

**MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF**  
**GEOLOGIST JUNIOR UNDER COMMERCE & INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT,**  
**GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM, AUGUST, 2023**

**GENERAL ENGLISH PAPER - I**

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

*Marks for each question is indicated against it.*  
*Attempt all questions*

1. Write an essay choosing one of the topics given below: (25)
- Natural calamities – How far are we responsible?
  - The impact of earthquakes on society and economy.
  - Religion and Politics.

2. Make a précis of the following in one-third of its original length. (15)

Many people believe that science and religion are contrary to each other. But this notion is wrong. As a matter of fact, both are complementary to each other. The aim of both these institutions is to explain different aspects of life, universe and human existence. There is no doubt that the methods of science and religion are different. The method of science is observation, experimentation and experience. Science takes its recourse to progressive march towards perfection, the rules of religion are faith, intuition and spoken word of the enlightened, in general, while science is inclined towards reason and rationality, spiritualism is the essence of religion.

In earlier times when man appeared on earth, he was over-awed at the sight of violent and powerful aspects of nature. In certain cases, the usefulness of different natural objects of nature overwhelmed man. Thus began the worship of forces of nature-fire, the sun, the river, the rocks, the trees, the snakes, etc. The holy scriptures were written by those who had developed harmony between external nature and their inner self.

Their object was to ennoble, elevate and liberate the human spirit and mind. But the priestly class took upon itself the monopoly of scriptural knowledge and interpretation to its own advantage. Thus, the entire human race was in chains. Truth was flouted and progressive, liberal and truthful ideas or ideas expressing doubt and skepticism were suppressed and their holders punished.

It was in these trying circumstances the science emerged as a savior of mankind. But its path was not smooth and safe. The scientists and free thinkers were tortured. This was the fate of Copernicus, Galileo, Bruno and others. But, by and by Science gained ground.

3. As Mr. A, write a letter to the editor of Vanglaini, a local newspaper, drawing attention to unsafe sewage management system in your locality which poses landslide risks. (15)

**OR**

Draft a letter to the Principal of XXX college seeking his co-operation in organizing an awareness program on mitigation of natural disaster at their college. Do not reveal your identity.

4. Make sentences with any seven of the following idioms and phrases: (7×2=14)
- |                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) At the spur of the moment | (b) Bear the brunt of |
| (c) Chip of the old block     | (d) Rank and file     |
| (e) Throw a spanner           | (f) Part and parcel   |
| (g) Rock the boat             | (h) In doldrums       |
| (i) Kith and kin              | (j) Herculean task    |

5. Expand the idea contained in any three of the following sentences: (3×5=15)
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (a) Ability is nothing without opportunity  | (b) Deeds always speak louder than words |
| (c) A little knowledge is a dangerous thing | (d) Might is right                       |
| (e) As you sow , so shall you leap          |  |

6. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

A complete reading program, therefore, should include four factors: at least one good book each week, a newspaper or news magazine, magazines of comment and interpretation, and book reviews. If you keep feeding your intelligence with these four foods, you can be sure that your brain cells will be properly nourished. To this must be added the digestive process that comes from your thinking and from discussion with individuals or groups. It is often desirable to make books that you own personally part of your mind by underlining or by marking in the margin the more important statements. This will help you to understand the book as you first read it, because out of the mass details you must have selected the essential ideas. It will help you to remember better the gist of the book, since the physical act of underlining, with your eyes on the page, tends to put the thought more firmly into your brain cells. It will save time whenever you need to refer to the book.

Above all, never forget that creative intelligence is correlation of facts and ideas, not mere memorizing. What counts is what you can do with your knowledge, by linking it with other things you have studied or observed. If you read Plutarch's life of Julius Caesar, think how his rise to political power paralleled the technique of Adolf Hitler or that of your local political boss. If you read a play by Shakespeare, think how his portrayal of the characters helps you to understand someone you know.

In everything you read, keep at the back of your mind what it means to your life here and now, how it supports or challenges the things you were taught in school, in church and at home, and how the wisdom you get from books can guide you in your thinking, in your career, in your voting as a citizen and in your personal morals.

**Questions :**

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|---|-----|
| (a) What are the four things required for a complete reading program and why?                         | (3) |
| (b) What else is required to feed your intelligence?  | (3) |
| (c) Why does the writer recommend underlining or marking in the margin the more important statements? | (3) |
| (d) What use can you put your knowledge to?   | (3) |
| (e) How can what you learn from books help you in your life?  | (3) |
| (f) Find a word in the passage which is similar in meaning to <u>comprehend</u> .                     | (1) |