Sikkim Public Service Commission

Written Examination for the post of Senior Information Assistant

Time Allowed: 3 hours	PAPER – I	Maximum Marks: 150

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Read the instructions carefully before answering the questions: -

1. This Test Booklet consists of 12 (twelve) pages and has 88 (eighty-eight) printed questions.
2. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS BOOKLET DOES NOT HAVE ANY UNPRINTED, TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
3. **Use only Black Ball Point Pen to fill the OMR Sheet.**
4. Please note that it is the candidate's responsibility to fill in the Roll Number carefully without any omission or discrepancy at the appropriate places in the **OMR ANSWER SHEET** for Multiple Choice Questions and on the **SEPARATE ANSWER BOOKLET** for Conventional Type Questions. Any omission/discrepancy will render the Answer Sheet liable for rejection.
5. Do not write anything else on the OMR Answer Sheet except the required information. Before you proceed to mark in the OMR Answer Sheet, please ensure that you have filled in the required particulars as per given instructions.
6. This Test Booklet is divided into 3 (three) parts – **Part-I, Part-II and Part-III.**
7. All three parts are Compulsory.
8. **Part-I and Part-II consist of Multiple-Choice Questions.** The answers for these questions have to be marked in the **OMR Answer Sheet** provided to you.
9. **Part-III consists of Conventional Type Questions.** The answers for these questions have to be written in the **Separate Answer Booklet** provided to you.
10. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the OMR Answer Sheet and the Answer Booklet(s) and the examination has concluded, you should hand over the OMR Answer Sheet and the Answer Booklet(s) to the Invigilator only. You are permitted to take the Test Booklet with you.
11. **Marking Scheme**
    THERE WIL BE **NEGATIVE MARKING** FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBECTVE TYPE QUESTIONS
    (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 the 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

This page intentionally left blank.

PART – I
GENERAL ENGLISH
(Multiple Choice Questions)

Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answer for Questions 1 to 5 from the given options. Each question carries 1 mark.

[5 x 1 = 5]

Journalism combines writing with news gathering and interpretation. While the journalist's work obviously varies from newspaper to newspaper and from magazine to magazine, all journalists are as much research workers, as they are writers. They cannot write their news or feature stories, unless they locate it and research them first. They must be able to read the in-between lines of the main source news and interpret that. A great many stories hunt the journalist, who rejects most of them. He carefully sorts and sifts those, taking only a relatively very small proportion of news, may be, coming from an unexpected source. A successful journalist may gather news to the tune of 100 percent but he can use them for his profession only 3-5 percent. He must be able to see or forecast to himself, the news of tomorrow or the day after, from the news of today; because newspapers want advance news or advance wearing to give a good, exclusive and exhaustive coverage to anything of interest. But a real "scoop" is a very rare event. And bogus scoops also bring disrepute to the newspaper.

1. According to the passage, a journalist's work, includes –
   (a) sorting out the news
   (b) news gathering
   (c) writing
   (d) all of the above

2. What does the passage say about successful journalists?
   (a) they present advance news
   (b) their news comes from unexpected sources
   (c) they can use a relatively small portion of the news

   (d) they reject a major portion of the gathered news.

3. What, according to the passage, is the common characteristic of all journalists?
   (a) they all can forecast future news
   (b) they all make an adventure to find a worthy news
   (c) they all have to first probe into the news they gather
   (d) they all write for the newspapers

4. What is the basic requisite for exclusive and exhaustive coverage of newspapers?
   (a) effective style of writing
   (b) selection of a small portion of the gathered news
   (c) collecting the news of a "real scoop"
   (d) forecast of tomorrow's news from today's news

5. What is the most important skill for a journalist?
   (a) He must know how to gather the right news
   (b) He must be able to write effectively
   (c) He must know how to sort out the news
   (d) He must be able to interpret the news correctly

Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answer for Questions 6 to 10 from the given options. Each question carries 1 mark.

[5 x 1 = 5]

My next pet was a pigeon. He was still very young. He was the most revolting bird to look at with his feathers pushing through the wrinkled scarlet skin, mixed with the horrible yellow down that covers baby pigeons and makes them look as though they have been peroxiding their hair. Because of his repulsive and obese appearance, Larry suggested we call him Quasimodo and

liking the name without realizing the implications, I agreed. Owing to his unorthodox upbringing and the fact that he had no parents to teach him the facts of life, Quasimodo became convinced that he was not a bird at all and refused to fly. Instead, he walked everywhere. If he wanted to get onto a table or a chair, he stood below it ducking his head and cooing in a rich contralto until someone lifted him up. He was always eager to join us in anything we did and would even try to come for walks with us. This however, we had to stop it, for either you carried him on your shoulder, which was risking an accident to your clothes, or else, you let him walk behind. If you let him walk, then you had to slow down your own pace to suit his, for should you get too far ahead you would hear the most frantic and imploring coos and turn around to find Quasimodo running desperately after you, his chest pouted out with indignation at your cruelty.

6. The narrator describes the pigeon as a 'revolting bird' because -
    (a) It could not fly
    (b) It had to be carried everywhere
    (c) It had wrinkled skin covered with yellow feathers
    (d) It was fat

7. If Quasimodo had parents, he would have-
    (a) Known he was a bird
    (b) Behaved like a bird
    (c) Learned to fly
    (d) Not walked so much

8. We know that Quasimodo was always eager to go on walks because -
    (a) He walked everywhere
    (b) He did not know how to fly
    (c) He protested loudly if he was not taken along
    (d) He always copied whatever humans did

9. Quasimodo considered the human beings cruel when -
    (a) They tried to leave him at home
    (b) They lifted him on their shoulders
    (c) They took him for a walk
    (d) They walked too fast

10. The word 'unorthodox' means -
    (a) Following generally accepted beliefs
    (b) Strict and disciplined
    (c) Different from what is usual and accepted
    (d) Active and outgoing

For questions 11 to 15, choose the correct synonym for the given word from the options given. Each question carries 1 mark.

[5 x 1 = 5]

11. Nebulous
    (a) Tiny
    (b) Significant
    (c) Vague
    (d) Inadequate

12. Lethal
    (a) Deadly
    (b) Sluggish
    (c) Smooth
    (d) Unlawful

13. Prolific
    (a) Plenty
    (b) Fertile
    (c) Competent
    (d) Predominant

14. Affable
    (a) Friendly
    (b) Helpful
    (c) Cheerful
    (d) Neutral

15. Ostentatious
    (a) Pretty
    (b) Modest
    (c) Fragrant
    (d) Showy

For questions 16 to 20, choose the correct meaning for the given phrase from the options given. Each question carries 1 mark.

[5 x 1 = 5]

16. To throw up the sponge
    (a) To offer a challenge
    (b) To become utterly disappointed
    (c) To maintain grit and enthusiasm until the end
    (d) To surrender or give up a contest

17. A chip off the old block
    (a) A piece of wood
    (b) An old friend
    (c) Characteristics of one's ancestors
    (d) A good bargain

18. A pipe dream
    (a) A pleased dream
    (b) A bad dream
    (c) A foolish idea
    (d) An impracticable plan

19. To talk through one's hat
    (a) To speak fluently
    (b) To talk nonsense
    (c) To talk wisdom
    (d) To speak at random

20. A fair crack of the whip
    (a) Severe punishment
    (b) A good check
    (c) An equal chance to do something
    (d) Failure of administration

For questions 21 to 25, choose the correct word to complete the given sentence from the options given. Each question carries 1 mark.

[5 x 1 = 5]

21. In _____ of the recommendations, the board has established a counter to entertain the complaints from consumers.
    (a) Adherence
    (b) Pursuance
    (c) Relation
    (d) According

22. The presence of teacher _____ the chit chat of the girls in the restaurant.
    (a) limited
    (b) interrupted
    (c) inhibited
    (d) obstructed

23. Stone Age research was always on a low _____ in India.
    (a) key
    (b) profile
    (c) ebb
    (d) scale

24. Undoubtedly, English is the most _____ spoken language in the world today.
    (a) broadly
    (b) greatly
    (c) widely
    (d) beautifully

25. The shepherd was looking after the _____ of sheep.
    (a) crew
    (b) gang
    (c) fleet
    (d) flock

For questions 26 to 30, choose the word closest in meaning to the given phrase from the options given. Each question carries 1 mark.

[5 x 1 = 5]

26. Always in high spirits.
    (a) Uncontrollable
    (b) Cheerful
    (c) Drunk
    (d) Talkative

27. That which is contrary to law.
    (a) Legal
    (b) Legacy
    (c) Illegal
    (d) Imminent

28. That which cannot be attacked or taken by force:
    (a) Pregnable
    (b) Auto play
    (c) Anarchy
    (d) Impregnable

29. A trite, stereotyped expression.
    (a) Cliche
    (b) Proverb
    (c) Idiom
    (d) Buzzword

30. A person who is green eyed.
    (a) Rich
    (b) Handsome
    (c) Enthusiastic
    (d) Jealous

For questions 31 to 33, choose, from the options given, the correct phrasal verb to complete the given phrase. Each question carries 1 mark.

[3 x 1 = 3]

31. I think he will not be able to _____ this difficult schedule.
    (a) get along with
    (b) look forward to
    (c) keep up with
    (d) break through

32. This encouraging explanation has given her the will to _____ with her duties with great deal of enthusiasm.
    (a) call in
    (b) catch up with
    (c) call down
    (d) carry on

33. You have to _____ the things which you learn many times during a day in order not to forget them.
    (a) put aside
    (b) do over
    (c) get along with
    (d) try on

For questions 34 to 35, choose, from the options given, the missing word(s) to complete the given proverb. Each question carries 1 mark.

[2 x 1 = 2]

34. Familiarity _____ contempt.
    (a) makes
    (b) creates
    (c) breeds
    (d) Got through

35. You can't have your _____ and eat it too.
    (a) pudding
    (b) cake
    (c) pie
    (d) ice-cream

PART – II
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
(Multiple Choice Questions)

Choose the correct answer for Questions 36 to 85 from the given options. Each question carries 1 mark.

[50 x 1 = 50]

36. Immersive Journalism is based on:
    (a) first person narration
    (b) second person narration
    (c) third person narration
    (d) impersonal narration

37. Which Union Ministry announced a dedicated Grievance Cell for uninterrupted supply of essentials?
    (a) Ministry of Home Affairs
    (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
    (c) Ministry of Textiles
    (d) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

38. Which institution releases the 'Digital Payment Index'?
    (a) Niti Aayog
    (b) Reserve Bank of India
    (c) Ministry of Finance
    (d) National Payments Corporation India

39. 'Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant', which was seen in the news recently, is located in which country?
    (a) Russia
    (b) Ukraine
    (c) Afghanistan
    (d) Belarus

40. Who is the head of the 'Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comic (AVGC) Promotion' Task Force?
    (a) Secretary of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
    (b) Minister of Electronics and IT
    (c) Minister of Commerce and Industry
    (d) Secretary of Electronics and IT

41. Which player has won the female singles title of the 2022 Miami Open tennis tournament?
    (a) Simona Halep
    (b) Iga Świątek
    (c) Maria Sakkari
    (d) D. Naomi Osaka

42. Abdulla Shahid, President-elect of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly, is from which country?
    (a) Israel
    (b) Maldives
    (c) Peru
    (d) Argentina

43. Which is the first Green SEZ (Special Economic Zone) of India?
    (a) Santa Cruz (Maharashtra)
    (b) Cochin (Kerala)
    (c) Kandla (Gujarat)
    (d) Chennai (Tamil Nadu)

44. In which year, the Indo-Sikkimese Treaty was signed?
    (a) 1975
    (b) 1950
    (c) 1980
    (d) 1970

45. If some media houses have controlling shares in non-media companies, it is known as–
    (a) Horizontal ownership
    (b) Cross-media ownership
    (c) Vertical ownership
    (d) Conglomerate media ownership

46. How many times has Rafael Nadal won the Mexican Open ATP 500 title?
    (a) 8
    (b) 4
    (c) 6
    (d) 5

47. Which scheme recently launched in Sikkim aims to provide secondary and senior secondary school-going girls with 100% access to free sanitary pads?
    (a) Kanya scheme
    (b) Yuwati scheme
    (c) Bahini scheme
    (d) Suswasta scheme

48. Name the Chogyal who shifted the capital of Sikkim from Rabdentse to Tumlong?
    (a) Tensung Namgyal
    (b) Tsudpud Namgyal
    (c) Thotub Namgyal
    (d) Tashi Namgyal

49. The first Dewan of Sikkim was:
    (a) J.S. Lall
    (b) Harishwar Dayal
    (c) Nari K. Rustomji
    (d) I.S. Chopra

50. What was Freddie Mercury's real name?
    (a) Farrokh Bulsara
    (b) Farrokh Alam
    (c) Farrokh Qurtubi
    (d) Farrokh Karim

51. Who is the author of The Canterbury Tales?
    (a) William Langland
    (b) Geoffrey Chaucer
    (c) Robert Burn
    (d) John Wycliffe

52. The first newspaper published in India was-
    (a) The Hindu
    (b) Amrita Bazar Patrika
    (c) The Bengal Gazette
    (d) Samachar Darpan

53. Which state government has provided industrial status to sports?
    (a) Sikkim
    (b) Manipur
    (c) Mizoram
    (d) West Bengal

54. A comic book depicting India's maritime heritage has been made by which publication?
    (a) Oxford Publication
    (b) Penguin Publication
    (c) Amar Chitra Katha
    (d) National Book Trust

55. Who is the chairperson of the Sikkim Film Promotion Board?
    (a) Pooja Sharma
    (b) Dipendra Mohora
    (c) Raj Sitaula
    (d) Danny Denzongpa

56. What is the scientific name of the State Animal of Sikkim?
    (a) Ailurus fulgens
    (b) Oryza sativa
    (c) Triticum aestivum
    (d) Zea mays

57. Which one of the following waves are used by the common TV remote?
    (a) Radio
    (b) Lasers
    (c) Infra- red
    (d) Ultrasonic

58. Which polymer is used in making non-stick kitchen ware?
    (a) Nylon
    (b) Teflon
    (c) Polystyrene
    (d) Bakelite

59. The energy content of food is calculated or measured in -
    (a) Calories
    (b) Celsius
    (c) Kelvin
    (d) Joules

60. Name the instrument used to measure the intensity of earthquakes.
    (a) Richter scale
    (b) Ammeter
    (c) Seismograph
    (d) Odometer

61. What is the minimum age for becoming the Prime Minister of India?
    (a) 25
    (b) 18
    (c) 50
    (d) 30

62. The first five-year plan started in India -
    (a) 1st March 1951
    (b) 1st April 1951
    (c) 1st December 1951
    (d) 1st may 1951

63. Which of the following are the three basic components of an atom?
    (a) Proton, neutron and ion
    (b) Proton, neutron and electron
    (c) Platinum, didymium and tritium
    (d) Proton, neutrino and ion

64. Which planet is also known as the red planet?
    (a) Mercury
    (b) Venus
    (c) Mars
    (d) Earth

65. Teak and Sal trees are found in which of the following forests?
    (a) Dry deciduous
    (b) Dry evergreen
    (c) Tropical deciduous
    (d) Tropical moist evergreen

66. International Day of the Girl Child is celebrated on:
    (a) December 11
    (b) October 11
    (c) March 11
    (d) December 11

67. Which organization constructed the 'Alternate Alignment Gangtok - Nathula Road'?
    (a) Larson and Turbo
    (b) Border Roads Organization
    (c) Ordinance Factory Board
    (d) National Highways authority of India

68. The highest civilian award in the field of contribution to the unity and integrity of India is instituted in the name of which freedom fighter?
    (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
    (b) Bhimrao Ambedkar
    (c) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
    (d) Netaji Subash Chandra Bose

69. The UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) is located at-
    (a) Manila
    (b) Singapore
    (c) Kuala Lumpur
    (d) Bangkok

70. What is common between Kutty, Shankar, Laxman and Sudhir Dar?
    (a) Film direction
    (b) Drawing cartoons
    (c) Instrumental Music
    (d) Classical Dance

71. Who first applied the name India to the region watered by the Sindhu?
    (a) British
    (b) Portuguese
    (c) Dutch
    (d) Achaemenid Persians

72. Junk e-mail is also called -
    (a) Spam
    (b) Spoof
    (c) Spool
    (d) Trash

73. The Union Budget is always presented first in the -
    (a) Rajya Sabha
    (b) Lok Sabha
    (c) Joint Session of the Parliament
    (d) Meeting of the Union Cabinet

74. _____ is called the "low country" of the earth.
    (a) Spain
    (b) Holland
    (c) Italy
    (d) Hungary

75. Who is the recipient of the 2022 Templeton Prize?
    (a) Roger Penrose
    (b) James Peebles
    (c) Arthur Ashkin
    (d) Frank Wilczek

76. Which is the first Asian country to join NATO's cyber defence group?
    (a) India
    (b) Sri Lanka
    (c) Bangladesh
    (d) South Korea

77. The largest impact crater on earth known as the "Yilan Crater" has been discovered in which country?
    (a) Russia
    (b) China
    (c) Australia
    (d) Japan

78. Which Indian state has China claimed as South Tibet?
    (a) Uttarakhand
    (b) Arunachal Pradesh
    (c) Sikkim
    (d) Mizoram

79. "Green Fixed Deposits" has been launched by -
    (a) ICICI Bank
    (b) HDFC Bank
    (c) Axis Bank
    (d) IndusInd Bank

80. What is the theme of World Press Freedom Day 2022?
    (a) Information as a Public Good
    (b) Journalism under Digital Siege
    (c) Journalism Without Fear or Favour
    (d) Media for Democracy

81. The book titled 'Indian war of Independence 1857' was written by -
    (a) Lala Lajpat Rai

    (b) Jawaharlal Nehru
    (c) Damodar Chapekar
    (d) V.D. Savarkar

82. What is the full form of SIM?
    (a) Send Important Mails
    (b) Subscriber Information Method
    (c) Subscriber Identity Module
    (d) System Information Management

83. Divyansh Singh Panwar is an Indian player of which sports?
    (a) Boxing
    (b) Archery
    (c) Shooting
    (d) Wrestling

84. Malgudi Days was written by -
    (a) Khushwant Singh
    (b) Ruskin Bond
    (c) R.K. Narayan
    (d) Mulk Raj Anand

85. Samdruptse Hill in South Sikkim has the famous Guru Padmasambhava Statue. 'Samdruptse' means:
    (a) Beautiful
    (b) Wish fulfilling
    (c) Majestic
    (d) Serene

PART – III
GENERAL ENGLISH
(Conventional Type Questions)

Question number 86 carries 30 marks.

[1 x 30 = 30]

86. Write an essay on any one of the following topics:
    (a) The evils of science
       OR
    (b) Consequences of deforestation on the environment.

Question number 87 carries 15 marks.

[1 x 15 = 15]

87. **Write a precis for the following paragraphs:**

Advertising plays a very important role in today's age of competition. Advertising is one thing which has become a necessity for everybody in today's day to day life, be it the producer, the traders, or the customer.

Just imagine television or a newspaper or a radio channel without an advertisement! No, no one can any day imagine this. Advertising plays a very important role in customers life. Customers are the people who buy the product only after they are made aware of the products available in the market. If the product is not advertised, no customer will come to know what products are available and will not buy the product even if the product was for their benefit. One more thing is that advertising helps people find the best products for themselves, their kids, and their family. When they come to know about the range of products, they are able to compare the products and buy so that they get what they desire after spending their valuable money. Thus, advertising is important for the customers.

Advertising is important for the seller and companies producing the products. Yes, advertising plays very important role for the producers and the sellers of the products, because advertising helps producers or the companies to know their competitors and plan accordingly to meet up the level of competition. If any company wants to introduce or launch a new product in the market, advertising will make a ground for the product. Advertising helps making people aware of the new product so that the consumers come and try the product. The demand for the product keeps on coming with the help of advertising and demand and supply become a never-ending process.

Advertising is important for the society. Advertising helps in educating people. There are some social issues also which advertising deals with like child-labour, liquor consumption, smoking, family planning education etc. Thus, advertising plays a very important role in society.

Question number 88 carries 20 marks.

[1 x 20 = 20]

88. **Write a Report on any one of the following:**
    (c) You are Tshering, an active member of the Animal Lovers Club which works for the welfare of animals by preventing cruelty to them. Recently you visited Sikkim Animal Care Home. You were pleasantly surprised to see the good treatment given to the animals. Write a report in 150-200 words on your visit.
    OR
    (d) The Chief Minister of Sikkim recently inaugurated the District Administrative Centre of the newly formed district of Pakyong. You are Rita/Rohan and you attended the function as a member of the press fraternity. Write a report on the function in 150-200 words describing all the activities that took place.

~~~~~~~~~***~~~~~~~~~

Space for rough work