

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

LIMITED DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS OF CONSTABLE FOR PROMOTION TO ASSISTANT SUB-INSPECTOR (UB) UNDER HOME (POLICE) DEPARTMENTS, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. SEPTEMBER, 2019

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

FM : 100

Marks for each question is indicated against it.

1. Write an essay on **any one** of the following topics in not less than 300 words. **(20)**
 - The Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016
 - Promotion of Tourism in Mizoram
 - Are frozen foods good for health?

2. Write a précis of the following passage not exceeding one-third of the original length. Give an appropriate title. **(20)**

Self-reliance is the pilgrim's best staff, the worker's best tool. It is the master-key that unlocks all the difficulties of life. 'Help yourself and Heaven will help you' and 'Do your best and God will do the rest' are maxims that receives daily confirmation. Help from within always strengthens, but help from without invariably weakens the recipient. The habit of depending on others tends to weaken the intellectual faculties and paralyze the judgment. The struggle against adverse circumstances has, on the contrary, a strengthening effect, like that of the pure mountain air on an enfeebled frame.

This is a lesson which is not taught in academic institutions nowadays. The vice of the modern system of education is that it lays down too many royal roads to knowledge. The difficulties, which formerly compelled the student to think and labour for himself are now most carefully removed. The race of thorough and complete scholars is dying out. Our young men are equipped to such an extent with manuals that explain everything and guides that go everywhere, that they find no occasion for thought. Why take any trouble at all when so many are willing to relieve you of it?

3. Draft an Office Memorandum on behalf of the Deputy Director, Higher and Technical Education to all Heads of Circles, for the reduction of at least 50% consumption of petrol on all staff cars under them in view of the need to conserve petrol. **(20)**

4. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Mira lives in a place called Mica, which is far away from the hustle and bustle of cities. It is a quiet, peaceful place where days are full of sunlight and nights are filled with darkness. Night is ushered in at dusk; lamps are lit and crickets begin chirping. Sometimes night is dark and deep, singing a lullaby for the tired, sometimes it is awash with moonlight. As darkness descends, everything becomes quiet and peaceful. The body gets tired after the day's work is done; it is the time to take rest and sleep.

After the sun sets, nature looks different in the stillness of the night with all its magic and mystery. Behold! The magic of great magnitude unfolds before your eyes. You can see a dark sky studded with twinkling stars and the shy moon. Moonlight plays on the ground, creating fascinating shadows. You can hear mysterious sounds of nocturnal creatures. The hooting of the owl and the croaking of frogs add to the sound effect. The fragrance of flowers fills the air. People glide into dreams and wake up when the first rays of the sun dispel darkness at dawn. It is a new beginning.

Natasha lives in a congested part of a big city, a city that never sleeps. In fact, it comes more alive after sunset when the city gets transformed into a luminous place. Floodlights eliminate darkness after six o'clock in the evening. The flavours of city night never ebb; the sky looks dark but dazzling city lights push the stars into oblivion; the twinkling little stars become almost invisible. Instead of shooting stars, airplanes hoot through the night sky. The noxious fumes of speeding vehicles and the honk of traffic fill the air with noise pollution, whatever the hour of the day.

The immensity of the nocturnal sky is lost to that child. The moon pales into insignificance as seen through the haze of polluted air. In fact, a child who has lived all its life in an apartment block, from where all it sees is just a patch of the grey sky, is unaware of the magic of a moonlit night. Light is just a switch away, on the wall. Night is just an extension of the day, with nothing to differentiate the two. Artificial illumination invades natural darkness. It is said that even an ordinary 60 watt bulb reduces dark-sky visibility by three or four degrees. This generation has been deprived of the dark, starlit sky; this generation is subject to light pollution.

- (a) What kind of creatures are 'nocturnal creatures?' (3)
- (b) What is meant by the phrase 'a city that never sleeps'? (3)
- (c) Why is night just an extension of the day in a city? (3)
- (d) What is light pollution? (3)
- (e) Find words in the passage which means the same as (2)
 - (i) crowded (ii) size
 - (iii) decrease (iv) state in which something is forgotten
- (f) Why do the flavours of city night never ebb? (3)
- (g) What lovely sounds do people living far away from the hustle and bustle of cities hear at night? (3)

5. Rewrite the following sentences correctly: (5×1=5)

- (a) We discussed about the matter yesterday.
- (b) I have ordered for three cups of coffee.
- (c) I suggest you to apply for the post.
- (d) He described about the scenery.
- (e) She told she would not come.

6. Rewrite the following sentences as directed. (5×1=5)

- (a) The police *captured* the fugitive. **(state whether the verb given in italics is transitive or intransitive?)**
- (b) By the time you have finished shopping, I shall have eaten. **(identify the tense)**
- (c) 'I have never done such a thing,' she maintained. **(rewrite into reported speech)**
- (d) I cannot go to the concert _____ I'm broke. **(insert appropriate conjunction)**
- (e) India is a noble, gorgeous land, teeming _____ natural wealth. **(insert appropriate preposition)**

7. Make meaningful sentences with any five (5) of the following Idioms and Phrases. (5×2=10)

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| (a) Hold one's tongue | (b) Kill two birds with one stone |
| (c) Hit below the belt | (d) Gall and wormwood |
| (e) Blessing in disguise | (f) Make a mountain of a mole-hill |
| (g) Burn the midnight oil | (h) Add fuel to the fire |
| (i) Call a spade a spade | (j) In black and white |

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