

SQE2 TOOLKIT



Everything you need to know about how and what you are assessed on, the legal knowledge required, how to prepare and how to pass the SQE2 practical legal skills assessment with flying colours

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Introduction

The Solicitors Qualifying Examination (“**SQE**”) is a single, national licensing examination that all aspiring solicitors must take before qualifying as English solicitors, regardless of their professional background and qualifications. The SQE is administered by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (“**SRA**”), the body that regulates solicitors of England and Wales.

Candidates are assessed against the statement of solicitor competence, the threshold standard and a statement of legal knowledge, which are exhaustive criteria that would be expected of a newly-qualified English solicitor in their first day on the job. The competences out in the statement of solicitor competence are expressed through the SQE Assessment Specification, which forms the syllabus of the SQE.

The SQE2 assessment tests several skills: client interviewing, advocacy, legal research, case and matter analysis, legal drafting and legal writing. The assessment tests these skills in the context of five areas of legal practice: Business Law, Dispute Resolution, Criminal Litigation, Property Practice, and Wills and the Administration of Estates.

The six skills are assessed through 16 simulated legal environments known as OSCE ‘stations’. The techniques to create these stations include the use of actors as interviewed clients and writing legal advice to a client or the supervising partner.

A cutting-edge, high stakes assessment

The SQE is lauded by the SRA as cutting-edge in legal assessment methodology. This is partly due to the outcomes-focused approach to the SQE. This means that the SRA sets out in detail what it expects, and it is up to the candidates to demonstrate their competence against the statement of solicitor competence.

The SQE is a high stakes professional assessment. The **sole** method of assessment of candidates against the competence statement is by candidates sitting a multiple choice test (“**SQE1**”) and passing an practical legal skills assessment (“**SQE2**”), which is the subject of this toolkit.

According to the outcomes-focused approach, candidates are left to their own devices when it comes to preparation. **There is no compulsory course, experience requirement or an English language test.**

The onus is therefore on the candidates to ensure that they are familiar with and prepared for each of the assessments, their content and marking criteria before attempting the SQE. For each assessment, candidates are under time pressure, must absorb and be comfortable with a significant volume of legal content and demonstrate discrete legal and professional skills in a highly structured and controlled environment that is assessed under strict criteria. The pass marks are set high and not all candidates pass the SQE at their first attempt.

We cannot emphasise this enough: **Candidates who do not take the assessment seriously or prepare fully are very likely to fail, wasting time and money while delaying career progression and missing out on opportunities.**

The SQE2 is unlike any assessment you have experienced before

Law is a practice, not a process or recital. It follows that technical and professional skills cannot be accurately assessed through multiple choice tests or traditional assessment formats only. The SQE2 is a unique assessment format that tests practical skills in a highly structured and objective manner, and is an assessment most candidates are unlikely to have encountered before.

The most effective way to prepare for a practical assessment is to practise the assessment; 'book knowledge' alone will not suffice. In addition, due to the nature of SQE2, candidates must be as aware of the assessment format, criteria and marking policy as they are of the law and skills that are actually being assessed. Without this awareness, a preparation strategy risks losing crucial input and the candidate risks failure.

That's where this toolkit will help you.

The QLTS School SQE2 toolkit: your guide to understanding and preparing for the practical legal skills assessment

This toolkit is designed to assist you both at the outset and during the course of your preparation with QLTS School for the SQE2 assessment.

This toolkit will:

- Provide an overview of SQE2, both generally and within the context of the SQE including the SRA's specific assessment criteria and how you are marked and receive results for the SQE2 assessment;
- Break down for you exactly what to expect on the day and at each station;
- Detail who assesses you on, what they're looking for and how their feedback may appear; and
- Equip you with strategies and tips to help you prepare your own study strategy to get the most out of your preparation time and the QLTS School course materials and support on offer.

We hope this guide helps you prepare for the SQE2 assessment so that you can attempt this unique assessment with confidence and competence, which will put you in good stead when you are admitted to the Roll of Solicitors of England and Wales.

Please get in touch with us if you have any queries about this toolkit. We'd also love to hear any feedback you may have.

Best wishes,
QLTS School

Introduction to the SQE2 Assessment

In this section we will look at the general principles of the SQE2 assessment by way of background and context. In the next section, we will look at the assessment as used in the SQE in particular.

The SQE2 assessment is based on the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), which is a term frequently used for skills assessments in healthcare and related professions.

The OSCE is a unique assessment instrument used to examine a candidate's clinical skills and knowledge competencies. Devised in 1975, the OSCE is a well-evaluated and established methodology used worldwide primarily in assessing students in the medical field, such as doctors and nurses.

An OSCE is considered effective in evaluating a candidate's competence in areas of technical skill that cannot be assessed by other assessment formats such as multiple-choice questions.

Since 2011, the OSCE was used by the SRA in the Qualified Lawyers Transfer Scheme (QLTS), the phased-out entry assessment for foreign lawyers to qualify as English solicitors, which has been the model for the SQE assessments.

Format of an OSCE

Design, administration and assessment of the OSCE may differ by assessment type and provider. There is no universal standard or regulations for administering an OSCE. The basic premise, however, is that an OSCE involves a set of timed activity stations where a candidate must perform simulated professional tasks, sometimes with a standardised patient, in the presence of an examiner. Each station focuses on a particular skill to be assessed, but this skill is not always assessed in a vacuum and independent of the candidate's other skills and knowledge, such as the ability to communicate verbally or in writing or the ability to professionally interact with others. We will look more at the role of each of the standardised patient and the examiner shortly.

A typical assessment day will involve a candidate rotating across several stations consecutively. Depending on the number of stations and time allocations, the assessment may continue over more than one day.

Even this basic outline indicates that the candidate will experience a very different assessment to the more traditional methods they may have encountered in the formative years in education. It is important that a candidate preparing to sit the OSCE is therefore fully aware of how the assessment works, who is assessing them and the criteria used and how best to prepare for and pass the OSCE.

The standardised patient concept

Standardised patients are people trained to portray specific cases for some of the OSCE stations, in order to address the learning objectives of the particular OSCE. At a diagnostic station, for example, the standardised patient may have a specified heart condition, which the station assesses the student in being able to diagnose.

In addition, standardised patients are trained to give specific, behaviourally-based feedback to candidates about their performance and feed into the assessment of that candidate's performance at the station, so that the candidate is also assessed in areas such as delivering bad news and managing unpredictable or emotional patients.

Standardised patients ensure that each candidate attempting the station encounters the same patient under the same conditions. This ensures that the station task and conditions, and the criteria for assessing each candidate's performance, is suitably structured and objective.

Through use of standardised patients, candidates are also afforded the opportunity to learn and practise the required skills in a safe, controlled environment, while receiving behavioural feedback that tests competence in areas beyond the discrete technical skill that is the focus of the station.

The examiner

Each station has an examiner, who will assess the student's performance at the station against that station's criteria, including interaction with a standardised patient, where applicable. While every station will have an examiner, not every station will have a standardised patient. The examiner will have the requisite technical knowledge, training or qualification to assess the technical elements of the candidate's performance to the required level as against the set objectives for each station.

The assessment

The candidate's performance in each OSCE station is assessed by the examiner for that station (and, where appropriate, the standardised patient will also have input in non-technical areas), with the candidate receiving an overall mark based on performance across the OSCE stations.

Assessment criteria for each station, and overall, depend on the type of OSCE and the body administering it. Generally, however, both the specific skill that is the subject of the station, along with relevant professional skills (such as written or verbal communication including English fluency, attitude and professional ethics) contribute to the marking or grading of that student's performance at the station.

This holistic approach means that knowledge and skills must be developed to an advanced level before attempting the OSCE, while other abilities such as communication, English fluency and familiarity of ethics or professional conduct issues must also be developed and demonstrated.

Why OSCE?

To demonstrate professional competency, candidates must *know* the facts of their field, *know how* to apply those facts and *show how* they can marshal their professional knowledge and bring it to bear appropriately to perform the tasks and skills to the necessary standard that their profession requires.

Multiple choice tests assess knowledge, comprehension and, to some degree, application of that knowledge within very specific parameters (i.e. multiple choice scenario questions). An additional assessment, such as the OSCE, provides the opportunity for candidates to demonstrate, and be assessed on *know how* and *show how*, separately and together, against specific objectives and in different environments. In this way, candidates looking to enter a high-stakes profession can be rigorously assessed and their competence determined in multiple modes of assessment, giving regulatory authorities a better idea as to whether a candidate's competence is consistent and of a sufficient standard to allow them to enter the profession.

The OSCE model has emerged as one of the most effective and reliable assessment tools for this, though it is by no means perfect.

Against this high-level overview of the OSCE as a concept, we can now look at the QLTS OSCE in particular.

The SQE OSCE

We will now look at the SQE OSCE in particular.

Why the SRA chose to use OSCE in the SQE Assessment

The Legal Services Act 2007 prompted the SRA to move to outcomes-focused regulation as part of its efforts to meet new regulatory objectives. Part of this involved overhauling the qualification process for extra-jurisdictional candidates – largely unchanged since 1990 – to achieve a greater consistency with the standard required of the domestic route to qualification for English solicitors. The QLTS was the end result.

As part of this process, the SRA worked with the educational organisation Kaplan to further develop the assessment specifications. Kaplan was the sole provider of the QLTS assessments for the SRA, but it was not permitted to offer preparation courses for the QLTS.

With the QLTS being a high-stakes assessment, the SRA was looking for assessment methodologies that yielded the three key measures of the quality expected of a high-stakes assessment: reliability, measurement error and validity.

These three principles underpinned the decision to use the OSCE as part of the QLTS and inform the design, administration and marking of the QLTS overall and the OSCE in particular. Through assessment design, use of standardised clients and standard setting, the SRA felt that the OSCE met the principles and was a suitable assessment methodology to use for the high-stakes professional assessment that was the QLTS.

The OSCE in legal education

We briefly looked at the concept of the OSCE assessment in the previous section. The OSCE is primarily used in the medical field, but is equally able to assess the technical and professional skills expected of English solicitors.

Put succinctly, the OSCE assesses the practical 'lawyering' skills a multiple-choice or essay-based assessment cannot qualified.

As a result of the success of the OSCE in assessing the practical legal skills of foreign lawyers, as a fair, reliable and valid exam, the SRA has decided to adopt the OSCE and use similar methodologies and skills in SQE2.

Areas of assessment

SQE2 assesses a candidate's legal knowledge and practical legal skills.

The five areas of law are:

- Business Law
- Property Practice
- Wills and the Administration of Estates
- Criminal Litigation
- Dispute Resolution

The legal skills are:

- Interviewing and attendance note preparation/case analysis
- Advocacy
- Case and matter analysis
- Legal research
- Legal writing
- Legal drafting

Legal skills are inherent to and inseparable from a lawyer's 'black letter law' knowledge and legal mind. By repeating each assessment across five areas of law, the SQE2 assessment ensures that a candidate's competence in these areas, both in the law and the skills, is demonstrably consistent and not just the result of 'getting lucky'. By the same token, the format of SQE2 means that if one station doesn't go as well as others, this won't adversely affect an otherwise competent candidate.

Far from a contrived obstacle to qualification, the SQE2 assessment ensures that candidates are equipped with and can demonstrate the fundamental abilities required of a legal professional holding one of the most prestigious qualifications in the legal world.

The two key ways in which the SQE2 assessment achieves its objectives are by adapting the concept of the standardised patient to the standardised client, and through standard setting.

The standardised client

In the Legal Practice Course (which previously formed part of the route to domestic qualification), candidates were assessed on their interviewing skills by way of roleplay, in which they interviewed an actor playing the role of a client. The client was a member of the public and did not usually have much training for the role.

For SQE2, the standardised client for the interviewing assessment is a specialist actor with experience in the role and its demands, usually derived from acting as a standardised patient in medical OSCEs, who undergoes extensive training and preparation in conjunction with Kaplan and its consultant solicitors in preparation for the role. It also instils in candidates the client-centred nature of legal practice and the importance of being able to

fully ascertain a client's needs, to be able to communicate effectively in speech and writing, and to research and present appropriate legal advice and solutions.

Note that the standardised client is *not* used in the oral presentation/advocacy assessment; the role of the decision maker in this assessment, even if that decision maker is a client, is played by a solicitor who is also an examiner.

In addition to playing their part in the roleplay, the standardised client also assesses the candidates' oral presentation/interview performance based on standard marking criteria, focusing more on the 'soft' skills, which are no less important than technical ability. These detailed criteria are set out in the Appendix to this toolkit for reference and allows a more realistic and accurate assessment of a candidate's performance against certain objectives than assessment by a third party observing the interaction.

Standardised clients do NOT assess the law that forms part of the interviewing assessment. This is assessed by the examiner.

Standard setting

This is the method by which pass marks are set. Instead of setting an arbitrary pass mark in advance, the SQE2 assessment pass mark is set empirically using the borderline regression method.

With an overview of the SQE2 assessment you are now better equipped to understand how the assessments are conducted, timings and what to expect.

Format of the SQE2 Assessment

The SQE2 assessment is divided into two parts. Candidates will be assessed in all six skill areas in each of the following areas of law, for a total of 16 'stations'.

SQE2 Oral

In SQE2 oral, the candidate is assessed on their client interviewing skills (and completion of attendance note) and advocacy skills. SQE 2 oral will take place over two half days. The following table shows the assessments candidates will undertake on each of the days. Candidates will take a total of four oral legal skills assessments.

Day 1	Day 2
Advocacy (Dispute Resolution)	Advocacy (Criminal Litigation)
Interview and attendance note/legal analysis (Property Practice)	Interview and attendance note/legal analysis (Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice)

The timings for the stations in SQE2 oral, repeated for each of the various areas of law, are:

Activity	Timings
Client interview/completion of attendance note	
Preparation	10 minutes
Client interview	25 minutes
Completion of attendance note/case analysis	25 minutes
Advocacy	
Preparation	45 minutes
Presentation	15 minutes

Different candidates complete the SQE2 oral exercises in different orders. Candidates may therefore start with either the client interview and attendance note/legal analysis or the advocacy assessment.

SQE2 Written

In SQE2 written, the candidate is assessed in legal research, legal writing, legal drafting, and case and matter analysis, in each of the five areas of law. SQE2 written will take place over three half days. The following table shows the assessments candidate will undertake on each of the days. Candidates will take a total of 12 written legal skills assessments.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Case and matter analysis x1	Case and matter analysis x1	Case and matter analysis x1
Legal drafting x1	Legal drafting x1	Legal drafting x1
Legal research x1	Legal research x1	Legal research x1
Legal writing x1	Legal writing x1	Legal writing x1

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
Two of these exercises will be in the context of Dispute Resolution and two will be in the context of Criminal Litigation	Two of these exercises will be in the context of Property Practice and two will be in the context of Wills and Intestacy, Probate Administration and Practice	Candidates will sit all assessments in the context of Business Organisations, Rules and Procedures

The timings for the stations SQE2 written, repeated for each of the various areas of law, are:

Activity	Timings
Legal research	60 minutes
Case and matter analysis	60 minutes
Legal writing	30 minutes
Legal drafting	45 minutes

Different candidates may complete the assessments in different orders. Further details of this are given for each sitting. SQE2 written is a computer-based assessment and if there are technical difficulties candidates may be recalled on the day following the end of the assessments.

SQE2 oral takes place on different days (and in a different venue) from SQE2 written. However, candidates must take the two parts of SQE2 in the same sitting. They cannot take SQE2 oral in, for example, July, and SQE2 written in January.

What to expect

In this section we will look at a breakdown of the format and timings for each assessment station. We will look in the strategy section at the best way to plan and make use of the time in each assessment.

Client interview/completion of attendance note

Total time: 60 minutes

10 minutes: Preparation. You will be given an e-mail with an outline of who the client is and what they are going to discuss. If there are any supporting documents, they will be annexed to the 'e-mail'. You may also be directed to deal in the interview and attendance note with any professional conduct issues (such as client care, funding or money laundering) and be given an indication as to the legal issues which may arise and that you must consider.

25 minutes: Interview. During this period you will interview the standardised client, who may or may not bring documents with them. You are not expected to give advice but *are* expected to answer any questions the candidate may ask you. You can refer to your preparation notes and make additional notes.

Your primary objectives are to:

- Establish a good working relationship with the client.
- Obtain all relevant information from and as full an understanding of the client's concerns as you can, especially with regard to the matters covered in the preparation documents.

25 minutes: Attendance note/case analysis. You are required to prepare a handwritten attendance note of the interview, which should include, where appropriate (and even if discussed in the interview):

- Analysis of legal and any professional conduct issues.
- Advice to the client.
- Next steps to be taken.
- Any client documents as annexes.

Advocacy

Total time: 60 minutes

45 minutes: Preparation. You will be given a case study that is the basis for the assessment. The first document is an email asking you to make the presentation and explaining before whom it will be made (always a decision maker). You will also be given a file of documents containing what is required for you to prepare and present your advocacy. You may make notes.

The format of the assessment will be formal court advocacy before a judge.

15 minutes: Presentation. You will make the presentation to a solicitor playing the role of the decision maker and can expect to be asked, and will be expected to answer, questions on your presentation. During the presentation you may refer to any notes you made in your preparation.

Legal research

Total time: 60 minutes

This computer-based assessment takes the form of research and preparation of advice to the client on a legal problem. The advice will include your legal reasoning and any key sources or authorities. You will not need to produce a research trail. You will be provided with sources for the legal research exercises. These may include both primary and secondary sources. Some of the sources provided may not be relevant.

Legal writing

Total time: 30 minutes

You will be asked to write a letter or an email as the solicitor acting in a matter, which clearly and correctly applies the law to the client's concerns and is appropriate for the recipient. This may, but will not necessarily, be in the context of a negotiation. You will be given an email from a partner explaining what is required. The email may or may not be accompanied by electronic documents. The following is a non-exhaustive list of the possible recipients: a client, a third party, the other side to litigation or to a client transaction, or a partner within their organisation.

Legal drafting

Total time: 45 minutes

You will be required to draft a legal document or parts of a legal document, which may or may not be already drafted and require amending or be based on a precedent document. Any authorities will be provided to you where appropriate.

Case and matter analysis

Total time: 60 minutes

You will be given an electronic file of documents. Some of the documents or content may not be relevant. You will be asked to produce a written report to a partner giving a legal analysis of the case and providing client-focused advice. This may, but will not necessarily, include options and strategies for negotiation.

SQE2 assessment criteria and marking

In this section, we will set out in one place the SRA assessment criteria for SQE2, so that you know exactly what you will be assessed on and how.

Assessment criteria: the standard

Candidates are marked in SQE2 according to the criteria set out in the SRA Marking and Moderation Policy and informed by competency as defined in the statement of solicitor competence.

SQE2 Specification

According to the SQE Assessment Specification, for each area of law on which you are tested, the focus in the assessment is more on the practical and procedural aspects of the application of the law. While SQE1 gives you a theoretical underpinning of the relevant law, the SQE2 assessment will equip you with the fundamentals of legal practice that you will develop in your career as an English solicitor, and the law is more akin to what you will encounter and practise on a daily basis. It is important, therefore, that you do not prepare for and approach the law covered in SQE2 with the same mindset that you developed for SQE1.

Passing the SQE2 Assessment

In order to pass the SQE2 assessment, candidates must obtain the overall pass mark. The overall pass mark covers all of the 16 stations, weighs law and skills equally and is set empirically, meaning that it is based on the importance and difficulty of the actual questions used in the paper, rather than being determined in advance.

The pass mark is determined using the 'borderline regression' method. Examiners score the candidate's performance in each station against that station's objectives, using the 6-point scale reproduced in the Appendix to this toolkit. A separate overall rating of the candidate's performance at that station is also provided.

'Marginal' or 'borderline' means that, in the examiner's view, the candidate just meets (or falls just below) the narrative description of competency for the objective or the station overall. The pass mark for each station is then calculated by statistically regressing candidates' checklist scores on global scores for each station.

The overall pass mark of the assessment is calculated by aggregating the pass marks for each of the separate stations. The Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) may be used to adjust the scores for reliability and accuracy, although there is a small chance that barely-competent candidates may get caught up in the adjustment and fail the exam as a result. Of course, by preparing with QLTS School, you will be aiming higher than just scraping through!

Familiarisation with the SQE Assessment Specification and its objectives for each station in SQE2 is as important as developing your legal knowledge and skills. You must be able to understand how your preparation will come together and precisely how your legal knowledge and skills will be assessed.

How to Prepare for and Pass the SQE2 Assessments

In this section, we will take a broad look at how best to use QLTS School's SQE2 preparation course to prepare for and pass the assessments.

Taking into consideration the specific needs of our candidates and the unique features of the assessment, we have structured a preparation course customised especially for your particular needs and goals.

Success in the SQE2 assessment is highly dependent on planned and consistent study. Therefore, you must organise your time properly and allocate sufficient time for your learning. We strongly advise that you begin your studies as soon as practically possible after receiving your course materials.

Do I need a preparation course?

A preparation course is not an essential pre-requisite to attempting the SQE2 assessment.

As has been covered throughout this toolkit, however, the SQE2 is a unique assessment methodology that focuses on practical demonstration of law and skills. As a result, this is not an assessment you can prepare for through book knowledge alone.

Similarly, you will not be able to gain an accurate understanding of your performance in mock practice station attempts unless you can be observed and receive feedback. Even then, unless that observer has the requisite knowledge of the assessment and Kaplan's marking criteria to accurately critique your performance and suggest areas for improvement, you really have no frame of reference with which to assess the progress of your preparation and improve your level of readiness for attempting the SQE2 assessment.

A preparation course is not mandatory, but you are not aiding your chances of passing the exam by forgoing one.

Why does a preparation course for the practical assessment require a different approach?

While the SQE1 assessment merely tests your knowledge and understanding of academic law, SQE2 demands considerably more from you. The practical assessment aims to test higher level of knowledge, understanding and ability to accurately advise clients in all five legal practice areas, using a variety of skills. The focus is firmly on you mastering and displaying considerable relevant legal knowledge in legal practice areas as well as foundation subjects, and on successfully using a variety of skills expected of a practising solicitor to accurately and competently advise clients.

What makes our SQE2 course unique?

Our course is designed to bridge the gap between your academic study of the law and legal skills, which can only be gained through experience. We also aim to provide you with a good foundation for your early years of practice, as our objective is to equip you not just to pass the exam but to get a head start in your professional career as a dual-qualified English solicitor.

Remember that the costs of sitting the practical assessment are substantial. As well as this, you only have three attempts to pass the assessment within a six-year period. Therefore, you must ensure that you have properly prepared yourself and aim to pass first time.

Our SQE2 preparation course will provide you with all the tools to succeed in the practical assessment. Our materials are comprehensive, cover all of the requisite law and skills and offer multiple opportunities across different media to develop, hone and receive feedback on your knowledge and capacity prior to attempting the SQE2 assessment.

What is included in our course?

QLTS School's preparation course for SQE2 includes the following:

- An initial consultation with one of our tutors to assess your experience and level of training and tuition required.
- A tailor-made study plan prepared by our tutor, designed specifically to meet your personal needs.
- Course Guide.
- 2,000+ digital flash cards covering the practice areas to help you reinforce your legal knowledge
- SQE Video Library of 80+ online tutorials, spanning 20+ hours of lectures which cover the substantive and procedural law.
- 15 English writing tasks to help you demonstrate that you are able to use appropriate, clear, precise and acceptable English.
- SQE2 practice questions covering the legal practice area – each question includes multiple exercises which are based on a single scenario/case study common to that practice area. The questions come with numerous documents and forms which you may see in the formal assessment, such as a letter of claim and particulars of claim; board and members' resolutions; defence and witness statements; a bail application; wills, IHT forms, oaths, and probate applications; purchase deeds, a copy of the register and site plan, and purchase and sale contracts.
- 300 mock exams with suggested solutions for self-assessment, across all five legal practice areas, provide ample opportunity for you to deepen your legal knowledge and hone your practical skills. Points to note or proposed submissions for each mock enable you to understand what is required of you and identify areas of development during your preparation. The scenarios cover a wide spectrum of the syllabus, with supporting documents to many of the questions, such as shareholders' agreements, statements of claim, wills, lease extracts, defence statements, etc. The interviewing skill exercises include instructions for both interviewer and interviewee to enable roleplay for a more realistic assessment environment, together with scripts which simulate a real interview and oral presentation.

- Suggested solutions to the Kaplan sample questions (to which no answer guides have been provided by Kaplan).
- Access to SQE Skills Online
 - More than 60 interactive exercises covering the skills in the contexts of litigation, business law and conveyancing, ensuring that candidates gain genuinely transferable knowledge of the skills.
 - Video and audio material complements the exercises to provide a varied and interesting resource that engages candidates, making it an easy tool to use to improve your legal skills.
 - An electronic 130-page accompanying textbook is included in order to ensure that you are familiar with the principles behind each skill as well as providing examples taken from day-to-day practice.
- Mock practice stations with personal tutor feedback in client interviewing and advocacy/oral presentation.
- Practice area summaries, covering the essential elements of the law and practice areas tested in the assessment. The summaries are excellent for revision purposes. They offer all of the information needed to enable candidates to work through the various practice areas with ease.
- Periodic updates for the course materials.
- Access to the Legal Skills Video Workshops – a suite of more than 100 video workshops with roleplay scenarios and professional presentations (spanning nearly 20 hours in total), including pre and post-commentary notes delivered by an experienced legal skills trainer. You will also receive access to summaries of key points (about 70 pages in total).
- Live Workshops – you will have the opportunity to attend live and interactive workshops in London, which may include exercises, formal input, role plays and group interaction. The focus of the workshops is to build your confidence and reinforce your ability to be able to speak with clarity and present yourself in an articulate, professional and composed manner. You will be equipped with tools and techniques that you can use and practise to hone your skills right up to the date of your assessment. The workshops are offered on a one-to-one basis or in small groups for an additional charge.

Your pass key to SQE2

Preparation for the SQE2 assessment consists of four stages:

- Stage I – understanding the style, format and procedures of the SQE assessment – your study tools: SQE2 exam day resources, course administration handbook
- Stage II – studying the substantive and procedural law – your study tools: practice areas summaries, flash cards, SQE Video Library
- Stage III – learning and understanding the six skills – your study tools: SQE Skills Online (a textbook and interactive exercises), Legal Skills Video Workshops
- Stage IV – developing and practising your legal skills – your study tools: Kaplan sample questions and suggested solutions, 300 mock exams for self-assessment, mock practice stations with personal tutor feedback.

Do I need to come to the UK to take the course?

While many SQE candidates are based in the UK, others may live and work overseas. The unique structure of our SQE2 course allows you to study for the assessment from any location in the world, without attending classroom

lessons at a physical location. The course content will be available through SQE Learning, our proprietary online training system, so that you can assess your own development. Your mock practice stations with the personal tutor/actor will be conducted over a period of several weeks/months at mutually agreed times.

The nature of the course promotes flexible learning – candidates are able to practise the skills required whenever it suits them – making it ideal for working people and distance or part-time learners.

What is involved in the preparation course?

Several days after your enrolment, you will receive an email with your account details to access our online training system with the course resources.

If you decide to sign up for the Advantage or Premium Course, you will be asked to complete a questionnaire and provide details about your legal experience and qualifications. When we receive the completed questionnaire, we will forward it to your tutor for review, who will then contact you directly to arrange a convenient time for the consultation.

Following the initial consultation, the tutor will provide you with a tailor-made study plan based on your personal circumstances, your legal background, previous experience and the time you can dedicate to your preparation.

Our tutors are direct and realistic with candidates at the initial consultation – if it becomes apparent early on that you are likely not to be adequately prepared to pass the upcoming round of the assessments, the tutor will advise you accordingly so that you can make an informed and realistic decision as to the best time for you to sit the assessments. As well as wanting the best for our candidates, a further factor to consider is that, if you book a place on the upcoming assessments and then choose to defer, you may incur costs from Kaplan.

The SQE2 preparation course covers all the practice areas and skills you will be tested on the assessment.

How do the mock stations work?

You will need to contact your tutor to arrange a Skype/Apple Face Time appointment for the SQE oral assessments (interviewing and advocacy). The mock stations will concentrate on you advising clients in real-life scenarios.

You must have Internet access as well as a Skype account, web camera and microphone for the practice online interviewing and advocacy mock assessments.

How do I get started?

There are three packages for the SQE2 preparation course. Choose the one that suits you best from the options below:

Course Features	Best value		
	SQE2 Basic	SQE2 Advantage	SQE2 Premium
Course Guide	✓	✓	✓
Practice area summaries	✓	✓	✓
Free periodic updates for the course materials	✓	✓	✓
Legal research guides	✓	✓	✓
2,000+ digital flash cards	✓	✓	✓
Access to the SQE Video Library	✓	✓	✓
SQE2 practice questions	✓	✓	✓
15 English writing tasks	✓	✓	✓
Access to SQE Skills Online	✓	✓	✓
Access to the Legal Skills Video Workshops	✓	✓	✓
Mock exams with suggested solutions for self-assessment	120 mock exams	300 mock exams	300 mock exams
An initial consultation and a tailor-made study plan		✓	✓
Mock practice stations with personal tutor feedback		2 mock stations (interviewing and advocacy)	4 mock stations (interviewing and advocacy)
Fees	£1,590	£1,990	£2,390

Visit our [website to sign up online](#) for the SQE2 preparation course.

If you have any questions, please get in touch and we'll be happy to assist.

Sign Up Now for the
SQE2 Preparation Course