

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**  
(JOINT RECRUITMENT CELL)

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION FOR THE POST OF EXECUTIVE/LEGISLATIVE/COMMITTEE/PROTOCOL ASSISTANT  
IN RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT

13<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2008

**PAPER I: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE & CURRENT AFFAIRS AND GENERAL ENGLISH**

INSTRUCTIONS: (i) Write your Roll No. at the appropriate column on the answer sheet. (ii) Put 'X' mark only in the correct Box like this {X}. No marks will be given for responses outside the Box. Use blue or black pen only to mark your response. (iii) In case you want to change your response to any question, fully blacken the first response like this ■ and {X} mark in the correct Box.

Time: 50 Minutes

Marks: 100

**PART- A : General Knowledge and Current Affairs**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the capital of Mizoram.  
(A) Dispur (B) Aizwal (C) Kohima (D) Itanagar
2. The only Indian State that shares its border with Sikkim is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Assam (B) Meghalaya (C) West Bengal (D) Arunachal Pradesh
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is the capital of Zimbabwe.  
(A) Lusaka (B) Harare (C) Kampala (D) Brazzaville
4. The Speaker of Lok Sabha is \_\_\_\_\_. (A) elected by its members (B) nominated by the President of India (C) nominated by the Leader of the majority party/alliance (D) the Vice President of India
5. The Mavalankar Hall in Delhi is named after the \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker of Lok Sabha.  
(A) Second (B) First (C) Third (D) Fourth
6. Mr. P.A. Sangma was the Speaker of Lok Sabha during \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) 1989-91 (B) 1991-96 (C) 1996-98 (D) 1998-2002
7. The Nobel Peace Prize was won by \_\_\_\_\_ in 2007.  
(A) P. Sainath (B) Kofi Annan (C) Muhammed Yunus (D) Albert Al Gore and Rajendra K. Pichauri
8. Salman Rushdie received \_\_\_\_\_ in 2008. (A) Man Booker Prize (B) Nobel Prize for Literature  
(C) The Booker of Man Booker Prize (D) Gyanpeeth Award
9. In July 2008, the Group of Eight (G8) summit was held in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Japan (B) Germany (C) Russia (D) the USA
10. International Monetary Fund (IMF) is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) A specialised Agency of the United Nations (B) A branch of the World Bank (C) An economic organisation of the European Union (D) an Independent international organisation
11. The headquarters of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is located in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) New York (B) Rome (C) Geneva (D) Manila
12. Mr. Hugo Chavez is the President of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Colombia (B) Venezuela (C) Nicaragua (D) Paraguay
13. Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachand' is the Prime Minister of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Peoples Republic of Nepal (B) Democratic Republic of Nepal (C) Republic of Nepal  
(D) Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal
14. The Legislative Branch of Bangladesh is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) National Council (B) Jatiya Sangsad (C) National Assembly (D) Majlis-e-Shoora
15. The Indian Parliament enacted the Right to Information Act in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) 2003 (B) 2004 (C) 2006 (D) 2005
16. India was put under the direct rule of Queen Victoria for the first time in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) 1757 (B) 1858 (C) 1877 (D) 1876
17. The \_\_\_\_\_ holds the post of the Chairman of the Planning Commission in India. (A) Minister of Planning (B) Finance Minister (C) Minister of Human Resource Development (D) Prime Minister
18. The Legislative branch of the USA has a bicameral system; one is called the senate and the other, the \_\_\_\_\_. (A) Congress (B) House of Representative (C) House of Commons (D) National Assembly
19. The number of nominated members in Rajya Sabha is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) 10 (B) 2 (C) 12 (D) 7
20. Bobby Jindal is the first-ever Indian American who was elected the Governor of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Arizona (B) Louisiana (C) Oklahoma (D) Nebraska
21. In the "Warrant of Precedence" the Speaker of Lok Sabha is placed \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) immediately before the Chairman of Rajya Sabha (B) immediately before the former President of India (C) with the Chief Justice of India (D) after the Union Cabinet Ministers
22. The target for the growth performance in the Tenth Five Year Plan was eight per cent but the actual growth was \_\_\_\_\_ per cent. (A) 7 (B) 7.8 (C) 7.2 (D) 6.7



23. In 2008 the Chief Guest in the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi was \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Nicholas Sarkozy, President of France (B) Gordon Brown, Prime Minister of the UK  
(C) Hu Jintao, President of the Republic of China (D) Hamid Karzai, President of Afghanistan
24. The first coalition government of the Republic of India was formed in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) 1977 (B) 1989 (C) 1990 (D) 2004
25. The major languages of Malaysia are Bahasa Malay, English, Chinese and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Tamil (B) Telugu (C) Thai (D) Punjabi
26. India became a republic in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) 1947 (B) 1948 (C) 1949 (D) 1950
27. Dadra and Nagar Haveli are a \_\_\_\_\_. (A) separate union territory (B) part of Goa  
(C) part of Daman and Diu (D) part of Gujarat
28. The Adjournment Motion in Indian Parliament is the procedure for the adjournment of the \_\_\_\_\_. (A) House (B) Normal Business of the House (C) Question Hour (D) Zero Hour
29. The first house of legislation in India was called \_\_\_\_\_. (A) Imperial Legislative Congress  
(B) Central Legislative Congress (C) Central Legislative Council (D) Constituent Assembly
30. The first modern Olympic games were held in 1896 in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Paris (B) London (C) St. Louis (D) Athens
31. \_\_\_\_\_ won the largest number of gold medals in one Olympic Games.  
(A) Mark Spitz (B) Michael Phelps (C) Carl Lewis (D) Usain Bolt
32. The only individual gold medal was won for India by Abhinav Bindra in the \_\_\_\_\_ Olympics.  
(A) 28<sup>th</sup> (B) 24<sup>th</sup> (C) 27<sup>th</sup> (D) 29<sup>th</sup>
33. The First Asian country to host the prestigious Olympic Games was \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) China (B) Japan (C) S. Korea (D) Singapore
34. India won the 2007 IIC World Twenty 20 Championship by defeating \_\_\_\_\_ in the final.  
(A) Australia (B) Sri Lanka (C) Pakistan (D) South Africa
35. Out of the previously known planets, \_\_\_\_\_ has been demoted as a 'dwarf planet'.  
(A) Uranus (B) Pluto (C) Neptune (D) Jupiter
36. \_\_\_\_\_ is the main constituent of both brass and bronze.  
(A) Nickel (B) Iron (C) Zinc (D) Copper
37. The BPO provides \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) 24x7 call centre services (B) non core business services through an outside provider  
(C) uninterrupted telephone services (D) communication to customers at a personal level
38. Nanotechnology is that branch of technology which deals with \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) speculative science (B) the structure and behaviour of materials  
(C) biotechnology (D) manipulation of individual atoms and molecules
39. The virtual reality technology gives us the experience of real life situation in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) a real world (B) virtual cyberspace (C) films (D) multimedia projections
40. Mosquitoes that cause dengue hemorrhagic fever bite people primarily \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) during the day time (B) at night (C) early in the morning (D) in the evening
41. The Chikungunya fever is caused by \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) protozoan (B) bacteria (C) virus (D) fungi
42. Jelly fish is called so because it \_\_\_\_\_. (A) is shaped like jelly (B) is made up of jelly like substance  
(C) can control and expand its body (D) is also called 'sea jelly'
43. A PC is a \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) palmtop computer (B) laptop computer (C) desktop computer (D) mobile computer
44. Among the genetically modified (GM) food, India produces only \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) papaya (B) rice (C) mangoes (D) soyabeans
45. The two astronauts of Indian origin who participated in the space flights by NASA are Kalpana Chawla and \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) R.K. Murali (B) Sunita Williams (C) Supriya Chakrabarti (D) G. Madhav Nair
46. The abbreviation BPL stands for \_\_\_\_\_. (A) Business Processing Laws (B) Below Poverty Line  
(C) Blood Pressure level (D) Bharat Petroleum Limited
47. RAM stands for \_\_\_\_\_. (A) Rapid Army Manoeuvre (B) Random Amplified Accessories  
(C) Remote Area's Modernisation (D) Random Access Memory
48. PNR stands for \_\_\_\_\_. (A) Passenger Name Recorder (B) Permanent Number Record  
(C) Public Network Review (D) Press Network Research
49. SMS stands for \_\_\_\_\_. (A) Subscriber's Message Service (B) Satellite Message Service  
(C) Short Messaging Service (D) Simple Message server
50. LNG stands for \_\_\_\_\_. (A) Light Natural Gas (B) Liquefied Natural Gas  
(C) Liquid Natural Gas (D) Low-Intensity Natural Gas



**PART - B : GENERAL ENGLISH**

**I. Choose the word/phrase closest in meaning to the following words:**

51. **Timorous** (A) weak (B) sly (C) tardy (D) timid  
 52. **Chiropodist** (A) one who treats spinal column (B) one who treats feet (C) one who sings in choir  
 (D) one who has chapped hands  
 53. **Irate** (A) testy (B) irritated (C) enraged (D) sharp  
 54. **Motley** (A) court jester (B) confusing (C) multicultural (D) offensive joke  
 55. **Imbricate** (A) involve wrongly (B) copy (C) arrange in overlapping manner (D) moisten  
 56. **Shackle** (A) slow down (B) metal loop (C) loud laughter (D) bit  
 57. **Prolix** (A) overweight (B) relating to population (C) tedious (D) constellation  
 58. **Gaffe** (A) rude remark (B) loud statement (C) joke (D) blunder

**II. Choose the antonym of the following words:**

59. **Fusty** (A) sweet smelling (B) chatty (C) pompous (D) angry  
 60. **Polyglot** (A) knowing many languages (B) knowing only one language (C) greedy  
 (D) having one wife  
 61. **Jejune** (A) old (B) childish (C) abundant (D) summer plant  
 62. **Lithe** (A) tanned (B) fat (C) glib (D) clumsy

**III. Choose the incorrect part of the sentence.**

63. (A) One who (B) knows his mind (C) is usually (D) treated with respect.  
 64. (A) She is (B) a sweet child (C) and an obedient one, (D) isn't it?  
 65. (A) Making mistakes (B) in spelling (C) and punctuation (D) are common.  
 66. (A) A fool (B) and his money (C) is soon (D) parted.  
 67. (A) Neither Sita (B) nor Gita (C) were (D) very shy.  
 68. (A) The man (B) which caught the thief (C) was given (D) a medal.  
 69. (A) The trees (B) and the grass (C) looks green (D) after the shower.  
 70. (A) The child (B) wept (C) at the thought (D) of she going.  
 71. (A) None of them (B) are to blame (C) for the accident (D) that happened today.

**IV. Choose the correct preposition to fill in the blank:**

72. She never lets a day go \_\_\_\_ without remembering her friend.  
 (A) by (B) past (C) over (D) away  
 73. Will her friend stand \_\_\_\_ her in her hour of need?  
 (A) with (B) on (C) by (D) for  
 74. Have you not got \_\_\_\_ the cold?  
 (A) of (B) by (C) in (D) over  
 75. How can you given \_\_\_\_ so easily?  
 (A) up (B) with (C) over (D) on  
 76. Is the class \_\_\_\_ yet?  
 (A) up (B) over (C) off (D) in  
 77. She is the best mother \_\_\_\_ the world.  
 (A) of (B) on (C) in (D) to  
 78. Have you switched the lights \_\_\_\_?  
 (A) off (B) up (C) down (D) under  
 79. Have you searched \_\_\_\_ the bed for the missing toy?  
 (A) of (B) under (C) off (D) above

**V. Choose the answer closest in meaning to the following idioms:**

80. **Cock and bull story**  
 (A) story about animals (B) bedtime story (C) improbable tale (D) fairy tale  
 81. **A storm in a teacup**  
 (A) a fuss about something trivial (B) a war treaty (C) a noisy tea party (D) mental turmoil  
 82. **To go the extra mile**  
 (A) swift runner (B) good fortune (C) extra effort (D) lose way  
 83. **At sixes and sevens**  
 (A) mathematical ability (B) cheaper in bulk (C) disordered (D) quarrelsome

84. **Two left feet**  
 (A) good dancer (B) clumsy (C) disabled (D) communist
85. **Finding your feet**  
 (A) feeling lost (B) being shy (C) making friends easily (D) gaining confidence
86. **Flash in the pan**  
 (A) flaunt (B) unsustainable action (C) sudden occurrence (D) brainwave
87. **Get down to brass tacks**  
 (A) military exercise (B) down to the basics (C) demotion at work (D) down on one's luck
88. **Get out of the wrong side of the bed**  
 (A) bad mood (B) unlucky day (C) marital infidelity (D) sudden accident

VI. Choose the answer closest in meaning to the foreign phrases commonly used in English:

89. **Primus inter pares**  
 (A) one who wins race (B) enemy of the people (C) first among equals (D) friend to all
90. **Non de plume**  
 (A) pet name (B) pen name (C) endearment (D) pseudonym
91. **Inter alia**  
 (A) between ourselves (B) confidential matter (C) among other things (D) pact between two allies
92. **Mot juste**  
 (A) inappropriate language (B) fitting vocabulary (C) instant justice (D) legal advice

VII. Choose the correct verb form to fill the blank:

93. I \_\_\_\_ if I were you.  
 (A) would (B) could (C) should (D) will
94. They \_\_\_\_ a great deal of trouble over this issue.  
 (A) have (B) have had (C) should have (D) has
95. You \_\_\_\_ in the examination.  
 (A) has failed (B) have failed (C) fails (D) fail
96. The weather report says it \_\_\_\_ rain tomorrow.  
 (A) shall (B) is (C) should (D) will
97. When she woke up it \_\_\_\_ after three.  
 (A) is (B) will be (C) should be (D) was
98. If I \_\_\_\_ the accused I should plead guilty.  
 (A) was (B) had been (C) were (D) was not
99. We \_\_\_\_ this road before.  
 (A) have walked (B) has walked (C) walked (D) will walk
100. The patient \_\_\_\_ to the doctor regularly.  
 (A) has been (B) has been going (C) been (D) to be