

**Unit 6 - Homework 1: Xenophanes**

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In order to answer the following 20 subquestions (of the following 8 prompt questions), read pages 20—27 in Unit 6.

1. By making an analogy between anthropomorphism and zoomorphism, Xenophanes made an argument-by-analogy against belief in the traditional Ancient Greek gods.

- (a) What is *anthropomorphism*? (If you don't know what the word "anthropomorphism" means, look it up, and you do *not* need to cite your source.)

- (b) Based on what Xenophanes said, what literary clues (or pieces of textual evidence) suggest that he believed that God is *not* anthropomorphic in any way at all? List at least *two* pieces of textual evidence (from the text in Unit 6).

- (c) What is *zoomorphism*? If you don't know what the word "zoomorphism" means, look it up, and you do *not* need to cite your source.

- (d) According to Xenophanes, if nonhuman animals could draw (or paint), how would their drawings (or paintings) of their gods be *zoomorphic* depictions of their gods?

2. By casting doubt on reasons for believing in the traditional Greek gods, Xenophanes likely had offended the religious sensibilities of his *milieu*. In our present day *milieu*, atheists often seek to cast doubt on theism (and, more broadly, traditional religious beliefs). (Note: theism is the opposite of atheism, and an atheist holds beliefs that are in opposition to the beliefs of a theist.)
  - (a) What is an *atheist*? (If you don't know what the word "atheist" means, look it up, and you do *not* need to cite your source.) Or, what is *atheism*? (If you don't know what the word "atheism" means, look it up, and you *don't* need to cite your source.)
  - (b) Was Xenophanes an atheist? *Why* or why *not*? Explain.