

### Unit 13 - Homework 1: The *Republic* (Book VI)

\*~\*~\*

In order to answer the following questions, read Book 6 of Plato's *Republic* (Πολιτεία) on pages 1—5 in Unit 13.

1. According to Socrates, every philosopher is a virtuous person. Why'd he think so?

2. According to Socrates, why do some people think that philosophers are useless?

3. According to Socrates, why do some people think that philosophers are harmful?
4. According to Socrates, both *nature* and *nurture* explain why it's so rare for someone to become a philosopher (or wisdom-lover).
  - (i) According to Socrates, what role does *nature* play in whether or not someone can become a philosopher?
  - (ii) According to Socrates, what role does *nurture* play in whether or not someone can become a philosopher? (Hint: It has to do with the answer to Question #3.)