

Classical Chinese for Everyone: A Guide for Absolute Beginners
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Lesson 2 Quiz Questions with Answers

Translate from Classical Chinese into English

1. 公遠。The duke is far.¹
2. 父相近。The fathers are near to each other.
3. 君不遠。The ruler is not far.
4. 臣不相近。The minister are not near to each other.
5. 齊臣問性於孔子。The minister of Qi asked Kongzi about (human) nature.
6. 子對曰。性不相遠。The Master said in reply: "Natures are not far from one another."
7. 王不王。The king does not act as a king (should).

Translate from English into Classical Chinese

1. The father is not far. 父不遠。
2. The son is near. 子近。
3. The duke is not far. 公不遠。
4. The minister is not near. 臣不近。
5. The ruler of Qi asked the minister about (their) practices. 齊君問習於臣。
6. The minister said in reply: "(Their) practices are not close to each other." 臣對曰。習不相近。
7. The duke acts as a duke (should). 公公。

¹ Here and below, different answers are possible, depending upon context; for example, 公遠 could be "the dukes are far," "a duke is far," "the duke was far," "the duke will be far." As I note in *Classical Chinese for Everyone* 1.4.2: "Classical Chinese can be vague, but so can any other language. ... Context disambiguates most expressions to a great extent."