



Name:

Date:

Grade:

*Final Examination*

1) Explain the three meanings of the word "diamond" in the title of the *Diamond-Cutter Sutra*.

a)

b)

c)

2) Why is it important to include the original word "cutter" in the title?

3) Describe the object we deny when we speak of "emptiness." (Tibetan track give the Tibetan word for "object we deny.")

4) Give the name of the state of mind following the direct perception of emptiness at the path of seeing, and list the four objects understood at this point. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

*name:*

a)

b)

c)

d)

5) Give at least two actual examples of the four objects listed in the last question.

a)

b)

c)

d)

6) Did the Buddha, in his former life, feel pain as his limbs were slowly cut off by the king of Kalinga, and he understood the emptiness of the three elements? Explain in some detail.

7) Why do things change, and why do some things in our world cause other things? (For example, why does medicine always work; or why are some investment strategies always successful?)

8) Give the short definition of bodhichitta taught by Maitreya. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

9) Describe Je Tsongkapa's reaction to the idea that practitioners of the secret way do not need to follow the other two sets of vows.

10) Describe the kind of person you must be to break one of the rules of body and speech out of compassion, in certain very extraordinary circumstances.

11) Explain what the Protector, Maitreya, advises we should do if we find that some Buddhist teaching doesn't suit us for now.

12) Name the four white deeds, and for each explain the black deed for which it acts as an antidote. (Tibetan track name white deeds in Tibetan and explain the black deeds in English.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

13) Name the four typical causes why a person might break their bodhisattva vows. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

14) According to the highest school of Buddhism, what ultimately causes each of the different realms and types of birth?

15) Name and describe briefly the six kinds of suffering that we must undergo. (Tibetan track name in Tibetan and describe in English.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

16) What is the length of time that a person must accumulate the collections of merit and wisdom to become a Buddha? (Tibetan track in Tibetan, from the root text.)

17) Describe the awareness of death which is not the one which we seek to develop through meditation.

18) Explain the role of the extraordinary training of an ethical way of life in the development of the other two extraordinary trainings, especially as explained by Je Tsongkapa in his *Epistle on Ethics*.

19) Describe the motivation with which one should engage in a study of Buddhist discipline.

20) In the opening lines of his text, Je Tsongkapa mentions that the vows of individual freedom constitute the subject matter of the scriptures on Buddhist discipline. Explain why these vows are given this name. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

21) Name the five rules, and one additional part, of the lifetime layperson's vow.  
(Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

*additional part:*

22) Name the two "consistent" consequences for each of the ten non-virtues, following the *Sutra on the Ten Levels* and similar works.

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

23) Finding a proper relationship with one's Lama is considered the foundation of the entire Buddhist path. Name and describe briefly the ten qualities of a qualified Lama, from the classic source—the *Ornament of the Sutras*. (Tibetan track name in Tibetan and describe in English.)

(1)

(2)

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

(7)

(8)

(9)

(10)

24) Explain why nothing less than the precious wish for enlightenment (bodhichitta) could ever transform your entire world and your very being into something totally pure and enlightened.



25) Describe briefly why the act of taking refuge can actually protect you.

26) What are we wishing for when we make dedication?

27) Give the short version of the standard definition of a mental affliction. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

28) Name the six primary mental afflictions. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

29) Why is it important that the continued existence of the mental afflictions depends on a misperception?

30) Does the perfection of giving depend on its external perfection? Why or why not?

31) Explain the reasoning behind the ordering of the six perfections. (Tibetan track mention the six in Tibetan also.)

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Please PRINT your name clearly, exactly as you would like it to appear on your certificate, and the address to which the certificate should be sent.

*Please circle one or specify other:*

Mr.            Ms.            Mrs.            Miss            Venerable

Name as you would like it to appear on the certificate: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing name, if different: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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