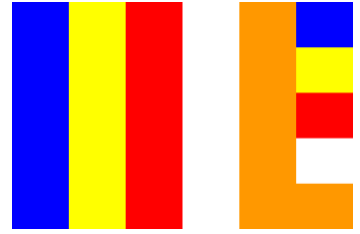




Building Better Learners: A-Level Religious Studies Buddhism - Mr Tighe



Every fortnight, you will be given a document like this to help guide your independent study for this component of the course. Every fortnight, you will be expected to complete the following tasks:

- Read the compulsory article and make handwritten or typed notes (these will need to be printed off).
- Read one of the optional articles and make handwritten or typed notes (these will need to be printed off).
Pay particular attention to:
 - Information not covered in the first article;
 - Information that provides further detail on a matter covered in the first article.
- Identify which, in your opinion, is the most difficult 20-mark question. Complete an essay plan.
- Identify which, in your opinion, is the most difficult 30-mark question. Complete an essay plan.

Topic Title: The Heart & Lotus Sutras

Year: 13

Term: 1 / 2

Fortnight: 4-5

Topic Code: 1E

Spec. Page: pp.32

Lesson 1E.1: The Nature of the Heart Sutra

Date:

Lesson 1E.2: The Teachings of the Heart Sutra

Date:

Lesson 1E.3: The Nature of the Lotus Sutra

Date:

Lesson 1E.4: The Authority & Influence of the Lotus Sutra

Date:

Lesson 1E.5: The Teachings of the Lotus Sutra

Date:

Lesson 1E.6: The Parables of the Lotus Sutra

Date:

Specification Content: The Heart Sutra - the philosophical content regarding the mutual identity of emptiness and form. The Parable of the Burning House in the Lotus Sutra - exemplifying the concept of skilful means and the provisional nature of the teachings.

Background Reading [2 pieces minimum]:

Compulsory article: Gray (Year 2 Book), pp.22-39.

Optional articles: Cush, pp.88-97; Side, pp.64-67.

These articles can be found here: [G:\EPR\A-Level Buddhism - Building Better Learners](#)

20-Mark Questions:

- Explain/Examine the key teachings of the Heart Sutra.
- Explain/Examine the main themes of the Lotus Sutra.
- Explain/Examine the teachings of the Heart Sutra on the mutual identity of emptiness and form.
- Explain/Examine the meaning of the Parable of the Burning House in the Lotus Sutra.
- Explain/Examine the contribution of the Heart and Lotus Sutras to Mahayana teachings.
- Explain/Examine the importance of the Heart Sutra to Mahayana Buddhists.
- Explain/Examine the importance of the Lotus Sutra to Mahayana Buddhists.
- Explain/Examine how the concept of skilful means accounts for religious tolerance within Buddhism.

30-Mark Questions:

- 'The teachings of the Heart Sutra are not representative of reality.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The teachings of the Lotus Sutra are not representative of reality.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The Heart Sutra is of little use to the lay Buddhist.' Evaluate this view.
- 'Skilful means accounts for the diversity that exists within Buddhism.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The teachings of the Mahayana Sutras are not representative of reality.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The Mahayana Sutras contain teachings that are relevant to all Buddhists.' Evaluate this view.