

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

TECHNICAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF GRADE-V OF MIZORAM AGRICULTURE SERVICE/AEO UNDER AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM. JUNE -2019

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

The figures in the margin indicate full marks for the questions.

Attempt all questions.

1. Write an essay on any one of the following topics: **(10)**
- Managing Natural Wealth for a Better Life
 - When money speaks, the truth is silent
 - Charms and Challenges of the Cyber World

2. Write a précis of the given passage: **(15)**

No country can progress unless it pays adequate attention to the development of children. A child is the future citizen of the country. Only those children who grow in a healthy atmosphere can contribute to the development and strength of their country. Our country has a large population of children. It is our duty to make sure that they are provided with the opportunities for good health and education. A large number of children, because of poverty, do not go to school or are withdrawn from schools before they complete their elementary education and are forced to start working at a young and tender age in factories, brick-kilns, restaurants, hotels, shops etc. This hampers their growth physically, mentally, and emotionally. They grow with hatred and agony and fail to become worthy citizens of the nation. A child in the age group of 6-14 years is supposed to be in the school. But unfortunately, of the 200 million Indian children in this age group, about 11.3 million are labourers. The estimate by NGOs puts it at 60 million, of which 2,00,000 work as domestic help and almost an equal number as bonded labourers. These children become vulnerable to physical and mental exploitation, they are starved, beaten and even sexually exploited. This is a serious problem and is generally known as 'child abuse'. Right to Education Act, 2009 provides for education of all children between the age of 6-14 years of age. Once this cherished goal of education for all is achieved, the state of our children will be much better.

3. Draft a Circular to be signed by the Secretary, Finance Department, on the need for adopting measures of financial economy. **(10)**

4. Identify the Idioms and Phrases and state their functions in the given sentences: **(10×1=10)**

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| (a) To forgive is divine. | (b) All that glitters is not gold. |
| (c) He succeeded in the long run. | (d) He lives by his pen. |
| (e) She wants medical advice. | (f) This house is put on the market. |
| (g) We shall fight tooth and nail for our rights. | (h) I visit her off and on. |
| (i) He made a pile during the war. | (j) You are working against time. |

5. Expand the idea contained in the following passages: **(2×5=10)**

- (a) Procrastination is the thief of time.
- (b) However mean your life is, meet it and live it;
Do not shun it and call it hard names.

6. Read the following passage and answer the questions given thereafter:

One cannot be truly human and civilized unless one looks upon not only fellow-men but all creation with the eyes of a friend. Throughout India, edicts carved on rocks and iron pillars are reminders that 22 centuries ago Emperor Ashoka defined a king's duty as not merely to protect citizens and punish wrong-doers but also to preserve animal life and forest trees. Ashoka was the first and perhaps the only monarch until very recently, to forbid the killing of a large number of species of animals for sports or food. He went further, regretting the carnage of his military conquests and enjoining upon his successors to find "their only pleasure in the peace that comes through righteousness." Along with the rest of mankind, we in India – in spite of Ashoka – have been guilty of wanton disregard for the sources of our sustenance. We share your concern at the rapid deterioration of flora and fauna. Some of our own wild life has been wiped out, miles of forests with beautiful old trees, mute witnesses of history, have been destroyed. Even though our industrial development is in its infancy, and at its most difficult stage, we are taking various steps to deal with incipient environmental imbalances; the more so because of our concern for the human being – a species which is also imperilled. In poverty he is threatened by malnutrition and disease, in weakness by war, in riches by the pollution brought about by his own prosperity.

On the one hand the rich look askance at our continuing poverty, on the other they warn us against their own methods. We do not wish to impoverish the environment any further and yet we cannot for a moment forget the grim poverty of large numbers of people. Are not poverty and need the greatest polluters? For instance, unless we are in a position to provide employment and purchasing power for the daily necessities of the tribal people and those who live in or around jungles, we cannot prevent them from despoiling the vegetation. When they themselves feel deprived, how can we urge the preservation of animals? How can we speak to those who live in villages or slums about keeping the oceans, the rivers and air clean when their own lives are contaminated at the source? The environment cannot be improved in conditions of poverty. Nor can poverty be eradicated without the use of science and technology.

- (a) How does Mrs. Gandhi describe a person who looks upon his fellow-men and the world with friendly eyes? Were Indians aware of this in ancient times? (2)
- (b) The environment around us has been destroyed. What are the examples given? (2)
- (c) It is not only the environment but man also who is in danger. What are the various dangers that face man? (2)
- (d) What have Indians down the ages respected? (2)
- (e) Find synonyms of the given words: (4×½=2)
 - (i) without justification
 - (ii) placed in danger
 - (iii) without liking
 - (iv) just starting

7. Identify the parts of speech of the underlined words: (10×1=10)

- (a) Slow down.
- (b) You really should see this art exhibit, son.
- (c) I cannot go, for I have much to do.
- (d) Diplomacy is the best tactic.
- (e) He fell by the stairs.
- (f) Come down.
- (g) The ship sailed down the river.
- (h) He who hesitates is lost.
- (i) What time is it?
- (j) All spoke in his favour.

8. Answer the following:

A. Analyse the following sentences:

(5×1=5)

- (i) The horse and the rider was thrown.
- (ii) He says what he means, and he means what he says.
- (iii) I am satisfied with things as they are.
- (iv) She went because she was invited.
- (v) His courage won him honour.

B. Rewrite the following sentences as directed:

(5×1=5)

- (i) There is nothing better than a busy life. (*into Question*)
- (ii) I called him, but he gave me no answer. (*into Simple sentence*)
- (iii) With a great effort he lifted the box. (*into Compound sentence*)
- (iv) I was the first to arrive. (*into Complex sentence*)
- (v) Grant me what I ask. (*into Simple sentence*)

C. Combine the following sentences as directed:

(5×1=5)

- (i) I encouraged him. He persevered. (*into Simple sentence using Participle*)
- (ii) The bus was wrecked. No one was hurt. (*into Compound sentence*)
- (iii) Honesty is the best policy. Have you never heard of it? (*into Complex sentence*)
- (iv) She will get ready. Do not go till then. (*into Complex sentence containing Adverb Clause*)
- (v) You are in the right. He is in the wrong. (*into Compound sentence*)

9. Do as directed:

(10)

- (a) The firemen put out the fire immediately. (*Replace the underlined words with one word*)
- (b) Two-thirds of the city _____ in ruins. (*Fill in with suitable verb*)
- (c) What an awful weather! (*Correct the sentence*)
- (d) All failed except _____. (*he / him*)
- (e) You are a pretty fellow. (*Name the figure of speech*)
- (f) Speak clearly if you would be understood. (*Punctuate the sentence*)
- (g) They only work when they have no money. (*Rewrite to improve the sentence*)
- (h) It is not _____ who are to blame. (*we / us*)
- (i) The cost of all these articles _____ risen. (*Fill in with suitable verb*)
- (j) I didn't hurt you, _____? (*Add question tag*)

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