

# MIZORAM PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

## GENERAL COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF UPPER DIVISION CLERK (U.D.C) UNDER FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM, APRIL, 2021

### PAPER - I

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 125

#### SECTION - A (50 Marks)

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

1. Prepare a précis of the following not exceeding one-third words: (25)

Despite our extraordinary variety of diversions and resources, our frenzy for spectacles and feverish pursuit of entertainment, we are bored. The abundance of efforts made to counter boredom have defeated themselves, and boredom has become the disease of our time. No authority is willing to guess at the number of people who are bored, but there are millions, and the number is growing.

Young people are particularly subject to boredom. A leading psychiatrist who specializes in problems of the young, estimates that as many as 20 per cent of adolescents are handicapped by significant boredom and depression. This handicap often leads to loss of self-esteem and, in extreme cases, to suicide.

True boredom, of the sort that causes outbursts of violence, aggression, revolt and family upheavals is very different from the momentary feeling everyone gets from time to time that “this will never end”. As psychiatrists see it, severe chronic boredom is a withdrawal from one’s surroundings, a refusal to participate. Boredom is defined as “the co-existence of dissatisfaction and a disinclination to action; longing and an inability to designate what is longed for; a sense of emptiness; a passive expectant attitude with the hope that the external world will supply the satisfaction; a distorted sense of time in which time seems to stand still”.

In less scholarly terms, boredom can be described as a state of apathy and unhappiness.

With all the variety of sensations offered to us, why is boredom increasing? For one thing are more demanding of life than they once were. In an earlier, simple time, most people accepted a certain measure of boredom as inevitable. Schools required reams on memorization, temple sermons lasted for hours, entertainment events were presented once a year rather than every 15 minutes, the working week for many was 60 or more hours instead of 33 or 40.

These days however, boredom is felt to be intolerable, something that must be vanquished by turning a switch or swallowing a pill or taking off in a car. At the same time, the very abundance we have created for ourselves dulls the senses and makes us more vulnerable to boredom. Except among the very poor or the very strict, few youngsters today have to wait long for that bicycle, they feel they must have. Yet looking forward to something you deeply desire is one of the most satisfying of all experiences; those who are deprived of it are deprived, indeed.

The challenges posed to most citizens in their daily lives have diminished, too. There are still hard hikes to make, tough seas to navigate, high mountains to climb – but such challenges have to be sought out. They are no longer part of one’s routine existence. A leading psychiatrist discussing the need for challenge in human existence, says life offers only two basic alternatives; a state of constant security and assurance, or one of challenge and risk. “In the first state, you are bored much of the time”, he explains. “In the second, you are often scared. If life is too easy, it’s no fun. You have to take some risks”.

Employer's responsibilities towards their employees are similar to those of parents towards their children. They have an obligation to make the jobs they provide as stimulating as possible, both for the sake of the workers and to make their business productive. The worker needs to know that what he does is important, and why. To meet these needs, supervisors and employers have to deal with their workers on a basis of mutual respect, listen to their suggestions, and give them as much control over their time and schedules as possible.

If there is one central, universal prescription for avoiding boredom, it is this: diversify your interests and involvements into areas and activities beyond your normal routine. Making a commitment to some idea or objective outside one's familiar world – finding a new challenge – can end boredom almost immediately.

Another avenue with great potential rewards for bored people lies in working with handicapped and underprivileged people, teaching, working with prisoners and hospital patients, or devoting time to lonely, elderly people.

2. Write an essay in about 500 words on any one (1) of the given topics. (25)
- Environment vs Growth
  - Importance of Discipline for success in Life
  - Women Empowerment.

**SECTION - B**  
**(75 Marks)**

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

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

**Directions (Questions No. 1 - 8) : Fill in the blanks with appropriate preposition given below each sentence:**

1. The attitude of the fanatics is always prejudicial \_\_\_\_\_ other religion.  
(a) at (b) for  
(c) to (d) with
2. Those found remiss \_\_\_\_\_ duty will not be pardoned.  
(a) towards (b) on  
(c) from (d) in
3. His lecturer was accompanied \_\_\_\_\_ subtle analysis of concepts.  
(a) by (b) with  
(c) of (d) for
4. After all, hard work has come to tell \_\_\_\_\_ your health.  
(a) on (b) by  
(c) at (d) upon
5. Minority aspirations cannot forever be kept in check \_\_\_\_\_ the gun.  
(a) by (b) under  
(c) with (d) through
6. Anyone who comes in contact with him is enamoured \_\_\_\_\_ his charismatic personality.  
(a) of (b) by  
(c) with (d) upon

7. Nobody likes anyone to intrude \_\_\_\_\_ his privacy.  
(a) on (b) into  
(c) in (d) with
8. Those abstemious \_\_\_\_\_ habits are known to live long.  
(a) for (b) in  
(c) of (d) to

**Direction (Questions No. 9 - 14) : Complete the sentences using the correct form of verb from the alternatives given:**

9. By tomorrow afternoon the plane \_\_\_\_\_ for Moscow.  
(a) will be taking off (b) will be off  
(c) will be taken off (d) will have taken off
10. I saw two robbers who \_\_\_\_\_ near the well.  
(a) prowled (b) were prowling  
(c) had been prowling (d) are prowling.
11. They \_\_\_\_\_ this property for the last twenty years.  
(a) had owned (b) have owned  
(c) have been owning (d) are owning
12. Buses \_\_\_\_\_ on this road every hour.  
(a) are running (b) have run  
(c) have been running (d) run
13. After the guests \_\_\_\_\_ we did the washing.  
(a) had left (b) left  
(c) have left (d) were leaving
14. She \_\_\_\_\_ as the Principal of that school for five years next month.  
(a) will be working (b) will have working  
(c) will have been working (d) will work

**Directions (Questions No. 15 - 19) : Out of the four alternatives given after each sentence, select one which best expresses the same sentence in Passive/Active Voice.**

15. Then her face was bowed.  
(a) Then her face has been bowed. (b) Her face was being bowed then.  
(c) Then she was bowing her face. (d) Then she bowed her face.
16. Don't subject the animals to cruelty.  
(a) The animals are not to be subjected to cruelty.  
(b) The animals should not be subjected to cruelty.  
(c) The animals must not be subject to cruelty.  
(d) We must not subject the animals to cruelty.
17. The lightning caused a serious forest fire and damaged many nearby houses.  
(a) A serious forest fire has been caused by lightning and have destroyed many nearby houses.  
(b) A serious forest fire was caused by lightning and many nearby houses are destroyed.  
(c) A serious forest fire was caused by lightning and many nearby houses were destroyed.  
(d) A serious forest fire had been caused by lightning and many houses had been destroyed.

18. The students were laughing at the old man.  
(a) The old man was laughed at by the students.  
(b) The old man was being laughed at by the students.  
(c) The old man was laughing at the students.  
(d) The old man was being laughed by the students.
19. You should not look down upon the poor.  
(a) The poor should not be looked down upon. (b) The poor should not looked down upon.  
(c) People should not looked down upon the poor. (d) The poor must not be look down upon.

**Directions (Questions No. 20 - 25) : Identify the parts of speech of each underlined words:**

20. Let us move on.  
(a) Adverb (b) Adjective  
(c) Noun (d) Pronoun
21. A cross child is not liked.  
(a) Adverb (b) Adjective  
(c) Noun (d) Verb
22. It weighs about a pound.  
(a) Adjective (b) Verb  
(c) Pronoun (d) Adverb
23. Nathan said to David, 'Thou art the man'.  
(a) Adjective (b) Noun  
(c) Pronoun (d) Adverb.
24. Between you and me, I do not believe him.  
(a) Noun (b) Adverb  
(c) Adjective (d) Pronoun.
25. I recognized your voice at once.  
(a) Noun (b) Adverb  
(c) Adjective (d) Pronoun

**Directions (Questions No. 26 - 33) : Choose the exact meaning of the idioms/phrases:**

26. To wrangle over an ass's shadow  
(a) to chase an animal (b) to choke someone to death  
(c) to get tangled in other people's troubles (d) to quarrel over trifles
27. Showed a clean pair of heel  
(a) be very proud (b) not involved in anything  
(c) ran away (d) have new shoes
28. (it) Stands to reason  
(a) is quite unreasonable (b) is trying to point out the reason  
(c) is arguing (d) is obvious or logical
29. Made a clean breast of  
(a) confessed without reserve (b) flee from crime scene  
(c) remain firm (d) clearly stated

- 30. Yeoman service**  
(a) easy job (b) efficient or useful help in need  
(c) work done by a common man (d) gov't work
- 31. Tread on someone's toes**  
(a) wear someone's shoes  
(b) step on someone's toes  
(c) offend someone by encroaching on their area of responsibility  
(d) use someone's work for one's advantage
- 32. Teeth on edge**  
(a) irritate (b) anger someone  
(c) almost saying something (d) disputing over petty things
- 33. Moot point**  
(a) a period of importance (b) superficial point  
(c) an irrelevant effort (d) controversial point

**Directions (Questions No. 34 - 40) : Out of the given alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words or sentence.**

- 34. Not to be moved by entreaty**  
(a) Rigorous (b) Negligent  
(c) Inexorable (d) Despotic
- 35. One for whom the whole world is one's home.**  
(a) cosmopolitan (b) international  
(c) traveller (d) humanitarian
- 36. A cluster of houses in a village.**  
(a) mohalla (b) hamlet  
(c) colony (d) sector
- 37. A written attack using humour to provoke contempt.**  
(a) paleography (b) panegyric  
(c) lampoon (d) libel
- 38. A funeral bell**  
(a) windfall (b) replica  
(c) knell (d) angelus
- 39. One who flaunts newly acquired wealth**  
(a) avant - garde (b) flamboyant  
(c) egoistic (d) parvenu
- 40. A speech made to oneself.**  
(a) monologue (b) soliloquy  
(c) biography (d) epilogue

**Directions (Questions No. 41 - 45) : Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning of the given word.**

- 41. Philistine**  
(a) cultured (b) libertine  
(c) sober (d) educated

42. Sobriety  
(a) moderation (b) stupidity  
(c) dizziness (d) drunkenness
43. Sanguine temper  
(a) rude behavior (b) despairing nature  
(c) peaceful temperament (d) selfish nature
44. Apposite  
(a) inappropriate (b) indecent  
(c) incriminatory (d) intemperate
45. Amenable  
(a) distrustful (b) acquiescent  
(c) unwilling (d) inattentive

**Directions (Questions No. 46 - 50) : Complete the sentences correctly using one of the alternatives given.**

46. \_\_\_\_\_ a poet, he is also a famous singer.  
(a) Beside being (b) Besides becoming  
(c) Beside becoming (d) Also being
47. You are asked to copy this letter \_\_\_\_\_.  
(a) Word for word (b) Word by word  
(c) Word to word (d) Word with word.
48. \_\_\_\_\_ had made an attempt  
(a) All, but her (b) All, but she  
(c) All, but her, (d) All but her
49. He is better than \_\_\_\_\_ in the class.  
(a) Any boys (b) Any boy  
(c) Some boy (d) Any other boy.
50. We should be bound by a code of conduct, \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
(a) Aren't we (b) Is it  
(c) Shouldn't (d) Isn't it

**Directions (Questions No. 51 - 56): Analyse the following sentences and choose the correct alternatives of the underlined words:**

51. I do not know why he will not come.  
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverb Clause  
(c) Adjective Clause (d) None of these
52. I don't know any man that is present here.  
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverb Clause  
(c) Adjective Clause (d) None of these
53. Everybody was pleased to note that she looked cheerful at the party.  
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverb Clause  
(c) Adjective Clause (d) None of these

54. I shall not tell you where he lives.  
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverb Clause  
(c) Adjective Clause (d) None of these
55. Rich as he is, he is not happy  
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverb Clause  
(c) Adjective Clause (d) None of these
56. Awful is the gloom beneath her.  
(a) Noun Clause (b) Adverb Clause  
(c) Adjective Clause (d) None of these

**Directions (Questions No. 57 - 62) : Analyse the following sentences and choose the correct answer from the alternatives given.**

57. Be good and you will be happy.  
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence  
(c) Compound Sentence (d) None of these
58. He pleaded ignorance of the law  
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence  
(c) Compound Sentence (d) None of these
59. It all depends upon the manner of your doing it.  
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence  
(c) Compound Sentence (d) None of these
60. This is the place where we camp.  
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence  
(c) Compound Sentence (d) None of these
61. A man who is dead needs no riches.  
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence  
(c) Compound Sentence (d) None of these
62. He failed in his attempt and never tried again.  
(a) Simple Sentence (b) Complex Sentence  
(c) Compound Sentence (d) None of these

**Directions (Questions No. 63 - 75) : Transform the given sentences as directed:**

63. He was greater than Aurangzeb (Negative)  
(a) Aurangzeb was not greater than he. (b) Aurangzeb was not so great as he.  
(c) Aurangzeb was not as great as he is. (d) Not even Aurangzeb was greater than he.
64. He has promised never to touch wine again. (*Affirmative*)  
(a) He has promised not to touch wine again.  
(b) He promised to not drink wine again.  
(c) He has promised to abstain from wine in future.  
(d) He has promised that he will not touch wine again.
65. He leads a most unhappy life (*Exclamatory*)  
(a) How unhappy he leads his life! (b) How unhappy his life is!  
(c) How unhappy his life must be! (d) What an unhappy life he leads!

66. We could have done nothing without your help (*Interrogation*)
- (a) How could we done anything without your help?
  - (b) What could we have done without your help?
  - (c) Could we have done anything without your help?
  - (d) Can we do anything without your help?
67. What though the field be lost? (*Assertive*)
- (a) The field will be lost eventually.
  - (b) We might lose the field.
  - (c) It does not matter even if the field is lost.
  - (d) We are going to lose the field.
68. It is better to starve than beg. (*Positive*)
- (a) It is not so good to beg as to starve.
  - (b) Starving is much better than begging.
  - (c) To beg is not better than to starve.
  - (d) Better starve than beg.
69. Akbar was one of the greatest kings. (*Comparative*)
- (a) Akbar was as great as other kings.
  - (b) Akbar was not the weakest king.
  - (c) Akbar was also as great as other kings.
  - (d) Akbar was greater than most other kings.
70. This newspaper has a bigger circulation than any other morning paper. (*Superlative*)
- (a) This newspaper has the biggest circulation of all the morning paper.
  - (b) No other newspaper has as big a circulation as this newspaper.
  - (c) All the other morning papers have lesser circulation this newspaper.
  - (d) This newspaper does not have the least circulation than any other morning paper.
71. You stole the purse. Do you deny it? (*Complex sentence containing Noun Clause*)
- (a) You stole the purse yet you deny it?
  - (b) Do you deny stealing the purse?
  - (c) Do you deny having stolen the purse?
  - (d) Do you deny that you stole the purse?
72. He was hanged. He had committed murder. (*Complex sentence containing an Adverbial Clause*)
- (a) He was hanged as he had committed murder.
  - (b) He had committed murder and he was hanged.
  - (c) They hung him because he had committed murder.
  - (d) Having committed murder, he was hanged.
73. The paper is good. The binding is very bad. (*Compound Sentence*)
- (a) The binding that is bad is actually a good paper.
  - (b) The paper is good, but the binding is very bad.
  - (c) Though the binding is bad, the paper is good.
  - (d) The good paper has a very bad binding.
74. Your father will hear of your success. He will be delighted. (*Simple sentence using an Infinitive*)
- (a) When your father hears of your success, he will be delighted.
  - (b) Your success will make your father delighted.
  - (c) Your father will be delighted to hear of your success.
  - (d) Your father will hear of your success and be delighted.
75. He was overpowered. He surrendered. (*Simple Sentence using Participles*)
- (a) As he was overpowered, he surrendered.
  - (b) He surrendered because he was overpowered.
  - (c) Being overpowered, he surrendered.
  - (d) He had surrendered due to being overpowered