

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS FOR SUB-INSPECTOR AND INSPECTOR UNDER EXCISE & NARCOTICS DEPARTMENT, APRIL, 2018

PAPER – I

Time Allowed : 3 hours

FM : 100 PM : 40

Marks for each question is indicated against it.

Attempt all questions.

1. Make a précis of the following passage in about 1/3 of its length and add a suitable title. (15)

A street beggar is a familiar figure in India. In a town, people can hardly take a walk without coming across one stopping their movement or conversation and asking for alms. Some of them are badly stricken with incurable diseases. We are so much used to the sight of beggars that we take them easily. But the circumstances which, in most cases, lead to and attend begging are awful.

In many cases, begging is taken as a profession. Sometimes beggars belong to groups set up and managed by people who, within limits, are comparable to the directors of a trading concern. They cleverly gather a number of unfortunates. These willingly or unwillingly, do their bidding and reduce themselves to the position of soulless slaves. They beg and deposit the alms they receive with their leaders; these human parasites take the major portion for themselves and give to the helpless beggars just the little by which they can keep body and soul together. Behind every beggar there is a world of his own, a dark world of which most people who give alms remain wholly unaware. It is an underworld peopled by uprooted humanity. Genuine religious mendicants apart, beggars point to a social disease. Really, they pose a problem. The beggar must be saved from his miserable living; but more than that, from the moral and spiritual degradation to which they are doomed.

For this purpose, a lot of determined work is necessary. The diseased should be provided with medical aid; the physically handicapped should be given educational and other facilities which may make them fit to live in society pretty decently. In some of the Indian states, action has already been taken prohibiting begging in public.

2. Draft a letter on behalf of the Engineer-in-Chief, Public Works Department, Aizawl, to all Heads of Circles to take up suitable measures to improve the existing state of affairs and tone up the efficiency of the Department. The memorandum should clearly state matters relating to working conditions in the offices, standard of cleanliness, strict enforcement of discipline and punctuality, better house-keeping and staff welfare, speedy disposal of different categories of work and laying down time-limits for disposal of work. (15)

3. Complete the following sentences by inserting appropriate articles: (5×1=5)

- (a) Man has no more right to say _____ uncivil thing than to act one.
(b) _____ reindeer is a native of Norway.
(c) Let us discuss _____ matter seriously.
(d) Mumbai is _____ very costly place to live in.
(e) He looks as stupid as _____ owl.

4. Choose the correct verb forms from the options given in brackets: **(5×1=5)**
- (a) Men _____ to abolish wars up to now, but maybe they will find a way in the future. (never managed, have never managed, will have never managed)
 - (b) I _____ English for five years. (study, am studying, have been studying)
 - (c) We _____ our breakfast half an hour ago. (finished, have finished, had finished)
 - (d) When I get home, my dog _____ at the gate waiting for me. (sits, have been sitting, will be sitting)
 - (e) I _____ him only one letter after he left India. (sent, have sent, send)
5. Name the parts of speech of each italicized words in the following sentences: **(5×1=5)**
- (a) *After* the storm comes the calm.
 - (b) They *while* away their evenings with books and games.
 - (c) It weighs *about* a pound.
 - (d) He *still* lives in that house.
 - (e) He told us all *about* the battle.
6. Pick out the nouns in the following sentences, and say whether they are common, proper, collective or abstract nouns: **(5×1=5)**
- (a) Our team is better than theirs.
 - (b) I recognized your voice at once.
 - (c) I believe in his innocence.
 - (d) The crowd was very big.
 - (e) A committee of five was appointed.
7. Insert appropriate comparatives or superlatives to each of the following: **(5×1=5)**
- (a) *The Arabian Nights* is perhaps the _____ storybook.
 - (b) Who was the _____ general, Alexander or Caesar?
 - (c) It is good to be clever, but it is _____ to be industrious.
 - (d) The piano was knocked down to the _____ bidder.
 - (e) Lead is the _____ of all metals.
8. Report the following into indirect speech: **(5×1=5)**
- (a) The teacher said to me, "You are wrong."
 - (b) "Twelve years ago" said Prospero, "I came to this island."
 - (c) The labourer said, "Whether they change the shift or not, I will not work anymore."
 - (d) "I came home last night," said he.
 - (e) The king said to his ministers, "What will you do if you are suddenly attacked by a strong enemy?"

9. Pick out the adverbs from the following sentences: (5×1=5)

- (a) We are quite happy now.
- (b) We are alarmed at the strange sound.
- (c) I remember the house where I was born.
- (d) He cared little for his future.
- (e) There is a screw loose somewhere.

10. Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions: (5×1=5)

- (a) He had to work _____ twelve and two in the night.
- (b) _____ my ivied porch shall spring each fragrant flower that drinks the dew.
- (c) _____ the street the piper stepped.
- (d) He found himself helpless _____ strangers.
- (e) Here is the watch _____ you asked for.

11. Change the following sentences into either active or passive voice: (5×1=5)

- (a) The clerk will give you a cheque.
- (b) The wall is being built by the mason.
- (c) All his friends laughed at him.
- (d) When will you return the book?
- (e) Someone has picked my pocket.

12. State whether the verbs given in italics are transitive or intransitive: (5×1=5)

- (a) The girl *ran* a needle into her finger.
- (b) A tiny bird *lived* under the caves.
- (c) You *speak* too loudly.
- (d) The boy easily *lifted* the heavy weight.
- (e) I *looked* down from my window.

13. Write an essay on **any one** (1) of the following in not less than 400 words: (20)

- The Press: Its Power and Responsibilities
- The Study of Hindi as our National Language
- The Value of Sports and Athletics