

## Past Exam Questions: Plato

- 1 Discuss the types of enquiry Plato uses and advocates in his quest for truth in "The Republic".
- 2 a) Why does Plato believe that philosophers should be entrusted with the government of the state? (10 marks)  
b) Offer three criticisms of Plato's view. (15 marks)
- 3 Outline and discuss critically Plato's account of the contrast between pleasure and the good.
- 4 Discuss the view that the experience Plato describes in the Simile of The Cave is religious and mystical in character rather than philosophical.
- 5 a) What are the main features of Plato's distinction between knowledge and opinion? (10 marks)  
b) Do you think Plato's account of this distinction can be upheld? (15 marks)
- 6 Discuss critically Socrates' belief that the genuine philosopher will not only love the truth but also possess wisdom.
- 7 Outline the criticisms of democracy made in Books V - VII of the Republic and discuss the validity of any three of them.
- 8 a) Give a detailed account of the important features of the "Divided Line" (15 marks)  
b) Why does Plato introduce it when he does? (10 marks)
- 9 a) What reasons does Plato give for the bad reputation which philosophy has in existing societies? (12 marks)  
b) Discuss critically his views on how the reputation of philosophy

may be improved. (13 marks)