

STEP ONE

READ THE DOCUMENTS

Document 1

Source: *Lun Yu* or *Analects of Confucius*, assembled by Chu His in 1130–1200 CE.

<http://www.human.toyogakuen-u.ac.jp/~acmuller/contao/analects.htm>

1:6 Confucius said: “A young man should serve his parents at home and be respectful to elders outside his home. He should be earnest and truthful, loving all, but become intimate with humaneness. After doing this, if he has energy to spare, he can study literature and the arts.”

Source: Meng Tzu (Mencius), circa 500BCE

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/cfu/menc/menc01.htm>

1. Mencius went to see king Hûi of Liang.
2. The king said, 'Venerable sir, since you have not counted it far to come here, a distance of a thousand lí, may I presume that you are provided with counsels to profit my kingdom?'
3. Mencius replied, 'Why must your Majesty use that word "profit?" What I am provided with, are counsels to benevolence and righteousness, and these are my only topics.
4. 'If your Majesty say, "What is to be done to profit my kingdom?" the great officers will say, "What is to be done to profit our families?" and the inferior officers and the common people will say, "What is to be done to profit our persons?" Superiors and inferiors will try to snatch this profit the one from the other, and the kingdom will be endangered. In the kingdom of ten thousand chariots, the murderer of his sovereign shall be the chief of a family of a thousand chariots. In the kingdom of a thousand chariots, the murderer of his prince shall be the chief of a family of a hundred chariots. To have a thousand in ten thousand, and a hundred in a thousand, cannot be said not to be a large allotment, but if righteousness be put last, and profit be put first, they will not be satisfied without snatching all.
5. 'There never has been a benevolent man who neglected his parents. There never has been a righteous man who made his sovereign an after consideration.
6. 'Let your Majesty also say, "Benevolence and righteousness, and let these be your only themes." Why must you use that word—"profit?"'

Document 3

Source: The Analects c. 500 BCE

Tzu-kung asked about government. The Master said, "The requisites of government are that there be sufficiency of food, sufficiency of military equipment, and the confidence of the people in their ruler." Tzu Kung said, "If it cannot be helped, and one of these must be dispensed with, which of the three should be foregone first?" "The military equipment," said the Master. Tzu Kung again asked, "If it cannot be helped and one of the remaining two must be dispensed with, which of them should be foregone?" The Master answered, "Part with the food. From of old, death has been the lot of humanity; but if the people have no faith in their rulers, there is no standing for the state."

Document 4

Source: The Analects: Section 1 (Part 2) c. 500 BCE

CHAP. V. 1. Mang I asked what filial piety was. The Master said, 'It is not being disobedient.'

2. Soon after, as Fan Ch'ih was driving him, the Master told him, saying, 'Mang-sun asked me what filial piety was, and I answered him,-- "not being disobedient."' 3. Fan Ch'ih said, 'What did you mean?' The Master replied, 'That parents, when alive, be served according to propriety; that, when dead, they should be buried according to propriety; and that they should be sacrificed to according to propriety.'

CHAP. VII. Tsze-yu asked what filial piety was. The Master said, 'The filial piety of now-a-days means the support of one's parents. But dogs and horses likewise are able to do something in the way of support;-- without reverence, what is there to distinguish the one support given from the other?'

Document 5

Source: Andrew Hong, Chinese Blogger, March 2012

Confucianism and The Mandate of Heaven

Confucianism has a strong focus on the leader as the chief means for bringing about peace and harmony. And one important dynamic that shapes the Confucian leaders' understanding of their place in all things is the concept of the Mandate of Heaven (*tianming*, 天命). And this concept continues to influence how Chinese leaders understand their role *today* ...

In Confucianism, the ruler does not come to legitimately hold his position because he has triumphed in battle, or because he inherited the throne from his father. No, it is on account of his *virtue and competence*: heaven has recognized his virtue, and so has bestowed onto him the Mandate of Heaven. And it is this Mandate of Heaven by which they rule.

Confucius expected the same virtue and competence from government officials. As a result, Confucius argued that education was key to good government. Overtime, this inspired several Chinese dynasties to institute an examination system for the hiring of government officials. Applicants for government jobs were required to take and pass extensive exams on Confucian philosophy before being allowed to serve in government.

Step Two: sort documents into two groups

- Documents that tell us about family
- Documents that tell us about government

Step Three: Make your argument, list what it tells us

Step Four: Write a Thesis

Confucianism shaped the family by _____
and shaped the government by _____.

Step 5: write 4 sentences for an introduction like below

Confucianism was the dominate _____ of
_____. It was founded by _____
and become popular during the _____.
Confucianism impacted many aspects of life in
_____ including family and government.
<<<Write your thesis here>>>

Step Six: Write your first body paragraph

Confucianism shaped the family by _____. This is evident in Document ___, the _____, Document ___, the _____ and Document ___, the _____. In the _____, the author states that _____. This proves that the family was _____ because _____. In the _____, the author also states that _____. This further proves that the family was _____ because _____. Evidence of the family being _____ can also be found in the _____. This document says that _____ which proves this because _____.

Step Seven: Write your second body paragraph the same way as above

Step 8: reword your thesis, write it as the first sentence of the last paragraph

Step 9: Write two sentences summarizing what you said about family and two sentences summarizing what you said about government