

1. Filing requirements and formalities

1.1 Minimum requirements for a filing date

- **Scope:** assessing the mandatory elements (e.g., description, claims) and their submission modes.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What documents are required on the filing date for the epo to accord a filing date?*
 - *How is the filing date affected if claims are missing initially?*
 - *If no reference to any drawing is included, can missing drawings be submitted later without a change in the filing date?*

1.2 Filing methods and locations

- **Scope:** addressing allowed filing modes (fax, online, physical) and relevant epo sites.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Which epo offices can receive an ep application filed via fax?*
 - *How do the rules differ for filing with the epo vs. National patent offices?*

1.3 Formality examination

- **Scope:** checking if formal requirements (payment of fees, form usage, etc.) Are met.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What happens if the request for grant (form 1001) is not correctly completed?*
 - *What is the procedure if the formalities officer notes a missing inventor designation?*

2. Priority claims and right of priority

2.1 Substantive requirements for priority

- **Scope:** validity criteria, same invention requirement, earliest date, and partial priorities.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What conditions must be fulfilled for a valid priority claim from an earlier application?*
 - *Does the priority application need to disclose every feature claimed in the subsequent filing?*

2.2 Time limits and restoration

- **Scope:** one-year priority period, procedures for requesting restoration, conditions for success.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How is the 12-month priority period calculated when it ends on a weekend?*
 - *What evidence must be provided to restore priority under rule 26bis.3 pct?*

2.3 Multiple priorities and partial priority

- **Scope:** handling claims that rely on more than one earlier application.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Can a single claim contain subject-matter from two different priority dates?*
 - *How to split claims into portions entitled to partial priority?*

3. Divisional applications

3.1 Filing requirements

- **Scope:** when a parent must still be pending, language options, and timing.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *By what date must a divisional be filed if the parent is due to grant?*
 - *Can a divisional be filed in a different language than its parent?*

3.2 Subject-matter and scope

- **Scope:** compliance with article 76 epc, no added subject-matter, and ensuring unity.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How is added subject-matter assessed in a divisional relative to the parent's original disclosure?*
 - *Can a divisional cover an invention that was excluded from the parent's search due to lack of unity?*

3.3 Fees for divisionals

- **Scope:** payment of filing fees, renewal fees, examination fees, and other relevant costs.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *When are renewal fees due for a divisional application compared to its parent?*
 - *Is any reduction possible for the filing or examination fee of a divisional?*

4. Fees, payment methods, and time limits

4.1 Types and calculation of fees

- **Scope:** understanding different fee types (filing, search, examination, renewal, claims).
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How are excess claims fees calculated if claims are amended during examination?*
 - *When must the search fee be paid if the epo acts as isa under the pct?*

4.2 Payment mechanisms

- **Scope:** automatic debit orders, bank transfers, credit cards, and fee payment via third parties.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How does an automatic debit order work and what happens if the deposit account lacks funds?*
 - *Can multiple applicants share a single deposit account for fee payment?*

4.3 Fee deadlines and late payment consequences

- **Scope:** additional fees, surcharges, and further processing if deadlines are missed.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What surcharge applies if renewal fees are not paid by the due date?*
 - *How can an applicant avoid loss of rights if a fee payment is overlooked?*

5. Languages and translations

5.1 Language of filing and procedural language

- **Scope:** filing in non-epo official languages, subsequent translation deadlines, language-based fee reductions.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How long after filing must a translation be submitted if the application was filed in italian?*
 - *Which official language of the epo becomes the language of proceedings if multiple languages are used?*

5.2 Translation requirements on grant or other stages

- **Scope:** claim translations under rule 71(3) epc, translation for validation in national phases.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What is required if the text intended for grant is not in the applicant's preferred official language?*
 - *Does the applicant need to file translations in all contracting states after grant?*

5.3 Effects of language on costs and procedural rights

- **Scope:** fee reductions for certain languages, language-based rights of small entities or universities.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What reduction in examination fees applies for a university filing in an official language of an epc contracting state?*
 - *Can an applicant who filed in spanish benefit from a fee reduction?*

6. Procedural remedies and legal effect

6.1 Further processing (rule 135 epc)

- **Scope:** available for missed deadlines in examination or other proceedings, scope of remedy, exceptions.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *For which official time limits is further processing not available?*
 - *How must an applicant request further processing after failing to respond to an examination report?*

6.2 Re-establishment of rights (article 122 epc)

- **Scope:** conditions (all due care), time limit for requesting, and required evidence.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What steps demonstrate “all due care” to justify re-establishment?*
 - *When does the two-month time limit for re-establishment start running if an applicant misses a final deadline?*

6.3 Loss of rights and remedies

- **Scope:** notices of loss of rights, deemed withdrawals, subsequent procedural options.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *When is a communication under rule 112(1) epc issued, and how to react?*
 - *Is an appeal possible against a deemed withdrawal?*

7. Pct procedure and entry into the european phase

7.1 International filing and search

- **Scope:** filing at receiving offices, international search by epo or other isas, invited corrections.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Which receiving office can a us applicant choose when filing a pct application?*
 - *What happens if the applicant fails to pay the international filing fee within the deadline?*

7.2 Preliminary examination and amendments

- **Scope:** filing a demand, timing for article 34 amendments, unity objections at iper stage.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *When must the demand for international preliminary examination be filed at the epo as ipea?*
 - *How are amendments under article 34 pct handled differently from article 19 pct amendments?*

7.3 European phase entry and requirements

- **Scope:** minimum actions to enter ep phase (translations, fees, etc.), optional actions (requesting examination).
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What are the minimum requirements to validly enter the european phase under articles 22/39 pct?*
 - *Is an additional search fee always required in the ep phase if the epo was the isa?*

8. Examination, amendments, and grant

8.1 Examination procedure and communications

- **Scope:** responding to article 94(3) communications, telephone consultations with examiners, time limit extensions.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What are the applicant's options upon receiving an objection regarding lack of clarity under article 84?*
 - *Is an in-person hearing possible before the examining division issues a final decision?*

8.2 Claim amendments and article 123 epc

- **Scope:** no added subject-matter, no broadening after grant, clarity considerations.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How is an amendment evaluated for compliance with article 123(2)?*
 - *When is it permissible to delete features from the original independent claim?*

8.3 Grant stage (rule 71(3) epc) and post-grant publication

- **Scope:** paying the fee for grant and publishing, submitting claim translations, final text for publication.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What steps must be completed before the decision to grant is issued?*
 - *What happens if errors are found in the druckexemplar after paying the grant fee?*

9. Opposition and appeals

9.1 Grounds for opposition (article 100 epc)

- **Scope:** novelty, inventive step, subject-matter not patentable, insufficiency of disclosure, extension beyond original filing.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Can an opponent rely on lack of clarity under article 84 epc as a ground for opposition?*
 - *Is lack of unity a valid ground for opposition?*

9.2 Opposition procedure and admissibility

- **Scope:** formal requirements (time limits, opponent identity), partial opposition, withdrawal of opposition.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Is it possible to oppose only one independent claim of a granted patent?*
 - *How does the epo handle late-filed documents in opposition?*

9.3 Appeal proceedings

- **Scope:** grounds of appeal, fresh evidence, remittal, boards' powers, and procedures.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Can a new ground for opposition be introduced during appeal without the patentee's consent?*
 - *What is the composition of a board of appeal deciding a patent case?*

10. Substantive patent law: novelty and inventive step

10.1 Novelty analysis

- **Scope:** defining prior art, comparing features, selection inventions, disclaimers.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How is novelty assessed against a document that discloses a range overlapping the claimed range?*
 - *Does prior use by the applicant themselves destroy novelty?*

10.2 Inventive step analysis

- **Scope:** closest prior art selection, objective technical problem, and problem-solution approach.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Can a known alternative material render the claim obvious if it provides no improved result?*
 - *How does the examiner establish a lack of inventive step if the solution is an obvious combination of known teachings?*

10.3 Special forms of claims (e.g., medical use)

- **Scope:** swiss-type, article 54(5) epc second medical use claims, allowable claim wording.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What is the difference between swiss-type claims and epc 2000 medical use claims?*
 - *How is novelty established for a second or further medical use?*

11. Entitlement and transfers

11.1 Entitlement disputes (article 61 EPC)

- **Scope:** disputes over who owns the right to a european patent application or patent.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How can proceedings be stayed if entitlement proceedings are initiated before a national court?*
 - *What is the effect on the ongoing examination of a pending entitlement dispute?*

11.2 Transfers and assignments

- **Scope:** formalities for registering changes in ownership, partial transfers, and licensing.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Which documents are needed to record a transfer of rights in the european patent register?*
 - *Does a partial assignment allow different co-owners in different designated states?*

11.3 Procedural consequences

- **Scope:** impact on deadlines, actions that can/cannot be taken by a transferee before registration.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *At what point can the transferee begin prosecuting the application in their own name?*
 - *Is there a fee for recording a transfer at the epo?*

12. Biotech and sequence listings

12.1 Sequence listing filing and format

- **Scope:** mandatory wipo standard, electronic submission, late furnishing fees.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What are the consequences if a sequence listing is not filed upon request?*
 - *In what format must the sequence listing be provided under wipo standard st.25 or st.26?*

12.2 Added subject-matter in biotech claims

- **Scope:** ensuring that no new sequences or mutations are introduced beyond the original disclosure.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How is compliance with article 123(2) epc checked for nucleotide and amino acid sequences?*

12.3 Specific patentability exceptions in biotech

- **Scope:** exclusions (plant/animal varieties, essentially biological processes), rule 28 epc.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What biotech inventions are explicitly excluded from patentability under the epc?*
 - *Does the epc allow gene editing claims for plants?*

13. Unity of invention

13.1 Unity in european applications

- **Scope:** criteria for single general inventive concept, partial search where unity is lacking.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *How does the epo handle multiple independent claims that appear unrelated?*
 - *Can the epo invite payment of additional search fees for non-unified claims during ep examination?*

13.2 Unity in pct applications

- **Scope:** international phase unity criteria, additional fees for multiple inventions, protest procedure.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *What steps can an applicant take if the isa invites payment of additional search fees?*
 - *Is it possible to pursue unsearched inventions in a later european divisional?*

13.3 Strategies for overcoming lack of unity

- **Scope:** amendments, selecting one invention to proceed with, potential divisional filings.
- **Sample sentences:**
 - *Which claims should be retained if the applicant pays no additional search fees?*
 - *How does an applicant choose the invention providing the strongest prospect of allowance?*

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Summary Table

Question	Category	Subcategory
Q1	11. Entitlement and Transfers	11.1 Entitlement Disputes
Q2	9. Opposition and Appeals	9.1/9.2 (Grounds/Procedure)
Q3	9. Opposition and Appeals	9.3 Appeal Proceedings
Q4	11. Entitlement and Transfers	11.2 Transfers and Assignments
Q5	5. Languages and Translations	5.1 Language of Filing / Procedural Language
Q6	3. Divisional Applications	3.1 Filing Requirements
Q7	10. Substantive Patent Law	10.3 Special Forms (Medical Use)
Q8	7. PCT Procedure and Entry into EP Phase	7.1 International Filing and Search
Q9	1. Filing Requirements and Formalities	1.1 (Filing Date) / 1.3 (Representation as part of formality check)
Q10	9. Opposition and Appeals	9.2 Opposition Procedure / Admissibility
Q11	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.1 Examination Procedure (Clarity & Claim Construction)
Q12	10. Substantive Patent Law	10.1 Novelty Analysis
Q13	10. Substantive Patent Law	10.1 Novelty Analysis
Q14	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.2 Claim Amendments and Article 123(2)/84
Q15	10. Substantive Patent Law	10.1 (Novelty) & 10.2 (Inventive Step)
Q16	10. Substantive Patent Law	10.1 Novelty Analysis
Q17	10. Substantive Patent Law	10.1 Novelty Analysis
Q18	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.1 Examination Procedure & possibly 8.2 (Article 123(2))
Q19	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.2 Claim Amendments and Article 123(2)
Q20	10. Substantive Patent Law	10.2 Inventive Step Analysis

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Question	Category	Subcategory
Q1	4. Fees, Payment Methods, and Time Limits	4.1 Types & Calculation of Fees / 4.3 Deadlines
Q2	2. Priority Claims and Right of Priority	2.1 Substantive Requirements, 2.2 Time Limits
Q3	3. Divisional Applications	3.1 Filing Requirements / 3.2 Subject-Matter and Scope
Q4	7. PCT Procedure and Entry into the European Phase	7.1 International Filing and Search (plus minor Article 54(3) aspects)
Q5	9. Opposition and Appeals	9.1 Grounds for Opposition & Admissibility / 9.2 Opposition Procedure
Q6	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.1 Examination Procedure (focus on sufficiency, Art. 83)
Q7	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.1 Examination Procedure (oral proceedings, who may speak)
Q8	9. Opposition and Appeals	9.3 Appeal Proceedings (fresh grounds)
Q9	5. Languages and Translations	5.1 Language of Filing/Procedural Language
Q10	7. PCT Procedure and Entry into the European Phase	7.1 International Filing and Search (unity, protest fees)
Q11	10. Substantive Patent Law: Novelty/Inventive Step	(Claim scope interpretation; product-by-process coverage)
Q12	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.1 Examination Procedure (Art. 84 clarity, essential features)
Q13	10. Substantive Patent Law: Novelty and Inventive Step	10.1 Novelty Analysis
Q14	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.2 Claim Amendments & Article 123(2)
Q15	10. Substantive Patent Law: Novelty and Inventive Step	10.2 Inventive Step Analysis
Q16	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.1 Examination Procedure (clarity, scope)
Q17	10. Substantive Patent Law: Novelty and Inventive Step	10.1 Novelty Analysis
Q18	10. Substantive Patent Law: Novelty and Inventive Step	10.1 Novelty Analysis

Question	Category	Subcategory
Q19	8. Examination, Amendments, and Grant	8.2 Claim Amendments & Article 123(2)
Q20	10. Substantive Patent Law: Novelty and Inventive Step	10.2 Inventive Step Analysis (including two-part form re: D2)

Questions Sup OEB

Q	Topic (Short)	Category	Subcategory
1	20% exam fee reduction (Spanish)	5. Languages & Translations	5.3 Effects of Language on Costs/Rights
2	Stay of proceedings & renewal fees	6. Procedural Remedies & Legal Effect	(Stay of proceedings under Rule 14(4))
3	Interruption (Rule 142) & resuming an opposition time limit	6. Procedural Remedies & Legal Effect	(Interruption/resumption)
4	Correcting inventor in PCT vs. EPC (consent not required vs. required)	7. PCT Procedure & Entry into EP Phase	7.1 International Filing & Search
5	Recording sub-licence in EP Register	11. Entitlement & Transfers	11.2 Transfers & Assignments (Licences)
6	Exhibition priority certificate refused if not issued at exhibition	1. Filing Requirements & Formalities	1.3 Formality Examination or a special Art. 55(1)(b) case
7	Payment date of exam fee via bank transfer	4. Fees, Payment & Time Limits	4.2 Payment Mechanisms / 4.3 Deadlines
8	Filing a divisional after refusal, still within appeal period (G1/09)	3. Divisional Applications	3.1 Filing Requirements
9	Renewal fees can be paid up to 3 months early	4. Fees, Payment & Time Limits	4.3 Fee Deadlines
10	Article 61(1)(b) new application, first renewal fee date	4. Fees, Payment & Time Limits	4.3 Fee Deadlines
11	Too late to add a priority claim (Rule 52(2) EPC)	2. Priority Claims & Right of Priority	2.2 Time Limits & Restoration
12	Effect of not filing priority document: loss of priority right	2. Priority Claims & Right of Priority	2.2 Time Limits & Restoration
13	Inventor designation due date (Rule 60(1))	1. Filing Requirements & Formalities	1.3 Formality Examination

Q Topic (Short)	Category	Subcategory
14 Amended feature was “result to be achieved,” clarity not re-opened	9. Opposition & Appeals	9.1 / 9.2 (G 3/14 in opposition)
15 Oppose a lapsed/surrendered patent (ex nunc vs. ex tunc)	9. Opposition & Appeals	9.2 Opposition Procedure
16 Amendment in opposition not occasioned by ground (Rule 80, clarity only)	9. Opposition & Appeals	9.2 Opposition Procedure
17 Intervention in appeal, only pay opposition fee	9. Opposition & Appeals	9.2 or 9.3 (Intervention at appeal stage)
18 Intervener is entitled to appeal	9. Opposition & Appeals	9.3 Appeal Proceedings
19 Request for revocation by proprietor, existence of exclusive licensee	9. Opposition & Appeals	(Central revocation procedure)
20 Recording exclusive licence in EP Register	11. Entitlement & Transfers	11.2 Transfers & Assignments (Licences)
21 PACE request by fax not valid, examination can start but not accelerated	8. Examination, Amendments & Grant	8.1 Examination Procedure
22 Art. 115 obs. in limitation proceedings re: patentability	9. Opposition & Appeals (or post-grant)	(Limitation is not strictly opposition, but close enough)
23 Last day to file divisional (day before publication of mention of grant)	3. Divisional Applications	3.1 Filing Requirements
24 Fee reduction for additional pages (part of filing fee)	5. Languages & Translations	5.3 Effects of Language on Costs/Rights
25 Amendment is an intermediate generalization (A123(2))	8. Examination, Amendments & Grant	8.2 Claim Amendments & Article 123(2)
26 Omitting “asbestos” from a 4-element list is permissible (A123(2))	8. Examination, Amendments & Grant	8.2 Claim Amendments & Article 123(2)
27 When an authorization is required & consequences of not filing	1. Filing Requirements & Formalities	1.3 Formality Examination

Q Topic (Short)	Category	Subcategory
28 Last date for Rule 139 correction before grant decision is posted	8. Examination, Amendments & Grant	8.2 (Corrections under 139 up to decision)
29 No correction after grant decision is dispatched (Rule 140 not for docs)	8. Examination, Amendments & Grant	8.2 (No correction possible)
30 Filing an opposition as a "straw man" (G 3/97, G 4/97)	9. Opposition & Appeals	9.2 Opposition Procedure
31 Changing method claim to device claim in opposition - Art. 123(3) issue	9. Opposition & Appeals	9.2 Opposition Procedure
32 Withdrawing application after first exam comm. => partial fee refund	4. Fees, Payment & Time Limits	4.1 or 4.3 (Refund specifics)
33 Late payment of PCT filing fees but before invitation => no extra fee	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.1 Int. Filing & Search (Rule 16bis PCT)
34 Multiple PCT applicants, withdrawal needs all signatures (Rule 90bis.5)	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.1 International Filing & Search
35 Withdrawing a PCT app. to prevent publication (15 days before pub)	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.1 International Filing & Search
36 Correct inventor in int. phase better (no need for consent)	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.1 International Filing & Search
37 Third-party obs. via ePCT	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.1 International Filing & Search
38 EPO as RO sets 2-month time; date of mailing, 10-day rule	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.1 International Filing & Search
39 EPO uses "all due care" for priority restoration	2. Priority Claims & Right of Priority	2.2 Time Limits & Restoration
40 Missed 31-month deadline, further processing for EP phase	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.3 EP Phase Entry & Requirements

Q Topic (Short)	Category	Subcategory
41 Renewal fee 3rd year for Euro-PCT app. date of payment	4. Fees, Payment & Time Limits	4.3 Deadlines
42 PCT-1 is A54(3) prior art for EP-1	10. Substantive Patent Law: Novelty & Inventive Step	10.1 Novelty Analysis
43 No unity in PCT, pay addl. fee after EPO invites or file divisional	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase, or 13. Unity	7.3 EP Phase & 13 Unity (Rule 164)
44 Receiving section can refuse OP request (Art. 116(2) EPC)	6. Procedural Remedies & Legal Effect	(General OP rules, receiving section)
45 Early entry & which fees must be paid	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.3 EP Phase Entry & Requirements
46 Priority restored under "unintentional," EPO demands "all due care"	2. Priority Claims & Right of Priority	2.2 Time Limits & Restoration
47 Priority from KR utility model; translation only if relevant to patentab.	2. Priority Claims & Right of Priority	2.2 or 2.3 (Focus: translation of priority doc)
48 No translation on EP entry => further processing	7. PCT Procedure & EP Phase	7.3 EP Phase Entry & Requirements
49 Japanese applicant can do R.159(1) acts themselves	1. Filing Requirements & Formalities	1.3 Formality Examination (Representation)
50 Two French priorities: first for A, second for A+B, effect on EP1	2. Priority Claims & Right of Priority	2.1 Substantive Requirements (first filing)