

Document Based Question #1

Examine the document carefully (Source, Contextualize, and Read Closely). Then use information from the document and your knowledge of the time period to answer the questions that follow.

Document 1

Our plan of government favors the many instead of the few: that is why it is called democracy...

As for social standing, advancement is open to everyone, according to ability. While every citizen has an equal opportunity to serve the public, we reward our most distinguished citizens by asking them to make our political decisions. Nor do we discriminate against the poor. A man may serve his country no matter how low his position on the social scale.

- Excerpt from Pericles' Funeral Oration (Speech), given to Athenians in about 430 B.C.

What type of government was Pericles describing? _____

_____ (1 pt)

What were his expectations for Athenian citizens under this type of government?

_____ (1 pt)

Document Based Question #2

Examine the document carefully (Source, Contextualize, and Read Closely). Then use information from the document and your knowledge of the time period to answer the questions that follow.

Before you Read - Siddhartha Gautam, who became the Buddha, was Hindu by birth. His family consisted of Kshatriyas, or members of the warrior class, so Siddhartha enjoyed a privileged upbringing before beginning his quest for enlightenment.

Document 2

No Brahmin [am] I, no prince,
No farmer, or aught else.
All worldly ranks I know,
But [I] knowing[ly] go my way
As simply nobody:
Homeless, in pilgrim garb,
With shaven crown, I go
My way alone, serene.
To ask my birth is vain.
- Siddhartha Gautama, the Buddha

Vocabulary

ought – anything, whatever

Brahmin – priests and scholars in the Hindu Caste system

crown - head

garb – clothing, style of dress

pilgrim – religious traveler, someone on a special journey

serene – peaceful or peacefully

vain – excessively proud and inappropriate

Source: Piyadassi Thera, *The Buddha: His Life and Teaching* (1982)

What does Siddhartha Gautama mean, when he says, “To ask my birth is vain?”

(1 pt)

How might followers of the Buddha have used these words to change the society in which they lived?

(1 pt)