

Unit 13 - Classwork 4: The *Republic* (Book IX)

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In order to answer the following questions, read Book 9 of Plato's *Republic* (Πολιτεία) on pages 25—38 in Unit 13.

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1. Using the city-soul analogy, Socrates and Glaucon identified the happiest and unhappiest kinds of city.

- (i) According to Glaucon (and Socrates), what is the *happiest* kind of city?

- (ii) According to Glaucon (and Socrates), what is the *unhappiest* kind of city?

- (iii) According to Glaucon (and Socrates), what is the unhappiest kind of *soul*?

- (iv) According to Glaucon (and Socrates), what is the *happiest* kind of soul?

2. How did Socrates describe the soul of a philosopher (or wisdom-lover)? (In order to receive full credit, explain what he said about the parts of a philosopher's soul.)

3. On pages 29—33 of Unit 13, Socrates and Glaucon discussed pleasure and pain. (*Nota bene*: The opposite of motion is rest, and the opposite of rest is motion.)

(i) According to Socrates, how are pleasure and pain *alike*?

(ii) According to Socrates, how is *pain's presence* different than *pleasure's absence*? (Hint: According to Socrates, how are pain and *non-pain* different?)

(iii) According to Socrates, how is *pleasure's presence* different than *pain's absence*? (Hint: According to Socrates, how are pleasure and *non-pleasure* different?)

(iv) According to Socrates, if something stops feeling painful, does it start feeling pleasant? Why or why not? Explain.

(v) According to Socrates, if something stops feeling pleasant, does it start feeling painful? Why or why not? Explain.

4. Socrates and Glaucon discussed *satisfaction*.

(i) According to Socrates, what satisfies the *body*?

(ii) According to Socrates, what satisfies the *soul*?

(iii) Between the kinds of things that satisfy the body and the kinds of things that satisfy the soul, which kinds of things are more satisfying?

(iv) *Why* are those kinds of things more satisfying?

(v) Which desires are the desires for the most pleasant kinds of things?

5. According to Socrates, why do philosophers live the most pleasant lives?

6. According to Socrates, which part of a virtuous person's soul rules over the other parts?

7. Socrates said, "If each and every part of the soul agrees that the rational part should rule over the other two parts of the soul, then each part of the soul enjoys its proper pleasures as much as is possible." According to him, which virtue is necessary for each and every part of the soul to agree that its rational part should rule over its other two parts? (In order to receive credit, you must explain your answer.)

8. According to Socrates, which virtue is necessary for a soul's rational part to rule over the soul's other two parts? In order to receive credit, you must explain.

9. According to Socrates, injustice is unprofitable, because anyone who unjustly acquires money or power ultimately would be worse off as a result. *Why* did he think so? (Hint: It has to do with the soul.)

10. According to Socrates, if someone has done something unjust, should they ever *not* be punished for the injustice that they have done? *Why* or *why not*? Explain.