

Name _____

Period _____

Date _____

LT: I can explain the main beliefs of Confucianism

Confucianism



"Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

"I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand."

"Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves."

"Do not impose on others what you do not wish for yourself."

"Global History is my favorite subject!"

1. How did Confucianism start?

Confucius lived during the Warring States Period in ancient China, when many different families were fighting for power. It was at this time that philosophers were thinking of ways to bring order to their dangerous society. Confucius looked for solutions to these problems. His students collected his statements into a book called *The Analects*. Although he was not famous when he lived, he became the most influential thinker in Chinese history. His philosophy came to be known as **Confucianism**.

2. When did Confucianism start?

3. Does Confucianism believe in God?

4. Does Confucianism believe in the afterlife?

5. What are Confucianism's main beliefs?

Filial Piety	
Five Relationships	<p>1. _____ to _____</p> <p>2. _____ to _____</p> <p>3. _____ to _____</p> <p>4. _____ to _____</p> <p>5. _____ to _____</p> <p>If everyone knows their place in society, than society will be ordered and peaceful. In the above relationships, the second person should obey and respect the first person, who is his/her superior. However, the first person had a responsibility to take care of the second person.</p>

Part 2

What Did Confucius Say?

- Confucius was away at the court and the stable burned. He asked, “Any of the men hurt?” He did not ask about the horses.
- Confucius said, “In the old days men studied to make themselves; now they study to impress others.”
- “Young men should be filial in the home, and brotherly outside it; care of what they say but once said, stick to it; be agreeable to everyone, but develop friendship with real men; if they have any further energy left over, let them devote it to culture.
- Another student asked his teacher about filial piety. Confucius said, “Present day filial piety consists of feeding the parents, as one would a dog or a horse; unless there is reverence, what difference is there?”
- “What is a proper man? He acts first and then his talk fits what he has done.”
- “The proper man seeks everything in himself, the small man tries to get everything from somebody else.”

Adapted from East Asia Curriculum Project, East Asian Institute, Columbia University, NY

1. **What is the Confucian definition of a “proper man”? Use your own words.**
2. **According to Confucius, why is filial piety an important virtue?**
3. **Circle the Confucian saying you like best. Explain what it means below.**
4. **Do you like/agree with Confucianism? Why/why not?**