

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## TECHNICAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO ASSISTANT ENGINEER (CIVIL) (CONTRACT ON CO-TERMINUS) UNDER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. MAY, 2015.

### 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 given topics in not more than 300 words:
- Swachh Bharat - everyone's duty for cleanliness
  - Misuse of information technology
  - Social service in Mizo society

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

*All questions carry equal marks of 2 each. Attempt all questions.*

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

**Directions (Questions 1 – 6): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:**

Crude mineral oil comes out of the earth as a thick brown or black liquid with a strong smell. It is a complex mixture of many different substances, each with its own individual qualities. Most of them are combinations of hydrogen and carbon in varying proportions. Such hydrocarbons are also found in other form; such as bitumen, asphalt and natural gas. Mineral oil originates from the carcasses of tiny animals and from plants that live in the sea. Over millions of years, these dead creatures form large deposits under sea-bed and ocean currents cover them with a blanket of sand and silt. As this material hardens, it becomes sedimentary rock and effectively shuts out the oxygen, so, preventing the complete decomposition of the marine deposits underneath. The layers of sedimentary rock become thicker and heavier. Their pressure produces heat, which transforms the tiny carcasses into crude oil in a process that is still going on today.

1. Marine deposits under the sea do not get decomposed because they:
- become rock and prevent oxygen from entering them
  - are covered by the sand and silt brought by the current
  - contain a mixture of hydrogen and carbon
  - are constantly washed by the ocean current

2. Sedimentary rock leads to the formation of oil deposits because :
  - (a) it becomes hard and forms into rocks which produce oil
  - (b) its pressure produces heat and turns the deposits of animal carcasses and plants into oil
  - (c) it turns heavy and shuts out the oxygen
  - (d) it becomes heavy and hard, and applies pressure to squeeze oil
3. In order to have mineral oil, hydrogen and carbon are combined in :
  - (a) equal proportions
  - (b) fixed proportions
  - (c) varying proportions
  - (d) the proportion of two and one
4. The time it takes for the marine deposits to harden into rocks is :
  - (a) a few years
  - (b) hundreds of years
  - (c) thousands of years
  - (d) millions of years
5. Crude oil is :
  - (a) refined petroleum to be used for engines
  - (b) the residual oil after cooking
  - (c) the residual oil left in the engines
  - (d) a combination of hydrogen and carbon in varying proportions
6. The most apt title for the passage would be :
  - (a) Crude mineral oil
  - (b) How Sedimentary Rock is formed
  - (c) How Mineral Oil is formed
  - (d) Marine deposits under the sea

**Directions (Questions 7 – 14): Pick the correct meaning of the idioms and phrases from the given alternatives.**

7. bury the hatchet
  - (a) cannot continue
  - (b) make peace
  - (c) lose something
  - (d) hinder progress
8. face the music
  - (a) give a musical performance
  - (b) to change things
  - (c) suffer hardships
  - (d) suffer the consequences
9. beat around the bush
  - (a) working hard to achieve the goal
  - (b) not come to the point
  - (c) searching very hard
  - (d) achieve easily without any effort
10. smell a rat
  - (a) see a hidden meaning
  - (b) smell bad odour
  - (c) misunderstand
  - (d) suspecting a trick or deceit

11. fly off the handle  
(a) lose temper (b) to dislocate  
(c) to be airborne (d) be indifferent
12. through thick and thin  
(a) big and small (b) large object  
(c) under all conditions (d) thin and fat
13. rule the roost  
(a) dominate (b) surrender  
(c) run away (d) fight
14. a good samaritan  
(a) a religious person (b) a genuinely charitable person  
(c) an obedient person (d) a law abiding citizen

**Directions (Questions 15 – 19): Fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions.**

15. His mother died \_\_\_\_\_ cancer.  
(a) in (b) of  
(c) by (d) for
16. The four brothers always quarreled \_\_\_\_\_ themselves.  
(a) to (b) between  
(c) for (d) among
17. She is suffering \_\_\_\_\_ fever.  
(a) with (b) of  
(c) through (d) from
18. Never laugh \_\_\_\_\_ the disabled.  
(a) at (b) from  
(c) to (d) on
19. We saw a wounded tiger while passing \_\_\_\_\_ the jungle.  
(a) from (b) through  
(c) among (d) along

**Directions (Questions 20 – 24): Use the correct nouns/adjectives/phrasal verbs from the alternatives given.**

20. The boy was wearing a \_\_\_\_\_ sweater.  
(a) wash (b) clean  
(c) wool (d) iron
21. A heap of \_\_\_\_\_ marked his grave.  
(a) clothes (b) sticks  
(c) wood (d) stones
22. The general could see a flotilla of enemy \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) tanks (b) ships  
(c) planes (d) trucks

23. The judge found him \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) guilty (b) blame  
(c) fault (d) artificial

24. I don't have any plans \_\_\_\_\_ the weekend as my family has gone out of town.

- (a) for (b) in  
(c) about (d) from

**Directions (Questions 25 – 32): Analyse the words underlined and pick the correct alternatives.**

25. His father named him Tommy.

- (a) noun (b) adjective  
(c) verb (d) adverb

26. He almost fell down. It was a close call.

- (a) noun (b) adjective  
(c) verb (d) adverb

27. Please close the door.

- (a) noun (b) adjective  
(c) verb (d) adverb

28. Students who are intelligent get good grades.

- (a) noun clause (b) adjective clause  
(c) principal clause (d) relative clause

29. Unless you run fast, you will miss the bus.

- (a) relative clause (b) adjective clause  
(c) noun clause (d) adverb clause

30. The dining hall, which is downstairs, is too dark

- (a) relative clause (b) adjective clause  
(c) noun clause (d) adverb clause

31. The kitten has fallen down a well.

- (a) noun (b) adjective  
(c) verb (d) adverb

32. I am quite well, thank you.

- (a) noun (b) adjective  
(c) verb (d) adverb

**Directions (Questions 33 – 40): Fill in the blanks, choosing appropriate words from the options given below.**

33. He is very keen \_\_\_\_\_ going abroad for higher studies.

- (a) for (b) at  
(c) over (d) on

34. When the driver swerved violently, the wheel came off as it was already \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) lose (b) loose  
(c) loss (d) lost

35. Health is too important to be \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) neglected (b) despised  
(c) discarded (d) detested
36. The family gave father a gold watch on the \_\_\_\_\_ of his fiftieth birthday.  
(a) time (b) event  
(c) occasion (d) celebration
37. Fact is often stranger than \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) fancy (b) fiction  
(c) imagination (d) dream
38. \_\_\_\_\_ you meet my son in the market, ask him to come home at once.  
(a) Should (b) Would  
(c) Could (d) Will
39. My father keeps all his \_\_\_\_\_ papers under lock and key.  
(a) required (b) necessary  
(c) useful (d) confidential
40. The magistrate sent a \_\_\_\_\_ of 50 policemen to the disturbed area.  
(a) team (b) force  
(c) battalion (d) cover

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