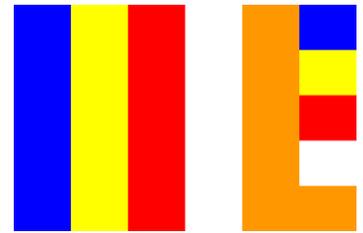




Building Better Learners: A-Level Religious Studies Buddhism - Mr Tighe



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 Buddha - Context

Year: 12

Term: 1

Fortnight: 1

Topic Code: 1A

Spec. Page: pp.31

Lesson 1A(a).1: Siddhartha Gautama - Key Facts

Date:

Lesson 1A(a).2: Siddhartha Gautama - Religious Context

Date:

Lesson 1A(a).3: Siddhartha Gautama - Social Context

Date:

Specification Content: The ways in which Buddhists read these narratives. Hagiographical and mythological interpretations of the conception dream of Maya, events surrounding the birth, the prophecy and early life. The biographical impact of the Four Sights and wider religious interpretations of their meaning in terms of dukkha (unsatisfactoriness), anicca (impermanence), anatta (insubstantiality/no-self).

Background Reading [2 pieces minimum]:

Compulsory article: Gray (Year 1 Book), pp.6-12.

Optional articles: Cush, pp.5-11; Side, pp.14-24.

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

20-Mark Questions:

- Explain/Examine the religious context into which the Buddha was born.
- Explain/Examine the social context into which the Buddha was born.
- Explain/Examine the religious and social context into which the Buddha was born.

30-Mark Questions:

- 'The context into which the Buddha is born is key to understanding his teachings.' Evaluate this view.
- 'Buddhism is better explained by reference to its religious rather than its social context.' Evaluate this view.
- 'Buddhism is better explained by reference to its social rather than its religious context.' Evaluate this view.