

MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF
GRADE-V OF MIZORAM FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES & CONSUMER AFFAIRS SERVICES
(INSPECTOR OF SUPPLIES)
UNDER FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES & CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM, DECEMBER, 2023

GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

SECTION - A
(34 Marks)

This Section should be answered only on the Answer Sheet provided.

1. Write a précis of the following passage in about one-third of the original length and suggest a suitable title. (14)

Disarmament assumes a very special importance for us, overriding all other issues. For many years past there have been talks on disarmament and some progress has undoubtedly been made in so far as the plans and proposals are concerned. Still we find that the race of armaments continues, as also the efforts to invent even more powerful engines of destruction. If even a small part of these efforts was directed to the search for peace, probably the problem of disarmament would have been solved by this time. Apart from the moral imperative of peace, every practical consideration leads us to that conclusion. The choice today in this nuclear age is one of utter annihilation and destruction of civilisation or of some way to have peaceful co-existence between nations. There is no middle way. If war is an abomination and an ultimate crime which has to be avoided, we must fashion our minds and policy accordingly. In order to achieve peace we have to develop a climate of peace and tolerance and avoid speech and action which tend to increase fear and hatred. It may not be possible to reach full disarmament in one step, though every step should be conditioned to that end. Much ground has already been covered in the discussion on disarmament. But the sands of time run out, and we dare not play about with this issue or delay its consideration. This indeed, is the main duty of the United Nations today and it fails in this, the United Nations fails in its main purpose. (260 words)

2. Write a letter to the Director, Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Government of Mizoram, on the problems faced by the public due to irregular availability of goods at local Fair Price Shops. (10)



3. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

Alleviation of rural poverty has been one of the primary objectives of planned development in India. Ever since the inception of planning, the policies and programmes have been designed and redesigned with this aim. The problem of rural poverty was brought into a sharper focus during the Sixth Plan. The Seventh Plan too emphasised growth with social justice. It was realised that a sustainable strategy of poverty alleviation has to be based on increasing the productive employment opportunities in the process of growth itself. However, to the extent the process of growth bypasses some sections of population, it is necessary to formulate specific poverty alleviation for generation of a certain level of income for the rural poor. Rural development implies both the economic betterment of people as well as greater social transformation. Increased participation of people in the rural development process, decentralisation of planning, better enforcement of land reforms and greater access to credits and inputs go a long way in prospects for economic development, improvements in health, education, drinking water, energy supply, sanitation and housing coupled with attitudinal changes also facilitate their social development.

Rural poverty is inextricably linked with low rural productivity and unemployment, including underemployment. Hence, it is imperative to improve productivity and increase employment in rural areas. Moreover, more employment needs to be generated at higher levels of productivity in order to generate higher output. Employment at miserably low levels of productivity and incomes is already a problem of far greater magnitude than unemployment as such. It is estimated that in 1987-88 the rate of unemployment was only 3 percent. As per the currently used methodology in the Planning Commission, poverty for the same year was estimated to be 30 percent. This demonstrates that even though a large proportion of the rural population was working it was difficult for them to eke out a living even at subsistence levels from it. It is true that there has been a considerable decline in the incidence of rural poverty over time. In terms of absolute numbers of poor, the decline has been much less. While this can be attributed to the demographic factor, the fact remains that after 40 years of planned development, about 200 millions are still poor in India.

- (a) According to the passage, what factor is responsible for rural poverty? (2)
- (b) What is the desired probable impact of formulation of specific poverty alleviation programmes? (2)
- (c) Which of the following statement is **true** in the context of the passage? (1)
- There has been a significant increase in the number of the rural poor.
 - Before the Sixth Plan, policies regarding alleviation of rural poverty were almost nonexistent.
 - Social change coupled with financial upliftment is implied in rural development.
- (d) Which of the following is **not mentioned** in the passage as an important factor for rural development? (1)
- Enhancing production in various new industries in rural areas.
 - Greater access of credits and inputs.
 - Transferring planning from central to local authorities.
 - Involvement of rural folk in the development process.
- (e) Find words from the passage similar in meaning to (1+1=2)
- enormity
 - vital
- (f) Find words from the passage opposite in meaning to (1+1=2)
- aggravate
 - general



SECTION - B**(66 Marks)**

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

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

Direction (Question Nos. 1 - 10) : Identify the Parts of Speech of the underlined words.

1. God defend the right!
(a) noun (b) verb
(c) adjective (d) adverb
2. He is little known here.
(a) noun (b) verb
(c) adjective (d) adverb
3. He has no command over himself.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb
4. All is not lost.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb
5. He came round to their belief.
(a) noun (b) verb
(c) pronoun (d) adverb
6. Do not while away your precious time.
(a) noun (b) verb
(c) pronoun (d) adverb
7. Don't be in such a hurry!
(a) verb (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb
8. Much of it is true.
(a) verb (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb
9. It is no joke.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb
10. We shall not see his like again.
(a) noun (b) pronoun
(c) adjective (d) adverb

Direction (Question Nos. 11 - 15) : Choose the correct prepositions to fill in the blank.

11. Silkworms feed _____ mulberry trees.
(a) on (b) with
(c) for (d) of



12. The go-down is infested _____ rats.
 (a) by (b) in
 (c) with (d) from
13. Oil is good _____ burns.
 (a) to (b) with
 (c) for (d) of
14. The mule was partially relieved _____ the load.
 (a) from (b) of
 (c) by (d) to
15. The soil of Mizoram is favourable _____ crops.
 (a) in (b) to
 (c) on (d) by

Direction (Question Nos. 16 - 20) : Select the appropriate conjunction to fill in the blanks.

16. I am in the right, _____ you are in the wrong.
 (a) but (b) while
 (c) though (d) and
17. _____ I was not a stranger to books, I had no practical acquaintance with these.
 (a) while (b) although
 (c) since (d) but
18. Are you impatient with the lark _____ he sings rather than talks?
 (a) but (b) though
 (c) that (d) while
19. The man who eats in a hurry loses both the pleasure of eating _____ the profit of digestion.
 (a) and (b) whereas
 (c) but (d) though
20. The ravine was full of sand now, _____ it has once been full of water.
 (a) and (b) since
 (c) though (d) but

Direction (Question Nos. 21 - 25) : Choose the correct verb form from the options provided.

21. The Headmaster _____ to speak to you.
 (a) wants (b) is wanting
 (c) want (d) has been wanting
22. He _____ here for the last five years.
 (a) was living (b) is living
 (c) lives (d) has been living
23. My brother _____ TV most evenings.
 (a) is watching (b) watches
 (c) has watched (d) had been watching

24. I _____ his letter a week ago.
 (a) received (b) am receiving
 (c) was receiving (d) had been receiving
25. Don't disturb me. I _____ my work.
 (a) do (b) am doing
 (c) was doing (d) have been doing

Direction (Question Nos. 26 - 30) : Choose the appropriate pronouns from the given options.

26. He is a man of _____ words.
 (a) little (b) a little
 (c) few (d) a few
27. _____ of the boys gets a prize.
 (a) all (b) each
 (c) most (d) many
28. Here is the book _____ you lent me.
 (a) which (b) that
 (c) whom (d) whichever
29. _____ comes is welcome.
 (a) he (b) whichever
 (c) who (d) whoever
30. _____ of the accusations is true.
 (a) neither (b) either
 (c) all (d) little

Direction (Question Nos. 31 - 35) : From the options given, choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the word given in capital letters.

31. OBJECT
 (a) disapprove (b) challenge
 (c) deny (d) disobey
32. UNTIE
 (a) unfold (b) unchain
 (c) undo (d) unhinge
33. ALERT
 (a) energetic (b) observant
 (c) intelligent (d) watchful
34. RECKLESS
 (a) courageous (b) daring
 (c) rash (d) bold
35. MOVING
 (a) taking (b) toying
 (c) shifting (d) turning

Direction (Question Nos. 36 - 40) : From the options given below, choose the word nearest to the opposite of the underlined word in the given sentences.

36. The proposal was denounced by all.
(a) announced (b) pronounced
(c) appraised (d) commended
37. Where ignorance is sometimes bliss, illiteracy is always considered a curse.
(a) erudition (b) experience
(c) education (d) information
38. The news brought by the maid servant is authentic.
(a) ridiculous (b) baseless
(c) authoritative (d) vacuous
39. The doctor said that there is no improvement in the condition of the patient.
(a) deterioration (b) depression
(c) degradation (d) change
40. He plunged into the turbid waters of the stream.
(a) deep (b) muddy
(c) clear (d) fresh

Direction (Question Nos. 41 - 46) : Choose the words/phrases similar in meaning to the underlined idioms in the following sentences.

41. He backed up his friend's claim.
(a) supported (b) opposed
(c) represented (d) refused
42. He cried out against such injustice.
(a) cry out loud (b) protested
(c) suppressed (d) felt deep hurt
43. The lease of our premises has run out.
(a) expired (b) extended
(c) been lost (d) been revalidated
44. He called on me yesterday.
(a) called me by name (b) spoke to me
(c) sent me a message (d) paid me a brief visit
45. I am told the two brothers have fallen out.
(a) fell into problems (b) failed miserably
(c) been expelled (d) quarrelled
46. He changed colour when I questioned him about his antecedents.
(a) showed pride (b) became arrogant
(c) turned pale (d) changed the topic

Direction (Question Nos. 47 - 52) : The following sentences are given in Direct Speech. Choose the correct sentence in the Reported Speech from the options given against each.

47. The Prince said, "It gives me great pleasure to be here this evening."
 (a) The Prince said that it had given him great pleasure to be there that evening.
 (b) The Prince said that it gave him great pleasure to be there that evening.
 (c) The Prince said that it had been giving him great pleasure to be there that evening.
 (d) The Prince said that it was giving him great pleasure to be there that evening.
48. He said, "I shall go as soon as it is possible."
 (a) He said that he would go as soon as it was possible.
 (b) He said that he would go as soon as it would be possible.
 (c) He said that he should go as soon as it was possible.
 (d) He said that he will go as soon as it it possible.
49. My teacher often says to me, "If you don't work hard, you will fail."
 (a) My teacher often tells me that if I don't work hard, I would fail.
 (b) My teacher often says to me that if I don't work hard, I will fail.
 (c) My teacher often says to me that if I don't work hard I shall fail.
 (d) My teacher often says to me that if I don't work hard, I am going to fail.
50. He said, "I do not wish to see any of you; go away."
 (a) He said that he did not want to see any of them and that they must leave.
 (b) He said that he did not wish to see any of them and to go away.
 (c) He said that he did not wish to see any of them and ordered them to go away.
 (d) He said that it was not his wish to see any of them and ordered them to go away.
51. She said, "Let us wait for the award."
 (a) She suggested that she should wait for the reward.
 (b) She proposed that they should wait for the reward.
 (c) She said that they should be waiting for the reward.
 (d) She said they should wait for the reward.
52. The preacher said, "We are all sinners."
 (a) The preacher said that we are all sinners.
 (b) The preacher said that they were all sinners.
 (c) The preacher said that we were all sinners.
 (d) The preacher said that they are all sinners.

Direction (Question Nos. 53 - 59) : From the options given in the following, identify the correct clause of the underlined part of the sentence provided.

53. Your shirt is better than mine.
 (a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
 (c) Adjective clause (d) Principal clause
54. However hard she may work, she will not succeed.
 (a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
 (c) Adjective clause (d) Principal clause



55. Please ask him what he wants.
- (a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
(c) Adjective clause (d) Principal clause
56. One, who lives in glass house, should refrain from throwing stones at others.
- (a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
(c) Adjective clause (d) Principal clause
57. All that glitters is not gold.
- (a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
(c) Adjective clause (d) Principal clause
58. We eat that we may live.
- (a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
(c) Adjective clause (d) Principal clause
59. She told me that she would not support me.
- (a) Noun clause (b) Adverb clause
(c) Adjective clause (d) Principal clause

Direction (Question Nos. 60 - 66) : Choose the best option to complete the given sentences.

60. Nothing _____ me.
- (a) can be held against (b) can be hold against
(c) can be holding against (d) can held against
61. The flood water _____ by barriers.
- (a) was been kept back (b) was being kept back
(c) was being keep back (d) was be kept back
62. Our allies _____ support.
- (a) will be lend (b) will being lent
(c) will be lent (d) will been lent
63. The keys _____.
- (a) must having been left behind (b) must been left behind
(c) must have left behind (d) must have been left behind
64. My bank loan _____ in five years time.
- (a) will pay off (b) will be paid off
(c) will be paying off (d) will be payed off
65. She _____ with a fine.
- (a) was let off (b) was letted off
(c) was letting off (d) were let off
66. _____ to you yet?
- (a) Have the book been given back (b) Have the book being given back
(c) Has the book been given back (d) Has the book being given back

