

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR SQE2 LEGAL RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

Skills	Indicators demonstrating competence	Indicators that do not demonstrate competence
Identify and use relevant sources and information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate selects relevant information about the legal issue, or the client’s problem, from the primary and/or secondary sources provided, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the candidate identifies relevant legislation/ cases and/or legal explanations/commentary in a practitioner’s text, or legal encyclopaedia; ○ the candidate extracts relevant material, such as particular provision (s) from a statute, or legal rule(s) from the Civil Procedure Rules • The candidate uses their findings to substantiate/support their answer to the question(s) asked 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate selects only irrelevant information from the primary and/or secondary sources provided • The candidate selects insufficient relevant information from the primary and/or secondary sources provided. • The candidate is unable to distinguish between information that is relevant to the legal issue or the client’s problem, and information which is irrelevant e.g. the candidate’s answer contains information drawn from all sources regardless of relevance, or from a number of irrelevant sources • The candidate does not use their findings to substantiate/support the answer to the question(s) asked
Provide advice which is client-focused and addresses the client’s problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate demonstrates an understanding of the client’s problem from the client’s perspective e.g. the candidate addresses the client’s legal problem, any relevant commercial considerations and/or the client’s priorities, objectives and constraints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate does not understand the problem from the client’s perspective, e.g. they focus on irrelevant issues /provide advice which does not take into account the client's priorities, objectives or constraints, or is inappropriate for the client's situation
Use clear, precise, concise and acceptable language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The candidate uses understandable and simple language to convey facts and information effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reader struggles to understand the candidate’s use of language; the answer lacks clarity and/or is poorly expressed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate uses correct legal terminology where necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reader's understanding is adversely affected by the density or brevity of the answer The candidate uses unnecessary or confusing technical terms/legal jargon
Law	<i>Indicators demonstrating competence</i>	<i>Indicators that do not demonstrate competence</i>
Apply the law correctly to the client's situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate identifies the relevant legal principles and applies them correctly to the facts of the client's case 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate does not identify and apply the correct legal principles to the facts of the client's case The candidate identifies the correct legal principles but misapplies them to the client's case
Apply the law comprehensively to the client's situation, identifying any ethical and professional conduct issues and exercising judgment to resolve them honestly and with integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate's legal analysis is sufficiently detailed in the context of the facts of the case, e.g. the candidate draws on multiple sources of information to address the legal issue/client's problem effectively Where relevant, the candidate recognises ethical issues and exercises effective judgment in addressing them in accordance with the SRA Principles and rules of professional conduct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The candidate's legal analysis is not sufficiently detailed in the context of the facts of the client's case The candidate does not recognise ethical issues or exercise effective judgment in addressing them in accordance with the SRA Principles and rules of professional conduct