

note: see also [this worksheet](#) from period 9

Supply the missing “explanations” needed to support these excerpts from student writing: (Prompt: How do common, everyday examples support or refute this teaching or proverb?)

1. I showed that I, like the sage, never “reached for the great” when I chose not to pursue a lead role; this was my path to “achieving greatness” in the process, specifically because I chose not to be overly ambitious.

2. I noticed the Confucian idea that I too could “govern with the power of my virtue” when I auditioned to LACHSA: upon seeing how confident the other kids were, I watched and imitated their attitudes, and did better as a result.

3. I agree with Kung fu-zhi that while it may be a “waste” to “study and not think,” it can actually be dangerous to “think and not study.” Proof of this may be found in the fact that most people end up in careers different than those they studied in college. This shows that even though they “studied,” by not “thinking” about what they were learning, they will be hurt in their eventual career.

4. In keeping with the Taoist maxim that if you “overfill your bowl, it will spill,” I observed that I used to overfill my “bowl” of scheduled commitments with too many rehearsals, hobbies, and activities. Now I am not able to do all of that because of all my schoolwork: if I continued to try, I would “spill” my overfilled life.

Errors annotated:

1. I showed that I, like the sage, never “reached for the great” when I chose not to pursue a lead role; this was my path to “achieving greatness” in the process¹, specifically because I chose not to be overly ambitious².
2. I noticed the Confucian idea that I too “**governed** with the power of virtue” when I auditioned to LACHSA: upon seeing how confident the other kids were, I watched and **imitated** their attitudes³, and did better⁴ as a result.
3. I agree with Kung fu-zhi that while it may be a “waste” to “study and not think,” it can actually be dangerous to “think and not study.” Proof of this may be found in the fact that most people end up in careers different than those they studied in college.⁵ This shows that even though they “studied,” by not “thinking” about what they were learning,⁶ they will be hurt⁷ in their eventual career.
4. In keeping with the Taoist maxim that if you “overfill your bowl, it will spill,” I observed that I used to overfill my “bowl” of scheduled commitments with too many rehearsals, hobbies, and activities.⁸ Now I am not able to do all of that because of all my schoolwork: if I continued to try, I would “spill” ⁹my overfilled life.

¹ How did it help you do this great thing?

² In what way was this an act of “non-ambition”? How can you show that it was BECAUSE of your Non-ambition?

³ isn't your example about THEIR virtue?

⁴ Assuming that you fix #3, how does their virtue “govern” you in this case?

⁵ So are they “wasting” this effort? How so?

⁶ In what way: you're assuming this--What would show this?

⁷ So the harm in what they did was...

⁸ it seems obvious, but what shows us that it was TOO MUCH, and hence SPILLING (couldn't it just show that you love being busy?)

⁹ Connect this cause effect: explain how this spilling was because of the excess, not for some other reason.