Quang Huynh

* **Historical Context for the Founding of Neo-Confucianism**

1. People would fight over which religion influenced the government due to the beliefs that would affect the government. For instance, some religions would allow certain rules and restrictions, and others would not allow some regulations.
2. Buddhism was considered an unwanted foreign influence because of the exemption of taxes from monasteries.
3. The Ming and Qing dynasties were the first to make Neo-Confucianism the official state belief system in China.

* **Elements of Confucianism in Neo-Confucianism:** Respecting elders and those with more authority, according to Confucius’ Five Relationships, will lead to harmony in society and QI.
* **Elements of Buddhism in Neo-Confucianism:** Li.
* **Elements of Daoism in Neo-Confucianism:** To live a fulfilled and harmonious life through education.
* **Document 1: The Confucian Tradition Institutionalized Through the Examination System**

1. The purpose of the civil service examinations in China were to select the most qualified people to work in the Chinese government.
2. The belief system that the students needed to be familiar with to do well on the civil service examinations is Confucianism.
3. Civil service exams affected young boys in China through learning Confucian texts and lessons in school. This would be very important for their success in the future, as it is the basis of the exams. Furthermore, boys from poor families could succeed the examination system and be wealthy.
4. The civil service examinations were important to Chinese families as the thought of the examinations motivated children to go to school. Even children who didn’t go to school studied.
5. When the text stated that success on the civil service examinations were “dependent only on one’s ability rather than one’s social position.” It means that, the examinations were based on someone’s ability to recognize and acknowledge the context of the examinations, not their social ranking. Even someone from a very poor family could succeed the examination if they had the ability.
6. The effect of the civil service examination system on Chinese society is that, one’s ability is more important than their social ranking.

* **Document 2: Selections from *The Twenty‑four Exemplars of Filial Piety***

1. These stories are intended for a mass audience. They were written for people who want to be provided with moral teachings and examples.
2. These stories were written because to supply the reader with moral teachings and examples.
3. Filial piety is important to Confucians. For instance, a child from a poor family would let mosquitos bite him and suck on his blood. This is due to the fact that he does not want the mosquitos to be biting and sucking on the blood of his parents. This would show the importance of filial piety as children knew about the idea. Furthermore, there was an old man that that would act like a child to hi
4. Yes, it is likely that people would act the way of which the characters in the stories do. This is because the belief of Confucianism has been around throughout the years, which only means that a lot of people have passed on the traditions and beliefs to their offspring. Moreover, this would mean that people pursue on the idea and act like the people in the stories.
5. These elite men would take the time and effort to produce stories like this for the instruction of commoners to show all of the different ways filial piety is used, and the importance of filial piety.

* **Document 3: Impact on Women, The Legacy of Empress Wu**

1. Life was different for women during the Tang and Song era as the women had more rights in Chinese society.
2. The empress Wu Zhao favored religions such as Buddhism and Daoism due to its views on women’s education.
3. The impact that Neo-Confucianism had on women in China was that the Neo-Confucians started downplaying the importance of Empress Wu in history and made laws that favored men in family interactions, inheritance and divorce. Moreover, women can no longer be able to get an education or take civil service examinations.A screenshot of a cell phone

   Description automatically generated