

Ancient Chinese Law and Philosophy – 10 December 2012

- The duration of the examination is 75 minutes (2:00pm – 3:15pm).
- Candidates may freely consult any materials of their own (including dictionaries and internet resources) during the course of the examination.
- On each Answer sheet, candidates must write their **student number only**. Please do **not** write your name or major subject.
- Candidates must choose and answer **two questions** from the following:

[1] Explain the concept of ren (仁) with reference to the following passages:

Fan Ji asked about ethical strength. The Master said, ‘Be polite at home. Be respectful when you do things. Be loyal in your dealings with others. Even if you find yourself among barbarians, you should not forget about this.’

樊遲問仁。子曰：「居處恭，執事敬，與人忠。雖之夷狄，不可棄也。」(子路, 13.19)

Zi Zhang asked, ‘Governor Zi Wen had the governor’s post three times. But he did not appear to be pleased. He lost the post three time. But he did not appear to be displeased. He informed the details of his administration to his successors. How’s that?’ The Master said, ‘He is loyal.’ ‘Was he a man of ethical strength?’ asked Zi Zhang. The Master said, ‘I don’t know. Was he?’

子張問曰：「令尹子文三仕為令尹，無喜色；三已之，無愠色。舊令尹之政，必以告新令尹。何如？」子曰：「忠矣。」曰：「仁矣乎？」曰：「未知，焉得仁？」(公冶長, 5.19)

The Master said, ‘Soothing words, pleasant face and lots of politeness. Zuo Qi Ming regarded them as shameful. I (Qi) also regard them as shameful.

巧言、令色、足恭，左丘明恥之，丘亦恥之。(公冶長, 5.25)

[2] Discuss the Confucian concept of “learning (學)” with the following passages in mind:

The Master said, ‘When you are at home, serve your parents. When you are outside, be affectionate to others. Be respectful and trustworthy. Comprehensively love all living beings. But love men with closeness and moral fortitude. Conduct should come first. Then, study when you have energy to spare.’

子曰：「弟子入則孝，出則弟，謹而信，汎愛眾，而親仁。行有餘力，則以學文。」(學而, 1.6)

Duke Ai asked, ‘Among your students, who is fond of learning?’ Confucius replied, ‘A man called Yan Hui was fond of learning. He was unswerving in his wrath. He did not repeat the same mistake twice. Unfortunately, he died early. Now there is none. I have not since heard of a man who is fond of learning.’

哀公問：「弟子孰為好學？」孔子對曰：「有顏回者好學，不遷怒，不貳過。不幸短命死矣！今也則亡，未聞好學者也。」(雍也, 6.3)

[3] Comment on the following passage:

The Master said, ‘Govern people with politics and align them with punishments, they will evade and have no shame. Govern them with virtue and align them with Li they will have decency and things will be in the right place.’

子曰：「道之以政，齊之以刑，民免而無恥；道之以德，齊之以禮，有恥且格。」(為政, 2.3)

The Master said, 'To govern with virtue is like being the Pole Star. You stay put and all the stars venerate you.'

子曰：「為政以德，譬如北辰，居其所而眾星共之。」(為政, 2.1)

[End of questions]