



ST. ANNE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

"Act Justly, Love Tenderly, Walk Humbly With Your God"

A Level Religious Studies

Yr 12 Transition Work

- **You must read pages 3-73** of Sophie's World by Jostein Gaarder
(The book can either be borrowed from a public library or bought for around £2.50 on Amazon.co.uk)
- **Answer the questions below.** In order to understand the chapters on Socrates and Plato, you must read pages 3-73. Also, you must read the whole chapter before answering the questions on that particular chapter as it is not a simple comprehension activity. For example, questions that are asked of Sophie at the beginning of the chapter may get answered towards the end.

When you get to page 73 you will want to continue reading! ☺

Socrates: page 45-56

1. What were the next four short sentences Sophie was given to think about?
2. Who were the three great classical philosophers?
3. What were the natural philosophers also called?
4. Who was the first of the great philosophers to be born in Athens? What group dominated the Athenian scene at the time?
5. What is required in order for democracy to work?
6. What one characteristic did the Sophists have in common with the natural philosophers?
7. What view is called skepticism?
8. Who said, "Man is the measure of all things?"
9. What claim created bitter wrangling in Athens? How did Socrates respond to this?
10. How is the life of Socrates known to us?
11. What has inspired thinkers in the Western world for nearly 2,500 years?
12. How did Socrates see his philosophic task?
13. Of what was Socrates accused?

14. What are the similarities between Socrates and Jesus?
15. What does "philo-sopher" actually mean?
16. What does the philosopher know in reality? What one statement of Socrates on this topic are you asked to remember?
17. Who are said to be the most subversive people?
18. What faces mankind and what two possibilities present themselves in response to this?
19. Why was Socrates a rationalist?

Plato: pages 62-73

1. What does the word Acropolis mean?
2. What is probably the oldest theatre in Europe and what was performed there?
3. How can it be claimed that "the whole of European civilization was founded in this modest area" (the agora in ancient Athens)?
4. What four tasks does Plato present to Sophie?
5. What must be true if a baker makes fifty absolutely identical cookies?
6. What happened when Plato was 29?
7. What was Plato's first deed as a philosopher?
8. What was the name of the school that Plato set up?
9. What did the Sophist claim about perceptions of right and wrong?
10. What did Plato believe about absolutely everything that belongs to the material world?
11. What is the difference between a particular horse and the "form" of the horse?
12. After what did Plato believe all things to be fashioned?
13. What is Plato's point about knowledge as applied to the senses and to reason?
14. What did Plato believe about all natural phenomena?
15. What was the "cave dwellers" relation to the "shadow play?"
16. What was Plato's point about the cave and the natural world?
17. What characterises every aspect of Plato's philosophy?
18. What did Plato believe concerning women?
19. Who was the first to discuss and criticise Plato's theories?