

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF SERICULTURE EXTENSION OFFICER UNDER SERICULTURE DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER, 2018

GENERAL ENGLISH PAPER - I

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 given topics in not more than 300 words.
 - The relevance of Sericulture in the present time
 - Pollution and its consequences
 - The Effects of Religion in our Society

SECTION - B

All questions carry equal mark of 1 each. Attempt all questions.

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

Directions (Question Nos. 1 - 8) : Indicate the correct meaning of the given idioms and phrases:

1. Fleet of foot
 - (a) able to run fast
 - (b) many people
 - (c) many shoes
 - (d) many feet
2. Ace in the hole
 - (a) hidden strength
 - (b) hidden card
 - (c) card in a hole
 - (d) secret card
3. Chew the fat
 - (a) chew something for a long time
 - (b) waste time talking
 - (c) eat meat
 - (d) to lie obviously
4. Throw under the bus
 - (a) to betray someone
 - (b) to kill someone
 - (c) to hate someone
 - (d) to throw away
5. Two a penny
 - (a) costly
 - (b) cheap
 - (c) rich
 - (d) two for one

6. Back to the drawing board

- (a) to continue
- (b) to draw
- (c) to start over
- (d) to fail

7. Far cry from

- (a) to request help
- (b) want to cry
- (c) distant cry
- (d) different from

8. Off one's rocker

- (a) crazy
- (b) uncomfortable
- (c) out of one's comfort zone
- (d) not doing what you love

Directions (Question Nos. 9 - 16) : Fill in the blanks with the idioms/phrases out of the given option:

9. Come _____ or high water.

- (a) low
- (b) hell
- (c) heaven
- (d) shallow

10. Cry over spilt _____ .

- (a) water
- (b) food
- (c) milk
- (d) rice

11. It takes two to _____ .

- (a) tango
- (b) dance
- (c) converse
- (d) mingle

12. Afraid of one's own _____ .

- (a) reflection
- (b) shadow
- (c) self
- (d) being

13. Birds of a feather _____ together.

- (a) flock
- (b) fly
- (c) stay
- (d) nest

14. All's well, that _____ well.

- (a) goes
- (b) ends
- (c) starts
- (d) begins

15. Eat _____ pie.

- (a) humble
- (b) proud
- (c) apple
- (b) lots of

16. To be a good _____ .

- (a) Samaritan
- (b) Samarian
- (c) person
- (d) friend

Directions (Question Nos. 17 - 26): Read the passage carefully and complete the sentences choosing the most appropriate answer from the options provided:

I designed, after my first voyage, to spend the rest of my days at Baghdad, but it was not long ere I grew weary of an indolent life, and I put to sea a second time, with merchants of known probity. We embarked on board of a good ship, and after recommending ourselves to God, set sail. One day we landed on an island covered with several sorts of fruit-trees, but we could see neither man nor animal. We walked in the meadows, along the streams that watered them. Whilst some diverted themselves with gathering flowers, and other fruits, I took my wine and provisions, and set down near a stream betwixt two high trees, which afforded a delightful shade. I made a good meal, and afterwards fell asleep. I cannot tell how long I slept, but when I awoke the ship was no longer in view.

In this sad condition, I was ready to die with grief. I cried out in agony, beat my head and breast, and threw myself upon the ground, where I lay some time, overwhelmed by a rushing current of thoughts, each more distressing than the last. When I gazed towards the sea I could discern nothing but sky and water; but looking over the land I beheld something white; and coming down, I took what provision I had left, and went towards the object, which was so distant that at first could not distinguish what it was.

As I approached, I thought it to be a white dome, of a prodigious height and extent. I drew near to it, and walked round it; but found no door to it; and I found that I had not strength nor activity to climb it, on account of its exceeding smoothness. I made a mark at the place where I stood, and went around the dome, measuring its circumference; and lo! It was fifty full paces; and I meditated upon some means of gaining an entrance into it; but no means of accomplishing this occurred to me.

By this time the sun was about to set, and all of a sudden the sky became as dark as if it had been covered with a thick cloud. I was much astonished at this sudden darkness but much more when I found it occasioned by a bird of most extraordinary size, that came flying towards me. I remembered that I had often heard mariners speak of a miraculous bird called the roc, and conceived that the great dome which I so much admired must be her egg. Shortly afterwards, the bird alighted, and sat over the egg.

17. The antonym of *indolent* is:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| (a) lazy | (b) slothful |
| (c) lifeless | (d) active |

18. The narrator put himself to sea a second time because:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) he grew weary of an inert life | (b) he hates to be at one place |
| (c) he loves travelling | (d) he is not lethargic |

19. The nearest meaning to *probity* is:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| (a) probability | (b) poverty |
| (c) integrity | (d) urgency |

20. The sailors landed:

- | | |
|---|--|
| (a) on a large continent | (b) on a desert island |
| (c) on an island covered with fruit trees | (d) on an island filled with animals and man |

21. The narrator _____ when others went to gather flowers and fruits.

- | | |
|---|--|
| (a) set out in search of some small animals | (b) made a good meal and fell asleep |
| (c) went out in search of water | (d) climbed the tallest tree on the island |

22. The narrator chose to sit near a stream between two trees, because:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| (a) he needed water | (b) he is attracted to trees |
| (c) he wanted to fish in the stream | (d) the trees provided delightful shade |

23. When the narrator woke up from his sleep, he found:
- (a) a huge animal in front of him (b) his companions shouting out to him
(c) the ship was no longer in view (d) the ship and the sailors waiting for him
24. The nearest meaning of 'discern' is:
- (a) knowledge (b) difficulty
(c) perceive (d) concern
25. The nearest meaning of prodigious is:
- (a) productive (b) handsome
(c) attractive (d) massive
26. The darkness of the sky was caused by:
- (a) a thick cloud (b) a sudden rain
(c) a bird of most extraordinary size (d) fog

Directions (Question Nos. 27 - 32): Read the following passages carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives:

Many men and women are so money minded that they do not undertake any serious work that does not pay. They believe that it is foolish to exert themselves for study and brain work which cannot be converted into cash. 'Hard work only for money, and then plenty of play and pleasure': this seems to be their rule of life. They value intellect only as the key to material prosperity and regard personal mental development as a foolish fad. This miserable materialistic psychology is very deep rooted in all classes of society. Rich and poor, all suffer from it. An old working woman complained to me of her son's habit of occasionally buying some books, and said, "He wastes his money on books. What good are they to him? He is a carpenter, not a schoolmaster".

27. The antonym of MISERABLE is:
- (a) Deplorable (b) Pitiable
(c) Contented (d) Miserly
28. Why do many people not like to read books?
- (a) Because they have no time
(b) Because they don't like to read
(c) Because they don't think books help them get money
(d) Because they fear they would look like nerds
29. According to the passage, money minded people value:
- (a) intellect (b) hard-work
(c) material benefits (d) mental stimulation
30. Why does the old woman dislike her son's habit of reading books?
- (a) Because she thinks reading does not help in his profession
(b) Because she thinks books are evil
(c) Because she is materialistic
(d) Because she thinks reading is simply a waste of time
31. The old woman is:
- (a) is materialistic (b) is kind-hearted
(c) is rude (d) is an evil person
32. Pick out the synonym for UNDERTAKE.
- (a) Engage in (b) Assure
(c) Ensure (d) To arrange a funeral

Directions (Question Nos. 33 - 40): Pick out the correct part of speech for the words underlined in each sentence:

33. People know him to be a kind man.
(a) Noun (b) Pronoun
(c) Verb (d) Adverb
34. Honesty is a character which only a few possess.
(a) Noun (b) Pronoun
(c) Verb (d) Adverb
35. All the neighbour's children are attending a summer camp in the cold northern mountains.
(a) Noun (b) Pronoun
(c) Adverb (d) Adjective
36. Ah! What a relief.
(a) Preposition (b) Conjunction
(c) Interjection (d) Adverb
37. I would go with you, only I have no money.
(a) Conjunction (b) Preposition
(c) Interjection (d) Adjective
38. You are the master of what you do.
(a) Noun (b) Pronoun
(c) Verb (d) Adjective
39. You must talk less and work more.
(a) Noun (b) Pronoun
(c) Verb (d) Adverb
40. At thirty a change came over him.
(a) Conjunction (b) preposition
(c) Interjection (d) Adjective

Directions (Question Nos. 41 – 48) : Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions:

41. The boxing match will take place _____ Madison Square Garden.
(a) in (b) on
(c) out (d) from
42. Place the chair _____ the table.
(a) opposite (b) opposing
(c) oppose (d) from
43. We took a walk _____ the lake.
(a) on (b) by
(c) under (d) over
44. My parents lived in that house _____ ages.
(a) from (b) on
(c) for (d) by
45. We drove _____ the coastline of California.
(a) onto (b) along
(c) in (d) from

46. It was discovered _____ by accident.
(a) on (b) by
(c) from (d) to
47. She was _____ the impression that he was French even though he was Spanish.
(a) under (b) from
(c) over (d) besides
48. He stood _____ the pedestal.
(a) on (b) of
(c) to (d) in

Directions (Question Nos. 49 – 56) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct option:

49. He will be going to school.
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative
(c) Interrogative (d) Assertive
50. What wonderful news!
(a) Assertive (b) Exclamatory
(c) Negative (d) Affirmative
51. What will you be doing?
(a) Interrogative (b) Affirmative
(c) Assertive (d) Imperative
52. You should exercise more.
(a) Interrogative (b) Affirmative
(c) Assertive (d) Imperative
53. He is a humble man.
(a) Interrogative (b) Affirmative
(c) Assertive (d) Imperative
54. Janet never went to the market.
(a) Interrogative (b) Affirmative
(c) Negative (d) Imperative
55. Please move away.
(a) Interrogative (b) Affirmative
(c) Imperative (d) Negative
56. He ate shrimp for dinner.
(a) Active Voice (b) Passive Voice
(c) Statement (d) Imperative

Directions (Question Nos. 57 – 59) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct option:

57. He ran out of energy, so he stopped for a short rest.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Compound Sentence
(c) Complex Sentence
58. The music is too loud for my ears.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Compound Sentence
(c) Complex Sentence
59. After the Tsunami hit, there was chaos everywhere.
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Compound Sentence
(c) Complex Sentence

Directions (Question Nos. 60 - 64): Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct one from the options given:

60. Sheena came because she was invited to the party.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence
61. Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence
62. They always win who never give up.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence
63. Man is guided by reason and beast by instinct.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence
64. His sheer perseverance won him the medal.
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence
(c) Complex sentence

Directions (Question Nos. 65 – 69) : Use the content to help you choose the right answer:

65. The man had nothing for several days and was dying for a piece of bread.
Q. Here, piece of bread refers to?
(a) Food (b) Water
(c) Shelter (d) Booze
66. Her voice was so bad that the people found it obnoxious.
Q. The antonym of obnoxious would be?
(a) Pleasant (b) Exciting
(c) Abhorrent (d) Nasty
67. When she was told that she had to be in New York for the photo-shoot, she felt euphoric.
Q. The synonym of Euphoric would be?
(a) Pleased (b) Sad
(c) Bummed (d) Thrilled
68. There was an accident the other day, four people died, 3 were injured and a lot of damage was done to the surrounding neighbourhood.
Q. Select the best word to describe the event.
(a) Disastrous (b) Killing
(c) Unpleasant (d) Unnerving
69. When he was a little child, he was extremely short tempered, but now, it is as if he has been reborn as a Saint.
Q. From the above sentence, you could say a saint is very.
(a) Gentle and mild tempered (b) Arrogant and rude
(c) Proud and selfish (d) Self centred and annoying

Directions (Question Nos. 70 - 75) : Choose the right alternative from the given options to fill in the gaps:

70. The handwriting of the doctor is totally _____.
- (a) Eligible (b) Illegal
(c) Illegible (d) Edible
71. She seemed like a very _____ person.
- (a) humble (b) humility
(c) humbled (d) humiliated
72. They did not want to invite any outsiders as it was their tribe's _____ not to do so.
- (a) traditional (b) tradition
(c) traditioner (d) traditionary
73. Who is she batting her _____ at now?
- (a) eye (b) lips
(c) eyelashes (d) eyebrows
74. She is very _____ wouldn't you say?
- (a) beautiful (b) beauty
(c) beautician (d) beautify
75. He was _____ complaining about the food.
- (a) continue (b) continuously
(c) gradually (d) continued

Directions (Questions nos. 76 – 80) : Fill in the blanks with the appropriate form of the words given below:

76. How are you so _____ to pain?
- (a) tolerant (b) tolerance
(c) tolerantly (d) toleration
77. The _____ between these two teams live on.
- (a) rivalry (b) rival
(c) rivals (d) grudge
78. Did you see Dr. Raman's _____ today?
- (a) presenter (b) presentation
(c) presenting (d) presented
79. I find this topic rather _____.
- (a) intrigued (b) intriguing
(c) integrity (d) intruigal
80. I can't help but _____ at the joke.
- (a) laughing (b) laughed
(c) laugh (d) laughter