

Ancient Chinese Law and Philosophy – 19 June 2013

- The duration of the examination is 75 minutes (10:30pm – 11:45pm).
- 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] Comment and discuss

The Master spoke of Gong Ye Zhang: ‘He is marriageable. Although he was imprisoned, it was not his fault.’ The Master gave his daughter to him in marriage. (Lunyu, 5.1)
子謂公冶長，「可妻也。雖在縲紲之中，非其罪也」。以其子妻之。

The Master spoke of Nan Rong: ‘When the Way prevailed in his country, he was not cast off. When his country lost the Way, he managed to avoid execution.’ The Master gave his niece to him in marriage. (Lunyu, 5.2)
子謂南容，「邦有道，不廢；邦無道，免於刑戮。」以其兄之子妻之。

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

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

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 times. 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?’ ‘Lord Zui assassinated the prince of Qi. Chen Wen had enough horses to equip ten chariots. He abandoned them and left. He arrived in another country. But he said, “You guys are all like Lord Zui of my country.” And he left. He went to another country. But he again said, “You guys are all like Lord Zui of my country.” And he left. How’s that?’ asked Zi Zhang. The Master said, ‘He is clean.’ ‘Was he a man of ethical strength?’ asked Zi Zhang. The Master said, ‘I don’t know. Was he?’ (Lunyu, 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. To hide grievance and pretend to be friend with the person. Zuo Qi Ming regarded it as shameful. I also regard it as shameful.’ (Lunyu, 5.25)
巧言、令色、足恭，左丘明恥之，丘亦恥之。匿怨而友其人，左丘明恥之，丘亦恥之。

[3] Comment on the following passage:

The Master said, ‘Sayings of the proper law – can you ignore them? Reforming them, however, is more precious. Sayings offered by way of a praise – can you not feel happy? Sift through them, however, is more precious. To be happy without sifting through the praise, to conform without reforming – I don’t know how one can do that.’ (Lunyu, 9.24)

子曰：「法語之言，能無從乎？改之為貴。巽與之言，能無說乎？繹之為貴。說而不繹，從而不改，吾末如之何也已矣。」

[End of questions]