

**This is NOT the final exam for this course.
The following questions are for study purposes only.**

Study Questions: Course 17, Cosmic Alchemy

Chapter 1, The Conquest of War Serial No. 164

1. How does cosmic alchemy differ from the other six branches of alchemy?
2. Why does cosmic alchemy gain no support from materialism?
3. Why do materialists want to keep people ignorant of astrology?
4. Why do materialists want to keep people from trying to use extrasensory perception?
5. Why does the cosmic alchemist desire that all the people in the world shall have opportunity for intellectual and spiritual progress?

Why does the cosmic alchemist work for the following?

6. Freedom of worship for all the people of the world?
7. Freedom from want for all the people of the world?
8. Freedom of expression for all the people?
9. Freedom from fear for all the people of the world?
10. Why must the cosmic alchemist keep well informed on what things are beneficial to the race?
11. Illustrate how theories often should be tried out on a small scale before being adopted as the basis of great social, political and economic changes?
12. Indicate how, with animals lower than man, ability to make war strengthens the race.
13. Indicate how it was greatly to the advantage of primitive man to be a good fighter.
14. Indicate how, under present conditions, war tends to the survival of the weak and defective.
15. Why, for any marked advance of the most cultured, it is necessary that the masses be advanced?
16. Why is human advancement dependent upon skilled specialists in all lines, as well as upon leaders?
17. Indicate how the conservatism of humanity is comparable to the conservatism of migratory birds.
18. Mention a few advantageous devices that were strenuously resisted at their introduction.
19. Indicate how war tends to break down conservative tendencies.
20. What brought to an end the glory and culture of the Greek city-states?
21. Indicate why war between nations today would destroy their civilization even more quickly than was destroyed the culture of the Greek city-states?
22. How has modern business largely triumphed over cutthroat competition?
23. What kind of competition should be encouraged between individuals and among nations?
24. Through what kind of organization can we hope to attain freedom from war?

25. What should the cosmic alchemist do at the present time to assist in the conquest of war?

Chapter 2, The Abolition of Poverty

Serial No. 165

1. Why cannot the cosmic alchemist ignore the economic conditions of others?
2. Indicate how, even in the lives of Jesus and Buddha, someone produced the physical sustenance necessary to enable them to do their work.
3. What relation is there between a leisure class and the development of Babylon, Egypt, Greece and Rome?
4. How does industrial advancement give greater opportunity for cultural progress?
5. In what way do numerous material things aid the development of intelligence and emotional appreciation?
6. Why is time and energy released by machines in the direction of true progress?
7. How much surplus energy did Babylon, Egypt, Greece and Rome have that made civilization possible?
8. What made possible the marked cultural advancement of the ancient Jews?
9. How much surplus energy was available in the U.S. according to the latest obtainable statistics?
10. How much surplus energy was available in the U.S. at the close of the Civil War?
11. What relation has production and distribution to freedom from want?
12. How can the birth-charts of individuals be employed to increase freedom from want?
13. Why is full employment essential to freedom from want?
14. Why is high buying power on the part of the masses essential to freedom from want?
15. Upon what does the buying power of the masses depend?
16. Why cannot the poverty of the many be cured by taking the wealth of the rich and dividing it among the poor?
17. Why is it advantageous to the wealthy individual, even from the most selfish standpoint, that there shall be no poverty?
18. To what extent are the maximum efforts of leaders of unusual quality necessary in abolishing poverty?
19. To what extent are the money incentive and the right of bequest necessary in the abolition of poverty?
20. To what extent should individuals be permitted to accumulate wealth?
21. How does a monopoly usually influence efficiency?
22. How, and by whom, are positions usually filled under government ownership?
23. How does active competition between rival firms benefit society?
24. Upon what should depend the extent to which government ownership should replace private enterprise?
25. For what three things in particular does the cosmic alchemist work in his effort to secure freedom from want for all people of the world?

Chapter 3, Cosmic Politics

Serial No. 166

1. Why do people often look with suspicion at politicians?
2. Only through what channel can important changes in the social structure beneficial to the people be brought about?
3. What does the best kind of government give the people?
4. How do groups in America often work to gain selfish advantages for themselves?
5. What opportunity must people have to be able to prevent the injustices of special privilege?
6. Why must people have access to as many facts as possible if self determination is to result beneficially to them?
7. Can the ability of the cleverest to influence and manage the less clever be abolished by law?
8. Illustrate how too democratic a system may prevent efficient functioning.
9. What kind of men are needed at the head of any enterprise?
10. How do large businesses pick the men for executive positions?
11. What requisites, under the present political methods, are required to gain a position of great responsibility?
12. What training should the holder of a public office have?
13. What form of government, with a competent man at its head, is most efficient?
14. Why are not dictatorships more popular?
15. What class of people through the past have most encouraged and supported the highest culture?
16. What is the only safeguard the people have against exploitation and oppression?
17. Why does a farm population usually resist socialism?
18. Why must monopolies be prevented by law?
19. How could government provide for full employment?
20. Why should there be full employment?
21. What is the big problem that confronts each political system?
22. What is the chief danger under the system of private enterprise?
23. What is the chief danger under a political systems of government ownership of resources and industry?
24. Why is any repressed minority group a potential source of disturbance and dissension?
25. For what political measures does the cosmic alchemist work?

Chapter 4, Heredity and Environment

Serial No. 167

1. What is the first principle of successful selective breeding?
2. What is the general influence on the offspring of mating of close relatives?
3. Why does humanity discourage the marriage of close relatives?
4. Why does the practical stock breeder mate close relatives?
5. Why is it unlikely that humanity will consent to such selective breeding as is necessary to eliminate defectives from the race?
6. What are chromosomes?

7. What are genes, and how are they related to hereditary characteristics?
8. How many genes are supplied by each parent for each inherited characteristic?
9. What value in nature has the doubling of genes?
10. What is the dominant gene, and what is a recessive gene?

Explain by the distribution of genes:

11. How children may be inferior to both parents
12. How a child may be like the superior parent.
13. How a child may be like the inferior parent.
14. How a child may be superior to both parents
15. How a child may be a genius.
16. In the human family, to what extent does like produce like?
17. Explain how in the human race the stock has been improved by covering up defects instead of eliminating them
18. Explain why the elimination of defectives through prohibiting defectives from bringing children into the world would require thousands of years.
19. Explain the mental method of bringing superior children into the world.
20. Explain the astrological method of bringing children into the world that are superior to their parents.
21. Explain the radiational method of improving the human stock.
22. What are sex-linked characteristics?
23. In what way, from the first moment of conception, does the male differ markedly from the female?
24. To what extent is it believed that environmental influences can be made to bring about any changes in an organism that can be brought about through changing the combination of genes, or through changing the substance of the genes?
25. Explain the environmental method of eliminating the criminal and the defective and for improving offspring.

Chapter 5, How to Be Spiritual

Serial No. 168

1. In what ways does the idea of spirituality held by Western Cosmic Alchemists differ from the common Oriental conception of spirituality?
2. In what ways does the idea of spirituality held by Western Cosmic Alchemists differ from the conceptions of spirituality of orthodox Christianity?
3. What part do initiative, intelligence and effort play in the teachings of the Western School of Occultism?
4. What does the Western School teach regarding Deity?
5. Why is the term spirituality not applied to mere duration of life?
6. What is the measure of length of a man's life?
7. What is the measure of breadth of a man's life?
8. What is the measure of thickness or height of a man's life?
9. What is the criterion from the inner-plane effect of that which tends in the direction of spirituality?

10. Why are both length and breadth of life valuable?
11. How do people most add to their spirituality.
12. Explain the three effective ways of increasing the spirituality.
13. Why cannot intellectual processes in themselves contribute to spirituality?
14. How does real education add to the spirituality?
15. Is it unspiritual to use occultism to get what you want?
16. Why is it unusually dangerous to use occult forces to take advantage of others?
17. Why is it the duty of the cosmic alchemist to use occult knowledge, as well as more material means?
18. Should we acquire knowledge through books and the exchange of ideas with others, or should we rely entirely upon such knowledge as comes from within?
19. Is it unspiritual to charge for occult services rendered to others?
20. Truth cannot be purchased for a price; therefore, is it spiritual or is it unspiritual for publishers to ask a price for their books, and teachers to charge for teaching?
21. In what lies the danger in charging for psychic work?
22. Why do those who engage in psychic work often lose their powers when they become engrossed with the financial reward?
23. Explain how people may become bewildered by a medley of ideas that have no clearly defined meaning so that they're particularly open to accepting unplausible suggestions.
24. What is the effect on the individual of being callous to the misery of others?
25. Why is the welfare of every person on earth a matter of concern to any truly spiritual person?

Chapter 6, The Spiritual Value of Education

Serial No. 169

1. What psychological process may be used to determine a child's traits of character?
2. Upon what depends the adequacy with which humanity can successfully solve the problems of life?
3. In addition to acquiring facts and ideas, what other type of mental development is highly beneficial?
4. What is the chief difficulty encountered in the daily training of directed thinking and induced emotion?
5. Explain one method of cultivating alertness to prevent undesirable thoughts from entering the mind.
6. Why does the cosmic alchemist encourage the quest for new information?
7. Why is knowledge of the conditions of the life after death valuable?
8. Should we discourage research on other planes, by those competent, because such exploration is beset with perils?
9. Upon what must any true science of the after life rest?
10. Is such information as is received from the inner plane spiritual?
11. Is the exercise of the psychic faculties and of occult powers spiritual?
12. Is it spiritual to leave the physical body and travel to far places in the astral body?
13. Are so-called miracles a sign of holiness?
14. When, then, and when is not, a Hindu yogi a spiritual man?

15. Is the accumulation of wealth unspiritual?
16. How much education should the spiritual individual attempt to gain?
17. Why is it valuable that the natural abilities of a child should be known early in its infancy?
18. What is the most important factor of education?
19. Give an example of the public, due to faulty habit-systems formed in school, failing to discriminate in reference to its office holders?
20. To what extent is an unconventional affair unspiritual?
21. To what extent is cheating the public through graft unspiritual?
22. Is it spiritual, by superior ability, to acquire and hoard resources that otherwise might be enjoyed by others?
23. Why should most popularly accepted ideas occasionally be reexamined?
24. What is the real reason the astronomers of today believe astrology to be an exploded science?
25. What is the real reason "the average man of today" places more and more confidence in astrology, in spite of the pronouncements of certain scientists?

Chapter 7, How to Appraise Spiritual Values

Serial No. 170

1. Upon what depends whether or not an activity results in spiritual gain to the individual?
2. What is the measure of any individual's greatness?
3. Why should not Napoleon and J. Gould be admired?
4. Why should the merits of those who do important constructive work be brought persistently to public notice?
5. How have the Kodak, the movie and the auto benefited the world spiritually?
6. Why should there be a strong public sentiment developed against those who acquire great wealth without contributing anything beneficial to society?
7. To what extent do the personal habits of George Washington add to, or detract from his greatness?
8. Is it really important, as affecting his greatness, whether or not Lincoln had a split personality?
9. Is it really important whether or not Edison chewed tobacco?
10. What was the really important thing about Burbank's life?
11. Why should the tendency be discouraged to make those of actual worth appear perfect also in every minor respect?
12. To what extent do men perform their best work under similar circumstances?
13. Can legislation prevent the powerful from taking advantage of the weak?
14. To be spiritual is it sufficient to obey the laws of the land?
15. What must one do to be really spiritual?
16. Is it spiritual merely to refrain from certain actions?
17. If it is good to escape pain and attain enjoyment in the hereafter why is it not good to escape pain and enjoy oneself now?
18. In what ways do the sports contribute to spirituality?
19. When are sports that involve a contest unspiritual?
20. When are sports that involve a contest spiritual?
21. Why is gambling unspiritual?

22. Why is listlessness unspiritual?
23. Why is drunkenness unspiritual?
24. When should mental and spiritual education cease?
25. What is the test, in so far as the individual is concerned, whether a thing is spiritual or unspiritual?

Chapter 8, Minor Aids to Spiritual Advancement

Serial No. 171

1. In what manner do those who drudge too persistently, and do not take ample recreation, impoverish the race?
2. In what manner do those of financial means who spend their time exclusively seeking pleasures, impoverish the race?
3. Why cannot the real wealth of life be inherited or vicariously attained?
4. How does graciousness of manner contribute to spirituality?
5. In what way does the appearance of the dinner table contribute to or detract from the spirituality?
6. Of what spiritual advantage is it to possess tools of symmetrical design, and utensils that are attractive in appearance?
7. What is the spiritual influence of a squalid neighborhood, where the houses are run down, the yards in disorder, and everywhere there is dirt and grime?
8. What suggestion is made by an office building that is merely a big box in which are unattractive cells where people work?
9. Explain why banks are commonly designed to appear massive, immovable and as solid as the earth itself?
10. Is it spiritual to dress in so unattractive a manner that others feel the desire to shun one?
11. In what manner may too many material possessions detract from the spirituality?
12. Through what avenue do man's inner-plane and his outer-plane customarily influence him?
13. Chiefly due to what activity do events and conditions come into the individual life?
14. What are the three different phases of ourselves?
15. What things are embraced in our outer-plane environment?
16. What things are embraced in our inner-plane environment?
17. Does the inner plane environment or the outer-plane environment have more influence, on the average, over man's thoughts, feelings and actions?
18. Through what two avenues do his thought-cells bring events into man's life?
19. Upon what two factors depends what man's thought-cells are able to accomplish?
20. By what yardstick should spiritual values be measured?
21. What is the measure of an artist's skill?
22. What is the measure of an artist's greatness?
23. Why should new dances not be hastily condemned?
24. What works of art are beneficial, and what ones detrimental, to the individual?
25. Why should the cosmic alchemist encourage people to take an interest in art?

Chapter 9, Major Aids to Spiritual Advancement

Serial No. 172

1. Why are man's enjoyments so important to him spiritually?
2. What kind of pleasures yield the most enjoyment?
3. Is it likely that in the after life we shall seek and find enjoyment?
4. To what extent should we seek misery?
5. What kinds of music benefit us, and what kinds are bad for us?
6. Why should there be no great haste about pronouncing new music either good or bad?
7. What is the creative energy in musical production?
8. Why should such so-called music that disrupts the nervous system be discouraged?
9. To what extent can the ability to appreciate good music be cultivated?
10. Does music that gives rise to a feeling of self-abandonment to impulse and wild recklessness contribute to spirituality?
11. In what way does fiction have a greater freedom than painting or sculpture?
12. What is the advantage of the screen or stage over the printed story? 13. In what way does the printed story have greater freedom than the screen or stage?
14. In what ways may literature of the non-fiction type contribute to spirituality?
15. Under what circumstances may the reading of fiction and the movie habit become a vice?
16. What benefit and what detriment are commonly derived from reading the swift-action pulp magazines?
17. In what factors are the smooth-paper magazines superior as contributing to spirituality, to the swift-action pulp magazines?
18. What is the spiritual influence of constantly reading, or witnessing on the screen, stories of vice and crime?
19. Why is the type of story in which the chief actor is of villainous character least desirable, even though the villain meets his due punishment?
20. What type of stories, in general, should be avoided?
21. What type of stories yield the individual the most in spiritual values?
22. What is the general influence on spiritual advancement of gossip?
23. In what way may spiritual advancement be aided through nature communion?
24. What element relative to God's Great Plan must every worthy prayer contain?
25. Why, preceding prayer, is it advantageous to repeat earnestly a few times... "My soul is one with the universe and my spirit an emanation from Deity"?