

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF SUB-INSPECTOR UNDER FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES & CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, NOVEMBER, 2018

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* (1) in about 300 words of the given topics:
 - Internet influence on Kids
 - Domestic Violence
 - Effects of Pollution

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 Nos. 1 - 16) : From the four alternatives given, choose the correct meaning of the idioms and phrases given in italics in the statement:

1. His boorish manners occasionally set his refined cousin's *teeth on edge*
 - (a) remorse
 - (b) angry
 - (c) irritated
 - (d) contempt
2. It is difficult to trust a man who *plays fast and loose*
 - (a) stand his ground
 - (b) says one thing and does another
 - (c) mind his own business
 - (d) loses his head
3. The dispute over the land *came to a head* this week
 - (a) reached a crises
 - (b) came to a stop
 - (c) was overturned
 - (d) in full swing
4. She knows the language *after a fashion*
 - (a) at the last moment
 - (b) just in time
 - (c) completely
 - (d) to a certain degree
5. Prohibition is *gall and wormwood* to the distillers
 - (a) abhorrent
 - (b) hurtful
 - (c) hateful
 - (d) profitable
6. He is *by long odds* the greatest living magician
 - (a) probably
 - (b) not by fact
 - (c) most decidedly
 - (d) very far

7. He turns even his errors *to account*
(a) accept (b) remember
(c) submit (d) profits by them
8. The soldiers were *true to their salt*
(a) unfaithful to their employers (b) faithful to their employers
(c) hard-working (d) brave
9. His plan was *nipped in the bud*
(a) worthy of praise (b) nurtured
(c) made it fail before it could mature (d) successful
10. Go *fly a kite*
(a) board an aeroplane (b) go sky-diving
(c) go away and leave me alone (d) go and enquire
11. The young man *made ducks and drakes* of his inheritance
(a) gave up (b) made use of
(c) digress (d) squandered
12. When the discussions came to financial matters, I felt like a *fish out of water*
(a) one out of his element (b) enlightened
(c) out of breath (d) almost dead
13. When I entered the house everything was *at sixes and sevens*
(a) in accordance (b) in disorder
(c) at par (d) in sync
14. This unexpected new difficulty *put me in my kettle*
(a) burned my efforts (b) roused me to do my best
(c) turned everything into ashes (d) made me helpless
15. They say that the banker is *on his last legs*
(a) the verge of ruin (b) completely ruined
(c) about to profit (d) made a huge profit
16. Some people convert to Christianity for *loaves and fishes*
(a) food and shelter (b) earnest prayers and devotions
(c) material benefits (d) money

Directions (Questions Nos. 17 - 28) : Read the following passage carefully and choose the appropriate answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives:

“My God, it speaks” uttered the Emperor of Brazil and the receiver of the Telephone slipped from his hand and banged aground. At the other end, Alexander Graham Bell was still on the line. This incident goes back to 1876 when at an exhibition in Philadelphia (USA), Alexander Graham Bell was giving a demonstration of his new invention. This strange instrument known as Telephone was to revolutionize life in the years to come. Bell was born at Edinborough, Scotland. He was a teacher and was dedicated to the noble cause of teaching the deaf and the dumb. Due to a severe illness, Bell was sent to Canada in 1870, where too he got engaged in helping the dumb - deaf to hear and speak. Thereafter, he shifted to the USA but continued with his work by opening a school for deaf and dumb. Bell was fond of scientific inventions and was ever engaged in making machines in his spare time. While at Boston, he tried to communicate through metal wire. His companion in this work was Watson. One day while experimenting with his instrument, Bell spoke to Watson standing at a distance. Watson was taken by a pleasant surprise as he had heard Bell clearly through his instrument. The instrument was a success and Bell patented it.

Graham Bell had some sterling qualities of head and heart. Apart from being an artist, he was a kind human being, ready to help the needy. He established an institution for the deaf and dumb children. He died in 1922 in Canada. The entire northern America paid him a tribute by hanging up their telephones for a while during his funeral.

17. What, according to the passage, was the contribution of invention of telephone ?
 - (a) interaction between two persons at some distance was possible.
 - (b) Rich people were able to communicate with others
 - (c) Graham Bell could converse with Watson regarding invention through telephone.
 - (d) It revolutionized human life.
18. Which of the following made Bell to invent television ?
 - (a) his activity in teaching
 - (b) his service to the deaf and dumb
 - (c) His keen interest in scientific inventions
 - (d) Encouragement received from Watson.
19. The teaching activity undertaken by Bell was considered 'noble' particularly because
 - (a) he was teaching the physically underprivileged persons.
 - (b) there was nobody else in the field of education
 - (c) he did not accept any salary for the job.
 - (d) he was a very famous scientist of his times.
20. Graham Bell made the telephone call of his invention to the Emperor from the city of
 - (a) Brazil
 - (b) Edinborough
 - (c) Philadelphia
 - (d) Boston
21. The word uttered by the Emperor of Brazil suggest that he was extremely
 - (a) angry
 - (b) surprised
 - (c) excited
 - (d) insulted
22. Which of the following is not mentioned in the passage as a quality of Graham Bell?
 - (a) lover of art
 - (b) kind natured person
 - (c) co-operative individual
 - (d) all above are mentioned
23. According to its use in the passage what does the word 'dedicated' mean?
 - (a) Appointed
 - (b) Devoted
 - (c) Deployed
 - (d) Religious
24. The North Americans paid their last respects to Bell by
 - (a) attending his funeral
 - (b) suspending telephone lines for sometime during funeral
 - (c) establishing an institution for the deaf and dumb
 - (d) showing their readiness to help the poor and needy
25. Bell had gone to Canada in 1870 for
 - (a) treating a patient who was seriously ill
 - (b) helping the deaf and dumb children to hear and speak
 - (c) undergoing medical treatment for himself
 - (d) devoting his full time to his invention

26. Bell establishing an institution for the deaf and dumb children shows that he was
- (a) an expert scientist
 - (b) a curious explorer
 - (c) a dedicated social worker
 - (d) genuinely emphatic towards the technology
27. According to its use in the passage what does the word 'revolutionize' mean?
- (a) Completely change the way that something is done
 - (b) to reproduce
 - (c) re assess
 - (d) ability to do several things at the same time
28. According to its use in the passage what does the word 'Patent' mean?
- (a) official right to buy an invention
 - (b) blatant
 - (c) without doubt
 - (d) official right to use or sell an invention

Directions (Questions Nos. 29 - 36) : Identify the correct form of prepositions from the alternatives given under each sentence:

29. He took ages _____ the job
- (a) over
 - (b) at
 - (c) on
 - (d) for
30. The writer is evidently enamoured _____ the subject
- (a) to
 - (b) in
 - (c) at
 - (d) of
31. He has retired _____ private life
- (a) to
 - (b) from
 - (c) into
 - (d) with
32. The teacher impressed _____ us the value of discipline.
- (a) with
 - (b) on
 - (c) upon
 - (d) to
33. The police is entrusted _____ the enforcement of law and order.
- (a) to
 - (b) with
 - (c) on
 - (d) for
34. The operation was accompanied _____ little or no pain
- (a) with
 - (b) beside
 - (c) for
 - (d) by
35. I am not concerned _____ his affairs
- (a) with
 - (b) for
 - (c) about
 - (d) at
36. His parents are naturally concerned _____ his safety
- (a) with
 - (b) about
 - (c) for
 - (d) at

Directions (Questions Nos. 37 - 42) : Identify the parts of speech of each underlined words:

37. You know well enough what I mean
(a) Noun (b) Preposition
(c) Adverb (d) Verb
38. There is much sense in what he says
(a) Noun (b) Verb
(c) Adverb (d) Adjective
39. Her sobs could be heard in the still of night.
(a) Noun (b) Adjective
(c) Verb (d) Pronoun
40. The moral law is above the civil law
(a) Noun (b) Preposition
(c) Adjective (d) Adverb
41. He was beaten at his own game
(a) Noun (b) Adverb
(c) Adjective (d) Preposition
42. The town itself is not very large
(a) Noun (b) Verb
(c) Pronoun (d) Adjective

Directions (Questions Nos. 43 - 48) : Use the correct verb-form to fill in the blanks :

43. If she _____ hard, she would have passed.
(a) had been working (b) worked
(c) had worked (d) works
44. The train _____ before we reach the station
(a) will have left (b) will leave
(c) will be leaving (d) will have been leaving
45. You _____ when I entered the room
(a) had slept (b) will be sleeping
(c) slept (d) were sleeping
46. We _____ readymade garments abroad
(a) export (b) have exported
(c) are exporting (d) will exporting
47. My sister _____ treatment these days.
(a) takes (b) has been taking
(c) is taking (d) took
48. My brother never _____ a lie.
(a) told (b) tells
(c) tell (d) will tell

Directions (Questions Nos. 49 - 53) : Analyse the following sentences and choose the answer from the given options :

49. Nothing can describe the confusion of thought which I felt when I sank into the water.
(a) Compound Sentence (b) Simple Sentence
(c) Complex Sentence
50. The house reared and the rider was thrown off.
(a) Complex Sentence (b) Compound Sentence
(c) Simple Sentence
51. He not only robbed the poor child but also murdered her.
(a) Compound Sentence (b) Simple Sentence
(c) Complex Sentence
52. The postman looked very tired at the end of the day.
(a) Compound Sentence (b) Simple Sentence
(c) Complex Sentence
53. The news that the enemy landed spread like wild fire.
(a) Compound Sentence (b) Simple Sentence
(c) Complex Sentence

Directions (Questions Nos. 54 - 59) : Pick the correct clause of the words underlined in the given sentences :

54. When the sun set he returned home
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverb Clause of Time (d) Adverb Clause of Condition
55. He met a girl whose eyes were blue
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverb Clause of Reason
(c) Adjective Clause (d) Adverb Clause of Comparison
56. That you have come pleases me
(a) Adjective Clause (b) Noun Clause
(c) Adverb Clause (d) Adverb Clause of Place
57. He drew the sword that he might defend himself
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverb Clause of Purpose (d) Adverb Clause of Reason
58. He was very pleased that you have passed
(a) Adverb Clause of Reason (b) Adverb Clause of Purpose
(c) Adverb Clause of Result (d) Adjective Clause
59. He is the boy who broke the window
(a) Adverb Clause of Reason (b) Adjective Clause
(c) Adverb Clause of Result (d) Noun Clause

Directions (Questions Nos. 60 - 64) : Identify the correct notion expressed by each of the following sentences by choosing one of the alternatives given:

60. That razor is sharper than this one
(a) Superlative (b) Comparative
(c) Positive (d) Affirmative
61. There's no fool like an old fool.
(a) Affirmative (b) Interrogative
(c) Negative (d) Assertive
62. No other democracy in the world is as large as India
(a) Positive (b) Superlative
(c) Comparative (d) Imperative
63. It is useless to offer bread to a man who is dying of thirst.
(a) Affirmative (b) Assertive
(c) Negative (d) Exclamatory
64. I care very little what he says about me.
(a) Affirmative (b) Assertive
(c) Negative (d) Interrogative

Directions (Questions Nos. 65 - 72) : Choose the word which best fills the blanks from the following options:

65. The criminal seems to have acted in _____ with three others
(a) coalition (b) collision
(c) collusion (d) cohesion
66. He knew everything better than anybody else and it was an affront to his _____ vanity that you should disagree with him.
(a) overstrung (b) overweening
(c) overwhelming (d) overwrought
67. Soft minded individuals are _____ to embrace all kinds of superstitions.
(a) disposed (b) eager
(c) reluctant (d) proper
68. As a last _____ he has appealed to the Principal
(a) method (b) resort
(c) chance (d) course
69. He is extremely _____, he would believe anything you tell him.
(a) affable (b) reliable
(c) believable (d) gullible
70. The other judge gave his note of _____
(a) decent (b) dissent
(c) descent (d) different

71. The point you are raising is not _____ to the subject.
(a) pertinent (b) required
(c) fit (d) proper
72. The truth had been _____ into them.
(a) spoken (b) drummed
(c) dictated (d) digested

Directions (Questions Nos. 73 - 80) : Identify the most suitable meaning of the underline words in the following sentences:

73. Exercise is benevolent to good health
(a) bounteous (b) beneficent
(c) favourable (d) beneficial
74. The bullet struck a wall and was diverted from the course.
(a) reflected (b) deflected
(c) twisted (d) none
75. Man has a strong desire to collect wealth.
(a) attain (b) conduce
(c) accumulate (d) aspire
76. With her childish innocence, she won the hearts of everyone present there.
(a) impish (b) roguish
(c) subversive (d) childlike
77. It is interesting to correspond the history of the 19th century with its literature.
(a) corroborate (b) connect
(c) correlate (d) alight
78. We have received many anomalous letters about this issue
(a) anologous (b) anonymous
(c) synonymous (d) appraisal
79. Timing is important in finance, aspecially if you want to make a profit
(a) key (b) impervious
(c) critical (d) involved
80. The enemy had a reputation for engaging in sneak attacks so we were frequently on the alert
(a) inevitably (b) mostly
(c) occassionally (d) constantly