

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION FOR PROMOTION TO
HEADMASTER, GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL UNDER SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM.
(SEPTEMBER-2026)

PAPER - I

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 40

SECTION - A (Conventional Type Question)
(60 Marks)

*This section should be answered only on the Answer Sheet provided.
Marks for each question is indicated against it.*

1. Write an essay on **any one** of the following topics: **(20)**
- (a) Education as an Instrument of Social Change
 - (b) Drug menace in Mizoram
 - (c) The Role of a Headmaster as an Institutional Planner and Academic Leader
 - (d) Vocationalization of Secondary Education

2. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The intricate relationship between apex predators and their respective ecosystems represents one of the most compelling studies in modern ecology. For decades, traditional wildlife management operated under the assumption that ecosystems were built entirely from the bottom up, meaning the population of predators was dictated solely by the availability of plants and herbivores. However, contemporary ecological research has unveiled the profound impact of “trophic cascades”—a phenomenon where top-down regulation by major predators fundamentally shapes the structural biodiversity of an entire geographic region.

A classic illustration of this ecological dynamic occurred during the reintroduction of gray wolves to Yellowstone National Park. Prior to their return, the unchecked proliferation of elk populations had led to severe overgrazing along riverbanks, decimating young willow and aspen trees. The resulting soil erosion compromised river channels and destroyed the natural habitats of numerous avian and aquatic species. When the wolves returned, they did not merely reduce elk numbers; they fundamentally altered their prey’s foraging behavior. To avoid ambush, herbivores abandoned open valleys and vulnerable riverbanks, allowing suppressed vegetation to regenerate rapidly.

This floral resurgence triggered a remarkable chain reaction. Stabilized riverbanks reduced soil erosion, allowing waterways to narrow and establish stable paths. The return of robust willow stands provided crucial building materials for beavers, whose engineered dams created pristine wetlands that subsequently attracted amphibians, insects, and migratory birds. Furthermore, the carrion left by apex predators sustained scavenger populations, including grizzly bears and bald eagles, through harsh winter seasons.

What this ecological milestone demonstrates is that the removal or restoration of a single pivotal species can cause far-reaching ripples throughout an entire environment. Protecting an ecosystem requires looking beyond individual species to understand the complex, invisible webs of interdependence that sustain the natural world.

Questions:

- (i) What was the traditional assumption regarding how ecosystems were structured before contemporary research emerged? (2)
- (ii) According to the text, what is a “trophic cascade”? (2)
- (iii) How did the unchecked growth of the elk population physically affect the rivers and waterways in the park? (2)
- (iv) Aside from reducing their total population numbers, how did the return of wolves change the behavior of the elk? (2)
- (v) Name two species, other than the wolves and elk, that directly benefited from the regeneration of the vegetation. (2)
- (vi) Explain what the author means by the phrase: *“Prior to their return, the unchecked proliferation of elk populations had led to severe overgrazing...”* (3)
- (vii) Based on the passage, analyze how the reintroduction of a predator can unexpectedly stabilize the physical geography (like rivers and soil) of an environment. (3)
- (viii) Find one word in the passage that is a **synonym** for each of the following four words: (4×1=4)
 - (a) Revealed
 - (b) Rapid increase
 - (c) Dead meat
 - (d) Crucial

3. Write a precis of the passage given below: (20)

The rise of social media has fundamentally changed how we interact, communicate, and consume information. Platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram have become dominant forces in our daily lives, offering new avenues for connection but also presenting new challenges. On the positive side, these platforms allow for instant communication across vast distances, enabling people to maintain relationships, form communities around shared interests, and mobilize for social and political causes. They provide a space for creative expression, business promotion, and the dissemination of news, often at a faster rate than traditional media.

However, the negative aspects are significant. The constant bombardment of curated and often unrealistic portrayals of life can lead to feelings of inadequacy and a decline in mental well-being. The spread of misinformation and “fake news” is a major concern, as algorithms can amplify sensational or false content, making it difficult for users to distinguish between truth and falsehood. Furthermore, the addictive nature of social media, designed to maximize user engagement through likes, shares, and notifications, can lead to reduced productivity and a decline in face-to-face social skills. Privacy concerns are also paramount, as users often share vast amounts of personal data, which can be exploited by companies for targeted advertising or other purposes. In conclusion, while social media offers unprecedented opportunities for connection and information sharing, its pervasive influence comes with significant risks to mental health, social cohesion, and individual privacy, necessitating a more critical and balanced approach to its use.

SECTION - B (MCQ Type Question)
(40 Marks)

*All questions carry equal mark of 1. Attempt all questions.
This Section should be answered only on the OMR Response Sheet provided.*

Direction (Questions No. 1-5): Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs given in the brackets:

1. By the end of this year, she _____ (work) in this department for twenty-five years.
(a) has worked (b) had worked
(c) will have been working (d) is working
2. When I reached the station, the train _____ (leave).
(a) already left (b) has already left
(c) had already left (d) was already left
3. He said that by the time we arrived, they _____ (finish) everything.
(a) will finish (b) would finish
(c) would have finished (d) will have finished
4. By next December, he _____ (serve) as the principal for fifteen years.
(a) will serve (b) will be serving
(c) will have served (d) will have been serving
5. I didn't recognize her at first because she _____ (change) so much.
(a) changed (b) had changed
(c) was changing (d) has changed

Direction (Questions No. 6-10): Fill in the blanks of the sentences given below with the correct form of verb that properly agree with the subjects of each sentence.

6. The jury _____ divided in their opinion, which made the verdict impossible.
(a) was (b) were
(c) has been (d) is
7. Neither of the players _____ willing to accept responsibility for the defeat.
(a) was (b) were
(c) have been (d) are
8. It is I who _____ responsible for the delay in submission of the repost.
(a) am (b) is
(c) are (d) was

9. Twenty kilometers _____ a long distance to walk every morning.
(a) is (b) are
(c) were (d) have been
10. Either the manager or the employees _____ to blame for the poor productivity.
(a) is (b) are
(c) was (d) has been

Direction (Questions No.11-15) : Each of the following sentences has a word underlined. Find which part of speech the underlined word belongs to:

11. The righteous always emerge victorious.
(a) Adjective (b) Adverb
(c) Plural Noun (d) Singular Noun
12. Sawmi goes to school every day.
(a) Adverb (b) Pronoun
(c) Determiner (d) Preposition
13. He seems very tired after the long journey.
(a) Adverb (b) Determiner
(c) Adjective (d) Verb
14. Her happiness was obvious.
(a) Abstract noun (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Preposition
15. The Grand Canyon is a natural wonder.
(a) Adjective (b) Adverb
(c) Preposition (d) Noun

Direction (Questions No.16-28): Insert correct preposition/conjunction to complete the sentences given below:

16. He is a great orator _____ my surprise.
(a) beyond (b) upon
(c) to (d) above
17. Thanga is well known in Mizoram _____ the books he has already written.
(a) by (b) for
(c) on (d) about
18. The treaty was signed _____ mutual consent of both countries.
(a) at (b) on
(c) with (d) by

19. Mawia is indifferent _____ any request made by his students just yesterday.
(a) about (b) on
(c) at (d) to
20. Liani is good _____ painting and playing Chess.
(a) in (b) on
(c) at (d) for
21. Sanga is conversant _____ modern history.
(a) of (b) at
(c) on (d) with
22. She is proficient _____ three languages.
(a) on (b) of
(c) with (d) in
23. The matter falls _____ the jurisdiction of the Supreme court.
(a) on (b) under
(c) over (d) in
24. The Home Department took action in pursuance _____ the recommendation of the Commission.
(a) to (b) of
(c) with (d) on
25. They will start the project on Monday, _____ the resources arrive on time.
(a) unless (b) whereas
(c) thought (d) provided that
26. I will attend the seminar, _____ I have a busy schedule.
(a) although (b) because
(c) in as much as (d) so that
27. The project was delayed _____ lack of fund.
(a) because of (b) due to
(c) owing to (d) although
28. The committee decided to postpone the meeting _____ several key members were unable to attend.
(a) in as much as (b) although
(c) whereas (d) due to

Direction (Questions Nos. 29-33): Fill in the blanks of the following sentences with the most appropriate options given below each sentence:

29. _____ of those flats would suit us.
(a) Any one (b) Anyone
(c) Whatever (d) Which
30. The message has been sent on _____ occasions requiring all students to pay monthly tuition fee before day 10th of each month.
(a) most (b) further
(c) often (d) several
31. The travel delays were largely _____ increased security.
(a) owing to (b) because of
(c) due to (d) for want of
32. They are her _____ parents; her birth parents are dead.
(a) adoptive (b) adopted
(c) accepted (d) embraced
33. Mawia's parents received _____ complaints from his teachers last year.
(a) concomitant (b) continuous
(c) conditional (d) continual

Direction (Questions Nos. 34-40): Change the following sentences as directed in the brackets:

34. The teacher praised the students. (*Passive Voice*)
(a) The students praised the teacher.
(b) The students were praised by the teacher.
(c) The students are praised by the teacher.
(d) The students have been praised by the teacher.
35. The letter was written by Rina. (*Active Voice*)
(a) Rina wrote the letter. (b) Rina writes the letter.
(c) Rina is writing the letter. (d) Rina has written the letter.
36. He said, "I am busy." (*Indirect Speech*)
(a) He said that I was busy. (b) He said that he is busy.
(c) He said that he was busy. (d) He says that he was busy.
37. She said that she would help me. (*Direct Speech*)
(a) She said, "I will help you." (b) She said, "I would help you."
(c) She said, "She will help me." (d) She said, "I help you."

38. Everyone likes honesty. (*Interrogative Sentence*)

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|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| (a) Doesn't everyone like honesty? | (b) Does everyone like honesty? |
| (c) Who likes honesty? | (d) Everyone doesn't like honesty? |

39. The teacher said to the students, "Work hard." (*Indirect Speech*)

- (a) The teacher advised the students to work hard.
- (b) The teacher said the students work hard.
- (c) The teacher told that the students worked hard.
- (d) The teacher asked the students worked hard.

40. What type of sentence is this : 'Please help me with this project.'?

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| (a) Assertive | (b) Interrogative |
| (c) Imperative | (d) Exclamatory |

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