

Exercise on the lovers of sights and sounds

In the final part of *Republic V* Socrates tries to identify the men and women who are to be the philosopher-rulers of Kallipolis by distinguishing a lover of wisdom (the literal meaning of 'philosopher') from a lover of sights and sounds ('seeing and listening' in Reeve's translation). Socrates claims that a lover of sights and sounds, in comparison to a lover of wisdom, is "living in a dream" (476c). Explain in just a few sentences how the mental state of a true philosopher differs from this dream state of the lover of sights and sounds.