**Response 2**

The four systems of Buddhism follow some of the same founding principles or seals - all products are impermanent, all things are miserable, all phenomena are selfless and nirvana is peace. The systems of Buddhism take the practitioner to increasing stages of philosophical realization. Viewpoints change based on which system someone practices. The two lower systems - the Sutra school and the Great Exposition School - focus on the four noble truths. The Mind Only system emphasizes the three natures. The Middle Way system focuses on the two truths.

The Great Exposition School and the Sutra School use the four noble truths to understand the middle way. The four noble truths are truth of suffering, the truths of the causes of suffering, the truth of the freedom from suffering, and the true path to enlightenment (the 8-fold path). By following these guidelines a practitioner of these two types of Buddhism can reach nirvana. According to the book, these practitioner do not truly reach the full philosophical realization of Buddha, they do not see that once you transcend samara you must continue to work to help others to get rid of their suffering. These schools believe that uncompounded space is partless. The senses of touch, taste, smell, etc. have an effect on how a person receives an item. Conventional truths exists when an item is broken into many pieces it is no longer that item. While ultimate is when an item once separated it is still recognized as that item.

The Mind Only School uses the three natures along with truths to understand the middle way. Ultimate truths to the Mind only schools are thoroughly established natures whereas conventional are other powered. These are cause and effect. Imputational is what we impose upon other things, they are versions of how we see things. Mind only believes that consciousness and object arrive simultaneously.

Finally, Middle Way focuses mainly on the definition of the two truths. Middle way focuses on avoiding indulgence. Emptiness, non-duality, everything is a fiction. When a practitioner recognizes the conditioned nature of their personality, they can avoid eternalism and the eternal self. They can also deny the relationship between action and consequence.