

Patent Agent Skills Examination Part 1

Test Specifications Summary

CONTENT DOMAIN

Areas

Part 1 of the *Patent Agent Skills Examination* assesses the strategy- and drafting-related skills required of Patent Agents specified in the [*College of Patent Agents and Trademark Agents Technical Competencies*](#) document. The table below specifies the percentage of marks by area:

Skills area	% of marks
Strategy	33% (+/-10%)
Drafting	67% (+/-10%)

STRUCTURAL VARIABLES

Format and length

Test-takers have 8 hours to complete Part 1 of the *Patent Agent Skills Examination*. Test-takers complete the computer-administered examination over 2 days. Test-takers have 4 hours on one day to complete the first component and 4 hours on a subsequent day to complete the second component. The 2 components are scored together as a single examination.

Items may include both constructed-response questions and performance-based (written) tasks. The examination uses a limited open-book format, with test-takers receiving electronic access to the *Patent Act*, RSC 1985, c P-4 and *Patent Rules*, SOR/2019-251.

Component	Time allotted
Strategy and drafting Component A (75 marks)	4 hours
Strategy and drafting Component B (75 marks)	4 hours

Cognitive level

Cognitive level	% of marks
Application or analysis	50% (+/-10%)
Evaluation or creation	50% (+/-10%)

No items aim to test at the lowest order cognitive levels of “remembering or understanding.”

CONTEXTUAL VARIABLES

Client context	Patent agents serve a range of diverse clients. The examination, to the extent that it refers to clients, aims to respect and represent the diversity of client contexts.
Practice context	Patent agents practise in a range of practice contexts. The examination, to the extent it must specify practice context for clarity, aims to respect and represent the diversity of such contexts.
Domain context	Patent agents practise in a range of areas. The examination does not require advance knowledge of any specific underlying technology, discipline, or industry. Such knowledge, if required, is provided.

Note: This document is intended for general exam preparation.