

Tara Institute Study Group 2002 - 'Entering the Middle Way'

EXAM

NAME:

BLOCK: **2**
WEEK: **6**
ASSIGNED: **28TH MAY 2002**

MARK:

1. From 'Entering': *"Compassion only, is posited as the seed of a Conqueror's perfect crop, like water for its increase, and like the ripening of state of long-time enjoyment. Therefore, I first praise compassion."*
Explain the way in which this verse describes (by way of analogy) the importance of compassion in the beginning, middle, and end. [6 marks]

2. Name the two types of the 'view of transitory collections'. Describe what trouble follows from grasping at these two views. [5 marks]

3. Give the six features of the bucket in a well, and explain their similarities to sentient beings. [12 marks]

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4. Why did Lord Tsongkapa express the need to think about our own suffering in order to develop strong compassion for others' suffering? [2 marks]

5. How does realizing subtle impermanence and emptiness progressively strengthen your compassion for others? [4 marks]

6. The three Compassions all focus on sentient beings and wish them to be free of pain. How then are they differentiated? [3 marks]

7. Give the long names for the three types of compassion, and explain their meaning. [6 marks]

8. List the four features of an authors pledge in Buddhist literature, and demonstrate with 'Entering the Middle Way' [8 marks]