1. Write a précis of the given passage (15)

It is, no doubt, true that we cannot go through life without sorrow. There can be no sunshine without shade. We must not complain that roses have thorns, but rather be grateful that thorns bear flowers. Our existence here is so complex that we must expect much sorrow and suffering. Many people distress and torment themselves about the mystery of existence. But although a good man may at times be angry with the world, it is certain that no man who did his duty in it is ever so discontented with the world. The world is a looking glass; if you smile it smiles; if you frown, it frowns back. If you look at it through a red glass, all seems red and rosy; if through a blue one, all blue; if through a smoked one, all dull and dingy. Always try, then, to look at the bright side of things; almost everything in the world has a bright side. There are some persons whose smile, the sound of whose voice, whose very presence seems like a ray of sunshine, and brightens a whole room. Greet everybody with a bright smile, kind words and a pleasant welcome. It is not enough to love those who are near and dear to us. We must show that we always do so. While, however, we should be grateful, and enjoy to the full the innumerable blessings of life, we cannot expect to have no sorrow or anxieties. Life has been described as a comedy to those who think, and a tragedy to those who feel? It is indeed a tragedy at times and a comedy very often but, as a rule, it is what we choose to make it. “No evil,” said Socrates, “can happen to a good man, either in Life or in Death.”

2. On behalf of the Director, ABC Department, draft a letter to all sub-divisions, requesting them to take steps to - (20)

(a) to improve cleanliness
(b) inculcate a spirit of courtesy and politeness.
(c) to maintain cordial staff relations.

3. Write an essay on any one of the given topics :- (30)

(a) Professional code of ethics
(b) Tourism in Mizoram
(c) Sports and Mizo youth
(d) The individual and social responsibilities
4. Correct the given sentences :-
   (a) She takes generally her breakfast at 8 a.m.
   (b) It is very cold to go out for a walk today.
   (c) All his family members are planning to visit Jammu and Kashmir.
   (d) Not with standing the present degradation in the society, he believes in fair means even today.
   (e) He seldom or ever refuses a genuine request.

5. Change the following sentences into Direct/ Indirect Narrations :-
   (a) The dying man said , “ My sons, I am leaving you a treasure buried in my fields.”
   (b) He said to his parents, “ I have done my best and can do no more.”
   (c) I said to Pari, “ Can you keep it for me till tomorrow?”
   (d) The Prime Minister declared that national integrity would be preserved at all costs.
   (e) Ram tells me that I am smart.

6. Change the following sentences into Passive/ Active Voice :-
   (a) You should switch off the electricity when changing a fuse.
   (b) They discovered a new pill to stimulate the appetite.
   (c) I shall have saved enough money to buy a house by 2020.
   (d) Milk is contained in this bottle.
   (e) We were alarmed at the report.

7. Translate the following to good and clearly understandable Mizo language :-

   SECTION - A
   (5×2 =10)
   (a) My God, my God, why have you forsaken me ?
   (b) The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.
   (c) Empty vessels make much noise.
   (d) The more we get the more we desire.
   (e) Lalthanhawla is a near relative of mine.

   SECTION - B
   (10)
   Happy is the man who acquires the habit of reading when he is young. He has secured a life-long source of pleasure, instruction and inspiration. So long as he has his beloved books, he need never feel lonely. He always has a pleasant occupation of leisure moments, he that he need never feel bored. He is the possessor of wealth more precious than gold. Ruskin calls books, “Kings’ Treasures” – treasuries filled, not with gold and silver and precious stones, but with riches much more valuable than these – knowledge, noble thoughts and high ideals. Poor indeed is the man who does not read, and empty is his life.

   The blessings which the reading habit confers on its possessor are many provided we choose the right kind of books. Reading gives the highest kind of pleasure. Some books we read simply for pleasure and amusement – for example, good novels. And novels and books of imagination must have their place in everybody’s reading. When we are tired, or the brain is weary with serious study, it is a healthy recreation to lose ourselves in some absorbing story written by a master hand.

   Books are the most faithful of friends. Our friends may change, or die; but our books are always patiently waiting to talk to us. They are never cross, peevish, or unwilling to converse, as our friends sometimes are. No wonder a reader becomes a “book-lover.”