

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER UNDER SCHOOL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT JULY, 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 of the following topics in not more than 300 words: **(20)**
- Child Labour
  - Gender equality in India
  - Family Planning

#### **SECTION - B** **(80 Marks)**

*All questions carry equal marks of 1 each. Attempt all questions.  
This Section should be answered only on the OMR Response Sheet provided.*

**Directions ( Questions 1 – 8 ) : Indicate the correct meaning of the given idioms and phrases:**

1. At one's wit's end
- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| (a) Perplexed | (b) Clear up  |
| (c) Explain   | (d) Enlighten |
2. At close quarters
- |                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) Close examinations | (b) Live near to each other |
| (c) In love            | (d) Live far to each other  |
3. As fit as a fiddle
- |                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) Very weak                      | (b) Recovering from illness |
| (c) Looks fit but not actually fit | (d) None of the above       |
4. An apple of discord
- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) Cause of wealth    | (b) Cause of illness |
| (c) Cause of happiness | (d) Cause of quarrel |
5. At dagger's drawn
- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) To have bitter enmity | (b) To be unknown       |
| (c) To be friendly        | (d) To be very familiar |
6. At sixes and Sevens
- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| (a) In perfect order | (b) Very happy |
| (c) In disorder      | (d) Very sad   |

7. Blow one's trumpet  
(a) To praise other (b) To praise the leader  
(c) To praise own self (d) To praise community
8. Eat humble pie  
(a) To forgive (b) To apologize  
(c) To request (d) To order

**Directions (Questions 9 – 16): Fill in the blanks with the idioms/phrases out of the given options:**

9. To hit the nail right on the \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Head (b) Top  
(c) Spot (d) Eye
10. The English test was \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) A piece of cake (b) A piece of sweet  
(c) An easy cake (d) An eye for an eye
11. “\_\_\_\_\_ John, I'm sure your performance will be great.”  
(a) Beat around the bush (b) Break a leg  
(c) Hit the sack (d) Miss the boat
12. Our boss expects us to show up in his office \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) With bag and baggage (b) For good  
(c) At the drop of a hat (d) Come hell or high water
13. Why don't you just \_\_\_\_\_ and tell me where you hid my phone.  
(a) Beat around the bush (b) Cut to the chase  
(c) Slap on the wrist (d) Add fuel to the fire
14. I hardly see him, I only see him \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Now and then (b) Time and again  
(c) Once in a blue moon (d) Over and over
15. When I walked inside the room, everyone was quiet. I began to \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) Smell something (b) Let the cat out of the bag  
(c) Smell a rat (d) Cut a fine figure
16. It was a very \_\_\_\_\_ and we are lucky to be alive.  
(a) Narrow escape (b) Narrow line  
(c) Uphill task (d) Lame excuse

**Directions for the following 3 (three) passages: Read the following passages carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions out of the four alternatives:**

**Passage – 1 : (Questions 17 – 21)**

Cozette could have been a pretty child, but she was thin and pale and her eyes were stained with weeping. She was dressed in her thin torn cotton dress and she shivered all the time. Here and there on her body were blue marks from the beatings that her mistress had given her. Her naked legs were red and rough. When she spoke, her voice trembled. Everything about the child, her looks, her behaviour, her speech, her silence, every small gesture she made, showed a terrible fear. She was so afraid that, even though she was wet through, she dared not go near the fire to warm herself, but sat shivering in a corner of the room.

17. Cozette could not be a pretty child because  
(a) She was pale and emaciated (b) She was weeping  
(c) She was scantily dressed (d) She was trembling with fear
18. Cozette's voice trembled because  
(a) She was feeling cold (b) She was frightened  
(c) There was no fire near her (d) She was wearing a thin, cotton dress
19. Cozette's terrible fear is conveyed most vividly by the description of  
(a) Her constant shivering (b) Her tear-stained eyes  
(c) Her trembling voice (d) Her inability to go near the fire
20. The cause of Cozette's fear is explained by  
(a) Her pale appearance (b) Her torn dress  
(c) The blue marks on her body (d) Her speech
21. The word 'gesture' means:  
(a) An act or remark as a sign of attitude (b) The manner of walking  
(c) A formal speech (d) Polite behaviour

**Passage – 2 : (Questions 22 – 26)**

At this stage of civilisation, when many nations are brought in to close and vital contact for good and evil, it is essential, as never before, that their gross ignorance of one another should be diminished, that they should begin to understand a little of one another's historical experience and resulting mentality. It is the fault of the English to expect the people of other countries to react as they do, to political and international situations. Our genuine goodwill and good intentions are often brought to nothing, because we expect other people to be like us. This would be corrected if we knew the history, not necessarily in detail but in broad outlines, of the social and political conditions which have given to each nation its present character.

22. According to the author, 'Mentality' of a nation is mainly a product of its:  
(a) Present character (b) International position  
(c) Politics (d) History
23. The character of a nation is the result of its:  
(a) Gross ignorance (b) Cultural heritage  
(c) Socio-political conditions (d) Mentality
24. The need for a greater understanding between nations:  
(a) Is more today than ever before (b) Was always there  
(c) Is no longer there (d) Will always be there
25. Englishmen like others to react to political situations like:  
(a) Others (b) Us  
(c) Themselves (d) Each others
26. According to the author, his countrymen should:  
(a) Read the story of other nations (b) Not react to other actions  
(c) Have a better understanding of other nations (d) Have vital contacts with other nations

**Passage – 3 : (Questions 27 – 32)**

The assault on the purity of the environment is the price that we pay for many of the benefits of the modern technology. For the advantage of automotive transportation, we pay a price in smog-induced diseases; for the powerful effects of new insecticides, we pay a price in dwindling wildlife and disturbances in the relation of living things and their surroundings; for nuclear power, we risk the biological hazards of radiation. By increasing agricultural production with fertilizers, we worsen water pollution.

The highly developed nations of the world are not only the immediate beneficiaries of the good that technology can do; they are also the first victims of environmental diseases that technology breeds. In the past, the environmental effects which accompanied technological progress were restricted to a small area and for relatively short time. The new hazards are neither local nor brief. Modern air pollution covers vast areas of continents: radioactive fallout from the nuclear explosion is worldwide. Radioactive pollutants now on the earth surface will be found there for generations, and in case of Carbon-14, for thousands of years.

27. The widespread use of insecticides has:

- (a) Reduced the number of wild animals.
- (b) Caused imbalance in the relationship between living beings and their environment.
- (c) Eliminated diseases by killing mosquitoes and flies.
- (d) Caused biological hazards.

28. The passage emphasizes that modern technology:

- (a) Is an unmixed blessing
- (b) Has caused serious hazards to life
- (c) Has produced powerful chemicals
- (d) Has benefitted highly developed nations.

29. According to the passage the increasing use of fertilizers is responsible for:

- (a) Abundance of food
- (b) Disturbance in the ecological system
- (c) Water pollution
- (d) Increase in diseases

30. Nuclear radiation causes:

- (a) Biological hazards
- (b) Ecological imbalance
- (c) Water pollution
- (d) Local hazards

31. The harmful effects of modern technology are:

- (a) Widespread but short-lived
- (b) Widespread and long-lasting
- (c) Limited and long-lasting
- (d) Severe but short-lived

32. Radioactive pollutants:

- (a) Are limited in their effect
- (b) Will infect the atmosphere for thousands of years
- (c) Will be on the surface of earth for a very long time
- (d) Will dissipate in short span of time

***Directions ( Questions 33 – 40 ) : Choose the correct form of nouns ,verbs, adjectives and adverbs from the options given :***

33. \_\_\_\_\_ the room, I found the light quite dazzling.

- (a) Enter
- (b) Entering
- (c) Entered
- (d) To enter

34. Everyone has a friend who is his or her \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) Confident
- (b) Rival
- (c) Confidant
- (d) Opponent

35. I \_\_\_\_\_ regret the loss of your loved one.  
(a) Strongly (b) Freely  
(c) Deeply (d) Readily
36. The soldiers fought \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Bravely (b) Brave  
(c) Coward (d) Courageous
37. Wow! You never looked more \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Beautiful (b) Beautifully  
(c) Beauty (d) Prettier
38. He reached home very \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Lately (b) Late  
(c) Recent (d) Earlier
39. The post of a teacher is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Empty (b) Vacant  
(c) Free (d) Open
40. I write in my \_\_\_\_\_ every night.  
(a) Dairy (b) Diary  
(c) Letter (d) Book

**Directions ( Questions 41 – 48 ) : Fill in the blanks with correct prepositions :**

41. Shivaji Maharaj fought \_\_\_\_\_ every kind of aggression.  
(a) Against (b) To  
(c) With (d) At
42. \_\_\_\_\_ you leave now, you will be late.  
(a) Until (b) Till  
(c) Unless (d) Although
43. \_\_\_\_\_ she is clever, she often makes mistakes.  
(a) Despite (b) Since  
(c) Although (d) Yet
44. I have brought you some books \_\_\_\_\_ you to examine.  
(a) To (b) For  
(c) With (d) Over
45. Did the boys turn \_\_\_\_\_ for football practice?  
(a) Up (b) On  
(c) Back (d) In
46. The fireman managed to put \_\_\_\_\_ the fire.  
(a) Away (b) Down  
(c) Out (d) Off
47. The telephone kept \_\_\_\_\_ ringing but no one attended.  
(a) Off (b) On  
(c) Up (d) Up with
48. Poets have compared this world \_\_\_\_\_ a stage.  
(a) With (b) To  
(c) By (d) On

**Directions ( Questions 49 – 53 ) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct option:**

49. Oh, God! I've done it at last.  
(a) Affirmative (b) Exclamatory  
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative
50. What will you do after graduating?  
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative  
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative
51. Please close the door.  
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative  
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative
52. The earth revolves round the sun.  
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative Affirmative  
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative
53. He has no sense of humour.  
(a) Affirmative (b) Negative  
(c) Interrogative (d) Imperative

**Directions ( Questions 54 – 58 ) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct options:**

54. The moon was bright and we could see our way.  
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence  
(c) Complex sentence
55. They rested when evening came.  
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence  
(c) Complex sentence
56. I heard a thousand blended notes.  
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence  
(c) Complex sentence
57. He is rich, yet he is not happy.  
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence  
(c) Complex sentence
58. I know the man who said that this would happen.  
(a) Simple sentence (b) Compound sentence  
(c) Complex sentence

**Directions ( Questions 59 -64 ) : Analyse the given sentences and choose the correct options :**

59. The dog was teased by the boy.  
(a) Active voice (b) Passive voice  
(c) Imperative (d) Exclamatory
60. He made a very remarkable discovery.  
(a) Active voice (b) Passive voice  
(c) Imperative (d) Interrogative

61. The road was lined by people.  
(a) Active voice (b) Passive voice  
(c) Imperative (d) Exclamatory
62. Solomon was wiser than all other men.  
(a) Positive degree (b) Comparative degree  
(c) Superlative degree
63. Jane is not as beautiful as her sister.  
(a) Positive degree (b) Comparative degree  
(c) Superlative degree
64. Of all men, he is the strongest.  
(a) Positive degree (b) Comparative degree  
(c) Superlative degree

**Directions ( Questions 65 – 70 ): Use the content to help you choose the right answer :**

65. He is a rich man. He did not earn his wealth. He does not appreciate the value of money. He squanders it.  
*Q. The word 'squander' means:*  
(a) Waste (b) Collect  
(c) Save (d) Contribute
66. The storm abated. The sun shone. The ship-wrecked mariners could see no sign of land.  
*Q. The word 'abated' means:*  
(a) Came to an end (b) Became worse  
(c) Had started (d) Intensified
67. The train will arrive at a certain time. Do you know the time?  
*Q. The opposite of 'arrive' is:*  
(a) Reach (b) Depart  
(c) Stop (d) Steady
68. The miser laughed. He found himself to be richer by a rupee. He saw his adversary outwitted.  
*Q. The word 'adversary' means:*  
(a) Opponent (b) Companion  
(c) Relative (d) Mate
69. Nature seems to have taken a particular care to disseminate her blessings among the different regions of the world.  
*Q. Opposite of 'disseminate' is:*  
(a) Spread (b) Gather  
(c) Scatter (d) Circulate
70. The soldiers were starving. Their ammunition was expended. Their clothes were in rags. Their leaders were dead. The enemy easily defeated them.  
*Q. 'Ammunition' means:*  
(a) Food supply (b) Uniform  
(c) Weapons (d) First-aid

**Directions ( Questions 71 – 75 ) : Choose the right vocabulary from the given options to fill in the blanks:**

71. His illness did not \_\_\_\_\_ the progress of his work.  
(a) Impede (b) Impose  
(c) Expose (d) Impart
72. The judge found him \_\_\_\_\_ of murder.  
(a) Wrong (b) Convict  
(c) Guilty (d) Pleading
73. Sickness made the child \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Irritable (b) Happy  
(c) Energetic (d) Active
74. The cup is full to the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Top (b) Brim  
(c) Edge (d) Lid
75. The old building is in a \_\_\_\_\_ condition.  
(a) Dilapidated (b) Rough  
(c) Tattered (d) Torn

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

76. She was a kind and \_\_\_\_\_ woman.  
(a) Mercy (b) Merciful  
(c) Love (d) Compassion
77. I want to visit all \_\_\_\_\_ places in India.  
(a) Interest (b) Interested  
(c) Interesting (d) Interests
78. Her \_\_\_\_\_ child is only five, so she can't be very old.  
(a) Old (b) Oldest  
(c) Eldest (d) Young
79. He has left the country for \_\_\_\_\_ studies.  
(a) Far (b) Further  
(c) Farther (d) Farthest
80. I couldn't get in touch with her, even though I have tried all possible \_\_\_\_\_ of communication.  
(a) Ways (b) Means  
(c) Tools (d) Method