

2025 ICPA Mock Mark Scheme

Question 1

A priority-founding (first filed) GB design application was filed on 21 October 2025. What is the Convention priority deadline? Show your calculations.

2 marks

Answer:

[If candidate shows knowledge of the 6-month convention period but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

21 October 2025 + 6 months
= Tuesday, 21 April 2026

1 mark
1 mark

Question 2

You filed a GB patent application on 15 September 2025. On 12 December 2025 you filed a divisional patent application from that GB patent application.

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

5 marks

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

4 marks

Total: 9 marks

Answer:

- a) [If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being the later of 12 months from the priority date or 2 months from the date of filing the divisional application but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

Later of 12 months from (i) priority date or (ii) 2 months from date of filing the divisional application:

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| i) | 12 months from priority date | |
| | 15 September 2025 + 12 months | 1 mark |
| | = 15 September 2026 (Tuesday) | 1 mark |
| ii) | 2 months from date of filing the divisional | |
| | 12 December 2025 + 2 months | 1 mark |
| | = 12 February 2026 (Thursday) | 1 mark |

[An identification of the later date, or that the later date is the deadline, must be given for this mark to be awarded.]

Later of these two dates: 15 September 2026 1 mark

- b) [If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being the later of 16 months from the priority date or 2 months from the date of filing the divisional application but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

Later of (i) 16 months from priority date or (ii) 2 months from date on which the divisional application is filed

- i) 16 months from priority date
 15 September 2025 + 16 months
 = 15 January 2027 (Friday) 1 mark
 1 mark
- ii) 2 months from date of filing the divisional: 1 mark
 12 December 2025 + 2 months = 12 February 2026 (as above)
 [no separate mark here for this date calculation, since mark awarded above for this point. Marks can be awarded if this is correct here, but these marks were not awarded above.]

Identification of the later of these two dates: = 15 January 2027 1 mark

Question 3

A GB patent application was filed on 1 September 2022. The patent was granted on 19 November 2025.

- a) **By when is the first renewal fee due without using extensions?
 Show your calculations.**

3 marks

- b) **What is the last date for late payment? Show your calculations.**

3 marks

Total: 6 marks

Answer:

- a) [If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being the last day of the month containing the 4th anniversary of filing but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

Renewal fee is due by the last day of the month containing the 4th anniversary of filing (in respect of the 5th year).

1 September 2022 + 4 years 1 mark

= 1 September 2026 1 mark

Payable to the end of the month: Wednesday, 30 September 2026 1 mark

- b) [If candidate shows knowledge that the renewal fee can be paid until the end of the 6th month from the end of September 2026 (or the date given in the answer to part a) but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

Renewal fee can be paid up to 6 months from the end of September 2026

1 September 2026 + 6 months 1 mark

= 1 March 2027 1 mark

Payable to the end of the month: Wednesday 31 March 2027 1 mark

Question 4

A GB patent application was filed on 10 September 2021. The compliance date is 10 March 2026.

a) To what date can the compliance date be extended as-of-right? Show your calculations.

2 marks

b) What action(s) must you take to request the as-of-right extension?

2 marks

Total: 4 marks

Answer:

Parts in square brackets below not needed for the mark to be awarded.

a) 10 March 2026 + 2 months 1 mark
= 10 May 2026 (Sunday) 1 mark

b) Extension requested by filing form [PF52] 1 mark
And paying fee 1 mark

Question 5

A UK Design was registered on 7 January 2021. The UK design claimed priority from a US Design application filed on 8 July 2020.

By when must the first renewal fee be paid, including any available extensions of time? Show your calculations.

4 marks

Answer:

[If candidate shows knowledge that the renewal fee is due 5 years from the registration date but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

5 years from the registration date 7 January 2021 + 5 years 1 mark
= 7 January 2026 (Wednesday) 1 mark

A 6-month grace period is available
7 January 2026 + 6 months 1 mark
= Tuesday, 7 July 2026 1 mark

Question 6

A PCT application was filed on 13 January 2025. The PCT application has an earliest priority date of 15 January 2024. The PCT application was published in Japanese. You are now entering the European regional phase of this PCT application.

- a) **State one language in which the translation of the specification may be validly filed.**

1 mark

- b) **By when must the translation be filed without incurring penalty fees? Show your calculations.**

5 marks

Total: 6 marks

Answer:

- a) Any one of English, French or German 1 mark

- b) [If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being 31 months from the earliest priority date but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

31 months from earliest priority:

15 January 2024

1 mark

+ 31 months

1 mark

= 15 August 2026

1 mark

= Saturday

1 mark

NWD = Monday, 17 August 2026

1 mark

Question 7

List three routes through which a European patent can be sought.

3 marks

Answer:

Any three of the following. First three answers only to be marked.

Parts in square brackets not needed for the mark to be awarded.

- i) A direct [EP] filing
- ii) A convention (priority-claiming) [EP] filing
- iii) A divisional [of an EP application]
- iv) A regional phase filing of a PCT application [designating EP]

3 marks

Question 8

List four requirements to obtain a filing date for an international patent application that does not claim priority.

4 marks

Answer:

[1 mark for each (up to a maximum of 4; only the first four answers are to be marked); if candidate lists 'specification' without specifying individual components award 1 mark; note: "file drawings" is not included. A filing date can be obtained whether or not drawings are filed.]

Parts in square brackets below not needed for the mark to be awarded.

- i) the applicant has the right to file an international application (the applicant is a resident or national of a PCT contracting state)
- ii) the filing contains an indication that it is intended as an international patent application [need knowledge that it is an international patent application for this mark to be awarded]
- iii) the filing designates at least one contracting state [to the PCT]
- iv) the filing contains details of the applicant (accept: name of the applicant)
- v) the filing contains something that at least appears to be a description
- vi) the filing contains something that at least appears to be a claim (or claims)

Question 9

A client of your firm wishes to oppose a granted European patent. The European Patent Office issued a communication dated 2 May 2025 informing the applicant that the patent would grant on 28 May 2025.

What is the deadline for filing a notice of opposition? Show your calculations.

5 marks

Answer:

[If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being 9 months from the date of grant but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

28 May 2025	1 mark
+ 9 months	1 mark
= 28 February 2026	1 mark
= Saturday	1 mark
Rolls over to Monday 2 March 2026	1 mark

Question 10

List three parts of a patent specification

3 marks

Answer: (mark only first 3 answers)

- Description
- Claims
- Drawings
- Abstract
- Introduction/background
- Statement of Invention
- Description of the drawings
- Summary of drawings references

Question 11

The EPO issued an examination report in a communication dated 21 August 2025 and received in your office on the same day, setting a 4-month period for response. A 2-month extension of time was obtained.

By when must a response be filed? Show your calculations.

4 marks

Answer:

21 August 2025 + 6m	1 mark
= 21 February 2026	1 mark
Saturday	1 mark
Next working day = 23 February 2026 (Monday)	1 mark

Question 12

A decision to refuse a European patent application is dated 19 December 2025. You receive the decision the same day. You file a notice of appeal in due time.

What is the deadline for filing the grounds of appeal? Show your calculations.

4 marks

Answer:

[If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being 4 months from notification of the decision to refuse but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

19 December 2025 + 4 months	1 mark
= 19 April 2026	1 mark
= Sunday	1 mark
= 20 April 2026 (next working day)	1 mark

Question 13

The EPO performed the international search for a PCT application and prepared the associated Written Opinion (which raised objections). The European regional phase of this PCT application was entered in due time, paying all necessary fees. A Rule 161/162 communication was issued dated 29 July 2025 and received in your office on the same day. Notification of this communication sets a 6-month time limit to file a response to the Written Opinion.

a) By when must the response be filed? Show your calculations.

2 marks

b) If no response is filed by the date calculated in a), what actions can be taken to continue with the application and by when?

3 marks

Total: 5 marks

Answer:

- a) 29 July 2025 + 6 months 1 mark
= Thursday, 29 January 2026 1 mark
- b) [If candidate shows knowledge that no extension of time is available and further processing will be required: award a maximum of 1 mark].

The EPO will issue a notice informing the applicant of a loss of rights. In response the applicant can continue by requesting further processing:

- by paying the further processing fee 1 mark
and by completing the missing actions/responding to the Written Opinion 1 mark
within two months [of notification] of the loss of rights [indication of two months is sufficient to gain this mark; no need to explicitly say 'notification'] 1 mark

Question 14

You receive a memo from Shalanda, an attorney at your firm. Shalanda writes,

Good morning. Our client, Cheap and Cheerful Limited, would like us to file a priority-claiming GB patent application on the convention deadline. The new application is entitled "Webcam magnifier", and will claim priority from their earlier application filed on 12 February 2025. As a reminder, the application number for that earlier application is GB 2572941.5.

The new application has:

- 15 pages of description
- 4 claims on a single page
- a 1-page abstract and
- 3 figures on 2 pages of drawings.

Our reference is CNC55-GB. We'll file a search request too, and will pay the application fee and search fee at the time of filing. Please pay all the fees using the PF9A. The application fee is £90, and the search fee is £180. We will pay these fees from our IPO deposit account number 150008.

The client's details are: Cheap and Cheerful Limited, Unit K, Woodland Trading Estate, Glasgow. G23 7ER. Please can you prepare the forms for filing, listing me as agent, and providing my details wherever needed.

Many thanks!

Shalanda Gibbs (sgibbs@eurekaips.com)

Eureka IP Services LLP, 80 The Square, Glasgow, G1 9RB, UK

Prepare the forms required.

Total: 12 marks

Answer:

See completed forms:

- PF1 6 marks
PF9A 6 marks

Question 15

A PCT application was filed on 17 June 2024. The application claims priority from a US application filed on 27 July 2023.

- a) When does the international phase end for this PCT application? Show your calculations.

3 marks

- b) What is the date of the time limit for entering the European regional phase for this PCT application? Show your calculations.

3 marks

- c) What is the due date for the first renewal fee due at the European Patent Office for the European regional phase application? Show your calculations.

3 marks

Total: 9 marks

Answer:

Parts in square brackets below not needed for the mark to be awarded.

- a) [If candidate shows knowledge of the end of the international phase being 30 months from the priority date but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

27 July 2023

1 mark

+ 30 months

1 mark

= 27 January 2026 (Tuesday)

1 mark

- b) [If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being 31 months from the priority date, but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

27 July 2023

1 mark

+ 31 months

1 mark

= 27 February 2026 (Friday)

1 mark

- c) [If candidate shows knowledge of the deadline being the second anniversary of the [PCT] filing date (in respect of the third year) but shows no (or incorrect) calculations: award a maximum of 1 mark.]

17 June 2024 + 2 years

1 mark

= 17 June 2026

1 mark

Payable to end of month 30 June 2026 (Tuesday) [accept: end of June 2026]

1 mark

Total 80 marks



Patents Form 1

Patents Act 1977 (Rule 12)

Request for grant of a patent

(An explanatory leaflet on how to fill in this form is available from the office)

Application number GB

1. Your reference: (optional)	CNC55-GB		
2. Full name, address and postcode of the applicant or of each applicant (underline all surnames): The name(s) and address(es) provided here will be published online as part of the application process (see warning note below) Patents ADP number (if you know it):	Cheap and Cheerful Limited Unit K, Woodland Trading Estate Glasgow G23 7ER		
3. Title of the invention:	Webcam magnifier		
4. Name of your agent (if you have one): "Address for service" to which all correspondence should be sent (including postcode). This may be in the United Kingdom, Gibraltar or Channel Islands: (see warning note below) Patents ADP number (if you know it):	Shalanda Gibbs Surname can optionally be in capitals or underlined Eureka IP Services LLP Company name needed for the mark 80, The Square Glasgow G1 9RB		
5. Priority declaration: Are you claiming priority from one or more earlier-filed patent applications? If so, please give details of the application(s):	Country GB	Application number (if you know it) 2172941.5	Date of filing (day/month/year) 12/02/2025 Accept 12-2-2025 or 12.2.2025
6. Divisionals etc: Is this application a divisional application, or being made following resolution of an entitlement dispute about an earlier application? If so, please give the application number and filing date of the earlier application:	Number of earlier UK application	Date of filing (day/month/year)	
7. Inventorship: (Inventors must be individuals not companies) Are all the applicants named above also inventors? If yes, are there any other inventors?	(Please tick the appropriate boxes)		
	Yes	☐	No ☒
	Yes	☐	No ☐
8. Are you paying the application fee with this form?	Yes	☐	No ☒

9. Accompanying documents:
please enter the number of pages of each item
accompanying this form:

Continuation sheets of this form:

Description:

Claim(s):

Abstract:

Drawing(s):

If you are not filing a description, please give
details of the previous application you are
going to rely upon:

Country

Application number

Date of filing
(day/month/year)

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how
many against each item.

Priority documents:

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a
patent (*Patents Form 7*):

Request for search (*Patents Form 9A*):

Request for substantive examination
(*Patents Form 10*):

Any other documents: (please specify)

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature(s):

MUST BE BLANK

Date:

12 February 2026

12. Name, email address, telephone and/
or mobile number, if any, of a contact
point for the applicant:

Shalanda Gibbs
sgibbs@eurekaips.com

Surname can optionally be in capitals or underlined

Warning

After an application for a patent has been filed, the Comptroller will consider whether publication or communication of the invention should be prohibited or restricted under section 22 of the Patents Act 1977. You will be informed if it is necessary to prohibit or restrict your invention in this way. Furthermore, if you are resident in the United Kingdom and your application contains information which relates to military technology, or would be prejudicial to national security or the safety of the public, section 23 of the Patents Act 1977 prohibits you from applying for a patent abroad without first getting written permission from the Office unless an application has been filed at least 6 weeks beforehand in the United Kingdom for a patent for the same invention and either no direction prohibiting publication or communication has been given, or any such direction has been revoked. Until such time or until the revocation of any direction, for any such application the address for service referred to at part 4 above must be in the United Kingdom.

In all other cases, the name of the applicant will be published online shortly after we receive your application, together with the title of the invention. Later, when the whole application is published, most information and documents filed in relation to the application will become publicly available online. **The name and address of the applicant will be published on our website and are likely to appear in external search engine results.** You should provide a business or PO Box address if you do not want your home address published online.

Although you may have an address for service in the Channel Islands or Gibraltar, any agent you appoint to act for you must reside or have a place of business in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man or the European Economic Area.

Notes

A leaflet on how to fill in this form is available from the Office. If you would like a copy of the leaflet it is available on our website at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/893060/Form-1-guidance.pdf or alternatively you could telephone 0300 300 2000 or send an email to information@ipo.gov.uk to request a copy.

Data Privacy: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/intellectual-property-office/about/personal-information-charter>

Fees and payment

Explicit instructions to pay using PF9A, so this page should be left blank. Marks are not to be deducted for anything on this page.

Please note you only need to complete this form if paying the Application Fee for Patents Form 1

To check the correct fee for this form, search on [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk) for 'patent forms and fees'

Total Fee Paying (£)

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Your contact details should we have a query

Name

Email

Phone

How would you like to pay?

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Using a debit or credit card – you will need the internet to pay by card

- 1 Go to our secure website – <https://fees.ipo.gov.uk/pay>
- 2 Enter your name, email address and total amount to pay from above
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DO NOT write your debit/credit card number

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Deduct from IPO deposit account

IPO deposit account number

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☐

Bank transfer

Reference – use your IPO deposit account number if you have one or an application number or your name if you don't.

Use the following bank account details

Sort code	20-18-23
Account number	80531766
Account name	Intellectual Property Office
SWIFT code	BARCGB22
IBAN number	GB92 BARC 2018 2380 5317 66



Patents Form 9A

Patents Act 1977 (Rule 27)

Request for search

(See the notes on the back of this form)

1. Your reference: (optional)	CNC55-GB	1
2. Patent application number (e.g. GB7654321.0):		
3. Full name of the applicant or of each applicant:	Cheap'n'Cheerful Limited	
4. Is this request for (please tick one box): ☐ a) A search under Section 17(1) for an international application which has been searched in the international phase? ☒ b) A search under Section 17 (1) for any other application? ☐ c) A supplementary search under Section 17(8)? (See note (b) for help choosing which search you require) ☐ d) A search of a further invention under Section 17(6)? If your answer is (d), identify which invention you would like to be searched by referring to the claims to be searched (See note (c)): (we will automatically send you a paper copy of any cited non-patent documents, see note (d))		1
5. Are you paying the application fee with this form? (See note (e))	YES ☒ No ☐	
6. Number of claims in your application: Only relevant for options (a) and (b) above. See note (f)	4	
7. (please see note (g))	Signature MUST BE BLANK	Date 12 February 2026
8. Your name and full address:	Shalanda Gibbs Eureka IP Services LLP 80, The Square Glasgow G1 9RB	

Mark can be awarded where this date is incorrect,
but is the same as the date given on form PF1

Surname can optionally be in capitals or underlined

9. Name, email address, telephone and/or mobile number, if any, of a contact point for the applicant:

Shalanda Gibbs
sgibbs@eurekaips.com

Surname can optionally be in capitals or underlined

1

Notes

- a) *Please type or write your answers using black ink. If you need help to fill in this form or you have any questions, please contact the Office on 0300 300 2000.*
- b) *Identifying the type of search you require:*
- Option a) *choose this option if your application is a PCT application.*
- Option b) *choose this option if your application is a UK national application, and this is the first search you have requested for your application.*
- Option c) *this option is used if you have already had a search done, but the claims have since been amended or corrected so that the defined invention has changed, and was not covered by the original search. An examiner will tell you if you need to request a supplementary search.*
- Option d) *sometimes an examiner will tell you that your claims relate to more than one invention. In such circumstances the examiner will only search the first invention of the claims. If you wish other inventions to be searched you should use this option, filing a separate form with this option ticked for each invention you wish to be searched. You should also indicate on the form(s) the claims relating to the invention to be searched. You will need to pay a fee for each further invention to be searched.*
- c) *If you do not identify an invention, the second invention specified in the search report previously made under Section 17(5) will be searched.*
- d) *We will supply one copy of each non-patent document such as journal articles cited in the search report or during the substantive examination process. Patent documents cited during the application process are usually accessible for free on the internet (particularly from <http://worldwide.espacenet.com/>) and you will not be issued with a copy of them. For copyright reasons, all copies of citations supplied by the Office must be used for the sole purpose of processing the patent application.*
- e) *Before your application is searched you must pay an application fee, as well as the search fee required with this form. If you have not already paid the application fee you can do so when filing this form. Note that the application fee is higher when paid after the date you filed your application. For details of the fees and ways to pay them, please contact the Office.*
- f) *If you have selected option (a) or (b) in part 4 of this form, please indicate the current number of claims in your application. The search fee increases if your application includes more than 25 claims. Such an increase does not apply to searches under option (c) or (d). For details of the fee payable with this form and ways to pay, please contact the Office.*
- g) *In order to promote efficient and high quality patent processing internationally, we are cooperating with other patent offices to share the results of searches and examinations. We are obliged to provide some information before publication to the European Patent Office. We may also provide the results of the search and any examination that has been carried out to other patent offices, even if this is prior to publication of your application. Any sharing prior to publication of your application will be carried out on a confidential basis and the results will not become publicly available through the other patent office before publication takes place in the UK.*
- h) *Once you have filled in this form remember to sign and date it.*

Data Privacy: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/intellectual-property-office/about/personal-information-charter>

Email your form to us:

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If you cannot email your form, post to:

Intellectual Property Office
Concept House
Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales
NP10 8QQ

Fees and payment

We will only process the form with this section completed (one form per payment)

To check the correct fee for this form, search on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/patent-forms-and-fees) for 'patent forms and fees'

Search fee	£180 ['£' not needed for mark]	Both fee amounts need to be present for this mark. If a currency indication is given, it must be correct, e.g. '£' or 'GBP'
Application fee (only if not paid with Patent Form 1)	£90 ['£' not needed for mark]	
Excess claims fee	BLANK	
Total fee paying	This box to be disregarded for the purposes of this mark scheme	If reference given, it must be correct. For purposes of this mark scheme, this box can be left blank. (Candidates should in future note and follow any instructions in the question.)
Your own reference (Optional)	CNC55-GB or BLANK	

Your contact details should we have a query

Name	Shalanda Gibbs Surname can optionally be in capitals or underlined
Email	sgibbs@eurekaips.com
Phone	

How would you like to pay?

Tick one

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Using a debit or credit card – you will need the internet to pay by card

- 1 Go to our secure website – <https://fees.ipo.gov.uk/pay>
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DO NOT write your debit/credit card number



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150008

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Use the following bank account details

Sort code	20-18-23
Account number	80531766
Account name	Intellectual Property Office
SWIFT code	BARCGB22
IBAN number	GB92 BARC 2018 2380 5317 66