ANSWERS TO WS 2

PHYSICS UND BUDDHISM

EXERCISES

Read the text in **Material 3**. Highlight essentials visually and formulate answers to the following questions in partner work:

1. What methodological approach to gaining knowledge does Buddhism use, and what science?

   - Buddhism: holistic experience through meditation, critical review, application to everyday life
   - Science: measurable experiments, analysis, abstraction, objectification

2. How do Buddhism and science relate to the question of whether something ultimately exists permanently?

   - Buddhism: speaks of the "emptiness" of things, form and emptiness, recognizing everything external and internal as free play in space
   - Science: quantum physics proves demonstrably the emergence and decay, the changeability of particles, a "both and" of particle and wave, virtual particles

3. How do Buddhism and physics view the principle of cause and effect? Does an effect occur in direct succession to the cause? Is there an aspect of free choice?

   - Buddhism: freedom exists in the decision in the here and now and in actions that break old harmful patterns
   - Science: decay of a nucleus is not necessarily at a certain point in time, probabilities apply. There is not necessarily a mechanistic sequence. However, classical physics has a mechanistic world view (billiard game)

4. How does information transfer happen? Does information transmission take time? Does information transmission occur simultaneously in spatially separated locations?

   - Buddhism: information is space, mind is timeless and equal to space, wisdom intersecting all duality
   - Science: quantum entanglement: ponds react simultaneously, regardless of their distance

5. How do Buddhism and science relate to the role of the observer? Is there a "reality" independent of the observer?

   - Buddhism: the perceiving mind, the "experiencer" is not separate from the perceived. Subject, object and action are sides of the same totality
   - Science: quantum physics proves that nothing can be said about a reality inseparable from the observer. Every observation changes the "reality". However, classical physics postulates a reality separated from the observer