

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR THE POST OF
ASSISTANT SUB-INSPECTOR OF POLICE (MINISTERIAL)
UNDER HOME (POLICE) DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM, NOVEMBER-2024

PAPER-I
(GENERAL ENGLISH)

Time Allowed : 3 hours

FM : 100

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

1. Write a précis of the following passage and supply a suitable title. (10)

The primary advantage of waking up early is that it offers a head start on the day's tasks. The early riser would have had finished a significant amount of work before others have gotten out of bed. The mind is clear in the early morning, because there are few sounds or distractions, so work done at this point is often excellent. In several instances, early risers find time for physical activity in the fresh morning air, which provides them with energy to last until the evening. By beginning early, they ensure that they are given sufficient time to carry out all of the work that is expected of them and are not compelled to rush through any of it. With all of their jobs completed on time, they get a considerable period of leisure in the evening before going to bed at the appropriate hour. They retire to bed many hours before midnight, when sleep is most pleasant, and wakes up early the next morning in good health and enthusiasm to face the challenges of the day.

It is obvious that such a life is far more beneficial to health than that of the person who shortens his/her waking hours by rising late, leaving little time during the day for vital rest. Anyone who falls asleep late must, if they desire to complete a full day's work, work until a suitably late hour and deny themselves the hour or two of evening exercise that they should get for their health. Despite their best efforts, they will most likely fail to achieve the same outcomes as the early riser because they have missed the most productive hours of the day.

It may be disputed that some people find midnight to be the absolute finest time to work. This is undeniably true in certain situations. However, even in such instances, working late at night is not recommended. Few people, if any, can exercise the full strength of their brain at a time when nature prescribes sleep without jeopardising their health; and, of course, the health damage must have a negative impact on the quality of the work done in the long term.

2. Draft a letter (*any one*) from the options provided: (15)

- Compose a letter of grievance to the Executive Engineer of the Power and Electricity Department concerning the extended power outage in your area attributed to a faulty electric transformer and the subsequent impact of on the residents of your vicinity.
- Compose a correspondence to the editor of a local newspaper appealing for assistance in bringing the attention of relevant authorities to the issue of potholes in your community.
- Compose a formal letter addressed to the Bank Manager enquiring about the possibility of acquiring a replacement ATM Card.

3. Read the passage carefully. Then choose the correct answer.

Natural disasters have become frequent occurrences in the world today. Now and again, news of serious flooding, earthquakes and tsunamis stun us. Things are destroyed and countless lives are lost too. When incidences such as these take place, people wonder as to the cause(s) of these events. Could these disasters be prevented in the first place? In the race to become a developed country and a modern society, human beings have made tremendous changes to the environment. When humans start meddling with Mother Nature, the effects can be disastrous at times. Rapid development has caused many problems to humans and animals alike.

Everywhere we go, it is apparent that many areas are being developed to pave the way for modernisation. New roads, industrial areas, townships and housing areas are replacing jungles and hilly areas. In the process, countless trees have been cut down, jungles cleared and hilly areas flattened. It has been scientifically proven that when trees are gone, water can no longer be contained underground. The roots of trees that act as natural defences to hold water in the ground are no longer there to do their job. As a result, rainwater flows straight out to sea in a much shorter time, causing frequent flash floods to places that have never faced such problems before.

Development comes at a very high price. Animals and human lives are in danger. Many land areas are turned into housing areas, including scenic hills. Houses and apartments, some of them very highly priced, have been built on these scenic but unsafe hills. Without careful study, and over time, the unstable ground condition often caves in causing landslides that kill many people.

The clearing of land for all kinds of reasons has also led to the extinction of many wildlife species. In the first place, land development causes the destruction of many animal habitats. Animals now have to compete with humans for space and food. To survive, these animals are forced to move deeper into the jungles. Their sources of food have become scarce, thus threatening their survival. Smaller spaces and less food have led to the extinction of some species. Fifteen endangered animals and six critically endangered animals in Malaysia have been identified. The Malayan Tapir, the Malayan Tiger and the Asian elephant are three large mammal species that are on the endangered species list. Among the critically endangered ones are the black shrew, the Malayan water shrew, the Malayan roundleaf bat and the Sumatran rhinoceros.

It is obvious that many animals have been sacrificed in the name of development and modernisation. Indiscriminate human activities have led to the destruction of irreplaceable and priceless lives. There are laws to curb people from messing with our forests, polluting and doing things that can harm our environment. There are also laws to punish those who do so, but the laws do not seem to serve their purpose. It is the responsibility of each and every individual to preserve our fragile Earth. If we keep destroying it, we will soon lose all that we have.

Answer the questions below based on the passage:

- (a) Who are responsible for the destruction of our environment? (2)
- (b) How does rainwater cause flash floods in areas where there are not many trees? (2)
- (c) Give reasons why some animals have become extinct. (2)
- (d) Has development brought about positive effects to our environment? Give reasons to support your answer. (2)
- (e) Who is responsible for the preservation of nature around us? (2)
- (g) Find a word/words with the same meaning as the following words from the passage: (5×1=5)
 - (i) restrict (ii) expensive
 - (iii) insufficient (iv) restrain
 - (v) extermination

4. Identify the parts of speech of each underlined word: (10×1=10)
- (a) The music playing in the next room prevented her from sleeping.
 - (b) I was at a nearby park when the building collapsed.
 - (c) He was given a set of data for analysis.
 - (d) Someone donated a huge sum of money to the children's home.
 - (e) She has completed the job already.
 - (f) Ouch! Stop poking me. That hurts.
 - (g) Historians disagree about exactly when the decline of the British empire began.
 - (h) The movie was filled with meaningless violence.
 - (i) Underneath the huge tree, a treasure was hidden.
 - (j) I arrived at the airport two hours early; however, my flight was delayed.
5. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate forms of the verbs given in the brackets: (5×1=5)
- (a) The earth _____ around the sun. (*rotate*)
 - (b) You _____ playing with the team. (*is*)
 - (c) I _____ her for ten years. (*know*)
 - (d) My younger brother _____ me every time he needs money. (*call*)
 - (e) She _____ bitterly on her father's death. (*weep*)
6. Complete the following sentences with the appropriate prepositions: (5×1=5)
- (a) His birthday is _____ 16th February. (*at/in/on*)
 - (b) By clicking this button, you consent _____ sharing your current location. (*to/of/for*)
 - (c) The Commercial Vehicle Union have abstained _____ service today. (*from/to/for*)
 - (d) Morning walk is beneficial _____ health. (*for/of/from*)
 - (e) She turned pale _____ fear. (*from/with/in*)
7. Make sentences using the following idioms to bring out their meaning. (5×2=10)
- (a) Foot the bill
 - (b) Far and wide
 - (c) Not born yesterday
 - (d) Rain or shine
 - (e) Tooth and nail
8. Rewrite the following sentence as directed in the brackets (10×1=10)
- (a) Mother made a cake yesterday. (*change to passive voice*)
 - (b) He said to me, "Where is the post office?" (*change to indirect speech*)
 - (c) His bravery was admired. (*change to active voice*)
 - (d) The boys said, "Hurrah, we have won the match!" (*change to indirect speech*)
 - (e) We will win or die. (*Compound to Complex*)
 - (f) Elon Musk is the richest person in the world. (*Superlative to comparative degree*)
 - (g) Aizawl is a more populous city than Lunglei. (*Comparative to Positive degree*)
 - (h) I raided her closet. There were plenty of bags. They were all designer bags. The bags were all white in colour. (*combine into one sentence*)
 - (i) Why waste money here? (*Interrogative to Assertive sentence*)
 - (j) These oranges are sour. (*Assertive to Negative sentence*)

9. Choose the correct antonyms for the following underlined words: (5×1=5)
- (a) His hope of reconciliation with his father went down the drain. (*reuniting/consideration/estrangement*)
 - (b) Lack of funding has encumbered the project. (*facilitate/hamper/modified*)
 - (c) The sick woman beseeked the congregation to pray for her. (*implored/dissuaded/preached*)
 - (d) All of us have narcissistic traits, but they are so strong in some people that it can cause problems in relationships. (*benevolent/egoistical/pompous*)
 - (e) He was completely oblivious to what was happening around him. (*unaware/conscious/oblivion*)
10. Choose the correct synonyms for the following underlined words: (5×1=5)
- (a) She was ostracized from the scientific community for many years because of her radical political beliefs. (*accepted/excluded/demoralized*)
 - (b) A fur coat has more utility in winter than in autumn. (*versatility/ability/service*)
 - (c) She showed no remorse for her actions. (*impenitence/regret/passion*)
 - (d) The dog was put into quarantine for six months. (*confinement/hospital/imprisonment*)
 - (e) After driving for 6 hours, he was exhausted. (*exhilarated/elated/tired*)
11. Correct the following sentences. (5×1=5)
- (a) The sky appeared darkly.
 - (b) I prefer this book than that.
 - (c) That is the girl who he loves.
 - (d) He has three son-in-laws.
 - (e) I only rest when I feel tired.
12. Give one word substitutes. (5×1=5)
- (a) That is against the law.
 - (b) Which cannot be read easily.
 - (c) A person who believes in the existence of God.
 - (d) One who is not guilty.
 - (e) A citizen of another country.

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