

Chapter 19 - Assignment 12: Plato's *Meno* Dialogue – [7]

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In order to answer the following questions, read pages 26–28 in Chapter 19.

1. On the teachability of virtue, Socrates and Meno thought in terms of a *modus tollens* syllogism. Accordingly, fill in the blanks.

Premise 1: If virtue is teachable, then either a sophist can teach virtue, or a good man can teach virtue.

Premise 2: _____.

Conclusion: _____.

2. According to Socrates, virtue results from either knowledge or true belief.

(i) According to Socrates, how are knowledge and true belief *alike*?

(ii) Socrates said, “I *know* that there’s a difference between knowledge and true belief. Of the very few things that I claim to know, that is one of the things that I know.” According to Socrates, what is the difference between knowledge and true belief? (Hint: Consider what Socrates had to say about about the mythical Daedalus.)

3. According to Socrates, why is virtue good?

4. According to Socrates, if virtue is neither nature nor nurture, then can someone be virtuous? Why or why not? Explain.

5. According to Socrates, virtue is either *knowledge* or *true belief*. Accordingly, fill in the blanks.

Premise 1: Either virtue is *knowledge*, or virtue is *true belief*.

Premise 2: _____.

Conclusion: _____.