

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Wrangle Ancient Greek Wisdom: Your 2nd Grade Philosophy Quiz

Critical thinking, ethical choices, and purposeful living. Identify how early thinkers like Epicurus and Diogenes viewed happiness and the natural world.

1. Imagine you see a friend sitting alone. A philosopher named Epicurus said being happy means having good friends and feeling calm. What would Epicurus likely tell you to do?

Answer: B) Invite your friend to sit and talk quietly with you.

Epicurus believed that friendship and peace are the keys to a happy life, not money or being alone.

2. A philosopher named Diogenes lived in a large barrel because he thought people only needed simple things to be happy.

Answer: A) True

Diogenes was a Cynic philosopher who famously lived very simply to show that humans don't need fancy houses to live well.

3. Thales was a thinker who looked at the world and decided that _____ was the most important thing because everything ends up needing it to grow.

Answer: C) Water

Thales is known as one of the first philosophers; he believed water was the primary substance of all things in nature.

4. Heraclitus said, 'No man ever steps in the same river twice.' What did he mean by this lesson about the world?

Answer: B) Everything in the world is always changing.

Heraclitus used the river example to show that the world is always in motion and constantly changing.

5. Ancient Greek philosophers liked to argue and be mean to each other rather than asking questions to find the truth.

Answer: B) False

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Philosophers used 'dialogue' or talking to share ideas and try to understand the world together, even when they disagreed.

6. Pythagoras was a philosopher who loved math. He believed that _____ were the secret language used to build the entire universe.

Answer: A) Numbers

Pythagoras and his followers believed that mathematics and numbers explained the harmony of the world and music.

7. If a philosopher says we should follow 'The Golden Mean,' they mean we should not have too much or too little of something. Which of these shows the 'Mean'?

Answer: C) Eating one healthy snack when you are hungry.

The 'Mean' is the middle point between two extremes. Eating enough but not too much is a balance.

8. The word 'Philosophy' actually means 'Love of Wisdom.'

Answer: A) True

In Greek, 'philo' means love and 'sophia' means wisdom, so a philosopher is a friend of wisdom.

9. Zeno was a philosopher who taught that we should stay calm even when things go wrong. This way of thinking is called being _____.

Answer: B) Stoic

Stoics like Zeno believed that we can't control what happens, but we can control how we react by staying calm.

10. The philosopher Democritus imagined that everything was made of tiny, invisible pieces that could not be cut. What did he call these pieces?

Answer: C) Atoms

Democritus was the first person to suggest 'atoms,' which comes from a Greek word meaning 'uncuttable.'