

Study Notes for Chapter 3 Buddhism

1. What is the etymological origin of the word "Buddha?"
2. T/F Buddhism is a religion essentially without legend.
3. T/F Buddha's early life is usually pictured as without major problems.
4. According to legend the experiences that jolted Buddha out of his contentment were the _____.
Which of the following were not among them?

the violent death of a child, the presence of corruption in government, a sick person, cruelty to an animal, the sight of a monk.
5. The two choices open to Buddha according to the soothsayers were:
 - A. To become a _____.
 - B. To become a _____.
6. Following the Buddha's renunciation of a life of wealth and power he spent six years seeking enlightenment. This period falls into three phases, which are:
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
7. T/F Contemporary Hinduism is hostile to Buddhist thought.
8. From the failure of his Ascetic experiment, the Buddha evolved the idea that the body should be given the amount of food and rest it needs for optimum functioning but no more. This doctrine is called "_____."
9. What happened under the Bo tree?

10. Name the being who tempted the Buddha to turn aside from seeking enlightenment.

11. The last and most profound temptation faced by the Buddha came after his enlightenment. This temptation was to:

12. Smith claims that a particular pattern of living was a great assistance to the Buddha in maintaining his schedule. The pattern is called _____

_____.

13. The stories of the Buddha sacrificing himself during previous incarnation as an animal point to what general characteristic of his life?

14. Like Jesus, the Buddha has been given a number of titles, each of which points to some aspect of his life or mission. What are the translations of the following titles:

A. The Buddha

B. Sakyamuni

C. Tathagata

15. Pain --- The Cause of Pain ---- Cessation of Pain ---- Way that leads to the Cessation of Pain. In Buddhism this basic sequence is called The _____

_____.

16. T/F "Right Mindfulness" is to see one's situation as it really is.

17. The main approach of early Buddhism to human existence can be best described as:

- A. Psychological
- B. Philosophical
- C. Ritualistic
- D. Ethical

18. Which of the following are elements common to practically all religions that seem to have been missing from early Buddhism.

prayer, intellectual analysis, priesthods, monastic life,
speculation about supernatural beings, missionary activity, rituals,
priesthoods.

19. T/F In Early Buddhism there was a class having special religious authority made of those especially close to the Buddha.

20. What theological concept is dependent on the discovery that human life depends on factors beyond the individual's control?

21. Identify each general characteristic of religion with its perversion reacted against in early Buddhism.

authority	obscurantism
mystery	useless and endless arguments
ritual	defeatism, helplessness
speculation	magic, divination
tradition	confining shell
god's sovereignty and grace	plush privilege

22. The statement "The Tathagata has no such thing as the closed fist of a teacher." points to:

- A. Buddha's refusal to use corporal punishment
- B. His refusal to accept pay for his teaching
- C. His teaching style was always mild, without pyrotechnics
- D. He did not keep any of his discoveries a secret

23. T/F Ultimately, Buddha taught people to rely on themselves in seeking religious truth.

24. The Parable of the Poisoned Arrow points toward Buddha's belief that

25. T/F Buddha's decision to quit using Sanskrit for religious instruction points to his attitude toward religious _____.
26. T/F Buddha accepted the basic notion from Hinduism that salvation would take many lifetimes and many reincarnations.
27. T/F Buddha's main argument against paying attention to miracles, divination and soothsaying is that they are false and deceptive, that such things really don't happen.
28. T/F Buddha rejected the caste system.
29. T/F Earliest Buddhism was therapeutic rather than philosophical.
30. Buddha's first sermon and first statement of the Four Noble Truths was preached at _____.
31. T/F Mahayana is the oldest major form of Buddhism.
32. Which form of Buddhism puts the most emphasis on self-effort as a means of reaching enlightenment?
- A. Theravada B. Mahayana C. Vajrayana
33. The Buddhist term for that which keeps us on the wheel of birth and re-birth is _____.
34. The Buddhist term for pain or suffering referred to in the First Noble Truth is _____.
35. What is the second Noble Truth and what is the Buddhist word used to describe its operative element?
36. Buddha identified how many occasions when all human life is subject to dislocation and pain.
- A. 1 B. 2 C. 3 D. 4 E. 5 F. 6 G. 7 H. 8 I. 9

37. The First Noble Truth could be summarized as: "Life in all its parts has become estranged from _____."
38. The five categories that make up the human life as we experience it are the _____.
39. Why is "desire" an inadequate translation for the key term in the second Noble Truth?
40. The eightfold path is the way of overcoming tanha and is the _____ Noble Truth.
41. Which of the Four Noble Truths is intended to give hope?
Name Please, not just the number.
42. Smith describes the Eightfold Path as treatment for the human condition --
treatment by means of _____.
43. The idea of keeping to the "path" as a way of life is contrasted by the Buddha with
the life style of merely _____.
44. T/F The Western proverb, "You are known by the company you keep." could have
been retranslated by the Buddha to read, "You are created by the company you
keep."
45. T/F "Right views", the first element of the Eightfold path, dictates a rather complex
set of philosophical beliefs.
46. What is the "Right Views" referred to in #45?
47. Consistency of purpose characterizes what section of the Eightfold Path?

48. "Right Speech" seems to move its practitioner in two directions. They are:

A.

B.

49. The "Five Precepts" is a sub-section of which part of the Eightfold Path?

50. T/F In the area of "Right Conduct" there seems to be a two-fold structure: A. Understand your behavior, examine and analyze it. B. Change your behavior.

51. In Buddhism which is seen as a more fundamental problem, ignorance or sin?

52. Socrates advice to "know yourself" corresponds to which step on the eightfold Path? (Number and name, please.)

53. Right Concentration corresponds to what set of techniques used in classical Hinduism?

54. The gap between the death of the Buddha and the first written Buddhist documents appears to be about _____ years.

55. T/F The existence of different schools of Buddhism before the creation of written Buddhist documents forces on scholars the difficult question of how much of any Buddhist text represents the words or teaching of Buddha himself.

56. T/F Buddha claimed that an understanding of metaphysics is essential to the disciple if he is to make serious progress.

57. The root meaning of the word "Nirvana" is _____.

58. Smith describes Nirvana as a state in which the fuel for _____ has been consumed and in which everything that restricts _____ has died or been removed.

59. What was the Buddha's one positive descriptive term for Nirvana?

60. In one sense primitive Buddhism is atheistic and in one sense it is not. Identify in one sentence the way Buddhism is atheistic and in one sentence the way it is not.
- A.
- B.
61. The Buddhist doctrine of "no-soul" is technically called the _____ doctrine.
62. The typical view of the soul at the time of Gautama's life had two essential elements that he denied. They were
- A.
- B.
63. Buddhist ideas on transmigration are difficult to grasp. Mark with a "T" the following statements which would be true to a Buddhist.
- A. The situation I am in in this life is caused by decisions, actions, feelings present in previous lives.
- B. I am, therefore, largely powerless to affect the course of this life.
- C. Causal relationship does not require the transmission of some substance.
64. T/F Buddha denied the existence of all substance, permanent or impermanent.
65. The forces holding life together are called the five _____. The word may be translated several ways, among them are _____ and _____.
66. In Buddhism the _____ of the Arhat forms his last connection with the temporal, changing world.
67. T/F In early Buddhism the permanency of both the world and the individual self were denied. This implies that the relation of a person to process, change, becoming and appearing was of primary importance in its religious stance.

68. Identify the following statements with either an "M" for Mahayana or a "T" for Theravada.
- A. Human beings are individuals, whatever progress one makes is his or her own doing.
 - B. Human beings are not alone, there is a boundless power that helps them with their spiritual journeys.
 - C. The key virtue is wisdom, expressed in the absence of self-seeking.
 - D. Buddha is essentially a savior figure.
69. T/F Mahayana is the oldest major form of Buddhism.
70. "Big Raft" refers to which school of Buddhism?
71. T/F Mahayana Buddhism was the form of Buddhism mainly exported to China and Japan.
72. The central concept in Mahayana Buddhism is the:
- A. Arhat b. Bodhisattva C. The Sangha D. The Dhyani Buddha
73. T/F For the Theravada, the seeking of Nirvana is a full time job and under ordinary circumstances only monks are seen as being able to attain it.
74. The word "yana" as in Mahayana and Hinayana means _____.
75. Theravada is another name for _____ Buddhism?
76. Which form of Buddhism claims to represent the original teachings of the Buddha? (Careful!!)
77. In Theravada, the key virtue is _____, or to give it its English translation, _____.
78. In Mahayana, the key virtue is:
- A. Compassion B. Purity C. Self-reliance D. Wisdom
79. The ideal form of human life for the Theravadans is the _____.
80. The vow not to desert the world "until the grass itself is enlightened" is characteristic of the Mahayana ideal of the _____.

81. T/F All Buddhists believe that the influence of Gautama Buddha ceased with his entry into Nirvana.

82. Separate the following into things typical of the Mahayana and of the Theravada Schools: petitionary Prayer, meditation alone, Pali Canon, world savior, elaborate cosmology, compassion, centrality of monastic life, grace, self-reliance.

Mahayana

Theravada

83. Unscramble the countries according to which major school of Buddhism is dominant there: Cambodia, Mongolia, China, Japan, Thailand, Tibet, Burma, Korea.

Theravada

Mahayana

84. T/F After the Mahayana and the Theravada traditions split from each other, they maintain unbroken unity in themselves down to today.

85. The intuitive school of Buddhism in Japan is known as _____.

86. This intuitive school traces its origins back to a particular action of the Buddha called the _____.

87. It is fundamental to the intuitive school that _____ tend to build a fraudulent world that blocks us from direct and true experience.

88. The meditation technique of the intuitive school is:

- A. Koan B. Roshis C. Zazen D. Sanzen

89. "What was the appearance of your face before your ancestors were born?" is an example of what technique of the intuitive school of Buddhism?

90. The method of securing an answer to a koan is by:

- A. Reason alone B. Authority of the Zen master

- C. Communal Effort D. Sudden flash of intuition

91. "Consultation concerning meditation" is called _____.

92. T/F In Zen, once one has experienced satori the next step is to bring the intuitive awareness of satori back into contact with the actions of daily life.

93. The three vows of Buddhism are:

I take refuge in the _____.

I take refuge in the _____.

I take refuge in the _____.

94. In Zen, the only way to fully experience eternity is through the process of seeing the _____ as it really is.