

2017 Dharma Day Buddhist Exam Study Guide

American Buddhist Cultural Society

I. Multiple Choices

- (B) 1. Which of the following novels is based on the Chinese monk Xuanzang's pilgrimage to India?
- A) Gan Bao's *In Search of Spirits*
 - B) Wu Chengen's *Journey to the West*
 - C) Cao Xueqin's *Dream of the Red Chamber*
 - D) Liu E's *The Travels of Old Decrepit*
- (C) 2. Which of the following is not a way that Chinese poets and writers helped spread Buddhism?
- A) Reconciling Buddhist ideals with that of native religions such as Confucianism and Taoism
 - B) Writing poems and literature that incorporated Buddhist concepts
 - C) Authoring Buddhist classics such as the *Mahaparinirvana Sutra*
 - D) Building close relationships with established Chan Masters in China
- (A) 3. Which of the following pairs of literary masters initially criticized Buddhism, but later supported it?
- A) Han Yu and Ouyang Xiu
 - B) Tao Yuanming and Wang Wei
 - C) Liu Zongyuan and Bai Juyi
 - D) Wang Anshi and Su Shi
- (D) 4. Why did Buddha share half of a seat with Mahakasyapa who wore a ragged robe?
- A) Because he is an Arhat
 - B) Because despite being poor, he is respectable and noble as Buddha himself
 - C) Because Buddha wanted to show the assembly that nobility cannot be judged from external appearance
 - D) All of the above
- (A) 5. For those who could not follow Buddha's instructions, Buddha taught them with
- A) Expediency.
 - B) Diligence.
 - C) Patience.
 - D) All of the above.
- (B) 6. The Three Good Acts are “Do Good Deeds”, “Speak Good Words”, and
- A) “Give Good Things”
 - B) “Think Good Thoughts”
 - C) “Lend Good Hands”
 - D) All of the above

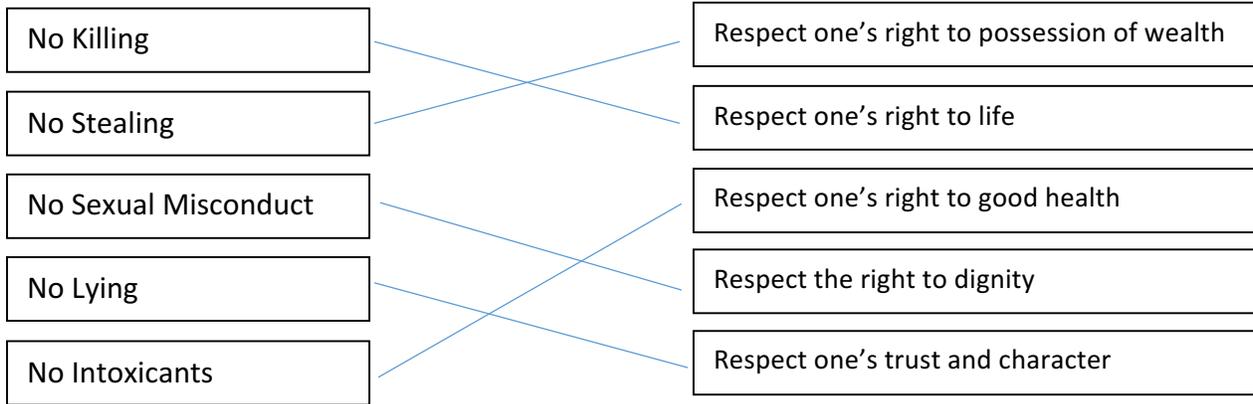
- (E) 7. In Fo Guang Shan, the Four Givings are
- A) Give others faith
 - B) Give others joy
 - C) Give others hope
 - D) Give others convenience
 - E) All of the above
- (E) 8. The Essence of Humanistic Buddhism includes
- A) What the Buddha taught
 - B) What is essential to human
 - C) What purifies
 - D) What is virtuous and beautiful
 - E) All of the above
- (C) 9. All beings are equal in terms of _____.
- A) Physical appearance
 - B) Wealth possession
 - C) Buddha-nature
 - D) All of the above
- (B) 10. The Six Paramitas are generosity, discipline, patience, diligence, _____ and _____.
- A) precepts and wisdom
 - B) meditative concentration and wisdom
 - C) precepts and meditative concentration
 - D) precepts and prajna
 - E) All of the above
- (E) 11. What did Siddhartha request of his father before he would forgo the idea of renunciation?
- A) Let there be no birth
 - B) Let there be no pain of separation from loved ones
 - C) Let there be no distresses of sorrow
 - D) Let everything in this world never change
 - E) All of the above
- (B) 12. On which day did Siddhartha become enlightened?
- A) fifteenth day of the seventh lunar month
 - B) eighth day of the twelfth lunar month
 - C) first day of the first lunar month
 - D) eighth day of the fourth lunar month
 - E) twelfth day of the eighth lunar month
- (C) 13. What did Siddhartha awaken to when he first became enlightened?
- A) The world is suffered.

- B) We should practice the middle path.
C) Our buddha-nature and the true Thusness is all-pervading and omnipresent
D) eighth day of the fourth lunar month
- (E) 14. Where can the Buddha be found?
A) The mountains and rivers,
B) The vast emptiness and dharma realms
C) Our hearts and faith
D) Buddha is omnipresent
E) All of the above
- (B) 15. What is a traditional Buddhist breakfast food that is used to celebrate Buddha's Enlightenment Day?
A) pu-erh tea
B) la-ba congee
C) pancake
D) glutinous rice cake
- (D) 16. Why does Chinese Buddhism practice promote vegetarianism?
A) It advocates the spirit of compassion,
B) Confucian values,
C) Local customs,
D) All of the above
- (D) 17. What did Buddha told King Prasenajit on how to avoid obesity:
A) eat a low carb diet
B) eat one grain of wheat and a grain of sesame a day
C) eat one meal per day
D) to be mindful of controlling the amount of intake of food before eating and be aware that the benefit of eating light leads to longevity.
- (D) 18. What was the first Chinese Buddhist-affiliated tertiary institute in the west?
A) Nan Tian University
B) Fo Guang University
C) Guang Ming College
D) University of the West
- (E) 19. Which of the following is a cause of the decline of Buddhism in China?
A) Internal disputes and disapproval of each other among the different schools and regions in Chinese Buddhism.
B) The influence of western culture.
C) Over-emphasis on chanting and repentance services.
D) The prosperity of Buddhism as a cause of apprehension.
E) All of the above
- (E) 20. Which of the following is not a cause of the decline of Buddhism in China?
A) Resistance and exclusion by local religions.

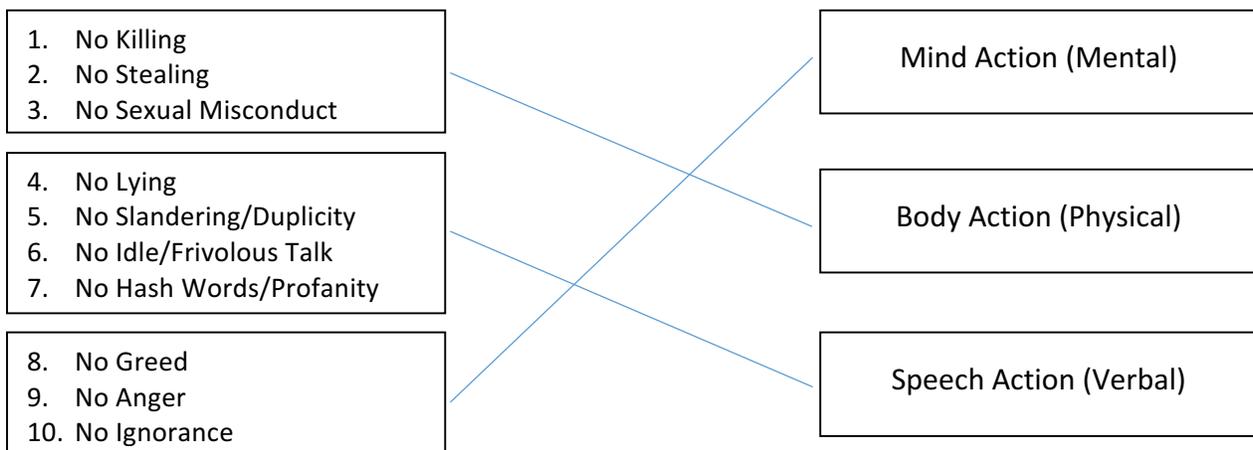
- B) Emphasis on metaphysical investigation over human concern.
- C) Distorted views on Buddhism caused by heretics.
- D) Absence of leaders or paragons able to inherit and carry on the lineage.
- E) None of the above

II. Matching

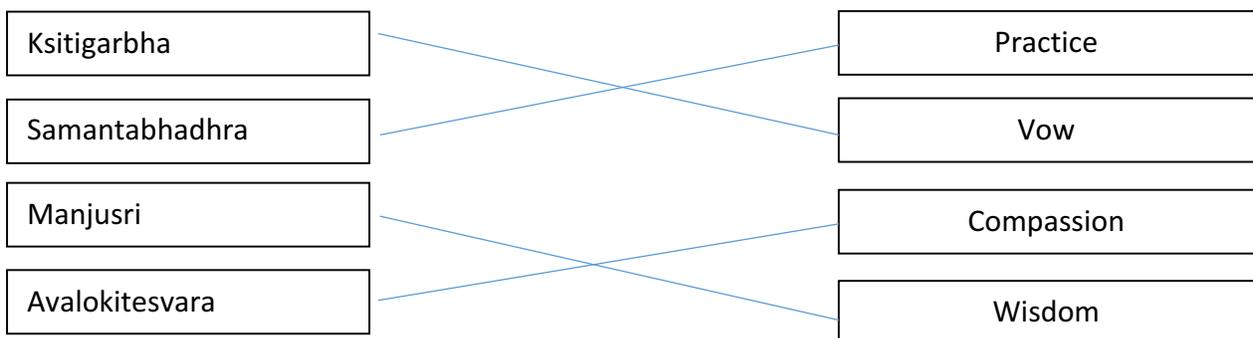
A. The Five Precepts:



B. The Ten Wholesome Deeds:



C. The Four Great Bodhisattvas:



III. True or False

- (F) 1. The founder of Buddhism is Venerable Master Hsing Yun.
- (T) 2. Buddhism had been taught by the Buddha to the human world for the purpose of helping people resolve their difficulties in life.
- (T) 3. Humanistic Buddhism emphasizes self-awareness, self-enlightenment, and self-improvement by offering insights into the truth, peace, freedom from fear and sorrow, and the perfection of life.
- (T) 4. The Buddha encouraged his disciples to “rely on oneself, rely on the Dharma, and rely on nothing else”.
- (F) 5. Samadhi denotes deeds or actions.
- (T) 6. In the year 2000, Venerable Master Hsing Yun founded the Merit Times Newspaper.
- (F) 7. Starting in 1953, Venerable Master Hsing Yun began recruiting youths to Buddhism in Taiwan.
- (T) 8. Besides cultural publications, radio and television broadcasts are other means of Dharma propagation.
- (T) 9. The main objective of the Triple Platform Full Ordination Ceremony is to transmit the precepts as taught by the Buddha so that monastics may be fully ordained, to promote the quality of the Sangha, and to strengthen education on Buddhist etiquette.
- (F) 10. Dunhuang, Yungang, and Longmen caves in New Mexico, are said to be "the greatest natural museums of Oriental Buddhist art.
- (T) 11. " Humanistic Buddhism has made tremendous contributions to the state, society and individuals.
- (T) 12. Sixth Patriarch, Hui Neng, once said “Dharma can only be found in the world, and enlightenment cannot be attained away from it”.
- (T) 13. Faith can be inspired among people by benefitting society through charitable activities.
- (T) 14. The act of alms begging symbolizes the spirit of generosity of the giving of Dharma and the giving of wealth.
- (T) 15. Precepts are the basis of supreme Bodhi wisdom, for they nurture all roots of virtue.
- (T) 16. Five Precepts and Ten Wholesome Deeds are the foundations of being human.
- (T) 17. Humanistic Buddhism holds true to the Buddha’s spirit by advocating an altruistic faith.
- (T) 18. Bodhi Mind is the main driving force behind buddhas and bodhisattvas in liberating sentient beings.
- (F) 19. The Five Bhikkhus who formed the earliest Sangha community missed Siddhartha when he abandoned the practices of austerity.
- (T) 20. Aspiring for the Bodhi Mind is to practice the Buddha’s teachings and to emulate his acts of sacrifice and giving.
- (T) 21. Humanistic Buddhism has the purpose of harmonizing and uniting all Buddhists across time, geographical, customs, and cultural differences.
- (T) 22. Humanistic Buddhism also bears the utmost respect for human beings, as each individual has their own faith.
- (T) 23. Humanistic Buddhism encourages "broadening of ourselves" by seeing oneself and others as one and the same.
- (F) 24. Humanistic Buddhism is different from traditional Buddhism.
- (T) 25. King Bimbisara donated land for construction of the monastery.

IV. Fill in the Blank

1. Sakyamuni Buddha was born as Prince Siddhartha Gautama in the Indian kingdom of Kapilavastu.
2. The Five Precepts are No Killing, No Stealing, No Sexual Misconduct, No Lying, and No Intoxicants.
3. All causes of suffering come from the Three Poisons, namely Greed, Anger, and Ignorance.
4. Fo Guang Shan has established four objectives for the development of Humanistic Buddhism:
 - To propagate Dharma through culture;
 - To foster talents through education;
 - To benefit society through charity;
 - To purify human minds through spiritual cultivation.
5. Buddhism places dual emphasis on understanding and practice.
6. The first Buddhist temple built in China is named White Horse Temple.
7. The true meaning of faith is about having faith in oneself, and discovering one's compassion and wisdom.
8. The Six Points of Reverent Harmony are Harmony of Being, Harmony of Speech, Harmony of Thought, Harmony of Discipline, Harmony of Profit and Harmony of View.
9. The success of Buddhism in China can be attributed to its promotion of moral ethics through the teachings of the Five Percepts and Ten Wholesome Deeds.
10. One of the main causes for the decline of Chinese Buddhism was its over-emphasis on suffering, emptiness, and impermanence.
11. The four stages of generosity are the giving of money, the giving of labor, the giving of language and the giving of heart.
12. Charitable endeavors must be carried out righteously and ethically so as to be in accordance with the Law of Cause and Effect.
13. Buddha's original intents in teaching are to eliminate the root of suffering by purifying human minds of the Three Poisons.
14. Master Taixu was the first Chinese Buddhist monk to bring the Dharma into Europe and America.
15. Localization of Fo Guang Shan shows exactly how Humanistic Buddhism holds true to Buddha's original intent to be accepted by people.
16. Venerable Master Hsing Yun's first hardback Buddhist publication was the Biography of Sakyamuni Buddha.
17. Out of the forty nine years of teachings on earth, Buddha spent twenty-one days teaching Avatamsaka Sutra, then twelve years on Agamas, eight years on Vaipula Sutras, twenty-two years on Prajana-paramita Sutras, and then the final eight years on Lotus Sutra and Nirvana Sutra.

V. Questions

1. What is the difference between Buddhism and Humanistic Buddhism?
2. What has Humanistic Buddhism done for the secular world?
3. What are the advantages of Humanistic Buddhism?
4. Why do we need to hold the True to the Original Intents of Buddha?
5. What is the relationship between Fo Guang Shan and Humanistic Buddhism?
6. What has Fo Guang Shan done to promote Humanistic Buddhism?
7. Where is Buddha?