Philosophers Way Thinking Critically About Profound Ideas 5th edition Chaffee Test Bank

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Chapter 2
What is the Philosopher's Way?
Socrates and the Examined Life

CHAPTER SUMMARY

The Western tradition in philosophy is mainly owed to the ancient Greeks. Ancient Greek philosophers of record began appearing by about 600 BCE; these are called the pre-Socratic philosophers, because Socrates marked a turning point in Greek philosophy. Socrates had a distinctive and pioneering style of inquiry in which he simply proclaimed his own ignorance and asked probing questions of others. Socrates' dialectical method of philosophical conversation led to generating many highly influential ideas. Eventually, in conjunction with a number of other factors, Socrates' method
of inquiry got him into trouble and he was accused of "corrupting the youth of Athens" and finally
condemned to death.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.
2.2 Define the Socratic Method and illustrate how it is used to investigate complex issues.
2.3 Define how Socrates defined the soul.
2.4 Relate the events in the trial and death of Socrates.

DISCUSSION PROMPTS

1. What kinds of values were espoused in Homer and Hesiod? How did these values encourage the discipline of philosophy in ancient Greece?
2. What was Socrates' philosophical aim? How did his philosophical method match up to his aim?
3. Why did Socrates say he was not wise? What was he able to accomplish by thinking this?
4. What was Socrates' theory of knowledge, and how did he apply it in philosophical practice?
5. How can you apply Socrates' method of inquiry in your own life?

Test Bank

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Multiple Choice Questions

Difficulty: 1 = Easy; 2 = Medium; 3 = Challenging

Choose the best possible answer for each of the following.

TB_02_01_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Remember, LO_2.1

Although the behavior of the Greek gods was not always kind or beneficial to human beings, their dealings with one another embodied core values that _____.
A. placed entertainment above justice and order
B. showed them to be evil personfied
C. are no longer understood
D. helped shape Greek culture and character
Answer: D

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Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

TB_02_02_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Remember, LO_2.1

The significance of the polis in ancient Greek philosophy was as a place _____.
A. where the people could hear the will of the king
B. in which free expression of ideas was forbidden
C. that was the equivalent of the United States Senate
D. where conversations could take place
Answer: B

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_03_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Understand, LO_2.1

The pre-Socratic philosophers were mainly interested in _____.
A. the nature of truth
B. sound political principles
C. the basic principles of ethics
D. the ultimate nature of reality
Answer: D

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

TB_02_04_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Understand, LO_2.1

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Socrates described himself as an intellectual "midwife" because _____.
A. he helped people give birth to their own understanding.
B. he helped people invent new ideas
C. he was always coming up with ideas
D. he helped the Athenians become a family
Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_05_The Socratic Method, Analyze, LO_2.2

Which of the following correctly describes the Socratic Method?
A. A didactic approach to teaching that focuses primarily on lecturing
B. A complex approach of answering questions from disciples with dynamism
C. A dynamic approach of questioning and intellectual analysis to draw answers out of people
D. A didactic approach involving reading the Great Texts of Civilization and writing about them to discover hidden meaning
Answer: C

Learning Objective: LO 2.2 Define the Socratic Method and illustrate how it is used to investigate complex issues.

Topic: The Socratic Method

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_06_The Socratic Method, Remember, LO_2.2

The *sophists* were basically _____.
A. philosophers
B. rhetoricians
C. politicians
D. artisans
Answer: B

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Learning Objective: LO 2.2 Define the Socratic Method and illustrate how it is used to investigate complex issues.

Topic: The Socratic Method

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Easy

TB_02_07_The Socratic Method, Understand, LO_2.2

Irony is used in dialogue in order to _____.
A. create more than one level of meaning
B. demonstrate one's superior knowledge
C. get the responder to show their opinion
D. defuse a situation with humor
Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.2 Define the Socratic Method and illustrate how it is used to investigate complex issues.

Topic: The Socratic Method

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Easy

TB_02_08_ The Socratic Method, Understand, LO_2.2

Thrasymachus thought that "might makes right" because _____.
A. people need to have a powerful ruler
B. strength is always a good thing
C. ethics is generally relative to the observer
D. justice is defined by whoever has the most power
Answer: D

Learning Objective: LO 2.2 Define the Socratic Method and illustrate how it is used to investigate complex issues.

Topic: The Socratic Method

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

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TB_02_09_ Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul, Analyze, LO_2.3

Why did Socrates think people need a "physician of the soul"?
A. Socrates believed people were inherently evil but could still achieve happiness and fulfillment by following his teachings.
B. Socrates believed people should exist in a state of blissful ignorance.
C. Socrates believed people were not inherently evil but were ignorant of how they ought to live in order to be happy and fulfilled.
D. Socrates preached the idea of *mens sana in corpore sano*, a healthy mind in a healthy body.
Answer: C

Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Define how Socrates defined the soul.

Topic: Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_10_Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul, Apply, LO_2.3

To value living an "examined life" assumes that _____.
A. there is no greater good than living according to well-understood precepts
B. selflessness is the route to enlightenment
C. to find truth, we must closely observe our dream life
D. the truth lies within each of us
Answer: D

Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Define how Socrates defined the soul.

Topic: Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_11_Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul, Understand, LO_2.3

Socrates thought that "there is no teaching, only remembering" because _____.
A. people remember better when they figure things out for themselves
B. people already "know" the truth; they just need to "remember" it with the right guidance.
C. no one really knows enough to be able to teach
D. people cannot learn more than they already know
Answer: B

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Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Define how Socrates defined the soul.

Topic: Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_12_Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul, Understand, LO_2.3

Socrates thought that no one knowingly does evil because _____.
A. evil is the result of ignorance
B. evil is rooted in the unconscious
C. people naturally make good choices without having to think about it
D. evil is really an illusion
Answer: A

Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Define how Socrates defined the soul.

Topic: Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_13_The Trial and Death of Socrates, Analyze, LO_2.4

The stated reason that powerful people demanded the death of Socrates was that he was "corrupting the youth." What was their underlying reason for deciding to execute Socrates?
A. Socrates instigated the rebellion of 404, resulting in a vicious dictatorship
B. Socrates promoted the idea of *theogony*, meaning the gods are the source of agony
C. Socrates encouraged people to think for themselves and not blindly accept authority
D. Socrates forced people to examine their lives and beliefs, which many found painful

Learning Objective: LO 2.4 Relate the events in the trial and death of Socrates.

Topic: The Trial and Death of Socrates

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_14_The Trial and Death of Socrates, Understand, LO_2.4

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What does Socrates say to defend himself against the charges of Meletus?
A. He (Socrates) did not know the laws of the city.
B. Meletus is too interested in the well-being of the youth of Athens
C. Only the gods have the authority to question Socrates' teachings
D. If he (Socrates) is intentionally trying to deceive the young, he would only end up hurting himself
himself.
Answer: D

Learning Objective: LO 2.4 Relate the events in the trial and death of Socrates.

Topic: The Trial and Death of Socrates

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Difficult

TB_02_15_The Trial and Death of Socrates, Analyze, LO_2.4

Socrates was an archetypal thinker in that he _____.
A. convinced other people of his opinion through his eloquence
B. was able to overcome any objection by thinking about archetypes
C. was the quintessential model of rational inquiry
D. developed a system of archetypes later used by Jung
Answer: C

Learning Objective: LO 2.4 Relate the events in the trial and death of Socrates.

Topic: The Trial and Death of Socrates

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Essay Questions

TB_02_16_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Understand, LO_2.1

Describe the influence of Homer on early Greek thought. How did he pave the way for philosophical thought?

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In the Western classical tradition Homer is the author of the Iliad and the Odyssey, and is revered as the greatest ancient Greek epic poet.

- These epics lie at the beginning of the Western canon of literature, and have had an enormous influence on the history of literature.
- Although often unflattering, Homer's depiction of the gods reinforced core values such as justice, order, clarity, developing one's intellect and cunning, harmony, moderation, beauty, courage, honesty and honor.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_17_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Remember, LO_2.1

Describe the philosophical concerns of the pre-Socratic philosophers. How did their views differ from each other?

Thales believed the primal element of the universe was water, whereas Anaximenes thought it was air; and Heraclitus said fire because "All is change."

- Democritus said all matter in the universe was composed of indivisible atoms.
- Anaxagoras anticipated modern cosmology in proposing that the entire universe is composed of matter in motion.
- Pythagoras believed the fundamental principles of the universe were mathematical relations.
- Parmenides believed in a necessary, static, unchanging unity running throughout all of what is in flux in the world of experience.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_18_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Analyze, LO_2.1

In what way could the period of about 800 to 200 BCE be considered the "Axial Period" of history? What does this term mean?

"Axial" comes from "axis" (turning point). The 20th century philosopher Karl Jaspers called the period around 500 B.C. "the turning point of civilization" because so many astonishing advances in human consciousness occurred at this time in many parts of the world.

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- Confucius, Lao-tse and others in China; the Upanishads and Buddha in India; Zarathustra in Iran; the Hebrew prophets Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Deutero-Isaiah; Homer, Plato, Heraclitus, Parmenides, and the great tragedians in Greece.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_19_Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Analyze, LO_2.1

Describe and explain the underlying philosophy of knowledge that guided Socrates' method of knowledge.

Unlike the great pre-Socratic thinkers, Socrates was less concerned with the physics of the natural world than with the psychology of the mind.

- He developed his own methods of searching for knowledge based on the underlying intuition that all things have an intelligent cause directed toward what is best.
- Socrates brought philosophy "out of the clouds and into the market place," into the cities and houses of people.
- He loved the exploration and interplay of ideas in discussions with others, and through these experiences, he developed the Socratic Method.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_20_ Socrates: A Model for Humanity, Understand, LO_2.1

Describe and explain how Socrates' self-concept guided his thoughts about wisdom and how to pursue it.

Socrates believed that his special wisdom consisted in his ability to stimulate and guide others in the philosophical exploration of profound questions, enabling them to "give birth" to their own understanding.

- Socrates believed the Oracle at Delphi called him the wisest man to make the point that his wisdom lies in knowing that he is not wise. Less wise people believe themselves to be wise.

Learning Objective: LO 2.1 Explain why Socrates can be considered a model for humanity.

Topic: Socrates: A Model for Humanity

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Skill Level: Understand the Concepts

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_21_The Socratic Method, Remember, LO_2.2

Who were the sophists, and why did they oppose Socrates?

The Sophists were an influential group of traveling educators who, for a fee, would teach people how to argue persuasively.

- Many Sophists were "relativists" and "skeptics," philosophical views that contend that knowledge is only a matter of opinion and truth is always relative to a particular context.
- Socrates was convinced that reason is the path to the truth.

Learning Objective: LO 2.2 Define the Socratic Method and illustrate how it is used to investigate complex issues.

Topic: The Socratic Method

Skill Level: Remember the Facts

Difficulty Level: Difficult

TB_02_22_Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul, Apply, LO_2.3

What is the psyche, and what did Socrates believe about it? Why did he believe as he did?

For Socrates, the central concern of philosophy is the psyche, the true self or "soul," which is immortal and imperishable: you core identity, the unique spirit that makes you distinctively you, your authentic personality, your distinctive character.

- According to Socrates, your soul is "immortal and imperishable, and after death should continue to exist in another world."
- Every soul seeks happiness, Socrates believes, and there is a clearly defined path to achieving happiness, though many don't choose to take it.
- The unexamined life is not worth living: Socrates was convinced that we have a moral obligation to achieve our full human potential.

Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Define how Socrates defined the soul.

Topic: Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

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TB_02_23_Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul, Analyze, LO_2.3

What were the most central and important of Socrates' teachings? What do you think about them, at a first read?

Socrates's core teachings are:

- "The unexamined life is not worth living."
- The truth lies within each of us.
- We should strive for excellence in all areas of life.
- No one knowingly does evil.
- "It is better to suffer wickedness than to commit it."

Learning Objective: LO 2.3 Define how Socrates defined the soul.

Topic: Socrates' Central Concern: The Soul

Skill Level: Analyze It

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_24_The Trial and Death of Socrates, Apply, LO_2.4

Explain why Socrates was arrested. How did he respond to the charges against him?

At age 70, Socrates was charged with "corrupting the youth" and not believing in the state-approved gods. This was a cover for political opposition because he encouraged people to think for themselves rather than accept what authorities told them.

- Socrates responded to the charges by pointing out that those who accused him were liars and hypocrites, and (as with Meletus) using the Socratic Method of questioning and demanding clear definitions to key concepts in order to demonstrate that the charges made no sense.

Learning Objective: LO 2.4 Relate the events in the trial and death of Socrates.

Topic: The Trial and Death of Socrates

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Moderate

TB_02_25_ The Trial and Death of Socrates, Apply, LO_2.4

Describe how Socrates greeted the news of his condemnation. How did his philosophy prepare him for this eventuality?

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Because Socrates refused to demonstrate either remorse or respect for the power of the court, he was given the death penalty.

- Confronting death, Socrates is unwavering in his certainty that he has lived a life that is just and true, and he is secure in his confidence that no harm can come to one who has lived such a life. For a just and true individual, death cannot be something to be feared.

Learning Objective: LO 2.4 Relate the events in the trial and death of Socrates.

Topic: The Trial and Death of Socrates

Skill Level: Apply What You Know

Difficulty Level: Difficult

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