

Teacher Lecture Notes on Confucius

Confucius lived from 551-479 B.C.

He was born in the feudal state of Lu in eastern China; this is in the modern day province of Shandong (show location of this province on transparency map of China).

His birth name was Kung Qin, but during his life he was also known as Kongzi (Master Kong) and Kong Fuzi (Our Master Kong); Western scholars gave him the name Confucius.

He was the son of an aristocrat, but grew up in poverty.

Confucius was a very wise man but it is unclear if he received any formal education.

During his lifetime, China consisted of warring feudal states; he sought to bring order and stability to Chinese society and government through his teachings.

His teachings focused on education, public service, virtue, interpersonal relationships, and government; he believed human nature is good but can be made better; if people know the difference between right and wrong and act on it there would be no need for laws; people should act for the public good; a good public servant has integrity, sincerity, is respectful, impartial, and courageous; manage yourself and society will be a good place to live; credited with an early version of the Gold Rule (Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself).

After his death, his followers wrote down and organized his teachings into the Analects; these became an important foundation for culture in China, Korea, and Japan (show the location of these countries on transparency map of Asia).

His teachings are a philosophy (way of life) and not a religion; known as Ru in Asia and Confucianism in the West.

Student Note Taking Guide on Confucius

Name _____

As you listen to the lecture on Confucius, complete the information below.

1. Birth name (1 pt)
2. Also known as (1 pt)
3. When did he live? (1 pt)
4. Where did he live? (1 pt)
5. What did he do? (1 pt)
6. What are some of his teachings? (4 pts)
7. Why is he important? (1 pt)

Teacher **Answer Key** for Student Note Taking Guide on Confucius

1. Kung Qiu
2. Kongzi or Master Kong
Kong Fuzi or Our Master Kong
Confucius
3. 551-479 B.C.
4. Feudal state of Lu in Eastern China
5. Teacher or philosopher
6. Human nature is good but can be better
If people know the difference between right and wrong and act on it there would be no need for laws
People should act for the public good
Good public servant has integrity, sincerity, is respectful, impartial and courageous
Manage yourself and society will be a good place to live
Golden Rule-do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself
7. His teachings are an important foundation for culture in China, Korea, and Japan.

Analects on Filial Devotion

Name _____

Filial means the relationship between a son or daughter to his/her parents.

1:6 A young man is to be filial within his family and respectful outside it.

1:7 One who is serving his parents is able to summon up his entire strength...I would definitely call him learned.

1:11 When a person's father is alive, observe his intentions. After his father is no more, observe his actions. If for three years he does not change his father's ways, he is worthy to be called filial.

2:6 One's parents' only concern should be lest one become ill.

2:7 Nowadays filial devotion means being able to provide nourishment. But dogs and horses too can provide nourishment. Unless one is reverent where is the difference?

2:21 Be filial. Just being filial and friendly toward one's brothers has its effect on government.

4:20 If for three years one does not alter the ways of one's deceased father one may be called filial.

In the space below, choose three analects to state in your own words. Be sure to note which number you are summarizing. Write in complete sentences.

Analects on Friends

Name _____

1:4 Each day I examine myself on three things: In planning on behalf of others, have I failed to be loyal? When dealing with friends, have I failed to be trustworthy? On receiving what has been transmitted have I failed to practice it?

1:1 To have friends come from afar, is that not a joy?

2:21 Just being filial and friendly toward one's brothers has its effect on government.

1:8 One should abide in loyalty and trustworthiness and should have no friends who are not his equal morally.

1:7 One who is interacting with friends shows himself trustworthy in his words...I would definitely call him learned.

In the space below, choose three analects to state in your own words. Be sure to note which number you are summarizing. Write in complete sentences.

Analects on Learning

Name _____

1:1 To learn, and at due time to practice what one has learned, is that not also a pleasure?

2:15 To learn without thinking is unavailing, a waste of time; to think without learning is dangerous.

14:25 In ancient times, learning was for the sake of oneself, whereas now learning is for the sake of others.

1:8 If one has faults, one should not be afraid to change.

1:6 A young man is to be filial within his family and respectful outside it. He is to be earnest and faithful, overflowing in his love for living beings and intimate with those who are humane. If after such practice he has strength to spare, he may use it in the study of culture.

1:14 The noble person who seeks neither satiety in his food nor comfort in his dwelling, who is diligent in his undertakings and careful in his speech, who goes together with those who possess the way in order to be correct by them-he is worthy to be called a lover of learning.

1:7 One who...in serving his parents is able to summon up his entire strength, who in serving his ruler is able to exert himself with upmost devotion, who in interacting with friends shows himself trustworthy in his words-though it may be said of him that he has not studied, I would definitely call him learned.

In the space below, chose three analects to state in your own words. Be sure to note which number you are summarizing. Write in complete sentences.

Analects on a Noble Person

Name _____

14:29 The noble person is ashamed if his words exceed his actions.

14:45 The noble person cultivates himself with reverence...in order to bring peace to others...so as to give peace to all people.

1:8 If the noble person is not serious, he will not inspire awe, nor will his learning be sound. One should abide in loyalty and trustworthiness and should have no friends who are not his equal morally. If one has faults, one should not be afraid to change.

2:14 The noble person is inclusive, not exclusive; the small person is exclusive, not inclusive.

4:16 The noble person is concerned with rightness; the small person is concerning with profit.

13:3 ...In regard to language, the noble persons allow no carelessness.

In the space below, choose three analects to state in your own words. Be sure to note which number you are summarizing. Write in complete sentences.

**Grading
Confucius Group Skit**

Group Members' Names:

Requirements	Points Possible	Points Earned	Comments
Skit was 1-2 minutes long	1		
Each group member participated	1		
Skit clearly portrayed the analect	1		
Spoke clearly audibly	1		
Skit showed preparation and thought.	1		
Total	5		

**Grading Rubric
Confucius Group Skit**

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