

Sikkim Public Service Commission

Main Written Examination for the Post of Assistant Programmer

& Commercial Tax Inspector

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. Question No. 71 to 73 i.e. conventional, which has 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

Read the passage and answer the following :-

In response to the increasing environmental damage wrought by poachers, authorities placed a ban on ivory in the 1980s. Although the ban resulted in an initial decrease in the sale and trade of illegal ivory and a concurrent increase in the elephant population, more pressing needs caused most Western nations to withdraw funding for poaching prevention programs. Without significant financial support, poorer countries were unable to effectively combat poachers. The resulting explosion in the ivory trade has seen prices increase to nearly 10 times the \$45 per pound price at the beginning of the decade. Unfortunately, the countries with the worst poaching problems have also tended to be the ones least able to combat the problem due to unstable political systems, corruption, lack of comprehensive enforcement programs, or some combination of all these factors. One primary hindrance to better enforcement of the ivory ban came from an inability to definitively identify the country of origin of illegal ivory. Countries use this uncertainty to avoid responsibility for curbing illegal poaching in their territories by attempting to blame other countries for the oversights in enforcement. Now though, zoologists have perfected a new DNA identification system. First, scientists gathered genetic data from the population of African elephants, an arduous effort that ultimately resulted in a detailed DNA-based map of the distribution of African elephants. Then the researchers developed a method to extract DNA evidence from ivory, allowing them to match the ivory with elephant populations of the map. Zoologists hope this new method will pinpoint the exact origin of poached ivory and force countries to accept their responsibility in enforcing the ban.

1. **The passage suggests which of the following about the ivory ban?**
 - A. It will be successful now that the DNA-based map has been developed.
 - B. It has been mostly unsuccessful in reducing the trade of illegal ivory.
 - C. It will continue to be ineffective unless the problems of political corruption are solved.
 - D. Western monetary support was a major factor in its success.
2. **The response of the countries with the worst poaching problems to the situation was most analogous to:**
 - A. A tax evader who uses deceptive accounting practices to hide her/his income from auditors.
 - B. An embezzler who steals from her/his company by pilfering small accounts of money over a long period of time.
 - C. A criminal who argues that it is not he but one of his accomplices who is guilty of a crime.
 - D. A con artist who convinces his victim that it is in the victim's best interest to help him.

3. The passage suggests which of the following about the DNA-based map created by zoologists?
- A. Its assemblage involved a great deal of work on the part of the researchers.
 - B. Its creation will force countries to accept responsibility for the ivory poached from within their borders.
 - C. The map is able to pinpoint the exact elephant from which the poached ivory was obtained.
 - D. It must be updated constantly to account for changes in elephant populations.
4. The passage is chiefly concern with:
- A. Advocating a course of action for countries with poaching problems.
 - B. Exposing the weakness of the ivory ban.
 - C. Pleading with Western countries to re-institute financing for the ivory ban.
 - D. Detailing a way to overcome a problem that has lessened the effectiveness of the ivory ban.
5. Which word in the above passage is the synonym of 'antecedent'?
- A. Evidence
 - B. Origin
 - C. Ban
 - D. Decade
6. Which word in the above passage is the antonym of 'effortless'?
- A. Wrought
 - B. Enforcement
 - C. Arduous
 - D. Combat

Fill in the blanks with suitable words :-

7. In the face of the overwhelming mass of evidence against him, we cannot _____ him of the crime.
- A. punish
 - B. absolve
 - C. release
 - D. ignore

8. Scarcely _____ the teacher entered the class when he heard the noise .
A. did
B. has
C. had
D. will have
9. You must go to the station now, your brother _____ go just yet as his train leaves after three hours.
A. shouldn't
B. mustn't
C. wouldn't
D. needn't
10. Every rash driver becomes a _____ killer.
A. sure
B. reckless
C. potential
D. powerful
11. During a period of protracted illness, the sick can become infirm _____ both the strength to work and many of the specific skills that were once possessed.
A. regarding
B. denying
C. pursuing
D. losing

Choose the appropriate antonyms of the following words :-

12. Belittle

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| A. Expand | B. Prohibit |
| C. Inflate | D. Extol |

13. Boisterous

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| A. Rowdy | B. Tumultuous |
| C. Violent | D. Serene |

14 Ample

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| A. Complete | B. Insufficient |
| C. Quiet | D. Supple |

15. Dubious

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| A. Reliable | B. Pleasing |
| C. Rhythmic | D. Careful |

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions :-

16. He readily complied _____ my request.

- | | |
|-------|---------|
| A. to | B. with |
| C. in | D. in |

17. I prefer coffee _____ tea.

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| A. for | B. with |
| C. on | D. to |

18. He is vain _____ his attachments.

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| A. for | B. with |
| C. of | D. to |

Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idioms/ phrases :-

19. To read between the lines

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. Understand the hidden meaning | B. To have good sight |
| C. To learn quickly | D. None of the above |

20. To burn the candles at both ends

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| A. To exchange opinions | B. To make oneself prominent |
| C. To spend extravagantly | D. To be wounded in feelings |

Fill in the blanks with correct tenses from the brackets.:-

21. The farmers _____ their farms if they had known that a thunderstorm was approaching.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| A. will leave | B. would leave |
| C. will have left | D. would have left |

22. Work hard so that you _____ .

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. shall get good marks | B. get good marks |
| C. may get good marks | D. should get good marks |

23. The newspaper _____ seven cases of gruesome crime in the city yesterday.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| A. reported | B. has reported |
| C. had reported | D. have reported |

Choose the correct words from the brackets which best fits the simile.:-

24. As clean as a _____

- | | |
|----------|-----------------|
| A. towel | B. whistle |
| C. water | D. handkerchief |

25. As different as _____

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| A. bread and butter | B. tea and coffee |
| C. chalk and cheese | D. snack and sweet |

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

26. Kautilya's Arthashastra is a book on

- A. economic relations
- B. principles and practice of statecraft
- C. foreign policy
- D. duties of the king

27. Who used the term 'untouchable' for the Scheduled Castes for the first time?

- A. J.S.Nesfield
- B. Alfred Lyall
- C. W.C.Crooke
- D. H.H.Risley

28. 'The defeat was more mine than his..' Gandhi said this for

- A. C.R.Das
- B. Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel
- C. Pattabhi Sitaramaya
- D. C. Rajagopalacharya

29. The standard time of a country differs from the GMT in multiples of

- A. two hours
- B. one hour
- C. half hour
- D. four minutes

30. OTEC refers to

- A. oceanic mineral resources
- B. tidal and wave energy
- C. ocean thermal gradient energy
- D. none of the above

31. The University Grants Commission (UGC) of India is a

- A. Constitutional Body
- B. Statutory Body
- C. Neither Statutory nor Constitutional
- D. Advisory Body

32. Which of the following would a hydrogen balloon find easier to lift?

- A. 1 kg of water
- B. 1 kg of copper
- C. 1 kg of loosely packed feathers
- D. All the same

33. Which of the following add(s) nitrogen to the soil?

- A. Excretion of urea by animals
- B. Burning of coal by man
- C. Death of vegetation

Choose the correct option

- A. A only
- B. B and C only
- C. A and C only
- D. A,B and C

34. The swing of a spinning cricket ball in the air can be explained on the basis of
- A. sudden change in wind direction
 - B. buoyancy of air
 - C. turbulence caused by wind
 - D. Bernoulli's theorem
35. In old age people have to wear spectacles for reading and writing because
- A. their eye lenses become weak
 - B. they lose the power of accommodation
 - C. their eye lenses lose their magnifying power

Choose the correct option.

- A. A only
 - B. B only
 - C. A and B
 - D. A and C
36. The movie 'Padman' is based on the real life story of
- A. J.C.Daniel
 - B. Paresh Ghelani
 - C. Dashrath Manjhi
 - D. Arunachalam Muruganatham
37. Meghan Markle, wife of Prince Harry of England has been conferred the title of -
- A. Duchess of Cambridge
 - B. Duchess of Sussex
 - C. Duchess of Cornwall
 - D. Duchess of York
38. Jasral Pradhan, a Sikkimese boxer has been a recipient of which of the following sports awards?
- A. Arjuna Award
 - B. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award
 - C. Eklavya Award
 - D. Maharaja Ranjit Singh Award

39. Khangchendzonga is now the _____ Biosphere Reserve to be added to UNESCO's World Network.
- A. 3rd
 - B. 9th
 - C. 11th
 - D. 15th
40. Karma Topden, ex Member of Parliament who passed away recently had been the ambassador of which country?
- A. Armenia
 - B. Mongolia
 - C. Moldova
 - D. Russia
41. The Human Pappiloma Virus vaccination programme launched by Government of Sikkim is for girls in the age group of
- A. 10-13 years
 - B. 9-14 years
 - C. 14-18 years
 - D. below 19 years
42. Shri Ganga Prasad is the _____ governor of Sikkim.
- A. 10th
 - B. 14th
 - C. 16th
 - D. 18th
43. Sisekpa Tumyen is a festival celebrated by which community?
- A. Limbu
 - B. Rai
 - C. Gurung
 - D. Lepcha

44. Which district of Sikkim has been selected as 'aspirational' district under NITI Aayog?
- A. East district
 - B. West district
 - C. North district
 - D. South district
45. Who was the 2018 recipient of the Kanchenjunga Kalam Purashkar constituted by the Press Club of Sikkim?
- A. Khagendra Mani Pradhan
 - B. Amalendu Kundu
 - C. C.D.Rai
 - D. Samiran Chhetri Priyadarshi
46. Who is the director of the movie 'Ralang Road'?
- A. Dawa Lepcha
 - B. Prashant Rasaily
 - C. Karma Takapa
 - D. Sonam Geley
47. Who became the first ever Indian shuttler to enter a badminton final at the Asian Games 2018?
- A. Saina Nehwal
 - B. PV Sindhu
 - C. Kidambi Srikanth
 - D. PC Thulasi
48. The Personal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018 aims to remove discrimination and stigma attached to patients of which disease?
- A. Leprosy
 - B. HIV
 - C. Typhoid
 - D. Cancer
49. When is the World Day against Trafficking in Persons observed every year?
- A. July 31
 - B. June 30
 - C. May 22
 - D. July 30

- 50. What was the campaign theme for this year's Humanitarian Day?**
- A. Building consensus for fair and sustainable development
 - B. Fight for justice
 - C. Not a Target
 - D. No more enslaved
- 51. Who is appointed as the President of UN High Commissioner for human rights?**
- A. Michelle Bachelet
 - B. Zeid Ra'ad al-Husseini
 - C. Antonio Guterres
 - D. Abdelfattah Amor
- 52. India's first bio-fuel flight to fly from**
- A. Delhi to Jaipur
 - B. Dehradun to Delhi
 - C. Kolkata to Bhubneshwar
 - D. Bombay to Goa
- 53. Which of the following projects is to be revived again?**
- A. Project Tiger
 - B. Rhino Conservation Project
 - C. Cheetah Reintroduction Project
 - D. Snow Leopard Project
- 54. Who is the first Indian woman shooter to win gold in Asian Games 2018?**
- A. Rahi Sarnobat
 - B. Heena Sidhu
 - C. Anisa Sayyed
 - D. Manu Bhaker
- 55. Which book was launched by Mr Pawan Kumar Chamling on the occasion of Independence Day?**
- A. Legends of Lepchas
 - B. Faith Healers of Sikkim
 - C. Sikkim the Hidden Fruitful Valley
 - D. A step away from Paradise

56. Which of the following cities is the venue for the third Indian Ocean Conference (IOC 2018)?
- A. Colombo
 - B. New Delhi
 - C. Tokyo
 - D. Hanoi
57. Amalgam is a term used for an alloy of a metal with
- A. Copper
 - B. Mercury
 - C. Lead
 - D. Aluminium
58. Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor project is located in which country?
- A. Italy
 - B. France
 - C. Germany
 - D. China
59. What name is given to the fear of crossing roads?
- A. Anthrophobia
 - B. Atychiphobia
 - C. Aichmophobia
 - D. Agyrophobia
60. Who is the minister for Commerce and Industries of Sikkim ?
- A. Somnath Poudyal
 - B. Ram Bahadur Subba
 - C. Ugen T. Gyatso
 - D. Shri Garjaman Gurung
61. Which of the following is the World's first Wind Sensing Satellite?
- A. Bennu
 - B. Scatsat -1
 - C. MIR
 - D. Aeolus
62. Which Indian sports person is on the 7th position in Forbes list of highest paid woman sports person?
- A. Saina Nehwal
 - B. Sania Mirza
 - C. Mary Kom
 - D. PV Sindhu

- 63. Who is the first non- Indian to receive the Bharat Ratna Award?**
- A. Mother Teresa
 - B. Nelson Mandela
 - C. Khan Abdul Gafar Khan
 - D. Martin Luther King
- 64. International Buddhist Conclave 2018 was held in**
- A. Jamshedpur
 - B. Patna
 - C. New Delhi
 - D. Mysore
- 65. Which country won the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup 2018?**
- A. Japan
 - B. France
 - C. Spain
 - D. Germany
- 66. World's longest sandstone cave 'Krem Puri' was discovered in**
- A. South Africa
 - B. Indonesia
 - C. Odisha
 - D. Meghalaya
- 67. Which railway station entered the Limca Records for all women staff?**
- A. Matunga Station
 - B. Sealdah Station
 - C. Dadar Station
 - D. Yasvantpur Station
- 68. India's first biofuel was blend with which seeds?**
- A. Jatropha seeds
 - B. Sunflower seeds
 - C. Abutilon seeds
 - D. Achillea seeds
- 69. Who is the writer of the book 'Interpreter of maladies'?**
- A. Vikram Seth
 - B. Salman Rushdie
 - C. Jhumpa Lahiri
 - D. Arundhati Roy

70. Which among the following won 'Album of the Year' in 2018 Grammy Awards?

- A. Awaken my love
- B. 24K Magic
- C. DAWN
- D. Melodrama

71. Write a précis for the given passage:-

[10 Marks]

When we survey our lives and efforts we soon observe that almost the whole of our actions and desires are bound up with the existence of other human beings. We notice that whole nature resembles that of the social animals. We eat food that others have produced, wear clothes that others have made. We live in houses built by others. The greater part of our knowledge and beliefs has been passed on to us by other people through the medium of language which others have created. Without language and mental capacities, we would have been poor indeed comparable to higher animals. We have therefore, to admit that we owe principal knowledge over the least to the fact of living in human society. The individual if left alone from birth would remain primitive and beast like in his thoughts and feelings to a degree that we can hardly imagine. The individual is what he is and has the significance that he has, not much in virtue of the individuality, but rather as a member of a great human community, which directs his material and spiritual existence from cradle to grave. Man's value to the community depends primarily on how far his feelings, thoughts and actions are directed towards promoting the good of his fellows. We call him good or bad according to how he stands in this matter. It looks at first sight as if our estimate of a man depended entirely on his social qualities.

72. Write a report on the traffic jams during the office hours in Gangtok.

[10 Marks]

OR

Write a report on your recent visit to Addiction & Rehabilitation Centre.

73. Write an essay on any one of the topics.

[10 Marks]

Positive and Negative impact of Hydro Electric Projects in Sikkim.

OR

Globalisation and its impact on Indian culture.