

## Philosophical Context and Plato's Athens

### Notes Answers

**Grade Type:** Homework

**Due Date:** Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> (A, B, C, D, E)

**Instructions:** The following notes answers are to be copied into your Philosophy notebook. There are **no** corresponding questions; the notes have been written in such a way that it is clear what the answers are answering.

On the due date, using your iPad, take clear pictures of all your notes. In a fresh document in goodnotes, create a single file with all of the answers in order. Make sure the pictures are large enough so that each answer is clearly readable. Check to see if you have any questions missing. At the top of the document, write how many notes you have written out of the total (30). If any are missing, write which ones are missing and let me know if you plan to finish them and if so, when I can expect to see them. Upload this document to this dropbox on Archie. This is a homework grade.

1. The three logical ideas that form the foundation of the Socratic Method are Explanations, Counterexamples, and Analogies
2. The Socratic Method is the human part of the love of knowledge. That's why it's important to understand Plato's view of human nature
3. Philosophy and philosophers are influenced by context; to understand them, you must understand the context
4. Examples of context: teachers/peers, current events, history, politics, art, religion, science, economics, etc.
5. The two emotional starting points for philosophy are wonder and anxiety
6. Wonder is curiosity and amazement about the world and ourselves
7. Anxiety is a worrisome insecurity about one's beliefs, ideas, and values
8. The ancient Greek period is usually associated with wonder since they were the first to philosophically ask questions
9. The Modern European Period is usually associated with anxiety since people began to question the Catholic Church
10. The Greeks were unified by their stories and mythology
11. There are two definitions of "Myth": 1) A Popular False Idea 2) A Symbolic Story
12. The Declaration of Independence is a myth because it tells a story to the 13 colonies about what it means to be American

(TURN OVER)

13. Ancient Greek myths were communicated poetically and had philosophical subject matter.  
However, Greek mythology is not philosophy.
14. To analyze a work, we can look at its subject matter, aim, method, and impact
15. Subject matter is the topic
16. Aim is the goal
17. Method is how the goal is accomplished
18. Impact is the effect
19. In ancient Greek poetry, the method is using a narrative story to tell a myth, the subject matter is philosophical topics like justice, virtue, nature, what makes life worth living, etc., the aim is to beautifully communicate a belief/value, the impact is a united Greece
20. In ancient Greek philosophy, the method is the Socratic Method (a conversation), the subject matter is philosophical topics like justice, virtue, nature, what makes life worth living, etc., the aim is to know the truth, the impact is aporia, wonder, and maybe knowledge
21. The ancient Greeks gave poets high status. They were respected as inspirational teachers who were the only way to have true beliefs about reality and how to live
22. The ancient Greek poets taught that humans are not capable of knowing reality through their own intelligence and effort. They must rely on the gods and the poets who communicate their ideas. So, intelligence is only useful to try to get what you want.
23. The ancient Greeks were inspired to live like heroes. A hero is a powerful ambitious person who strives to achieve great things
24. Heroes care about honor/glory, being treated with justice, and using their intelligence/strength to get what they want by force
25. For a hero, honor/glory is respect and recognition for who you are and what you have done; the greater the things you achieve, the more honor and glory you should get
26. For a hero, justice is when people get the amount of honor/glory they deserve
27. Athens Influences and Rise:
  - a. Mythology inspires...
  - b. ...Political Tyranny which causes...
  - c. ...Economic Improvements which leads to...
  - d. ...Improvement in the life and importance of common Athenians...
  - e. ...which makes them believe in heroism for everyone which leads to...
  - f. ...Democratic Politics which leads to...
  - g. ...great Athenian leaders which leads to...
  - h. ...remarkable Athenian achievements which leads to...
28. Pericles' funeral oration is a speech in which he confidently expresses the superiority of Athens and its people and implies that they can trust in him to win the Peloponnesian War
29. The Athenians have faith in Pericles and their superiority because it accurately explains their rapid rise to power and great accomplishments
30. The humiliating Athenian defeat in the Peloponnesian War is a counterexample to everything about their culture. It is one of the most influential counterexamples in history since it provides the anxiety needed to motivate the acceptance of philosophy.