

Types of Evidence

Objective evidence - this is evidence based on fact and is not based on personal opinion.

Subjective evidence - this is based on personal opinion.

People use evidence as proof to establish a fact or the truth of a statement.

The type of evidence that is used to prove something is true can be based in categories, e.g. scientific, historical and religious.

Theist - Someone who BELIEVES in God

Atheist - Someone who DOES NOT believe in God

Agnostic - Someone who is NOT SURE if God exists

Causation	The idea that everything has been caused (started off) by something else.
Design	When things are connected & seem to have a purpose, i.e., eye for seeing.
Atheist	Someone who does not believe in God.
Agnostic	Someone who is not sure if they believe in God.
Conversion	When your life/religion is changed.
Miracle	Something which breaks the law of science & only explanation seems to be God.
Numinous	Feeling of the presence of something greater than you.
Prayer	Communicating with God.

Scientific Truth - Hypothesis, Test, Repeat
Truth based empirical evidence that can be tested and re-tested. Always evolving.

Religious Truth - Truth based on Holy books and faith and religious people.
Seen as a absolute and unchanging.

Historical Truth - Truth based on archaeological evidence and findings. Always evolving as new discoveries are made.

Great at explaining the "mechanics of the world". Answers the "how" questions about existence. Not particularly interested in questions of ultimate purpose and meaning.

Always remains the same. Based in faith and not evidence. Can give us answers to "why" questions. Can it work with science?

Tells about our past. Always has to change over time as we discover new things about our past.

Scholar's Pathway Faith and Ethics

Christian Creation Story - Genesis (Adam & Eve)
 •God created the world in 6 days
 •Rested on the 7th day
 •Created Eve from Adam to make a 'helper' for him
 •God put Adam in charge of the animals by asking him to name them (stewardship)
 •God decided what to make on each day

VS

The Big Bang Theory
 •The universe was created when a singular, infinitely point expanded rapidly.
 •This sent matter and gases expanding out in all directions.
 •All the galaxies in the universe were formed
 •The galaxies are still moving away from each other as the universe expands
 •As the gases cooled they formed the stars and the planets, including the earth
 •Our world is just one tiny planet among many and our galaxy is just one of millions.

Evidence for the Big Bang Theory

1. Red light Shift
Discovered by Edwin Hubble using the Hubble telescope. The furthest away stars appear red. This is because red is a stretched wave length meaning that on all sides stars are moving away from us! This must mean that the Universe is expanding just as we thought!
2. Microwave background radiation.

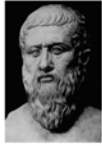
The Initial "bang" must have involved so much energy that there must be trace amounts of radiation left over from the explosion. Using the latest technology such as the Hubble telescope we are able to actually see microwave background radiation left over from the Big bang almost 13.7 Billion year later.

7 Days of Creation

1. Light
2. Atmosphere
3. Land and Sea
4. Sun, Moon and Stars
5. Fish and birds
6. Animals and Humans
7. Rest

Theory of the Forms

Appearance and Knowledge



Plato

Everything in this world is a copy.

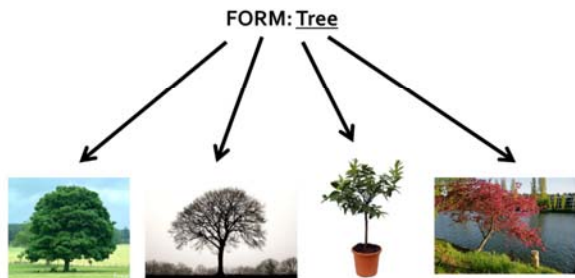
Everything this world is imperfect. We exist in a state of flux/ change (i.e. in time) and therefore nothing is ever perfect. If nothing in this world is ever perfect and is in a state of flux we cannot have true knowledge of it.

For Plato then, we can only have true knowledge of those things that exist outside of this world that are unchanging.

i.e. Metaphysical Ideas

Plato argues that the different things we see in the world that have many similarities but some differences are copies of unchanging and eternal Forms (or ideas) that exist metaphysically. (Metaphysically means beyond the physical world – this is how they can be unchanging they are not in time and subject to change).

When we see the characteristics of trees we recognise that they have something in common but they are not a perfect tree. (Perfect trees are not possible in this world).



The trees in this world 'partake' (take parts from) the Form of Tree (that exists in the perfect, unchanging world).

The Myth of the Metals (the Noble Lie)

Questions:

1. What are the three levels of the society called?
2. What is each level responsible for?
3. Why should men and women do the same roles?
4. Why is it important to tell a 'noble lie'?
5. What is the 'noble lie'?
6. Why is it important that children are able to move between the levels and not remain in their parents division? (See cartoon?)

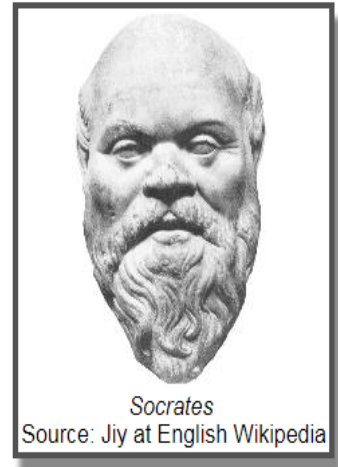


Plato's Ship of State Analogy

There is the ship-owner, larger and stronger than everyone on the ship, but somewhat deaf and rather short-sighted, with a knowledge of sailing to match his eyesight. [1] The sailors are quarreling among themselves over captaincy of the ship, [2] each one thinking that he ought to be captain, [3] though he has never learn that skill...[4] On top of which they say it can't be taught. In fact, [5] they're prepared to cut to pieces anyone who says it can...[6] They beg him [the ship-owner] and do everything they can to make him hand over the tiller to them. [6*] Sometimes, if other people can persuade him and they can't, they kill those others or throw them overboard. [7] Then they immobilize their worthy ship-owner with drugs or drinks or by some other means, and take control of the ship, helping themselves to what it is carrying. [8] Drinking and feasting they sail in the way you expect people like that to sail... [9] If someone is good at finding them ways of persuading or compelling the ship-owner to let them take control, [10] they call him a real seaman, a real captain, and say he really knows about ships. [Numbers added to facilitate exposition.]—*Republic*, 488a-d, translated by G. Ferrari.

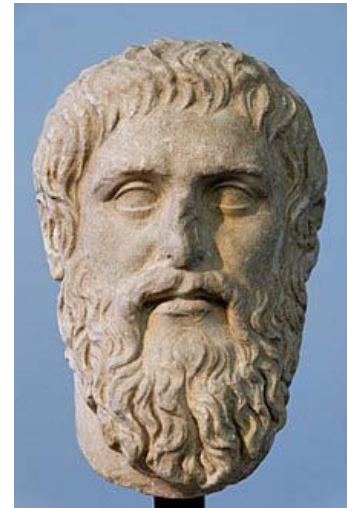
Socrates

The Father of Greek Philosophy. Pioneered the Socratic method (asking people to question their own other's beliefs. He was eventually killed by his own government for refusing to stop doing this!



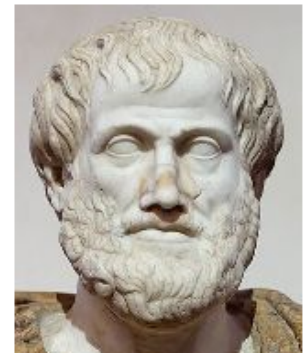
Plato

The main focus of this unit! A student of Socrates who wrote his most famous ideas in his book "The Republic".



Aristotle

Aristotle was a student of Plato, Plato called Aristotle "the mind" as he was a genius and Plato's most promising student. Eventually he set up one of the first Universities in the world; The Academy, Athens.



Aristotle by Jastrow