

**MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**TECHNICAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF**  
**ASSISTANT ENGINEER (CIVIL) UNDER TOURISM DEPARTMENT,**  
**GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM, FEBRUARY - 2020.**

**GENERAL ENGLISH**

Time Allowed : 3 hours

FM : 100

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.  
Attempt all questions.*

1. Write an essay on any one of the following in not less than 400 words: (20)
- Tourism in Mizoram : Prospects and Challenges
  - Corruption in Public Life
  - Hazards of Environmental Pollution

2. Write a précis of the following passage: (20)

Standing on the ground of common sense and the constitution of the human mind, I deny that any one knows, or can know, the nature of the two sexes, as long as they have been seen in their present relation to one another. If men had ever been found in society without women, or women without men, or if there had been a society of men and women in which the women were not under the control of the men, something might have positively known about the mental and moral differences which may be inherent in the nature of each. What is now called the nature of women is an eminently an artificial thing – the result of forced repression in some directions, unnatural stimulation in others. It may be asserted without scruple, that no other class of dependence have their character so entirely distorted from its natural proportions by their relation with their masters; for, if conquered and slave races have been, in some respects, more forcibly repressed, whatever in them has not been crushed down by an iron heel has generally been let alone, and if left with any liberty of development, it has developed itself according to its own laws; but in the case of women, a hot-house and stove has always been carried on of some of the capabilities of their nature, for the benefit and pleasure of their masters...

3. Make sentences with any five of the following idioms and phrases to show their meaning: (5×2=10)

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| (a) ill at ease    | (b) man of parts    |
| (c) below the belt | (d) cheek by jowl   |
| (e) a dead end     | (f) out of hand     |
| (g) to lend a hand | (h) no holds barred |

4. Make sentences with each word in the following pairs of words to show their difference in meaning : (5×2=10)

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| (a) elicit/illicit | (b) council/counsel |
| (c) idle/idol      | (d) oar/ore         |
| (e) ware/wear      |                     |

5. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow it :

It is sad that in country after country, progress should become synonymous with an assault on nature. We, who are a part of nature and dependent on her for every need speak constantly about 'exploiting' nature. When the highest mountain was climbed in 1953, Jawaharlal Nehru objected to the phrase 'conquest of Everest' which he thought was arrogant. Is it surprising that this lack of consideration and the constant need to prove one's superiority should be projected on to our treatment

of our fellowmen? Remarking on the fast disappearing wildlife, Mahatma Gandhi said, "It is decreasing in the jungles but it is increasing in the towns!"

On the one hand the rich look askance at our continuing poverty; on the other they warn us against their own methods. We do not wish to impoverish the environment any further and yet we cannot for a moment forget the grim poverty of large numbers of people. Are not poverty and the need the great polluters? For instance, unless we are in a position to provide employment and purchasing power for the daily necessities of the tribal people and those who live in and around our jungles, we cannot prevent them from combing the forest for food and livelihood, from poaching and from despoiling the vegetation. When they themselves feel deprived, how can we urge the preservation of animals? How can we speak to those who live in villages and in slums about keeping the oceans, the rivers and the air clean when their own lives are contaminated at the source? The environment cannot be improved in conditions of poverty. Nor can poverty be eradicated without the use of technology...

**QUESTIONS:**

- (a) What, according to the author happens along with progress? **(3)**
- (b) How can one prevent the tribals from despoiling the vegetation? **(3)**
- (c) Why, do you think that Nehru thought the phrase "conquest of Everest" arrogant? **(3)**
- (d) How are technology and conservation of environment related? **(3)**
- (e) What, according to the author is the treatment shown to our fellowmen? **(3)**
- (f) Find words in the passage which means the following : **(5×1=5)**
  - (i) a sense of one's own importance
  - (ii) having the same meaning
  - (iii) look of disapproval
  - (iv) lacked basic needs
  - (v) made impure

**6. Choose the correct preposition to fill in the blanks : **(10×1=10)****

- (a) The thieves slipped \_\_\_\_\_ the window. (by/from/through)
- (b) I saw a blind beggar sitting \_\_\_\_\_ the roadside. (in/on/at)
- (c) The man was accused \_\_\_\_\_ murder. (for/of/on)
- (d) Do not loiter \_\_\_\_\_ the street at night. (on/about/around)
- (e) The children laughed \_\_\_\_\_ the poor dog. (with/at/to)
- (f) You must abide \_\_\_\_\_ the rules. (with/by/on)
- (g) A stitch \_\_\_\_\_ time saves nine. (on/at/in)
- (h) Do not beat \_\_\_\_\_ the bush. (against/after/around)
- (i) I have not met Sangi \_\_\_\_\_ ages. (for/in/since)
- (j) She had worked here \_\_\_\_\_ three years. (since/from/for)

**7. Do as directed : **(5×1=5)****

- (a) The car runs over the little boy. (change the voice)
- (b) The teacher said, "All men are mortal." (change to indirect speech)
- (c) I had already taken my food. (name the tense of the verb)
- (d) The lady wears a \_\_\_\_\_ dress. (supply an adjective)
- (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Ganges is a holy river. (supply article)

**8. Correct the following sentences : **(5×1=5)****

- (a) Our neighbours have a lot of furnitures.
- (b) The road is closed for repair.
- (c) What beautiful scenery!
- (d) It is a week since it rained.
- (e) He as well as I am to blame.

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**ANSWER - KEYS**

5. (f)

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| (i) arrogance    | (ii) synonymous |
| (iii) askance    | (iv) deprived   |
| (v) contaminated |                 |

6.

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| (a) through | (b) on     |
| (c) of      | (d) about  |
| (e) at      | (f) by     |
| (g) in      | (h) around |
| (i) in      | (j) for    |

8.

- |                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) omit 's' in furniture     | (b) add 's' to repair |
| (c) put 'a' before beautiful  | (d) it has been       |
| (e) use 'is' in place of 'am' |                       |