

INTRODUCTION

6 January 1998

- The Bar Exam is a marathon and not a sprint: want to peak on the day of the exam:
- Key is organization and regimentation: follow the prepared pace
- Which outline to use: Big or Conviser? Ordinarily, the mini-Conviser will be sufficient, the large is just to use as reference; Exceptions: MA procedure, which is complex, and the Addenda & distinctions at end of the MA large outline; purpose of outlines, before lecture is to familiarize you with the material: not supposed to memorize it immediately
- Lectures cover material, 90% of which will be on the exam; only 10% of the exam will come from extra-lecture sources: ergo, take notes or write on the outlines
- After class, review the notes, and prepare them in a way to make a final, study document for memorization; Do not move on to a new study subject until get a final understanding
- Most week-end study time is spent memorizing
- Practice problems are the way to tell if you are learning what needs to be learned: Must do the multi-state at a rate of about 35 per hour; start easy and build up in difficulty; Shoot for a score of 125-130 for passing
- Assigned essays for grading: write the essay on the grading key: with name and Bar/Bri number: submit it timely (if late, must use SASE and send it to Boston)
- *Workshops*;
 - *Bar/Bri Multistate*; eventually do a 3 hour test plus cassettes explaining the questions
 - *Gilbert Multistate*; graded test in class
 - *Gilbert & Bar/Bri Essay*; help writing style
- Computer software is available for Multi-state; remember, though, this is still a paper exam and need to practice like you play

MULTISTATE WORKSHOP

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- MBE is 200 multiple choice questions
- 6 Topics: Tort, Contract (Common Law, Sales-UCC), Real Property (Common Law, Future Interests), Criminal Law (including Procedure), Constitution, Evidence
- About 34 Tort & Contract Questions, 33 in the rest of the areas. In random order
- National Multiple Choice Exam
- Test of Majority/Minority Law. (Some Evidence deals with the Federal Rules of Evidence)
- AM: 100 Questions over 3 hours, 1 ½ hour lunch break, PM: 100 Questions over 3 Hours
- Must average 1.8 minutes per question
- Score is based on the number of correct answers (therefore, should always guess)
- National Raw Score Average is 128/200. Scaled scores usually add about 15 points to raw scores
- In MA, need a scaled score of 270 (135 MBE, 135 Essay) to pass. Thus, need approximately 120 Raw Score. Scaling levels the playing field. Lately MBE has grown more difficult
- Very subtle and tricky. Never a straightforward answer. As much reading comprehension as Rules of Law.

- Will be 2 Workshops: BAR/BRI: Answer 17 questions in 6 topics before an in-class analysis. Timing is crucial, need to train self. Also, Gilbert: very intensive over 3 days. Day 1: Take exam, then get back a computer analysis. Then, Days 2 & 3 review the exam. Workshops teach exam skills more than substance. Different types of questions. Ultimately, comes down to reading comprehension.
- **6 Basic Types of Questions**
 1. **Best of the Lot:** Look not for the best answer, but for the best answer given. Match elements & rule of law to facts provided
 2. **Worst of the Lot:** Think in Reverse. Given 3 adequate answers and 1 poor answer.
 3. **Dichotomy:** (Contracts, Criminal, Evidence). Outcome & Reason. Tricky, may be given a correct statement of law, but reading question is more important.
 4. **Case Squibs:** summary of case, determine the theory, element and result of the case. Then match. Very time consuming.
 5. **True/False:** Which is true of the following: I, II, I but not II or III, etc.
 6. **Justify the Result:** If A wins, it is due to what reason.

Remember, Practice makes perfect. It is a marathon.