**Chapter 6 – Test Bank**

# Multiple-Choice Questions

1. The notion of wu wei is

a. social responsibility.

b. filial piety.

c. no unnecessary action.

d. education and discipline.

Answer: c

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2. The man who dreamed of being a butterfly was

a. Laozi (Lao Tzu).

b. Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu).

c. Zhu Xi.

d. Mengzi (Mencius).

Answer: b

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3. The receptive aspect of the universe that expresses itself in silence, darkness, coolness, and rest is called

a. wu wei.

b. yin.

c. dao.

d. yang.

Answer: b

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4. The Daodejing is written in approximately how many Chinese characters?

a. 100

b. 1,000

c. 5,000

d. 25,000

Answer: c

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5. The Daodejing is known for its

a. deliberate obscurity.

b. careful prose.

c. logical organization of themes.

d. mention of important sites in China.

Answer: a

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6. Dao is the origin of

a. mathematical certainty.

b. the rhythms of nature.

c. the human intuition of beauty.

d. our ability to distinguish between right and wrong.

Answer: b

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7. “Divination” refers to the process of

a. telling the future.

b. burying the dead.

c. naming holy people as saints.

d. offering sacrifice to gods.

Answer: a

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8. A story in the Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu) makes fun of the silliness of human beings. It compares them to

a. bees.

b. goats.

c. snakes.

d. monkeys.

Answer: d

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9. After his wife died, Zhuangzi (Chuang Tzu)

a. swam.

b. danced.

c.sang.

d. worked in his garden.

Answer: c

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10. Laozi (Lao Tzu) is said to have been a

a. fisherman.

b. painter.

c. carpenter.

d. librarian.

Answer: d

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11. Black caps are the signature headwear for

a. Daoist priests.

b. members of the Legalist school of philosophy.

c. actors in the theatrical programs performed during the Jiao rite of renewal.

d. teachers of Confucian rituals.

Answer: a

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12. Concerning the origins of Daoism, scholars today point to

a. the historical founder, Laozi.

b. the Yijing, the Book of Changes.

c. a multiplicity of possible sources that coalesced into a movement.

d. the legendary Jade Emperor.

Answer: c

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13. The two dots of contrasting color inside the light and dark commas of the yin-yang circle represent the

a. eternal strife of good and evil.

b. seed of each other.

c. eyes of God.

d. great Daoists Laozi and Zhuangzi.

Answer: b

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14. Daoism likely established monasteries and temples

a. to protect itself from Confucian influence.

b. to guard its secret practices.

c. in order to more closely follow the teachings of the Daodejing.

d. as a result of Buddhism’s influence on it.

Answer: d

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15. Daoism developed a pantheon of hundreds of deities, the most important being

a. the Three Purities.

b. several female deities.

c. humans elevated to the status of gods.

d. household gods that protect the people.

Answer: a

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16. The Three Purities consist of

a. Mother Li, Lord Lao, and Zhenwu, the perfected warrior.

b. Laozi, Confucius, and the Buddha.

c. the Jade Emperor, Laozi, and Zhuangzi.

d. the Dao, the god who transmits Daoist insight, and Laozi.

Answer: d

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17. Which of the following statements is true about the Dao?

a. To experience the Dao, one must leave behind his or her desires for individual things.

b. The Dao can be “known” in the same way that one sees a car or hears a sound.

c. According to the Daodejing, the Dao that can be spoken of is the eternal Dao.

d. The Dao is any individual thing that has a name, such as a door, a tree, or a person.

Answer: a

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18. A key difference between the Zhuangzi and the Daodejing is that, unlike the Daodejing, the Zhuangzi

a. rejects the notion that there is a movement of the Dao in all that happens.

b. contains many whimsical stories.

c. deviates from the themes of early Daoist thought.

d. is composed of eight chapters whose authorship is uncertain.

Answer: b

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19. In the context of the main teachings of the Daodejing, identify a true statement.

a. Because Daoists pursue the aggressive way, they love weapons and war.

b. Daoists believe that, as humans, it is impossible to attain a vision of things that goes beyond apparent opposites such as I-you, good-bad, and so forth.

c. Daoism emphasizes the elimination of whatever is unnecessary and artificial and an appreciation of the simple and the apparently ordinary.

d. *Wu wei* is the name for whatever mysterious reality makes nature to be what it is and to act the way it does.

Answer: c

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20. After the Bible, the \_\_\_\_\_ is the world’s most frequently translated book.

a. Book of Changes (Yijing, I Ching)

b. Book of Poetry (Shijing, Shih Ching)

c. Zhuangzi

d. Daodejing

Answer: d

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21. Confucius lived during which of the following years?

a. 1221–1156 BCE

b. 860–780 BCE

c. 551–479 BCE

d. 437–502 CE

Answer: c

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22. Confucius worked almost all his life as

a. a teacher.

b. a priest.

c. an artist.

d. a librarian.

Answer: a

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23. Which of the following statements is true about the Analects?

a. They are the principal source of Legalist philosophy.

b. They are the sayings of Confucius.

c. They are a reaction against the Mohist thought.

d. They are a compilation of ancient poetry, saved by Confucians.

Answer: b

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24. Which of the following statements is true about the Doctrine of the Mean?

a. It is a long work on the history of the state of Lu.

b. It is the basis for the Legalist emphasis on strict punishment.

c. It reflects the Daoist love of contemplation.

d. It is a short book on moderation and harmony.

Answer: d

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25. Which of the following statements is true about theMencius?

a. It advocates the ideal of the bodhisattva.

b. It offers advice about the magical ritual that was thought to raise agricultural productivity.

c. It presents the teachings of a Confucian thinker.

d. It was a stone memorial to Confucius placed in his hometown of Qufu.

Answer: c

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26. Confucius’s ideal society would live according to the ideals of the

a. Five Great Relationships.

b. Four Noble Truths.

c. Seven Sacraments.

d. Five K’s.

Answer: a

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27. Which of the following statements is true about the Yijing (I Ching)?

a. It was a central library, where many ancient texts were kept.

b. It recounts tales of the mythic life of the Yellow Emperor.

c. It is a book of prophecy and poetry.

d. It is a book, valued by Confucius, that is used for divination.

Answer: d

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28. The personal ideal or hero of Confucianism is the

a. teacher.

b. businessman.

c. noble person.

d. simple peasant.

Answer: c

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29. The period in which Confucius lived was

a. a time of social turmoil.

b. peaceful.

c. a time when China was ruled by a single emperor.

d. a time of a classless society.

Answer: a

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30. Which of the following statements is true about Mencius (Mengzi, Meng Tzu)?

a. He was a Legalist with a pessimistic view of human nature.

b. He was a Confucian with a positive view of human nature.

c. He was a Mohist with a stern view of human nature.

d. He was a Daoist with a very optimistic view of human nature.

Answer: b

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31. In the context of Confucianism, the Communists after the Communist Revolution

a. encouraged it in order to build up a sound economy.

b. spread it because of its support of government.

c. rejected it as not being egalitarian.

d. rejected it because of its emphasis on individual freedom.

Answer: c

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32. The most fundamental relationship for Confucius seems to have been that between

a. friends.

b. father and son.

c. elder brother and younger brother.

d. husband and wife.

Answer: b

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33. The virtue of filial piety means

a. doing what is appropriate to a situation.

b. love of education.

c. devotion to one’s family.

d. doing only what is spontaneous.

Answer: c

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34. The ideal of benevolence or “human-heartedness” in Chinese is a written character made up of which pictographs?

a. two hearts, one beside the other

b. a person under a roof

c. a mother and a child

d. a person and the number two

Answer: d

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35. The most significant Confucian art form has been

a. garden design.

b. calligraphy.

c. stone carving.

d. music.

Answer: b

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36. The authoritative pre-Confucian books are the

a. Analects.

b. Mencius.

c. Five Classics.

d. Four Books.

Answer: c

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37. During the Han dynasty (206 BCE–220 CE),

a. Confucianism became the official philosophy of China, guiding its state policy.

b. Confucianism was abandoned in favor of Daoism.

c. calligraphy came to be taught as part of Confucian training for girls.

d. Confucians embraced and adopted Buddhist religion as a complement to their own philosophy.

Answer: a

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38. Which great scholar developed a complete philosophy of reality, now called Neo-Confucianism?

a. Mozi (Mo Tzu)

b. Xunzi (Hsun Tzu)

c. Zhu Xi (Chu Hsi)

d. Dong Zhongshu (Tun Chung-shu)

Answer: c

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39. Confucianism was criticized by a few Chinese leaders who had studied in the West and were influenced by the teachings of

a. John Dewey and Bertrand Russell.

b. Jean-Paul Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir.

c. Georg F. Hegel.

d. George Santayana.

Answer: a

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40. Confucianism remains a strong value system in

a. Cambodia.

b. Indonesia.

c. Malaysia.

d. South Korea.

Answer: d

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41. The Qing (Ching) dynasty, the last imperial dynasty, collapsed in China in the year

a. 1445.

b. 1703.

c. 1911.

d. 1966.

Answer: c

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42. Complex Confucian etiquette shows respect to others, makes social interactions predictable, and

a. reflects the social position of its participants.

b. leads to the virtue of humility.

c. generates much anxiety and resentment.

d. is the major reason for the development of Confucianism as a religious system.

Answer: a

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43. Which of the following statements is true about Confucius?

a. He believed that excellence comes partly from the cultivation of one’ virtues and intellect.

b. He disliked the idea of education because it transmitted the lessons of the past into the present.

c. He was convinced that human beings can achieve good, refined, and even great qualities in isolation.

d. He remained unmarried throughout his life.

Answer: a

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44. In Confucian societies, the bow is an art form that varies according to the occasion. A small inclination of the head is

a. used to make a serious request.

b. used for greeting an equal.

c. given to a social superior.

d. used to show profound respect.

Answer: b

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45. Which of the following Confucian virtues can be described as empathy, consideration for others, and humaneness?

a. shu

b. li

c. ren

d. xiao

Answer: c

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46. Which of the following Confucian virtues refers to appropriate action, ritual, propriety, and etiquette?

a. ren

b. xiao

c. shu

d. li

Answer: d

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47. Which of the following Confucian virtues encompasses several notions such as remembrance of ancestors, respect for parents and elders, and care for children in the family?

a. xiao

b. ren

c. li

d. shu

Answer: a

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48. Which of the following Confucian virtues implies that obligations entailed by relationships are mutually binding?

a. xiao

b. shu

c. ren

d. li

Answer: b

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49. In the context of the virtues most prized by Confucians, the term \_\_\_\_\_ means “culture,” and it includes all the arts that are associated with civilization.

a. shu

b. xiao

c. wen

d. li

Answer: c

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50. In the context of the Five Classics of the Confucian literature, \_\_\_\_\_ is an anthology of supposedly historical material about kings from earliest times up until the early Zhou (Chou) period (c. 1100–256 BCE).

a. Liji, Li Chi

b. Yijing, I Ching

c. Shijing, Shih Ching

d. Shujing, Shu Ching

Answer: d

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51. In the context of the Five Classics of the Confucian literature, \_\_\_\_\_ is a collection of three hundred poems of the Zhou period, once believed to have been selected by Confucius.

a. Shijing, Shih Ching

b. Yijing, I Ching

c. Liji, Li Chi

d. Shujing, Shu Ching

Answer: a

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52. In the context of the Five Classics of the Confucian literature, which of the following statements is true about Liji, Li Chi?

a. It speaks of the basic patterns of the universe.

b. It is referred to as the Book of Rites, and it lists ancient ceremonies and their meaning.

c. It allegedly comprises historical records of the state of Lu, where Confucius lived, and ends with a later commentary.

d. It is used to understand future events and to work with them properly.

Answer: b

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53. In the context of the Four Books of the Confucian literature, the \_\_\_\_\_ is a short discussion of the character and influence of the noble person.

a. Mencius (Mengzi, Meng Tzu)

b. Doctrine of the Mean (Zhongyong, Chung Yung)

c. Great Learning (Daxue, Ta Hsüeh)

d. Spring and Autumn Annals (Chunqiu, Ch’un Ch’iu)

Answer: c

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# Essay Topics

54. Explain yang and yin using examples as necessary to illustrate your explanation.

55. Recount the life story of Laozi.

56. What is the Daodejing, and what roles has it played in the Daoist religion?

57. Define the Dao—or explain why we cannot define the Dao, yet can experience it.

58. What does the collection called the Zhuangzi add to the basic understanding of the Dao?

59. Explain the ideal of wu wei.

60. Summarize four of the basic teachings of early Daoism.

61. Describe three or four features that came to be associated with later Daoism.

62. Explain the likely influences Buddhism had on Daoism.

63. Provide an overview of the Daoist pantheon of deities.

64. Describe with some detail four classical Chinese arts, and show how they exhibit some of the concerns of Daoism.

65. What particular aspects of the Dao are of primary interest to Confucians?

66. Which two ideals were sought by Confucius?

67. Explain, from a Confucian perspective, what it would take to be a “superior person.”

68. List the Five Great Relationships, and summarize the responsibilities of the related persons in each of the five.

69. What is ren? How does one show it?

70. Explain wen, and describe how it shows itself in practice.

71. Explain the Confucian notion of sincerity, and contrast it with the common Western notion.

72. Identify two of the Four Books of Confucianism, and describe a key characteristic of each.

73. Describe what Mencius brought to Confucianism by contrasting his thought with that of Confucius.

74. Pretend that you have been asked to begin a Confucian school. What would be studied? What practices would be evident in everyday life?

75. Summarize Zhu Xi’s contributions to Confucian thought.

76. What is the greatest of Confucian arts? Why?

77. Summarize three key arguments against Confucianism that became prominent during the twentieth century.

78. In what ways are Confucian virtues at odds with typical Western virtues?