Tara Institute Study Group 2004 - 'Entering the Middle Way'

DISCUSSION

ВLоск: | **1** WEEK: | 5

Assigned: 9 March 2004

- 1. The Mind Only describe the self knower to be 'an awareness that is not concomitant with another mind or mental factor'. Compare and contrast the self-knower to an awareness that is 'concomitant with another mind or mental factor'.
- 2. Explain why the story of the prairie -dog and the poisonous rat is relevant in disproving the self-knower.
- 3. How do the Prasangika School explain memory?
- 4. Outline the general divisions of consciousness
- 5. Why do the Mind-Only School fuss so much about this self -knower? Give two reasons that support their case. Outline the general divisions of consciousness
- 6. Explain the difference between the Prasangika's definition of a valid cognisor and the lower schools definition. What is the significance of their difference?
- 7. How do the lower schools distinguish between an imputed existent and a substantial existent? Why don't the Prasangika's make this distinction?
- 8. Why does the Mind-Only School stray from the two truths, and what hurdle does this present to gaining personal liberation?
- 9. What does the Prasangika School liken the existence of a mule's foal to?
- 10. It is incredibly important to understand the distinction between not existing inherently and not existing at all. What do we mean when we say that something

is non-existent?