

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE OF SINGAPORE  
PATENT AGENTS QUALIFYING EXAMINATION  
(NOVEMBER 2004)  
INFORMAL SESSION FOR PAPER C**

Mistakes have been made by past candidates in the Patent Agents Qualifying Examination for Paper C. This table summarises the mistakes highlighted by the speaker, Mr Keith Callinan.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Mistakes</u>	<u>Suggestions</u>
1.	<p><u>Poor Examination Technique</u></p> <p>All claims and terms were interpreted but the interpretations were not used.</p>	<p>Interpret only the terms that you need to use and use it. It is necessary to know the law on how to interpret the claims. Otherwise, there is a significant chance of getting it wrong.</p>
2.	<p><u>Insufficient Scope of Analysis</u></p> <p>Candidates tend to discuss either the literal or purposive construction of claims only.</p>	<p>It is necessary to discuss both literal and purposive constructions of claims. However, it is not necessary to discuss the doctrine of 'pith and marrow' or doctrine of equivalents.</p>
3.	<p><u>Inconsistency in the Answer</u></p> <p>A candidate recommended that a subsidiary claim be incorporated in the independent claim but he/she later analyzed that the subsidiary claim was invalid.</p>	<p>Advice on improvement to client's position must be consistent with the analysis.</p>
4.	<p><u>Doing Unnecessary Work</u></p> <p>A candidate wrote in the company's letterhead to format the answer in the form of a letter to the client.</p>	<p>This is not required and time is wasted. Candidates should only do what they have been asked to do in the question paper.</p>