

Five Questions: The *Republic* Dialogue

In order to answer the following eight questions, read pages 24–28 of “Socrates (Part 1)”, which can be found in Archie’s resources.

1. Socrates invited Cephalus tried to explain what justice *is*.
 - (i) According to Cephalus, what *is* justice?

 - (ii) Why did Socrates believe that Cephalus had *misdefined* justice?

2. Cephalus invited his son Polemarchus tried to explain what justice *is*.
 - (i) According to Polemarchus, what *is* justice?

 - (ii) Why did Socrates believe that Polemarchus had *misdefined* justice?

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3. Without being invited to do so, Thrasymachus insisted that he explain what justice *is*.

(i) According to Thrasymachus, what *is* justice?

(ii) Why did Socrates believe that Thrasymachus had *misdefined* justice?

(iii) In reaction to Socrates, how did Thrasymachus defend his definition of justice?

(iv) Why did Glaucon believe that Thrasymachus had *misdefined* justice?

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4. Why did Glaucon (and his brother Adeimantus) wonder about whether or not justice is better than injustice? (Hint: Think about the Ring of Gyges).
5. According to Socrates, what is so good about justice? (Hint: Think about the Ring of Gyges).