



***PracticePerfect™***  
**A Valuable and Versatile**  
**Learning Tool for Students**



# ***PracticePerfect:*** **A Valuable and Versatile** **Learning Tool for Students**

## **SUMMARY**

*PracticePerfect* provides an effective and beneficial way for students to preview, review, and solidify their understanding of information in their Civil Procedure course. Through videos that summarize complex content and quizzes which help test understanding, students immensely appreciate and value this learning tool.

## **Profile**

Santa Clara University School of Law, one of the nation's most diverse law schools, is dedicated to educating lawyers who lead with a commitment to excellence, ethics, and social justice.

Marina Hsieh is a Senior Fellow who teaches and directs the John Paul Stevens Fellowship program. Her interests include institutional assessment and leadership education. She currently teaches Professional Responsibility and Civil Procedure, taught as a two-semester course (six credits total) with 70 to 90 students each semester.

### **EDUCATOR**

**Marina Hsieh**

### **SCHOOL**

Santa Clara University School of Law, Santa Clara, California

### **COURSE**

Civil Procedure

### **COURSE MATERIALS**

Civil Procedure: A Coursebook, Third Edition with *PracticePerfect* Civil Procedure

## Background

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Prior to implementing *PracticePerfect*, Hsieh had been looking for ways to provide her students with opportunities to practice and review course material. She had tried and rejected other supplements because of uneven quality, and had created some learning tools in Quizlet, but her students wanted even more.

In the Fall of 2020, the Covid pandemic shut down in-person classes, and there was a sudden urgency to create videos for additional student learning. Shares Hsieh, “I had no bandwidth to create supplemental videos – this was the perfect opportunity to bring in *PracticePerfect* as a resource for my students.” Additionally, Hsieh prefers using supplemental practice aids by the same casebook author and appreciates the coordinated message and language delivered by the Glannon pairing.

*“I had no bandwidth to create supplemental videos – this was the perfect opportunity to bring in PracticePerfect as a resource for my students.”*

– Marina Hsieh,  
Santa Clara University School of Law

Hsieh summarizes the purpose of assigning *PracticePerfect* (tied to specific Student Learning Outcomes) with her students as follows:

- 1. To help keep on pace with the review and practice of substantive law with spaced review, repetition, and application; and**
- 2. To provide formative feedback for self-regulated learning.**



## Implementation

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Students are assigned the applicable *PracticePerfect* videos/quizzes at the close of class coverage of that section. Hsieh includes information on *PracticePerfect* within the course description on the school's LMS. After the course book as the primary source, she recommends *PracticePerfect* as the next best tool for student learning.

Students are given an in-class, closed-book final exam which includes multiple choice and essay questions. Taking quizzes in *PracticePerfect* helps students prepare for their final exam.

### Hsieh's *PracticePerfect* Tips for Students:

- Reflect on how you may use and benefit from the *PracticePerfect* videos and quizzes. You may view the videos before or after the relevant pages to introduce or to review basic concepts, or both.
- Use the question-and-answer practice for kinesthetic learning, with accompanying explanations so you can check and assess yourself.
- Review every answer explanation, regardless whether you answered the question correctly.

Hsieh incentivizes her students by giving nominal credit for the completion of various course assignments, including *PracticePerfect*. Shared one of Hsieh's students, "*PracticePerfect* videos and quizzes are very helpful, and making them for points ensures we will do them." In total, *PracticePerfect* assignments make up 7% of the final course grade. To receive full credit, students must take a screenshot of the green bar from the video quiz progress view in *PracticePerfect* showing the completion of the assigned videos/quizzes and upload the screenshot to the course LMS as their submission.

Hsieh found that some students use *PracticePerfect* before the reading of a course topic is assigned and addressed, and some students use *PracticePerfect* after, as review. The following quotes from students in Hsieh's Fall 2021 class illustrate the different ways the product can be used for learning:

### For previewing information:

*“PracticePerfect has been amazing. I watch the videos before I read the textbook so I have an idea of what to expect.”*

*“I have found doing the PracticePerfect quizzes or even just watching the videos before reading the relevant section to be very helpful. I think it helps me read more quickly and understand better as I have a good idea of what I am looking for going into the assignment.”*

### For reviewing information:

*“PracticePerfect quizzes were an amazing way to review material, especially due to the fact that they explained why a particular answer choice was correct or incorrect.”*

*“I look over [PracticePerfect quizzes] again later to refresh my memory or cement material in my mind I did not understand the first time.”*

*“PracticePerfect quizzes and videos... help consolidate and affirm my understanding.”*

To this note, *PracticePerfect* offers flexible choices where students can choose to watch videos in “Interactive mode” (answering questions as they watch) or “Continuous play mode” (without questions). Quizzes may be taken in “Practice mode” (with answers shown after each question answered) or “Graded mode” (all answers at end are scored and scores show up in progress dashboard), and students may retake the quizzes as many times as they wish.

Students mostly use *PracticePerfect* to study individually, but they can also use the tool to study together, as explained by one student: *“As a study group we used some of the PracticePerfect questions and prompts to do a fuller analysis of the answers, and it was helpful to have both a well-developed hypo and also a correct answer to reference.”*

## Impact

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Hsieh knows that her students appreciate the practice they get from watching videos and taking quizzes in *PracticePerfect*. When students in her Fall 2021 course were asked to reflect on the one or two approaches to their study of Civil Procedure that they found particularly effective, many listed *PracticePerfect* as an important tool that impacted their learning of the subject. Responses included the following:

*“PracticePerfect quizzes and in-class problems with my firm tremendously impacted my Civil Procedure experience. I found that **even when I felt confident with the material, taking weekly quizzes via PracticePerfect provided insight I wasn’t aware of.**”*

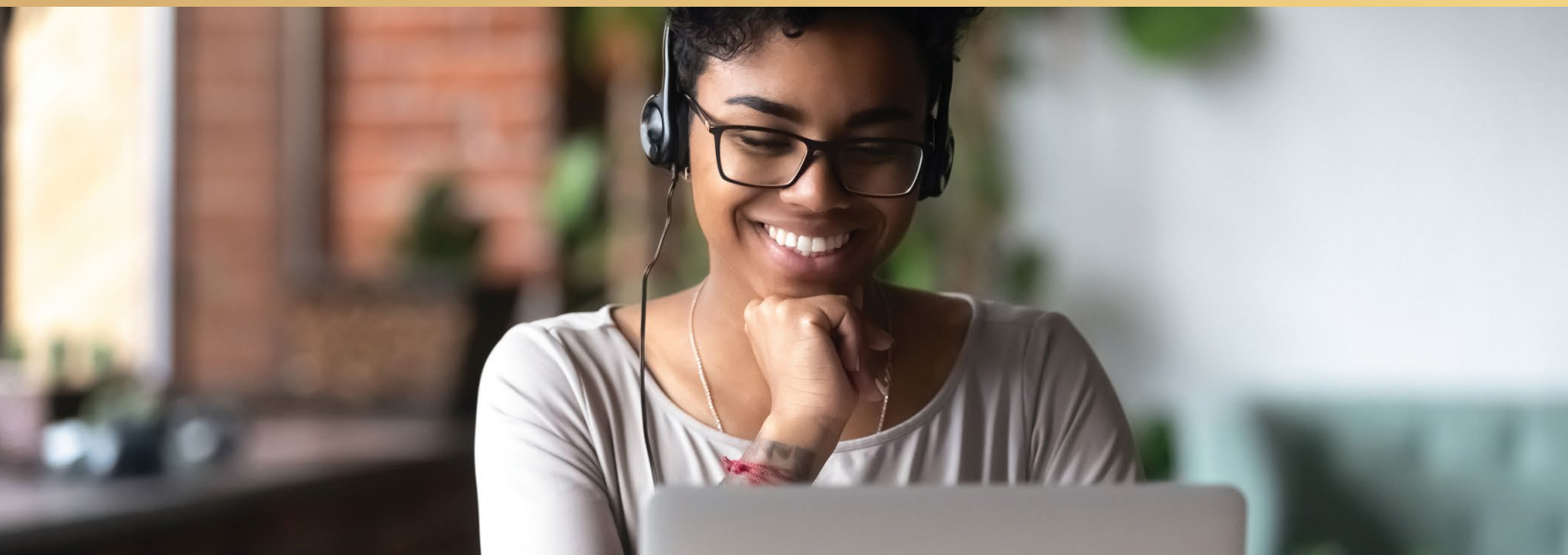
*“I find...PracticePerfect quizzes particularly effective because **they allow application of the concepts that were just covered.**”*

*“I really do enjoy the PracticePerfect quizzes. I think the practice tests are where **I learn the most from their detailed answer descriptions.**”*

*“I find the PracticePerfect videos and quizzes to be incredibly helpful. They **distill complex concepts down** so they are easier to understand.”*

*“The weekly quizzes give me an opportunity to watch a short, condensed video of the high-level principles for a particular topic and to **test my understanding** of the topic.”*

*“Even if we get the answer wrong, it is really helpful that [**PracticePerfect quizzes**] **emphasize how we get to the correct answer.** It has been really helpful in understanding the material as a whole.”*



Students also mentioned the *PracticePerfect* Quiz Builder as a tool that helped them prepare for exams:

“I’ve really appreciated the value of the *PracticePerfect* videos and quizzes. I also used their option of **building ‘custom quizzes’** and **found it very helpful in preparing for the midterm** multiple choice questions.”

“I especially like the *Make Your Own Quiz* option on *PracticePerfect*. **I made about a dozen of my own quizzes and drilled those before the midterm.**”

“Working through actual problems is critical to understanding, retention, and bar success. *PracticePerfect* helps students embrace active learning by providing interactive reviews and relevant problems.”

– Marina Hsieh, Santa Clara University School of Law

## Conclusion

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Reading through student responses, it is clear that Hsieh’s students value *PracticePerfect* as an important learning tool in Civil Procedure. Says Hsieh, “Working through actual problems is critical to understanding, retention, and bar success. *PracticePerfect* helps students embrace active learning by providing interactive reviews and relevant problems.”



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