

Exercise on *Republic VIII*

Part One

When Kallipolis decays, it is transformed into timocracy, which Socrates identifies with the Laconian (or Spartan) constitution (*Rep.* 545a). How does timocracy differ from the ideal city of Kallipolis in the following respects?

- 1) Political structure (i.e. rulers)
- 2) Social structure (i.e families)
- 3) Economic structure:
 - a) Private property
 - b) Slavery
- 4) Educational system
- 5) Psychology, or motivation, of the timocratic man

Part Two

This is a tricky exercise. It requires some close reading and some clever reasoning. Plato thinks that the aristocratic soul, or psyche, has the same structure as the aristocratic city, the timocratic soul the same structure as the timocratic city, and so forth. Explain the similarity in structure between the democratic soul and the democratic city by answering the following questions:

- 1) What are the counterparts in the democratic soul of the citizens in a democratic city?
- 2) What is the counterpart in the democratic soul of the equality of political authority of the citizens of a democratic city (*Rep.* 557a)?
- 3) What is the counterpart in the democratic soul of the freedom of the citizens of a democracy to do as they like (*Rep.* 557b)?