

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF STENOGRAPHER GRADE-III (CONTRACT) UNDER DP&AR (SSW), GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. May, 2015.

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 topics in not more than 300 words :
 - (a) Are newspapers becoming obsolete ?
 - (b) New school timing in Mizoram – advantages and disadvantages.
 - (c) Seat reservation for women in local council election.

SECTION - B **(80 Marks)**

All questions carry equal marks of 2 each. Attempt all questions.

*This Section should be answered only on the **OMR Response Sheet** provided.*

Directions (Questions 1 – 8): Indicate the correct meaning of the given idioms and phrases:

1. To learn the ropes
 - (a) knowledge of different types of ropes
 - (b) good in tying ropes
 - (c) know how something is done or organized
 - (d) learning how to tie knots
2. Go haywire
 - (a) go seriously wrong
 - (b) making wire with hay
 - (c) climbing on a wire
 - (d) to go near a hay
3. Bring a lump to one's throat
 - (a) difficult to swallow
 - (b) to have sore throat
 - (c) to make one feel very emotional
 - (d) strangle someone on the neck.
4. Talk shop
 - (a) talk about fashion
 - (b) talk exclusively about shopping
 - (c) talk exclusively about business or professional affairs
 - (d) to indulge in gossip

5. I am certain 'he has an axe to grind' in this matter
(a) to have a personal interest (b) to grind something
(c) to have a good axe (d) to come to halt
6. It is difficult to compete with Thanga because 'he has the gift of the gab'
(a) to do the right thing (b) to be very rich
(c) to get lots of gifts (d) a talent for speaking.
7. Made of money
(a) smelling of money (b) very wealthy
(c) place where money is made (d) to exchange money.
8. To get off scot free
(a) to be completely free (b) to get off at Scotland
(c) be released without punishment (d) relating to Scotland

Directions (Questions 9 – 14): Read the following passage carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives:

On the morning of 31st August, 1573, 3000 horsemen of the Imperial Mughal army paused at the bank of the Sabarmati. The rebels, they were after, lay just beyond the swollen river but the soldiers were exhausted, they had traversed 960 kilometers of difficult terrain in nine days riding almost continuously. Suddenly a warrior on a chestnut charger plunged into the raging torrent. As man and horse struggled on to the opposite bank, a thrill ran through the army. It was the emperor, Jalal uddin Akbar ! With a roar, the soldiers followed him across and within two days, they had put down the rebellion so thoroughly that Gujarat remained in Mughal hands for the next 185 years.

9. The rebels were camped :
(a) across the Sabarmati river (b) on the banks of Sabarmati river
(c) in Gujarat (d) in imperial Mughal courts
10. The soldiers were exhausted because
(a) the rebels were strong (b) the river was flooded
(c) they rode almost continuously (d) none of the above
11. The expression "swollen river" means :
(a) a river in flood (b) a calm and serene river
(c) a deep river (d) a shallow river
12. The Mughal soldiers didn't cross the river because :
(a) they were cowards (b) they had joined hands with the rebels
(c) they were waiting for the king to arrive (d) they were tired after a difficult journey
13. The sudden arrival of king Akbar :
(a) surprised the soldiers (b) angered the soldiers
(c) dismayed the soldiers (d) enthused the soldiers
14. The attack on the rebels turned out to be :
(a) a dismal failure (b) a grand success
(c) of no particular significance (d) an ordinary affair

Directions (Questions 15 – 19): Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions:

15. She is senior _____ me in service.
(a) to (b) than
(c) above (d) before
16. Be patient _____ children.
(a) at (b) for
(c) with (d) between
17. That man is worthy _____ a better job.
(a) for (b) in
(c) of (d) with
18. What's the time _____ your watch ?
(a) in (b) on
(c) by (d) at
19. Do not make me choose _____ the two of you.
(a) with (b) between
(c) among (d) over

Directions (Questions 20 – 24) : Fill in the blanks with the correct word/phrase from the given choices :

20. He plays football _____ cricket.
(a) within (b) after
(c) beside (d) besides
21. Too many skyscrapers _____ the view along the beach.
(a) clear (b) reveal
(c) obstruct (d) connect
22. ___ a busy city, Pompeii was virtually destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D.
(a) once (b) once it was
(c) that once (d) it was once
23. I have lost my purse. Can I _____ some money from you ?
(a) loan (b) hire
(c) borrow (d) demand
24. Many people in Mumbai celebrated Diwali in a grand way _____ the high prices.
(a) even if (b) even though
(c) because of (d) in spite of

Directions (Question 25 – 29) : Identify the notion/concept expressed by each of the following sentences by choosing one of the four alternatives mentioned against each sentence :

25. You shall be punished for that.
(a) advice (b) prohibition
(c) threat (d) promise
26. Will you have tea ?
(a) command (b) possibility
(c) invitation (d) request

27. I used to live in Lunglei when I was a girl.
(a) discontinued habit (b) suggestion
(c) likelihood (d) strong possibility
28. We ought to love our neighbours.
(a) determination (b) moral obligation
(c) arrangement (d) none of these
29. You should have been more careful.
(a) future obligation (b) wish
(c) strong desire (d) past obligation

Directions (Question 30 – 35) : Analyze the given sentences and choose the correct option :

30. He came, he saw, he conquered.
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence
(c) compound sentence
31. Everything comes to a diligent and patient man.
(a) compound sentence (b) simple sentence
(c) complex sentence
32. Tell me where you live.
(a) complex sentence (b) compound sentence
(c) simple sentence
33. Spare the rod and spoil the child.
(a) simple sentence (b) complex sentence
(c) compound sentence
34. He will pay only under compulsion.
(a) complex sentence (b) simple sentence
(c) compound sentence
35. If I make a promise, I keep it.
(a) complex sentence (b) compound sentence
(c) compound sentence

Directions (Questions 36 – 40) : In the given sentences, pick the correct clause of the verbs underlined :

36. It is clear that he was guilty.
(a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
(c) Adjective clause (d) Relative clause
37. You will succeed if you work hard.
(a) Adverb clause (b) Adjective clause
(c) Principal clause (d) Noun clause
38. The boy who has long hair failed in the test.
(a) Adverb clause (b) Noun clause
(c) Adjective clause (d) Relative clause

39. No one knows who he is.

(a) Adverb clause

(c) Adjective clause

(b) Noun clause

(d) Principal clause

40. You can put it wherever you like

(a) Adjective clause

(c) Noun clause

(b) Adverb clause

(d) Relative clause

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