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## BOOK I

### Chapter 1

1. What was the first conflict in the book?
  - a. Tissaphernes, a commander in the king's army and friend of Cyrus, was with Cyrus when he was called back home as his father was dying. Cyrus' older brother Artaxerxes was already there. Once Darius died and Artaxerxes was established as king, no doubt thinking of his own future, Tissaphernes accused Cyrus of plotting against his brother. Artaxerxes had Cyrus arrested and planned to have him put to death, but their mother intervened and had Cyrus sent back to the province he governed. Cyrus decided to raise up an army to help him take the throne away from his brother.
2. How was the king duped?
  - a. Cyrus raised an army on the pretext that the cities of the Peloponnese were being threatened by Tissaphernes and told them they should go to him as the king's brother. The king thought the army was being raised for his brother's own war with Tissaphernes. Cyrus sent tribute from cities formerly held by Tissaphernes so Artaxerxes didn't suspect anything. In the Chersonese, Cyrus paid a Spartan exile named Clearchus to raise an army and make war on Thrace north of the Hellespont. The Greek cities supported his effort and his brother's suspicions were not aroused. Aristippus from Thessaly asked Cyrus for 2000 mercenaries and three months' pay for them. Cyrus gave him more than he asked for and he raised his army without suspicion which would be of use to Cyrus. He also convinced other friends to raise armies to support him without arousing the suspicion of his brother.

### Chapter 3

3. What did the men do when they suspected they were being used against the king?
  - a. They refused to march beyond Tarsus.
4. About what did Clearchus speak?
  - a. He said Cyrus befriended him when he was exiled and the money Cyrus gave him was spent on the troops rather than on himself. He said together they had driven off the Thracians from the Greek colony and he was repaying Cyrus for his help. He then said he would choose them over Cyrus, because with them honor was to be had.
5. What was his ruse?
  - a. He was working with Cyrus against his troops, hoping to have them decide to help Cyrus. He claimed to be marching against an enemy named Abrocomas and his troops decided to follow him.
6. What agreement was made with Cyrus?
  - a. The troops were promised more pay in return for their service.

### Chapter 4

7. How did Cyrus propose to deal with the deserters Pasion and Xenias?
  - a. He would not pursue them nor would he hold their women and children. They would be returned in payment for past services to him.

**The snake of Clytemnestra's dream**



1. Who is Hermes (Mercury)?
  - a. Hermes is the god of roads, luck, wealth, patron of merchants and thieves, messenger of the gods and conductor of the souls to Hades.
2. What is the setting of the play? (1-6)
  - a. The setting is the grave of Agamemnon, outside the walls of Argos in the early morning.

## Prologue

3. For what are the two locks of hair offered by Orestes?
  - a. One is for Inachus, the River of his home; the other is for grief, loss and tears too late, offered for his father.

## First Episode

(7-33)

4. Why is the chorus mourning?
  - a. The chorus is mourning because Agamemnon is dead.

(34-63)

5. Why has Clytemnestra sent the women to Agamemnon's grave?
  - a. The proper funeral rites were never conducted over it and she has sent them to offer offer libations to avert the fate that awaits her.
6. What is the mood?
  - a. There is an overall air of mourning and doom, as well as fear.
7. Who is "her, whom the gods hate"?
  - a. That woman is Clytemnestra, wife of Agamemnon.
8. What was the creed by which the people used to live?
  - a. They had reverence for royal power.
9. What rules now?
  - a. Fear and men's success rule now.

(64-84)

10. What does the chorus say about justice?
  - a. Justice triumphs and punishes wrong doing.
11. What do we know about the women of the chorus?
  - a. The women are slaves from Troy.

(85-112)

12. Who does the chorus say are the loyal ones?
  - a. The loyal ones are Electra and all who hate Aegisthus.

(113-163)

13. What does the chorus tell Electra to ask for the murderers?
  - a. They tell her to ask that the justice of god and men find them.
14. What does Electra ask for herself of the gods?
  - a. She asks for pity, the return of Orestes, a pure heart, clean hands and ways unlike her mother.

(141-163)

15. How do we know the avenger is coming?
  - a. The chorus speaks of a man of strength who will come to redeem the house.

## *Questions for Further Thought*

- A. Even without understanding the details, what can we learn from the discussion of modes?
  - a. Modes affect the emotions and if we want to encourage certain emotions, we should use the type of music that would be conducive to that goal.
- B. Do you think there might be a parallel with modern music, such as rap or rock music? Is it possible that the music young people listen to today influences their attitudes?
  - a. Answers will vary.
- C. Do you think the division of work and rewards in Socrates' city is fair or desirable? Why or why not?
  - a. Answers will vary.
- D. Does Socrates willingly give his opinions? How do we learn what he believes, or do we?
  - a. He doesn't state anything definitively, but rather asks questions of his audience to arrive at conclusions. One always expects there to be a "yes, but..." after every statement.

## **Book IV**

Socrates is striving for a definition of justice and injustice. He postulates that by constructing an ideal city and observing justice there, they might be able to then observe justice in an individual.

- 419
1. What is Adeimantus' concern about the guardians?
    - a. They don't appear to have reason to be very happy.
- 420
2. How does Socrates respond?
    - a. He says that, following this plan, the aim is not to make any one group happy, but rather to make the whole city happy.
- 421
3. What two things are to be avoided?
    - a. Wealth and poverty are to be avoided.
- 422
4. Why is wealth to be avoided?
    - a. Wealth breeds idleness, luxury and revolution.
  5. Why is poverty to be avoided?
    - a. It produces shoddy work, illiberality and wrongdoing.
- 423
6. Why would Socrates call a city warring against itself "two cities"?
    - a. In his mind a city is united for the common good and if not it shouldn't be called a city. This would give a "just city" like his an advantage in war because it would be united while fighting factions.
- 424
7. What does Socrates say about changing music?
    - a. He says "never are the ways of music moved without the greatest political laws being moved."
  8. What does he mean?
    - a. Music influences and reflects the emotions; it is powerful in moving people to change. Because of its power to move people, it must be controlled.

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12. What would be some of the characteristics of an oligarchic city?
- a. It would have beggars as well as thieves and many evil-doers who would have to be ruled by force.
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13. How would you describe the oligarchic man?
- a. He would be a thrifty worker, satisfying his necessary appetites, profiting from everything and hoarding it and valuing money more than anything, placing low value on education. This type of person would hold his evil desires in check, not out of a sense of justice or goodness, but out of fear of losing what he has.
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14. What would follow on the heels of an oligarchy?
- a. Democracy would be the next step.
15. How does democracy come about?
- a. The rich lend to others, creating a class of debtors, and they encourage licentiousness among the young. The debtors revolt against the rich and share power among all the people. Wealth and moderation cannot seem to coexist, and this leads to a lack of discipline. When people are reduced to poverty and are idle, feeling disenfranchised, they begin to hate those who have more than they and long for revolution. Those who make money ignore these people because they focus on making money, and they lend at high interest, creating more poverty. The money-makers become soft and care little for virtue. Civil war follows and if the poor are victorious, the rich are either killed or expelled, leaving the governing to all the people.
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16. In theory, how do the people in a democratic city live?
- a. They are all free, having license to do whatever they want. There would be diversity in people but no real rulers and everybody would be equal. Those who are liked would be the people who are honored.
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17. How would a democratic man come to be?
- a. Having been raised by a thrifty, uneducated father and later keeping company with others who value a more luxurious lifestyle, he would give in to his appetites for things beyond what is necessary. He would war with himself and finally give in to the pursuit of things which aren't necessary. Being uneducated, he would convince himself that these things are good for him and the values of moderation and thrift would be droned out of his consciousness. The result of this would be an insolent, anarchic, extravagant man. His sense of courage, honor and virtue would be perverted.
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18. What are the "best watchmen and guardians of the thoughts" of those who live justly?
- a. They are knowledge, refined living and truth.
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19. How would the democratic man regard truth?
- a. He would distance himself from it and convince himself that all pleasures are equal without reference to good or bad.
20. Would this man be a model of self control?
- a. No, he would yield to the desires at hand and would exemplify disorder, thinking himself free to do what he wants.

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21. What follows a democracy?
  - a. Tyranny follows.
22. What would define a democracy?
  - a. Freedom would define it.
23. How would a tyranny come to be?
  - a. In a democracy, the unquenchable desire for freedom would lead to the neglect of other things of value. If the leaders in a democracy don't provide all the desired freedom they are punished by being accused of being oligarchs. Unlimited freedom would eventually breed anarchy. Everybody would be free, whether citizen or alien, and laws would be seen to infringe on that freedom and there would be such permissiveness in the society as to enslave it.

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24. What three classes would exist in a democracy?
  - a. The first would be idlers, those who do most of the talking, and who manage most things. The second would be those who are best adept at making money and become wealthy. However, their money would be taken away from them and distributed to the people, but the largest share of it would be kept by the idlers. The third class is the largest in a democracy and is made up of those who have little and don't participate in politics. This third class would get some of its money from the second class, or the money-makers.

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25. What would happen if the money-makers rebel against having their earnings taken away?
  - a. They would be accused of plotting against the people and being oligarchs, leading to court actions pitting factions against each other. One man would be set up as the spokesman for the group and could become a tyrant, shedding blood, hinting at the cancellation of debts and redistribution of the land. This kind of man would stir up civil war against the rich.

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26. After a tyrant comes to power, what does he need?
  - a. He needs bodyguards which form a private army.
27. Initially, how does the tyrant behave?
  - a. He makes many promises, public and private, freeing people from their debts and redistributing the wealth, appears to be very pleasant, gracious and gentle, and claiming he is not a tyrant. Then he instigates a war to make the people insecure and establish himself as the leader who will get them through their troubles.

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28. How will the people be kept from plotting against their new leader?
  - a. They will be taxed to such an extent that their efforts will be spent in providing for their basic needs.
29. Under a tyrant, what becomes of his closest, boldest advisors?
  - a. They have to be killed so that they won't rise up against him.
30. What is the attitude of the masses toward their leader?
  - a. They despise him.

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31. How are the people prevented from rising up?
  - a. The tyrant surrounds himself with an army of people who lack principles and virtues, and who are paid for by forcing the people to support them.

## *Appendix 2*

### **Hippocratic Oath and the Oath of Lasagna**

The *Oath of Hippocrates*, written in 400 B. C. and the *Oath of Lasagna*, written in 1964 A.D. are included for the student to read and ponder. It is recommended that the student read line-by-line to see how the ideas and values of modern-day medicine compare with those of the past. Are certain aspects altered or are they removed all together? Is there a substantial difference between the two oaths, or are they basically the same?

#### ***Questions for Further Thought***

- A. How was medicine practiced among the Greeks?
- B. What prompted Dr. Lasagna to revise the Hippocratic Oath?
- C. What is the difference between the two oaths and why have they come about?
- D. Do medical students take the Hippocratic Oath today?

#### **Research Topic:**

How does the change in the Hippocratic Oath reflect changes in culture? From the literature you have read, when was killing of another person acceptable?