

Exercise on Thrasymachus' Theory of Justice

Answer the three following questions:

- 1) What does Thrasymachus say justice is? Look for the short verbal formulas where Thrasymachus says 'justice is ----' (there is more than one).
- 2) What does each verbal formula mean? Explain in a few sentences. Don't quote; use your own words.
- 3) Thrasymachus says that the most complete injustice is to be found in tyranny (344a-b). By which of the forgoing formulas is the tyrant unjust?

Note: what the first question seeks are the short phrases that purport to define or to give the essence of justice. If the question were asked of Polemarchus rather than of Thrasymachus, the answers would be (1) 'to speak the truth and repay what one has borrowed' and (2) 'to give to each man what is appropriate to him'.