

2019 FD2 – Preparation of Specifications for United Kingdom Patents

FINAL Mark Scheme

Answer

**Introduction and Description**

Title (*½ mark for a title + ½ mark for title to reflect accurately what is claimed*) **1 mark**

Statement of field **1 mark**

Prior Art  
Overview of wrappings/ bags that compress against an umbrella which slows drying ref Figs 1-2  
Note can simply hang wet goods per Fig 3, but need to identify problem in relation to claim 1 **4 marks**

Statement of invention and general description  
Express statement of what feature of each claim does [*½ mark*] and corresponding advantage [*½ mark*], with a focus on features that are identified in the mark scheme and fall-back options, even when not claimed. **16 marks**

Figures:  
i) Page numbering **1/2 mark**  
ii) Feature numbering **1/2 mark**  
iii) Figure description **3 marks**

Specific description:  
Explanation of how invention works, and features with reference to particular variants when relating to dependencies. Descriptions of the embodiments with air flow means (grip only, rotation with grip) and with barrier are expected. **20 marks**  
**TOTAL: 46 marks**

**Claims**

Independent apparatus claim **18 marks**

Dependent claims **32 marks**  
**TOTAL: 50 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 [**1½ mark**], description of main features of the dryer [**1 mark**], use of reference numerals [**1/2 mark**] (*ensure content is consistent with claims*)

**3 marks**

**TOTAL: 4 marks**

**Grand Total = 100 marks**

### Suggested Claims:

Independent Claim:

A dryer /an article / An apparatus/system [**1**] for (drying) wet goods [**1**] (for umbrella 0.5) comprising:

i) means for securing wet goods [**2**] to the apparatus/dryer [**2**]; and

EITHER

ii)a) means for generating an air flow [**3**], and

wherein the wet goods are secured in such a way to provide [**2**] an air gap to allow air flow [**2**] around the wet goods [**2**]

OR

ii)b) [means for securing] a waterproof/protective barrier [**1**], wherein the barrier is configured to capture/retain/collect water from the wet goods [**2**] and being spaced from the wet goods [**2**] to permit an air gap/air flow [**2**] around the wet goods [**2**]. (*Where the term “waterproof barrier” is used, any equivalent term conveying the purpose is acceptable.*)

Plus up to **3 marks** for clarity of claim, understanding/appreciation of one or both inventions

**18 marks**

If the candidate has obtained 18 marks, consider deducting marks cumulatively from the maximum 18 marks for unnecessary restrictions to the claim. Examples:

Catastrophic (0 marks)

- Claim not clearly novel (over Fig 3 in particular) – needs securing means [(i) + iia)] or inclusion of barrier to the apparatus shown in Fig 3
- Does not clearly provide air gap (iia)

Major (max 5 marks)

- Umbrella dryer
- Does not include generation of airflow (iia)
- Barrier limited to being flexible or a bin liner (iib)
- Claim does not cover all embodiments (e.g. limited to either fan or rotation)

Medium (max 10 marks):

- Inclusion of iia and iib
- Claim limited to an umbrella

Minor (deduct 2 marks each):

- Inclusion of features of claims a-v below.

The maximum deduction is 18 marks.

**Total: 18 marks**

### **Dependent claims**

Marks are halved where dependencies are incorrect.

#### A) iia) – Claim 1 includes air flow generation

- a) the means for securing wet goods comprises a gripping means **[1]**
  - b) the gripping means is a (threaded) clamp **[1/2]**
    - c) wherein the gripping means comprises a deformable engagement piece **[1]** for deformably engaging with and protecting the wet goods from damage **[1]**
  - d) the gripping means is a (V-shaped) grip for frictionally securing the wet goods **[1]**
  - e) wherein when the (V-shaped) grip comprises a layer of rubber **[1/2]**
  - f) the means for securing wet goods further comprises a rest [disc comprising hole] **[1]** for one end of the wet goods **[1/2]**
    - g) the gripping means is mounted on an arm [to hold the wet goods away from the frame] **[1]**, the arm includes sliding and pivoting means **[1]** to allow the distance between the gripping means and the rest/disc to be varied **[1]**
- h) the airflow is generated by a fan **[1]**
  - i) wherein the fan is electrically[/manually] driven **[1]**
  - j) the fan comprises a cold **[1/2]** and/or hot setting **[1/2]**
  - k) airflow is further or alternatively **[1]** generated by a rotation mechanism **[1]** (*if claim limited to means = rotation mechanism, only 1 mark*)
    - l) mechanism is configured to rotate **[1]** the wet goods around its (substantially) central axis **[1]** [support structure to hold wet goods aligned to its (substantially) central axis]
    - m) rotation mechanism comprises two portions rotatable relative to each other **[1]** for rotating [/ creating additional airflow around] the wet goods **[1]**
    - n) rotation mechanism comprises concentric (and overlapping) rings **[1]**

- o) at least one portion comprises low friction material [1/2] for assisting rotation [1/2]
- p) the two portions comprise [a track and] ball bearings therebetween [1/2] for assisting rotation [1/2]
- q) rotation is effected manually [1/2] or by an electric motor [1/2] [means for securing includes an electric motor for rotating the two portions]
- r) further comprises [means for securing] a waterproof/protective barrier [1] wherein the barrier is configured to capture/retain/collect water from the wet goods [2] and being spaced from the wet goods [2].
- s) the waterproof barrier is (releasably) secured to the dryer by a plurality of hooks and eyes, hook and loop fasteners and/or clips (*or otherwise indicates the dryer comprises hooks, hook and loop and/or fasteners for this purpose*) [2]. [*make sure language correlates to barrier or means to secure barrier in Claim 1*]
- t) the waterproof barrier further comprises a drain [1/2]
- u) the waterproof barrier is flexible [1/2]
- v) the dryer is configured/suitable for an umbrella/(wet goods selected from the list comprising: clothes, trousers, jackets) [1 1/2]

**TOTAL = 32 marks**

- No marks are awarded for trivial claims, such as specific dimensions, material (unless specified) or other basics that add little
- Consider whether the pre-amble is correct and whether the claim is in a sensible place in the dependent claims when awarding mark.

B) iib – Claim 1 includes waterproof barrier

- a) the means for securing wet goods comprises a gripping means [1]
- b) the gripping means is a (threaded) clamp [1/2]
- c) wherein the gripping means comprises a deformable engagement piece [1] for deformably engaging with and protecting the wet goods from damage [1]
- d) the gripping means is a (V-shaped) grip for frictionally securing the wet goods [1]
- e) wherein when the (V-shaped) grip comprises a layer of rubber [1/2]
- f) the means for securing wet goods further comprises a rest [disc comprising hole] [1] for one end of the wet goods [1/2]
- g) the gripping means is mounted on an arm [to hold the wet goods away from the frame] [1], the arm includes sliding and pivoting means [1] to allow the distance between the gripping means and the rest/disc to be varied [1]
- h) the waterproof barrier is (releasably) secured to the dryer by a plurality of hooks and eyes, hook and loop fasteners and/or clips (*or otherwise indicates the dryer comprises hooks, hook and loop and/or fasteners for this purpose*) [2]. [*make sure language correlates to barrier or means to secure barrier in Claim 1*]
- i) the waterproof barrier further comprises a drain [1/2]
- j) the waterproof barrier is flexible [1/2]
- k) further comprises means for generating an airflow around/relative to the wet goods [1] wherein the wet goods are secured in such a way to allow air flow [2] around the wet goods [2]
- l) the airflow is generated by a fan [1]
- m) wherein the fan is electrically[/manually] driven [1]
- n) the fan comprises a cold [1/2] and/or hot setting [1/2]
- o) airflow is further or alternatively [1] generated by a rotation mechanism [1] (*if claim limited to means = rotation mechanism, only 1 mark*)
- p) mechanism is configured to rotate [1] the wet goods around its (substantially) central axis [1] [support structure to hold wet goods aligned to its (substantially) central axis]
- q) rotation mechanism comprises two portions rotatable relative to each other [1] for rotating [/ creating additional airflow around] the wet goods [1]

r) rotation mechanism comprises concentric (and overlapping) rings [1]

s) at least one portion comprises low friction material [1/2] for assisting rotation [1/2]

t) the two portions comprise [a track and] ball bearings therebetween [1/2] for assisting rotation [1/2]

u) rotation is effected manually [1/2] or by an electric motor [1/2] [means for securing includes an electric motor for rotating the two portions]

v) the dryer is configured/suitable for an umbrella/(wet goods selected from the list comprising: clothes, trousers, jackets) [1 1/2]

**TOTAL = 32 marks**

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