**Edmund Burke Academy/Online Lesson**

**World Affairs**

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***Chinese Philosophies/Shintoism*** (to accompany PPT, **PPT videos**, need research materials or internet)

Note: Please be thorough in your answers; dates are necessary and complete explanations required.

1. Are the following belief systems a religion or a philosophy?

A. Confucianism

B. Legalism

C. Taoism

D. Shintoism

1. Explain one possible reason why Confucius was so concerned with political matters. (Don’t guess…)
2. What Chinese dynasty was he most associated with?
3. Why did Confucius argue that each person should “know his/her place” in society?
4. According to Confucius, what is the basic political unit?
5. Why was Xiao so important in Confucianism?
6. Which of the Five Classics is similar to a book of etiquette?
7. What concept is most emphasized in the *Analects*?
8. The precept, “Real knowledge is to know the extent of one's ignorance” is most like what precept of which other ancient philosopher?
9. According to Confucius, order in the world starts with what?
10. Mencius’ view of the original state of man is similar to which Enlightenment philosopher?
11. How did Han Fei differ from Mencius in his understanding of the nature of man?
12. Explain one concept/principle Han Fei and Machiavelli had in common.
13. Legalism, if existent in the 20th century, might be called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
14. A. What philosophy was diametrically opposed to Legalism?

B. Why was Emperor Shi Huangdi so opposed to its teaching?

C. What was his response to its continued teaching?

1. Who is said to have been the founder of Taoism?
2. What book is he said to have written which is the basis of Taoist philosophy?
3. Explain the relationship between Tao and Chi.
4. If I tell you to “go with the flow” I am expressing what Taoist principle?
5. How do Confucianism and Taoism differ in their suggested relationship to government/society?
6. A. Describe the concept of Yin and Yang (don’t give me the examples on the slide.).

B. Give two examples of Yin and Yang NOT found on my slide.

1. A. What children’s book (early 20th century) was written as the perfect expression of Taoism? (You might be surprised at this one…)

B. Who was the author?

1. Explain briefly the most significant differences in the three Chinese philosophies.
2. In what country is Shintoism the “national” religion?
3. What 3 philosophies most influenced Shintoism at some time in history?
4. A. What are “kami?”

B. Where do kami live?

1. A. At what point in history did Shintoism become associated with the Japanese state?

B. When did it become illegal for it to be associated with the Japanese state?

1. Shintoists once believed that every emperor was descended from whom?
2. Explain how one historical event demonstrated the blending of “Samurai mentality” with Shintoist beliefs.
3. According to Shintoism, what is the source of all wrong-doing in the world?
4. A. What are Yorishiro?

B. Give an example.

1. A. What is a Torii?

B. Where are they usually found?

33. Who is pictured on the left of Slide #10 on the Shintoism PPT?

34. Who collects the Ema and answers the requests?

35. What is the purpose of the Torii gong?

36. Why are some of the Jizo stones covered or “dressed?”

37. What is the difference in the Noh and Kabuki theaters?

38. How does the Tea Ceremony reflect a blending of Buddhist and Shintoist principles?

39. What modern “principle” of decorating/home décor is suggested in Ikebana?

40. What is unusual about Bonsai?

41. A. What is considered the most “sacred” origami?

B. Why?

42. Describe 2 features usually found in a Japanese meditation garden.

43. Give an example of minimalism in modern culture.

44. Where might you see a symbol of Shintoism in modern Western culture?