APPLYING CHINESE PHILOSOPHIES TO MODERN DAY SITUATIONS

REVIEW OF CHINESE PHILOSOPHIES:
1. Confucianism: Respect for family, hard work and education
2. Taoism: Keeping your life simple
3. Legalism: All power to the legal ruler

MODERN DAY SITUATIONS:
Directions: choose any three of the situations below. For each of the situations, write how you think EACH of the followers of Confucianism, Taoism and Legalism would respond.

The Two Doctrines & Legalism

EXAMPLE:
1) A student sees an opportunity to take something they have really wanted, without being caught. How should that student act?
   a) Confucian response: Would not take it, its against the rules.
   b) Taoist response: Would not take it, having it might complicate their lives.
   c) Legalist response: Would not take it, it's against the law.

2) A student knows that they are failing a class. Students from each of these doctrines know they will be in trouble when their parents find out. How do they handle this situation?
   a) Confucian response: _______________________________________________________________
   b) Taoist response: _________________________________________________________________
   c) Legalist response: _______________________________________________________________

3) A student's friends smoke and are trying to get them to start. How do they handle this situation?
   a) Confucian response: _______________________________________________________________
   b) Taoist response: _________________________________________________________________

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c) Legalist response: __________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

4) A student has just found $20 in the hall. What should they do?
a) Confucian response: _______________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
b) Taoist response: _____________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
c) Legalist response: __________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

5) A student's parents have just spent a lot of money on a new outfit. The student has been
playing around and has gotten ink all over it. What should they tell their parents, or should they?
a) Confucian response: _______________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
b) Taoist response: ___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
c) Legalist response: __________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

6) A student really likes a new student in school, but all the other students are making fun of
the new student's clothes. How should the first student act?
a) Confucian response: _______________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
b) Taoist response: ___________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________
c) Legalist response: __________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

7) A student knows that an older brother or sister is cheating on tests. How should the student
act?
a) Confucian response: __________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

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b) Taoist response: ________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

c) Legalist response: ____________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________