

## Appendix 13: Sample of A Student Progress

Reading Response #1 Option 2

8/29/21

### Question: Describe the wondrous birth of Prince Siddhartha

Most people may consider the beginning of one's life to begin at the moment that they are born. While this is technically true, in Buddhism, many believe life had already begun before that and that we, as people, experience life through an endless cycle of deaths and rebirths. **this** cycle is known as "samsara". The Prince Siddhartha's wondrous birth is an example of that.

Commented [THD1]: (;)

Before Siddhartha there was Prince Vishvantara, one of the Buddha's past lives. Prince Vishvantara was a benevolent prince and it is believed that, when he died, he was rebirthed into Siddhartha. This is supported by the account of Siddhartha's mother, Mahamaya, witnessing a white elephant entering her right side while pregnant with Siddhartha. White elephants are said to represent royalty and authority, just like how Vishvantara was royalty. This could be seen as a sign of Vishvantara being rebirthed. After Mahamaya recounted this sight to her family, court sages **begin** to believe that Siddhartha will become either a buddha or a great king

Commented [THD2]: began

Then comes the birth of Siddhartha. During a visit to her family in anticipation of her pregnancy, Mahamaya **goes** into labor in a small grouping of trees in the forest by Lumbini. It is said that Mahamaya stood up to deliver Siddhartha with the help of a nearby tree's branch supporting her. Some details of the birth are left to interpretation and numerous retellings of the story. Some believe that Siddhartha was born from the right side of his mother, in the same place that the white elephant was seen before trying to enter. Siddhartha, in this telling of the story, is said to have emerged pristinely and without pain. Others simply believe Siddhartha was born like

Commented [THD3]: went

any other man. Despite how one thinks of the story, Mahamaya dies a week later from the purity of the birth.

Commented [THD4]: died

Finally, as Siddhartha is born into the world, Siddhartha steps seven paces to the east and declares that he is the chief of the world.

Commented [THD5]: was

Commented [THD6]: stepped

Commented [THD7]: declared

Commented [THD8]: was

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### FEEDBACK TO USER

Grade  out of 10

Comments 

You have eight grammatical errors because mostly you switched back-and-forth between the past tense and present tense. Also, you should have in-text citations and a list of bibliographical references as required.

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# Reading Response #6

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**Submission ID:** 1660380381

**File name:** Reading\_Response\_6\_1.docx (7.4K)

**Word count:** 375

**Character count:** 1861

## DEFINITION

Reading Response #6 Option 8

10/3/21

1

**Question: Explain how the four Buddhist holy places in India are the most sacred places for Buddhists around the world**

The four Buddhist holy sites in India are holy because the Buddha designated them to be sacred. According to Shantikula Travel, the Buddha selected four holy sites for his Buddhist followers to stop by in pilgrimages (“The Four Holy Places in Buddhism – Shantikula Travel”). While the Buddha had not deemed it necessary that Buddhists would have to make a pilgrimage to these sites, he claimed it would offer them greater spiritual connection, if they were able to do so. The four holy sites Buddha chose himself are Lumbini, Bodh Gaya, Sarnath, and Kushinagar. All four of these places are important but each one has its own distinct quality. Lumbini is the place where the Buddha was born as Siddhartha Gautama. This place is where the Buddha spent his early years. This is also the same place where the Buddha was shielded from the inevitable truths of life, such as death, aging, and suffering. This undoubtedly deserves to be a holy site so Buddhists can witness the birthplace of the Buddha. The next site the Buddha chose was Bodh Gaya. Bodh Gaya is where the Buddha accomplished enlightenment. This is famously the site of the sacred fig tree, also known as the Bodhi Tree, that the Buddha sat and meditated under until he found enlightenment. For the third site the Buddha chose, he chose Sarnath. This is the site of the Buddha’s first teaching. This site was the beginning of Buddha’s great teaching. He is said to have taught Buddhists about Dharma, the Noble Eightfold Path, the four Noble Truths, and much more. The fourth and final holy site is Kushinagar. This is where the Buddha eventually died and freed himself from the Wheel of Life, also known as Samsara. While I am not Buddhist, I would

It is a wrong information since this place is where he was born only, not growing up. Lumbini is a garden where his mother stopped by to give birth to him.

love to visit these holy places one day. The thought of seeing places that mean so much to Buddhists, and also to the Buddha himself, is very appealing. It would be amazing to witness such culture.

### Sources Cited

<sup>2</sup> “The Four Holy Places in Buddhism – Shantikula Travel.” Shantikula.co.za, 8 Aug. 2017,  
[www.shantikula.co.za/the-four-holy-places-in-buddhism/](http://www.shantikula.co.za/the-four-holy-places-in-buddhism/).

# Reading Response #6

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# Reading Response #6

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GRADEMARK REPORT

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FINAL GRADE

**/10**

GENERAL COMMENTS

**Instructor**

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### FEEDBACK TO USER

Grade  out of 10

Comments 

A good response, but you have a wrong information.

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# Reading Response #12

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**Submission ID:** 1701554361

**File name:** Reading\_Response\_12.docx (7.24K)

**Word count:** 350

**Character count:** 1793

Reading Response #12 Option 2

10/14/21

**Question: Describe the legend of Bodhidharma, the 28th Zen Patriarch in India and the 1st Zen Patriarch in China**

Bodhidharma was a Buddhist monk of legendary status. He was considered to be the first Buddhist monk to have introduced China to Zen Buddhism. While he may not have been the first ever to introduce Buddhism to China, he was regarded as the first patriarch of Buddhism. He helped Buddhism become a powerhouse in China. Bodhidharma was of South Indian descent (Atwood). He then immigrated to China in an effort to spread Zen Buddhism. Bodhidharma famously met with the Emperor Wu of the Liang Dynasty. Emperor Wu of Liang was a faithful Buddhist. This meant the Emperor made great donations to Buddhist monks in order to help them build their monasteries. However, when the Emperor approached Bodhidharma about how much merit he had compiled, the Emperor was met with an answer he did not like. Bodhidharma knew that the Emperor had not made these donations out of pure selflessness. Bodhidharma saw through the facade and realized the Emperor made these donations as a way to improve his good karma and also as a way to inflate his self-importance. The Emperor had not made these donations selflessly. Because of this, Bodhidharma expressed to the Emperor that the Emperor had earned no merit. This left them both dissatisfied and after this experience they never talked to each other again (Atwood). Apart from this tale, Bodhidharma is also credited with helping the Shaolin temple (Atwood). With Bodhidharma's help, the Shaolin monks were trained in kung fu and thus originated Shaolin Kung Fu. Bodhidharma was a very prominent figure in not only Zen Buddhism, but in all of Buddhism. The tales of Bodhidharma have spread

across the world. I am sure everyone has heard of Shaolin Kung Fu because of movies.

Bodhidharma is responsible for Shaolin Kung Fu existing. It is amazing to see how Zen and

Buddhism has become widespread because of Bodhidharma.

### **Sources Cited**

Atwood, Hal. "Who Was Bodhidharma?" Lion's Roar, 22 Jan. 2019, [www.lionsroar.com/who-was-bodhidharma-2/](http://www.lionsroar.com/who-was-bodhidharma-2/).

# Reading Response #12

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GRADEMARK REPORT

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FINAL GRADE

**/10**

GENERAL COMMENTS

**Instructor**

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