

Unit 13 - Homework 3: The *Republic* (Book X)

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To answer the questions, read Book 10 of the *Republic* (Πολιτεία) on pages 38—53 in Unit 13.

1. According to Socrates, there are three kinds of couch.

- (i) According to Socrates, what are the three kinds of couch?

- (ii) According to Socrates, which kind of couch *actually* exists?

- (iii) According to Socrates, which kind of couch merely *seems* to exist?

- (iv) According to Socrates, which kind of couch *imitates* what merely seems to exist?

- (v) According to Socrates, which kind of couch imitates what *actually* exists?

- (vi) According to Socrates, which kind of couch is the ideal form of the couch?

- (vii) According to Socrates, which kind of couch participates in the ideal form of the couch?

- (viii) According to Socrates, which kind of couch imitates the kind of couch that participates in the ideal form of the couch?

- (ix) According to Socrates, which couch-maker is an imitator?

- (x) According to Socrates, what's so bad about imitation?

2. According to Socrates, a flute-maker needs to take the advice of a flautist (or flute-player), but a painter who paints a flute doesn't need to take the advice of a flautist (or flute-player).

(i) Why did Socrates think so?

(ii) According to Socrates, what are the three main kinds of art?

(a) _____

(b) _____

(c) _____

3. The opposite of virtue is vice. In other words, "virtue" and "vice" are antonyms.

(i) According to Glaucon, what destroys the soul?

(ii) The vice of intemperance is the opposite of which virtue?

(iii) The vice of cowardice is the opposite of which virtue?

(iv) The vice of injustice is the opposite of which virtue?

(v) The vice of ignorance (or foolishness) is the opposite of which virtue?

4. Er said, “Immediately after a person dies, they will be rewarded if they lived a just life, and they will be punished if they lived an unjust life.”
 - (i) According to Er, if someone lives a just life, then how will they be rewarded immediately after they die?
 - (ii) According to Er, if someone lives an unjust life, then how will they be immediately right after they die?

5. By telling the Myth of Er, Socrates suggested that he believed in a theory of *metempsychosis* (μετεμψύχωσις).
 - (i) What is *metempsychosis* (μετεμψύχωσις)?
 - (ii) According to Er, if a soul is *punished* immediately after its body dies, then why might the soul choose the *right* kind of body for its next incarnation?
 - (iii) According to Er, if a soul is *rewarded* immediately after its body dies, then why might the soul choose the *wrong* kind of body for its next incarnation?
 - (iv) According to Socrates, what are the two good consequences of the kind of choice that a philosophical soul would make (about their next incarnation)? State both.
 - (v) According to Socrates, what is the greatest reward that virtue has to offer the virtuous person? (According to him, what’s the moral of the story about Er?)