

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TECHNICAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF JUNIOR ENGINEER UNDER AGRICULTURE (CROP HUSBANDRY) DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. MARCH-2020.

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 on *any one* of the following topics:

- Plastic ban in India
- Conservation of Natural Resources
- Be the change you want to see in others
- Pros and cons of Sustainable Agriculture

SECTION – B (80 marks)

All questions carry equal marks of one (1) each. Attempt all questions.

This Section should be answered only on the OMR RESPONSE SHEET provided.

Directions (Questions No. 1 - 16) : Choose the correct option that conveys the meaning of the idioms and phrases given below.

1. Close-fisted

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| (a) Hypocritical | (b) Mean |
| (c) Angry | (d) Strong |

2. The fourth estate

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| (a) The legislature | (b) The judiciary |
| (c) The executive | (d) The press |

3. Blue blood

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| (a) Plebeian | (b) Noble |
| (c) Proletariat | (d) Commoner |

4. Throw in the towel

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Breast victory | (b) Resist defeat |
| (c) Counter act | (d) Accept defeat |

5. A green horn

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Professional | (b) Inexperienced |
| (c) Experienced | (d) Veteran |

6. Gain ground
(a) Become popular (b) In the long run
(c) Very slowly (d) To overtake
7. At odds
(a) Unanimous (b) Concordant
(c) In dispute (d) Compatible
8. Fabian policy
(a) Delaying decisions (b) Thoughtlessness
(c) Indiscretion (d) Incautious
9. A piece of cake
(a) Very delicious (b) Very soft
(c) Very easy (d) Very demanding
10. On cloud nine
(a) Apathetic (b) Happy and excited
(c) Nonchalant (d) Languorous
11. At sixes and sevens
(a) Systematised (b) In disorder
(c) Well-organised (d) Finicky
12. Lion's share
(a) Minor share (b) Least share
(c) Minimum share (d) Major share
13. Past master
(a) Expert (b) Maladroit
(c) Inept (d) Bungling
14. A dime a dozen
(a) Extraordinary (b) Occasional
(c) Common (d) Intermittent
15. Weather the storm
(a) Endure hardship (b) Defeat hardship
(c) Face hardship (d) Challenge hardship
16. This watch costs an arm and a leg.
(a) Very inexpensive (b) Very reasonable
(c) Very expensive (d) Quite moderate

Directions (Questions No. 17 - 24) : Read the passages carefully and choose the correct option that answers each of the questions given below.

The word “addiction” is often used loosely and wryly in conversation. People will refer to themselves as “mystery book addicts” or “cookie addicts”. E.B. White writes of his annual surge of interest in gardening “We are hooked and are making an attempt to kick the habit.” Yet nobody really believes that reading mysteries or ordering seeds by catalogue is serious enough to be compared with addictions to heroin or alcohol. The word “addiction” is here used jokingly to denote a tendency to overindulge in some pleasurable activity.

17. The word 'wryly' means
(a) dryly (b) flatly
(c) directly (d) mockingly
18. When E.B. white says 'he is hooked' he means he _____.
(a) Belittles a habit (b) is addicted
(c) wants to give up a habit (d) is straightening up
19. 'To kick the habit' means
(a) to overcome an addiction (b) to pursue an addiction
(c) to initiate an addiction (d) to surrender to addiction
20. 'Mystery book addicts' are those who
(a) are addicted to reading books (b) are mysterious by nature
(c) love reading mysteries (d) love books on addiction
21. The phrase 'by catalogue' in the passage means
(a) to muddle (b) to deregister
(c) make a list of (d) by amorphous form
22. 'To overindulge in' is
(a) to have excessive liking to (b) to impose constraints
(c) to eat sparingly (d) to chew properly
23. According to the passage people very often use the word 'addiction' quite
(a) mysteriously (b) seriously
(c) casually (d) gravely
24. 'Surge of interest' is the same as
(a) Compressing interest (b) Slumping interest
(c) Declining interest (d) Growing interest

Directions (Questions No. 25 - 32) : Read the passages carefully and choose the correct option that answers each of the questions given below.

Many people prefer to spend time alone, work better independently than in group settings, and cherish celebrating birthdays with close friends rather than with large groups. This introverted personality is often stereotyped as unstable, lonely, and antisocial, but Olsen Laney said there are many advantages to being introverted. She said introverts are likely to be resilient, determined, good listeners, creative thinkers, and very knowledgeable about themselves. "Introverts think outside the box. They also express themselves better in writing than in speech," Olsen Laney said.

25. 'Resilient' is the same as
(a) Fragile (b) Strong
(c) Delicate (d) Slight
26. 'Stereotyped' in the passage means
(a) viewed mistakenly (b) seen indifferently
(c) known unconventionally (d) vaguely noted
27. Introverts, according to Laney, are
(a) energetic and outgoing (b) reserved and thoughtful
(c) amiable and spirited (d) creative and knowledgeable

28. 'Cherish' means
(a) price (b) treasure
(c) detriment (d) omission
29. 'Unstable' in the passage means
(a) invariable (b) unchangeable
(c) unbalanced (d) insensitive
30. "Introverts think outside the box" means
(a) Introverts are unconventional, creative-thinkers
(b) Introverts are traditional thinkers
(c) Introverts are conventional thinkers
(d) Introverts are self-centred thinkers
31. Many people prefer to spend time alone because
(a) they are unstable and lonely. (b) they are determined and quiet.
(c) they are good listeners and knowledgeable. (d) they love engaging in deep thoughts.
32. Introverts are likely to be good listeners because
(a) they think things over before voicing their opinions.
(b) they are antisocial and quiet.
(c) they know themselves well.
(d) they are unable to move or speak.

Directions (Questions No. 33 - 40) : Choose the correct option to complete the meaning of the sentences given below.

33. The weather _____ my mood.
(a) affect (b) effect
(c) affects (d) effects
34. China is _____ the north of India.
(a) to (b) in
(c) on (d) at
35. She has _____ the brunt of his anger.
(a) bear (b) bore
(c) born (d) borne
36. Six months _____ a long time.
(a) are (b) were
(c) be (d) is
37. The baby slept _____ the noise.
(a) though (b) despite
(c) however (d) otherwise
38. She acted _____ my instructions.
(a) in (b) on
(c) under (d) as

39. This is a matter _____ great importance.
(a) for (b) by
(c) of (d) to
40. He promised to look _____ the matter.
(a) into (b) onto
(c) in (d) at

Directions (Questions No. 41 - 50) : Choose the correct option to identify the part of speech of the underlined words given below.

41. She is a sensible person.
(a) Noun (b) Verb
(c) Adverb (d) Adjective
42. The novel is interestingly written.
(a) Noun (b) Verb
(c) Adverb (d) Adjective
43. Make hay while the sun shines.
(a) Adverb (b) Conjunction
(c) Preposition (d) Adjective
44. He is neither mad nor upset.
(a) Adverb (b) Conjunction
(c) Preposition (d) Adjective
45. No, I cannot take it anymore.
(a) Adjective (b) Conjunction
(c) Preposition (d) Interjection
46. I recognised his voice at once.
(a) Noun (b) Verb
(c) Adverb (d) Adjective
47. He broke the wall with a hammer.
(a) Noun (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Preposition
48. Love begets love.
(a) Noun (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Preposition
49. He speaks as his father does.
(a) Adjective (b) Adverb
(c) Preposition (d) Conjunction
50. He speaks like his father.
(a) Adverb (b) Adjective
(c) Preposition (d) Conjunction

Directions (Questions No. 51 - 54) : Choose the correct option to identify the type of sentences given below.

51. I like trains.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence (d) Complex Compound Sentence
52. I started on time, but I arrived late.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence (d) Complex Compound Sentence
53. He laughs best who laughs last.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence (d) Complex Compound Sentence
54. I spend what I earn.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence (d) Complex Compound Sentence

Directions (Questions No. 55 - 58) : Choose the correct option to identify the underlined words in each sentence given below.

55. Now that we have met, we must never part.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverb Clause (d) Main Clause
56. He who is already down need not fear any fall.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverb Clause (d) Main Clause
57. The report that the enemy is coming is wrong.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverb Clause (d) Main Clause
58. She must come even if it rains heavily.
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverb Clause (d) Main Clause

Directions (Questions No. 59 - 62) : Choose the correct option to combine the sentences given below as directed.

59. Come in. Go out. (Compound sentence)
(a) Come in to go out. (b) Come in and go out.
(c) Come in or go out. (d) Come in but go out.
60. She began late. She finished first. (Complex sentence)
(a) She finished first though she began late. (b) She finished first but she began late.
(c) She finished first even so she began late. (d) She finished first while she began late.
61. That is the town. I was born there. (Complex sentence)
(a) That is the town I was born. (b) That is the town in where I was born.
(c) That is the town I was born there. (d) That is the town where I was born.

62. He does not smoke. He does not drink. (Compound sentence)

- (a) He neither smoke nor drink. (b) He neither smokes nor drinks.
(c) He neither smoke nor drinks. (d) He neither smoke or drink.

Directions (Questions No. 63 - 66) : Choose the correct option to rewrite the sentence given below as directed.

63. Would that I were your son! (Change into Assertive sentence)

- (a) I wish I was your son. (b) I wish I am your son.
(c) I wish I were your son. (d) I wish that I were your son.

64. Speak loudly. (Change into Interrogative sentence)

- (a) Speak loudly. Will you? (b) You will speak loudly?
(c) Will you speak loudly? (d) Can you speak loudly?

65. This is no small matter. (Change into Affirmative sentence)

- (a) This is a big matter. (b) This is a small matter.
(c) This is not a trivial matter. (d) This is not a big matter.

66. Will you stop talking? (Change into Imperative sentence)

- (a) Please stop talking. (b) Stop talking.
(c) Do not keep talking. (d) You can stop talking.

Directions (Questions No. 67 - 72) : Choose the correct option to complete each sentence given below.

67. He has a car larger than _____.

- (a) I (b) me
(c) my (d) mine

68. Mother likes oranges. _____

- (a) Nor do I. (b) So do I.
(c) So must I. (d) So am I.

69. It's raining. _____

- (a) Is it? (b) Was it?
(c) It is? (d) Isn't it?

70. Each of the students _____ done well.

- (a) will (b) have
(c) has (d) are

71. _____ do you take me for?

- (a) Who (b) Whom
(c) What (d) Which

72. All failed except _____.

- (a) him (b) he
(c) hers (d) they

Directions (Questions No. 73 - 76) : Choose the correct option to improve each sentence given below.

73. Where are your luggages?
(a) Where are your luggage? (b) Where is your luggages?
(c) Where is your luggage? (d) Where are your lugages?
74. She gave me an advice.
(a) She give me an advice. (b) She gave me some advice.
(c) She gives me an advice. (d) She give me advice.
75. The quality of the fruits are not good.
(a) The quality of the fruits were not good. (b) The fruits were not good quality.
(c) The quality of the fruits is not good. (d) The fruits are not good quality.
76. The setting of a story effect the story's plot.
(a) The setting of a story effects the story's plot.
(b) The setting of a story effect the story's plots.
(c) The setting of a story affects the story's plot.
(d) The setting of a story affect the story's plots.

Directions (Questions No. 77 - 80) : Choose the correct option to define each term/word given below.

77. Laxicographer is one who
(a) compiles a dictionary. (b) draws maps.
(c) writes beautiful writing. (d) gives shape to stone.
78. Teetotaller is one who
(a) goes on foot. (b) collects stamps.
(c) is a habitual drunkard. (d) does not take any intoxicating drug.
79. Florist is one who
(a) deals in flowers. (b) offers one's services.
(c) lives in seclusion. (d) hates mankind.
80. Speleology is
(a) the science of law. (b) the study of caves.
(c) the study of tissues. (d) the study of inscriptions.

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