

ICPA: Introductory Certificate in Patent Administration

Mock Examination 2024–2025 Course

Thursday, 12 December 2024 10 am to 12.30 pm

Examination time: 2 hours 30 minutes plus 15 minutes upload time

The 2 hours 30 minutes is allocated as follows:

- 10 minutes** – Downloading and printing the Question Paper and Resource pack;
- 15 minutes** – Reading time;
- 2 hours** – Answering the questions;
- 5 minutes** – Screen break.

At the end of 2 hours 30 minutes, you MUST immediately stop answering the questions. You then have **15 minutes** in which to upload your Answer document and form(s) to the PEBX system.

You MUST upload your Answer document and form(s) to the PEBX system by 12.45. After 12.45, you will not be able to upload them and your examination will be void.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

This examination pack comprises:

Instructions to Candidates	1 sheet
Question paper	6 sheets
Resource Pack	9 sheets

1. You have 15 minutes reading time at the start of the examination. During this time, you **must not type in the Answer document or write** on the forms, question paper, calendars or annexes.
2. You should attempt **all** the questions in this question paper.
3. The total number of marks available for this paper is 80.
4. Answers must be submitted in the Answer document and on the form(s) provided.
5. Do not attempt to change the font style, font size, font colour, line spacing or any other preset formatting in the Answer document.
6. Start each question on a new page. To begin a new page, press the Control key and the Enter key simultaneously.
7. When you begin a new question, type in the question number at the top of the page.
8. A **Resource Pack** is provided. The Resource Pack has a contents page and contains calendars, office closure dates, and forms.
9. Select and complete the relevant form(s) when instructed by the question.
10. Write your answers on the form(s) using black pen.
11. Where a question refers to 'today', assume today's date.
12. Do not state your name anywhere in your answers.

This question paper consists of **7 sheets** in total, including this sheet.

AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION

13. Upload your Answer document to the PEBX system. You should upload it as a Word document. PEBX will automatically convert it to PDF.
14. Save the PDF(s) of your scanned form(s) to PEBX.

Question 1

What is the time period allowed for claiming priority when filing an overseas application from:

a) a patent application in the UK?

1 mark

b) a design application in the UK?

1 mark

Total: 2 marks

Question 2

What are the minimum requirements for obtaining a filing date for a GB Patent Application?

3 marks

Question 3

What do the following abbreviations mean?

a) ISA

1 mark

b) IB

1 mark

c) SIS

1 mark

d) IPRP

1 mark

e) PCT

1 mark

f) RO

1 mark

Total 6 marks

Question 4

A GB Patent Application was filed without claiming priority on 6 August 2020. The first examination report was issued on 7 August 2024.

What is the compliance date? Show your calculations.

5 marks

Question 5

A European patent application was filed on 24 October 2024 by ABC Corporation without claiming priority.

By when must a designation of inventor be filed? Show your calculations.

2 marks

Question 6

You received the memo below from a patent attorney with whom you work.

Following the instructions below, complete the required forms to file a UK patent application.

8 marks

URGENT MEMO:

To: Patent Formalities
Reference: UmbType03

From: Gary Baldi CPA, EPA

I have just been advised by our client that they are disclosing their new 'Electric Umbrella' invention shortly and so we must proceed with filing today. Please therefore prepare appropriate forms for a filing at the UKIPO today. The client does not want to file a search request or examination request at this stage. I will prepare the abstract after filing and I don't yet know the identity of the inventors. As usual, the fee sheet will be prepared by our Accounts Department and we will pay the application fee on filing.

The specification for filing comprises:

Description:	45 pages
Claims:	20 claims on 8 pages
Drawings:	3 drawings on 2 pages

The applicant details are:

BrightSpark UK Limited
West End Lane
Nottingham
NG13 8TU

Please name me as representative on the form.

Best regards

Gary Baldi
Baldi & Red LLP
14 The Pastures
London
WC1V 1XX
email: gary@baldi.com

Question 7

A communication under Art 94(3) *EPC* (an examination report) is dated 15 October 2024. The communication was received in your office the same day. The communication sets a 4-month period from notification for filing a response.

- a) **What is the non-extended deadline for filing a response? Show your calculations.**

2 marks

The applicant is not in a position to file a response by this deadline.

- b) **By when must a request for an extension of time be filed?**

1 mark

- c) **What will be the extended deadline for filing a response once a request for extension is filed? Show your calculations.**

2 marks

Total: 5 marks

Question 8

A PCT application was filed on 25 July 2023 claiming priority from a Japanese patent application filed on 22 August 2022. The PCT application was published in Japanese. You are instructed to enter the regional phase at the EPO. Showing your calculations:

- a) **What is the deadline for entering the regional phase?**

4 marks

- b) **What is the deadline for filing a translation of the specification into an EPO official language?**

1 mark

Total: 5 marks

Question 9

An A2 publication of a European patent application is dated 7 August 2024. The A3 publication of the European patent application is dated 11 September 2024.

- a) **What is the deadline for requesting examination of the application? Show your calculations.**

3 marks

- b) **What fees are due by the deadline in part a)?**

2 marks

Total: 5 marks

Question 10

A GB Patent Application was filed that contains 20 claims. In the issued search report, the UK examiner objects that there are two inventions in the claims and raises a lack of unity objection. Only claims 1 to 10 are searched.

a) What must be done to obtain a search in respect of claims 11 to 20?

2 marks

b) Assuming the application remains pending, what is the deadline for taking the action in part a)?

2 marks

Total: 4 marks

Question 11

A UK design application is filed on 2 December 2024, and subsequently registered. Your office receives the registration certificate 3 weeks after filing.

When is the first renewal fee due? Show your calculations.

2 marks

Question 12

A notification is received that the grant of a European patent application will be published on 12 February 2025.

What is the deadline for filing a divisional application? Explain your answer.

2 marks

Question 13

A notification is received that the grant of a European patent application will be published on 19 February 2025.

What is the deadline for filing a request for a unitary patent? Show your calculations.

2 marks

Question 14

Your client wishes to oppose a European patent, with a grant date of 22 January 2025.

What steps must be taken and by what date? Show your calculations.

5 marks

Question 15

A communication under Art. 94(3) *EPC* (an examination report) was issued by the EPO setting a deadline for response. No response was filed by the deadline and no extension of time of this deadline was obtained. The EPO consequently issued a communication dated 9 December 2024, stating that the application is deemed withdrawn. You received the communication the same day.

- a) In order to continue examination of the application, what actions should now be taken?

2 marks

- b) By what date must these actions be taken? Show your calculations.

3 marks

Total: 5 marks

Question 16

A PCT application was filed on 14 February 2023. The PCT application claims a priority date of 18 February 2022. The European regional phase was entered on 14 August 2024.

What is the due date for paying the first renewal fee for the European application? Show your calculations.

3 marks

Question 17

You filed a first GB Patent Application for XYZ Corporation on 11 October 2024. On 11 December 2024 you filed a GB divisional patent application from that first GB patent application.

- a) What is the deadline for requesting a search on the divisional patent application? Show your calculations.

6 marks

- b) What is the deadline for filing a PF7 on the divisional patent application? Show your calculations.

3 marks

Total: 9 marks

Question 18

A registered Community design was filed on 8 August 2020, with a priority date of 9 February 2020. The Certificate of Registration was issued on 29 August 2020.

- a) **By what date is the first renewal fee due? Show your calculations.**

2 marks

- b) **If all renewal fees are paid, on what date will the registration expire? Show your calculations.**

3 marks

Total: 5 marks

Question 19

State two ways to obtain registered design protection in the UK.

2 marks

Total: 80 marks