

## Unit 8 - Classwork 5: Melissus

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In order to answer the following question, read pages 51–60 in Unit 8.

1. According to Melissus, if *something* exists, then what are the two main facts about its existence across time? (Note: He agreed with his teacher Parmenides.)
2. In agreement with his teacher Parmenides, Melissus thought that
  1. According to Melissus, why can't something *grow* or *shrink*? According to Melissus, why can't something's *size* change?
  2. According to Melissus, if something expands, then what else happens to it?
  3. According to Melissus, if something contracts, then what else happens to it?
  4. According to Melissus, why can't something expand or contract? State *both* of the *two* reasons. (Hint: One of the two reasons is the same as the reason for why he thought that nothing's size can ever change in any way at all.)

3. According to Melissus, why is it impossible for anything at all to move from one place to another? (For this question, I obviously expect a complete answer in full sentences.)
  
4. Melissus had a lot to say about the nature of whatever is in existence.
  - (i) According to Melissus, if something *exists*, then why does it have *neither* a start *nor* a finish? Indeed according to Melissus, if *something* exists, then why does it have *neither* a beginning *nor* an ending?
  
  - (ii) According to Melissus, if something *exists*, then *why* is it *unlimited*?
  
  - (iii) According to Melissus, if everything that exists is *unlimited*, then why does only *one* thing exist?
  
  - (iv) According to Melissus, how many things exist? (In order for you to receive *credit* for your answer to this question, you must *explain* your answer to this question.)
  
5. Parmenides of Elea and his students Zeno of Elea and Melissus of Samos were the Eleatic School of philosophy. What were the two main tenets (or beliefs) that each one of the three Eleatic philosophers espoused?