Cultural Change in Tang and Song China

**Directions:** Read Chapter 13 Section 3 (pages 277-282) in the AP textbook and answer the questions on loose leaf.

**NOTE:** It’s really important that you pay close attention to the themes and ideas in this section, as they will be highly relevant in the assignment that follows and, more to the point, your upcoming DBQ essay!

**The Establishment of Buddhism**

1. Why did Confucianism decline in China after the collapse of the Han?

2. Why factors led to the growth and popularity of Buddhism in China?

3. In what ways did Buddhist teachings and practices conflict with existing Chinese traditions, especially Confucianism?

4. How did Buddhists tailor their message to a Chinese audience? Would this be an example of religious syncretism?

5. How did the attitudes of the Tang Chinese government (specifically emperors) toward Buddhism change over time?

**Neo-Confucianism**

6. What was the Song Dynasty’s approach to dealing with Buddhism?

7. Traditionally, before the influence of Buddhism, what was the focus of Confucian scholarship?

8. How and why did Confucianism change during the Song Dynasty into what is termed Neo-Confucianism? Would this be an example of religious syncretism?