

# Using the SQE sample questions

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# SQE1 question writing

- Qualified solicitors
- Initial draft by subject matter expert
- Review by at least one other subject matter expert
- Review by experienced question writer

# SQE1 question writing

- Review by Academic Head
- Before assessment:
  - Further review
  - Angoff Panel
  - Independent review by SRA subject matter experts
- Annual, post-assessment and ad-hoc review (eg change in the law)

# SQE1 questions

A burglary takes place at a jewellery shop in the early hours of the morning. The police were called to the incident by the manager of a public house which is situated opposite the jewellery shop ten metres away. The manager of the public house viewed the burglary via the public house's closed circuit television (CCTV) system, however no recording of the burglary is available because the CCTV system was faulty.

The manager gave a statement to the police indicating that, despite the poor street lighting, he recognised the offender as a man who used to work in the public house until one year ago. He names the man to the police.

The man, who has previous convictions for burglary, is arrested by the police. In his police interview under caution, the man agrees that he used to work in the public house, but denies that he committed the burglary. The police are considering whether to hold an identification procedure.

} Stem

Lead in {

**Would an identification procedure serve a useful purpose in this case?**

- A. Yes, because the witness viewed the burglary via a CCTV camera which failed to record the incident.
- B. No, because the man is known to the witness.
- C. Yes, because the man is known to the police.
- D. No, because the lighting at the time of the offence was poor.
- E. No, because the distance between the jewellery shop and the public house was too great.

} Options

# SQE1 sample questions

- 90 SQE1 sample questions on SQE website
- Show the kind of questions that appear on the FLK1 and FLK2 assessments
- Can help both education providers and candidates plan SQE training

<https://sqa.sra.org.uk/exam-arrangements/assessment-information/sqe1-sample-questions>

# What the sample questions do....

- Follow the same style as SQE1 assessment questions
- Drafted / reviewed in accordance with the same process as assessment questions
- Have answers
- Contain a mixture of question lengths

# Sample question

The owner of a Greek restaurant orders wall tiles that include a border design showing the Greek flag. After the tiles have been fitted, the owner notices that the tiles are decorated with the flag of Uruguay. The owner wants the tiles to be replaced.

**In a claim for breach of contract which of the following measure of damages is the court most likely to award?**

- A. Expectation
- B. Reliance.
- C. Cost of cure.
- D. Loss of amenity.
- E. Mental distress.

# Sample question

A solicitor has been instructed by a client company that is suffering cash flow difficulties. The solicitor has been instructed by the client to advise on its directors' duties in respect of monitoring the company's financial position. In the course of discussions, the client mentions that it is considering attempting to improve its financial position by investing in equity securities and asks whether the solicitor can recommend any stockbrokers.

The solicitor's brother is a partner in a firm of stockbrokers which is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority and which has made substantial returns for the solicitor and other clients.

The solicitor has concluded that making the referral would:

- (i) not in any way compromise his independence as the client's legal advisor; and
- (ii) be in the best interests of the client because the stockbrokers are the best available in this field.

The solicitor will not get a financial benefit from the referral. The solicitor knows that the brother would be grateful for the business introduction.

**Which of the following steps should the solicitor take next?**

- A. Cease to act for the client.
- B. Refer the client to an individual at the stockbrokers other than the solicitor's brother.
- C. Get written confirmation from the brother that the solicitor will not get a financial benefit in return for the business referral.
- D. Inform the client that the solicitor's brother is a partner of the stockbrokers.
- E. Ask somebody else in the solicitor's firm to refer the client to the stockbrokers.



# What sample questions don't do....

- Cover all of the Functioning Legal Knowledge (FLK)
- Replicate sitting the SQE1:
  - 360 questions sat over two days
  - Approximately 1.7 minutes/question
  - Closed book
  - Pearson VUE system

# Candidate feedback

- Samples are **easier** and **shorter** than the assessment
  - 10-12% of responses to survey
- Easier:
  - All questions set at Day 1 level
  - Angoff panel assess question difficulty / pass mark
  - Angoff scores for sample questions in line with assessment
  - SRA subject matter expert review

# Candidate feedback

- Sample questions are **shorter** than the assessment questions
  - Sample questions vary in length to reflect assessment
  - Some areas of the FLK that are not covered by sample questions may require longer stems / options

# What we are doing

- Amended guidance on website
- Amended the order of the sample questions
- Reviewed candidate timing statistics
- Review sample questions

# SQE2 sample questions

- Range of sample questions to help prepare for SQE2
- Discussion of the answers so you can see what is expected when sitting the assessment
- Can help both education providers and candidates plan SQE training

<https://sqa.sra.org.uk/exam-arrangements/assessment-information/sqe2-sample-questions>