

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION FOR PROMOTION TO
UPPER DIVISIONAL CLERK (UDC) UNDER VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS,
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM.
(AUGUST-2025)

PAPER - I

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 40

SECTION - I (Multiple Choice Questions) (60 Marks)

All questions carry equal mark of 2 each. Attempt all questions.

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

Direction (Question Nos. 1 - 12): Read the following passage carefully answer the questions that follow in your own words :

In a room filled with people, each face illuminated by the soft glow of their smartphones, moments drift away like autumn leaves in the wind. The constant hum of notifications fills the air, punctuating conversations like an incessant drumbeat. Every vibration or ping sends fingers flying to screens, a response ingrained by years of digital conditioning. The once-reliable tick-tock of analog time-pieces has been overshadowed by the constant flicker of notifications on the wrist watch, blurring the boundaries between the virtual and the real.

Anxiety gnaws at the edges of consciousness when the phone is out of reach, a phantom limb syndrome that leaves us feeling incomplete without our digital appendage. The fear of missing out permeates every moment spent away from the screen, driving us to constantly check for updates and notifications.

Thumbs move with the speed and precision of skillful pianists, tapping out messages and scrolling through feeds with practiced ease. yet amidst the flurry of activity, the true rhythm of life remains unheard, drowned out by the dissonance of digital noise. The weight of constant connectivity forms a hunch upon our shoulders, a physical manifestation of the burden we carry in an age of information overload. Our minds are perpetually on high alert, scanning for the next wave of excitement that comes with each like, share, or comment.

And yet, for all our efforts to stay connected, we find ourselves increasingly isolated in a sea of digital faces. Genuine connections are fleeting, drowned out by the constant clamour for attention. In the pursuit of digital validation, we sacrifice the wealth of lived experience, trading meaningful moments for fleeting glimpses of connection. The true essence of life lies not in the pixels on a screen, but in the depth of human connection and the richness of shared experiences.

As we navigate this brave new world of constant connectivity, let us not forget the value of presence and the beauty of being fully engaged in the moments that matter most. For in the end, it is not the number of likes or followers that defines us, but the depth of our connections and the richness of our experiences that truly matter.

1. What metaphor is used to describe moments drifting away in the passage?

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) Falling snowflakes | (b) Autumn leaves in the wind |
| (c) Raindrops on glass | (d) Shadows at dusk |

2. What has replaced the tick-tock of analog timepieces?
 - (a) Phone alarms
 - (b) Flicker of notifications on wrist watches
 - (c) Digital clocks
 - (d) Calendar reminders
3. What syndrome is mentioned to describe anxiety when the phone is out of reach?
 - (a) Digital fatigue
 - (b) Phantom limb syndrome
 - (c) Notification disorder
 - (d) Screen withdrawal
4. What emotion drives people to constantly check their phones?
 - (a) Boredom
 - (b) Curiosity
 - (c) Fear of missing out
 - (d) Excitement
5. How are thumbs described in their movement across screens?
 - (a) Like dancers
 - (b) Like painters
 - (c) Like skillful pianists
 - (d) Like typists
6. What physical manifestation is mentioned as a result of constant connectivity?
 - (a) Eye strain
 - (b) Hunch upon shoulders
 - (c) Headaches
 - (d) Numb fingers
7. What is the irony of staying digitally connected?
 - (a) We become more productive
 - (b) We feel more entertained
 - (c) We become increasingly isolated
 - (d) We gain more followers
8. What does the passage suggest is more valuable than likes or followers?
 - (a) Number of posts
 - (b) Depth of connections
 - (c) Quality of selfies
 - (d) Speed of replies
9. What does the passage say about genuine connections?
 - (a) They are strengthened by social media
 - (b) They are fleeting
 - (c) They are easier online
 - (d) They are permanent
10. What does the passage imply about the essence of life?
 - (a) It lies in digital achievements
 - (b) It lies in virtual reality
 - (c) It lies in human connection
 - (d) It lies in online fame
11. What does the author encourage us to value?
 - (a) Notifications
 - (b) Presence
 - (c) Followers
 - (d) Screen time
12. What is the tone of the passage?
 - (a) Humorous
 - (b) Critical and reflective
 - (c) Optimistic
 - (d) Indifferent

Direction (Question Nos. 13 - 17): Out of the four alternatives given, pick out the correct form of verbs to complete the sentences:

13. Since my father joined this post, he _____ any bribe.
(a) had not taken (b) did not take
(c) has not taken (d) has not been taking
14. When I went to her house she _____ her trunk.
(a) was packing (b) packed
(c) has been packing (d) had been packing
15. The bus _____ before she arrives at the station.
(a) departs (b) departed
(c) will have departed (d) will depart
16. I am tired as I _____ since 8 O'clock in the morning.
(a) am working (b) have been working
(c) have worked (d) was working
17. We _____ to go to Delhi but no tickets were available.
(a) planned (b) were planning
(c) had planned (d) had been planning

Direction (Question Nos. 18 - 21): Select the word or group of words that is most similar in meaning to the given word :

18. Feigned
(a) played (b) failed
(c) pretended (d) developed
19. Obdurate
(a) calm (b) angry
(c) obsessed (d) adamant
20. Repress
(a) refuse (b) curb
(c) reforce (d) coax
21. Probity
(a) probable (b) reward
(c) uprightness (d) probation

Direction (Question Nos. 22 - 25): Out of the given alternatives, pick out the one which can be substituted for the given sentence or words:

22. Placing different things in order to create an interesting effect

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| (a) framing | (b) juxtapose |
| (c) render precisely | (d) designate |

23. When something moves in a straight line

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| (a) rectilineal | (b) quadrilineal |
| (c) octalineal | (d) trapilineal |

24. Wide, uninterrupted view

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) window-view | (b) eagle-view |
| (c) macroscopic | (d) panorama |

25. Using or expressed in more words than are needed

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| (a) pedantic | (b) obscure |
| (c) abstruse | (d) verbose |

Direction (Question Nos. 26 - 30): Select the most suitable sentence from the given alternatives which conveys the exact meaning in accordance with the correct grammatical rules:

26.

- (a) It is the duty of a house-wife to wait in the guest.
- (b) It is the duty of a house-wife to wait the guest.
- (c) It is the duty of a house-wife to await the guest.
- (d) It is the duty of a house-wife to wait for the guest.

27.

- (a) I am an optimist and therefore I generally differ with you.
- (b) I am an optimist and therefore I generally differ to you.
- (c) I am an optimist and therefore I generally differ from you.
- (d) I am an optimist and therefore I generally differ against you.

28.

- (a) I am ready to say this to her face.
- (b) I am ready to say this in her face.
- (c) I am ready to say this at her face
- (d) I am ready to say this on her face.

29.

- (a) She insisted on me to stay at her house.
- (b) She insisted on me staying at her house.
- (c) She insisted on my staying at her house.
- (d) She insisted in my staying at her house.

30.

- (a) Had I been you I would help him.
- (b) If I had been you I would help him.
- (c) If I was you I will help him.
- (d) Were I you I would help him.

Section - II (40 Marks)

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

Marks are indicated against each question.

1. Write an essay on *any one* of the following: (20)
 - Impact of Artificial Intelligence(AI) on young people
 - Influence of religion on culture
 - Water pollution and its impact on human life
2. Draft an office memorandum on behalf of the Director, Agriculture Dept, GoM, to all employees emphasizing the need for utmost economy in the expenditure on overtime, wasteful use and misuse of office stationery. (10)
3. Write a precis of the given passage in about one-third of its length : (10)

Culture is a forbidding word. I have to use it, knowing of none better to describe the various beautiful and interesting objects which man has made in the past and handed down to us, and which some of us are hoping to hand on. Many people despise them. They argue with force that cultural stuff takes up a great deal of room and time, and better be scrapped.

Cultivated people are like drops in an ocean. They mix easily and genially with other drops, for those exclusive days are over when cultivated people made only cultivated friends, and became tongue-tied or terror-struck in the presence of anyone whose make-up was different from their own. Culture, thank goodness, is no longer a social asset, it can no longer be employed either as a barrier against the mob or as a ladder into the aristocracy.

All the same, we are a drop in the ocean. Few people share our enjoyment so far. Strictly between ourselves, and keeping our limited circulation in mind, let us put our heads together and consider for a moment our special problem, our special blessings, our special woes. No one needs to listen to us who does not want to. We whisper in the corner of a world which is full of others' noises, and louder ones.

Come closer, our problem, as I see it, is what we have got worth passing on. What we have is (roughly speaking) a little knowledge about books, pictures, tunes, and a little skill in their interpretation. Seated beside our gasfires, and beneath our electric bulbs, we inherit a tradition that has lasted for about three thousand years.