

Analyzing/Applying the Analects

Example/Model to Follow:



Passage:

7.22 *The Master said, "In strolling in the company of just two other persons, I am bound to find a teacher. Identifying their strengths, I follow them, and identifying their weaknesses, I reform myself accordingly."*

Analysis Model (You will answer these questions)

1. Using your own words, restate in one or two sentences the lesson Confucius expresses in the passage.
2. Give a contemporary (current day) example of the situation that Confucius describes.

Answer: Example of the application of the Analysis Model using 7.22

1. It is always possible to learn from our friends; when a friend is skilled at doing something, adopt those characteristics. At the same time, when negative behaviors or characteristics are displayed, be sure to rid oneself of them.
2. Three friends (A, B, and C) hang out together. Friend A notices how friend B is always positive and makes a point to try and be more positive. However, friend C is often pessimistic. Friend A thinks about his own behavior and realizes that he is sometimes pessimistic like friend C. He decides that he will make more of an effort to be less pessimistic.