

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
(c) To praise own self
(b) To praise the leader
(d) To praise community
8. Eat humble pie
(a) To forgive
(c) To request
(b) To apologize
(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
(c) Spot
(b) Top
(d) Eye
10. The English test was _____
(a) A piece of cake
(c) An easy cake
(b) A piece of sweet
(d) An eye for an eye
11. “ _____ John, I'm sure your performance will be great.”
(a) Beat around the bush
(c) Hit the sack
(b) Break a leg
(d) Miss the boat
12. Our boss expects us to show up in his office _____
(a) With bag and baggage
(c) At the drop of a hat
(b) For good
(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
(c) Slap on the wrist
(b) Cut to the chase
(d) Add fuel to the fire
14. I hardly see him, I only see him _____
(a) Now and then
(c) Once in a blue moon
(b) Time and again
(d) Over and over
15. When I walked inside the room, everyone was quiet. I began to _____
(a) Smell something
(c) Smell a rat
(b) Let the cat out of the bag
(d) Cut a fine figure
16. It was a very _____ and we are lucky to be alive.
(a) Narrow escape
(c) Uphill task
(b) Narrow line
(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.

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

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:

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

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

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 :

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

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