

Unit 12 - Classwork 4: The *Republic* (Book IV) — Part 1 of 2

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In order to answer the following questions, read Book 4 of Plato's *Republic* (Πολιτεία) on pages 23—28 in Unit 12.

1. According to Socrates, the virtuous city consists of three social classes, and each class plays a specific role in the virtuous city.
 - (i) According to Socrates, which is the highest-ranking class in the virtuous city?
 - (ii) According to Socrates, which is the middle-ranking class in the virtuous city?
 - (iii) According to Socrates, which is the lowest-ranking class in the virtuous city?
 - (iv) According to Socrates and Adeimantus, who are the happiest people in the virtuous city?
 - (v) According to Socrates and Adeimantus, why are those people the happiest people in the virtuous city?
2. Adeimantus raised an objection to what Socrates said about the virtuous city's three classes, and then Socrates responded to the objection.
 - (i) What objection did Adeimantus raise?
 - (ii) On the basis of a virtue ethics, how did Socrates respond to the objection?

3. Even though Socrates thought that only workers should be allowed own property, he also thought that workers should be *neither rich nor poor*.

(i) According to Socrates, why should workers *not be rich*?

(ii) According to Socrates, why should workers *not be poor*?

(iii) According to Socrates, if a city is a virtuous city, then who would make sure that everybody in the city is *neither rich nor poor*?

(iv) According to Socrates, what is the size of a virtuous city?

4. According to Socrates and Adeimantus, lawmaking is pointless and useless.

(i) According to Adeimantus, why is it pointless to make laws for virtuous people?

(ii) According to Socrates, why is it pointless to make laws for *non-virtuous* people?

5. According to Socrates, why would the ideal city be good (ἀγαθός)?