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முழுப் பதிப்புரிமையுடையது /
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ශ්‍රී ලංකා විභාග දෙපාර්තමේන්තුව / இலங்கைப் பரீட்சைத் திணைக்களம் /
Department of Examinations, Sri Lanka

Competitive Examination for Filling Vacancies in the Public
Management Assistants' Service Cadre in Sri Lanka
Missions / Posts Abroad - 2016 2017)

(03) English

Two hours

Question No.	Marks Awarded
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
Total	
Marking Examiner	
Checked By	

Answer all the questions on this paper itself.

Index No :

1. Fill in each blank in the following text, choosing the most appropriate word from the list of words given.

issues, granted, with, evacuate, host, cultural, protect, diplomatic, prosecution, their, ambassador, represent, term, press, financial, responsible, between, who, home, visit

Diplomats do a very important job for their countries. Almost every country in existence has diplomats who are sent out to various countries for the purposes of negotiating and mediating relations between the two governments.

Diplomats (i)..... their home country and maintain good relations with the host country, or the country in which they work, which is normally located in the (ii)..... country's capital. "Diplomat" is the general (iii)..... used to describe everyone in the foreign service from the (iv)..... to his entourage of assistants. To (v)..... them while they are in a foreign country, they are (vi)..... diplomatic immunity or freedom from (vii)....., by the host country.

Diplomats are (viii)..... for developing commercial, economic, (ix)..... and scientific relations (x)..... the host country and the home country. They negotiate (xi) the government of the host country and discuss (xii)..... such as foreign aid or treaties.

Diplomats protect the interests of their (xiii)..... country and its citizens by providing updates about political and economic developments in (xiv)..... host country. They help their citizens (xv)..... are traveling abroad and they also (xvi)..... refugees. They explain and defend the foreign policy of their home country in a (xvii)..... way.

Diplomats issue passports, travel documents and visas. They also give (xviii)..... assistance to the citizens of their home country who become destitute in the host country. They (xix)..... their citizens who have been arrested and provide appropriate assistance. They help the relatives of citizens who died abroad.

Diplomats hold (xx)..... conferences in the host country on issues related to their home country. They answer questions from the local and foreign media assigned in their host country on matters that involve their home country and its citizens.

(01 × 20 = 20 marks)

2. Fill in each blank with the most appropriate **preposition** selecting from those given below each sentence.

- (i) Each day, our employees make a difference as they contribute our global society.
(1) for (2) with (3) to (4) in (.....)
- (ii) all the ancient cities of Lanka, the most famed and most exquisite is the kingdom of Anuradhapura.
(1) With (2) For (3) In (4) Of (.....)
- (iii) Sri Lankans every religion crowd the roads to enjoy Vesak decorations including pandals and lanterns.
(1) of (2) with (3) in (4) under (.....)
- (iv) The two Prime Ministers noted that both countries shared many similarities, being multi-ethnic island nations a Commonwealth heritage.
(1) by (2) with (3) in (4) for (.....)
- (v) In the hour grief, the Government of Sri Lanka offers its condolences to the families of the victims of the attack.
(1) to (2) with (3) of (4) for (.....)
- (vi) Peace and security are essential elements the success of meaningful regional cooperation for the benefit of the people of South Asia.
(1) for (2) with (3) by (4) over (.....)
- (vii) Sri Lanka, in keeping its international obligations, had duly gazetted regulations to give effect to the provisions of these resolutions.
(1) by (2) through (3) to (4) with (.....)
- (viii) A key responsibility of the Government is to build the national economy of the country knowledge based innovation, said President Maithripala Sirisena addressing the Women's Agrarian Conference yesterday.
(1) with (2) by (3) since (4) at (.....)
- (ix) The students' delegation visited Sri Lanka Pakistan-Sri Lanka Youth Exchange Programme arranged by the Ministry of National Policy & Economic Affairs.
(1) with (2) over (3) from (4) under (.....)
- (x) Citizenship division offers you the services registering as Sri Lankan citizen, a Sri Lanka Dual Citizen or registering your overseas born child/children.
(1) to (2) of (3) for (4) with (.....)
- (01 × 10 = 10 marks)

3. Read the following text and answer the questions given below it.

Paragraph 1

The Alaska pipeline starts at the frozen edge of the Arctic Ocean. It stretches Southward across the largest and northernmost state in the United States, ending at a remote ice-free seaport village nearly 800 miles from where it begins. It is massive in size and extremely complicated to operate.

Paragraph 2

The steel pipe crosses windswept plains and endless miles of delicate tundra that tops the frozen ground. It weaves through crooked canyons, climbs sheer mountains, plunges over rocky crags, makes its way through thick forests, and passes over or under hundreds of rivers and streams. The pipe is 4 feet in diameter, and up to 2 million barrels (or 84 million gallons) of crude oil can be pumped through it daily.

Paragraph 3

Resting on H-shaped steel racks called "bents", long sections of the pipeline follow a zigzag course high above the frozen Earth. Other long sections drop out of sight beneath spongy or rocky ground and return to the surface later on. The pattern of the pipeline's up-and-down route is determined by the often harsh demands of the arctic and subarctic climate, the tortuous lay of the land, and the varied compositions of soil, rock or permafrost (permanently frozen ground). A little more than half of the pipeline is elevated above the ground. The remainder is buried anywhere from 3 to 12 feet depending largely upon the type of terrain and the properties of the soil.

Paragraph 4

One of the largest in the world, the pipeline costs approximately \$8 billion and is by far the biggest and most expensive construction project ever undertaken by private industry. In fact, no single business could raise that much money, so eight major oil companies formed a consortium in order to share the costs. Each company controlled oil rights to particular shares of land in the oil fields and paid into the pipeline-construction fund according to the size of its holdings. Today, despite enormous problems of climate, supply shortages, equipment breakdowns, labour disagreements, treacherous terrain, a certain amount of mismanagement, and even theft, the Alaska pipeline has been completed and is operating.

(i) What is the approximate total length of the pipeline?

.....

(02 marks)

(ii) Write down two factors which caused the change of pattern of the pipeline's route.

.....
.....

(02 marks)

(iii) How many companies shared the costs of constructing the pipeline?

.....

(02 marks)

(iv) Who or what do the following pronouns in bold print refer to?

(a) **it** (paragraph 1)

(b) **its** (paragraph 4)

(02 marks)

(v) Write down selecting from the text a word which has meaning closest to the words/phrases given below:

(a) very large (paragraph 1)

(b) put under ground (paragraph 3)

(c) nearly (paragraph 4)

(06 marks)

(vi) **Underline** the most appropriate response in each of the following questions.

(A) According to the passage, 84 million gallons of oil can travel through the pipeline each

- (1) day (2) week (3) month (4) year

(B) The underlined phrase "Resting on" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to

- (1) Consisting of (2) Supported by (3) Passing under (4) Protected with

(C) Which of the following determined what percentage of the construction costs each member of the consortium would pay?

- (1) How much oil field land each company owned
- (2) How long each company had owned land in the oil fields
- (3) How many people worked for each company
- (4) How many oil wells were located on the company's land

(02 × 3 = 06 marks)

4. Imagine that you are a Management Assistant attached to an office in Colombo. You have been working in Colombo-based offices for more than five years. Your hometown is Polonnaruwa. You applied for a transfer but it was rejected.

Write a letter with valid reasons to the Secretary of the Ministry of Public Administration requesting a transfer.

(Use about 150-175 words.)

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(20 marks)



5. A foreign Service career is more than just a job. It is a way to serve your country. A career in the Foreign Service can offer excitement, challenge and the satisfaction of serving your country. To deal effectively in the foreign affairs environment of the twenty first century, those in the Foreign Service must develop additional skills and greater knowledge in areas such as administration and management, economics, trade, science, technology and the environment.

Develop the above idea into an article to be published in a local newspaper under the topic **'Role of Foreign Service Officer today'**. You may include the duties and responsibilities of a Foreign Service member and hardships he/she encounters abroad. Use about **200-250** words.

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(30 marks)

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