

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF
DISTRICT ORGANISER (CONTRACT)
UNDER DISASTER MANAGEMENT & REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. MARCH, 2019

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 choosing any one of the topics given below:

- Transparency in Administration
- Disaster Preparedness is a Must for Everyone
- Travel as a Part of Education

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.

Direction for Questions 1 - 16 : Choose the correct meaning of the idioms given in italics.

1. We should give a *wide berth* to bad characters.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) keep away from | (b) publicly condemn |
| (c) give publicity to | (d) not sympathise with |

2. The sight of the accident made my *flesh creep*.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| (a) worried me | (b) frightened me |
| (c) confused me | (d) drew my attention |

3. If you *rub him the wrong way*, he is bound to react.

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| (a) annoy him | (b) abuse him |
| (c) flatter him | (d) encourage him |

4. His voice gets *on my nerves*.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) makes me sad | (b) irritates me |
| (c) makes me ill | (d) pierces my eardrums |

5. Komal was left *high and dry* by her friends when she lost all her fortune.
(a) stranded (b) highly dry
(c) wounded (d) depressed
6. He was a king who ruled his subjects *with a high hand*.
(a) oppressively (b) kindly
(c) conveniently (d) sympathetically
7. His boss was always *breathing down his neck*.
(a) abusing and ill-treating him (b) watching all his actions closely
(c) shouting loudly at him (d) giving him strenuous work
8. It was such a strange affair that I could not make *head or tale of it*.
(a) face it (b) tolerate it
(c) remember (d) understand it
9. His promotion is *on the cards*.
(a) due (b) unlikely to happen
(c) likely to happen (d) foretold
10. She is *a cut above* other teachers in the school.
(a) inferior (b) worthy
(c) superior (d) worthless
11. His letters to his ward *speak volumes* for his forbearance and good sense.
(a) convey very little (b) speak ill of
(c) intended to impress (d) serve as strong testimony
12. The boy has a *hair-breadth* escape from a street accident.
(a) lucky (b) easy
(c) narrow (d) quick
13. The soldiers laid *down their arms*.
(a) put their arms on the ground (b) surrendered
(c) refused to obey orders (d) put the arms in their place
14. The Principal proved to be a *wet blanket* at the party.
(a) discouraged from enjoying (b) damp clothes
(c) blanket wet in rain (d) cold blank
15. You cannot *have your cake and eat it too*.
(a) enjoy forever (b) have it both ways
(c) run away from responsibility (d) absolve yourself of guilt
16. My friend *got the sack* from his first job.
(a) resigned (b) got tired
(c) was demoted (d) was dismissed.

Directions for Questions 17 - 23 : Read the given passage carefully and choose the correct answer given below.

It is strange that, according to his position in life, an extravagant man is admired or despised. A successful businessman does nothing to increase his popularity by being careful with his money. He is expected to display his success, to have a smart car, an expensive life, and to be lavish with his hospitality. If he is not so, he is considered mean and his reputation in business may even suffer in consequence. The paradox remains that if he had not been careful with his money in the first place, he would never have achieved his present wealth. Among the low income groups, a different set of values exists. The young clerk who makes his wife a present of a new dress when he hadn't paid his house rent, is condemned as extravagant. Carefulness with money to the point of meanness is applauded as a virtue. Nothing in his life is considered more worthy than paying his bills. The ideal wife for such a man separates her housekeeping money into joyless little piles – so much for rent, for food, for the children's shoes; she is able to face the milkman with equanimity and never knows the guilt of buying something she can't really afford. As for myself, I fall into neither of these categories. If I have money to spare, I can be extravagant, but when, as is usually the case, I am hard up, then I am the meanest man imaginable.

17. In the opinion of the writer, a successful businessman
- (a) is more popular if he appears to be doing nothing
 - (b) should not bother about his popularity
 - (c) must be extravagant before achieving success
 - (d) is expected to have expensive tastes
18. The phrase 'lavish with his hospitality' signifies
- (a) miserliness in dealing with his friends
 - (b) considerateness in spending on guests and strangers
 - (c) extravagance in entertaining guests
 - (d) indifference in treating his friends and relatives
19. The word 'paradox' means
- (a) statement based on facts
 - (b) that which brings out the inner meaning
 - (c) that which is contrary to received opinion
 - (d) statement based on popular opinion
20. How does the housewife, described by the writer, feel when she saves money?
- (a) never troubled by guilt of buying the unaffordable
 - (b) wishes life were less burdensome
 - (c) is still troubled by a sense of guilt
 - (d) wishes she could be extravagant
21. As far as money is concerned we get the impression that the writer
- (a) is incapable of saving anything
 - (b) is never inclined to be extravagant
 - (c) would like to be considered extravagant
 - (d) doesn't often have any money to save
22. The word 'equanimity' would mean
- (a) calmness and composure
 - (b) equally
 - (c) equal treatment
 - (d) anonymous
23. Which of the following would be the most suitable title for the passage?
- (a) extravagance leads to poverty
 - (b) the poor must be miserly
 - (c) extravagance in the life of the rich and the poor
 - (d) extravagance is always praiseworthy

Directions for Questions 24 - 28 : Tick the word which is opposite in meaning to the following words taken from the passage.

24. Admired
(a) adore (b) acquire
(c) accredit (d) loathe
25. Display
(a) show (b) conceal
(c) exhibit (d) demonstrate
26. Despised
(a) desire (b) contempt
(c) detest (d) abhor
27. Lavish
(a) lovely (b) elaborate
(c) meagre (d) profuse
28. Applauded
(a) criticised (b) approved
(c) acclaimed (d) lauded

Directions for Questions 29 - 36 : Identify the part of speech of the words underlined.

29. He still lives in that house.
(a) Noun (b) Adjective
(c) Adverb (d) Verb
30. He kept the fast for a week
(a) Noun (b) Adjective
(c) Adverb (d) Verb
31. He was only a yard off me
(a) Verb (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Preposition
32. His bravery won him many awards
(a) Verb (b) Adjective
(c) Adverb (d) Noun
33. I will watch while you sleep
(a) Verb (b) Adverb
(c) Preposition (d) Conjunction
34. She pronounced the word quite correctly.
(a) Noun (b) Adjective
(c) Adverb (d) Verb
35. The after effects of the drug are bad.
(a) Verb (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Conjunction

36. Alas! She is dead.

- (a) Noun (b) Adjective
(c) Interjection (d) Verb

Directions for Questions 37 - 42 : Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verb.

37. The earth _____ the sun.

- (a) move (b) moves
(c) moved (d) was moving

38. I _____ him only one letter up to now.

- (a) sent (b) was sending
(c) have sent (d) send

39. He _____ out five minutes ago.

- (a) has gone (b) had gone
(c) went (d) was gone

40. It _____ since early morning.

- (a) rained (b) is raining
(c) was raining (d) has been raining

41. When we went to the cinema, the film _____.

- (a) already starts (b) was already start
(c) would already start (d) had already started

42. He used to visit us every week, but he _____ now.

- (a) rarely comes (b) is rarely coming
(c) has rarely comes (d) was rarely come

Directions for Questions 43 - 48 : Fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions.

43. In accordance with the advice of a doctor, she is _____ diet.

- (a) on (b) at
(c) about (d) in

44. On seeing a robber he at once reached _____ his pistol in his pocket.

- (a) to (b) for
(c) on (d) into

45. Many Russians name their children _____ Indians.

- (a) of (b) after
(c) to (d) for

46. He decided to enter _____ a new course of life.

- (a) into (b) for
(c) after (d) upon

47. On eve of the Prime Minister's visit civil lane has been condoned _____.

- (a) off (b) in
(c) for (d) at

48. Quinine is an effective antidote _____ Malaria.
- (a) to (b) against
(c) off (d) at

Directions for Questions 49 - 58 : Identify whether the following are simple compound or complex sentences.

49. You have made a mistake, and of this I am certain.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
50. I had lost a book, but I have found it.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
51. He remarked on the boy's impudence.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
52. I have no advice that I can offer you.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
53. In the absence of the cat the mice will play.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
54. I was surprised when I heard him talk so.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
55. He must not be late, or he will be punished.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
56. He confessed that he was guilty.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
57. He worked hard so that he might pass the examination.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex
58. Having finished his exercise, he put away his books.
- (a) Simple (b) Compound
(c) Complex

Directions for Questions 59 - 64 : Choose the correct sentence type.

59. There's no fool like an old fool.
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative
(c) Interrogative (d) Assertive
60. Alfred was the best king that ever reigned in England.
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative
61. What a moving performance!
(a) Affirmative (b) Exclamatory
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative
62. Please switch on the fan.
(a) Emphatic (b) Exclamatory
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative
63. Can you lift this box?
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative
(c) Interrogative (d) Assertive
64. He was a villain to do such a deed.
(a) Imperative (b) Negative
(c) Interrogative (d) Assertive

Directions for Questions 65 - 74 : Choose the most suitable alternative to fill in the blanks.

65. He stood _____ as a rock and faced the challenge.
(a) quiet (b) strong
(c) solid (d) firm
66. My mother upset the kettle of boiling water and _____ her right hand badly.
(a) wiped (b) sizzled
(c) scorched (d) scalded
67. Like any other country India has its _____ share of superstitions.
(a) peculiar (b) fair
(c) proper (d) abundant
68. The police _____ the mob.
(a) squandered (b) dismantled
(c) drove (d) dispersed
69. The punch made the boxer _____ with pain.
(a) wince (b) gasp
(c) grumble (d) fumble
70. The soldiers were instructed to _____ restraint and handle the situation peacefully.
(a) exercise (b) control
(c) prevent (d) enforce

71. The Managing Director treated the employees to a _____ lunch at an expensive hotel.
(a) precious (b) thriving
(c) stupendous (d) sumptuous
72. If greater security measures had been taken the tragedy might have been _____.
(a) removed (b) repeated
(c) restrained (d) averted
73. Health is too important to be _____.
(a) neglected (b) detested
(c) despised (d) discarded
74. Oh! such a pretty girl. Whom has she _____?
(a) taken after (b) took after
(c) taken by (d) took by

Directions for Questions 75 - 80 : Choose the alternative that is nearest in meaning to the underlined word in each of the following sentences.

75. The inspector was a vigilant young man.
(a) Smart (b) watchful
(c) ambitious (d) intelligent
76. Mawia asked Kimi not to meddle in his affairs.
(a) interact (b) impose
(c) cross (d) interfere
77. He soon got tired of his sedantary job.
(a) involves sitting (b) routine
(c) roving (d) drab
78. The villagers offered us an excellent repast.
(a) pass time (b) a good meal
(c) entertainment (d) report
79. The treaty was later ratified.
(a) charged (b) confirmed
(c) reformed (d) updated
80. Her views are not in consonance with her mother's.
(a) in disagreement (b) in conflict
(c) in agreement (d) contradictory