



Publication of the question bank for Full level examinations – FAQ's

Why did you choose to publish only the Full level question bank?

The decision to start with publishing only one level was so that the ESC could assess the impact of the move before going on to consider publishing the entire question bank. Full level was chosen because it has the lowest pass rate, about 65% compared to about 90% at Foundation and Intermediate, meaning that Full level candidates should benefit the most.

Won't this make the exam too easy to pass?

We don't think so – there are many more questions in the bank than a candidate will encounter in their exam. Typically, there are about five questions in the bank per syllabus item and some questions in the exam are fed by more than one syllabus item. Furthermore, in the exam the assignment of the correct answer to one of the four options, A, B, C or D, is randomised for each candidate. Therefore, it will not be a simple matter of committing to memory a question number and the correct option.

What is the function of the 'query this question' button when taking a mock exam?

This button lights green to set a 'flag' that you have not answered the question. You can go back later to try again and answer it, or you can end the mock exam and the correct answer to that question will be displayed. If you try to end the mock exam with queries remaining, a warning message will be displayed, and you have to click 'yes' to exit.

What web systems and web browsers does the interface work with?

We have tested it on all the platforms (Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android) and web browsers in common use, including mobile, and have found no compatibility issues so far. It has also been tested with a screen reader to ensure the widest accessibility. If you do encounter any compatibility issue, please report it using the online examination question query form here: <https://thersgb.org/services/nov/examquery> so that we can investigate.

Are there any restrictions on the use of this resource?

The copyright to the question bank is held by the RSGB. The questions may be freely used by candidates for self-training and by trainers in clubs and distance learning tutors for training their candidates. Any 'for profit' or commercial use is forbidden. The questions may be redistributed in unadapted form only in training materials, but attribution must be given to the original source and copyright holder (the RSGB).

Is there a manual for the user interface?

No, we think the web interface is intuitive and straight forward to use, but, of course, would welcome any feedback.



You say the ESC agreed to the publication of the bank in 2024, why has it taken so long?

The dedicated, but small, team of volunteers on the Examinations and Syllabus Review Group had to vet ~1500 questions, which took some time, as did deciding on a suitable user interface and implementing and testing it.

I am a candidate and I did a mock exam. I got a question wrong and I believe that was because the question is flawed. What do I do?

We advise that you approach your trainer first to discuss the question in case you didn't fully understand the syllabus point being tested. However, if after discussion with your trainer you still believe the question is flawed, you should submit a query using the online examination question query form, here: <https://thersgb.org/services/nov/examquery>