

# CHINESE PHILOSOPHY DBQ

Homework due \_\_\_\_\_

**Learning Target:** I can cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary source documents about Classical belief systems.

## Confucianism and Daoism: An Overview

**Confucianism** – A philosophical and religious tradition where the key to maintaining society is through traditional social relationships (between father and son, husband and wife, ruler and subject, etc.). It states that human beings are teachable and can improve both individually and through interactions with the community.

**Daoism** (sometimes spelled Taoism) – A philosophical and religious tradition that promotes harmony and unity with nature. It encourages people to live calmly and peacefully. It teaches that intervening in life's events causes conflict and destruction, so people should limit their interference and only do what is required.

Confucianism	Daoism (Taoism)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Founded by Confucius in 6<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century BCE.</li> <li>• Main principle is <i>ren</i>, which describes that people should behave in a loving, selfless, and moral way.</li> <li>• Principles of <i>li</i> and <i>yi</i> dictate actions.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Li</i> describes the actions that are right because of the needs of society.</li> <li>○ <i>Yi</i> describes the actions that are inherently right, good, and moral.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Hsiao</i> is the principle of filial piety, which means that children should respect their parents.</li> <li>• Virtue is seen as leading by the proper moral example.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Founded by Laozi in 6<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> century BCE.</li> <li>• Main principle is the <i>Dao</i>, which means “the Way.” All things in the universe are connected together through the <i>Dao</i>.</li> <li>• <i>Wu Wei</i> is the method of following the <i>Dao</i>. This involves living in harmony and letting things take their natural course without interference.</li> <li>• Principle of <i>Yin Yang</i> states that opposites fit together and depend on each other for harmony (i.e., darkness and light, life and death).</li> <li>• Virtue is seen as being true to oneself, instead of satisfying the standards set by others.</li> </ul>

## Document 1

The Duke Ai asked the Master, "What should be done to secure the **submission** of the people?"

The Master replied, "Advance the upright and set aside the **crooked**, then the people will submit. Advance the crooked and set aside the upright, then the people will not submit."

Ji Kang asked how to cause the people to respect their ruler. The Master said, "Let him rule over them with seriousness; – then they will respect him. Let him be final and kind to all; – then they will be faithful to him."

Ji Kang asked the Master about government. The Master replied, "To govern means to **rectify**. If you lead the people with correctness, who will dare to not act correct?"

The Master said, "If good men were to govern a country for a hundred years, they would be able to transform the violently bad, and dispense with **capital punishments**."

### Vocabulary

submission: obedience

crooked: dishonest, immoral

rectify: to correct

capital punishment: death penalty

1. According to **Document 1**, an ideal government would include these features:

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I think this sounds like the philosophy of (circle one): Confucius or Laozi (Daoism)

## Document 2

Not to value and employ men of superior ability is the way to keep the people from **rivalry** among themselves. Not to prize articles which are difficult to **procure** is the way to keep them from becoming thieves. Not to show them what is likely to excite their desires is the way to keep their minds from disorder. . . .

When there is this **abstinence** from action, good order is universal. . . .

Use fairness in governing the state. Use surprise tactics in war. Be unconcerned and you will have the world.

How do I know it is like this? Because: the more regulations there are, the poorer people become. The more people own weapons, the greater disorder there is in the country and clans. The more clever the people are, the more extraordinary actions they take. The more picky the laws are, the more thieves and gangsters there are.

Therefore the **sages** say: "I do not force my way, and the people transform themselves. I enjoy my **serenity**, and the people correct themselves. I do not interfere, and the people enrich themselves. I have no desires, and the people keep their simple ways."

When the government is laid back, the people are relaxed. When the government is nitpicking, the people have anxiety.

### Vocabulary

rivalry: competition

procure: to get

abstinence: declining to do something

sage: a very wise person

serenity: the state of being calm

2. According to **Document 2**, an ideal government would include these features:

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I think this sounds like the philosophy of (circle one): Confucius or Laozi (Daoism)

The sourcing information for each document is listed in bold below. Which citation matches Document 1, and which citation matches Document 2?

**The Confucian Analects: The Great Learning and the Doctrine of the Mean, recorded by the disciples of Confucius between 551 and 479 BCE.**

- I think this is the sourcing for Document \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain your thinking: Use textual evidence (a quote) from the document you chose and your knowledge of Confucianism and Daoism to support your answer.

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**Dao De Jing: The Classic of the Way and Virtue, written by the legendary Daoist scholar Laozi c. 550 BCE.**

- I think this is the sourcing for Document \_\_\_\_\_
- Explain your thinking: Use textual evidence (a quote) from the document you chose and your knowledge of Confucianism and Daoism to support your answer.

**Grade breakdown: Your score has been circled and multiplied by 5**

0	1	2	3	4
Incomplete. Please finish and submit as soon as possible	Student has not successfully extracted evidence from documents, chosen effective quotes to strengthen their writing, or identified the main idea of those documents. Errors in logic and conclusions are present. Student can redo for additional practice and points.	Student shows the ability to extract evidence from documents by answering the questions, but has not successfully determined the main idea for each document, or cited specific evidence to strengthen their writing. Can redo for additional practice and points.	You mostly have it! Answers to questions show that student has the ability to extract evidence from documents, cite specific evidence, and determine main ideas.	

