

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## TECHNICAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO JUNIOR ENGINEER (J.E)

UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENTS, APRIL, 2016

### GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

*Attempt all questions.*

#### **SECTION - A**

**(20 Marks)**

*This Section should be answered only on the **Answer Sheet** provided.*

1. Write an essay on **any one (1)** of the given topics (300 words).
  - (a) Talent versus Hard work.
  - (b) Mass Media and Cultural Invasion.
  - (c) Youth Culture Today.

#### **SECTION - B**

**(80 Marks)**

*All questions carry equal mark of 1 each. Attempt all questions.*

*This Section should be answered only on the **OMR Response Sheet** provided.*

***Directions (Questions 1-8): Fill in the blanks with the idioms / phrases out of the given options:***

1. Don't worry, the present disturbance will soon .....
  - (a) blow over
  - (b) blow down
  - (c) blow away
  - (d) blow up
2. They finally saw.....and closed the business deal.
  - (a) eye to eye
  - (b) eye for an eye
  - (c) I to I
  - (d) face to face
3. The beautiful model is surprisingly on the ..... of forty.
  - (a) over
  - (b) almost
  - (c) wrong side
  - (d) right side
4. Our overbearing boss expects us to show up .....
  - (a) now and then
  - (b) once in a blue moon
  - (c) safe and sound
  - (d) at the drop of a hat

5. A good salesman must be able to..... to close the deal.  
(a) think on his feet (b) stand on his feet  
(c) work on his feet (d) none of these
6. This show is excellent but the tickets cost.....  
(a) a white elephant (b) an arm and a leg  
(c) a storm in a teacup (d) alpha and omega
7. The thief disappeared .....  
(a) in a minute (b) immediately  
(c) in the blink of an eye (d) in front of me
8. You must know the.....of a job before you take it up.  
(a) long and short (b) ins and outs  
(c) all and sundry (d) right and wrong

**Directions (Questions 9-16): choose the correct meaning of the idioms and phrases from the options given below:**

9. When pigs fly  
(a) overly optimistic (b) likely to happen  
(c) completely destroyed (d) highly unlikely to happen
10. Tickled pink  
(a) excited and happy (b) funny and hilarious  
(c) feminine and pretty (d) feminine and funny
11. To sell someone out  
(a) to be a good salesman (b) to be misunderstood  
(c) to betray someone (d) to misunderstand
12. Feel under the weather  
(a) feel unwanted (b) angry  
(c) feel sleepy (d) feel ill
13. Spin a yarn  
(a) to tell a fanciful story (b) to be talented  
(c) to be watchful (d) to be old fashioned
14. To take with a grain of salt  
(a) to take seriously (b) to take with some reservation  
(c) being doubtful (d) being cautious
15. To get into hot waters  
(a) to be in the middle of the sea (b) to loose patience  
(c) to get into trouble (d) to be of hot temperament

16. To read between the lines

- |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (a) to read cautiously     | (b) to understand the hidden meaning |
| (c) to read the fine print | (d) to read aloud                    |

***Directions for the following 2 ( two) passages: Read the give passages carefully and answer the questions that follow:-***

**Passage -1: Questions Nos. 17-22**

When a businessman is an amateur, he plays cautious and is always willing to please. The purpose is very clear. He wants to make the most profits and he gives attention to every detail which can affect his business. But no sooner than the business turns into a roaring success, he forgets to be courteous and humble. This is not expected of a professional, who is a specialist in his profession. A professional is expected to give human relations more importance above anything else. But professional men make the same mistake.

Several years ago, I walked into the office of a well known nose and throat specialist in my city. Before he even looked at my tonsils, he asked me what my business was. He wasn't interested in the size of my tonsils. He was interested in the size of my exchequer. His chief concern was not in how much he could help me. His chief concern was in how much he could get out of me. The result was he got nothing. I walked out of his office with contempt for his lack of character.

The world is full of people like that; grabbing, self-seeking. So, the rare individual who unselfishly tries to serve others has an enormous advantage. He has little competition. Owen D. Young said, "The man who can put himself in the place of other men, who can understand the workings of their minds, need never worry about what the future has in store for him."

17. The professional nose and throat specialist asked the author

- |                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) What his trouble was  | (b) What his name was      |
| (c) What his business was | (d) What his intention was |

18. The author walked out of the specialist's office

- (a) With respect for his professional competence
- (b) With a feeling of contempt towards the specialist
- (c) With admiration for the professional
- (d) With a feeling of indifference towards the professional

19. The phrase "grabbing, self-seeking" means

- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) Cruel and vicious      | (b) Blunt and arrogant  |
| (c) Selfish and possessive | (d) Proud and assertive |

20. The chief concern of the specialist lay in:

- (a) The nature of the author's illness
- (b) In how much he could help the author
- (c) In how much he could get out of the author
- (d) In how quickly he could cure the author's malady

21. Owen D. Young said the man who is
- (a) Honest always gets success
  - (b) Selfless reaches the top of his profession
  - (c) Greedy fails miserably in life
  - (d) Able to think from the point of view of others need not have any worry
22. A professional should be
- (a) a sycophant
  - (b) solely concerned with profits
  - (c) courteous and humble
  - (d) competitive

**Passage -2: Questions Nos. 23-28**

A team of California researchers from intensive and prolonged study have propounded that clean living and healthful habits encourages longevity- gifting an extra 11 years to a man, seven to a woman. This life bonus is propped on seven golden behavioural rules: Eating regularly, and not between meals; eating breakfast; getting eight hours sleep nightly; maintaining a normal weight, being neither overweight nor underweight; not smoking or drinking and exercising regularly.

Eating regularly and not between meals; Discipline in food habits is important to life and continuous good health. Meal hours should be scrupulously observed as the stomach gets geared to them. A balanced diet must contain the four basic foods- meat and fish; eggs and dairy products; vegetables and fruits; cereals and substitutes. These provide the five nutrients; proteins, fats, carbohydrates, minerals and vitamins. Desserts and snacks between meals make one corpulent. Rich food is as hazardous as a starvation diet. Eating breakfast: rejuvenating the body by replenishing depleted blood is this meal's work and must not be skipped, as it comes 10 hours after the last meal.

Nutritionally qualitative rather than quantitative breakfast must provide a quarter of the day's calories. Getting 8 hours sleep nightly is the most irresistible of human needs. It is the cessation of bodily activity, an inner restorative force and physical refreshment. During sleep the heart and breathing slow down, muscles relax, pupils contract. Everybody requires the nightly 8 hours of energizing sleep but some can thrive on less; too much sleep enervates. Humans can live without food for three weeks but after 90 sleepless hours they start hallucinating.

A height - aligned correct weight creates a personality potential and a health plus. A person weighing 10 kilograms more than the desired weight is over fed and reduces life expectancy. Smoking is injurious and debilitating to general health. It often leads to cancer of the throat and lungs and dulls the sensitivity of the brain. Alcoholics commonly suffer from liver disease and vitamin deficiency, leading to brain disorder. Exercising regularly produces physical fitness and gives the heart a good workout. Lack of exercises make blood vessels lose elasticity and suppleness. A good brisk walk is rewarding for sedentary folk. Exercise retards aging. The body wastes away unless used.

23. How many years do clean living and healthy habits add to a life of a woman and man respectively?
- (a) 10 years for a man and 5 years for a woman
  - (b) 15 years for a man and 7 years for a woman
  - (c) 11 years for a man and 5 years for a woman
  - (d) None of these
24. What does smoking lead to?
- (a) Cancer of the throat
  - (b) Cancer of the liver
  - (c) Cancer of the throat and lungs
  - (d) Brain cancer

25. Which amongst the below mentioned is not one of the seven golden rules for better health?  
(a) Getting eight hours sleep nightly (b) Eating regularly and not between meals  
(c) Drinking alcoholic beverages (d) Not smoking or drinking
26. What does lack of exercise result in?  
(a) Blood vessels loose elasticity (b) Rigidity  
(c) Suppleness (d) Hallucinations
27. Sedentary means  
(a) Weak (b) Elderly  
(c) Inactive (d) Fragile
28. Eight hours of sleep is good for us as it ..... us.  
(a) sensitizes (b) enervates  
(c) hallucinates (d) energizes

**Directions (Questions 29-35) Fill the blanks with the correct phrasal verbs / prepositions from the alternatives given:**

29. I can't believe you fell..... his lies.  
(a) for (b) down  
(c) off (d) of
30. If you don't make it as an actor, you can always fall ..... on your education.  
(a) over (b) back  
(c) into (d) down
31. The thieves pulled ..... the heist perfectly.  
(a) of (b) down  
(c) off (d) up
32. I was completely worn..... after our hike.  
(a) onto (b) up  
(c) down (d) out
33. City life is starting to grow ..... me.  
(a) on (b) for  
(c) around (d) without
34. The flowers give ..... a wonderful smell that scents the entire garden.  
(a) of (b) off  
(c) out (d) up
35. James came ..... a lot of money when his grandfather passed away.  
(a) into (b) across  
(c) under (d) over

**Directions (Questions 36-42) Choose the correct answer for each gap from the adjectives, adverbs and linking verbs given below:**

36. Jack spoke ..... to the audience urging them to elect him.  
(a) confident (b) confidently  
(c) confidence (d) confidant
37. He knew he had a..... chance of winning the election.  
(a) good (b) well  
(c) better (d) best
38. Maria seemed more ..... than relaxed at the picnic.  
(a) uncomfortably (b) comfortably  
(c) uncomfortable (d) comforted
39. This airline's ..... lack of organisation is astounding.  
(a) complete (b) completed  
(c) completely (d) incomplete
40. Tim is ..... known for his sense of humour.  
(a) good (b) better  
(c) well (d) bad
41. I went to a restaurant last week, but I ..... eat at home.  
(a) usually (b) seldom  
(c) always (d) never
42. I..... drive to work because of the traffic jams.  
(a) rarely (b) usually  
(c) occasionally (d) all the time

**Directions (Question 43-48) Identify the parts of speech of the underlined words from the options given below.**

43. If we finished our work quickly, we can go to the movies.  
(a) Verb (b) Adverb (c) Adjective
44. Well, I don't think I will be here to answer the phone.  
(a) Interjection (b) Preposition (c) Pronoun
45. Andy knocked on the door but nobody answered.  
(a) Adverb (b) Adjective (c) Conjunction
46. You have to believe in yourself if you expect to be successful.  
(a) Pronoun (b) Adverb (c) Verb
47. We left for the mountain just before six in the morning.  
(a) Adverb (b) Verb (c) Conjunction

48. He wasn't strong enough to lift his heavy bag.  
(a) Noun (b) Adverb (c) Adjective

**Directions (Questions 49- 54) Pick the correct clause of the words underlined in the given sentences.**

49. If you pay your bills, you will have a good credit score.  
(a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) independent clause
50. Fruit that is grown organically is expensive.  
(a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) independent clause
51. That he is a cheat is a well known fact.  
(a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) independent clause
52. Mark kept his schedule open in case of emergencies.  
(a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) independent clause
53. They all said that I would not succeed.  
(a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) independent clause
54. Pizza, which most people love is not very healthy.  
(a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) independent clause

**Directions (Questions 55-59) Analyse the sentences below and choose the correct answer:**

55. Barbara and Joana whispered and giggled all night.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence (c) compound sentence
56. After the Tornado hit, my house was completely destroyed.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence (c) compound sentence
57. This summer our vacation should be both exciting and restful.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence (c) compound sentence
58. When the cost goes up, customers buy less clothing.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence (c) compound sentence
59. The moon is full; the stars are out.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence (c) compound sentence

**Directions (Questions 60-64) Identify the correct type of sentences from the options given below:**

**60.** Drive to the roundabout and then turn left.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) Exclamatory | (b) Imperative |
| (c) Negative    | (d) Assertive  |

**61.** In the shopping mall, I met a friend I hadn't seen for years.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) Exclamatory | (b) Imperative |
| (c) Negative    | (d) Assertive  |

**62.** Has anyone seen my torch?

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| (a) Interrogative | (b) Affirmative |
| (c) Assertive     | (d) Negative    |

**63.** San Clemente is an Island off the coast of San Diego.

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Exclamatory | (b) Affirmative |
| (c) Imperative  | (d) Negative    |

**64.** Do not condemn the judgment of others because it differs from your own.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) Exclamatory | (b) Imperative |
| (c) Negative    | (d) Assertive  |

**Directions (Questions 65-70) Choose the word which has a similar meaning to the one given:**

**65.** Commence

- |                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| (a) To end         | (b) To begin |
| (c) Nearing finish | (d) To run   |

**66.** Conjecture

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) Grave    | (b) Outward  |
| (c) To guess | (d) To claim |

**67.** Deteriorate

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| (a) Appreciate    | (b) Recover    |
| (c) To make worse | (d) Strengthen |

**68.** Admonish

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) To warn   | (b) To cajole |
| (c) Encourage | (d) Abdicate  |

**69.** Manipulate

- |                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| (a) Display             | (b) Gloomy      |
| (c) To handle or manage | (d) To mortgage |

**70.** Remuneration

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| (a) Understanding | (b) Protest      |
| (c) Finality      | (d) Compensation |



**Directions (Questions 71-74) Choose the word which has the opposite meaning to the one given**

**71.** Protects

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| (a) Defends | (b) Deprives |
| (c) Deserts | (d) Devises  |

**72.** Glory

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| (a) Splendor | (b) Debasing   |
| (c) Fame     | (d) Reputation |

**73.** Foremost

- |                 |              |
|-----------------|--------------|
| (a) Hindmost    | (b) Mature   |
| (c) Unimportant | (d) Disposed |

**74.** Retrogression

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Retardation | (b) Development |
| (c) Progress    | (d) Impunity    |

**Directions (Questions 75-80) Choose the correct word / meaning from the options given below:**

**75.** He cannot live in a closed apartment. He is.....

- |                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| (a) Claustrophobic | (b) Congested |
| (c) Acrophobic     | (d) Sensitive |

**76.** God is present everywhere. He is .....

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| (a) Omniscient | (b) Omnipresent  |
| (d) Omnipotent | (d) Convalescent |

**77.** Something which can not be avoided.

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) Unavoidable | (b) Inimitable |
| (c) Inevitable  | (d) Unevitable |

**78.** Genuine relationships always seem to ..... her.

- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| (a) Allude | (b) Elude  |
| (c) Illude | (d) Delude |

**79.** The general act of forgiveness on a national occasion is called .....

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| (a) Benediction   | (b) Emancipation |
| (c) Gratification | (d) Amnesty      |

**80.** The amount of sugar in his blood ..... the previous reading.

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| (a) Acceded | (b) Exceeded |
| (c) Crossed | (d) Beyond   |