

ANSWER GUIDELINES TO QE 2015 PAPER A

Note: The answer guidelines contain a non-exhaustive list of points that examiners expect candidates to cover in the answer to this Paper.

S/N	Category	Mark
1	Independent Claims <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Apparatus Claim ii. Method Claim 	50m 10m
2	Dependent Claims	14m
3	Description	26m

S/N	Answer Guide	Mark
1(i)	<p>Example Apparatus Claim</p> <p>A tray table assembly comprising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a frame pivotally mounted at a first end and movably mounted to a tray table at an opposed second end; • said frame arranged to pivotally move the tray table, in a first direction, from a retracted position to an extended position; • wherein said movable mounting is arranged to selectively move the tray table from the extended position to a position laterally displaced at right angles to the first direction. <p>Note: This is an example version only. Variations without practical difference in scope will still be awarded full marks.</p> <p>Deductions:</p> <p>a) Claim(s) not novel, no marks will be awarded.</p> <p>b) Claim does not cover both embodiments of the tray table (#1: Sliding & #2: Pivoting) 30 marks be deduction if embodiment not considered.</p> <p>c) 10 mark reduction if two independent claims are used to cover two embodiments.</p>	50m

1(ii)	<p>d) For each unnecessary limitation beyond novelty, 5 marks will be deducted;</p> <p>e) Claiming movement of the tray table without the movement being relative to the position (may read onto prior art);</p> <p>f) “Lateral movement” as compared to “...move to a lateral position...” only covers embodiment #1 and not #2 and so refer to Point 2 above;</p> <p>Example Method Claim</p> <p>A method of assembling a tray table assembly, the method comprising the steps of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pivotally mounting a frame at a first end to allow pivotal movement of the frame in a first direction from a retracted position to an extended position; • moveably mounting a tray table at an opposed second end of the frame to allow the tray table to move from the extended position to a position laterally displaced at right angles to the first direction. <p>Deductions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Method claim does not correspond to the apparatus claim; • Not novel, no marks will be awarded 	10m
2	<p>Dependent Claims</p> <p>Only award marks for each meaningful dependent claim.</p> <p>Note: Paper asks to limit to 8 claims, with independent apparatus and method of manufacture claims, so only the first 6 dependent claims will be marked.</p> <p>Two dependent claims describing the two embodiments: 3 marks each.</p> <p>All other dependent claim: 2 marks each</p> <p>Example features for dependent claims (not exhaustive):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • said movable mounting is a sliding engagement arranged to 	14m

	<p>move the tray table from the extended position to the transverse position (3 marks);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • said movable mounting is a hinge one a first side of said tray table, said hinge arranged to pivotally move the tray table from the extended position to the transverse position (3 marks); • a projection on a side opposed to the first side, said projection arranged to engage a recess on said frame. (2 marks) • The projection snap fitting into recess (2 marks); • Lock on tray table for the extended position and for the laterally displaced position (2 marks); • Mutually engaged slide or roller bearings as alternatives for the sliding embodiment (2 marks); • Sliding embodiment can slide in opposed laterally displaced positions (2 marks). <p>Note: If candidate added feature(s) in the description, then marks can be awarded for dependent claim(s) to added feature(s) within first 8 dependent claims.</p> <p>Deductions:</p> <p>a) Inappropriate terms such as "preferably", "may", "optionally" etc, (no marks)</p> <p>b) Inconsistent with independent claim (no marks),</p> <p>c) Antecedent issue (1 mark)</p>	
3	<p>Description</p> <p>Marks to be awarded:</p> <p>a) Advantage statement for independent claim(s): (4 marks);</p> <p>b) Advantage statements for two differentiating dependent claims: (2 x 4 marks);</p>	26m

- c) Background with discussion of prior art from Inventor's comments with disadvantage: (4 marks);
- d) Discussion of prior art from Document B with disadvantage: (4 marks);
- e) Brief Description of Drawings: (1 mark);
- f) Description of embodiments: remove phrases that can make features described but not in the main claim "essential features" and may thus limit the scope of protection: (5 marks);

Deductions

With reference to (f), the candidate does not remove the inappropriate terms used in Detailed Description that require amendment or deletion (Deduct 2 marks for every inclusion):

- a) "It is absolutely essential for my invention that..." Document A, page 2 lines 20 and 21;
- b) "Assembly is quite easy, with the slide block 27 screwing into the cross member 24 using exactly 4 screws. I am sure there is no other way if mounting this." Document A, page 2 lines 30 and 31;
- c) "Figures 4A to 4C show": Document A, page 3 line 1;
- d) "As shown in the plan view of Figure 3A, it is absolutely essential for the right": Document A, page 3 lines 9 and 10

	e) “This embodiment is much better than the first embodiment because I don’t think anyone will buy the sliding version.”: Document A, page 3 lines 20 and 21.	
Total marks		100m

End