

**English Language Proficiency Test  
PSC Recruitment December 2023  
Post: Under Secretary**

**Maximum Time: 3 hours**

**Maximum Marks: 80**

**Instructions:**

- *The paper consists of four sections. (A, B, C & D)*
- *Read the instructions provided to each question carefully.*
- *Attempt all questions.*
- *Write the correct question number in your answer sheet to indicate the option/s being attempted.*
- *"Don't stress. You've got this! It's just a pop quiz in the grand scheme of life."*

**SECTION A: WRITING (40 Marks)**

**Q1. Write a 250-word essay on any ONE of the following topics. (10 Marks)**

- a. Tibet's natural environment: significance and threats to its sustainability
- b. Democracy in exile: opportunities and challenges
- c. Building the foundations of women empowerment in Tibetan society

**Q2.** A Conference titled "Dialogue on Women's Empowerment within the Tibetan Community" was held from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in Dharamsala. Women's Empowerment Desk (WED) organized the conference to create a community dialogue on gender issues in the Tibetan community and action items to inform WED's program planning, design, and implementation, and build stakeholder ownership. It also aimed to discuss strengthening existing policies and guidelines on women's empowerment and gender equality. The conference was attended by various representatives from the Tibetan community from schools, settlements, college-going students, representatives from nunneries, Chief Settlement Officers (CSOs), Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) staff members, and Regional Tibetan Women's Association (RTWA).

Write a 200-word news report on the above-mentioned event. You can add other details to the report as you see fit. **(10 Marks)**

**Q3. Write at least 200 words on any ONE of the following topics. (10 marks)**

- a. Evaluate the argument that migration to the West is beneficial for raising awareness of the Tibetan issue on the global stage while the counterpoint is that it may have negative implications for the long-term sustainability of the Tibetan freedom movement. ***Express and support your personal stance on ONE of these perspectives.***
- b. What strategies and programs do you believe could be implemented to enhance the fertility rate within the Tibetan community in exile?
- c. Discuss the concise strategies and programs through which the CTA can bridge the gap between Tibetan youth and their cultural heritage, fostering a deeper connection and understanding of traditions.

**Q4.** Compose an appeal letter to the Chairman of the United Nations Human Rights Council, urging the removal of China from its membership. *Provide factual support for your appeal by citing specific cases and instances.* (10 marks)

## **SECTION B: READING COMPREHENSION (20 Marks)**

**Q6.** Read the following passages and answer the following questions. The answers should be in your own words as copying phrases from the passage will be penalized.

### **Passage 1**

As the Chinese government continues its 70-year quest to build legitimacy and control over Tibet, it is pivoting increasingly to using education as a battlefield to gain political control. By separating children from their families and familiar surroundings and funneling them into residential schools where they can become assimilated into Chinese subjects, the state is betting on a future where younger generations of Tibetans will become groomed Chinese Communist Party loyalists, model subjects easy to control and manipulate.

Today these boarding schools house roughly one million children between ages 4 and 18, approximately 80 percent of that population. At least 100,000 of those children are only 4 or 5 years old.

Beijing's use of schools to erase Tibetan culture isn't new. During the Cultural Revolution, the government banned the teaching of Tibetan in many schools. Then, in 1985, in addition to the boarding schools that had been set up inside Tibet, Beijing pioneered its Inland Schooling Program, which sent Tibetan students off to boarding schools in cities across China. James Leibold, an expert in Chinese ethnic policies, described the schools as "a military-style boot camp in how to be 'Chinese' and how to conform to acceptable ways of acting, thinking and being." By 2005, 29,000 Tibetan students had attended these schools.

"This increase in the number of boarding Tibetan students is achieved by the closure of rural schools in areas which tend to be populated by Tibetans, and their replacement by township or county-level schools which almost exclusively use Chinese in teaching and communications, and usually requiring children to board," the experts said. "Many of those residential schools are situated far from the family homes of students boarding in them."

- a. What is the long-term objective of China's education policy?
- b. How are the schools inside Tibet different from regular boarding schools?
- c. Which word/phrase in the passage is most similar to the term "workshop"? Which word/phrase corresponds to the term "ideal"?
- d. "a military-style boot camp in how to be Chinese". How does the passage describe the methods employed by China towards this goal?
- e. Summarize, in your words, the last paragraph/quote of the passage.



## Passage 2

The mass collection of genetic material is nothing new to China. Its Ministry of Public Security runs the world's largest forensic DNA database, thought to contain more than 100m profiles. It also maintains a separate database for finding missing children. Those efforts involve gathering samples from criminal suspects or the victims of crimes (as many Western countries do). But in 2017 the government launched a campaign to collect DNA from 5% to 10% of all Chinese men, which would allow it to trace a man's male relatives. Activists decried the move as yet another way for the state to monitor and control people. The authorities often punish perceived troublemakers by threatening their families.

The campaign in Tibet has raised new alarms because of the government's history of using genetic material to repress ethnic minorities. Activists draw parallels with the region of Xinjiang, where China has collected DNA from Uyghurs and other minority groups, ostensibly as part of a health program. It has used that material, along with data collected by security cameras and facial-recognition software, to build a totalitarian system of surveillance and social control. In Tibet the police may already have collected DNA from between 25% and 33% of the population, says a new report from Citizen Lab, a research group at the University of Toronto.

All this violates China's criminal procedure law, which allows DNA collection only from criminal suspects or victims for investigation. Unlike those in Xinjiang, the authorities in Tibet are not trying to hide their true intentions. "Fighting crime", "maintaining social stability" and strengthening "population management" are some of the reasons given by authorities for collecting DNA. Tibetans don't have much choice in the matter, though you wouldn't know it from the posts on WeChat. Police describe how, in one instance, officers "used careful explanation of the purpose and effectiveness of sample collection to make the doubtful participants become enthusiastically co-operative". Their powers of persuasion never seem to fail. In another post, the police say they "sample all who should be sampled".

- a. How does the passage differentiate between the collection of DNA by Western countries and China?
- b. How does DNA collection act as a powerful new tool for China's emerging high-tech surveillance state?
- c. Which word/phrase in the passage means "allegedly"? Which word/phrase corresponds the closest to the term "complete control"?
- d. "Tibetans don't have much choice in the matter, though you wouldn't know it from the posts on WeChat." What does this sentence mean? Explain in your own words
- e. "Maintaining social stability". In your words, briefly talk about why Tibet and Tibetans are seen as threats to "social stability".

## **SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 Marks)**

**Q7.** For each blank select **ONE** entry from the corresponding column of choices.

Fill in all blanks in the way that best completes the text. **(6X1= 6 marks)**

- a. It is refreshing to read a book about our planet by an author who does not allow facts to be (i)\_\_\_\_\_ by politics: well aware of the political disputes about the effects of human activities on climate and biodiversity, this author does not permit them to (ii)\_\_\_\_\_ his comprehensive description of what we know about our biosphere. He emphasizes the

(iii) \_\_\_\_\_ of our knowledge, the sparseness of our observations, and the superficiality of our theories, calling attention to the many aspects of planetary evolution that must be better understood before we can accurately diagnose the condition of our planet.

<i>Choose one answer from each corresponding column</i>		
Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
(A) overshadowed	(D) enhance	(G) limitations
(B) invalidated	(E) obscure	(H) strength
(C) illuminated	(F) underscore	(I) nature

- b. The Tibetan religion inside Tibet is undergoing a campaign of (i) \_\_\_\_\_. Although different methods are involved, the process (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ a campaign in neighboring Xinjiang to do the same to Islam, the faith of most of that region's 12m ethnic Uyghurs. The purpose is to eliminate religious influences from outside China, especially from the Dalai Lama (on the Tibetan plateau) and from radical Islamic groups (in Xinjiang). The Communist Party of China has long (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ the Tibetan Political Movement and its supporters.

<i>Choose one answer from each corresponding column</i>		
Blank (i)	Blank (ii)	Blank (iii)
(A) proliferation	(D) deviates from	(G) nurtured
(B) Sinicization	(E) pushes for	(H) vilified
(C) innovation	(F) echoes	(I) ignored

**Q8.** Select the **TWO** answer choices that, when used to complete the sentence, fit the meaning of the sentence as a whole and produce completed sentences that are alike in meaning.  
(2X2=4 marks)

- a. Although it does contain some pioneering ideas, one would hardly characterize the work as \_\_\_\_\_.

A. orthodox	C. original	E. conventional
B. eccentric	D. trifling	F. innovative

- b. It was her view that the country's problems had been \_\_\_\_\_ by foreign technocrats, so to ask for such assistance again would be counterproductive.

A. ameliorated	C. diagnosed	E. overlooked
B. ascertained	D. exacerbated	F. worsened

### SECTION D: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (10 Marks)

### Q9. Choose the right answer

1. Which was the first Tibetan newspaper established in exile after 1959?  
a) Melong                                      b) Freedom  
c) The Voice                                  d) Tibetan Bulletin
2. Who was part of the first high-level exploratory talks delegation to Beijing in 1982?  
a) Lodi Gyari                                  b) Takla Phuntsok Tashi  
c) Juchen Thupten Namgyal    d) All of the above
3. When was the Tibet Policy Support Act enacted?  
a) 2000    b) 2002  
c) 2016    d) 2020
4. Who was the first Kalon Tripa of the Central Tibetan Administration?  
a) His Holiness the Dalai Lama        b) Juchen Thupten Namgyal  
c) Samdong Rinpoche                      d) Lobsang Sangay
5. The Special Envoys of His Holiness the Dalai Lama visited China for the ninth round in which year?  
a) 2008    b) 2009  
c) 2010    d) 2012
6. When was the Tibetan Rehabilitation Policy (TRP) enacted?  
a) 2002    b) 2010  
c) 2014    d) 2020
7. Which document was presented to the Chinese authorities in 2008, as part of the delegation on the Middle Way Approach?  
a) Memorandum on Middle Way Approach  
b) Memorandum on the Genuine Autonomy for the Tibetan People  
c) Memorandum on the Peaceful Settlement of the Sino-Tibet Dispute  
d) None of the above
8. When was the Charter for Tibetans in exile approved and promulgated?  
a) 1991                      b) 1992                      c) 1993                      d) 1994
9. Who is the current deputy speaker of the Tibetan Parliament in exile?  
a) Khenpo Sonam Tenphel                      b) Dolma Tsering  
c) Pema Jungney                                      d) Penpa Tsering
10. Who is the current US Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues?  
a) Nancy Pelosi                                      b) Uzra Zeya  
c) Sophie Richardson                              d) Anthony Blinken

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