

Book IV Study Questions-*The Republic*

Please type your answers to the following questions and include the relevant Stephanus numbers to support your assertions.

1. In his ideal regime, does Socrates attempt to create the most happiness for individuals (or small groups of individuals) or for the city as a whole? Put another way, what is more important to Socrates: individual happiness or social happiness? Explain your answer.
2. According to Socrates, what impact do extreme economic situations, for example wealth and poverty, have upon the city?
3. How does an individual's nature relate to his role in the overall operation of the city?
4. How does Socrates propose that guardians should arrange the procreation, the rearing, and the education of children?
5. What four virtues does Socrates believe should be found in the city?
6. Choose one of the four virtues, briefly define it, and explain in which part of the city Socrates asserts that this virtue should be found.
7. Lines 432a-433a contain some of the most important lines in *The Republic*. Analyze them carefully and answer the following question(s): How does Socrates arrive at his definition of justice? In other words, of the four virtues, does he describe justice first or last and why?
8. According to Socrates, what is the greatest "evil-doing" that one could commit against his city? Explain your answer.
9. In Socrates' ideal city, what is the relationship, if any, between justice in an individual and justice in the city as a whole?
10. In what part of the individual does Socrates propose that justice is to be found?
11. According to Socrates, which portion of the soul, the rational (i.e. calculating) or the irrational, should control the other part and why?
12. How does Socrates relate the three parts of the soul to education?
13. What does Socrates *mean* with his description of the person who "minds his own business"?
14. How does Socrates' description of the person who "minds his own business" relate to his definition of justice?
15. Contrast Socrates' description of virtue with his description of injustice. In your answer, describe the root cause, or causes, of injustice.
16. According to Socrates, do more forms of virtue or of vice exist naturally? How many forms of each does he claim exist?