

Examiner Comments – Paper C 2008

In general the exam was not well answered. The reason for this was that candidates either did not write the correct answers or only wrote down the bare basics. Best marks were obtained by candidates who clearly understood the law and could apply it to the scenarios discussed in the questions.

Question 1: Many candidates knew a few basics but little detail.

Question 2: Many candidates were unaware of recent changes to the PCT process and the limitations the changes had in practice.

Question 3: The European process was generally well understood. The mechanics of the US disclosure requirements and old Australian requirements were not well answered.

Question 4: This was poorly answered with many candidates writing incomplete and even incorrect answers.

Question 5: This question produced a wide variety of different answers with different candidates getting different parts of the process right but only a few writing the majority of the options available.

Question 6: This was generally well answered and represented easy marks for most candidates. Extensions of time were the least well understood aspect of this question.

Question 7: This question was poorly answered with many candidates barely understanding even the basics of this question.

Question 8: Candidates generally understood novelty requirements and deadlines well.

Question 9: Candidates usually understood the claim styles referred to in the question.

Question 10: This question should have presented easy marks but many candidates wrote incorrect dates in some cases meaning that the due date would have been missed. One common error was that the distinction between the priority date and filing date which is important in selected countries was not expressed by the candidate.

Question 11: This question was generally answered well.