

### Chapter 3 - Assignment 2

1. Thales of Miletus was known as the wise astronomer (See pages 22—25 in Chapter 3.)

(i) According to Thales, how do solar eclipses happen?

(ii) According to Thales, how do earthquakes happen?



5. Pittacus of Mytilene was the father of his son Tyrraeus. While in the Aeolian city of Cyme, Tyrraeus sat in a barber's shop, where he was murdered by a metalsmith. After making an arrest, the people of Cyme sent the murderer to Pittacus. (See pages 33–34 in Chapter 3.)

(i) When presented with his son's murderer, what did Pittacus decide to do?

(ii) In your opinion, did Pittacus do the right thing? Why or why not? Explain.

(iii) If you had been Pittacus, what would you have done? Explain your answer.

6. Solon of Athens made promises to his fellow Athenians. (See pages 35—39 in Chapter 3.)

(i) How did Solon break his promise to the rich Athenians?

(ii) How did Solon break his promise to the poor Athenians?

7. One of Solon's achievements was his *seisachtheia* (σεισάχθεια), but his friends took advantage of it, and they betrayed him by doing so. (See pages 37—39 in Chapter 3.)

(i) What was Solon's *seisachtheia* (σεισάχθεια)?

(ii) How did Solon's friends betray him?

8. Anacharsis the Scythian criticized Solon of Athens about the law.  
(See pages 41—42 in Chapter 3.)

(i) How did Anacharsis criticize Solon about the law?

(ii) How did Solon respond to the criticism by Anacharsis?

9. How did Thales become famous? (See pages 43—48 in Chapter 3.)

10. Consider the inscription on the bronze tripod that Periander sent to Thrasybulus.  
(See pages 48—49 in Chapter 3.)

(i) Which cardinal virtue was mentioned on the bronze tripod?

(ii) What did Periander of Corinth think about Thrasybulus of Miletus?

(iii) What did the fathers of the Messenian maidens think about Bias of Priene?

(iv) After being given the bronze tripod, what did Bias do with it?

(v) How was Bias like Homer and Hesiod?

11. Thrasybulus of Miletus said, “If Periander wants to be safe as the administrator (or *aesymnetes*) of his city, he must kill every citizen who is powerful enough to overthrow him, regardless of whether or not they are hostile towards him. Alas, not even a companion is above suspicion!” If you were a tyrant who wanted to stay in power for as long as possible, would you take the advice of Thrasybulus? Why or why not? Explain.  
(See pages 49–50 in Chapter 3.)

12. According to the Argives, which cardinal virtue was exemplified by Aristodemus of Sparta?  
(See page 50 in Chapter 3.)