“Did Mencius Know the *Analects*?”

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In this paper I set out to challenge the conventional wisdom regarding the relationship between the *Lunyu* 論語 (*Analects*) and the *Mengzi* 孟子 (*Mencius*). After reviewing the history of the notion that Meng Ke 孟軻 was familiar with the text of the *Lunyu*, I argue that recent revisionist accounts of the *Lunyu*’s origins necessitate a rethinking of its relationship with other early texts, the *Mengzi* included. I then turn to the analysis of Kongzi quotations and references in the *Mengzi* to argue that only a small percentage of these passages might be considered legitimate *Lunyu* parallels and thus potential *Lunyu* quotations. However, the interpretation of these parallels is complicated by our poor understanding of the history of the *Mengzi* text, whose dating is far less secure than is typically acknowledged. After surveying the evidence from early *Mengzi yue* 孟子曰 quotations and *Mengzi* parallels, which do not seem to cohere around the received *Mengzi* until the late Western Han at the earliest, I suggest that some *Lunyu* parallels in the *Mengzi* might predate the compilation of the *Lunyu* while others might postdate it. In a concluding section, I explore a few of the implications of these findings for the study of early Chinese thought.