

TOUCHSTONES[®]
VOLUME II
Digital Binder

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DISCUSSION PROJECT

Writing Assignment 25

1. The following statement is an excerpt from the reading for today's class. Choose a stance toward the following statement (you can agree with it, disagree with it, or agree with some parts and disagree with others) and write an argument supporting your opinion. For whatever stance you chose, compare duties to one's country to other duties.

“It is certain a man's duties to his country are the highest he can fulfill.”

2. Write an opening question for the discussion on A Theological-Political Treatise.

Worksheet 26

The Bhagavad-Gita comes from another culture and presents several ideas and views in ways that may be unfamiliar to us.

1. Read the text before completing Worksheet and Writing Assignment 26.

2. Each of the following is a phrase or sentence from the text. Rewrite each of them in your own words.
 - a) “The life of prayer is superior to the life of action”

 - b) “prayer in the form of true knowledge”

 - c) “prayer in the form of action”

 - d) “You must act in order to live.”

 - e) “He...who learns not to think about worldly treasures, who frees himself from worldly attachments, and then, offering himself as a sacrifice, acts, is superior.”

Writing Assignment 26

1. In a paragraph or two, describe how action can be sacrifice. Support your opinion with either the text or examples.
2. Write an opening question for the discussion on the Bhagavad-Gita.

Worksheet 27

1. Rank the following items from 1 to 5, where 1 is the source of the most prejudices and 5 is the source of the least prejudices.

_____ Friends
 _____ Family
 _____ Oneself
 _____ Society
 _____ TV/Media

2. Which of the following decisions do you think people decide for themselves and which do you think are ideas or decisions received from others? On a scale of 1 to 10 rate each decision. (A 1 represents something that people usually decide for themselves, and a 10 represents something that is usually received from others.)

	Self									Others
What religion to be a part of	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
What career to go into	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Who to be friends with	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
How to treat other people	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
What activities or hobbies to do	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Writing Assignment 27

1. In your notebook, describe the difference between opinions and prejudices in one paragraph.
2. Write an opening question for the discussion on *The Rights of Women*.

Writing Assignment 28

Write two more paragraphs for the story. In other words, imagine what happens next. Do not be too concerned with imitating the author's style. You will compare your paragraphs with the paragraphs of the other students in class.

Worksheet 29

1. Come up with a list of four or five things in our society that cause problems to some people.
2. For each item, describe how that problem could be a good thing for others.

Writing Assignment 29

1. The following statement is an excerpt from the reading for today's class. Choose a stance toward the following statement (you can agree with it, disagree with it, or agree with some parts and disagree with others) and write an argument supporting your opinion. Provide examples and reasons for your opinion.

“Were no people discontented with what they have, the world would never change and reach anything better.”

2. Write an opening question for the discussion on Cassandra.

Worksheet 30

The man in the story convinces the two sick boys to change their beliefs. Decide whether he behaved wrongly with each.

1. Was he wrong when he convinced the first boy to give up his belief in one god?

Yes

No

Why?

2. Was he wrong when he convinced the second boy to believe in one god?

Yes

No

Why?

3. What is a belief that you think no one could convince you to change?

Writing Assignment 30

1. In today's reading, the Young Man who hears the story comments about the man in the story "The man's conscience was a fool. It didn't know right from wrong." Do you agree? Write a paragraph deciding whether or not the Young Man was right and explain your choice.
2. Write an opening question for the discussion on this text.