

Mencius (11/9)

Book2. A.2 Doing without expectation

- Reference to analects: Always do without expectation
- Doing something ritually creates habits, thus, how does this not create expectations?
- Do we always behave in ways that we expect to benefit us?
- Forcing situations to meet expectations= disastrous (man pulling corn)

Book6.A.9 Education equality

- “although he is learning along with another man, he will never be equal to him”
- Class distinction in education?
 - Distractions to education not the same across socioeconomic classes
- “within education they are equal, through education they are not”
 - appears to deny natural intelligence
- Different strengths: always inferior to one and superior to another in different categories

Book7.B.14 Ruler’s importance

Book5.A.1 Parallel Aristotle

Book1.B.7 Parallel Aristotle

Book6.A.7 Nature vs. Nurture

- Difference in the development of natural endowment
- Do experiences at a young age have a significant influence on “natural aptitude?”
- Endowments of intelligence are initially equal in everyone

Book4.A.18 Son learning from father

- student –teacher relationship

Book6.A.15 How to become great

Book6.A.10 Refusing money/Casting original heart away

Intro: Beginning to study

Book2.A.6 Child and the well

-4 feelings

-Alarm for child in the well is not due to environmental factors, but natural concern for his wellbeing

-Feeling of shame and dislike is the beginning of righteousness

-Everyone has the same emotions, but different capacities to feel?

Book6.A.6

Book6.A.8 Ox Mountain

-Beautiful because of mountain or presence of trees?

-Are people empathetic or intelligent because of nature or nurture?

-Supports original nature argument

-People are naturally born good but corrupted by their experiences

-Moral decay influenced directly by personal attempt to oppose evil/develop character