

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF JUNIOR INSPECTOR OF COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES UNDER COOPERATION DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. APRIL, 2019

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 given topics (not more than 300 words)
 - The importance of recycling
 - Preserving Our Mizo Language
 - Saving for a rainy day

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.

Direction (Question 1 - 8) : Indicate the correct meaning of the given idioms and phrases.

1. Carry weight
 - (a) to carry burden
 - (b) carry the day
 - (c) be important
 - (d) carry through
2. Die hard
 - (a) unwilling to change
 - (b) ready to change
 - (c) egoist
 - (d) arrogant
3. Bad blood
 - (a) low blood pressure
 - (b) feeling of love
 - (c) feeling of hatred
 - (d) high blood pressure
4. To cut one short
 - (a) to love one
 - (b) to insult one
 - (c) to criticise one
 - (d) to interrupt one
5. A bolt from the blue
 - (a) struck by thunder
 - (b) a piece of bad luck
 - (c) a flash of lighting
 - (d) a complete surprise

6. To drive home
(a) to find one's root (b) to return to place to rest
(c) back to original position (d) to emphasise
7. To cry wolf
(a) to listen eagerly (b) to give false alarm
(c) to turn pale (d) to keep off starvation
8. Was plain sailing
(a) was very easy (b) was complicated
(c) was competitive (d) was uncomfortable

Directions (Questions 9- 16) : Fill in the blanks with the idioms / phrases out of the given options.

9. His name definitely rings _____ although I can't put a face to it.
(a) a memory (b) a thought
(c) a bell (d) a clock
10. I am very suspicious of this contract, I smell _____.
(a) a rabbit (b) a rose
(c) a rat (d) a fish
11. According to the proverb, there's no smoke without _____.
(a) a matches (b) cigarette
(c) burning dimer (d) fire
12. He is always interfering, he's always _____.
(a) sticking his eye in (b) pushing his face in
(c) poking his nose in (d) putting his hand in
13. He calls a spode a spade. This means he _____.
(a) says exactly what he thinks (b) hides his true feelings
(c) likes gardening (d) gets impatient easily
14. The politician's speech failed to _____ with the crowd.
(a) hit the road (b) get it right
(c) raise Cain (d) strike the right note
15. Lots of people would _____ for a job like yours.
(a) hand over the reins (b) run riot
(c) give their right arm (d) raison d'etre
16. I have tried to understand the regulations but it _____ to me.
(a) is great guns (b) is goody - goody
(c) sounds sour grapes (d) all sounds Greek

Direction (Question 17 – 20) : Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives:

Metal detectors make magnetic waves. These waves go through the ground. The wave changes when they hit the metal. Then the device beeps. This lets the person with the device know that the metal is close. The first metal detectors were meant to help miners. They were big and cost a lot of money. They also used a lot of power and didn't work all that well. Metal detectors got smaller. Now they are light and cheap and work better. People bring them to the beach to look for things in the sand and water. Metal detectors also protect people. They help to keep guns out of some places like the airport, govt. and court houses. Guards use special wands to find metal on a person. These device save lives in other ways too.

During wars, people plant bombs in the ground. When the war ends, they don't clean up their messes. This is unsafe for people living in these regions. Metal detectors are used to find these bombs and remove them. These devices also make clothes safer as most clothes are made in factories where there are lots of needles. Needles break from time to time and get stuck in the clothes. They would poke people trying them on if not for the metal detectors that find them.

17. Which was not one of the problems with the first metal detectors?
- (a) They were too big (b) They were too expensive
(c) They didn't work well (d) They were unsafe
18. How do metal detectors make clothing safer?
- (a) They make sure factory machines are working the right way
(b) They make sure workers don't bring weapons into factories
(c) They make sure broken needles don't get into clothing
(d) They help people recover lost clothing at the beach
19. What happens first?
- (a) The metal detector beeps alarmingly
(b) The magnetic waves hit metal and change
(c) The magnetic waves go through the ground
(d) The metal detector creates magnetic waves
20. How did metal detectors get better over time?
- (a) They became cheaper (b) They became lighter
(c) They began working better (d) All of these

***Direction (Question 21 – 24) :* Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives:**

The Coliseum is an ancient stadium in the center of Rome. It is the largest of its kind. They started building it in the year 70. It took ten years to build it. The Coliseum has been used in many ways. In ancient Rome, men fought each other in it as well as lions, tigers and bears. As many as 80,000 Romans would peck inside to watch. These gruesome events went on until 523.

The Coliseum has been damaged many times over the years. It was struck by lightning in the 217 and this started a fire. Though much of the Coliseum is made of stone, the upper levels that were made of wood got damaged. This damage took many years to repair and was not finished until the year 240. But the worst damage happened in 1349. A mighty earthquake shook Rome and the Coliseum. The south side of the building collapsed. Pieces of the arena were all over the ground. Many people took the fallen stones to repair houses and churches. It has been hundreds of years since the damage to the Coliseum was never repaired though the outer wall of it still stand strong. Today the Coliseum is one of Rome's most popular attractions. Tourists come from all over the world to see it. The Pope leads a big March around it every Good Friday. It has even appeared on the back of a coin.

21. Which happened first?
- (a) An earthquake damaged the Coliseum
(b) The Coliseum was struck by lightning
(c) The Coliseum appeared on the back of a coin
(d) The Coliseum was used as a castle
22. When did the Roman's finish building the Coliseum?
- (a) The year 70 (b) The year 523
(c) The year 80 (d) The year 240

23. Which caused the most damage to the Coliseum?
- (a) Fires (b) Earthquakes
(c) Wars (d) Hurricanes
24. Which best defines the word “gruesome” as it is used in the paragraph?
- (a) exciting (b) funny
(c) horrifying (d) boring

Direction (Question 25 – 28) : Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives:

As the sun climbs in the cloudless sky, visitors are rewarded with their first glimpse of Dakhla refugee camp in western Algeria. It isn't the most obvious setting for a film festival, but for seven years, just before the glitz and glamour of Cannes, the Sahrawi people of Dakhla have hosted actors and film makers from around the world for this six day event. This year, for the first time direct flights were laid on from London, giving the opportunity for overseas visitors to play a part in this extraordinary occasion. But despite the energy and excitement, the background to the film festival is a serious one, as the Sahrawi people have been living for thirty years in this isolated desert outpost, having been forced to flee their native Western Sahara. Western Africa, Africa's last colony, was taken over by Morocco when the Spanish withdrew in 1976, despite a ruling from the International Court of Justice. This was followed by a brutal 16 year war, during which time tens of thousands of Sahrawis fled across the Algerian border to refugee camp. In 1991, a ceasefire, a referendum on self determination was promised to decide the fate of the country and its people. However, almost twenty years later, the gears of diplomacy have turned slowly and nothing has happened. Meanwhile the refugees have been left- stranded in five refugee camps dotted around the vast inhospitable desert. Of these, Dakhla is the most remote and unlike its namesake, the beautiful coastal city in western Sahara, this Dakhla has no paved roads and is entirely dependent on outside supplies for food and water.

25. In this passage, the writer emphasises
- (a) The enthusiasm that the festival instils (b) The sensational nature of the festival
(c) The festival's increasing media attention (d) the festival's unlikely location
26. According to the writer, the refugees have been in the desert for so long because
- (a) International agencies do not know they are there
(b) The Moroccan government disagree with the UN
(c) a proposed vote is yet to take place
(d) there is a war in their home country
27. What does the writer say about the original city of Dakhla?
- (a) It is by the sea
(b) It has good health and educational facilities
(c) It does not have proper roads
(d) It gets food and water from aid agencies
28. The ceasefire of 1991 has failed because
- (a) self determination was promised to the people
(b) diplomacy has been slow
(c) the region is a vast inhospitable desert
(d) there is no awareness of the refugees plight

Direction (Questions 29 - 40) : Choose the caused forms of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverb from the alternatives given.

29. The policemen _____ his whistle.
(a) threw (b) blew
(c) picks (d) enjoy
30. The birds _____ in the trees.
(a) laughs (b) kicks
(c) sings (d) burst
31. The beggar _____ down by the roadside.
(a) sings (b) cries
(c) sat (d) jumps
32. Always _____ the truth.
(a) dove (b) hate
(c) speak (d) shout
33. I received _____ from my grandmother today.
(a) a gift (b) kind
(c) a degree (d) a kindness
34. _____ loves to eat at the restaurant on the corner.
(a) I (b) they
(c) John (d) all of these
35. Tina is a _____ girl.
(a) clever (b) some
(c) cleverest (d) cleverer
36. _____ book is this?
(a) whose (b) many
(c) these (d) all of these
37. On _____ side is a narrow lane.
(a) upper (b) either
(c) which (d) full
38. _____ way shall we go?
(a) with (b) that
(c) which (d) one
39. This book is _____.
(a) one (b) his
(c) there (d) their
40. There isn't much difference between you and _____.
(a) him (b) it
(c) they (d) he

Directions (Questions 41 - 48) : Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions :

41. I am fond _____ music.
(a) on (b) of
(c) for (d) upon

42. The village was destroyed _____ fire.
(a) with (b) by
(c) in (d) at
43. Do not cry _____ spilt milk.
(a) by (b) till
(c) during (d) over
44. The boy jumped _____ the compound wall.
(a) sits (b) under
(c) over (d) into
45. The girl has been missing _____ yesterday.
(a) since (b) within
(c) for (d) by
46. The portrait was painted _____ a famous artist.
(a) during (b) by
(c) from (d) with
47. I acted according _____ his advice.
(a) with (b) to
(c) by (d) in
48. Mary is confident _____ securing the first price.
(a) in (b) of
(c) with (d) from

Directions (Questions 49 - 59) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct options:

49. Isn't she exceptionally tall for her age?
(a) Negative (b) Affirmative
(c) Interrogative (d) Exclamatory
50. None but the brave deserve the fair.
(a) Interrogative (b) Negative
(c) Exclamatory (d) Affirmative
51. Every dark cloud has a silver lining.
(a) Negative (b) Interrogative
(c) Affirmative (d) Exclamatory
52. He likes people to flatter him.
(a) Active (b) Statement
(c) Passive (d) Imperative
53. Let the final decision to be taken by John.
(a) Passive (b) Active
(c) Statement (d) Imperative
54. He is too arrogant to make friends.
(a) Complex Sentence (b) Compound Sentence
(c) Simple sentence
55. If you don't go by the metro, you will get late.
(a) Compound Sentence (b) Complex Sentence
(c) Simple Sentence

56. He is not only a good counsellor but also very generous.
(a) Complex sentence (b) Simple sentence
(c) Compound sentence
57. Mt. Everest is the highest peak in the world.
(a) Comparative (b) Superlative
(c) Positive
58. Tom is taller than Jack.
(a) Superlative (b) Positive
(c) Comparative
59. That lady wearing a red dress is beautiful.
(a) Positive (b) Superlative
(c) Comparative

Directions (Questions 60 - 64) : Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the words given below:

60. Concentration is easier, if it is _____ around us.
(a) quite (b) noisy
(c) quiet (d) melodious
61. I was _____ of passing the entrance examination.
(a) confine (b) content
(c) confident (d) interested
62. The complaint has to be lodged in _____.
(a) black and blue (b) black and green
(c) black and black (d) black and white
63. Mary has decided to settle in Sweden _____.
(a) for good (b) for a week
(c) for enjoyment (d) for
64. Do not _____ your time and energy in idle gossip.
(a) throw (b) waste
(c) mix (d) buy

Directions (Questions 65-70) : Choose the right alternatives from the given options.

65. The climate has _____ his health.
(a) effected (b) accepted
(c) affected (d) expected
66. Mr. Luke is the _____ of our school.
(a) principal (b) principle
(c) precipice (d) perfectionist
67. John has _____ throat due to cold and cough.
(a) soar (b) soil
(c) sole (d) sore
68. The building were _____ to the ground by the Municipal Corporation.
(a) raised (b) razed
(c) rammed (d) risen

69. Absence makes the heart grow _____.
- (a) harder (b) sweeter
(c) bitter (d) fonder
70. Home is where the _____ is.
- (a) head (b) heart
(c) feet (d) feeling

Directions (Questions 71 - 75) : Choose the right alternative of the given options:

71. pedantic
- (a) high social class (b) well written
(c) meticulous (d) quick to react
72. archaic
- (a) express disbelief (b) argumentative
(c) opera song (d) very old
73. brine
- (a) satisfy one's thirst (b) old and wrinkled
(c) solution of salt and water (d) a bend or curve
74. thwart
- (a) prevent (b) dam
(c) divert (d) conflict
75. tithe
- (a) engagement (b) a short song
(c) a levy of one tenth of something (d) not fitted

Directions (Questions 76 - 80) : Choose the right alternative from the given options to fill in the gaps.

76. Our altitude towards the entire creation ought to be _____.
- (a) human (b) humane
(c) humanity (d) humble
77. The painting shows an _____ standing near the window.
- (a) angelic (b) angle
(c) angel (d) ambivalent
78. The police suspected that the evidence had been _____ with.
- (a) tampered (b) tempered
(c) temper (d) tamper
79. Her face reflects a _____ innocence.
- (a) childish (b) childlike
(c) children (d) child
80. Ancient man believed thunder and _____ to be signs of God's fury.
- (a) lengthening (b) lightning
(c) length (d) lightening