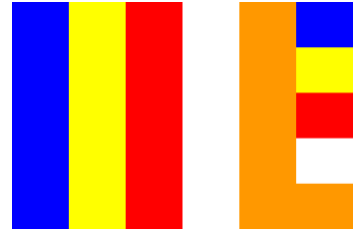




Building Better Learners: A-Level Religious Studies Buddhism - Mr Tighe



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 Awakening/Enlightenment of the Buddha

Year: 12

Term: 1

Fortnight: 3

Topic Code: 1B

Spec. Page: pp.31

Lesson 1B.1: Interpretations of the Buddha's Renunciation

Date:

Lesson 1B.1: Interpretations of the Battle with Mara

Date:

Lesson 1B.1: The Jhanas & Resulting Insights

Date:

Specification Content: An explanation of the main features of the accounts of what led to the Buddha's Awakening under the Bodhi Tree; including knowledge of past lives, knowledge of the role of karma in the lives of all beings, the path to the cessation of dukkha, meanings of the Mara/temptation narratives, and the earth touching mudra.

Background Reading [2 pieces minimum]:

Compulsory article: Gray (Year 1 Book), pp.25-32.

Optional articles: Cush, pp.16-18; Side, pp.5-7.

These articles can be found here: <G:\EPR\A-Level Buddhism - Building Better Learners>

20-Mark Questions:

- Explain/Examine the events of the Buddha's renunciation.
- Explain/Examine the events of the Buddha's awakening.
- Explain/Examine the insights the Buddha gained as a result of his awakening.
- Explain/Examine the significance of the Buddha's renunciation.
- Explain/Examine the significance of the Buddha's Awakening.
- Compare different interpretations of the Buddha's renunciation.
- Compare different interpretations of the Buddha's Awakening.

30-Mark Questions:

- 'The Buddha's renunciation is not a historical event but an illustrative one.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The Buddha's Awakening should be interpreted as myth.' Evaluate this view.
- 'Buddhists should not be too concerned with the Buddha's Awakening.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The Buddha's Awakening is the most significant event in his life.' Evaluate this view.
- 'It is the insights gained rather than the events of Buddha's Awakening that matter.' Evaluate this view.