

Socratic Circle: Chapter 4

1. Recall the story of the golden tripod. Speaking to the fishermen, the merchants said, “In exchange for the fish in your net, we will pay you in silver coins!” Responding to the offer, the fishermen said, “How many silver coins?” After a series of negotiations, the fishermen and the merchants finally agreed upon a price. Speaking to the merchants, the fishermen said, “In exchange for that many silver coins, you may have the entire catch, regardless of how many fish that we shall have netted!” Yet as soon as the catch finally had been reeled in to shore, everyone realized that no fish had been netted at all! Rather, the entire catch was a golden tripod!” Between the merchants and the fishermen, who should’ve gotten to keep the golden tripod (and why)?