

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF STATION OFFICER (FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES) UNDER HOME DEPARTMENT, OCTOBER, 2018.

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Pass Marks : 40

Attempt all questions.

SECTION - A (20 Marks)

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

1. Write an essay on *any one (1)* of the given topics (not more than 300 words):

- Disaster Management in Mizoram
- Mobile Phones – A Necessary Evil
- New Land Use Policy (NLUP)

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.

Directions (Questions 1-12) : Read the following passage carefully and choose the correct answer to each question:

Rights and duties are two sides of the same coin. One can't exist without the other. Duties without rights are merely slavery. Similarly, rights without duties amount to lawlessness. In any civilized society, rights and duties must go side by side.

But in today's world, everybody talks much about his rights. There is a great hue and cry if our rights are infringed. But nobody seems to bother much about his duties. That is why there is great unrest in our present-day life. Actually duties come first, and rights afterwards. Many a time one man's rights is another man's duty and vice versa. For example, every man has the right to have an undisturbed sleep. So it becomes the duty of his neighbour not to tune his radio at too high a pitch. If we want to enjoy our rights we should act in such a way that the rights of others are not trespassed. It can happen only if we take due account of our duties also. In short, rights and duties are complementary things and not contradictory.

It is difficult to agree on which rights should be guaranteed to a citizen. For example, does a child have the right to be educated in his/her mother tongue? Some enthusiasts may say, "Certainly". But others may say that while everyone must have a right to education, the government should not be enforced to spend money to employ teachers for the language of every group and community. Take another example. Does every adult have a right to a job? Some will say, "Yes". Other will disagree and say that this is a privilege, not a right. They say that in these days of population explosion, it is not possible for any government to ensure full employment.

There can be disagreement on such controversial issues, but there can be no disagreement on such things as the freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear. Every nation worth the name must ensure these rights for her citizens.

1. Why are rights and duties called two sides of the same coin?
 - (a) Duties without rights are mere slavery
 - (b) Rights without duties amount to lawlessness
 - (c) Both are part of a civilized society
 - (d) Both (a) & (b)
2. The reason why there is great unrest in our present-day life is:
 - (a) Everybody is concerned about his/her rights, not duties
 - (b) Everybody is concerned about his/her duties, not rights
 - (c) Our rights are always infringed
 - (d) Population explosion
3. What comes first – rights or duties?
 - (a) Both are equally important
 - (b) Rights
 - (c) Duties
 - (d) Neither
4. The synonym of ‘restrict’ that is given in the passage is:
 - (a) Infringe
 - (b) Complementary
 - (c) Disagree
 - (d) Trespass
5. We can enjoy our rights when:
 - (a) We take account of our duties
 - (b) We are aware of our rights
 - (c) We ignore our duties
 - (d) We take account of our rights
6. The synonym of ‘encroached’ that is given in the passage is:
 - (a) Undisturbed
 - (b) Infringed
 - (c) Trespassed
 - (d) Contradictory
7. Which of the following statement is correct?
 - (a) Rights and duties are complementary
 - (b) Rights and duties are contradictory
 - (c) Rights come before duties
 - (d) Our rights are the duties of our neighbour
8. What is difficult to agree on?
 - (a) Whether a citizen should have any rights
 - (b) Whether a citizen should do his or her duty
 - (c) Whether rights and duties should go side by side
 - (d) Which rights should be guaranteed to a citizen
9. A civilized person cares:
 - (a) More for his rights than his duties
 - (b) More for his duties than his rights
 - (c) More for his own rights than the rights of his neighbour
 - (d) More for his domestic duties than his official duties
10. What is meant by ‘vice versa’?
 - (a) Etcetera
 - (b) For example
 - (c) In the opposite way to what has just been said
 - (d) In the way that has been agreed to by all
11. What is the opposite of ‘controversial’?
 - (a) Peaceful
 - (b) Unanimous
 - (c) Sympathetic
 - (d) Righteous
12. Every nation must ensure this right for her citizens:
 - (a) Right to a job
 - (b) Right to education in their mother tongue
 - (c) Freedom of religion
 - (d) Both (a) & (c)

Directions (Questions 13 – 28): Choose the correct idiom and phrases given in the options:

13. An able person
(a) A right-hand man (b) A man of iron will
(c) A man of parts (d) A close-fisted man
14. To check in the very beginning
(a) To nip in the bud (b) To follow suit
(c) To rise equal to the occasion (d) To keep good hours
15. In misery and prosperity
(a) Over and above (b) Through thick and thin
(c) High and low (d) In black and white
16. Rank and file
(a) Ordinary people (b) An army of soldiers
(c) Storing of files in an orderly way (d) A ranking system
17. The secretary did not *see eye to eye* with the workers.
(a) quarrel (b) imitated
(c) agree (d) disagree
18. Put your complaints *in black and white*.
(a) with black ink on the white paper (b) in writing
(c) secretly (d) repeatedly
19. Work *heart and soul* that you may succeed.
(a) earnestly (b) efficiently
(c) continuously (d) confidently
20. The rebels surrendered *at discretion*.
(a) by request (b) by force
(c) with condition (d) without condition
21. They sold their house because it was a real *white elephant*.
(a) an expensive one (b) a big one
(c) a useless one (d) a rare one
22. To tell you in a *nutshell*, lust for power and money has almost spoiled him.
(a) as objectively as possible (b) in simple and brief manner
(c) an actual experience described vividly (d) with confidence
23. All my things are *at sixes and sevens*.
(a) like numbers (b) in disorder
(c) in order (d) under control
24. At a party, he is always in *high spirits*.
(a) drunk (b) talkative
(c) aimlessly (d) cheerful
25. It is a pity that our politicians are more interested in the *loaves and fishes* than with the uplift of the poor.
(a) bread and butter (b) kinds of fishes
(c) worldly benefits (d) means of power

26. He is *on the wrong side* of sixty.
(a) below (b) above
(c) under (d) over
27. The police put him *on the rock* to extract the truth from him.
(a) tormented (b) interrogated
(c) behind bar (d) sat on the rocking chair
28. I must get this job *by hook or by crook*.
(a) by strong determination (b) by many means
(c) by all means (d) by several means

Directions (Questions 29 – 38): Choose the correct Parts of Speech for the underlined words:

29. The tiger was shot dead.
(a) Noun (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Conjunction
30. Sit on the last bench in this row.
(a) Adjective (b) Determiner
(c) Adverb (d) Noun
31. Have you gone through this book?
(a) Adverb (b) Determiner
(c) Noun (d) Preposition
32. May you live long!
(a) Noun (b) Adjective
(c) Verb (d) Adverb
33. Stone walls are better than brick walls.
(a) Noun (b) Adverb
(c) Conjunction (d) Adjective
34. Let us even our differences.
(a) Conjunction (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Verb
35. The snake crawled up the slope.
(a) Noun (b) Adjective
(c) Determiner (d) Preposition
36. He turned round and gave me a slap.
(a) Pronoun (b) Determiner
(c) Adverb (d) Verb
37. Is there any book in the bag?
(a) Adjective (b) Determiner
(c) Adverb (d) Noun
38. He is slim but you are plump.
(a) Pronoun (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Conjunction

Directions (Questions 39 – 48): Fill in the blanks using the correct option:

39. I saved the drowning child _____ the risk of my own life.
(a) at (b) by
(c) under (d) on
40. She is working hard _____ the hope of winning a prize.
(a) on (b) against
(c) with (d) in
41. _____ addition to clothes, he was given money also.
(a) In (b) On
(c) With (d) By
42. You must adhere _____ your plan.
(a) with (b) to
(c) by (d) on
43. The wrong medicine deprived the old man _____ his eye-sight.
(a) of (b) from
(c) in (d) on
44. If he _____ me last year, I would have got a job.
(a) will help (b) would have helped
(c) had helped (d) helped
45. He _____ across the road when a car hit him.
(a) walked (b) was walking
(c) is walking (d) walks
46. I shall not buy _____ mangoes.
(a) any (b) few
(c) less (d) much
47. Only _____ boys were present.
(a) a little (b) one
(c) the few (d) a few
48. She doesn't like coffee, _____ does she like tea.
(a) but (b) so
(c) nor (d) or

Directions (Questions 49 – 59): Choose the correct sentence type from the given options :

49. She likes to sleep in but she can get up early if she has work.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Compound sentence (d) Compound-Complex sentence
50. You are suffering because of your folly.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence (d) Compound-Complex sentence
51. He is old but he can run fast.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Compound sentence (d) Compound-Complex sentence

52. Besides food, he gave me some money also.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Compound sentence (d) Compound-Complex sentence
53. You must go wherever your leader goes.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Compound sentence (d) Compound-Complex sentence
54. The dog started barking so the cat ran away and I couldn't catch up, so I stopped.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence (d) Compound-Complex sentence
55. As soon as the train arrived, the passengers got in.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Compound sentence (d) Compound-Complex sentence
56. If only I had come one hour earlier!
(a) Interrogative sentence (b) Imperative sentence
(c) Exclamatory sentence (d) Assertive sentence
57. There is nothing better than a busy life.
(a) Assertive sentence (b) Exclamatory sentence
(c) Interrogative sentence (d) Affirmative sentence
58. Is that the way a gentleman should behave?
(a) Interrogative sentence (b) Imperative sentence
(c) Negative sentence (d) Assertive sentence

Directions (Questions 59 - 63) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct option:

59. The candidate who topped the list in the I.A.S. examination this year is from Hyderabad.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
60. The milk has turned sour.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
61. He took his walking-stick, locked the door and went out.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
62. It started raining as soon as the match began.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence
63. I bought a ticket and went in.
(a) Compound sentence (b) Complex sentence
(c) Simple sentence

Directions (Questions 64 -68) : Pick the correct clause of the words underlined in the given sentences:

64. The proposal that the subscription should be increased was accepted by all the members.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverbial Clause (d) Co-ordinate Clause
65. I don't remember where I put my wallet.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverbial Clause
(c) Adjective Clause (d) Co-ordinate Clause
66. The man who was here a little while ago is an M.L.A.
(a) Adverbial Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Noun Clause (d) Co-ordinate Clause
67. Some persons in the audience fell asleep while the lecturer was speaking.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverbial Clause (d) Co-ordinate Clause
68. Put the key where I can easily find it.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Co-ordinate Clause (d) Adverbial Clause

Directions (Questions 69 – 76): Choose the correct one word substitution from the given options:

69. General release of criminals
(a) Anarchy (b) Polygamy
(c) Amnesty (d) Treaty
70. A medicine that destroys the effect of poison
(a) Antidote (b) Remedy
(c) Laxative (d) Delible
71. Without which one cannot do
(a) Dispensable (b) Indispensable
(c) Incurable (d) Invincible
72. To go to settle in another country
(a) Cross-country (b) Emigrate
(c) Abroad (d) Immigrate
73. One who cannot make any mistake
(a) Infallible (b) Inexorable
(c) Ineffable (d) Intangible
74. Fratricide
(a) A medicine that kills germs (b) Murder of one's brother/sister
(c) Murder of a man/boy (d) Murder of one's father
75. Excessive love of money
(a) Mercenary (b) Monetary
(c) Materialistic (d) Avarice
76. A place where the dead are burnt
(a) Boudoir (b) Laboratory
(c) Crematory (d) Cemetery

Directions (Questions 77 - 80) : Identify the correct usage of words given in the alternatives below :

77. _____ is a writing whose writer is not known.
(a) synonymous (b) posthumous
(c) anonymous (d) biography
78. Mr. William is an _____ lawyer.
(a) imminent (b) eminent
(c) imminence (d) eminently
79. A Word used to denote 'murder of a human being' is called:
(a) suicide (b) infanticide
(c) homicide (d) germicide
80. _____ is a government by officials.
(a) aristocracy (b) democracy
(c) bureaucracy (d) autocracy

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