

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF SUB INSPECTOR (UB) 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 of the given topics is not more than 300 words.
 - Corruption in everyday life
 - The Role of Politics in Socio-Economic development of a country
 - Science and Religion

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 No. 1 - 16) : Choose the correct alternative for the following idioms/phrases:

1. To move heaven and earth :
 - (a) to travel in space
 - (b) to pray fervently
 - (c) to try every possible means
 - (d) to cause an earthquake
2. Chip of the old block :
 - (a) take after one's parents in habit
 - (b) to cut off a piece
 - (c) make blocks out of a big rock
 - (d) to start cutting wood
3. At sixes and sevens :
 - (a) counting numbers
 - (b) in disorder
 - (c) place uniformly
 - (d) undecided
4. By hook or by crook :
 - (a) by unfair means
 - (b) intentionally
 - (c) by any means
 - (d) no other way
5. Eye to eye :
 - (a) to look straight in the eye
 - (b) to give the same answer
 - (c) to give correct decision
 - (d) to have the same opinion
6. Blow one's trumpet :
 - (a) to have one's own instrument
 - (b) to praise oneself
 - (c) to look for praise
 - (d) to praise one's friend
7. Eat humble pie :
 - (a) to enjoy a meal
 - (b) have a pie for lunch
 - (c) to prepare a pie
 - (d) to apologise

8. Spick and span :
(a) very shiny (b) in order
(c) keep very clean (d) slippery
9. Take to heels :
(a) wears high-heeled shoes (b) liking for shoes with high heels
(c) fashion statement (d) to run away
10. Wild-goose chase :
(a) to go hunting (b) to run after someone
(c) unprofitable (d) improper
11. A queer fish :
(a) funny person (b) sensitive person
(c) quarrelsome person (d) strange person
12. To lose face :
(a) to look angry (b) to be humiliated
(c) to be helpless (d) to look vacant
13. Get cold feet :
(a) to be afraid (b) to get cold
(c) to run for life (d) to feel sick
14. Small talk :
(a) back biting (b) gossip
(c) whispering (d) light conversation
15. Talk shop :
(a) talk about shop (b) talk in a shop
(c) talk to the point (d) talk business
16. A bolt from the blue :
(a) struck by thunder (b) a complete surprise
(c) a flash of lightning (d) a piece of bad luck

Direction (Question No. 17- 26) : *Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answers from the options given.*

Modern technology is increasingly dominating the world and the domination is likely to become more pronounced in future because of the fast developments tending to subdue, creating human thinking and expression.

But the belief that literature would have no place in future life of man is equally erroneous. Technology has created robots, artificial intelligence in the shape of “thinking computers” which can read, translate, interpret and give decisions with amazing speed and compositions – poetry, prose, drama, novels and stories. As such, our actions are governed more and more by computer culture and electronic calculators of all types will destroy the talent of writers, authors, poets, biographers and artists. Rather it can generally promote the climate for expressions of talent in various channels by providing firstly enough leisure, as the technology is creating leisure by introducing labour saving and devices. The leisure thus created can be fruitfully put to literary pursuits.

Literature, in reality is the product of thought of very sane and gifted people, who live in all ages and they need an environment of peace and tranquility and naturally the advancement of present day accompanied with the comforts of life provided by the modern technology can promote better literature and masterpieces

in the arts. Scientists and technologists do not encroach upon the field of literature as it is the source of great peace and inspiration for materialistic related distractions of the mind. Literature is an essential part of culture and its values cherished by people since time immemorial and technological progress cannot afford to cause decay and neglect of nature and her processes. The machine must not enslave man completely as it is the human spirit which must be decisive especially regarding the right uses of technology. The latest drift to technology has to be adjusted and regulated so as not to let the latent aspects of culture fade away and make human being a machine.

There are people who are of the opinion that science demolishes faith and tradition, it produces skepticism, anxiety and even tension as it doubts everything, even some of the cherished values. Technology has helped science to produce weapons of destruction and it has further deteriorated the areas of peace. Here the literature gets suppressed. The artists and poets who prepare the literary pieces get suppressed and the art suffers.

Technology, as such, is not averse to literature, nor should it be. It is only when technology is not used in a worthwhile direction, when it is used to produce military hardware and things to terrorize mankind, that literature goes in the background. The pieces of art and literature, poetry, prose, drama, etc, are the source of sustenance of the soul of man. In today's ever-increasing tensions of day to day, good literature makes a lasting impact on the mind, it entertains, instructs and ennobles the spirit of human beings. There is a strong reason for such impact of literary pieces on human spirit. The poets and artists have been souls gifted exclusively for the works created by them. No ordinary men could venture into the field of literature, so the pieces of literature produced by these genius of men and women had a strange power of giving solace to depressed souls.

17. In the future, domination of modern technology will be –

- (a) increasing
- (b) more obvious
- (c) decreasing
- (d) less pronounced

18. In order to produce refined works in literature, writer's need

- (a) serene environment
- (b) 'thinking computers'
- (c) both (a) & (b)
- (d) neither (a) nor (b)

19. Literature helps us -

- (a) to understand the value of leisure time
- (b) utilize modern technology
- (c) to divert our minds from materialism
- (d) all of these

20. Literature 'ennobles the spirit of human beings' because –

- (a) writers are endowed with exclusive gifts for their works
- (b) writers take so much pain to feed the hungry soul
- (c) modern technology makes great contribution in the realms of literature
- (d) none of these

Direction (Question No. 21 - 23) : Choose the correct synonyms of the following words taken from the given passage.

21. accuracy

- (a) precision
- (b) awesome
- (c) doubtful
- (d) invalid

22. scepticism

- (a) unrest
- (b) suspicion
- (c) trust
- (d) discontentment

23. sustenance

- (a) abundance
- (b) essential
- (c) confusion
- (d) nourishment

Direction (Question No. 24 - 26) : Choose the correct antonyms of the following words given from the passage.

24. latent

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) manifest | (b) conceal |
| (c) worthless | (d) prominent |

25. deteriorate

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| (a) certain | (b) disturb |
| (c) regulate | (d) improve |

26. demolish

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| (a) acknowledge | (b) displace |
| (c) strengthen | (d) promote |

Direction (Questions No. 27 - 32): Read the passage carefully and answer the questions that follow it:

Since the world has become industrialised, there has been an increase in the number of animal species that have either become extinct or near extinction. Bengal tiger, for instance, which roamed the jungle in vast numbers, now numbers 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 the callousness that is part of what is causing the problem of extinction. Animals like the Bengal tiger, as well as those 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 cost of maintaining the parks, and they often must also depend on world organisations for support. With the money 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.

27. What is the author's main concern in this passage?

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Problems of industrialisation | (b) The Bengal tiger |
| (c) Endangered species | (d) Callousness of man |

28. According to some sources, as quoted in the passage, poachers kill for :

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Material gain | (b) Personal satisfaction |
| (c) Both (a) & (b) | (d) None of these |

29. Which of the following words is closest in meaning to the word **alarming**?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| (a) Serious | (b) Dangerous |
| (c) Distressing | (d) Frightening |

30. Certain species are becoming extinct because of :

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| (a) Industrialisation | (b) Poaching |
| (c) Love of products made from them | (d) All of these |

31. The phrase **stem the tide** means :

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| (a) Save | (b) Stop |
| (c) Touch | (d) Spare |

32. Which of the following best describes the author's attitude?

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| (a) Concerned | (b) Vindictive |
| (c) Surprised | (d) Generous |

Direction (Questions No. 33 - 40) : Identify the parts of speech of the underlined words :

33. What are you talking about?
(a) adjective (b) noun
(c) preposition (d) conjunction
34. He seldom visits his parents.
(a) adverb (b) conjunction
(c) adjective (d) pronoun
35. The book that I bought is very costly.
(a) noun (b) verb
(c) adverb (d) pronoun
36. I met a one-eyed man.
(a) adverb (b) adjective
(c) pronoun (d) preposition
37. Fortune favours the brave.
(a) noun (b) verb
(c) pronoun (d) adverb
38. He worked hard but failed.
(a) preposition (b) adjective
(c) conjunction (d) verb
39. The forest is abound with tigers.
(a) noun (b) verb
(c) adjective (d) adverb
40. Alas! He is no more.
(a) conjunction (b) adjective
(c) interjection (d) preposition

Direction (Questions No. 41 - 48) Choose the appropriate preposition from the alternatives given under each sentence.

41. We could not cope _____ the demand.
(a) with (b) up
(c) at (d) on
42. The teacher endeared himself _____ all his pupils.
(a) from (b) around
(c) to (d) with
43. She came to my house _____ foot.
(a) by (b) on
(c) in (d) with
44. I was not apprised _____ your failure.
(a) at (b) by
(c) with (d) of
45. My father instilled his idea _____ our minds.
(a) from (b) into
(c) on (d) within

46. There is a bridge _____ the river.
(a) above (b) upon
(c) across (d) from
47. I met Zami _____ the supermarket.
(a) in (b) by
(c) on (d) at
48. They are going _____ a journey.
(a) to (b) on
(c) for (d) in

Direction (Questions No. 49 - 54) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct option :

49. Walking by the riverside, I came upon a man who had just come.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence
50. I could not do the work, but I hope you will not mind this.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence
51. Give me the fruit and I will eat it.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence
52. Can you tell me the name of the person who broke the windowpane?
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence
53. Being stabbed fatally he died.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence
54. If you turn to the left you will soon reach the main market.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Compound Sentence

Direction (Questions No. 55 - 59): Choose the correct alternative from the following combined sentences:

55. I finished my paper. I gave it to the teacher (using participle)
(a) Having finished my paper, I gave it to the teacher.
(b) I gave my finished paper to the teacher.
(c) Finishing my paper, I gave it to the teacher.
(d) I finished my paper and gave it to the teacher.
56. Muani passed the examination. It was very fortunate. (using adverb)
(a) It was fortunate that Muani passed the examination.
(b) Muani fortunately passed the examination.
(c) Muani was fortunate to pass the examination.
(d) Fortunately, Muani passed the examination.
57. Biaka bought new books. He also bought old books. (using conjunction)
(a) Biaka bought new and old books
(b) Biaka bought new books and old books also.
(c) Biaka bought both new and ol books.
(d) Biaka bought new books as well as old books.

58. I came across a girl in the garden. She was beautiful. (using adjective)

- (a) I came to the garden and saw a beautiful girl.
- (b) The girl I came across in the garden was beautiful.
- (c) I came across a beautiful girl in the garden.
- (d) Beautiful was the girl whom i came across in the garden.

59. He completed his work. He went home. (using participle)

- (a) He completed his work and went home.
- (b) After completing his work, he went home.
- (c) Having completed his work, he went home.
- (d) Completing his work, he went home.

Direction (Questions No. 60 - 64) Synthesise the given sentence as directed in the brackets.

60. The teacher is ill. It is known to all. (Complex Sentence)

- (a) That the teacher is ill is known to all.
- (b) As known by all the teacher is ill.
- (c) All of them know that the teacher is ill.

61. I speak the truth in the presence of my friends. I am not afraid of it (use infinitives)

- (a) Since I am not afraid I speak the truth in the presence of my friends.
- (b) I speak the truth in the presence of my friends as I am not afraid.
- (c) I am not afraid to speak the truth in the presence of my friends.

62. You may be wrong. Marcus may be wrong. You cannot both be right. (Compound Sentence)

- (a) Neither you nor Marcus is right.
- (b) Either you or Marcus is wrong and you cannot both be right.
- (c) Both Marcus and you cannot be right.

63. She finished her work and drove home (use a participle)

- (a) After she had finished her work, she drove home.
- (b) She drove home after finishing her work.
- (c) Having finished her work, she drove home.

64. I called her, but she gave me no answer. (Simple Sentence)

- (a) In spite of my calling her, she gave me no answer.
- (b) Having called her, she gave me no answer.
- (c) She gave me no answer, yet I called her.

Direction (Questions No. 65 - 70) : Choose a one-word substitution for the following :

65. One who hates knowledge

- (a) misogynist
- (b) misanthrope
- (c) misologist
- (d) sadist

66. One who believes in fate

- (a) fastidious
- (b) cynic
- (c) egoist
- (d) fatalist

67. A remedy for all ills

- (a) Antibiotic
- (b) panacea
- (c) almanac
- (d) soporific

68. One who acts against religion
(a) heretic (b) iconoclast
(c) agnostic (d) stoic
69. A mark that cannot be erased
(a) illegible (b) inaudible
(c) indelible (d) insolvent
70. Examination of living tissue
(a) biopsy (b) x-ray
(c) transplant (d) endoscopy

Direction (Questions No. 71 - 75) : Choose the word nearest in the meaning to the italicized words.

71. Few actors are as *versatile* as he is; he writes scripts, directs and produces.
(a) multi-purpose (b) greedy
(c) having no specific interest (d) ambitious
72. She makes an *impulsive* decision and later deeply regrets her choices.
(a) uncertain (b) hasty
(c) totally wrong (d) foolish
73. Unless the two leaders *ratify* the treaty peace and harmony will not prevail in these counties.
(a) stopped intermediately (b) having a brief pause
(c) reconsider (d) accept by formal consent
74. The *hilarious* song which was composed by my best friend was bagged 1st prize in the competition.
(a) sad and serious (b) in perfect quality
(c) extremely funny (d) short but deeply impressive
75. We must keep an eye on him because I was told that he was a *knave*.
(a) violent person (b) lunatic
(c) extremely greedy (d) scoundrel

Direction (Questions No. 76 - 80) : Select the word which is opposite in meaning to the underlined words or phrases.

76. The Government took measures to eradicate corruption.
(a) eliminate (b) preserve
(c) suppress (d) obliterate
77. The business alliance between India and China began to dwindle since 2015.
(a) diminish (b) complicated
(c) collapse (d) increase
78. The recent political upheaval brings chaos all over the country.
(a) disruption (b) stability
(c) progress (d) treaty
79. Unlike her sisters, Christy was always defiant in her behaviour.
(a) obedient (b) confident
(c) antagonistic (d) selfish
80. Sometimes he becomes crestfallen, even at a remark in jest.
(a) prank (b) disagreeable
(c) whimsical (d) serious