

CENTRAL TIBETAN ADMINISTRATION
Public Service Commission
English Question Paper

Post: Office Assistant Time: 3 Hours Marks: 80 Exam ID#: _____

SECTION I: Reading Comprehension (4+6=10 Marks)

Archaeology as a Profession Faces two Major Problems

First, it is the poorest of the poor. Only paltry sums are available for excavating and even less is available for publishing the results and preserving the sites once excavated. Yet archaeologists deal with priceless objects every day.

Second, there is the problem of illegal excavation, resulting in museum-quality pieces being sold to the highest bidder.

I would like to make an outrageous suggestion that would at one stroke provide funds for archaeology and reduce the amount of illegal digging. I would propose that scientific archeological expeditions and governmental authorities sell excavated artifacts on the open market. Such sales would provide substantial funds for the excavation and preservation of archaeological sites and the publication of results. At the same time, they would break the illegal excavator's grip on the market, thereby decreasing the inducement to engage in illegal activities.

You might object that professionals excavate to acquire knowledge, not money. Moreover, ancient artifacts are part of our global cultural heritage, which should be available for all to appreciate, not sold to the highest bidder. I agree. Sell nothing that has unique artistic merit or scientific value. But, you might reply, everything that comes out of the ground has scientific value. Here we part company. Theoretically, you may be correct in claiming that every artifact has potential scientific value. Practically, you are wrong.

I refer to the thousands of pottery vessels and ancient lamps that are essentially duplicates of one another. In one small excavation in Cyprus, archaeologists recently uncovered 2,000 virtually indistinguishable small jugs in a single courtyard, even precious royal seal impressions known as melek handles have been found in abundance — more than 4,000 examples so far.

The basement of museums is simply not large enough to store the artifacts that are likely to be discovered in the future. There is not enough money even to catalogue the finds; as a result, they cannot be found again and become as inaccessible as if they had never been discovered. Indeed, with the help of a computer, sold artifacts could be more accessible than are the pieces stored in bulging museum basements. Prior to sale, each could be photographed and the list of the purchasers could be maintained on the computer. A purchaser could even be required to agree to return the piece if it should become needed for scientific purposes. It would be unrealistic to suggest that illegal digging would stop if artifacts were sold in the open market. But the demand for the clandestine product would be substantially reduced. Who would want an unmarked pot when another was available whose provenance was known, and that was dated stratigraphically by the professional archaeologist who excavated it?

Part 1. Based on reading the passage, check whether the statement is true or false (4 Marks)

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| a. Archaeology is financially a rewarding profession | True /False |
| b. Museum-quality artefacts are cheap | True /False |
| c. Theoretically, all that comes out of the ground has scientific value | True /False |
| d. Artifact whose provenance is known has more monetary value | True /False |

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Part 2. Based on the Passage, answer the following questions (6 Marks)

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to propose

- (a) *an alternative to museum display of artifacts*
- (b) *a way to curb illegal digging while benefiting the archaeological profession*
- (c) *a way to distinguish artifacts with scientific value from those that have no such value*
- (d) *sold artifacts could be more accessible*

2. The author implies that all of the following statements about duplicate artifacts are true except:

- (a) *A market for such artifacts already exists.*
- (b) *Such artifacts seldom have scientific value.*
- (d) *There is likely to be a continuing supply of such artifacts.*
- (d) *Museums are well supplied with examples of such artifacts.*

3. Which of the following is mentioned in the passage as a disadvantage of storing artifacts in museum basements?

- (a) *Museum officials rarely allow scholars access to such artifacts.*
- (b) *Such artifacts' often remain uncatalogued and thus cannot be located once they are put in storage*
- (c) *Artifacts discovered in one excavation often become separated from each other.*
- (d) *Such artifacts are often damaged by variations in temperature and humidity.*

4. Indistinguishable small jugs were excavated in

- (a) *Tibet*
- (b) *India*
- (c) *China*
- (d) *Cyprus*

5) According to the author, artifacts could be made more accessible through

- (a) *Creating more museums*
- (b) *Publication of research*
- (c) *Use of computer technology*
- (d) *Giving public lectures*

6) If the suggestions made by the author are implemented, it would

- (a) *End illegal digging*
- (b) *Appreciate the value of artifacts*
- (c) *Demand for illegal artifact will reduce*
- (d) *Enhance scientific value of artifacts*

SECTION II : Grammar (5+5=10 Marks)

Part 1. Choose the right sentence from two options

5 Marks

1. Which of the following is correct?

- A. *The team plays good in decisive games.*
- B. *The team plays well in decisive games.*

2. Which of the following is correct?

- A. *I haven't barely started to think about my exam.*
- B. *I have barely started to think about my exam.*

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3. The President of the Republic of India is

- a) Narendra Modi
b) Mallikarjun Kharge
c) Droupadi Murmu
d) Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud

4. The so-called 17-Point Agreement was signed in

- a) 1962
b) 1951
c) 1959
d) 2008

5. _____ Rounds of talks were held between China and the representatives of His Holiness the Dalai Lama

- a) 12
b) 9
c) 10
d) 5

6. According to CTA, _____ Tibetans have self-immolated.

- a) 157
b) 161
c) 149
d) 12

7. The last conference of Tibet Support Group was held at _____ in 2024.

- a) Geneva, Switzerland
b) Washington DC, USA
c) London, UK
d) Brussels, Belgium

8. There are _____ departments in the Central Tibetan Administration.

- a) 5
b) 6
c) 7
d) 8

9. Who is the current Public Service Commissioner of the Central Tibetan Administration?

- a) Karma Choeying
b) Karma Rinchen
c) Wangdu Tsering Pesur
d) Palden Dhondup

10. There are _____ in the Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile.

- a) 46
b) 45
c) 47
d) 48

Part 2. Write a short essay on the upcoming Lok Sabha election of India 2024. 5 Marks

SECTION IV: Writing (15+15=30 Marks)

a. Write a speech on behalf of the Kalon of the Department of Information and International Relations. The speech is to be delivered at an international environmental conference. The speech should highlight the importance of Tibet in global climate conversations. 15 Marks

b. Write an invitation letter to the District Commissioner on behalf of a settlement officer in south India. The letter is to invite the District Commissioner to celebrate the 50th

