

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Think You Know the Ancients? A 7th Grade Philosophy Challenge

The Golden Mean, logic, and Stoicism—master the essential tools that ancient thinkers used to solve life's biggest mysteries and lead a better life.

1. Which philosopher founded a school called 'The Lyceum' and believed we should observe the natural world to find the truth?

Answer: C) Aristotle

Aristotle was famous for his empirical approach, meaning he prioritized physical observation and evidence, which he taught at his school, the Lyceum.

2. True or False: Ancient Greek philosophers were only interested in science and math, not in how people should behave.

Answer: B) False

Ethics, or the study of right and wrong behavior, was a major part of Greek philosophy alongside science and math.

3. Plato wrote famous books called 'Dialogues' because he believed the best way to learn was through _____.

Answer: A) Conversation

Plato wrote dialogues (scripts of conversations) to mirror the way his teacher, Socrates, used talking and questioning to find the truth.

4. Aristotle's idea of the 'Golden Mean' suggests that a person should live their life by choosing:

Answer: C) The middle ground between two extremes

The Golden Mean is the desirable middle between two extremes, such as being 'courageous' instead of 'cowardly' or 'reckless'.

5. True or False: Socrates wrote many books to share his ideas with future generations.

Answer: B) False

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Socrates never wrote anything down; everything we know about him comes from the writings of his students, like Plato.

6. If you use logic and reason to solve a problem rather than just guessing, you are practicing a skill used by the _____.

Answer: B) Philosophers

The word 'philosopher' means 'lover of wisdom,' and these thinkers used logic (step-by-step reasoning) to understand the world.

7. Which ancient group believed that the key to happiness was staying calm and not letting emotions control you?

Answer: A) The Stoics

Stoicism was a school of thought that focused on self-control and staying steady regardless of what happens in the outside world.

8. The Socratic Method involves a teacher constantly asking a student _____ to help them think more deeply.

Answer: C) Questions

The Socratic Method is a form of cooperative dialogue where the teacher asks questions to stimulate critical thinking and uncover underlying beliefs.

9. True or False: Ancient Greek philosophy helped lay the foundation for modern science and government.

Answer: A) True

Many modern fields, including biology, physics, and democratic political theory, can trace their roots back to the questions asked by Greek philosophers.

10. Epicurus, another famous philosopher, believed that the goal of life was to find peace and avoid:

Answer: B) Pain and fear

Epicureanism taught that a happy life was one where a person lacked physical pain and was free from mental fear or anxiety.