

Study Questions for *The Republic*, Book VII. Please type your answers.

1. Observe one diagram of the cave at <http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~loxias/plato/caveframes.htm>, and/or search the Internet for others. What is the last thing the prisoner released from the cave would see, and what does this represent?
2. How is the soul educated, according to Socrates?
3. How does Socrates explain the philosophers' reluctance to rule? What is his justification for forcing them to take on this role?
4. What types of knowledge have the power to draw future rulers "from becoming to being"? Give the approximate ages when they would study the various subjects.
5. Why does Socrates make the radical statement in 541a concerning the "quickest and easiest way" to achieve a city devoted to the good?