

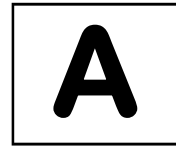
MIZORAM SUBORDINATE SERVICES SELECTION BOARD



COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF STENOGRAPHER GRADE III UNDER DP&AR (SSW), GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM DECEMBER - 2021

Question Booklet Series

PAPER I



Time Allowed : 3 Hours

Maximum Marks : 100

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This paper consists of one hundred (100) multiple-choice type of questions.
2. Immediately after the commencement of the examination, you should check that this question booklet does not have any unprinted or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a complete booklet from the invigilator.
3. Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to fill in all necessary details such as Roll Number, etc. and the Question Booklet Series A, B, C or D carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the OMR Answer Sheet. Any omission/discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.
4. Each question comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet.
5. You have to mark your responses **ONLY** on the separate OMR Answer Sheet provided.
Read instructions given in the OMR sheet carefully.
6. All questions carry equal marks.
7. Rough work is to be done in the spaces available in the question booklet.
8. You have to submit your Answer Sheet to the invigilators at the end of the examination compulsorily and must not carry it with you outside the Examination Hall. You are permitted to take away with you the question booklet on conclusion of examination.
9. There are no negative marks for incorrect answer.

Directions (Question 1-5): Select the correct indirect form of the given sentence.

1. Mary said, 'I was knitting a sweater'.
(A) Mary said she is knitting a sweater
(B) Mary was saying that she had been knitting a sweater
(C) Mary said she had been knitting a sweater
(D) Mary says she has been knitting a sweater
2. John said to David, 'Leaves synthesise their food due to chlorophyll'
(A) John told David that leaves synthesise their food due to chlorophyll
(B) John said to David that leaves synthesises their food due to chlorophyll
(C) John asked David if leaves synthesise their food due to chlorophyll
(D) John told David that leaves are synthesising their food due to chlorophyll
3. She said, 'The thief broke into the office'.
(A) She said that the thief had broken into the office
(B) She said that the thief had broke into the office
(C) She said that the thief had been breaking into the office
(D) She said that the thief was breaking into the office
4. He said, 'I have been waiting for ten minutes'.
(A) He says he had been waiting for ten minutes
(B) He said that he had been waiting for ten minutes
(C) He said that he have been waiting for ten minutes
(D) He said that he had waited for ten minutes
5. The saint said, 'May God pardon the Sinner!'
(A) The saint wished that God might pardon the Sinner
(B) The saint prayed that God may pardon the Sinner
(C) The saint prayed that God might pardon the Sinner
(D) The saint wished that God may pardon the Sinner

Directions (Question 6-11): Select the most appropriate verb/preposition/article/conjunction/etc. to fill in the blank.

6. I can remember _____ voices in the middle of the night.
(A) hear (B) heard
(C) hearing (D) to hear
7. At 9 o'clock yesterday morning we _____ for the bus.
(A) wait (B) waited
(C) was waiting (D) were waiting
8. You can see the details _____ the computer screen.
(A) on (B) by
(C) in (D) at
9. A black and white cow _____ grazing in the field.
(A) is (B) are
(C) has (D) were

10. Mr. James _____ in this area over the last 20 years.
(A) is living (B) has been living
(C) was living (D) had been living
11. Smoking is one of the major causes _____ lung cancer.
(A) for (B) in
(C) of (D) at

Directions (Questions 12-16): Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.

In Asia and much of the Third World, trees are still destroyed in the old-fashioned way – they are cut down for fuel and cropland. In Europe, there is a new and potentially more deadly culprit. The Germans call it ‘Waldsterben’, the dying forest syndrome. But the disease is far more than a German phenomenon. Since it was first observed by German scientists in the autumn of 1980, the mysterious malady has raced across Europe, blighting woods in countries as far apart as Sweden and Italy.

Explanation for the epidemic range from a cyclic change in the environment to a baffling form of tree cancer. But the most convincing evidence points to air pollution. Indeed, saving the rapidly deteriorating forests of Europe will probably require a two-pronged strategy – an offensive campaign that includes the breeding of pollution-immune trees and a defensive scheme that calls for reductions in toxic emissions. But both will require more money than is currently being spent in such measures, as well as total commitment to protecting the environment.

12. According to this passage, which one of the following statements is correct?
(A) There is less damage in Asia than in Europe
(B) More forests are dying in Germany than anywhere else in Europe
(C) A cyclic change in the environment is responsible for deforestation
(D) Air pollution is the main culprit of destroying European forests
13. Saving the trees of European forests
(A) should not be difficult because of the advances in experimental research
(B) appears to be a hopeless task and therefore, pointless to undertake
(C) require a much bigger budget
(D) demands vigilance and punitive measures against those who cut down the trees
14. The dying forest syndrome is a disease that
(A) is peculiar to the forests of Asia
(B) has spread rapidly over the forests of Europe
(C) is confined to the forests of Germany
(D) has affected forests all over the world
15. The writer’s approach toward the problem of forest devastation is one of
(A) tolerance (B) indifference
(C) a well thought-out strategy (D) despondency

16. The writer suggests that
- (A) it is no longer possible to grow trees in industrialized areas
 - (B) pollution-immune trees will absorb toxic emissions
 - (C) all pollution-prone trees should be destroyed
 - (D) it is not possible to grow trees that remain unaffected by pollution

Directions (Questions 17-21): Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.

The martyrs, who laid down their lives for the freedom of the country, had a lofty vision of the future. They wanted the nation to be free from all the slavery and bondage. They wanted an India in which all the communities would live in perfect harmony and in which there would be no high class and no low class of people, the curse of untouchability having been wiped out completely. Women would enjoy equal rights with men and contribute their fullest to the making of a great nation. Such a vision was in keeping with the ancient glory of the country renowned for its splendid achievements in literature, art and culture. We must now revitalise this ancient culture of ours with tolerance as its masthead. If we forget or cease to take pride in our noble heritage, we shall have to face severe indictment in the court of history which is a ruthless judge and seldom spares the erring people.

17. The martyrs who died for the freedom of India wanted
- (A) the country to be the strongest nation in the world
 - (B) the country to rule over the other nations
 - (C) the country to be free from slavery
 - (D) the people to give up their antiquated customs
18. These martyrs wanted that
- (A) there should be reservation in the jobs for the backward sections of the society
 - (B) there should be perfect communal love and peace in the country
 - (C) the old caste system should be retained in the future
 - (D) the women should look after their families only
19. We must strive with our total commitment to
- (A) defeat and overcome the enemies of the nation
 - (B) revitalise our rich past culture
 - (C) inject scientific temper into our past culture
 - (D) make scientific advancements
20. The word 'contribute' is
- (A) an adjective
 - (B) a verb
 - (C) a noun
 - (D) an adverb
21. Our freedom fighters envisioned that in free India
- (A) there would be an egalitarian society
 - (B) women would enjoy higher privileges and rights than others
 - (C) the country would be taken forward by some selected classes of the society
 - (D) industrialisation should occupy the top priority

Directions (Question 22-26): *Combine each set of sentences by choosing the correct answer.*

22. He was praised. He saved a number of lives.
(A) He was praised by saving a number of lives
(B) He saved a number of lives but was praised
(C) He was praised and saved a number of lives
(D) He was praised for saving a number of lives
23. He walked too fast. He stumbled and fell.
(A) He stumbled and fell but walked too fast
(B) He walked too fast that he stumbled and fell
(C) He walked too fast to stumble and fall
(D) He stumbled and fell to walk too fast
24. There was no vehicle. I came on foot.
(A) There was no vehicle so I came on foot
(B) There was no vehicle but I came on foot
(C) There was no vehicle as I came on foot
(D) I came on foot but there was no vehicle
25. We watched the children. They were playing.
(A) We watched the children and they were playing
(B) We watched the children playing
(C) They were playing and we watched the children
(D) We watched the children but they were playing
26. She is very weak. She cannot lift the bag.
(A) She is too weak to lift the bag
(B) She is very weak and she cannot lift the bag
(C) She is too weak and she cannot lift the bag
(D) She is too weak but cannot lift the bag

Directions (Question 27-29): *Select the INCORRECTLY spelt word.*

27. (A) Acquire (B) Acquaintance
(C) Acquisitive (D) Acrobatic
28. (A) Momento (B) Momentum
(C) Momentary (D) Momentous
29. (A) Privilege (B) Millennium
(C) Conscentious (D) Maneuver

Directions (Question 30-32): *Select the most appropriate ANTONYM of the given word.*

30. SYMPATHY
(A) Empathy (B) Apathy
(C) Vice (D) Pity

31. COUNTERFEIT
(A) Standardized (B) Duplicate
(C) Original (D) Discordant
32. OBSOLETE
(A) Rare (B) Recent
(C) Useless (D) Conducive

Directions (Questions 33-37): *Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.*

High altitude climbing is still a very dangerous task inspite of the availability of oxygen masks and other protective equipment which modern climbers take with them. These, of course, are indispensable accessories of climbing, but more important than this is the stamina of the climber which ultimately determines the success of his attempts throughout his journey. Death is his constant companion which he can keep at a distance only with his superb presence of mind. He has to tread every inch of the ground with the utmost care, for a first step may not only strike him a fatal blow but also bring disaster to the whole expedition. That is why all expeditions invariably take with them their local guides who are experienced climbers and who have a thorough knowledge of the nature of the terrain. Moreover, a huge amount of capital is needed for financing their expeditions, and this is generally provided by government or rich private organisations.

33. Things needed for a particular purpose is known as
(A) equipment (B) accessories
(C) tread (D) thorough
34. The similar word for 'always' is
(A) ultimately (B) tread
(C) invariably (D) utmost
35. Something absolutely essential is called
(A) equipment (B) indispensable
(C) superb (D) expedition
36. Which factor do not determine the success of the climber?
(A) stamina (B) knowledge of the terrain
(C) presence of mind (D) confidence
37. The most important precaution that climbers should take during their journey is
(A) a huge amount of money (B) a good team
(C) to take local guide (D) to find the shortest route

Directions (Questions 38-42): *Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.*

We have been brought up to fear insects. We regard them as unnecessary creatures that do more harm than good. Man continually wages war on them, for they contaminate his food, carry diseases, or devour his crops. They sting or bite without provocation, they fly

uninvited into our rooms on summer nights, or beat against our lighted windows. We live in dread not only of unpleasant insects like spiders or wasps, but of quite harmless ones like moths. Reading about them increases our understanding without dispelling our fears. Knowing that the industrious ant lives in a highly organised society does nothing to prevent us from being filled with revulsion when we find hordes of them crawling over a carefully prepared picnic lunch.

No matter how much we like honey, for how much we have read about the uncanny sense of direction which bees possess, we have a horror of being stung. Most of our fears are unreasonable, but they are difficult to erase. At the same time, however, insects are strangely fascinating. We enjoy reading about them, especially when we find that, like the praying mantis they live perfectly horrible lives. We enjoy staring at them entranced as they go about their business, unaware (we hope) of our presence. Who has not stood in awe at the sight of a spider pouncing on a fly, or a column of ants triumphantly bearing home an enormous dead beetle?

38. The word 'contaminate' means
(A) mix a lot of things (B) dangerous substance
(C) make impure (D) touch without consent
39. The one word substitution for making somebody angry by knowingly doing something annoying is
(A) contamination (B) dispelling
(C) revulsion (D) provocation
40. The word 'uncanny' means
(A) unnatural (B) entranced
(C) unwanted (D) dangerous
41. What is our attitude to insects?
(A) We love and cherish them
(B) We look upon them with fear and disgust
(C) We treat them as enemies
(D) We cherish their presence
42. What does insect not do?
(A) contaminate (B) devour
(C) carry disease (D) protect

Directions (Question 43-47): Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

43. To sit on the fence
(A) To simply sit and watch
(B) To join neither side, undecided
(C) To join with the better side, leisurely
(D) To relax and enjoy one's situation
44. To put two and two together
(A) To bear the brunt (B) To conclude from obvious fact
(C) To put off (D) To put on a false appearance

45. To break the ice
(A) To start conversation (B) To do something new
(C) To accomplish something difficult (D) To complete the task
46. Through thick and thin
(A) Big and small (B) Large object
(C) Under all conditions (D) Thin and fat
47. To make a pile
(A) To gather something in great quantity (B) To gather information
(C) To make a fortune (D) To make lots of things

Directions (Question 48-52): Given below are four jumbled sentences. Select the option that gives their correct order.

48. (a) They were very poor.
(b) There was a boy named Jack who lived with his mother.
(c) At last she turned him out of the house.
(d) So his mother asked him to find work but Jack refused.
(A) dcab (B) acdb
(C) bdac (D) badc
49. (a) Einstein was a bad student and resented having to attend lectures.
(b) He attended classes regularly and took down notes which he shared with Einstein.
(c) If Einstein passed his examinations, it was only because of Grossman.
(d) His friend Marcel Grossman, on the other hand, was an irreproachable student.
(A) adbc (B) abcd
(C) cdab (D) dabc
50. (a) I pointed it out to the children.
(b) So I asked for a broom to clean them myself.
(c) But they refused to clean them.
(d) Pools of water were everywhere.
(A) dcab (B) dacb
(C) abdc (D) bcda
51. (a) I was very upset to see dear mother under the attack.
(b) As my father was not at home I had to attend on her.
(c) In confusion I could not send my application for leave to my teacher.
(d) I was just getting ready for school when my mother got a heart attack.
(A) adcb (B) dabc
(C) acdb (D) dbac
52. (a) According to some experts, about 6 crore tons of soil is washed away into the sea annually.
(b) The loss has been estimated at about rupees 7000 crores.
(c) Every year India faces tremendous loss due to floods.
(d) Attempts at protective measures have little or no impact, since the cause lies in devastating deforestation.
(A) cdab (B) cadb
(C) abcd (D) adbc

Directions (Questions 53-57): *Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.*

My father and mother were the complements of each other. My mother was fragile, my father robust. Her face was responsive, my father's impassive. My mother's face rippled to emotions as waters to the wind. My mother was not intellectual. Her natural propensity was intuitive. Her face illustrated the saying 'Appearances are deceptive', for it did not show the immense strength of her moral convictions. No one could have inferred from it that she was capable of such fanaticism as she showed over them.

53. By saying that his mother was the complement of his father, the author suggests that she was
- (A) like his father (B) opposed to his father
(C) different from his father (D) indifferent to his father
54. The words 'her face was responsive' mean that
- (A) her face clearly showed her feelings
(B) her face was very attractive
(C) her face was passive
(D) one had to look at her face when she spoke
55. The author's mother held strong views based on
- (A) religious scriptures (B) legal provisions
(C) social customs (D) ethical judgements
56. If it is true that 'appearances are deceptive', how should we judge appearances?
- (A) We should believe them automatically
(B) We should investigate them further
(C) We should refuse to believe them
(D) We should ignore them
57. The antonym of 'fanaticism' is
- (A) devotion (B) moderation
(C) bigotry (D) restraint

Directions (Questions 58-62): *Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.*

Most of us use the products of science – railways, aeroplanes, electricity, wireless and thousands of others – without thinking how they came into existence. We take them for granted, as if we were entitled to them as a matter of right. And we are very proud of the fact that we live in an advanced age and are ourselves so very advanced. Now, there is no doubt that our age is a very different one from previous ages and I think it is perfectly correct to say that it is far more advanced. But that is a different thing from saying that we as individuals or groups are more advanced. It would be the height of absurdity to say that because an engine driver can run an engine and Plato or Socrates could not, the engine driver is more advanced than, or is superior to Plato or Socrates. But it would be perfectly correct to say that the engine itself is a more advanced method of locomotion than Plato's chariot was.

58. Which one of the following statements is correct?
(A) An engine driver cannot be compared to Plato or Socrates
(B) Plato or Socrates is in no way inferior to the engine driver
(C) Plato or Socrates surpassed the engine driver in every respect
(D) An engine driver is cleverer than Plato or Socrates
59. People today are very proud because they
(A) live in a philosophically advanced age
(B) live in a spiritually advanced age
(C) enjoy digital communications
(D) live in a scientifically advanced age
60. Many of us make use of machines
(A) with full knowledge of their genesis
(B) without knowing how they were invented
(C) with very little knowledge of their mechanism
(D) without any knowledge of their historical significance
61. In this passage, the writer mentions Plato and Socrates to emphasise that
(A) they had a great respect for learning
(B) they were men of great scholarship
(C) people as individuals in the modern age are not more advanced than their predecessors
(D) the engine is a better mode of locomotion than Plato's chariot
62. The synonym for 'absurdity' is
(A) impracticality (B) childishness
(C) ridiculousness (D) unintelligence

Directions (Question 63-67): Select the correct passive form of the given sentence.

63. Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone.
(A) Invention of the telephone was done by Alexander Graham Bell
(B) The telephone had been invented by Alexander Graham Bell
(C) The telephone was invented by Alexander Graham Bell
(D) The telephone was being invented by Alexander Graham Bell
64. The little boy had broken the glass.
(A) The glass has been broken by the little boy
(B) The glass was broken by the little boy
(C) The glass had been broken by the little boy
(D) The glass had been broken by the little boy
65. Who drew that picture?
(A) That picture was drawn by who? (B) By whom was that picture drawn?
(C) The picture was drawn by him (D) By whom is the picture drawn?
66. A bus ran over the boy.
(A) The boy was ran over by the bus (B) The boy was run over by the bus
(C) The boy has ran over by the bus (D) The boy had run over by the bus

67. Will you pay your fees next week?
(A) Will the fees paid next week? (B) Will the fee paid next week?
(C) Will the fees be paid next week? (D) Will the fee be paid next week?

Directions (Question 68-72): In the given sentences identify the segment which contains the grammatical error.

68. He said that he was an employee of the gas company and has come to inspect the gas connection.
(A) He said that he was an employee (B) of the gas company
(C) and has come to inspect (D) the gas connection
69. The teacher warns the students not to make a noise but the students did not obey him.
(A) The teacher warns the students (B) not to make a noise
(C) but the students (D) did not obey him
70. Though he denied it the fact made it clear that he had hand in the cruel murder of his friend.
(A) Though he denied it (B) the fact made it clear
(C) that he had hand (D) in the cruel murder of his friend
71. Road accidents were so common nowadays that many people give up their lives everyday owing to them.
(A) Road accidents were so common nowadays
(B) that many people
(C) give up their lives
(D) everyday owing to them
72. In our area the journey by bus is quick and safe than by train.
(A) In our area (B) the journey by bus
(C) is quick and safe (D) than by train

Directions (Question 73-75): Select the most appropriate *SYNONYM* of the given word.

73. LAUD
(A) Like (B) Acknowledge
(C) Praise (D) Record
74. ACCOMPLISHED
(A) Skilled (B) Clumsy
(C) Inept (D) Amateurish
75. INEVITABLE
(A) Unavoidable (B) Necessary
(C) Inability (D) Invisible

Directions (Questions 76-80): Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.

Biological disaster spread through the organism that is developed in the form of

bacteria or microbes. Biological agents spread fast in the environment and affect people. These germs pass from one person to another. They cause communicable diseases which spread and often they take the shape of epidemics.

Some of the biological agents are highly transmissible. For example, in the case of plagues and smallpox they spread very fast. These biological agents or germs are microscopic living organisms which affect man and initiate the process of disease in him. These germs enter the human body mainly by inhalation or through cuts or wounds in the body. Bacteria, fungi, viruses and protozoa are the biological agents and they make the human body their host. Once inside the host's body, these microbes start affecting the immune system and consequently break it down. Water also plays a major role in the spread of these biological agents. Lack of proper sanitary facilities is a major cause for the spread of the disease.

76. Biological disaster spread through
(A) organism (B) microbes
(C) air (D) water
77. Germs pass on from
(A) animals to humans (B) environment to person
(C) person to person (D) person to animals
78. Germs enter the human body
(A) through cuts or wounds (B) through water
(C) through the nose (D) through edibles
79. What plays a major role in the spread of biological agents?
(A) Air (B) Water
(C) Smoke (D) Animals
80. A contagious bacterial disease characterized by fever and delirium, typically with the formation of buboes and sometimes infection of the lungs is
(A) germs (B) smallpox
(C) fungi (D) plague

Directions (Questions 81-85): Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Your answers must be based on the passage only.

The earthquake struck on Friday at 2:46 pm Tokyo time. At first there was the roaring and rumbling of the temblor which shook skyscrapers, toppled furniture and buckled highways. This was followed by enormous waves, about 30 feet high, that rushed on to the shore and whisked away cars and entire buildings toward highways, fields and factories. This devastating tsunami, set off by the 8.9 magnitude earthquake, was the worst disaster to have hit Japan since the time of World War II.

For more than two terrifying, seemingly endless minutes on Friday, the most powerful earthquake ever recorded in Japan shook apart homes and buildings, cracked open highways and unnerved even those who had learnt to live with swaying skyscrapers. Then came a devastating tsunami that slammed into north-eastern Japan and killed hundreds of people.

The violent wall of water swept away houses, cars and ships. Large fishing boats and vessels rode the high waves slamming against overpasses or scraping under them and snapping

power lines along the way. A fleet of partially submerged cars bobbed in the water. Ships anchored in ports crashed against each other.

81. The word 'devastating' means
(A) highly destructive (B) to an extreme extent
(C) highly powerful (D) very impressive
82. 'Overpasses' in this passage means
(A) surpass
(B) a double bridge
(C) a bridge by which a road passes over another
(D) a boundary wall
83. Why did the two minutes seem endless?
(A) because of the tsunami (B) because of the earthquake
(C) because of the waves (D) because of the skyscrapers
84. 'Submerged' means
(A) underwater (B) filled with water
(C) crushed and broken (D) flattened and crushed
85. Which among the following happen first?
(A) enormous waves (B) power lines snapping
(C) highways cracked open (D) earthquake

Directions (Questions 86-90): Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.

86. He found the _____ of his office job difficult to bear.
(A) monopoly (B) malpractice
(C) magnanimity (D) monotony
87. To reach the agreement, each side had to _____ by giving up some of its demands.
(A) compliment (B) compensate
(C) compromise (D) comply
88. The books supplied by the shop were not only rare, they were _____ also.
(A) priceless (B) cheap
(C) valueless (D) useless
89. A good leader _____ his/her followers in such a way that they become a better being.
(A) guides (B) leads
(C) encourages (D) controls
90. The instructor saw her _____ and helped her train so as to master her skills.
(A) potential (B) quality
(C) ability (D) strength

Directions (Questions 91-95): *Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.*

91. A handwriting that cannot be read
(A) Illegible (B) Illogical
(C) Incoherent (D) Legible
92. Within an ace of
(A) Narrowly (B) Wider
(C) Narrow (D) Width
93. To write something quickly
(A) Joule (B) Jolt
(C) Jostle (D) Jot
94. By leaps and bounds
(A) Intermittently (B) Rapidly
(C) Gradually (D) Slowly
95. In exactly the same words as were used originally
(A) Fastidious (B) Verbatim
(C) Specific (D) Defined

Directions (Questions 96-100): *Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underlined segment in the given sentence. If no substitution is required, select 'No improvement'.*

96. You must explain as to why you were late.
(A) about why (B) on why
(C) why (D) No Improvement
97. He secured the first position in a hundred metres race.
(A) a hundred metre race (B) hundred metres race
(C) one hundred metres race (D) No improvement
98. By all means you have to complete the task in a month's time.
(A) No improvement (B) After one month
(C) Within a month (D) For a month
99. He declared that he must get this job by hook or by crook.
(A) No improvement (B) By all means
(C) By unfair means (D) By playing tricks
100. The contractor left no stone unturned to use all available material for completing the work.
(A) No improvement (B) Gathered all the stones
(C) Did everything possible (D) Searched all the stones