

# A Short Happy Guide to the Bar Exam Multistate Essay Examination (MEE)

The Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) is a standardized exam that is part of the bar exam in most U.S. jurisdictions. The MEE tests your ability to analyze legal issues and write well-organized and persuasive essays. The exam consists of six essays, each worth 20 points. The essays cover a variety of legal topics, including civil procedure, criminal law, contracts, torts, real property, constitutional law, and evidence.



## A Short & Happy Guide to the Bar Exam's Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) (Short & Happy Guides)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
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## Preparing for the MEE

The best way to prepare for the MEE is to practice writing essays. You can find sample essays online and in bar review materials. It is also helpful to take practice exams under timed conditions so that you can get a feel for the pressure of the actual exam. When you are practicing, focus on developing your issue spotting skills and on organizing your essays in a clear and concise manner.

## **The Day of the Exam**

On the day of the exam, arrive early and relax. You will be given six essays to complete in three hours. Read each essay carefully and underline the key facts. Then, outline your answer before you start writing. This will help you to stay organized and to make sure that you address all of the relevant issues. When you are writing, use clear and concise language and avoid using legalese. Make sure to proofread your essays before you turn them in.

## **Grading the MEE**

The MEE is graded on a scale of 0 to 20 points. The essays are graded by two graders who independently score each essay. The two scores are then averaged to produce the final score. The MEE is a challenging exam, but it is possible to do well if you prepare properly.

## **Model Answers**

The following are model answers to three MEE essays. These essays are not intended to be perfect, but they do provide a good example of the type of writing that is expected on the MEE.

### **Essay 1: Civil Procedure**

**\*\*Issue:\*\*** Whether the plaintiff's complaint states a claim for relief.

**\*\*Model Answer:\*\***

The plaintiff's complaint alleges that the defendant negligently caused a car accident that resulted in the plaintiff's injuries. The complaint states that the defendant was driving under the influence of alcohol and that he ran a red

light. The complaint also alleges that the plaintiff suffered serious injuries as a result of the accident. These allegations are sufficient to state a claim for relief for negligence. The elements of negligence are duty, breach of duty, causation, and damages. The complaint alleges that the defendant owed the plaintiff a duty of care to drive safely, that the defendant breached that duty by driving under the influence of alcohol and running a red light, that the defendant's breach of duty caused the plaintiff's injuries, and that the plaintiff suffered damages as a result of his injuries. Therefore, the complaint states a claim for relief for negligence.

## **Essay 2: Criminal Law**

**\*\*Issue:\*\*** Whether the defendant's confession was voluntary.

**\*\*Model Answer:\*\***

The voluntariness of a confession is determined by examining the totality of the circumstances. The court will consider factors such as the defendant's age, education, and intelligence, the length and conditions of the interrogation, and whether the defendant was advised of his rights. In this case, the defendant is a 25-year-old man with no prior criminal record. He was arrested for murder and interrogated for six hours. During the interrogation, the defendant was not advised of his rights. The defendant eventually confessed to killing the victim. The court will consider the following factors in determining whether the defendant's confession was voluntary:

- The defendant's age, education, and intelligence: The defendant is a 25-year-old man with no prior criminal record. This suggests that he is

of average intelligence and that he is capable of understanding his rights.

- The length and conditions of the interrogation: The defendant was interrogated for six hours. This is a relatively long interrogation, but it is not so long as to be coercive. The conditions of the interrogation are not described in the question, but there is no reason to believe that they were unusually harsh.
- Whether the defendant was advised of his rights: The defendant was not advised of his rights. This is a significant factor, as the Miranda warnings are designed to protect suspects from making involuntary confessions.

Based on these factors, it is likely that the court will find that the defendant's confession was not voluntary. The defendant was not advised of his rights, and the interrogation was relatively long. These factors weigh in favor of finding that the confession was involuntary.

### **Essay 3: Contracts**

**\*\*Issue:\*\*** Whether the parties have a valid contract.

**\*\*Model Answer:\*\***

The elements of a valid contract are offer, acceptance, consideration, capacity, and legality. In this case, the plaintiff offered to sell the defendant a car for \$10,000. The defendant accepted the offer and promised to pay the plaintiff \$10,000. There is consideration because both parties are giving up something of value in exchange for the other party's promise. The plaintiff is giving up the car in exchange for the defendant's promise to pay

\$10,000. The defendant is giving up \$10,000 in exchange for the plaintiff's promise to give him the car. Both parties have the capacity to enter into a contract. The plaintiff is an adult of sound mind, and the defendant is an adult who is not under the influence of any drugs or alcohol.

The contract is legal. The subject matter of the contract is not illegal, and the contract does not violate any public policy.

Therefore, the parties have a valid contract.

The MEE is a challenging exam, but it is possible to do well if you prepare properly. By following the tips in this guide, you can increase your chances of success on the MEE.

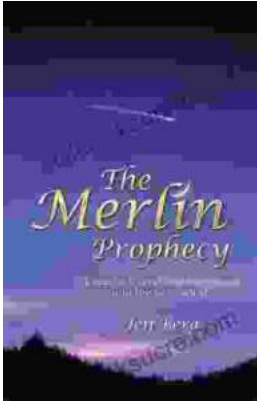


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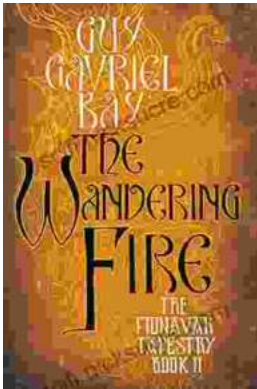
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