

## Answer Key: Spark the Great Ideas: 5th Grade Ancient Greek Philosophers Quiz

Examine how Diogenes and Epicurus thought about happiness as you decide how to live your best life in and out of the classroom.

**1. Diogenes the Cynic was famous for living in a large clay jar and owning almost nothing. What did he think was most important for a happy life?**

**Answer:** B) Being honest and living simply

Diogenes believed that fancy belongings didn't bring happiness; instead, he preached that being true to oneself and living a simple life was the key.

**2. The philosopher Epicurus believed that the best way to be happy was to spend time with good friends and be kind.**

**Answer:** A) True

Epicurus taught that simple pleasures, especially friendship and a calm mind, were much more important than expensive things.

**3. Thales, one of the earliest Greek thinkers, looked at the world and guessed that \_\_\_\_\_ was the most important building block of all life.**

**Answer:** C) Water

Thales observed that plants and animals need water to survive, leading him to believe it was the basic element of the universe.

**4. The Stoic philosopher Epictetus was once a slave, but he taught that we can always be free in our minds. What did he say we should focus on?**

**Answer:** D) Our own thoughts and choices

Stoics like Epictetus taught that while we can't control what happens to us, we can always control how we choose to react.

**5. Ancient Greek philosophers only thought about math and never asked questions about how people should behave.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:** B) False

Philosophy actually means 'love of wisdom,' and these thinkers spent a lot of time asking questions about right and wrong.

**6. Pythagoras is a famous Greek thinker who believed that the whole universe could be explained using \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** A) Numbers

Pythagoras and his followers were fascinated by patterns in math and music, believing numbers were the key to everything.

**7. Imagine you are at a Greek 'Symposium' or meeting. What would philosophers most likely be doing there?**

**Answer:** C) Talking and debating ideas

Greek philosophy was very social; thinkers loved to gather and have long conversations to figure out the truth.

**8. The philosopher Heraclitus said 'No man ever steps in the same river twice' because he believed the world is always changing.**

**Answer:** A) True

Heraclitus used the river example to show that just as water flows, everything in life is constantly in motion and changing.

**9. Democritus was a philosopher who had the amazing idea that everything is made of tiny, invisible pieces called \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** B) Atoms

Even without a microscope, Democritus correctly guessed that the world was made of 'atomos,' which means 'uncuttable' parts.

**10. If a philosopher asks you, 'Is it better to be lucky or to be wise?' they are helping you practice which skill?**

**Answer:** A) Critical thinking

Philosophy is about using your brain to look deeply at questions that don't have just one easy answer.