

Sikkim Public Service Commission

Main Written Examination for the Post of Assistant Engineer (Civil)

General English & General Knowledge

Paper - I

Time Allowed : 2 Hrs.

Maximum Marks : 100

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Read the following instructions carefully before answering the questions :-

1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to fill in the Roll Number and Test Booklet Serial Number carefully and without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the **OMR ANSWER SHEET**.
3. **Use only Black Ball Point Pen to fill the OMR sheet**
4. Do not write anything else on the OMR Answer Sheet except the required information.
5. **This Test Booklet contains 70 items (questions) in MCQ Mode to be marked in OMR Sheet & Q. No. 71 to 73 i.e. conventional to be written in Seperate Answer Sheet provided.**
6. **All items from Q.1 to Q. 70 carries 1 mark each.**
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet (OMR), you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet (OMR) as per given instructions.
8. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet (OMR) and the examination has concluded, you should hand over the Answer Sheet (OMR) and the Seperate conventional Answer sheet to the Invigilator only . You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. **Marking Scheme**

There will be negative marking for wrong answers marked by a candidate in the objective type question papers.

- (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. 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.
- (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to the question.
- (iii) If a question is left blank. i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no penalty for that question.

DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO

PAPER - I

English

Reading Comprehension

Read the following passage carefully and choose the correct answer

We tend to think of cancer as a modern “illness” because its metaphors are so modern. It is a disease of overproduction, of fulminant growth – growth unstoppable, growth tipped into the abyss of no control. Modern biology encourages us to imagine the cell as a molecular machine. Cancer is that machine unable to quench the initial command (to grow) and thus transformed into an indestructible, self-propelled automation.

The notion of cancer as an affliction that belongs paradigmatically to the twentieth century is reminiscent, as Susan Sontag argued so powerfully in her book *Illness as Metaphor*, of another disease once considered emblematic of another era: tuberculosis in the nineteenth century. Both diseases, as Sontag pointedly noted, were similarly “obscene – in the original meaning of that word: ill-omened; abominable, repugnant to the senses.” Both drain vitality; both stretch out the encounter with death; in both cases, *dying*, even more than death, defines the illness.

But despite such parallels, tuberculosis belongs to another century. TB (or consumption) was Victorian romanticism brought to its pathological extreme – febrile, unrelenting, breathless and obsessive. It was a disease of poets: John Keats involuting silently towards death in a small room overlooking the Spanish steps in Rome, or Byron, an obsessive romantic, who fantasized about dying of the disease to impress his mistresses. “Death and disease are often beautiful, like....the hectic glow of consumption,” Thoreau wrote in 1852. In Thomas Mann’s *The Magic Mountain*, this “hectic glow” releases a feverish creative force that, too, appears to be charged with the essence of its era.

1. ‘We tend to think of cancer as a modern “illness” because its metaphors are so modern’. This means:
 - A. The new generation is represented by cancer.
 - B. Cancer as a disease is new and growing constantly.
 - C. The nature of cancer is similar to that of the modern times.
 - D. The growth of modern era is largely symbolized by cancer.
2. Which of the following is NOT true about Susan Sontag’s argument?
 - A. Death and dying is a constant struggle of time.
 - B. Both represent a particular era of time and age.
 - C. The diseases take away energy and enthusiasm.
 - D. The nature of the diseases is prolonged ailment.

3. **'Despite such parallels' means**
- A. in view of the similarities
 - B. in spite of the comparison
 - C. because of the diseases
 - D. due to the difference in eras
4. **For the poets, tuberculosis was**
- A. silent
 - B. beautiful
 - C. romantic
 - D. obsessive
5. **Self-propelled is an example of a/an**
- A. Oxymoron word
 - B. Onomatopoeic word
 - C. Binomial word
 - D. Compound word
6. **What do we understand about the two diseases from the passage?**
- A. It is marked by fear of the illness.
 - B. It is a representative of the time.
 - C. It was not easy to find a cure for recovery.
 - D. It spread rapidly among the famous people.
7. **Emblematic in the sentence '.....considered emblematic of another era' is a/an**
- A. Adjective
 - B. Verb
 - C. Noun
 - D. Pronoun

8-10 Choose the correct option.

8. **The dramatic expulsion of top athletes from the world's premier bicycle race focused attention on the arcane practice of blood doping.**
- A. The expulsion was dramatic.
 - B. Expelling the top athletes was beneficial.
 - C. Blood doping was practiced by the players.
 - D. Top athletes participate in the world's cycle race

9. There are two types of people in the world, those who divide the world into two types of people and those who don't.

- A. Divisive people are of two types
- B. Some people are not divisive
- C. All the people are divisive.
- D. The world is divided.

10. Parents tend to think that other children tell lies but theirs don't.

- A. Parents are thoughtless.
- B. Children having parents lie
- C. Parents have lying children
- D. All children lie

11-13 Choose the odd word

11.

- A. trowel
- B. spade
- C. sickle
- D. saw

12.

- A. guffaw
- B. chuckle
- C. murmur
- D. giggle

13.

- A. beige
- B. rosy
- C. flushed
- D. crimson

14-15 Choose the correct word/phrase to complete the sentence.

14. My friend Seema is as blind as a _____ without her spectacles.

- A. bat
- B. boar
- C. crow
- D. sheep

15. Someone hacked _____ my bank account online!
- A. in
B. into
C. off
D. inside
- 16-17 Choose the word /phrase which means the same as the underlined word/phrase.
16. The play satirized several famous political figures, using wit and sarcasm to expose their folly.
- A. admired
B. ignored
C. ridiculed
D. mimicked
17. I'm pretty cheesed off about the whole matter. It really wasn't my fault!
- A. annoyed
B. hurt
C. sad
D. jealous
- 18-20 Identify the underlined expression that is incorrect.
18. The ball went between the legs of another player, past me towards the goal, and rolled through the goal line.
- A B C D
19. A third of them had blue triangles and two-thirds had green squares or circles, but I didn't like either colours or any of the designs.
- A B C D
20. The main door couldn't be opened. It had been locked by a special key that the caretaker didn't have. He had been given a large set of keys, but none of them fitted the main door.
- A B C D

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

21. Who was awarded the Nikkei Asia Prize on 13th June 2018 for for his contribution to Asia's development ?
- A. Bindeshwar Pathak
 - B. Edward Leung
 - C. David Douglas Duncan
 - D. Harsh Vardhan
22. Which rule of the Lok Sabha specifies the procedure for a motion of a No-Confidence?
- A. Rule 200
 - B. Rule 198
 - C. Rule 190
 - D. Rule 330
23. Which state government has launched an online portal 'Aabhar Apki Sewa Ka' for pensioners?
- A. New Delhi
 - B. Telangana
 - C. Rajasthan
 - D. Chhatishgarh
24. Who is the current President of Columbia who also won the Noble peace prize for his efforts to end the war?
- A. Alvaro Uribe
 - B. Gustavo Pedro
 - C. Juan Manuel Santos
 - D. None of the above
25. Which country is hosting the 4th BIMSTEC Summit in August 2018?
- A. Bangladesh
 - B. Sri lanka
 - C. Nepal
 - D. Bhutan

26. Who became the first Indian woman to win gold in World Junior Athletics?
- A. Jisna Mathew
 - B. Hima Das
 - C. Nidhi Singh
 - D. Anamika das
27. What is the colour of the new 100 ripe note?
- A. Lavender
 - B. Orange
 - C. Blue
 - D. Green
28. If force is expressed in newton and the distance in meter, then the work done is expressed in-
- A. Joule
 - B. Kg wt.
 - C. kg wt an
 - D. watt
29. Which resolution has been adopted by UNSC to impose an arms embargo on South Sudan?
- A. Resolution 5028
 - B. Resolution 4212
 - C. Resolution 2428
 - D. Resolution 5328
30. Who won the Golden Ball in FIFA World Cup 2018?
- A. Kylian Mbappe
 - B. Ivan Perisic
 - C. Luka Modric
 - D. Antoine Griezmann
31. The 6th biennial World Cities Summit was held in
- A. Bangkok
 - B. Paris
 - C. New York
 - D. Singapore

32. Which of the following is the composite indicator that measures short term changes in volume of production of basket of industrial products during given period with respect to chosen base period?
- A. IIM
 - B. IIT
 - C. IIP
 - D. None of the above
33. India's rank among 130 countries according to recently released Global Innovation Index (GII) is
- A. 85th
 - B. 57th
 - C. 12th
 - D. 112th
34. Which animal's habitat according to recent studies is threatened due to climate change?
- A. Tiger
 - B. Wild cats
 - C. Nilgiri Tahr
 - D. Hyenas
35. Which of the following schedules of the constitution of India has to be amended to provide for the formation of a new state?
- A. First schedule
 - B. Second schedule
 - C. Third schedule
 - D. Ninth schedule
36. Which Indian gymnast is the first to win the gold in the vault event in Gymnastic World Challenge Cup?
- A. Dipa Karmakar
 - B. Aruna Reddy
 - C. Simone Biles
 - D. Aly Raismann

37. Which of the following items/subjects belongs to the concurrent list of the 8th schedule of the Indian Constitution?
- A. Forests
 - B. Stock Exchanges
 - C. Agriculture
 - D. None of the above
38. The Naked face is a popular book written by
- A. Dominique Lapierre
 - B. Larry Collins
 - C. Sidney Sheldon
 - D. Juan Benet
39. Which is India's longest road tunnel?
- A. Rohtang tunnel
 - B. Aut tunnel
 - C. Natuwadi tunnel
 - D. Chenani Nashri tunnel
40. What is the state flower of Sikkim?
- A. Rhododendron
 - B. Cattleya
 - C. Dendrobium anosmum
 - D. Dendrobium nobile
41. India's first ever state of the art e-waste unit will come up in which city?
- A. Bengaluru
 - B. Mumbai
 - C. Delhi
 - D. Kolkata
42. Which among the following is not a subsidiary of RBI?
- A. National Housing Bank
 - B. NABARD
 - C. 'Bhartiya Reserve Bank note Mudran Private Limited
 - D. SIDBI

43. Which famous Indian classical dancer has been nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the president?
- A. Sonal Mansingh
 - B. Yamini Krishnam
 - C. Mallika Sarabhai
 - D. Rukmini Devi
44. The concept of Universal Banking was implemented in India on the recommendations of
- A. Abid Hussain Committee
 - B. R H Khan
 - C. S Padmanabhan
 - D. Y H Malegam
45. Who is the advisor of the newly formed soccer body in Sikkim?
- A. Sanju Pradhan
 - B. Sunil Chhetri
 - C. Jerry Basi
 - D. Nirmal Chhetri
46. Which Indian beach is the first to get the Asia's 'Blue Flag Tag'?
- A. Kovalam Beach
 - B. Chandrabhaga Beach
 - C. Havelock Beach
 - D. Marari Beach
47. 'Walking the Line' the second album is soon to be released by which Indian band?
- A. Indian Ocean
 - B. Girish and the Chronicles
 - C. Avial
 - D. Cactus
48. Who was the winner of the FPAI 'Young Player of the Year'?
- A. Jerry Mawihmingthanga
 - B. Udanta Singh
 - C. Jerry Lalrinzuala
 - D. Anirudh Thapa

49. Who played the role of adult 'Mini' in the film 'Bioscopewalah'?
- A. Tisca Chopra
 - B. Maya Sarao
 - C. Geetanjali Thapa
 - D. Ekavali Khanna
50. Which of the following project is launched for offering immediate response emergency help, medical support, and legal and psychological assistance to affected woman and girls even below the age of 18 years?
- A. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana
 - B. One Stop Center Scheme
 - C. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
 - D. Mahila E-Haat
51. Who has initiated the process of introducing QR code in the text books?
- A. NCERT
 - B. UGC
 - C. AICTE
 - D. NAAC
52. Who is the director of the film 'Bioscopewalah'?
- A. Danny Denzongpa
 - B. Sandesh Shandilya
 - C. Sunil Doshi
 - D. Deb Medhekar
53. Which organisation has partnered with Google to track environmental changes?
- A. Microsoft
 - B. Greenpeace
 - C. United nation
 - D. None of the above
54. Which state got the award for the 'Most Film friendly State' 2017?
- A. Karnataka
 - B. Madhya Pradesh
 - C. Odisha
 - D. Gujarat

55. World's longest Sandstone cave was discovered in
- Assam
 - Arunachal Pradesh
 - Uttarakhand
 - Meghalaya
56. Arrange the following events/movements in the correct order of their chronology.
- Rowlatt Act & Satyagraha
 - Civil Disobedience Movement
 - Boycott of Simon Commission
 - Quit India Movement
- 1,2,3,4
 - 1,3,2,4
 - 2,3,4,1
 - 2,4,1,3
57. On which date 'World No Tobacco Day' is observed?
- May 20
 - May 30
 - May 31
 - June 2nd
58. Which state launched the scheme 'Prakash hai to Vikas Hai'?
- Haryana
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Meghalaya
 - Nagaland
59. What is the term served by the UN Secretary General?
- 3 years
 - 5 years
 - 2 years
 - 6years

60. The International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed on
- A. February 20
 - B. February 21
 - C. March 20
 - D. March 21
61. Dalai Lama is the temporal head of which school of Tibetan Buddhism?
- A. Nyingmapa
 - B. Kagyupa
 - C. Sakyapa
 - D. Gelugpa
62. Which of the following colours has got the maximum refractive index for glass?
- A. Blue
 - B. Green
 - C. Red
 - D. Indigo
63. Which is the host city of the 2020 Summer Olympics?
- A. Perth
 - B. Rome
 - C. Tokyo
 - D. Capetown
64. Gargling with solution of table salt is known to provide relief for a sore throat because
- A. It kills bacteria
 - B. It works as analgesic
 - C. It dehydrates water from inflammatory tissues by osmosis
 - D. Placebo effect
65. Chief Minister of Sikkim Pawan Kumar Chamling was conferred with the first Bhairon Singh Sekhawati Lifetime Achievement Honour by the President of India in the year 2017. The award was instituted by -
- A. Haryana
 - B. Rajasthan
 - C. Gujarat
 - D. Maharashtra

66. Which among the following strictly works on the principal of di-pole moment of water molecules?
- A. Refrigerator
 - B. Microwave Oven
 - C. Air Conditioner
 - D. Electric Geyser
67. What is the total Geographical area of Sikkim under Tree cover forest as per the forest report 2017 -
- A. 59.60
 - B. 47.62
 - C. 45.83
 - D. 41.58
68. The first metal to be used by man was
- A. Aluminium
 - B. Copper
 - C. Iron
 - D. Silver
69. Which of the following Apps have been launched by the government in June 2018 to trace missing and abandoned children in India?
- A. ReUnite
 - B. Scout
 - C. Rummage
 - D. Pathway
70. Which of the following is the world's first medicine made from marijuana that has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration?
- A. Aconite
 - B. Epidiolex
 - C. Nux Vomica
 - D. Calendula

Writing Section:-

30 Marks

71. The rapid pace of development in our state has resulted in an increase in indiscriminate construction work much of it at the cost of our forests and greenery. In about 250 words, write a letter to the editor of a local daily giving your views on the various ways this will impact the environment in the long run. Also, suggest alternative ways in which the state could meet this challenge while protecting the natural world.
10 Marks
72. You have been posted in the district office. Your office has decided to take up an important project as part of the District Development Plan. In about 250 words write a Project Report for the same. You may decide on any project of your choice. Include all the necessary details required for a Project Report.
10 Marks
73. There has been an increase in the number of sexual assaults on children in our society. In about 250 words write a report for a youth magazine on this inhuman and deplorable action and how this is affecting our society and children. Suggest ways in which the young people can be more vigilant while helping the government tackle the menace.
10 Marks