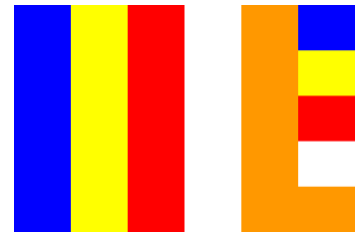




# Building Better Learners: A-Level Religious Studies Buddhism - Mr Tighe



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 Pali Canon

Year: 13

Term: 1

Fortnight: 1 & 2

Topic Code: 1D

Spec. Page: pp.32

Lesson 1D.1: The Nature of the Tipitaka

Date:

Lesson 1D.2: The Vinaya Pitaka & the Theravada Sangha

Date:

Lesson 1D.3: The Sutta Pitaka

Date:

Lesson 1D.4: The Abhidhamma

Date:

Lesson 1D.5: The Importance of the Tipitaka

Date:

Specification Content: The Tipitaka. The authority of the Vinaya for the Theravada sangha, the wider authority and significance of the Sutta Pitaka, the relevance of the Abhidhamma for the commentarial development of Buddhism. The importance of the Pali Canon as a source of wisdom.

Background Reading [2 pieces minimum]:

Compulsory article: Gray (Year 2 Book), pp.6-15.

Optional articles: Cush, pp.47-53; Side, pp.63-64.

These articles can be found here:

<G:\EPR\A-Level Buddhism - Building Better Learners>

20-Mark Questions:

- Explain/Examine the nature of the Vinaya Pitaka.
- Explain/Examine the importance of the Vinaya Pitaka for the Theravada sangha.
- Explain/Examine the nature of the Sutta Pitaka.
- Explain/Examine the reasons why the Sutta Pitaka appeals to all Buddhists.
- Explain/Examine the nature of the Abhidhamma.
- Explain/Examine the importance of the Abhidhamma in the development of Buddhist thought.
- Explain/Examine the nature of the Pali Canon.
- Explain/Examine the importance of the Pali Canon as a source of wisdom.

30-Mark Questions:

- 'The Vinaya supports the sangha in their work.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The Sutta Pitaka has more significance for Buddhists than the rest of the Pali Canon.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The Abhidhamma has little significance for lay Buddhists.' Evaluate this view.
- 'Without the Pali Canon there would be no Buddhism.' Evaluate this view.
- 'The Pali Canon has little relevance to Buddhists in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.' Evaluate this view.