

# Plato Worksheet

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Plato lived in Greece from 428 BCE to 347 BCE. He was one of the most influential (important) philosophers and teachers of all time.

Plato was born in Athens, Greece. His parents named him Aristocles. As he grew, he became a very broad (big) person and got the nickname Platon, which means “broad” in Greek. This is where his name, Plato, came from.

Plato’s family was very involved in Greek politics. He expected to become involved in politics as well. He studied politics as well as music and poetry when he was growing up. He also studied with one of the greatest teachers in Greece: Socrates. Under Socrates, Plato developed his own ideas or philosophy. He also created his own style of debate (questioning), and formed his own ideas about what he was interested in studying. Even after his schooling ended, Socrates remained a very important teacher and person in Plato’s life.

After school, Plato joined the military. He served from 409-404 BCE. He fought in the Peloponnesian War, which ended in 404 BCE. Plato thought about going into politics like his family before him after the war. However,

in 399 BCE, the government executed (killed) his mentor (important teacher), Socrates because of his ideas. This greatly upset Plato and he decided to not be involved in politics again.

After Socrates's death, Plato travelled around Greece and the nearby countries. He studied philosophy, geometry (math), geology (rocks), astronomy (the sky), and religion. When he returned to Athens in 387 BCE, Plato started his own school called Plato's Academy. There, he taught philosophy, mathematics, logic (thinking), and law among other subjects. Plato taught at his Academy until he died in 347 BCE.

Α α Β β Γ γ Δ δ  
Ε ε Ζ ζ Η η Θ θ  
Ι ι Κ κ Λ λ Μ μ  
Ν ν Ξ ξ Ο ο Π π  
Ρ ρ Σ σ Ϛ ζ Τ τ Υ υ  
Φ φ Χ χ Ψ ψ Ω ω

In addition to being a teacher, Plato was also a writer. He wrote many dialogues (conversations between two or more people) and papers about his ideas. His writings are broken up into three groups. The groups are based on when Plato wrote the papers but also the ideas that he wrote about.

Plato wrote the first group of dialogues around 399 BCE. This was right after Socrates's death. These writings are called the Socratic Dialogues. They talk about Socrates's ideas and beliefs about the world. Plato rarely (almost never) mentions his own ideas in the Socratic Dialogues.

The second group of writings was done from 387 BCE to 361 BCE. These are called the Middle Period writings. In these dialogues and papers, Plato begins to talk more about his own ideas. Specifically, he talks about how

the individual (one person) and society (all people) are connected. He wrote his most famous work, The Republic, during this time.

Plato's final set of writings was done towards the end of his life. These are called the Later Dialogues. The Later Dialogues talk about the same ideas presented in the Middle Period writings, but in much more detail. Plato talks about ideas like immortality (living forever), the mind, and reason (thinking). He also talks about these ideas relate to art and science and math.



Plato is widely considered to be one of the greatest philosophers of all time. Fortunately, he wrote all of his ideas down in his dialogues and papers. This is how his ideas can still be studied today.

## Plato Worksheet – Exercises

### A. Answer the following questions.

1. What was the name of Plato's mentor and teacher?

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2. What did Plato call his school?

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3. What are the names of the three groups of Plato's writings?

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### B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word) and tag questions.

#### Examples for the sentence "Plato lived in Greece."

**Negative:** Plato did not live in Greece.

**Yes/No Question:** Did Plato live in Greece?

**WH-Question:** Where did Plato live?

**Tag Question:** Plato lived in Greece, didn't he?

1. Plato developed his own philosophy.

**Negative:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes/No Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WH-Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tag Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Plato was also a writer.

**Negative:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes/No Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WH-Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tag Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

3. These writings are called the Later Dialogues.

**Negative:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes/No Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WH-Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tag Question:** \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Write the correct word in the blank.**

1. He was one of \_\_\_\_\_ most influential philosophers of all time.

- a) a                                      b) an                                      c) the

2. His parents named \_\_\_\_\_ Aristocles.

- a) he                                      b) him                                      c) his

3. Socrates remained a very important person \_\_\_\_\_ Plato's life.

- a) on                                      b) in                                      c) at

4. Plato \_\_\_\_\_ around Greece and the nearby countries.

- a) travel                                      b) travelled                                      c) to travel

5. Plato \_\_\_\_\_ at his Academy until he died in 347 BCE.

- a) to teach                                      b) teached                                      c) taught

6. He wrote many dialogues \_\_\_\_\_ his ideas.

- a) around                                      b) about                                      c) of

7. He talks about how the individual \_\_\_\_\_ society are connected.

- a) and                                      b) or                                      c) but

8. He wrote The Republic \_\_\_\_\_ this time.

- a) among                                      b) since                                      c) during

## Confucius Worksheet – Answers

### A. Answer the following questions.

1. What was the name of Plato's mentor and teacher?

Plato's mentor and teacher was named Socrates.

2. What did Plato call his school?

Plato called his school Plato's Academy.

3. What are the names of the three groups of Plato's writings?

Plato's writings were divided into the Socratic Dialogues, the Middle Period, and the Later Dialogues.

### B. Rewrite the following sentences as negative sentences, yes/no questions, WH-questions (using the underlined word) and tag questions.

#### Examples for the sentence "Plato lived in Greece."

**Negative:** Plato did not live in Greece.

**Yes/No Question:** Did Plato live in Greece?

**WH-Question:** Where did Plato live?

**Tag Question:** Plato lived in Greece, didn't he?

1. Plato developed his own philosophy.

**Negative:** Plato did not develop his own philosophy.

**Yes/No Question:** Did Plato develop his own philosophy?

**WH-Question:** What did Plato develop?

**Tag Question:** Plato developed his own philosophy, didn't he?

2. Plato was also a writer.

**Negative:** Plato was not a writer.

**Yes/No Question:** Was Plato also a writer?

**WH-Question:** Who was also a writer?

**Tag Question:** Plato was also a writer, wasn't he?

3. These writings are called the Later Dialogues.

**Negative:** These writings are not also called the Later Dialogues.

**Yes/No Question:** Are these writings also called the Later Dialogues?

**WH-Question:** What are these writings also called?

**Tag Question:** These writings are also called the Later Dialogues, aren't they?

**C. Write the correct word in the blank.**

1. He was one of **the** most influential philosophers of all time.

- a) a                                      b) an                                      c) the

2. His parents named **him** Aristocles.

- a) he                                      b) him                                      c) his

3. Socrates remained a very important person **in** Plato's life.

- a) on                                      b) in                                      c) at

4. Plato **travelled** around Greece and the nearby countries.

- a) travel                                      b) travelled                                      c) to travel

5. Plato **taught** at his Academy until he died in 347 BCE.

- a) to teach                                      b) teached                                      c) taught

6. He wrote many dialogues **about** his ideas.

- a) around                                      b) about                                      c) of

7. He talks about how the individual **and** society are connected.

- a) and                                      b) or                                      c) but

8. He wrote The Republic **during** this time.

- a) among                                      b) since                                      c) during

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