loose time and often get confused about trivial facts. Furthermore, a wrong answer to a trick question often seems to invalidate a whole part of your paper. I think this is a somewhat unfair part of the exam and rather far from daily work.
- In the problem paper, there seemed to be no indication about the split of work volume between the two parts of DII (necessary portion of time which should be reserved for the second portion of DII).
- It always come down to that the handwriting eats up all the time so therefore it is no time to answer all questions or to make all attacks. It is only when I make my shopping list and when I sit EQE I write by hand :-)
- It could be good if the non-mother tongue candidates will have more time to complete the paper (i.e. 30 minutes more)
- it is all about coping with the intense time pressure
• It is always difficult for Paper A to know whether one has hit the crucial point. The difficulty seemed to be ok, but maybe I would think differently about this in August.
• It is difficult to both give good answers and at the same time deal with all issues. I knew during the exam how to deal with the questions but time pressure made it difficult to e.g. do all attacks in C and to change to another approach in DII.
• It is difficult to do all the questions and all the writing in the time allocated for the exam. There is too little time, or maybe too many questions.
• It is difficult to think and decide on complex matters when sitting in a time-pressured exam situation. If the exam concerns issues you have seen before and have though of before, it is easier. But when the exam concern issues you have never seen before or considered before, it is difficult to think clear and thorough about them in the exam. There are already plenty of things that can go wrong in the exam even without “unknown” issues. When being used to have the internet to look up things, it is annoying to have to bring kilos of paper to the exam, which you might need to look in.
• It is not so much about the difficulty of the papers, but there is just not enough time for answering the questions especially in DI, but also in DII and in C.
• It is often difficult for the candidate to recognize which answer the examiner is looking for.
• It is rather a run than an examination
• It is rather difficult to say how difficult they were until we see the answers, but at the time they all seemed about right - in terms of both difficulty & time pressure
• It is really difficult to mention all important information and to write that for the paper in this short time of 6 hours for paper C. It is easier for a young person to quickly answer and write even if the practice is not comparable with a older person with long real experience...
• It is regrettable that knowledge of more than one official language has been made optional and that this is no longer encouraged in the marking. Rather, it seems as though all candidates are now expected to answer in a significantly more elaborate manner in the language they use.
• It is the time pressure that makes the exam hard.
• It is very difficult for an electrical engineer to follow mechanics. I've studied communications and have worked 3 years in private practice almost exclusively on computer implemented inventions. Therefore it was really hard for me to write a patent application on moka coffee machines and to oppose a patent on brazing aluminum radiators...;
• It seemed to me that the exam setters in Paper DII tried to help the candidate by suggesting appropriate abbreviations for the various features, such as Seal (S). However, it would have been more helpful if such suggestions had been made for the remaining features of DII, or at least that the remaining features were easy to abbreviate in an unambiguous manner.
• It seems like D-I is moving more towards open questions. That increases time pressure during exam because it is quite difficult to foresee where the points are hidden. And further, D-II is only about open questions.
• It seems to me that papers C are more handable by engineers as some aspects are not that familiar to chemist/biologists
• It seems, that the amount of texts to read and understand is increasing every year.
• It should be possible to deal with paper D when you're reasonably well prepared (which I think I was). However, there are always twists and turns, which I think do not belong into paper D.
• It takes more time for a person with a mother tongue that is not an official EPO language. This year there were some words that were a bit difficult to know the exact meaning of and there were sometimes not clear what which words another word were referring back to.
• It was difficult to take decisions. For example, in paper A Document D1 was handed by the applicant and yet it could have been an accidental anticipation... but how could it be argued that the skilled person would have never looked at it for solving the problem when it was the skilled person who handled it? -- was it not an accidental anticipation then? How to overcome lack of novelty here was difficult.
• In Paper B it was difficult to overcome lack of novelty for claim 1. There was a clear disclaimer for the subject matter of D1 but it was complicated how
to argue a selection invention from D2 specially because a few embodiments were explicitly
disclaimed therein. The date data in the applicants letter confused me. It made me believe I
had to do something with that date (for example, draft a non-swiss type second medical use
claim). It made me lose time. Finally, as no other document had a date on it, i decided to
ignore it.

- It’s too time consuming to perform the work by writing by hand and it seems like the tendency
  is that it is more more and more to specifically train for the exam rather than being fit for
  practice in real life.
- Just personal considerations in drafting proper claims for Paper B (Ch) causes the feel of
time pressure (eventually 2 minutes left)
- Lack of time is the dominant issue
- legal questions took some time and for writing a well thought-out answer i would like to have
  more time
- Les Épreuves sont de plus en plus longues apparemment ce qui impose une pression
  Énorme d’Es le début de l’Épreuve et m’En est d’avoir beaucoup de candidats ± paniquer.
  La question est de savoir si l’OEB souhaite sélectionner les meilleurs praticiens ou juste
  ceux qui r’Esistent au stress et/ou Écrivent vite.
- Les sujets A et B Étaient tr’Es longs ± lire. Il restait ensuite trop peu de temps. La difficulté
  Était principalement due ± la difficulté de trier les informations contenues dans les
  documents.
- like all exams, the difficulty of the exam is not the same at all from one year to another.; I
  found the 2010 session very difficult, whereas the 2011 session was more conventional.
- Linguistics, everyone should do the papers with a language other than the mother tongue...
- Main difficulties are time keeping and keeping a keen eye on exact wording of the questions.
- Many papers involved a lot of reading
- Many pitfalls in paper C. Unnecessary from my perspective to prove qualifications for
  practice. Same for DII. Much information which, under non-exam conditions, are
  manageable, but under exam conditions introduce too much distraction from the core. If
  some minor mistake was made, wrong base for further argumentation/attacks is chosen.
  Even if the candidate was arguing very well, these minor mistakes, which happened due to
  nervousness/stress, would lead to severy punishment and failing the exam.; ; As the EQE is
  held only once a year, a well-prepared candidate who is simply nervous or under exam
  stress, failing the exam due to minor issues, would have to wait another year, prepare
  another three to six months (besides working for his money), and not to forget pay another
  fee (raising constantly, of course).
- More time needed for part C, time is mostly not sufficient for candidates to bring their
  (correct) results to paper - proposal: allow matrix outline to be submitted?
- Most difficult in making C exams is the lack of time to properly write down an answer.
- Most of the difficulty was faced during DI with not enough time for properly answering all
  questions. Difficulty with DII and B(Ch) was linked to the need to analyze the contents of
  these papers which felt (by themselves) more complex than those of the EQE2010.
- My biggest problem is time.
- My comment is: why do you decided (correctly) to make the exam a difficult test to pass and
  at the same you have opened the gates to all sorts of ignorant Italian representatives through
  S. Marino without check.; ; Do you realize that at the present there are some EPA that do not
  know the basic of EPC?; ; This is a real damage both for people who seriously try to pass the
  exam, to EPA qualified by exam and also to the credibility of your organization
- My difficulty in C was the technical understanding of one of the technical features in one of
  the independent claims. The result was that attacking the dependent claims (there were 3, I
  believe) was impossible if you were not able to identify the feature of the independent claim
  in the prior art. Consequently, many marks were lost, not because the candidate did not
  know what novelty or inventive step is, but because the technical understanding was so
  important.; The Examination Committee should not put such technically complicated features
  (I mean features that need to be interpreted very broadly to be found in the prior art) in an
  independent claim. This is unfair because it is not the technical understanding that qualifies a
patent practitioner. Technically complicated features could be also placed in a dependent claim.

- my impression is that DII was too long
- my impression is that the level of difficulty varies very much between the years; I would have preferred to sit the EQE 2010 instead of 2011 in terms of level of difficulty (apart from paper A which I would rate similar in difficulty in both years)
- My main problem was the time pressure.
- my main problem was writing too slowly.
- My most important comment is on the B paper although the comment also would apply for the A paper.; During the exam you are sitting with the question of extending the claims to e.g. comprise an additional chemical group as you felt this is possible based on the paper (alcohol-alkyls of C3-C6 vs. not including these and aryl C6-C( vs. phenyl, tolyl and xylyl). However, knowing that you will missed 30 points if introduced in the main claim and that what wrong vs. not introducing the broadest claims and the just loosing 20 point if it was wrong not doing this;
- My opinion on difficulty may change when the marks and answers are published.
- My personal feeling was that the 2011 exam of part B was more challenging with respect to time management than those in previous years.
- No comments
- no extravagant traps that are extremely rare in the daily practise
- None
- none
- not enough time for all the attacks
- Not enough time to handle it properly. Not used to handle so much difficulties in so few time
- Not enough time to write everything I knew.
- Number of pages (per exam A, B, C) seemed to increase in the last four-five years. More reading, less time to think, already lost the hope how to write a real answer, by hand.; Those sections which gave good points in the last years must be skipped, now training and answering other sections which still need some fine-tuning. This means that I will never pass a single paper!
- Okay this year
- One big problem I see with DII paper is lack of methodology which could be used for solving the riddles in this paper. It is sometimes not at all clear what is expected as a response.
- One thing that never stops to amaze me is; WHY is it always a mechanically oriented paper on paper C??!!?! As a chemist I find this REALLY annoying and unnecessary. This year’s paper was dealing with radiators with a lot of references to figures. Apart from the large time pressure I felt it also took me a very long time figuring out what features belonged to resulting effects in the different documents which in turn consumed even more valuable time. I think it would be suitable and becoming for the exam to at least partly take into consideration that approximately 50% of the candidates do not have a mechanical/electrical background. the 2010 paper C was a paper which I think was very understandable regardless of your academical background.; So for this year (2011) this is from my side the largest negative point in the whole exam.
- Paper A (Ch): Client letter's is sometimes confusing in terms of information, especially regarding the essential feature to incorporate in the independent claims
- Paper A (elec/mech) was well-thought out and nicely structured. It was about the right level of difficulty and about the right length of time. A good paper.; ; Paper B (elec/mech) was a little too long but about the right level of difficulty.; ; The legal questions (client letter) component of paper C was small this year. I believe this is appropriate, since paper D covers the legal aspects and therefore there seems little point in this component of paper C. I would prefer to see legal aspects dispensed with entirely in paper C so it can be purely about opposition. The paper was nicely structured and about the right length. A good paper.; ; Paper D1 was also about the right level of difficulty but quite hard to finish in the time given.; ; Paper D2 was vague and poorly structured. It included many 'unusual' types of prior art and asked some rather vague questions. It was very difficult (for many impossible) to complete in
the time given. Many candidates stated it was the most unusual and difficult D2 paper they had seen. It stood out among the EQE papers as being by far the most difficult, both in terms of the questions asked and the time available. A very difficult and poorly thought-out paper which has caused many candidates considerable distress.;

- Paper A 2011: The invention comprised 5 different embodiments each having further alternatives for one feature or the other, thus, in fact there where more than 5 embodiments. The prior art: 1 prior art item was mentioned in the clients letter, further prior art documents D1-D3 were mentioned. Thus there were 4 prior art documents to be taken into account. This is more material than any prvious paper A did comprise. To make it worse, it was mentioned in the client's letter that protection for each single component of the coffee machine is sought, but that certain parts are already known / available.; All this information had to be considered in order to prepare a good independent claim. However, time was too short (namely as short as in earlier A papers not comprising that much information) to do so.

- Paper A and B are designed to solve them with knowledge in the given time. Paper C was difficult and it is hard to deal with the time. Paper D I has a lot of questions which matches our normal work, but Paper D II is designed very difficult and in our work in the industry we have no clients which should be advised in this form. So we cannot train this in our work and it is very hard to train with compendium. The problem is that good knowledge is not sufficient for passing the EQE.;

- Paper A is always more difficult than paper B, but this year (2011) paper B also difficult as paper A and it was too long to read...It should be less pages as paper A.(max. 15 is good)

- Paper A was too long to read (too many embodiments).

- Paper A: I found difficult to choose between a selection invention (as I made) and a product by process. Indeed, D1 and the client letter offered polymer which had the same water absorption capacity but with inverse retention capacity. However, the client wrote that the polymer were granules (as in D1), the process of synthesis was identical (except that in D1 the polymer was air dried) but the client said that if need be it was possible to air dry it (suggesting to me that the practice did not modify its properties). ; Paper B: no particular difficulties (even if I know that my answer may well be found insufficient)

- Paper A: Rather a large number of variations on the invention, making it hard to determine the common core of the inventive concept, and also to ensure all embodiments were claimed.; Paper B: a large number of small pieces such as cited art and objections.; ; Of course, I might have overlooked a trap which then would be the real difficulty.

- Paper B (Ch) included a problem relating to novelty of choosing a generic formula from a prior art generic formula. This problem is treated differently in Board Decisions. Therefore, it should not be used in the EQE.

- Paper B (Ch) was a lot of reading and after that a lot of writing (to illustrate: I used twice as many pages for my response and claims as compared to the training papers I did). Also the hall temperature did not help to get focussed.

- Paper B (Ch) was utterly inacceptable !!!; Paper C was designed to have time problems.

- Paper B (CH) was very difficult for a BioTech person - although they did provide information to "teach" regarding the chemistry, this meant my time was penalised compared to those for whom the chemistry was routine. Also no extra set of claims was provided for Paper B.; It would have been useful and reassuring to have instructions for candidates with each paper - the amount of time available was not even written down for checking.

- Paper B (E/M) was really long. It took a long time to read it and " digest it", moreover remember all the technical features of all the embodiments it quite impossible. ; ; Paper A (E/M) was long, it took a long time to read it and remember all the technical features of all the described embodiments.

- Paper B and A this year was containing too much information. Especially paper B must have been a great deal longer, i.e. number of words to read, then previous years, and also changed character with respect to previous exams due to the double set of claims to cope with. Paper C was a fair exam.

- Paper B Ch required diving deeply into organic chemistry, with lengthy names and complex formulae.
• Paper B Ch was rather surprising because of a selection of a subgroup of substances from a known group of substances.
• Paper B Chemistry was very chemical. As also biologists and other non chemists are writing this paper, this paper was not adequate this year. previous papers I used for preparation were more balanced
• Paper B involved some aspects which I have not seen before in a paper B
• Paper B very surprising
• Paper B was WAY TOO organic - I have no idea about organic chemistry and therefore I lost an enormous amount of time looking up compound names again and again; I find it not very helpful to have to worry about this since the subject-matter as such is tough enough.;
• thankfully, paper A also had some organic chemistry...; paper C in my view had too many claims to attack in one paper, it is very confusing to keep an overview over 8 claims and 5 documents under time pressure.; paper D1 appeared reasonable to me; paper DII appeared reasonable too, with the exception that maybe the 2 publications could have been set apart a little further than 5 days as I confused them and therefore for sure failed the paper. it isn't very friendly to call the first-filed document JP-2 and the 2nd one JP-1. I also find it a bit tough that paper DII is technically split into 2 parts again, since questions 1/2 and 3/4 were quite independent of the others.
• Paper B: documents were very long: very long time needed just for the first reading.; ; Paper C: difficult technical english words
• Paper C 2011 was too tricky
• Paper C again filled with far too many aspects and details; no less than 10 attacks have to be made: where is the limit? it seems always more demanding and more remote from reality.
• Paper C in particular appears to be tailored so people run into difficulty completing it. The paper as such is doable.; I did not sit paper A (Chemistry) this year as I withdrew my enrolment. The difficulty I saw with previous papers I used for training beforehand is the breadth of the subject-matter of independent claims. I find that the notes from the examiners’ report do not give adequate hints as to WHY a certain object is adequate/too narrow/too broad. I therefore saw no scope for improvement no matter how often and focussed I trained and am under the impression that passing paper A is a bit of a gamble - the solution is either spot-on or it is almost impossible to make up for the marks lost because of missing the target.
• Paper C involved too many attacks on the basis of inventive step, which involves a lot of "hand-writing activity" and thus the time frame for a fully elaborated answer was too narrow; ; In paper A there was a ambiguity on whether another application should be filed or not.; Paper D1 was adequate in difficulty but also some questions involved some more intense hand-writing activity and thus the time frame was also rather narrow if one wanted to FULLY answer the questions.; Paper D2 (first half) had some insufficiency with regard to of the clarity of the information given (it was sometimes difficult to distinguish what a patent discloses in comparison to what is claimed therein due to semantic inclarities).
• Paper C is a nightmare. Why is the marking schedule so rigid? Why are no marks awarded for a seemingly "wrong" attack, for example, inventive step attacks that use a different closest prior art? Paper C has become increasing harder to pass over the last decade or so due to the increasingly rigid marking schedule.
• Paper C is very difficult because of the huge amount of information in the paper, little time and lot of information that have to be put down in the opposition letter. To see and extract the right information is difficult as well.
• Paper C ist too long
• Paper C too much long and too much claims to attack
• paper c was difficult this year (2011)
• Paper C was okay, the difficulty was the amount of work to be done in the given time - I suppose you are aware of this :) 
• Paper C was too long- 8 + 1 claims in all. Very close prior art-long document. Lots of partial problems and issues to deal with. Impossible to do a proper job with Paper C.; Why was there no working copy of the claims in Paper B this year?; It was not very clear whether we
had to put the Examples in for Paper A or not.

- Paper C was too long, even knowing what to do I wasn’t able to finish it out
- Paper C was too long: a lot of claims to attack - insufficient time to finish the paper
- Paper C: implicit or explicit disclosure of brazing alloy, time pressure; Paper D: time pressure
- Paper C: too much information to read and process for six hours exam.
- Paper C: too much text!!! ; ; DI was too long for three hours time. There was not enough time to look up information from the study material brought along. One had to know the answers by heart. I do not believe that this is the Examination Committee’s intention. ; ; DII was a whole bunch of “wishy-washy” without rhyme or reason. Obviously, the Examination Committee ran out of ideas. In view of the recent changes in the regulations this absence of ideas is a real shame.
- Paper C: understanding the subject matter within the time. There was actually almost no time left to formulate the attacks appropriately
- Paper D (in particular DII) was the most difficult of all of the exams.
- Paper D II comprises too much different tasks
- Paper D is the only real measurement of skills and knowledge. All other papers are more like a guessing game. I have sat three D papers, and scored 38, 36 and 47. Pretty uniform results, that is.; ; I have sat paper A twice. Scored 19 and 70+. Was that due to my knowledge and skills had risen that much? Never.; ; Another guy I know scored 90+ on A chemistry. Best score in Europe. Due to the earlier compensation system, he choose to nullify the A result and resit all four papers the following years. He then failed paper A. So much for paper a as a way to decide whether a person is “fit to practice”...
- Paper D seemed rather more difficult than the 2010 paper
- Paper D too difficult. DII split in two parts, but first part was comparable to a whole DII of previous years in terms of difficulty.
- Paper D was very difficult and time pressured. Plus the exam questions were very vague - it was unclear what the question was actually asking!
- Paper D-II: proposed cases are so unreal to such an extent that are difficult to approach.
- Paper DI had few long questions (many marks per questions). Today each question is like a mini paper DII. You have no time to deeply understand the question because you must quickly answer and go to the next question. It is very easy to misunderstand the contest. No "real life" questions, only incredibly unlucky situations in which deadline are missed. ; Paper DII was divided in two parts but you did not know the marks, so you were not able to manage the time, which is crucial to pass the paper DII.
- Paper DI was very long. Paper C was confusing - I couldn’t find the features in the prior art to attack claim 4. The paper also seemed very long, too many claims and the novelty attacks on claim 4 based on A5 took me a very long time to put together.
- Paper DII was confusing and unclear - why not supplying the relevant documents as Annexes (1 or max 2 pages)? In real life, you will always have the cited documents at hand. There was some guesswork/speculation necessary to know what was actually claimed and/or described.
- paper DII was not a classic paper DII
- Paper DII was not as focused as in other years. In previous papers, all information given could be used for something. This year, redundant information was given. It was difficult to find the overall idea behind the paper - and I wasted a lot of time searching for it. Further, there were too many words: it took a lot of words to describe the inventions, and the company names, etc., were too long and difficult to remember. Also, when working with biotechnology and not using a bicycle in my daily life, I had troubles relating to the inventions - I have no idea what is the difference between, e.g., rim breaks and disk brakes, these are words which are not part of my daily vocabulary, and I spent too much time looking for the right words when analyzing the patent situation. Candidates with more mechanical understanding must have had a huge advantage. Further, with the information given it was impossible to judge whether the disclosure to the standardization committee would constitute a public disclosure. And the whole idea behind the disclaimer discussion was difficult to catch. Probably, an undisclosed disclaimer which is both in an Art. 54(3) document and being
a non-working embodiment is allowable. But whether such claim can be attacked based on lack of sufficiency is impossible to know - my guess is that probably it cannot be attacked but to my knowledge there is no case law on this.

- Paper DII: A lot of terms related to bicycle were difficult to understand. No lexikon was available. It can not be expected from us to be confident with such terms as non-DE/FR/EN native speaker.
- Paper II in two parts (two subjects with two different inventions) was very difficult : after studying the first subject/part, it is difficult to take part into the second subject/part which has nothing to see with the first one.
- Papers A - C are fair in complexity. Paper D is way too difficult.
- Papers A and B in E/M were too long with too many aspects
- Papers A and B were very voluminous; it took very much time to go through the papers.
- Papers D were too long for the available time; some questions or assertions were not clear enough
- Papers DII, B (E/M) and C included lot of paperwork this year, took a lot of time reading.
- Papers this year seemed to be reasonable (in view of the earlier ones - unless there was something hidden evil stuff that I did not notice)
- Papers were extremely long. Nearly none of the questions was looking for a direct answer based on a common case, it always involved exceptions upon exceptions.
- Part A involved (too) many embodiments and a lot of text. It was difficult to draft an appropriate set of dependent claims.; Part C involved in the German version the wording "korrigierte Rippen" which is quite uncommon. For me the further definition of this wording in the opposed patent was unclear.;
- Part A,B and C can be practiced during work, DI can be learned, DII is very difficult, because I'm working for a company and there is not training by the work, so this can be only trained with the compendium.
- Part C: too much reading of documents A2 to A6 required, too time consuming. Especially when you are not really familiar with the technical matter, it is very difficult to evaluate, what can be considered as implicitly disclosed or not. Then time runs away. Paper C should thus avoid to much implicit disclosing.
- Please note that I did NOT take paper B Chemistry exam - I clicked by an error and it was impossible to remove any selection...
- Problème de temps d'au fait qu'il a fallu analyser 5 documents antérieurs, ce qui me semble excessif (il faudrait limiter les antériorités à 3 ou 4 documents maximum). De plus, j'ai aussi perdu du temps à répondre aux nombreuses questions (5) soulevées par le client; celles-ci me semblent relever davantage de l'épreuve D et on peut sérieusement se poser la question de leur maintien dans l'épreuve C pour les sessions futures.
- Quite often in Paper A the Applicants letter was not clear with respect to what is important or not. E.g. one line said that washing with water does not necessarily need deionised water, the other said that superabsorbing effect is much better when washing with deionised water. It was not clear in numbers whether this difference is relevant for the invention or not. Similar aspect with drying.; Complexity of Paper B was quite high.
- Regarding paper DII, there was no indication how much points are awarded for each of the four questions to be answered, thus making it very difficult to decide how to allocate the time for responding to "part 1" and "part 2" (="appeal" case) in DII.
- Resitting D papers, time was no longer an issue. Still, it was not really possible to guess how good my answers were, as the parts of the answers that will be getting marks are not foreseeable.; Maybe it could be possible to send out quickly a kind of "model" or "possible" answer shortly after the exams, as the questions appear to have been drafted anyway in the light of an expected answer.
- Schwierigkeit entsteht zusätzlichen durch STfNDIGE FÄNDERUNGEN
- See above comments on paper C.
- see above, Q13
- See above...unnecessary time pressure absorbs the real substance of the paper C exam, which does not represent the way, opposition are prepared in daily life. Main task of the
exam should be to guarantee third parties, that European patent attorneys are able to provide the necessary steps for the opposition. Passing paper C is more and more a own discipline which is far a way from daily work of attorneys.

- Seems that the papers now have more material to go through. This has a significant effect on time management.
- Simplify questions and focus on a sound basis and broad knowledge instead of questioning complicated and rare special cases. Information in Part DII gets more and more over the years (EQE 2011 7-pages, previous years 5-6 pages)
- so many alternatives to manage and not enough time to finish the exams
- So much information to analyse and structure that there is not enough time for preparing a final recommendation. Hence, it is difficult to prioritize between the basic law questions and the more complexed questions. My personal feeling is that the exams are ok in respect of the level of legal difficulty, but the amount of information makes it impossible to deal with.
- some terms are not clear enough or ambiguous.
- still too little time for D1.
- Subject of paper C was very long compared to the old subject: 8 claims was not adapted to the C paper... in the past, as you could observe, no more than 5 or 6 claims were proposed, and most of the candidates have not enough time to finish.
- the amount of information is getting more and more over the years, especially for paper B and C
- The amount of information was very large, therefore it took time before I started writing down conclusions. Easy to make small mistakes later, e.g. noting wrong dates on events, etc, with significant consequences for the conclusions due to the time pressure.
- The border between a passing and a failing grade largely depends on minor details, which can be overlooked under the time pressure of the exam.
- The difficulty consists in the fact that there is only one solution which is very unrealistic. In practice, you always have a multitude of options how to proceed with a case. When preparing for the EQE, I only tried to perfect how to solve the EQE-system. Therefore, the training I did for papers A, B and C is useless for my practical work.
- The difficulty is entirely adequate.
- The difficulty is mainly due to the poor time, especially for paper D1.
- The difficulty level of the papers I thought was as expected. However I found several clarity issues with the wording of Papers DII and B (Ch) which used a lot of time to interpret - time that should have been spent answering the paper - not interpreting the paper. I was also surprised by the use of specific chemistry in the B(Ch) paper, where this has not appeared for almost 10 years. Working in biotech not chemistry I felt disadvantaged here.
- The difficulty lies in the amount of information you need to digest in the short time period. The B E/M paper had too much text to read.
- The difficulty reflects the lack of preparation. And the lack of success during the exam
- The difficulty relates directly to the time available. If you have at least a little time to think about a problem the papers are absolutely workable, but the time is way too short with all the little factoids to be analyzed compared to exams before 2010. The problems are not more difficult than 2009 or earlier, but the mass of facts to be analyzed has increased immensely.
- The DII is very tricky if you initially get stuck on some issue. If you cannot solve the issue it is very difficult to move on and continue writing relevant statements. This could be improved by including further guidance, i.e. to include more questions than 3-4.
- The EQE has nothing to do with real work as a representative. For persons working in IP practice, it is quite difficult to get acquainted with the artificial framework. For example, as a future representative, I am used to try to get the largest possible scope of protection for the client, even at risk that the relevant Division will reject. In EQE papers A and B, the opposite is requested: a too narrow claim is rated better than a too broad (not new or not inventive) claim. As another example, the "correct" choice of the closest prior art has an upmost importance in EQE papers B and C, but only a minor importance in practice.
- the EQE papers are difficult but I think the level is right.
• The EQE papers should focus more on basic knowledge instead of writing writing writing ...
• The exam is more a game of finding a very well hidden key... try to read the mind of the persons that made the exam. Thus if you can't find the key or choose a wrong path... you are lost and flunk the exam. The papers are made so challenging that defining the closest prior art is almost impossible. It does not reveal if a person is skilled to do the work of a patent attorney. If you choose the wrong path and finds out later doing the writing you don't have any possibility for correcting in time and you will not pass. I suggest that all the persons writing the papers should try now and then the papers they did not draft and if they don't pass they should be sacked immediately :-) That would perhaps take away some of the sadism.
• the grade of intellectual difficulty is ok
• The level of difficulty is mostly due to the time pressure and to the fact that these kinds of tasks do not EVER exist in real life. It is hard to understand how this kind of testing would test one's ability to work as a professional European patent attorney. In real life situations there is never such time pressure: NEVER. In real life situations, one do not have to work alone with such complex situations. Real professionals would ask opinions of others also and work as teams.
• the main difficult concerns the participation of two papers, A,B in the same day; the concentration decrease late in the day ; ; this year the papers was very long
• The main difficulty in respect of paper C is the requirement to write fast and legibly at the same time. People who cannot do that are at a great disadvantage. It would be nice if the EPO could provide keyboards - a nice handwriting shouldn't be a selection criterion for European patent attorneys.
• the main difficulty was the amount of text to read and work with (gets more from year to year)
• The major difficulty this year was lack of time, again. For each of C, DI and DII, 30 minutes more would make a big difference.
• The most difficulty is that it is not known which level in detail is required for the answers (especially for DII and C); this results in too much writing und thus in to less time to finish
• The number of examination documents which required reading appeared to be far greater than in previous papers.
• The paper B was longer than paper C!!!!! The prior art documents were not simple do understand and the double set of claims are difficult to manage in a so short time of 4 hours!!!!!
• The paper were too long to give enough time to think, especially if working not using mother tongue.
• The papers (A and B) was too long to read (too much information, too many embodiments to protect with claim 1, too many documents to consider) and the time was not enough.
• The papers are generally too long.
• The papers were difficult, as was to be expected. Whether they were too difficult is hard to judge without having the results. For A(E/M) in particular, there was a lot of reading to do.
• The questions are easy. But what is the point to find in a very quick time whether videoconference is possible. In practice this is a question which may not be necessary to be answered in 2 Minutes. You only need to know that it is possible.
• The questions are fair, but I guess it is a matter of time or the training of finding the information in the given time. This does not involve Articles and rules, but questions regarding case law or information from the official journals of EPO
• the questions are more difficult when the do not relate to your daily work, which to a great extent does not involve opposition, limitation, revocation and appeal.
• The reply in difficulty are more a question of amount of informations and too little time to prepare the answers
• The searching for relevant information takes a lot of time.
• The situation in paper B that there was a response with a new set of claims after the search was new for the paper B. Therefore I needed some time to analyse this new situation.
• The substance of the papers is ok, but the continuously increasing amount of the examination material sinks the whole good idea. Novadays the examination seems to be a
test for fast understanding, fast reading, and fast writing, nothing else.

- The term "corrugated" was used in all three languages although far better translations exist in German and French.
- The time for Paper D1 is too short!!
- The time pressure does not allow the corrections of errors, even you detect them during the examination. A small error - even if detected later on - immediately causes the fail of the valuation/examination. (This not corresponding to real life); Please either reduce; difficulty or amount; or extend; time
- The time pressure does not leave room for reflection and/or for changing one's mind with respect to a first solution.
- The time pressure does not take into account that a lot of people write in a third language.
- The time pressure in C and D make the papers more difficult than they really are if you have time to reconsider your answers.
- The time pressure in DII is not a realistic representation of patent practice in real life. I understand that the artificial situations set out in DII are just a tool to try to measure whether or not a candidate is fit to practice, but do they have to be so long and convoluted? With so many inventions in DII, it is very difficult to consider all of them AND write a coherent answer in the time available.
- The time pressure is enormous. It is really hard to concentrate and produce answers of good quality under this time pressure.
- The time pressure is one of the main difficulties of the EQE papers, having enough time all papers can be tackled.
- The time pressure is the actual reason for the difficulty.
- The time pressure on D1 was to high. I do not see the connection to everyday work.
- The true estimation of difficulty comes when you find out what you missed !!! Usually after the results are announced and the paper template published....
- The type of questions presented in Paper D1 is faaaaaaaaaaaaaaar away from the legal problems faced in everyday work. In my opinion candidates are expected to know very specific side aspects of the EPC under time pressure that one can not have experienced after finishing the training course of the 36 months. Although using the compendium for the preparation it was very likely that I could not find out why marks were given to the presented regulations cited in the articles, rules or guidelines in the context of the D1-papers. I wish the examination committee would give up making the questions of the paper D1 in the difficulty of rocket science.
- There are to many informations to analyse in a too small duration.; This year paper B (mech) 29 pages !; DII was very difficult to understand and answer.
- There is no need to split up DII in three parts, in particular if no distribution of the marks is available on writing the exam, so that nobody knew how to split the available time for the different parts. the first part of DII would already have been enough for the short time!; A and B(Ch) were again Examples for difficult papers with the state of the art coming very close. Many did not realize in B(Ch) whether the client's letter was a trap or whether it was intended as help.
- There is not enough time to finish them.
- There is too much papers for reading, I spent major of time in reading, so I have not enough time to think my answer and writing it.
- There should be some standardisation between the chemistry and the mechanical papers A and B. The chemistry papers are much harder and this is unfair on candidates, particularly those who specialise in biotech. This year's Chemistry paper B was too pharma focused. It contained a lot of useless information and the time taken to decide that the information was useless used up valuable time for finding the correct answer. Simply comparing the lengths of the mechanical and chemistry papers is telling, nevermind the complex nature of the paper B Ch.
- There were too many combinations of exceptions and unclear situations (e.g. amendments of Annex 5 in C, priority question of EP-PAN in D-II,...) which are possibly solvable, but under time pressure and examination conditions a bit too hard.; The creators should keep in mind
that they start with the solution, but the examinees start with the problems. So sometimes there might be an ex-post-facto situation for people who already know the solutions when they evaluate solvability.

- There's nothing much to say here; There is a percentage of candidates who shall pass! Therefore giving marks is adapted to this percentage; To have the flexibility in giving marks, insufficiencies have to occur in the answers; Thus pressure or difficulty is necessary.
- There's too much time pressure especially in Part D I + II
- They are difficult, but I had enough time to work on them.
- They are ok.
- They were difficult but that has been well expected! A lot of material (pages) was to be read this year in A and B. However, the solutions for the papers were foundable, even rather quickly; however the time management still became crucial in the writing phase of the exam.
- This time: a lot of paper to read
- This year Paper A E/M had a lot of embodiments to be covered in comparison with previous years...therefore it was too time consuming and I did not have time to put on paper everything I would have liked to and the way I would have liked to...
- This year question is not too much hard except DII, DI
- This year the A/B papers were extensive, and required a lot of reading compared to previous papers in the compendium.
- This year we didn't receive candidate's instructions and the papers had not line numbers; In paper B (Ch) the client seemed to suggest the solution, but I think that many candidates didn't understand if it was a trick (because in this case it would have been too simple) or if it was just the solution for amending the claims in the right way.
- This year's exam seems a lot more difficult than all the others that I saw before.
- This years Paper C does not really fit into the solution scheme tought CEIPI.
- Those who set the paper D questions do not understand how difficult they are making them. I have been involved in detailed discussion on the EQE forum about this year's questions, and it is clear that after quite a short time the answers so seem to be quite obvious. With just a little hindsight, and a short time post exam to consider the questions with others, they seem to be straight forward. I am sure this is how the exam setters consider them. But it is NOT like this in the exam itself, where the pressure of time means candidates who know the correct answers fail to achieve the marks available. This year's questions contained a number of rather unnecessary examples of exuberance on the part of the question setters. A candidate should know the 16 month deadline for claiming priority, but why did D11 contain a situation where that ran out yesterday, but priority could still be claimed due to a freakish discrepancy between 16 months from the priority and 4 months from the international filing date, caused by the 12 month deadline falling on a Saturday and the PCT being legitimately filed the following Tuesday? I am sure the person who set the exam thought this was cool, and thought all the candidates would easily realise the situation. In fact, this is just sadistic and cruel, and I am sure MANY candidates would not have realised the situation in the heat of the exam. This kind of nonsense is compounded by the fact that large numbers of marks will have depended on the following discussion being based on the correct assesment of whether priority could or could not be claimed. I just do not think this kind of question structure is appropriate, especially when one has put in 100s of hours of study only to be caught out by quirky questions.
- Time
  - Time is a limiting factor.
  - TIME is the first key.; Feel too TIRED to think after several hours of concentration is the second.
- Time management
  - Time management is difficult when paper DII is divided into two parts because you never know how long (and how many marks) should be spent on each part. Part II was very different from the past papers and was disconcerting.
- Time pressure
  - Time pressure and the resulting stress are the main problems.; The difficulty of the papers
is adequate, but the time is not sufficient to give as detailed answers as required. Moreover, time pressure and stress lead to forget about writing down correct/required answers and thoughts.

- time pressure is present but necessary for a good quality of the exam
- time pressure makes the exam paper blurry...
- time pressure most difficult!
- Time pressure on the EQE far exceeds any courses given within the Swedish education system. In Swedish educational system any average student will achieve pass. For the EQE it’s much more difficult to achieve a pass.
- time pressure was enormous in paper C making it very difficult to complete the paper AND formulating sufficiently well-founded attacks
- Time pressure, papers only in English,German, French, during exam no time to understand in all particulars the text.
- Time pressure!
- Time pressure!!!
- Time pressure!
- Timing is my main concern and I think too much material was expected to be processed in A and B E/M this year.
- Too little time left for the second case in D2. When I got to second case in D2 I only had 1 hour left.
- Too many information on a huge amount of pages in each paper!; In this year the questions in the DI paper were so lengthy that it was not manageable to finalize that one.; DI and DII was one of the most difficult once I have ever seen.
- too much information in the prior art documents, too many embodiments to be covered paper A mechanics
- To much time pressure and it is so far from the real world so it is difficult to see the real meaning with it.
- To much information in combination with the time pressure
- too difficult
- too less time for D1 so that there was too less time for thinking,; in D2 it was not clear what the examiner would like to have as right answer due to the plurality of information given in D2
- too long for D and C
- Too long paper B (too much pages to read) and no extra copy of the claims
- too long, unclear.
- too many claims in part C, too many cited references. How about 6 claims and 4 references?
- Too many embodiments. Too much to read.
- Too many questions to be answered - not enough time to answer correctly and completely.
- too much handwriting for the time given
- too much time pressure during paper C, too many issues to mention, too many claims to attack, rather unfair
- Too much time wasted in paper C trying to decide whether to use a potential Art 54(3) document (Annex 5) or not which resulted in not finishing the answer. In real life such a decision could be made without applicant input in 1 minute with a quick inspection of the EP Register but here it just wasted time which could have been spent writing more inventive step attacks.
- too much to read
- too much to read; problems in finding a substantive solution, especially if there would be another independent claim
- Too my impression, in paper C 11 attacks were possible. This seems an unreasonably large number given 6 hours of time.
- Typically I found Paper A more difficult than Paper B but this year Paper B, in my opinion, was as much difficult as Paper A; much information to analyse, only few direct hints (ex. must and is), 1st and 2nd medical uses, unity objections, etc.; ; This increasing complexity and demanding (ex. in writing the Description) is not accompanied with more time.
• Unfair time pressure on paper C. You should make the paper more difficult but not select on how fast one can write legibly: shorter answer to more complex questions!
• Usually, the papers are difficult but fair. The biggest enemy by far is time pressure: sometimes, you doubt between two options, and since you have to write everything out, there is no time to make a balanced decision without running out of time - it can happen that you already realize during the exam you should have taken the other option, but there's no time for corrections. The different options problem is most of the time the case with paper A and B, which are a bit easier. With paper C and D, usually there is less doubt, but the time pressure is much bigger: you have to see everything immediately. I feel the points for C and D typically reflect best how well you were prepared, although the time pressure for C can be quite though and may handicap people who do have everything correct but can't quite finish on time - not like a real opposition case. A is mainly a matter of finding the right claims and still reflects quite well how you do. I find B the most unfair one, really: if you find the claims as intended and provide some basic arguments, you'll pass; if you argue very well, but for claims that are deemed not good enough, chances of failure are pretty high. For novelty, I can understand this, but arguing inventive step is seldom a black and white situation. This also applies to some extent to paper C, but usually there are less combinations there (you know which result you should achieve, so you know what to combine) - with paper B, you need to evade prior art, and in practice, this can be done in more than one way!
• very difficult concerning the limited time
• Very much claims and IS attacks in C. Leaves few time to further problems.; ; Extremely difficult D II. I more or lese managed the last 5 D II papers during Training with far less problems.
• was too tired to find enough of the "traps" in D2... ; In D1 half an houre more time would have been sufficient...
• What is meant by "difficulty". I think C had been adecuate to easy if I have had more time or there were less amiant of information to analyse and process for preparing the answers. Also the amount of text to be written in an answere is large and hard to manage in the time.
• When taking the language requirements away, it was expected to help wityh the timing. However, the difficult level has increased accordingly which completely defies the purpose of taking away the second language requirement. I actually think that the second language was a valuable necessity for patent attorneys... !!!!!!!
• While I believe that the quality/complexity of the EQE is very good in principal, it apperas to be a new tendency in the A-papers (Ch) in the last years to include arbitrary statements in the letters of the client ("...we have now seen that in contrary to the above, the desired effect can also be attained when only......is present", e.g. in A 2007) the interpreatation of which is not logical but rather a guessing-game. In the end - also in view of the above statement which apppears to render the essential elements mentioned before in the client's letter moot - candiates are requested to still include some of the elements, but not all.This makes for very frustrating studying experiences. ; ; I also do not understand why in this years B-paper (Ch), the only support for delimiting claim 1 (i.e. by the feature that "Y is ary!") was hidden in the description of the chemical synthesis of the compounds. This is not sufficient support as there was no statement regarding the desired pharmaceutical characteristics of such compounds (but it was the only support available). ; ; Such "tricks" are entirely unnecessary in my humble opinion. The EQE is difficult enough and can be designed to allow for a very discriminative examination. The above strategies to fool candidates into composing wrong answers are not fair in my eyes.
• While I considered papers A, B, C, DI somewhat difficult and definitely a challenge, I felt the difficulty was more or less on the level I expected it to be based on the recent years' papers. On the other hand, I had some serious trouble grasping this year's DII, I almost found it somewhat unclear what was being claimed and disclosed in various applications. However, I assume this was intentional and intended to contribute to the difficulty level of the paper DII (after a relatively "easy" DII paper of 2010)...  
• Why this must be so difficult? Passing the exam does not mean being a good representative, so this makes no sens to me.
With the time given and the number of information given is really impossible to think and prepare a response intended to have a 100% marks. Usually, 80% marks is the real top target.; Paper A was under the normal difficulty, but the time pressure was limiting. I had no time to write the description of the application, even to write the claim for the potential divisional EP. With more time I would have written this perfectly, since this was clear to me. Given my answer, 75% mark is my real top target.; Paper B (Ch) 2011 was very complex to analyze and solve (with the time given). The information given in client's letter regarding the claims granted in the US seemed to be a suspicious clue which confused me and made me spent too much time looking for a trap and/or an alternative response.

Q28) What is your opinion about the time available for each of the examination papers you sat in 2010?

Paper A (E/M)

![Chart showing opinions on time availability for Paper A (E/M)]

Paper A (Ch)

![Chart showing opinions on time availability for Paper A (Ch)]
Paper B (E/M)

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>By far not enough</td>
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Paper B (Ch)

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Paper C

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<td>Not enough</td>
<td>232</td>
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<tr>
<td>By far not enough</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q29) Do you think that more time for preparing your answer would have improved your performance in the examination papers you sat?
Q30) Candidates were asked if they had comments concerning the time available for the examination papers. Their answers are listed below.

- You know beforehand that time management is critical issue, as is handwriting; combination "lot of handwriting within very very limited time" seems to be one of the challenges. Bit unclear why, but we just have to live with that.
- I think the time allocated to DI was underestimate by the committee
- The time limit for the response especially in paper B was not sufficient for me to complete the arguments and to answer all points appropriately in the form as I would like to and as it should be. Even I tried to give arguments for all aspects, I was not completely satisfied with my answer, that was finally in a form that I would not send to EPO in any case as a responsible patent attorney.
- 1/2 hour more time for paper C would be a good idea in my opinion. I think that most of the stupid mistakes candidates make are due to the hudge time pressure during this part. Having an elaborated working technique is of too much importance.
- 15 minutes more would have been perfect for Paper A.
- 20 - 30 minutes more to wrap up would be sufficient.
- 30 minutes more would significantly improve the outcome
- 30 minutes more for paper B, but no additional difficulty or the same time but less difficulty
- 6 hours for C is too long. Also 7 hours for D and 7,5 hours for A/B on one single day is too long. You can't measure top performance anymore, but just average performance.
- A (Ch) was for some reason more time-consuming for me than any of 2002, 2006-2010 A(Ch) papers which I did for training purposes.
- A and B are too much time, D1 is too little, D2 just barely enough
- A, B, DI + 1 h; DII + 1,5 h; C + 2 h
- Above-mentioned
- absolutely not enough time; the change from 2009 to 2010 was a paradigm shift relating to the time available. The analysis takes a third longer than in former exams but the problems do not get easier there are too many little factoids to assemble all correctly in the end. So, it is not possible to think about problems properly but the problems are not easy enough to think about them superficially only. That has nothing to do with "fit for practice". There are better ways to prove if somebody is fit for practice.
- Add one hour - or much better - reduce the number of features to consider for selection and combination. There is too much information to be processed (more than in real cases).
- All papers in the compendium were completed on time during preparation, but with this years A/B papers it was necessary to compromise on the extend of the answers to complete the paper in time.
- already mentioned
- Always are less time than I need!
- An attorney that does things right is better than one that does things quick. At the exam the time spent on analyzing and understanding is always infected by the stress that "you have to start writing the answer ASAP".
- An extra our in the case of Paper C would have made a huge difference on my result.
- Appeared too short most probably due to personal bad time planning.
- As above
- As complete sentences are to be used in C, I will be be in extreme hurry.
- As I found papers A and B too long with too many aspects, I spent too much time for writing the claims. The remaining time was then too short for me to properly complete each answer.
- As mentioned above, either the volume must be reduced or the duration time must be increased.
- As mentioned before, I only sat Papers A & B and thus my comments are only applicable to those. The information analysis is taking gradually more time when comparing with previous Papers. Moreover, the hints are more hidden which also difficulties the claim drafting with the proper scope. Every year, Case-studies are more closed related with real life but the
results required, in terms of the intended scope of the claims and/or amendments, are more EQE orientated. In result of this, having a good result is becoming more and more uncertain.

- As said above: Too many little, tricky details. I don't think it is necessary to test a candidate’s ability to read carefully so that he would read "A5" instead "A1" as in the client's letter of this year's paper C. All the other, little but mean traps, like another holiday for only one EPO office, are not at all relevant when testing the candidates' fitness for practice. These pitfalls seem to be there only because it is well-known that a candidate under stress, being nervous, would step into at least one of the pitfalls, thereby missing the right starting point, leading to severy (and unfair) punishment in sense of points.
- As specified above more time should be given for paper C and DII
- Basically the idea of shortening the time for future EQE is good, but the papers have to be designed with respect to that.
- Better to not have too many papers to read through in order to understand the papers of Paper B than to increase the time of the Examination.
- By and large, there is a big time pressure which prevents you from sufficiently reflecting the cases. In your normal working practice nobody would write a patent application or an opposition in such a tight time frame.
- By far not enough
- C and DI papers: definitely not enough time to complete my answers
- C exam could be even shorter if computer aided writing would be possible. Handwriting is not nowadays!!!! Basically, one C exam corresponds about three (3!) years amount of other handwritings!!!!
- C was very much this year and quite unusual in my opinion
- C-part: 7h
- Cf. Q27)
- Comparing the speed of reading for a mother-language reader to a non-mother language reader is on average 4 to 6 pages. The EPC is full of "excuses" for persons with a non-offical EPC language. However the EQE isn't.
- Concerning paper C: time is not enough, but on the other hand, more than six hours would be even more "torture", thus in fact it shouldn't be more than six hours. It should be adjusted by reducing the content of the documents.
- D I is particularly difficult to do to time, as even when you know the answer valuable time has to be spent confirming the correct legal basis, a problem that does not apply to the other papers.
- D II was ok; D I questions were ok, but time for answer were to short in view of the difficulty of the questions ; - that means lower the complexity of the questions or give more time
- D1 too much pressure time so that quality of answer cannot be provided : reduce of 25% the amount of questions
- Das Problem bei C ist eindeutig der Zeitmangel. Die Aufgriffe bauen aufeinander auf und wenn man einen groβen Fehler bei der Einschä%tzung eines wichtigen Dokuments macht, ist es unerheblich, ob man den Fehler sp%ter korrigiert. Die Zeit kann niemals langen, die Klausur noch zu bestehen.
- Definitely, the time pressure is a big challenge. But I assume this is part of the whole idea - and if more time was given the level of difficulty should be higher.
- Der DI-Teil hat nicht viel mit Rechtskenntnissen zu tun, sondern ausschließlich mit auswendig gelernten und halbgaren Telegrammantworten. Schwer zu sagen, wie man den DI-Teil besser gestalten k′nte, aber so ist der Pr%fungswert ziemlich gering einzuschä%tzten.
- DI - too short as stated above; DII - very tight and does not give enough time to properly analyse the issues; C - the paper is too long, particularly at the end of a gruelling week
- DI is too much of a race against time covering a multitude of detailed areas. The time pressure inhibits one's ability to think clearly and find the right answer. It is unrepresentative of any part of professional practice in this respect.
- DI paper involved more strategy than in the past, but one was still required to answer 8 questions in the 3 hours. I think that more time was necessary to answer the paper well.; It is not always clear what amount of information is necessary to get full marks and this causes
one to perhaps err on the side of caution by trying to answer comprehensively, but this need time.

- DII doesn't give a marking scheme so time management is very difficult. Considering many marks are received by writing down details, e.g. on what may be prior art or patentability that do not necessarily indicate the answer and the way forward, it's difficult to tell when you should write down these details or when they can be in a very short form. So, ultimately you run out of time because you don't know whether you have to make sure you have a lot of detail, or whether what the Examiner wants is for you to focus on the details of actually what you answer is, i.e. examples of potential claims, and your advice to the client. I've tried both ways and neither have resulted in a pass because I've always run out of time.

- DII, A and particularly B were too long. Too much text to read unlike previous papers. This had two consequences for me personally: 1. It shifted my time management based on previous papers (more than one hour just to read instead of 30-40 min), which left less time for analysis making me quite nervous and leading me to make an error in paper B (the paper where I actually felt most confident, having made all past papers good); 2. It put on me as probably on everyone not having an EPO official language as mother tongue even more time pressure. Please realize that we need more time to read and write and that going through 27 pages it takes definitively longer for us and we might still miss or overlook some words. Either you keep the questions shorter or you give us an extra bonus, because it isn't otherwise fair.

- Due to the amount of pages in the examination papers, once all read the time for actually answering the paper was limited.
- Due to time pressure, not possible to write most of things you know, thus missing having complete answers.; Too many claims in C.
- Either 0,5 hours more for B E/M or less text.
- EQE C: each attack of inventive Step takes Time if done as suggested un examiner's report... Around 20 minutes each so difficult to make all of them (6 to 8 un general) "properly".
- EQE thus favours fast candidates, over other candidates who might also be excellent patent attorneys.
- Especially for DI I would have improved my performance when more time would have been available.
- Especially for paper C and D more time is needed. In this year the questions in the DI paper were so lengthy that it was not manageable to finalize that one. DI and DII was one of the most difficult once I have ever seen.
- Especially Paper C was far to extensive concerning time
- Even in the most extreme cases one would have at least a working day to complete the draft/amendment etc., why therefor create a totally contrived situation
- Even when well prepared I think the time available for DI is not enough, since there is so much material with which you need to get aquainted.
- Examinations of 4 hours length are quite exhausting.; I find it more helpful to design the papers/ expected answers that one may manage it within e.g. 3 hours.; I personally had all ideas in my brain after 1 1/2 or 2 hours. The rest was "due dilligency" and handwriting effort.
- Exams are too long. I do not think such long exams are necessary to evaluate the knowledge of a person. It is not a problem of the time availability. This is specially applicable to part C.
- Extra time for not native speakers
- extra time should be granted for those who are not reading/writing in their mother language
- For candidates answering doing papers in a non-native language the more extensive the material is that needs to be read the more serious a time penalty they have to face versus candidates that can read in their native language. Reducing the number of pages available for the exam or setting a fixed cap for the maximum number of pages could be a good start in this respect.
- For DI, I needed more paper and went up to the supervisors' desk in front of the examination room. The supervisors were not prepared and first had to look for the box with extra paper, unwrap it and then hand it out to me. There I lost valuable minutes. After that, the
supervisors were ready to hand out extra paper to others. I was the only one who lost time, feeling discriminated with this. I was actually quite upset: candidates are expected to be well prepared for the EQE. I think the supervisors can at least be expected to hand out extra paper without keeping the candidates waiting.

- For each of C, DI and DII, 30 minutes more would make a big difference.; (I didn't sit paper B, it is just impossible to unclick it in Q28)
- For me, it seems that the papers became with the years longer. So it is not the task to be completed which got more difficult, but it is rather buried in more "noise".
- For non-native speaker, it would be a help if time for D1 and D2 is a bit longer,
- for paper B and paper C, there should be more time for the inventive step argumentation, which is the most important part and usually at the end (it is nearly impossible to save time in other steps); Why should candidates having all the required knowledge should not pass the examination only why they are not fast enough; in daily work such a hurry could result in bad work for our clients
- For paper C, it simply is impossible to do it within 6 hours. 6 hours are far too short. This issue has been raised by the candidates for many years. Does it really make a candidate a bad attorney if he/she could only finish C paper in 7 hours?
- For Paper DII it would be good to use shorter expressions for the subject matter the paper deals with. One spends far too much time for writing down these expressions.
- For papers A and B, I find the time short, but quite enough. There is no place to change strategy during the exam. It must be good at the beginning or be failed.
- for the C-exam the time available is too low in view of what is requested
- General time pressure. Encourages people to avoid careful work in favour of quick work.
- give also a signal 30 minutes before the end (not only 5 min before)
- Give me more...
- Give more time
- Good thing is that this year's D papers were not the longest. But in general I find the huge amount of papers to be read at the EQE unfair for us slower-in-EPO-languages-persons. We must study in a foreign language and therefore, in practise, we must also write in a foreign language in the EQE. But the biggest discrimination is in the number of pages we must read and understand at the Examination. That takes easily an hour more time from us compared to the slower-but-native-EPO-language-readers. This means that stupid people in some countries have a lot better possibilities to pass the EQE than stupid people in other countries. That is not right. And, furthermore, this would be easy to correct. Shorter questions, and, if needed for enough scatter in data, more difficult questions would be fair.
- Habe nur die Papers A (E/M) und B (E/M) abgelegt und kann folglich zu den Fragen zu Paper C und D keine Antwort geben.
- Half an hour more in DI, DII, one hour more in C or less claims to attack.
- Half an hour more in most of the Papers would make it much easier since at present, you have no real time to change your mind when finding out that you mist something or have to amend the independent claims while writing.
- half an hour more would be helpful
- handling the time pressure is one of the most important items for passing
- I am glad this question is posed in this survey, although I doubt that it will lead anywhere.; ; My only serious gripe with the EQE is that I believe that the amount of time given to orderly solve a problem is sometimes unreasonably little. This is in particular true for the C exam, and (to a lesser extent) the D exam. For example, with the C-exam, I prefer to take a systematic approach; it's not the fastest, but since there is a lot of information to keep track of, a systematic approach is the surest way of getting the attacks right. Now, analysing all documents is quite time consuming; I'm not a quick reader, neither a quick writer (physically with pen and paper, that is; with a computer I do fine). This means that it may take me about four hours to complete my written analysis of all documents. Determining all possible attacks may take another 30 minutes, and then there is only 1.5 hours left to write down all attacks. That is simply too little. I think it is really frustrating to have spent a fair amount of time on systematic preparation of the attacks (i.e. laying the groundwork for the Notice of opposition),
and then be given to little time to actually perform the rather mechanical task of translating my analysis into written-out attacks. I know where I want to go, but can't go there because there is no time left. In a sense, I'm a ship that is slowly sinking with the harbor in sight. ; ; I do not understand why time is systematically (i.e. year after year) made such an extremely important factor in the EQE. I would think that the primary purpose of the EQE is to see if people are capable of correctly applying knowledge and skills, but in my opinion, this is not quite what is tested. I wouldn't go as far as to call the time for the D-papers generally unreasonable, but for the C-paper I do think this is the case.

• I am sure that - if there were given more time - the difficulty of problems would increase, too.;; So I think it were better to decrease time of C to 5 hours and to decrease difficulty of C, D-II and D-I a bit.;; The current situation (3 + 4 hrs, 6 hrs) of examination time is somehow strange and totally far away from anything that one can call practise.

• I believe that paper C in particular is too long. It should be possible to test candidates' ability by setting a shorter paper, such as a maximum of 4 hours. The time pressure induced for paper C also has little relevance to real life, because; ; a) further argumentation based on already submitted prior art may always be provided after the 9-month deadline, as long as no new grounds are raised, and; ; b) the ability of working on a written submissions for six hours solid without taking a break is not a requirement for being a (good) European patent attorney.

• I can understand the time pressure for DI and partly for DII and C. But why for A and B? Is it really important to be able to draft a patent application or reply quickly, or is it important that you can do it well?

• I cannot understand why this has to be a difficulty to handle!!? Why such a time pressure?

• I consider that it would be useful to know the weight of each part in DII as it is done in DI. This year I have had difficulties in order to plan my time between the first part and the second.;; thanks

• I could have used an extra half-hour on paper A to analyze and organize the claim structure better.

• I didn't finish papers B, C and DII although I knew how to continue. I lost about 30 points in paper B and about 20 points in paper C due to not finishing the exam. I think, time is the crucial factor to pass or not to pass- the inherent problem is that time management costs much time for preparation. Time management is what should be trained most.

• I do not believe that there is any benefit in putting candidates under significant time pressure in an exam. It does not help to obtain an indication of the candidate's knowledge or ability. It simply causes stress.

• I do not understand why the time pressure needs to be as severe.

• I don't have any particular problems with time in the exams, although I know a lot of other people do.

• I feel very pressure in paper A: there is no much time to organise a well-drafted claim 1.

• I find no sense in sitting for 6 hours in a Exam. It is not a real situation. Perhaps it should be better shortening the number of claims to be attacked and of course shorten the time to perform the Paper.

• I found the most time pressure on papers C and D. More time on C would have definitely helped me as some of the argumentation was very rushed and I believe I did not complete more claim attacks than were expected. More time on DII would have helped as there was at least one point I meant to write about but omitted. I missed out a part of a question on D1 intending to return to it the end but had no time to do so, and my answer to question 8 was very rushed. I did not feel I had enough time on DII to adequately consider the questions before writing out an answer. I am a slow writer so I do struggle with all the papers but I believe that my answers to A and B would not have changed significantly with more time.

• I got the impression that DII papers become more and more complex over the last years. Thus the time available becomes even less sufficient from year to year.

• I had a high fever taking the exams, so probably would have had time enough withouth it - this makes it a bit difficult to judge.

• I had made all the analysis for paper C but didn't have enough time to write my notice of opposition. However it would be difficult to sit an exam for more than 6 hours, so prehaps
they should make the paper shorter?

- I had to ask several times for new writing paper
- I have not once finished an exam. I always run out of time and feel I lose marks based on time pressure rather than ability. I appreciate that there is a link between knowledge and ability to answer questions quickly in Paper D but I do not think that the time pressure in the other exams is a realistic test of the skills needed in real-life patent practice. It is important to be correct, not fast! I feel I can say this because I have been qualified as a UK Patent Attorney for a number of years. However I see trainees passing the EQE's by approaching the exams as an academic exercise and by using rigid exam techniques that adhere to a marks-gained-per-minute mentality, rather than applying themselves based on experience.
- I know I could have drafted one claim better in A, if I had the time to double-check the claims. Instead I started drafting the description. That was foolish, since a good claim gives the same points.
- I know that time is a factor of the exam. You are not only fit to practise when you know your things, but also if you can present them in a limited time-span. Although in daily practise you are not confronted with 'exam related stress', so I think that some more time would be nice in order to be able to finish the papers more adequately instead of finishing them of quickly (and making mistakes in things you do know).
- I know very good professionals who are not able to pass at least one of the papers because they have problem to manage the time. Quite often a person who passes the EQE is someone who is able to award 50 marks under time pressure, not necessarily a good representative. This is frustrating.
- I missed around 15-30 minutes to write consistent and complete fallback positions
- I missed the analysis on two dependent claims on C. The worst thing is that I knew how to deal with them, but I didn't have the time to finish.; Regarding DI, the time is by far not enough.
- I never have enough time to make it properly. -- I'll always have time to make it twice.
- I once applied for becoming an Airline pilot. They failed me on the first time pressure tests. I realize that the biggest problem for passing the EQE for me is not based on bad knowledge but is based on how I should prepare myself personally for the timepressure element of the EQE.
- I sat paper C, and the time was really short, because there were too many cases possible in attacking the claims, probably due to the changes in the guidelines - inventive step and case law.; So far and especially from the view of a candidate it is not really clear how the examination and opposition boards will handle this changes.
- I saw the point where I needed to improve, but just did not find the time to correct. Especially if it is the first time you sit it takes some time to find a routine in doing the exam on that specific spot.
- I started to write core answers just before the finish time. I just became exhausted I could not write what is in my mind as an answer
- I think 7 hours would be better to cope with part C, however, this will be too long from a general point of view. Possibly, the exam should be modified to fit into 5 hours or so
- I think a candidate's success may depend on how fast and accurately he or she can read and retain the large volume of information that must be read in A and B... so maybe less matter to read through??
- I think candidates need more time, at least four ours for paper DI
- I think it could be useful to have 1 hour more per paper
- I think it is not a matter of time but a matter of the workload in the paper. There are to much information to be treated and to many traps.
- I think it is not the the fact that there is not enough time, but rather the fact that there is no possibility to generate a distance to the paper and then start again. For explanation, it isn't really the case that you write a patent application only on one day, rather it is the case that it takes several days and you can look on the claims several times.
- I think it's "part of the game" having high time pressure during the exam...
- I think paper C in the end is an absolute killer, and should be maybe on the second day.
I think that 6 hours are enough, for the candidate and for the persons who organise paper C. It is the subject which is too long.

I think that paper C is very critic and full of concepts; 30 minute more would have allowed me to complete two claims attacks.

I think that sitting more than 6 hours non-stop, as for paper C, is the maximum amount of time that the brain will function (and even so it is a long time to be very focused without breaks). So I don't think extending the time available will solve anything. rather, a mandatory 15 minutes break mid-way could be a suggestion (although people will probably object to it). If there is time-pressure, its beter to adapt the papers to be 'solvable' within the time allocated today (or less, as will be the case in the future). I think for paper C 2011 that was what had happened - to me, it seemed 'solvable' within the 6 hours.

I think that the better would be not to have so much informations to analyse !; Then the time would be OK.

I think the time available is adequate. Time pressure was caused by inconsistencies/lack of clarity in the papers, or perhaps over-analysis...

I think time pressure is such a big issue, that most candidates are forced to do spend lots of time on examination drill which is really not very motivating and not particularly helpful for the job.;

I thought that there was way too many embodiments (of the invention) presented in Paper A. As a result, the paper took a very long time to read in order to fully understand each alternative embodiment (and their further envisaged modifications). I think that perhaps three embodiments for a Paper A exam is acceptable but more than that (and further modifications) becomes too much to deal with adequately in the time allowed for the exam even though it may be easily dealt with in more time in practice.

I was completely busy 6 h of C and yet had not the time to attack claims 7 and 8 at all.

I was so time pressed that I did not have time to re-read my answer before handing it in.; If more time is given, the answers in general would probably be better formulated, in particular by candidates not having English as mother tongue.

I would be necessary to have more time for candidates which their mother tongue is different of one of official languages.

I would be nice to have more time or less issues to be answered. The paper C 2011 had much more issues than in the past years.

I would not suggest extending the time available for completing a paper (C in particular) as the necessary loss of concentration following several hours' work without a break will not help either. Perhaps the amount of information to be dealt with could be shortened slightly (i.e. a claim less to attack or an inventive step attack less to make).

I would perform better with half an hour more

I would prefer to have at least 10 to 20 minutes more for DI.

I wrote 5 mock-exams for DI and DII during the preparation.; This DI (2011) was be far the the most unbalanced in terms of difficulty/time-ratio.; Due to time constraints I could not finish with paper B and C.

I'm failing always due to a shortage of time, especially in C- paper (where you need to rad/analise many documents) and D-paper. DI requests CAREFUL reading of the questions - takes longer time, DII - requires careful reading of the long text - time is not suffisient.

If D2 is split upp in two cases make the second case less difficult.

If DII is going to continue in the line of 2 sections as started in 2010 then there should really be some indication of how many marks are for each question. Its completely unrealistic to assume we have enough time to answer all questions, hence an indication of the value of each question would allow candidates to focus on the most important ones and thereby increase there chance of passing. Furthermore DI has such an indication so to provide one for DII seems only logical.

If the subject-matter is going to particularly play to some strengths (e.g. knowledge and experience with chemical structures), then allowance should be made in the rest of the paper (i.e. not making it too taxing) to ensure that ALL those sitting the paper have time to show their abilities sufficiently.
• If you have to read and write in a foreign language the difficulty of the papers doubles.
• In an examination like this the time should be limited. My problem was that the paper A started so late in the morning, so after lunch it was difficult to concentrate on paper B.
• In C the difficulty is quite OK. It is more about of TIME and hand writing capability. Actually, if the computer aided answer writing would be possible, the time of examination (6h) could be even shortened! It is too much required to write people by hand nowadays!!!!
• In der praktischen Arbeit kommt es primär auf die korrekte rechtliche Wiedergabe der Probleme an. Die EQE prüft stattdessen insgesamt eher Oberflächliche, vernünftige unkomplizierte Problemlösungen in extrem kurzer Zeit ab. Dies hat mit der praktischen anwaltlichen Arbeit eher wenig zu tun; Abschließend sei bemerkt, dass man auch am großen Einmaleins scheitern wird, wenn in einem begrenzten Zeitraum eine bereits zum Aufschreiben deutlich zu große Anzahl Aufgaben zu lösren ist.
• In general, I think the time for A and B is appropriate. This year I found C OK, some documents were short, which I think is important. I would not increase the time but decrease the amount to read for C. D1 with the open questions was clearly difficult to finish (I did not have problems with time when training previous years). D2 would benefit from 30 min. more this year.
• In is an inaccurate test of a candidate when the exam becomes more of a time trial than a test of ability. In the last hour of the exam candidates tend to make silly mistakes in an attempt just to get the paper finished.
• In my first year, in both A and B papers the time was insufficient.; In my second time, I hardly finished drafting paper A, I would like to have 15 more min. to draft the description adequately and to check my claims.; ; For Paper B, time is definitly not enough in both years (;
• In my opinion the 6 hours is good time, but the paper should be a little less complex so that there would be time to cross check the answer, not just make the first attack come to mind.
• In my opinion, it is just enough to write the exam. however, I did not have sufficient time to carefully formulate claims and arguments on patentability for my proposed divisional application in paper B; in paper C I only attacked each claim with one ground of opposition and one document (novelty) or one combination of documents (inventive step) - no time to e.g. attack novelty with more than one document
• In my opinion, the time allocated for the D papers should be increased, because much of the emphasis is on the preparation of the sitter's material and not on the legal understanding of the EPC
• In my point of view, It is common knowledge that the time pressure during part C and D is huge.
• In my view, especially in paper B, the documents were very voluminous; therefore, I spent too much time on reading and had not enough time for writing.
• in order to lessen the time pressure at the last 2 hours of the exam more time would be appriciated.
• In Paper C, I have the impression that this examen is just for someone who has an official language as a mother tongue. If those who have English, German and French as mother tongue finish on time, Committee could think for those who don't have English, German and French as mother tongue. We have to translate, if we do it in our language or if we do it in one of the official languages. So, we do not have the same chances as the ones who have English, German and French as mother tongue. Committee should think about it.
• In particular paper DII should comprise fewer problems or more time (I would prefer the first alternative, because the examination is physically exhaustin enough when writing 4 papers in 3 days).
• In real life patent attorneys have more time to look things up and/or shorten the required time with electronic tools!
• Increase time for C and D1 by 30min;
• Independently of what I do write down here: The EQE will remain as it is.; I lost my hope that comments will influence the examination.
• indicate how many points are available for which questions (in paper DII as well as in paper
C)  
- It could be good if the non-mother tongue candidates will have more time to complete the paper (i.e. 30 minutes more)  
- It is bit question why EQE exam is kind of "speed test", whereas in real life you usually have time to do proper work without extreme hurry.  
- It is completely ok to keep the available time short. However, paper C is quite difficult and it should be - but the greatest problem with paper C is to survive the quick handwriting challenge. In my opinion, it would be sufficient to write down one complete inventive-step-attack, and to just indicate which annexes are used for other attacks, which is the closest prior art document and why. The paper then still would be difficult, could be at least one hour shorter, candidates would fill only half as much sheets as today and the Examiners as well would have less work.  
- It is frustration to feel that it would be possible for me to solve the papers with a good result if I just had a little more time. I do not understand why the exams are made this pressed for time.  
- It is hard to balance with the time available in work and in the EQE. You have to use some criterias to test all candidates and the time is one of this. But the Papers should be designed that with knowledge I can pass the EQE.  
- It is my advice that if you have studied, the papers can be resolved. However the time is not enought and when you run fast it is simple to make stupid mistakes that can compromise the result of the paper. ; A case this year is the paper B, with a lot of problems to address such as 123(2), new first claim, clarity and a lot of embodiments as fall back positions!!! To many tricky for only 4 hours of time!!!!  
- It is not enogh. I really believe this. I could have done better exams if they were shorter or the time available longer. Not sure if the responsible of establishing this would agree since the papers always last the same and seem to me too long. Anyway, you asked me, I respond.  
- It just does not reflect at all the time we would take to make in real like, especially for paper DII (there is no time to construct a proper analysis and recommendation for the client)  
- It seems to be a customary practise in the exam to put tight schedule for the reading and writing. However, it does not correspond to a real-life situation at work very much. Then headache comes easily in the end of paper A, and then the candidate must cope with that. 30 minutes more time per paper would be nicer for the candidates' heads and hands!  
- It was extremely difficult to get an overview over the information in DII for questions 1 and 2 within 1 hour so you need 2 hours or you miss important aspects (only for understanding the situation, before writing down the results); therefore, answering questions 1 and 2 without missing important aspects that change the whole situation was extremely difficult under the time pressure;  
- It will be appropriate a half hour more for each paper.  
- It would be helpful if the finish time were clearly displayed on a sign next to the clock.  
- It, believe the passing rate would highly increase with some more time available per point! ; All questions seemed well feasible to me, only the time was way too short to write the answers down.  
- Just perfect I would say. Time pressure also force candidates to make a choice at certain moments, which in some way is good I believe.  
- Le sujet de l'Èpreuve C Ètait dans mon cas trop copieux pour Ítre traitÈ convenablement en 6 heures, ce qui est pourtant dÈj‡ une durÈe d'Èpreuve bien longue. Ce n'est donc pas sur la durÈe qu'il faut agir, mais sur le contenu des Èpreuves, en limitant par exemple les documents antÈrieurs opposables ± 3 ou 4 au maximum, ceci afin que le critÈre de rapiditÈ ne soit pas prÈpondÈrant pour la rÈussite ± cette Èpreuve.  
- Line numbers of paragraphs were not numbered; this could be improved.; ; Make Papers a bit less complex and more clear with respect to what is relevant for the invention.; ; Other aspect: The commonly known two pages of "Instructions to candidates" were not provided neither for Paper A nor for Paper B.  
- Little bit more on DII would be very helpful. In real life you often have colleagues to ask and lots of time for analysis of patentability situation, stressing the analysis part of DII has no
application to real life in my view.; The time pressure is more understandable in C, since you
may get a last minute opposition from a client and have to file it immediately. This is ok for
me.
- Man muss sich am Anfang einfach die Zeit nehmen, um den Sachverhalt vollständig zu
verstehen, sonst macht man Fehler. Allerdings fehlt diese Zeit dann beim Schreiben gegen
Ende. Jedoch ist der Zeitdruck ja Konzept der Prüfung, was soll ich da schon sagen?
- Max. 4 citation documents, max. 6 claims.
- measuring performance under time pressure makes sense; but it is not the most important
thing having in mind practice in real life ; (time pressure is present but rarely it is the
key/determining factor)
- More for paper D, please. This year, it seemed to be particularly time pressured, but this may
be because of being in an actual exam, rather than just a past paper.
- More time available will be useful to write readable answers!
- More time (or less material) needed to give a comprehensive answer in paper C, also for
paper DII.
- More time for D1 is always needed. Thirty more minutes will give the opportunity to finish the
exam in better conditions. Even if the exam is finished there is no time at all to make a brief
review for the reply. Sometimes this would help in correcting silly mistakes due to time
pressure.
- More time for paper B
- more time for paper C and D
- More time in D1 would alleviate the necessity to prepare aids or buy books. I do not see why
it is of interest to have people buy books or prepare indexes. Compensating this by more
questions or negative marks for bad answers might be an option.
- More time is needed for paper DII
- More time is not the thing, the things to be read and considered are too much for the time.
Furthermore it were nice to have multiple choice question or something like that. It is not nice
for example in paper A that a wrong main claim (not new) nearly means not to have passed.
In Paper D some words too less or too much don’t have this consequences
- more time it will be appreciate
- More time should be available at least for those who do not read the Exam papers in their
mother language / the possibility to read the paper in English and to answer in non EPO
language cannot be really useful
- More time should be available for answering Paper DII questions, maybe an extra 30
minutes.
- More time would be extremely helpful (or less amount of text to read)
- More time would have definitely improved my performance. The importance of
facts/information does not always become apparent immediately. For example, my inventive
step attack in paper B was based on the wrong closest prior art. I realised this with 3 minutes
left, wrote a brief note to the Examiner, but there was no time to amend my answer.
- my time problem has partly been my own responsibility - doing more exam papers certainly
would have improved my time management - but imho the schedule generally is too tight for
people with slow handwriting, like me (which I cannot improve substantially).
- no
- no
- No
- no experience
- No one does one’s work in reality and the related things in that way as in the exam...
- No time is provided in paper D1 to think about the answers. If you don’t know the answers to,
say, 2 questions straight away, there is no time for thinking about the question to arrive at the
answer. I would prefer to see more time for thinking about the situation to arrive at the
answer.
- None
- Not enough considering the big amount of information to treat
• Not enough especially for candidates that do not have one of the three official languages of the EQE examination as their mother tongue.
• Not enough time to combine the time for the analysis of documents in view of time required to handwrite the paper.
• not enough, one hour more would be ok
• Not more time but a bit less complexity, 6h is already a long exam!
• Of course a professional representative needs to be able to do his work in reasonable time. But the time pressure exerted on candidates for paper C is far away from a real life situation. Speed is not always the same as quality.
• Often, once written out, this is the only chance one has - corrections on long claims are almost impossible.
• On all except for one paper I was running out of time, so my final answers were awful. More time (or less claims to oppose) would have meant a much better quality of answer - eg could have written down a much better inventive step argument, which I'd developed, but not had time to write down.
• One hour more would be OK
• paper A 2011: less than required; paper C: generally less than required; paper D sufficient
• PAPER A and D1: 4H instead of 3H30; PAPER D2: 4H30 instead of 4H;
• Paper B (E/M), comprised too much text to read. This resulted in a very high time pressure. It is acceptable to increase the number of pages in the paper, but then should also the available time be increased accordingly.
• Paper B (E/M), especially if in the future is so long, need more than 4 hours.;
• Paper B was a lot of reading
• Paper C could be one hour longer; there should be four days for the EQE: DI and A; C; DII; B
• Paper C has too many independent claims to be dealt for the time allowed in examination. My hand is still badly hurting as in real life I do not use handwriting.
• Paper C is impossible in 6 hours. D1 should contain at least one question less
• Paper C is too long in general - 6h is too draining in one go. I could have written a better paper if I had taken a break
• Paper C too much long and too much claims to attack
• Paper C: Not more time, but less complexity
• Paper D1 this year seemed much more time-pressured than past practice papers.
• paper D2 was divided in two separate parts. It would be good, to have an indication what the percentage of the expected time would be. I divided the time in 2 equal times and could not finish part 1 and part 2 was ready earlier.
• Perhaps same time available for papers A and B, but less information to deal with.; A shorter C paper both in time and in documents.
• Plan or strategy to tackle a paper cost time if it is something new and much less time when it is a known set-up. In this years D2 it took at least 15-20 minutes before having outlined how to approach this paper.
• Please make the examination script for paper C shorter. It is a nonsense to have 9 claim objects to be attacked with 5 prior art documents in 6 hours.
• please reduce the amount of material / the number of documents that has to be read during the examination.
• I strongly believe that the EQE is more of a test of exam technique and the psychology of time pressure than it is a test of whether or not someone is fit to practice. It is for this reason that I have answered other questions of this questionnaire by strongly advising candidates to focus on doing past papers under time pressure.
• Please see my comments on question Q27
• Please see my notes to Q27
• Please see the answer of Q27 concerning the continuously increasing amount of material to be studied during 3.5-4 hours in A and B.
• Please see the previous comment.
• please, see Q13
• plus de temps, ou alors Épreuves moins longues ‡ lire
• plutÔt que de rallonger la durÉe des Épreuves, il serait prÈfÈrable de raccourcir les sujets de
faÁon ‡ ce qu'on puisse les relire
• removing the translation from paper C makes the paper more managable in 6 hours.
• Same time but fewer claims in the A1-document.
• see above
• see above
• See above
• see above comments on difficulty (the overall difficulty seemed to be adequate, if time limits
were not set that narrow).
• see above for DII; A and B require more time.; C was the only paper which appeared not so
narrow in the available time.
• see above Q27
• see above, Q13
• see above, why such an extreme time pressure? This is never the case in real life
• See above! (only for paper C)
• See above.
• See also Q27 above: for papers A and B, it can happen that you realize during the exam that
you made a wrong choice in drafting a claim. Since there is no time to start over with a better
one, as you would not be able to finish the exam, you continue with the less suitable option
and hope for the best.; For paper C, it can happen that everything you write is correct, but
that you can't finish the exam because of time pressure, resulting in a fail. This is not
reflecting the real-life situation in an opposition. Paper D1 is very tight, but straightforward,
and since most people prepare with timed questions, you know how long you should spend
on a question. Paper D2 is a lot of work, and more time would also result in more complete
answers.
• see answer to Q27
• See comments above.
• see comments above.
• see Q 27
• see Q27
• See Q27
• see Q27
• See Q27 which results in the "time difficulty"; thus, more specific guidelines on the detail
level expected would help reducing the time problem
• see Q27, combined with difficulty.
• shorten the papers, 5 claims to attack are widely enough
• should be longer; in training at home I had no time problems to finish the examination in the
time limit
• Siehe oben
• Simply too short, which has no realtion to reality. If examiners demand absurdly blown
problem solution approach to each and every claim, there should be time for that. Otherwise,
we are competeing who is faster in writing per hand, not through our knowledge
• Since I was quite nervous on day one (this was my first EQE exam) I clearly lost time and
point in D1. I would prefer to have A or B as starting exam on the first day since one has
more time for reading and thinking for those parts in the beginning and there is not such
huge time pressure compared to D1 this year.
• Since time is a restriction in passing the exam for many candidates and the way you do the
exam (writing by hand) is completely different from how you usually work, it feels strange that
it is necessary to sit and actually practice in training on a working method which is solely
used for the exam and very far from being useful in ordinary working. hence, either it should
be enough time to compensate for the extra time neede for writing by hand or allow the
exam to be performed on computers.

- Testing candidates under such a time pressure is useless. A candidate might be a good professional irrespective of its "speed" under examination. "Faster" candidates will have more success in their professional activity anyway.
- The amount of time would be enough if the amount of information to read for papers A, B and C (disclosure of the invention, prior art, etc...) were somehow less.
- The amount of the exam material should be suitable for the time available. ; ; Paper D1 4 hours will be good. Paper DII and C 0.5-1 hours more time.
- The case in paper DII was more complex than many of the previous cases; I think, I could have analysed the situation much more properly if I have had more time; when I realized I was running out of time I didn't work thoroughly enough and overlooked important little details; in paper C there were a lot of attacks to carry out and the argumentation would have had to be drafted carefully, unfortunately I ran out of time although I think the attacks I had thought of would have been valuable (of course I didn't perform more than one attack on a single claim/claim combination)
- The difficulty of the exams is adequate, but the time for papers C and D was never enough for me. I could not write down all that I knew
- The difficulty of the papers varies from year to year, yet the time available is the same. It would be better if the difficulty was kept more uniform.
- The exams (understandably) involve a tremendous amount of writing. Most of the time in the exams goes into the writing, leaving little time for the most important part: the thinking. I think the balance between the two is clearly absent.; ; Furthermore, I do understand that qualified patent attorneys must be able to work under time pressure. However, with three exam days in a row this exam is more a fitness test, that I doubt resembles day to day practice in a well organised firm
- The higher the time pressure, the more irrelevant the examination becomes to assess the capability of the candidates as patent attorneys. Patent attorneys normally do not draft an application in 3,5 h.
- The intent of DII is to check if the candidate is "fit for practice". A candidate requiring an additional 30-60 mins to formulate a clear and more complete advice does not make him less "fit".Thus, include more guidance/questions in DII, or reduce extent, or increase time.
- the inventive step attacks take a lot of time to write, Iam under the expression that the examiner cannot imagine how complicate it is for a candidate to understand the topic, to decide which attacks are best and then finally to get starting. May be it is comparable to the feeling which I have when I do maths with my son. I don't not understand why he does not get it. The examiners do not understand why the candidates have so much problems which so simple matters (in their eyes, they just cannot imagine any more how difficult it is for a person doing normal legal work to do paper C).
- The level of difficulty is mostly due to the time pressure and to the fact that these kinds of tasks do not EVER exist in real life. It is hard to understand how this kind of testing would test one's ability to work as a professional European patent attorney. In real life situations there is never such time pressure: NEVER. In real life situations, one do not have to work alone with such complex situations. Real professionals would ask opinions of others also and work as teams.
- The main difficulty in respect of paper C is the requirement to write fast and legibly at the same time. People who cannot do that are at a great disadvantage. It would be nice if the EPO could provide keyboards - a nice handwriting shouldn't be a selection criterion for European patent attorneys.
- The time allowed is not enough for non-native speakers. It is a severe disadvantage, even if - theoretically - the exam could be written in a different language - but then, translation of all specific foreign terms becomes another severe penalty. A small glossary of the main technical terms would be very welcome and saves the inordinate time of checking in a dictionary. It is a differential disadvantage and there is no clear indication of any mitigation that could be put in place.
- The time available for studying the examination paper is sometimes not enough because the
The technical field is not familiar for the candidate and it is timeconsuming to understand the task.

- the time available is not enough, but one can only stay focussed for so long in an exam situation.
- The time factor forces candidates to make a 'priority list' and to start with the most important elements in the list. This is in my personal opinion an essential skill of a patent attorney.
- the time for paper C is not enough. Of course, a longer examination would be difficult to tolerate (physically tiring).
- The time for paper DI is not sufficient. I do not think that time pressure is necessary in the EQE.
- The time is long enough, if you have train yourself to prepare the examination in the given time.
- the time is sufficient. what should be improved is to make an easier reading of the documents useful to start to think to the solution.
- The time is to less, to read and understand (under time pressure) all the available informations.
- The time pressure was greater for C than it was for A and B.
- The time requirements are part of the game, but there should be a little bit more time in all of the papers.
- The time to read the subjects is already rather long (for ex paper C counts 25 pages in french: the time to read the subject is extremely long, not to say analysing it): the opposition memo itself is very long to write (I wrote 16 pages) but in 6 hours, I clearly did not have time to go through all possible attacks.
- The time to write down the answer for part C was quite short for me.
- The features of part D2 (first two questions) were very unhandy.
- There is absolutely not sufficient time alocated in papers C and D to achieve 100 marks. In DI, there are so many issues one could comment on, but simply for time reasons can not. In DII, one lacks time to comment on all aspects, particularly if one is not versed in writing concisely. However, this does not mean that one would not refer to all issues hidden in the paper. For C there is not sufficient time to elaborately develop all attacks. Instead, not sufficiently substantiated attacks must be made, although using right prior art and solid grounds.
- there is no time to reflect the answer, what is normally the most important part in practice. Claims have to be reflected in a neutral way, which is not possible during the exam. There is no time to control the answer of completeness.
- There is not enough time. If the paper is supposed to see if a candidate is fit to practice, what is then the reason for the very limited time one can use. That is never how it works in real life. How many European Patent Attorneys draft and file an opposition within 6 hours.
- There is too little time. When writing in a language that is not your mothertounge, then it takes longer to write the answer.
- There’s a certain time pressure, but if the candidates are well aware of this in advance, I think it's perfectly possible to prepare to complete the various papers within the respective allotted amounts of time.
- There’s not enough time to complete paper C properly.
- They are ok. Also in real life, there are time limits.
- This year I had the impression that there was much more to be read in form of prior art documents for papers A and B - it makes unsure if you have to read for an hour before you can actually start thinking about the answers and messes up the time management. It would therefore be highly appreciated not to have too much variation from year to year here.
- In contrast to my expectation, I found the time frame for paper C tight but not as horrible as expected.
- This year the papers appeared to involve quite a lot of reading taking quite a lot of time, somewhat a disadvantage for non-native speakers.
- This years D1 paper was the only D1 paper I have run out of time on. There were several long mark questions.
- This years Paper C does not really fit into the solution scheme taught CEIPI.
• Time available for DI is not enough because it is an open book exam, and so one feels the need to double check every detail, which is not possible within the time given.
• Time for paper A was adequate
• Time for Part D is too short, for part A-C depends on the difficulty of the specific problem
• Time has been the main problem for me. I guess 30 Minutes more would have done.
• Time is not the problem, the problem is the amount of tricks
• time is probably sufficient if one makes no mistakes at all and has a clear structure in one's mind. as soon as one gets stuck / goes wrong in a little point or needs to reflect on something for a little while, it is not possible to make up for it. I guess under pressure everyone makes mistakes, so in the end it is a matter of writing against the clock.
• Time is the most important thing for non mother tongue candidates!
• Time is too short for DII and DI
• Time management is an important aspect of what these exams test
• Time pressure in eqe is adequate
• Time pressure is immense in all four papers, especially in C and D.
• Time pressure is increased by having to write down words like "Viskositätsindexverbesserer" (Paper DII) or "Aluminium-Zink-Legierung" (Paper C)!
• Time should be limited, especially in C Part in order to force candidates to concentrate on the important areas, i.e. claims. The available time should not allow one to finish the paper 100%!
• time too short, in particular because a lot of reading needed to be done compared to other EQE years
• time-management for d2 was hard to organize due to not knowing how the marks are divided
• Timing is my main concern and I think too much material was expected to be processed in A and B E/M this year.
• to less
• to much information in the prior art documents, too many embodiments to be covered paper A mechanic
• To much time is needed to order the facts (e.g. in DII). Therefore it is not enough time to answer to all needed aspects.
• To say it clear words: younger candidates (45) are off-chance to pass.
• Too few time for lot of problems.;
• too less time for D1 so that there was to less time for thinking;
• Too many informations - time consuming
• Too much state of the art documents to analyse in the time given. Unrealistic time shedule.
• too short for the amount of questions to answer and issues to consider. knowledge of the points available (as in paper D1) would help
• Um in C alle Angriffe (auch zweite Angriffe) auszu, hren ben "tige ich meistens mehr zeit.
• Unfair time pressure on paper C. You should make the paper more difficult but not select on how fast one can write legibly: shorter answer to more complex questions!
• Unter Zeitdruck entstehen manchmal unn"tige (banale) Fehler, nicht weil man etwas nicht verstanden oder gewut hat, sondern weil es einfach nur "untergangen" ist.
• we have no time for "thinking", that is : if our first idea on the response to write is not correct, we have no time for responding something else.
• Well, I guess my answers above pretty much say it all, already. The time allotted for papers D1 and D2 was really not enough for coming up with proper full questions. If you took some time to really go into detail when answering one question, you were sure going to run out of time and did not manage to answer them all!
• What I realised over the last few EQE's is the fact that since the other language(s) disappeared from the C EQE, there are more attacks beside more claims. What is this use for? My underscading is that the EQE Examiner cannot look into the candidates brains and thus he must see how the candidates handle the opposition. Is it thus necessary to put the hurdle higher by adding more attacks?? Or is it just a good tool to keep the amount of successfull candidates in an acceptable frame (s. for example the last statistics).
• Why should I give comments to you? You will not give more time anyway.
• With more time, especially for C and D, the quality of answers could be improved.
• With the time available I could finish but did not have the time to re-read what I had written.
• With the time given and the number of information given is really impossible to think and prepare a response intended to have a 100% marks. Usually, 80% marks is the real top target.; ; I do not really understand the current rate of time/information-difficulty. If the point is evaluating your knowledge, why putting speed first than knowledge? Either more time or less information-difficulty should be given. Maybe the complementation with an Oral Exam (as in real life) would compensate this injustice. Even after having practised more than 5 papers, for some people is really impossible to think and prepare a proper response intended to pass the Exam. ; I am proud of my training performed and knowledge acquired. However, I know I have very little chances to pass these Exams. This is clearly not a real evaluation of my knowledge.
• Yes - the number of complex scenarios raised in paper D are more than one experiences in years of practice, yet one is supposed to analyse and answer within very small time limits in the exam. The time pressure must give an unreasonably harsh reflection of candidates' knowledge of the law, ability to assess scenarios and to then defer to further legal basis to provide sound advice.
  • yes applies to D1 and in part to D2
• yes, for people that are not EPO language at least 30 minutes more will be really useful.
• Yes. Not enough.
• You have no time whatsoever to look for the answer, just to quickly verify. You need to understand the question immediately, no time to consider what is exactly expected and on what features there should be answered more in depth then others - is it enough to mention the general article/rule or must sub-paragraphs under that Article/rule be mentioned as wel? You know where to begin but you don't known when the answer is enough. Due to time pressure, easy mistakes in calculation of dates.
Chapter 5—EQE Forum of the European Patent Academy and online services

Q31) Did you use the EQE Forum?

Q32) How actively did you use the following services

Discussion of general topics

Discussion of Examination Papers
Q33) Please rate the following sections of the EQE Forum on a scale

Discussion of general topics: General usefulness
Discussion of general topics: Quality of material

Discussion of general topics: Quality of responses to questions

Discussion of general topics: Timeliness of responses
Discussion of Examination Papers: General usefulness

- Very high: 26
- High: 121
- Intermediate: 121
- Low: 21
- Very low: 4

Discussion of Examination Papers: Quality of responses

- Very high: 27
- High: 106
- Intermediate: 122
- Low: 18
- Very low: 5

Discussion of Examination Papers: Timeliness of responses

- Very high: 21
- High: 95
- Intermediate: 124
- Low: 7
- Very low: 3
Expert Online: General usefulness

Expert Online: Quality of expert’s responses

Expert Online 2010: Made available at the right time
Expert Online 2010: Made available long enough

EQE Online weekly examination questions: General usefulness

EQE weekly examination questions: Relevance of the covered topics
EQE weekly examination questions: Ease of use of the forum

EQE weekly examination questions: Time schedule of the exercises

EQE Online weekly examination questions: Quality of the model answer and comments
Q34) Please rate the online service (www.eqe-online.org/questions) on a scale

### General usefulness

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### Relevance of covered topics

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### Ease of use of the tool

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Q35) Did you discuss any of the EQE on-line exercises with your supervisor/tutor?
Q36) How could the EQE on-line exercises be best integrated into your preparation for the EQE?

Providing last minute help on a broad range of topics

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

Serving as a basis for discussion with your supervisor/tutor
other, please specify:

- As mentioned before, I found it already extremely useful
- Continuous studying!
- If there was enough time to use another source of information, the forum would be great.
- none
- provide more model cases (A)
- Some candidates just don't have supervisors that participate in their EQE training.
- thank you
Q37) Do you have any suggestions for how the EQE Forum or the other on-line exercises might be improved?

• Vielleicht zeitlich etwas strecken. Um jeden Tag eine Frage zu beantworten, fehlte mir die Zeit.
• Update of the answers to D papers of 2007 and before
• Thooth paste study (A/Ch and DII) was very, very helpfully - more such training material/studies (DII, A/B/Ch, C)
• This forum is useless if every exam each year has biggest surprises noone was mentioning before.
• There was one week for consulting Examiners. Finally, I was disappointed when I found out that there seemed to be no opportunity at all for asking any questions not related to any EQE of the past.; ; Note:: In some questions of this questionnaire I missed a switch-off button for switching off a rating given accidentally (like the no-answer button of Q36).
• there should be more case studies, even if I realise they are very time-consuming to design
• there seem to be some mistakes in DII-training
• The user-interface of the forum should be changed to SIGNIFICANTLY improve ease of navigation and the finding of topics in the forum.
• The Time Limit Questions Paper D1 could be extended.; ; (comment: I rarely used the forum, so I did not provide answers in those parts I never used.)
• The questions start about 1 year before the EQE and we get access only in October. ; That is very inefficient.
• The Q&A are very good and well organised. A printable compilation can be bought in the form of Delta Patents books, I don't know how you could make it better without killing their sales ;-) 
• The layout is unclear
• The Forum in itself could be improved in structure (sometimes difficult to find the relevant topic)
• The expert online 2011 was totally useless, the only answer relevant to me just regurgitated the examiner's report.
• The Expert Online 2011 comments on paper C were excellent. The comments on the other papers came out too late to be useful (only 1 week before the EQE!)
• The coffee break questions have a funny schedule regarding the exam. They went on afterwards.
• The biggest problem in the exam is time. Knowing the answer is one thing, but getting it down in time is another. The other problem is knowing what the examiner is looking for. To answer any question I can provide lots of basis, but I don;t know whether it's the basis that the examiner is going to give marks for.
• Study guide and suggested study time table for those whose firms will not send them on external training courses
• Study cases for A and DII Paper were very helpul. Such study cases should be provided for every paper also B und C.
• Sammlung von Material bzw. Links zu den relevanten Veröfentlichungen des EPA f,r die Prfung (Amtsblatt, RiLi, Compendium, etc.) in druckfertigen Versionen.
• Put in answers of tutors/experts timely.
• Provide EPC in audio-type to study while driving.
• Post successful answers from each paper with the corresponding rating
• Plus de QCM (questionnaire choix multiple) en ligne. Ce qui Ètait trÈs bien dans cela ciÈtait d'envoyer une question par jour. Cela permet de distiller la quantitÈ de travail
• please start earlier with the coffee break question and addiaonal coffee break question for the other parts
• Offer schemes for answering the questions.
not have used so much this year 2011 so frankly do not have special suggestions; but found it useful the previous year sessions 2010; believe the idea is good sure will be improving
not easy to distinguish the different forum sections. For example, I've never seen the weekly questions.
none
No, I mainly stucked to the course material I got from DeltaPatents (NL), so I did not use the EQE forum frequently. With the courses of DeltaPatents, I believe that you are well prepared.
no idea
no
My answer to the questions above reflect that I became aware of the Forum shortly before the exam and therefore have not used it extensively.; For (at least) paper C and D next year I intend to use the Forum as an integrated part of my preparations.; After the exam I have found it very useful to participate in and follow the discussions on the Forum in order to try to figure out how I did.; Additionally I have found some very detailed and good discussions related to paper D type questions.; I have signed up for both daily paper D questions and coffee break questions apparently only the latter works?
Most sample answers for past DII and paper C questions
more material can be shared via forum and also available to download
More information about this service.
More exercises on DII paper
More exercises :)
More examples of candidate answers provided under exam conditions, and comments thereon
More D2-like training cases.
More content: several paper tests of each category.; ; Providing a better printability of the answers for repitition.
More commented past exams (especially in papers a chem and b chem) from candidates would be very useful to see what is acceptable and what will results in a loss of marks
Maybe starting with "coffee break" style questions which are more general in september-october and then continuing with daily D1-like EQE questions over a longer period for having as many as possible daily questions.; Keeping the rythm is very important for maintaining motivation and for memorizing all that is to be known.; More of Daily EQE questions starting earlier and continuing until the EQE...; Informing candidates in advance if they will receive a special edition of PCT-GL by the end of the year.
Make the questions more difficult so they are actually inline with the difficulty of the exams, they are far to easy as the statistics of correct answers should indicate to you.
Make it easier to search for specific topicks - make the actual technical aspects of the webpages better.
It would be perfect when the weekly examination questions would also be provided in German!
It would be extremely helpful to provide translations of the annexes for the older Paper C papers.
It is good as it is
In order to be sufficiently motivated to use the service and efficiently learn should every answer be marked.
If more tutors would provide answers to the questions, that would be of great help.
I would like you to explicitly mention the DeltaPatents numbering of excercises, since with limited time we must prioritize spanning many questions, and in this way we could avoid double testing.
I would have liked the daily questions to continue till the exam (so in January and February).
I used the EQE Forum seldom until now. However, I found the commented exam papers very helpful. Please continue to provide them. Following the exam I started to use the "coffee break questions" service. Very helpful, please continue.
I liked the time limit questions, the paper A and the paper DII training tools, these are all very
I had some technical gap on chemical topic questions (disclaimer - ranges - second medical use) as I work on mechanical field. Is it possible to provide a manual for chemical general question for mechanics and obviously vice versa?? A vademecum for arguments which are rarely handled during work and trainings??

I enjoyed the coffee-brake questions very much.; Please provide many more of them - they are very useful!

I did not use the EQE Forum to an extent allowing me to give you input on the above issues.

how to prepare the answer is actually more important than in the correct answer itself; more guidance is needed for this process.

focus resources on topics not already covered by other players in the "how to pass the EQE" market, e.g. online Forum with "live" response from Tutors seems to be a helpful additional resource

Examination like questions and exercises, the level of current problems is too low or there are too less questions for covering the whole range of EQE

Even if I did not use the EQE Forum myself very much, I think it is a good idea.

EQE-related questions available earlier.

Di and Dii exercises that have a countdown clock that closes the exercise when a predetermined amount of time has elapsed regardless of whether or not you have finished the question. Then it gives you a result.

All questions/answers in English please... I do understand there are 3 languages at the EPO, but for everyone's sake, this would enable much more people to understand and learn from each other. Having contents in German inevitably creates "pockets" of knowledge.

Add more DII cases

A personal amount of time that can be spent with a tutor to find the weak areas. I would really appreciate to have some time to discuss the papers I did not pass in order to see if there is any general things that could be improved.

A better website - and allowing candidate to select their own passwords - impossible to remember ones official user name and password