

English Language Proficiency Test

PSC Recruitment 8 July 2026

Post: Senior Clerk

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.

SECTION A: WRITING (40 Marks)

1. You are assigned the task of scanning highly sensitive administrative files regarding internal CTA policy discussions. A trusted friend who works for a prominent Tibetan media outlet asks you casual questions about these discussions over dinner, hinting that sharing even minor details would help them write an article that ultimately benefits the Tibetan cause. Write a short essay describing how you would manage this conversation. Explain the ethical boundaries separating your personal loyalty to a friend and your responsibility to keep the official confidentiality as a CTA civil servant. (Around 200 words) (10 Marks)
2. Write a short essay on the contribution of Tibetan literature, poetry, and performing arts in expressing and preserving the patriotic sentiments of the Tibetan people in exile. (10 Marks)
3. The "Ethnic Unity and Progress Law" attempts to weaken minority identities. Explain in simple, clear English how you will personally stand against this law in your daily life. (10 Marks)
4. Write an essay on any one of the following topics. (10 Marks)
 - Present a brief, chronological summary of His Holiness the Dalai Lama's historic journey from Tibet to India in 1959.
 - Summarizing His Holiness the Dalai Lama's message of 'Universal Responsibility' and its importance in daily public interactions.

SECTION B: READING COMPREHENSION (20 Marks)

Focus: Identifying secondary themes, analyzing political vocabulary, and understanding cultural erasure.

Topic: The Destruction of Religious Identity and the Cultural Revolution.

Reading Passage: Following the 1959 uprising, the Chinese government intensified its efforts to systematically dismantle Tibetan society. However, the most devastating blow to Tibet's ancient cultural identity came between 1966 and 1976 during the Cultural Revolution, a political campaign launched by Chinese leader Mao Zedong. The explicit goal of this movement across China was to destroy the "Four Olds": Old Ideas, Old Culture, Old Customs, and Old Habits. In Tibet, this policy was used as an excuse to wipe out the unique Buddhist religion, which Chinese authorities viewed as a threat to communist ideology and state control.

Before the Chinese occupation, Tibet was home to more than 6,000 monasteries, shrines, and temples. These institutions were not just religious buildings; they were the centers of education, history, art, and community life. During the Cultural Revolution, Chinese Red Guards—consisting of radicalized youth and military units—embarked on a campaign of mass destruction. Over 95% of Tibet's monasteries were systematically looted, dynamited, or pulled down brick by brick. Priceless cultural treasures, including ancient Tibetan scrolls, sacred clay statues, and golden religious artifacts, were either melted down for bullion, destroyed, or shipped to China to be sold on the international black market.

The human cost of this religious persecution was staggering. Hundreds of thousands of monks, nuns, and spiritual teachers were targeted for public humiliation and physical violence. They were subjected to what the Chinese authorities called "struggle sessions." During these sessions, religious figures were forced to stand before large crowds while being beaten, insulted, and pressured to denounce Buddhism and His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Monks and nuns were violently forced to break their vows; they were compelled to marry, slaughter animals, and handle filth to mock their religious beliefs. Those who refused to cooperate were branded as counter-revolutionaries and sent to prison camps (*laogai*), where many died of starvation, exhaustion, or torture.

Even ordinary Tibetan citizens were stripped of their fundamental rights to express their cultural identity. The practice of Tibetan Buddhism was completely banned. Praying, spinning prayer wheels, burning incense, and displaying prayer flags became serious crimes. Possession of a photograph of His Holiness the Dalai Lama was treated as treason, resulting in immediate imprisonment. Tibetans were forced to change their traditional clothes for uniform Mao suits, cut their hair, and learn to speak and write Mandarin Chinese instead of their native language. Sacred texts were openly burned in public squares, and holy mani stones (stones carved with Buddhist prayers) were used to build pigsties and public toilets to intentionally insult the local population.

The destruction of the monasteries stripped Tibet of its educational infrastructure, leading to a massive drop in literacy among the indigenous population. By treating indigenous culture as an

enemy of progress, the Chinese state attempted to fully assimilate Tibetans into Han Chinese society through psychological and physical terror. Although the extreme violence of the Cultural Revolution ended in the late 1970s, the psychological scars and the loss of irreplaceable cultural heritage remain deep. Today, the Chinese government closely monitors the few monasteries that were allowed to be rebuilt, stationing police officers inside them to ensure that religion never again threatens state authority.

Questions (20 Marks)

1. **Contextual Comprehension (4 Marks):** What were the "Four Olds," and how did the Chinese government use this concept to justify actions in Tibet?
2. **Impact Assessment (4 Marks):** Describe what a "struggle session" was and how it was used against Tibetan monks and nuns.
3. **Analytical Interpretation (4 Marks):** Why did the Chinese authorities use sacred mani stones to build pigsties and toilets? What was the psychological goal?
4. **Synthesis Essay (8 Marks):** Explain how the destruction of monasteries affected both the religious life and the daily social/educational life of ordinary Tibetans. Write a response of 80–100 words using evidence from the text.

SECTION C: GRAMMAR (10 Marks)

1. Choose the correct answer from the options below. (5 Marks)

1. She _____ to school every day.
 - (A) go
 - (B) goes
 - (C) going
 - (D) gone
2. They _____ football yesterday.
 - (A) play
 - (B) plays
 - (C) played
 - (D) playing
3. We _____ dinner when the phone rang.
 - (A) have
 - (B) had
 - (C) were having
 - (D) are having
4. He is good _____ English.
 - (A) in
 - (B) on
 - (C) at
 - (D) for

5. My brother is _____ than I am.
- (A) tall
 - (B) taller
 - (C) tallest
 - (D) more tall

2. Fill in each blank with the correct form of the word in brackets. (5 Marks)

1. She _____ (read) a book every evening.
2. We _____ (visit) our grandparents last Sunday.
3. They _____ (play) in the park now.
4. I have _____ (finish) my homework.
5. The children _____ (be) happy yesterday.

SECTION D: GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (10 Marks)

1. The Middle Way Approach can best be described as:

- A. Seeking full independence through referendum
- B. Seeking genuine autonomy through dialogue and non-violence
- C. Supporting armed resistance
- D. Rejecting negotiations

2. Which CTA department administers Tibetan settlements?

- A. Department of Home
- B. DIIR
- C. Department of Education
- D. Department of Security

3. The Offices of Tibet function most similarly to:

- A. Commercial banks
- B. Cultural museums
- C. Representative offices of the CTA abroad
- D. Immigration offices

4. Which of the following is a major responsibility of DIIR?

- A. Building roads
- B. Disseminating information on Tibet internationally
- C. Collecting taxes
- D. Managing monasteries

5. Which principle is NOT associated with the Middle Way Approach?

- A. Dialogue
- B. Non-violence
- C. Genuine autonomy
- D. Armed struggle

6. The UN Security Council has primary responsibility for:

- A. International trade
- B. International peace and security
- C. Climate negotiations
- D. Tourism promotion

7. Which organization promotes global trade rules?

- A. WTO
- B. UNESCO
- C. WHO
- D. NATO

8. Brazil is scheduled to host the G20 Leaders' Summit in:

- A. 2024
- B. 2025
- C. 2026
- D. 2027

9. NATO was originally formed in:

- A. Asia
- B. Europe and North America
- C. Africa
- D. South America

10. Which institution primarily provides financial assistance for development projects?

- A. IMF
- B. World Bank
- C. NATO
- D. OECD

*****GOOD LUCK*****