

FORMAT OF THE B2 ORAL EXAMINATION IN LEGAL ENGLISH

Students enter the exam one at a time.

The exam is administered by two examiners.

A student known to both examiners should not be examined by them unless absolutely unavoidable.

The examination lasts approximately 12 minutes.

The examination consists of two parts, preceded by an introduction:

Part 0 lasts approximately 1 - 1.5 minutes: introduction, warm-up, not to be assessed

The examiner asks the student to introduce himself/herself and briefly talks to him/her. The aim of this part of the examination is to familiarise the student with the new situation, to give the student an opportunity to become accustomed to the examiner's voice.

Part 1 lasts approx. 5 minutes: longer speech by the student based on a text

Student selects a text from a number of identical-looking pieces of paper.

Text (approx. 100 - 130 words) in the form of a press release, news item, excerpt from a text on a topic which allows the student to make a longer statement.

Example text:

The decision of the surviving Beatles to release a new song using artificial intelligence should interest many intellectual property (IP) lawyers. Recently-released 'Now and Then' is sourced from a John Lennon demo, which he had recorded shortly before his death. It remains to be seen whether the new production could result in a court showdown.

Janice Denoncourt, associate professor of Law said: 'As artificial intelligence (AI) tools evolve, these systems can produce copycat songs. They often use recordings of artists' voices without permission. Creators in the commercial music industry need a better understanding of the relationship between IP and AI. In most cases, a licence granting permission to use the copyright on certain terms and conditions is necessary. AI creators may need to pay the copyright holder a fee for the privilege.'

Source: <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/law/all-you-need-is-law-beatles-last-song-piques-ip-interest/5117773.article>

The examiner gives an instruction in a foreign language: *Read the text silently, you have 1 minute to think about it, then refer to the text: express an opinion, comment on a topic raised in the text.*

The examiner does not take away the sheet with the text, the student can use it throughout the exam.

As far as possible, the examiner will not interfere with the student's speech during this part, however, in order to support the student's speech, the examiner may ask supporting questions such as:

Justify your opinion

What do you mean by this?

Say it in other words ...

Explain in more detail ...

Can you give an example?

Say more about

Part 2 lasts approximately 4 - 5 minutes: it is a continuation of Part 1 with a wider scope

It is a negotiation-type task, a conversation between the examiner and the student referring to the text. The conversation takes place in a foreign language.

The text you have read describes legal issues related to creating music by artificial intelligence systems . Your interlocutor wants to release an AI-generated remake of an old hit song on YouTube. Persuade him/her to seek legal advice from an intellectual property lawyer.

Criteria for the assessment of oral expression:

- communicative and interactional effectiveness
- fluency of speech
- grammatical accuracy
- pronunciation
- use of appropriate vocabulary, including specialised vocabulary