

2018 FD2 – Preparation of Specifications for United Kingdom Patents

FINAL Mark Scheme

Answer

Introduction and Description

Title [**0.5 marks** for a title + **0.5 marks** for title to reflect accurately what is claimed] **1 mark**

Statement of field **1 mark**

Prior Art
Briefly describe each of the three incremental variants [**1**] (simple wrapping, basic bags and the two-bag option). Drawbacks of each variant [**1**]. **2 marks**

Statement of invention and general description
Express statement of what feature of each claim does and corresponding advantage, particularly with reference to prior art, with a focus on features that are identified in the mark scheme and fall-back options, even when not claimed. **18 marks**

Figures:
i) Page & feature numbering **1 mark**
ii) Introduction to Figures, e.g. non limiting examples **1 mark**
iii) Figure description **2 marks**

Specific description:
Brief description of prior art figures (whether described here or in prior art section above) **2 marks**

Explanation of the construction, function and operation of the receptacle with reference to the three variants explained in a logical order. **18 marks**

TOTAL: 46 marks

Claims

Independent claim **20 marks**

Dependent claims **30 marks**

TOTAL: 50 marks

Suggested Claims:

Independent Claim:

1. A unitary [3] receptacle/drip catching bag [1] for an umbrella [1], comprising:
- a 1st portion [1] for retaining/storing/holding an umbrella [1],
 - a 2nd portion [1] comprising a chamber for capturing water [1], and
 - a separator/layer [1] there between [1] arranged to
 - o permit water to pass [1] from the 1st portion [1] into the 2nd portion [1],
 - o prevent the umbrella [1] from passing into [1] the 2nd portion [1] and
 - o substantially stop/restrict water [1] in the 2nd portion [1] coming back out of the chamber [1].

20 marks

If the candidate has obtained 20 marks, consider deducting marks cumulatively from the maximum 20 marks for unnecessary restrictions to the claim. Examples:

Catastrophic (0 marks):

- No separation, or no clarity that there are two separate portions with different functions
- Claim not clear that it is a unitary or single bag/container
- Inclusion of inner bag

Major (max 5 marks):

- No use limitation
- Lack of clarity about arrangement of features, e.g. water flow direction
- Claim does not cover all embodiments

Less major (max 10 marks):

- If last four features are claimed in terms of a one-way function/valve only, because narrower scope
- If it is not clear from the independent claim that it is a unitary bag but dependent claims 2 or 3 address this lack of clarity

Minor (deduct 2 marks each):

- Inclusion of features in dependent claims or any other undue restriction not noted above.

Other restrictions to be agreed and documented here.

Total: 20 marks

Dependent claims:

Award **marks** per dependent claim, up to a maximum of **30**.

Half marks are awarded for each dependent claim with an incorrect dependency.

2) Separator comprises a water permeable membrane [1]

- 3) Separator comprises a one-way valve [1]
 - 4) One-way valve is operated by the weight of the umbrella [1]
 - 5) Layered construction [1]
 - 6) Offset slits (define tortuous path) [1]
 - 7) Layers of increasing thickness [1]
 - 8) (Resiliently) Deformable by weight of the umbrella [1]
 - 9) One-way valve is off-set (prevents umbrella tip blocking valve) [1]
 - 10) Separator comprises reinforcing means/is reinforced [1]
 - 11) Chamber/Second portion comprises a re-sealable outlet [1]
 - 12) Outlet is sealed with a removable plug/bung [1]
 - 13) Chamber/Second portion further comprises a water-absorbent material [1]
 - 14) Water-absorbent material comprises a super-absorbent polymer or sponge [1]
 - 15) Chamber/Second portion is closeable [1]
 - 16) Closeable with a draw-string elastic [1]
 - 17) Chamber/Second portion is transparent [1]
 - 18) First portion is flared in shape [1], being wider at its open end [1]
 - 19) Receptacle is made from a flexible waterproof material [1]
 - 20) Receptacle is made from a non-flexible waterproof material [1]
 - 21) Substantially watertight [1] telescopic tube [1]
 - 22) Interference fit [0.5]
 - 23) Waterproof seal [0.5]
 - 24) Inner surface of the innermost tube [1] comprises rigid longitudinal protrusions [1]
 - 25) Receptacle includes lid [1]
 - 26) A plurality of connected receptacles as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 19 [1]
 - 27) Each receptacle is connected by a line of weakness [0.5]
 - 28) Line of weakness comprises a tear off-strip [0.5]
 - 29) Plurality of connected receptacle stored as a roll [1] for use with a dispenser [1]

- Deduct 2 marks from total if omnibus claims included.
- No marks are awarded for trivial claims, such as specific dimensions, material (unless specified), colours or other basics that will not add novelty/inventive step to Claim 1.
- Mark for a specific claim is halved if it combines features that should appear in separate dependent claims.

Total: 30 marks

Abstract

Title (same as title at top of script)

1/2 mark

Figure

1/2 mark

Text - must state:

- technical field or main use **[1 mark]**,
- the invention **[1 mark]**,
- use of reference numerals **[1 mark]**

3 marks

TOTAL: 4 marks

GRAND TOTAL: 100 marks