

**GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO
THE POST OF LOWER DIVISION CLERK (PE)
(SEPTEMBER-2026)**

**PAPER-I
(GENERAL KNOWLEDGE, GENERAL ENGLISH, ESSAY
WRITING & ENGLISH COMPREHENSION)**

Full Marks : 200
Time Allowed : 3 Hours

Signature of Invigilator _____

CODE :

(For official use)

SUBJECT	MARK CARRIED BY EACH QUESTION / TOPIC	NO. OF CORRECT ANSWERS	NO. OF WRONG ANSWERS	MARKS OBTAINED
GK	2			
Gen. English	2			
Essay Writing	20			
English Comp.	30			
TOTAL				

Signature of Examiner : _____

**GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO
THE POST OF LOWER DIVISION CLERK (PE)
(SEPTEMBER-2026)**

**PAPER-I
(GENERAL KNOWLEDGE, GENERAL ENGLISH, ESSAY
WRITING & ENGLISH COMPREHENSION)**

Full Marks : 200
Time Allowed : 3 Hours

Signature of Invigilator _____

CODE :

(For official use)

Roll No. : _____

PART-A (MCQ - 150 MARKS)

All questions carry 2 marks each.

For Question No. 1 - 75, Put a tick (✓) mark against the correct answer in the space given in each question.

Notes regarding Negative Marking :

- (i) *There will be a penalty (negative marking) for every wrong answer given by a candidate in the MCQ type questions.*
 - (ii) *For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, one-third of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.*
 - (iii) *If a candidate gives more than one answer to one question, it will be treated as wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be the same penalty as above for that question.*
 - (iv) *If any question is left blank i.e. no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.*
-

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (100 MARKS)

1. The archaeological sites of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa are located in present-day:
 - (a) Gujarat (India) and Rajasthan (India), respectively ()
 - (b) Punjab (Pakistan) and Rajasthan (India), respectively ()
 - (c) Sindh (Pakistan) and Gujarat (India), respectively ()
 - (d) **Sindh (Pakistan) and Punjab (Pakistan), respectively** ()
2. The Buddhist First Council was held at:
 - (a) Vaishali ()
 - (b) **Rajagriha** ()
 - (c) Pataliputra ()
 - (d) Kashmir ()
3. Nalanda University was established during the reign of:
 - (a) Chandragupta II ()
 - (b) Skandagupta ()
 - (c) **Kumaragupta I** ()
 - (d) Samudragupta ()
4. The First Battle of Panipat (1526) was fought between Babur and:
 - (a) **Ibrahim Lodi** ()
 - (b) Sher Shah Suri ()
 - (c) Rana Sanga ()
 - (d) Sikandar Lodi ()

5. Who was the first editor and one of the founders of *The Hindu* newspaper (1878)?
- (a) **G. Subramania Iyer** ()
 - (b) Dadabhai Naoroji ()
 - (c) Gopal Krishna Gokhale ()
 - (d) Surendranath Banerjee ()
6. Which Act transferred the administration of India from the East India Company to the British Crown?
- (a) Indian Councils Act, 1861 ()
 - (b) **Government of India Act, 1858** ()
 - (c) Regulating Act, 1773 ()
 - (d) Charter Act, 1833 ()
7. The first general election in independent India was held during:
- (a) 1949–50 ()
 - (b) 1950–51 ()
 - (c) **1951–52** ()
 - (d) 1952–53 ()
8. Who became the first non-Congress Prime Minister of India?
- (a) **Morarji Desai** ()
 - (b) Charan Singh ()
 - (c) Atal Bihari Vajpayee ()
 - (d) V. P. Singh ()
9. How many times has the Preamble to the Constitution of India been amended?
- (a) Never ()
 - (b) **Once** ()
 - (c) Twice ()
 - (d) Three times ()
10. Which colour of the Indian National Flag represents fertility, growth and auspiciousness of the land?
- (a) Saffron ()
 - (b) White ()
 - (c) **Green** ()
 - (d) Navy blue ()
11. The federal structure of the Indian Constitution is primarily based on which of the following Acts?
- (a) Indian Councils Act, 1909 ()
 - (b) Government of India Act, 1919 ()
 - (c) **Government of India Act, 1935** ()
 - (d) Indian Independence Act, 1947 ()
12. Which of the following Constitutional Amendments made it mandatory for the President of India to act on the advice of the Council of Ministers?
- (a) **42nd Constitutional Amendment Act** ()
 - (b) 44th Constitutional Amendment Act ()
 - (c) 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act ()
 - (d) 61st Constitutional Amendment Act ()

13. Originally, how many languages were included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India?
- (a) 12 ()
- (b) **14** ()
- (c) 16 ()
- (d) 18 ()
14. Under the Constitution of India, disputes relating to the election of the President are decided by the:
- (a) High Court concerned ()
- (b) **Supreme Court of India** ()
- (c) Election Commission of India ()
- (d) Parliament ()
15. Which state became the first state after Independence to enact and implement its own Uniform Civil Code (UCC)?
- (a) Goa ()
- (b) **Uttarakhand** ()
- (c) Gujarat ()
- (d) Uttar Pradesh ()
16. Which of the following clouds generally produce thunderstorms?
- (a) Cirrus ()
- (b) Stratus ()
- (c) **Cumulonimbus** ()
- (d) Altostratus ()
17. The Coriolis force is caused by the:
- (a) Revolution of the Earth around the Sun ()
- (b) **Rotation of the Earth on its axis** ()
- (c) Gravitational pull of the Moon ()
- (d) Unequal heating of the Earth's surface ()
18. Port Blair is situated on:
- (a) North Andaman Island ()
- (b) Middle Andaman Island ()
- (c) **South Andaman Island** ()
- (d) Little Andaman Island ()
19. The Tropic of Cancer passes through how many Indian states?
- (a) 6 ()
- (b) 7 ()
- (c) **8** ()
- (d) 9 ()
20. Which pass connects Srinagar with Leh?
- (a) **Zoji La** ()
- (b) Nathu La ()
- (c) Shipki La ()
- (d) Rohtang Pass ()

21. Which is the largest freshwater lake in India?
- (a) **Wular Lake** ()
 - (b) Loktak Lake ()
 - (c) Vembanad Lake ()
 - (d) Dal Lake ()
22. Which is the highest plateau in India?
- (a) Malwa Plateau ()
 - (b) Deccan Plateau ()
 - (c) **Ladakh Plateau** ()
 - (d) Meghalaya Plateau ()
23. Which state has the largest number of National Parks in India?
- (a) **Madhya Pradesh** ()
 - (b) Assam ()
 - (c) Karnataka ()
 - (d) Rajasthan ()
24. The Ramsar Convention is primarily concerned with the conservation and wise use of:
- (a) Forests ()
 - (b) **Wetlands** ()
 - (c) Grasslands ()
 - (d) Coral Reefs ()
25. Which ministry is the nodal ministry for the implementation of the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Act in India?
- (a) Ministry of Finance ()
 - (b) **Ministry of Commerce and Industry** ()
 - (c) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) ()
 - (d) Ministry of Corporate Affairs ()
26. Which of the following duties is levied by the Union Government but collected and appropriated by the States?
- (a) Customs Duty ()
 - (b) Corporation Tax ()
 - (c) **Certain Stamp Duties mentioned in the Union List** ()
 - (d) Securities Transaction Tax ()
27. Which institution is responsible for managing India's foreign exchange reserves?
- (a) SEBI ()
 - (b) Ministry of Finance ()
 - (c) **RBI** ()
 - (d) EXIM Bank ()
28. Which of the following is *not* covered under the RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme?
- (a) Banking services ()
 - (b) Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) services ()
 - (c) Payment system services ()
 - (d) **Income tax disputes** ()

29. India's National Multidimensional Poverty Index is published by:
- (a) RBI ()
 - (b) **NITI Aayog** ()
 - (c) Ministry of Finance ()
 - (d) NSSO ()
30. The headquarters of OPEC is located in:
- (a) Geneva ()
 - (b) Abu Dhabi ()
 - (c) **Vienna** ()
 - (d) Kuwait City ()
31. Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) is maintained by:
- (a) RBI ()
 - (b) **Commercial Banks** ()
 - (c) Ministry of Finance ()
 - (d) NABARD ()
32. The splitting of white light into its constituent colours on passing through a prism is called:
- (a) Reflection ()
 - (b) Refraction ()
 - (c) **Dispersion** ()
 - (d) Diffraction ()
33. Which part of the eye controls the amount of light entering the eye?
- (a) Retina ()
 - (b) **Iris** ()
 - (c) Lens ()
 - (d) Cornea ()
34. Galvanisation is the process of coating iron or steel with:
- (a) Copper ()
 - (b) **Zinc** ()
 - (c) Tin ()
 - (d) Aluminium ()
35. When common salt is added to pure water, the boiling point of the solution compared to pure water:
- (a) Decreases ()
 - (b) Remains unchanged ()
 - (c) **Increases** ()
 - (d) First increases and then decreases ()
36. Which of the following metals is a key component of the cathode material in many lithium-ion batteries?
- (a) Cadmium ()
 - (b) Mercury ()
 - (c) Lead ()
 - (d) **Cobalt** ()

37. A child has blood group O. Which one of the following combinations of parental blood groups is not possible?
- (a) A and O ()
 - (b) B and O ()
 - (c) A and B ()
 - (d) **AB and O** ()
38. Which organ of the human body is commonly referred to as the “blood bank” because it stores and releases blood whenever required by the body?
- (a) Liver ()
 - (b) Kidney ()
 - (c) **Spleen** ()
 - (d) Heart ()
39. The discovery of radium is primarily associated with:
- (a) **Marie and Pierre Curie** ()
 - (b) Ernest Rutherford and Niels Bohr ()
 - (c) J. J. Thomson and James Chadwick ()
 - (d) Watson and Crick ()
40. GLONASS, a global satellite navigation system, is operated by which country?
- (a) China ()
 - (b) Japan ()
 - (c) **Russia** ()
 - (d) Germany ()
41. Instagram was founded by:
- (a) **Kevin Systrom and Mike Krieger** ()
 - (b) Larry Page and Sergey Brin ()
 - (c) Brian Acton and Jan Koum ()
 - (d) Chad Hurley and Steve Chen ()
42. In smartphone technology, NFC stands for:
- (a) Network Frequency Control ()
 - (b) **Near Field Communication** ()
 - (c) Near Frequency Connection ()
 - (d) Near Frequency Channel ()
43. In traditional Mizo society, the term *Zau dawh* was related to:
- (a) Thlam ()
 - (b) Chhiah khawn chungchang ()
 - (c) Lo neih ()
 - (d) **Khuangchawi** ()
44. *Thlahpawi*, in the traditional Mizo social system, used to assist:
- (a) Bawlpu ()
 - (b) **Sadawt** ()
 - (c) Thirideng ()
 - (d) None of the above ()

45. In which year was the first Mizo newspaper, *Mizo Chanchin Laisuih*, published?
- (a) **1898** ()
- (b) 1892 ()
- (c) 1908 ()
- (d) 1896 ()
46. How many times has the State of Mizoram come under President's Rule?
- (a) **Once** ()
- (b) Twice ()
- (c) Three times ()
- (d) Four times ()
47. The natural tourist attraction known as the Castle of Bawinu/Beino is located on which of the following rivers?
- (a) **Chhintuipui** ()
- (b) Khawthlangtuipui ()
- (c) Mat Lui ()
- (d) Tuichang ()
48. Capt. L. Z. Sailo was conferred the Padma Bhushan in which of the following fields?
- (a) Public Affairs ()
- (b) **Literature and Education** ()
- (c) Social Work ()
- (d) Art & Literature ()
49. Who is the author of *Sialton Official*?
- (a) Kaphleia ()
- (b) **C. Thuamluaia** ()
- (c) James Dokhuma ()
- (d) Lalzuithanga ()
50. How many Ministers of State are there in the present Council of Ministers of the Government of Mizoram?
- (a) 3 ()
- (b) **4** ()
- (c) 5 ()
- (d) 6 ()

GENERAL ENGLISH (50 MARKS)

Direction (Question Nos. 51-60) : Choose the most appropriate option to complete each sentence.

51. Neither the instructions issued by the examination board nor the revised timetable _____ available on the official website.
- (a) **is** ()
- (b) are ()
- (c) has ()
- (d) have ()

52. The district administration launched _____ awareness campaign to encourage citizens to report online fraud promptly.
- (a) a ()
(b) **an** ()
(c) the ()
(d) no article ()
53. People often argue _____ whether technology brings more benefits than problems.
- (a) among ()
(b) between ()
(c) **over** ()
(d) with ()
54. By the time the rescue team reached the village, the river _____ several low-lying houses.
- (a) inundates ()
(b) has inundated ()
(c) **had inundated** ()
(d) was inundating ()
55. She _____ have been practicing for months; her performance was flawless and effortless.
- (a) might ()
(b) **must** ()
(c) would ()
(d) used to ()
56. If the department _____ the warning earlier, the disruption to public services could have been avoided.
- (a) acted upon ()
(b) **had acted upon** ()
(c) would act upon ()
(d) has acted upon ()
57. When the two officers met the contractors, _____ asked them to submit the revised estimate by Friday.
- (a) he ()
(b) she ()
(c) **they** ()
(d) it ()
58. The new digital system is faster _____ it is not completely free from technical problems.
- (a) because ()
(b) **although** ()
(c) unless ()
(d) so that ()
59. The witness gave a _____ account of the incident, leaving no room for doubt.
- (a) **convincing** ()
(b) convince ()
(c) convincingly ()
(d) conviction ()

60. The committee recommended _____ the damaged footbridge before the monsoon intensified.
- (a) to repair ()
 - (b) repairing** ()
 - (c) repaired ()
 - (d) repair ()

Direction (Question 61-62) : Choose the option that correctly transforms the given sentence as directed.

61. Change into passive voice:

The authorities are reviewing the applications submitted through the new recruitment portal.

- (a) The applications are reviewed by the authorities through the new recruitment portal. ()
- (b) The applications were being reviewed by the authorities through the new recruitment portal. ()
- (c) The applications are being reviewed by the authorities through the new recruitment portal.** ()
- (d) The applications have been reviewed by the authorities through the new recruitment portal. ()

62. Change into indirect speech:

The supervisor said to the interns, "Do not share the confidential file outside the department."

- (a) The supervisor told the interns do not share the confidential file outside the department. ()
- (b) The supervisor asked the interns that they should not share the confidential file outside the department. ()
- (c) The supervisor said that the interns did not share the confidential file outside the department. ()
- (d) The supervisor advised the interns not to share the confidential file outside the department.** ()

63. Choose the appropriate question tag:

Big cities will become more crowded every year, _____?

- (a) won't they** ()
- (b) will they ()
- (c) won't it ()
- (d) isn't it ()

Direction (Question Nos. 64-65): Choose the most appropriate word or form of the word to complete each sentence correctly.

64. The officer _____ report exposed serious irregularities was transferred to another district.

- (a) who ()
- (b) whom ()
- (c) whose** ()
- (d) which ()

65. The training programme aims at improving communication skills, strengthening teamwork and _____ professional confidence.
- (a) to develop ()
 - (b) developing** ()
 - (c) develop ()
 - (d) developed ()

Direction (Question Nos. 66-67) : Choose the grammatically correct sentence from the alternatives given below.

- 66.
- (a) The information provided by the applicants were incomplete. ()
 - (b) The informations provided by the applicants were incomplete. ()
 - (c) The information provided by the applicants was incomplete.** ()
 - (d) The information provided by the applicants have been incomplete. ()
- 67.
- (a) Having completed the inspection, the report was submitted by the officer. ()
 - (b) Having completed the inspection, the officer submitted the report.** ()
 - (c) The report, having completed the inspection, was submitted by the officer. ()
 - (d) The officer, the inspection having completed, submitted the report. ()

Direction (Question Nos. 68-71): Choose the most appropriate option to complete each sentence.

68. The committee decided to _____ the meeting until the technical experts could examine the new data.
- (a) put off** ()
 - (b) put out ()
 - (c) put through ()
 - (d) put up ()
69. There is _____ water left in the bottle, but it is enough for us to continue the journey.
- (a) few ()
 - (b) a few ()
 - (c) little ()
 - (d) a little** ()
70. _____ the department acted swiftly, the error in the recruitment notice would have caused considerable confusion.
- (a) Had** ()
 - (b) Should ()
 - (c) Were ()
 - (d) Having ()
71. The review committee recommended that the matter _____ before the final decision was announced.
- (a) is reconsidered ()
 - (b) was reconsidered ()
 - (c) be reconsidered** ()
 - (d) has been reconsidered ()

72. Choose the sentence in which the introductory phrase is correctly related to the subject of the main clause.
- (a) After reviewing the applications, several discrepancies were noticed by the officer. ()
 - (b) **After the applications were reviewed, the officer noticed several discrepancies.** ()
 - (c) Reviewing the applications, several discrepancies appeared to the officer. ()
 - (d) Having reviewed, several discrepancies were found in the applications. ()

Direction (Question Nos. 73-74): Choose the option that best expresses the meaning of the underlined word or idiom.

73. The minister's carefully worded statement was intended to **allay** public concern about the temporary shortage of essential supplies.
- (a) intensify ()
 - (b) conceal ()
 - (c) **reduce** ()
 - (d) provoke ()
74. After the applicants had fulfilled all the requirements, the authorities introduced additional conditions, thereby **moving the goalposts**.
- (a) **changing the rules or requirements unfairly after a process has begun** ()
 - (b) setting clear and achievable objectives ()
 - (c) postponing the selection process indefinitely ()
 - (d) transferring responsibility to another authority ()

Direction (Question No. 75): Choose the word that best matches the description given below:

75. A person who deliberately pretends to have beliefs, qualities or virtues that he or she does not actually possess is called a:
- (a) philanthropist ()
 - (b) **hypocrite** ()
 - (c) linguist ()
 - (d) pessimist ()

PART-B (CONVENTIONAL TYPES - 50 MARKS)

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

Marks for each question is indicated against it.

1. Write an essay choosing one of the topics given below: (20 marks)
- (a) Stereotyping of North-East India: Causes, Consequences and the Way Forward
 - (b) Cyberbullying on Social Media: Challenges, Impacts and Preventive Measures
 - (c) The Impact of Technology on Children's Attention Span and Memory Retention
 - (d) Youth and Drug Abuse in Mizoram

Direction (Questions Nos. 2-15) : Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow: (30 marks)

For most people, truth seems obvious because they accept whatever they have always known. Plato's famous idea of the cave challenges this habit. Imagine a group of people who have spent their entire lives inside a dim cave. They are unable to turn around and can see only the wall before them. Behind them, objects pass in front of a fire, creating moving shadows on the wall. Since the prisoners have never seen anything else, they take the shadows at face value and believe them to be the whole of reality.

One day, one prisoner is freed. At first, he finds the bright world outside unbearable. The sunlight hurts his eyes, and the colours of nature seem confusing. He is tempted to throw in the towel and return to the comfort of the cave, where everything appears familiar. However, as time passes, he slowly understands that the outside world is far richer than the shadows he once believed to be true. His difficult journey teaches him that genuine knowledge often requires patience, courage and an open mind.

After discovering the truth, the freed prisoner returns to the cave to help the others. Instead of welcoming him, the remaining prisoners laugh at his strange ideas. They accuse him of being confused because he can no longer recognise the shadows as clearly as before. They prefer to bury their heads in the sand rather than question their long-held beliefs. Their fear of change prevents them from recognising that ignorance can become a prison of the mind.

Plato's story is not merely about a cave but about human life. Many people accept rumours, incomplete information or popular opinions without examining the facts. Education encourages individuals to think independently, ask questions and search for evidence before forming conclusions. Although the pursuit of truth may sometimes be uncomfortable, it leads to wisdom, better judgement and responsible citizenship. Those who dare to question appearances often become guides who help society move from illusion towards understanding.

2. Why did the prisoners believe the shadows to be real? (3)
3. Describe the difficulties faced by the freed prisoner after leaving the cave. (3)
4. Why did the other prisoners reject the freed prisoner's message? (3)
5. According to the passage, what role does education play in human life? (3)
6. Explain the symbolic meaning of the cave in the passage. (3)
7. What qualities helped the freed prisoner discover the truth? (3)
8. What lesson does the passage convey about the pursuit of truth? (3)
9. State whether the following statements are True or False. (2×1=2)
 - (a) The prisoners could see the real objects behind them.
 - (b) The freed prisoner immediately enjoyed the bright sunlight.
10. Fill in the blanks. (2×1=2)
 - (a) The prisoners accepted the shadows as _____.
 - (b) Education encourages people to think _____.
11. Give the meaning of the expression "take the shadows at face value" as used in the passage. (1)
12. Give the meaning of the idiom "throw in the towel." (1)
13. Give the meaning of the idiom "bury their heads in the sand." (1)
14. Give a synonym of the word "genuine" as used in the passage. (1)
15. Give an antonym of the word "ignorance." (1)