

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## TECHNICAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF COMPUTER OPERATOR UNDER ELECTION DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM, DECEMBER, 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. **“Democracy allows people to have different views and democracy makes us also responsible for negotiating an answer for those views.”** - Aung San SuuKyi

Write an essay in about 400 words expressing your ideas and opinion on the above statement. (20)

#### **SECTION - B (80 Marks)**

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

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

**Directions (Questions No. 1 - 16) : Each of the following idioms is followed by four meanings. Indicate which one is correct:**

1. To face the music  
(a) to prepare to give a musical performance      (b) to suffer hardship  
(c) to suffer evil consequences      (d) to change the things
2. From hand to mouth  
(a) something repeated often      (b) to survive without saving  
(c) consuming food      (d) hitting someone by hand on the mouth
3. Sitting on the fence  
(a) unbalanced      (b) between two opinions  
(c) coward      (d) uncomfortable
4. Through thick and thin  
(a) big and small      (b) large object  
(c) thin and fat      (d) under all conditions
5. Take exception to  
(a) different      (b) object to  
(c) difficult      (d) to take with difficulty
6. To bait the hook to suit the fish  
(a) to do things to please others      (b) to prepare a box to catch the fish  
(c) to catch fish by providing suitable food      (d) to look at things from other person's point of view

7. A white elephant  
(a) an elephant with white skin (b) a costly thing  
(c) a costly and useful thing (d) a costly but useless thing
8. Merry as a cricket  
(a) to enjoy a game of cricket (b) to be carefree  
(c) to dance and sing (d) to be good at sport
9. On the spur of the moment  
(a) open to blame (b) in accordance with the prevailing style  
(c) at once or without any kind of deliberation (d) on the side of something undesirable
10. Beside the mark  
(a) out of assumptions (b) irrelevantly  
(c) beyond the reach (d) beyond the imagination
11. A far cry  
(a) a long way off (b) an unfounded claim  
(c) a disadvantageous thing (d) a thing which is neglected by all
12. Melting pot  
(a) an iron cauldron (b) a witch's brewing pot  
(c) an earthen vessel (d) circumstances in which things may change greatly
13. Gift of the gab  
(a) to win a prize (b) talent for speaking  
(c) to distribute gifts (d) talent for dancing
14. Hobson's choice  
(a) excellent choice (b) choice to live or die  
(c) no choice at all since there is no option (d) first choice
15. To talk over  
(a) to consider (b) to discuss  
(c) to understand (d) to think over
16. A snake in the grass  
(a) a hidden enemy (b) unrecognizable danger  
(c) very ferocious enemy (d) unforeseen happening

**Directions (Questions No. 17 - 22) : Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow :**

Since the world has become industrialised, there has been an increase in the number of animal species that have either become extinct or have neared extinction. Bengal tiger, for instance, which once roamed the jungle in vast numbers, now number only 2300 and by the year 2025 their population is estimated to be down to zero. What is alarming about the case of Bengal tiger is that this extinction will have been caused almost entirely by poachers who according to some sources, are not interested in material gain but in personal gratification. This is an example of callousness that is part of what is causing the problem of extinction. Animals like the Bengal tiger, as well as other endangered species, are a valuable part of the world's ecosystem. International laws protecting these animals must be enacted to ensure their survival, and the survival of our planet. Countries around the world have begun to deal with the problem in various ways. Some countries, in order to circumvent the problem, have allocated large amount of land to animal reserves. They then charge admission to help defray the costs of maintaining the parks, and they often must

also depend on world organisations for support. With the money to get, they can invest in equipment and patrols to protect the animals. Another solution that is an attempt to stem the tide of animal extinction is an international boycott of products made from endangered species. This seems fairly effective, but it will not, by itself, prevent animals from being hunted and killed.

17. What is the author's main concern in the passage?
- (a) Problems of industrialisation (b) The Bengal tiger  
(c) Endangered species (d) Callousness of man
18. According to the passage, poachers kill for
- (a) material gain (b) personal satisfaction  
(c) both (d) none of these
19. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to the word 'alarming'?
- (a) serious (b) dangerous  
(c) distressing (d) frightening
20. Certain species are becoming extinct because of
- (a) industrialisation (b) poaching  
(c) love of products made from them (d) All of these
21. The phrase 'Stem the tide' means
- (a) save (b) stop  
(c) touch (d) spare
22. Which of the following best describes the author's attitude?
- (a) concerned (b) vindictive  
(c) surprised (d) generous

**Directions (Questions No. 23 - 32) : Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it :**

In modern time Abraham Lincoln stands as the model of compassionate statesman. He showed this quality not only in striving for the emancipation of the American blacks but in the dignity with which he conducted the American Civil War.

Lincoln did not fancy himself as a liberator. He thought it would be better for all if emancipation was a gradual process spread over many years. He proposed compensation for slave-owners in US bonds and grants for the rehabilitation of blacks - 'colonisation' as he called it. But fate was to deem otherwise. The haste with which the South wanted to break away from the Union with the North, compelled him to move faster than he expected, perhaps more than most men of his time he had thought through the issue of slavery. "We must free the slaves," he said, "or be ourselves subdued." Before reading the first draft of the Proclamation of Emancipation, he told his colleagues, "In giving freedom to the slaves, we assure freedom to the free."

On September 22, 1862, Lincoln set his hand on the Proclamation of Emancipation declaring that on the first day of January 1863, all persons held as slaves within any state "shall be then, and forever free."

Lincoln's revulsion for slavery left him without any moral indignation or passion against the slave-owners. The guilt of the slave-owners, he felt, should be shared by the whole country- the North and the South, for it seemed to him that everyone in the nation was an accomplice in perpetuating that system. To have whipped up any hatred against slave-owners would, to him, have been an act of malice.

"I shall do nothing in malice," he wrote, "what I deal with is too vast for malicious dealing." As the Civil War was coming to successful conclusion, a Northerner demanded of Lincoln, "Mr. President, how are you going to treat the Southerners when the war is over?" Lincoln replied, "As if they never went to war?"

When the news came of the victory of the Northern against the Confederate forces, someone suggested that the head of the Confederation Administration, Jefferson Davies, really ought to be hanged, "Judge not, that ye be not judged," Lincoln replied, as to the demand for the prosecution of rebels, "We must extinguish our resentments if we expect harmony and union." This was his last recorded utterance.

23. The sentence : 'In giving freedom ..... to the free' (last sentence of para 2) means
  - (a) by freeing slaves, we are honouring the concept of freedom
  - (b) by freeing slaves, we are safeguarding our own interests
  - (c) if we give freedom to the slaves, they will serve us better
  - (d) if we do not give freedom to the slaves, they will free themselves
24. What came in Lincoln's way of carrying out emancipation as a gradual process?
  - (a) The haste of the South to break away from the Union with the North
  - (b) The inadequate compensation given to slave-owners
  - (c) His own over-enthusiasm to complete the process fast
  - (d) His proposition to give grant for the rehabilitation of slaves
25. Which of the following makes Abraham Lincoln a compassionate statesman?
  - (a) His hesitation in striving for emancipation of American blacks
  - (b) His indifference in conducting the American Civil War
  - (c) His efforts to force the American blacks from slavery
  - (d) None of the above
26. The term 'colonisation' as used in the passage means
  - (a) rehabilitation arrangements made for slave-owners
  - (b) efforts made by American blacks to free themselves
  - (c) handing over slaves to slave-owners
  - (d) None of the above
27. The incidents in the passage prove that Lincoln was
  - (a) afraid of the majority of slaves
  - (b) unduly concerned for the safety of the rebels
  - (c) sympathetic and kind-hearted statesman
  - (d) unreasonably in favour of slaves
28. The author of the passage seems to be
  - (a) a staunch and biased critic of Abraham Lincoln
  - (b) impressed with Lincoln's good qualities
  - (c) an advocate of the system of slavery
  - (d) indifferent to Lincoln's remarkable achievements
29. According to Lincoln, the culprits of the system of slavery were
  - (a) the slave-owners alone
  - (b) both the slaves and the slave-owners
  - (c) all the people in the country
  - (d) none of the above
30. Which of the following statements is TRUE in the context of the passage?
  - (a) Lincoln turned down the demand of the prosecution of rebels
  - (b) Lincoln hated the demand of hanging Jefferson Davies
  - (c) Lincoln wondered how mere compassion could lead to harmony
  - (d) The Civil War was fought by the Northerners and Southerners against the enemies

31. Lincoln didn't have any hatred for the slave-owners because
- (a) they all belonged to the upper caste
  - (b) they were not guilty at all
  - (c) they were in a vast majority
  - (d) none of the above
32. Lincoln's reply to the Northerner's question regarding the treatment to Southerners proves that
- (a) the Southerners were wicked in their dealings
  - (b) Lincoln did not like the Southerners' act of breaking away with the Union with the North
  - (c) Lincoln did not have revengeful attitude towards the Southerners
  - (d) Lincoln could control his anguish against the Southerners while expressing himself

**Directions (Questions No. 33 - 48) : Identify the parts of speech of the underlined words :**

33. Are there any witnesses present?
- (a) conjunction
  - (b) adjective
  - (c) preposition
  - (d) adverb
34. He came before the appointed time.
- (a) preposition
  - (b) pronoun
  - (c) adjective
  - (d) adverb
35. The dog loves his master.
- (a) preposition
  - (b) noun
  - (c) article
  - (d) adjective
36. The after effects of the drug are bad.
- (a) verb
  - (b) adverb
  - (c) adjective
  - (d) noun
37. She is willing, yet unfit to take up the responsibility.
- (a) preposition
  - (b) conjunction
  - (c) adjective
  - (d) verb
38. I would not like to see him again.
- (a) adjective
  - (b) adverb
  - (c) noun
  - (d) verb
39. That is what I want.
- (a) pronoun
  - (b) noun
  - (c) preposition
  - (d) adverb
40. What does he want?
- (a) preposition
  - (b) pronoun
  - (c) adverb
  - (d) verb
41. There is time enough and to spare.
- (a) adjective
  - (b) adverb
  - (c) noun
  - (d) preposition
42. Give place to your seniors.
- (a) noun
  - (b) pronoun
  - (c) verb
  - (d) adverb

43. The population of China is more than that of India.  
(a) adjective (b) pronoun  
(c) verb (d) adverb
44. The earth revolves round the sun.  
(a) preposition (b) adjective  
(c) adverb (d) verb
45. Our blessings come from above.  
(a) adverb (b) adjective  
(c) noun (d) preposition
46. Do not start the race till I blow the whistle.  
(a) preposition (b) conjunction  
(c) adjective (d) pronoun
47. We shall round the cape in safety.  
(a) verb (b) preposition  
(c) adverb (d) adjective
48. We shall move on.  
(a) noun (b) adverb  
(c) adjective (d) preposition

**Directions (Questions No. 49 - 56) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct option:**

49. Do whatever you like.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these
50. His courage won him honour.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these
51. The moon was bright and we could see our way.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these
52. He must work very hard, or he will not win the first prize.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these
53. He confessed that he was guilty.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these
54. He owed his success to his father.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these
55. The steamer went down, yet the crew were saved.  
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these

56. I do not know when I shall return.
- (a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence  
(c) compound sentence (d) none of these

**Directions (Questions No. 57 - 64) : Pick out the correct clause of the words underlined in the given sentences:**

57. That you have come pleases me.
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause
58. Just as he entered the room the clock struck .
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause
59. The house where the accident occurred is nearby.
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause
60. He that climbs too high is sure to fall.
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause
61. If it rains we shall stay at home.
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause
62. Pay careful attention to what I am going to say.
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause
63. The explanation he gave was not satisfactory.
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause
64. He arrived as we were setting out.
- (a) noun clause (b) adverb clause  
(c) adjective clause (d) co-ordinate clause

**Directions (Questions No. 65 - 72) : Fill in the blanks with the appropriate word from the given alternatives:**

65. I gave him \_\_\_\_\_ advice.
- (a) any (b) plenty  
(c) much (d) some
66. He is very fond \_\_\_\_\_ basketball.
- (a) of playing (b) to play  
(c) in playing (d) about playing
67. The cost of all these articles \_\_\_\_\_ risen.
- (a) have (b) has  
(c) is (d) are

68. Neither food nor water \_\_\_\_\_ to be found there.  
(a) have (b) has  
(c) was (d) were
69. My grandmother is the \_\_\_\_\_ member our family.  
(a) older (b) eldest  
(c) elder (d) oldest
70. The flowers smell \_\_\_\_\_ .  
(a) is sweet (b) **sweet**  
(c) has sweet (d) sweetly
71. The news is \_\_\_\_\_ to be true.  
(a) good (b) too good  
(c) not good (d) very good
72. I shall not come \_\_\_\_\_ you need me.  
(a) unless (b) except  
(c) inspite (d) despite

**Directions (Questions No. 73 - 80) : Choose the word which is opposite in meaning from the given options:**

73. vivacious  
(a) open (b) languid  
(c) strong (d) bright
74. common  
(a) rare (b) ugly  
(c) light (d) easy
75. lethargic  
(a) prudent (b) careless  
(c) alert (d) promising
76. enmity  
(a) friendship (b) cooperation  
(c) agreement (d) amity
77. frugal  
(a) charitable (b) extravagant  
(c) gaudy (d) generous
78. relinquish  
(a) deny (b) possess  
(c) renounce (d) abdicate
79. busy  
(a) occupied (b) engrossed  
(c) relaxed (d) engaged
80. perilous  
(a) healthy (b) innocuous  
(c) safe (d) fine