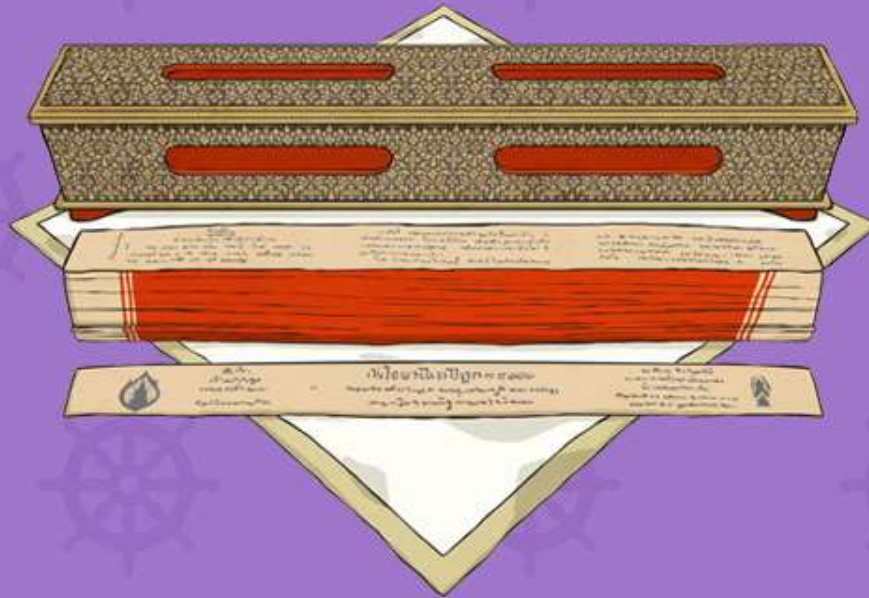


Holy Book

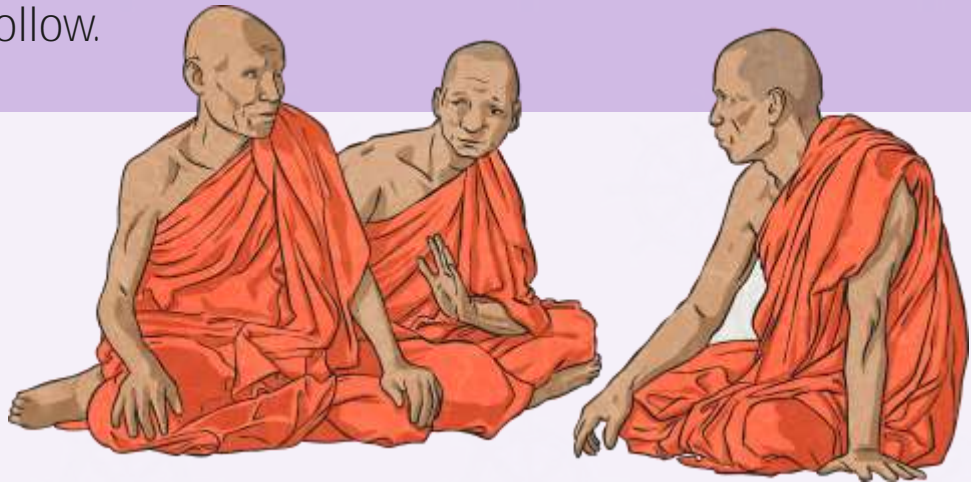


History

When the Buddha was teaching, no one wrote anything down.

People were used to just remembering important things and teachings.

After the Buddha had passed away people started to think it would be a good idea to write down what the Buddha had said and taught so that it was all clear for people to follow.



Check

- To write down the Buddha's teachings accurately, 500 Buddhist monks met to check the teachings with each other. These teachings were then passed down by the monks for 400 years until they were written down.
 - We will now play a game where we have to pass a message round a circle by whispering the message on.
-
- Did the message stay correct at the end? It is easy for messages to get changed slightly as they are passed on. To avoid this we will play the game again but this time we will stop after every 5 children and check the message is still correct.
-
- This is exactly what the monks did to keep the teachings correct over the 400 years. They met regularly to check that it was still accurate.

Tripitaka

- The Buddha's teachings are called the Pali Canon and the Sanskrit Canon.
- They are called this because Pali and Sanskrit are the ancient languages in which they were first written and 'canon' means collection of writings.
- The Pali Canon were the first collection to be written down. It is also called the Tripitaka, which means three baskets.



Three Baskets



- Vinaya Pitaka, which means discipline, is the first basket. It has the rules for monks to follow.
- Sutta Pitaka is the second basket. This contains most of the teachings of the Buddha.
- Abhidhamma Pitaka, which means higher teachings, is the third basket. These higher teachings help to explain the Buddha's teachings.



Guide Sheet



You are now going to create a guide sheet to explain to someone else about the Tripitaka, how it came to be written and the key parts.

