

Legal Profession Admission Board

March 2023

Family Law

Examiner's comments

Candidates were expected to be conversant with commentary and lecture materials in relation to all twelve topics covered in the Law Extension Committee's subject guide together with the scholarly literature, decided cases and statutes.

The exam comprised four compulsory questions in an open book format. All questions required students to give advice having regard to various factual scenarios. Each scenario raised issues relevant to topics covered in the subject guide. This examination imposed a total word limit for the paper.

Thirty one candidates sat the examination. Most candidates answered the four questions in accordance with the instructions. Final marks were in the range 37% to 83%. Overall, responses were reasonable, however there was a wide variation in the quality of the responses to different questions. Better responses clearly applied the relevant law to the factual scenario presented. While some candidates achieved good final marks and grades, it appears that a higher proportion of students did not achieve a final grade sufficient to pass when compared with past examinations.

Some candidates answered some questions in considerable detail and made only a minor attempt at the other questions. This may have reflected the fact that some candidates did not allocate sufficient time to properly attempt all four questions; did not read or understand the question; did not adequately cover or understand the course materials. Examination conditions can be stressful, but carefully reading the question, time management and consistency of response are equally important during the examination.
