

**Humane Letters 11: Ancient Greece**

April 27 – May 1

*Time Allotment: 80 minutes per day***TEACHER NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_**STUDENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_**Packet Overview**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Objective(s)</b>	<b>Pg.</b>
Monday, April 27	1. Seminar <i>OR</i> 2. Writing Exercise	1
Tuesday, April 28	1. Read and annotate Book V, Chapters 8-11 2. Thesis and Its Developments Writing Exercise	2
Wednesday, April 29	1. Seminar <i>OR</i> 2. Writing Exercise	3
Thursday, April 30	1. Read and annotate Book VI, Chapters 1-7 2. Open Question Writing Exercise	4
Friday, May 1	1. Read and annotate Book VI, Chapters 8-13 2. Question Formulation Writing Exercise	5

**Additional Notes:**

Optional seminars will continue this week! Make sure to have your annotated book with you so that you can reference the text and ask questions. I hope many of you will join me.

If you cannot join the seminar on Zoom, no worries! You can complete the alternative writing assignments for the day in this packet. **If you come to the seminar, you do not need to complete the writing assignment. You will be evaluated on your engagement in the seminar.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please email me. Have a great week!

- i. For each writing assignment:
  - a. Place an MLA formatted four-part header at the top of a new assignment page
  - b. Start each day’s assignment at the top of a new page
  - c. Designate and title each assignment with a day of the, followed by the date
  - d. If typing, use double-spacing, Times New Roman, and 12 pt. font
- ii. The text we have been using is *Nicomachean Ethics* (ISBN: 978-0-87220-464-5). If you do not yet have the text, please contact Dr. Shaeffer and Mr. Funes.

**Academic Honesty**

I certify that I completed this assignment independently in accordance with the GHNO Academy Honor Code.

*Student signature:*

\_\_\_\_\_

I certify that my student completed this assignment independently in accordance with the GHNO Academy Honor Code.

*Parent signature:*

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**Monday, April 27**

Literature Unit: Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*

Lesson:

- Seminar *OR*
- complete self-evaluation writing exercise (80 min)

**Option 1: Seminar on Zoom**

Your first option for today’s assignment is to participate in a seminar on Zoom over **Book 4** of *Nicomachean Ethics*. Simply join my Zoom meeting using the link posted on Google Classroom or on the Remote Learning page of the school’s website.

Please join promptly at the listed start time. Have your annotated book with you so you can -reference the book. Feel free to write down any questions you want to discuss.

If you are having trouble getting on Zoom, don't worry! Just shoot me an email and I will do what I can to help.

### Option 2: “Opening Question” Writing Exercise

Review your annotations for Book IV, and then write a response in depth to one of the suggested “Opening Questions” (that is, the type of question with which we might “open” a seminar). Use the question as a starting point for your own thinking about Aristotle. The idea is for you to begin understanding Aristotle in order to start thinking along with him.

Your response should be based on what is stated in the text, but you do not need to use quotations. You should, however, include a citation (by page or by line number, when appropriate) when you have something specific from the text in mind.

You must write three paragraphs, and each must contain at least 5 sentences.

### Questions

- (1) Review the first four chapters of Book IV, and then answer: Why is the school called Great Hearts? What does it have to do with “great-heartedness,” or as Aristotle calls it, magnanimity?
- (2) Review the last chapter of Book IV and then answer: is feeling shame a virtue? In other words, could one who feels shame ever be considered virtuous for feeling it?

## Tuesday, April 28

Literature Unit: Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*

Lesson:

- Read and annotate Book V, chapters 8-11 (40 min)
- Main Topic and its Developments writing exercise (40 min)

### Main Topic and Its Developments Exercise = MINOR ASSESSMENT

After you finish reading and annotating the entire assignment, reflect on the whole of Book V. Because of the complexities within this particular book, fastidiously looking for a single “thesis statement” may unnecessarily tax you. Try to find just one main idea (not necessarily *the* main idea) in this reading to quote and develop (for example, the distinction between complete justice/or “complete virtue or excellence” and partial justice/or “justice as a part of virtue”).

Now, re-search Book V to find what you think to be Aristotle's articulation of a main idea of Book V. Re-search three different chapters in last night's reading (namely 8, 9, and 10). Choose any quotation from each of these three chapters that develops, clarifies, or complicates your chosen “Thesis.” Then, write the citation of this quote. After each of these three citations, in 2-3 sentences explain the way

Aristotle is developing the “Book V Thesis.” Use your annotations to support your research for the quotations.

*The format may look like the following:*

**Book V Thesis (or A Main Idea):** [write thesis in own words (not quotation here)] ([insert citation(s) here]).

**Chapter 8 Development #1:** ([insert citation here]) -- [In 2-3 sentences explain how this develops/clarifies/complicates the “Book V Thesis (or A Main Idea)” here].

**Chapter 9 Development #2:** ([insert citation here]) -- [In 2-3 sentences explain how this develops/clarifies/complicates the “Book V Thesis (or A Main Idea)” here].

**Chapter 10 Development #3:** ([insert citation here]) -- [In 2-3 sentences explain how this develops/clarifies/complicates the “Book V Thesis (or A Main Idea)” here].

## Wednesday, April 29

Literature Unit: Aristotle’s *Nicomachean Ethics*

Lesson:

- Seminar *OR*
- Argument summary writing exercise (*80 min*)

### **Option 1: Seminar on Zoom**

Your first option for today’s assignment is to participate in a seminar on Zoom over **Book 5** of *Nicomachean Ethics*. Simply join my Zoom meeting using the link posted on Google Classroom or on the Remote Learning page of the school’s website.

Please join promptly at the listed start time. Have your annotated book with you so you can -reference the book. Feel free to write down any questions you want to discuss.

If you are having trouble getting on Zoom, don’t worry! Just shoot me an email and I will do what I can to help.

**Option 2: “Opening Question” Writing Exercise:** *If you are unable to join our Zoom seminar, you must complete the following writing assignment. If you participate in the Zoom seminar you do not need to complete this writing assignment.*

Review your annotations for Book V, and then write a response in depth to one of the suggested “Opening Questions” (that is, the type of question with which we might “open” a seminar). Use the

question as a starting point for your own thinking about Aristotle. The idea is for you to begin understanding Aristotle in order to start thinking along with him.

Your response should be based on what is stated in the text, but you do not need to use quotations. You should, however, include a citation (by page or by line number, when appropriate) when you have something specific from the text in mind.

You must write three paragraphs, and each must contain at least 5 sentences.

### **Questions**

- (3) How does Aristotle distinguish between just by nature and just by convention, and why is this distinction important?
  
- (4) Can you be unjust to yourself?

### **Thursday, April 30**

Literature Unit: Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*

Lesson:

- Read and annotate Book VI, chapters 1-7 (40 min)
- Open Question writing exercise (40 min)

### **Open Question Writing Exercise**

After you finish reading and annotating the entire assignment, respond in depth to **one** of the suggested "Opening Questions" (that is, the type of question with which we might "open" a seminar). Use the question as a starting point for your own thinking about Aristotle. The idea is for you to begin understanding Aristotle in order to start thinking along with him.

Your response should be based on what is stated in the text, but you do not need to use quotations. You should, however, include a citation (by page or by line number, when appropriate) when you have something specific from the text in mind.

You should write at least 200 words. To get a sense of how long that is, the previous two paragraphs are 117 words, so aim for about twice that.

### **Opening Questions**

- (1) From where does choice originate, and how does one choose with excellence/virtue?
  
- (2) How can wisdom deal with "the things that are valued most highly" (VI.7 1141a21) yet be irrelevant to moral action?
  
- (3) Describe as thoroughly as possible the differences and relationships between the five ways "the soul expresses truth" (VI.3 1139b15).

**Friday, May 1**

Literature Unit: Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*

Lesson:

- Read and annotate Book VI, chapters 8-13 (40 min)
- Question Formulation writing exercise (40 min)

**Question Formulation Writing Exercise**

After you finish reading and annotating the entire assignment, formulate one question that you find interesting about the reading. You can ask a question about any part of the reading, but you should attempt to create a question that both interests you and merits a significant response. While there are no hard rules governing question creation, try to either explain some context for your question's inspiration or at least providing a citation.

Then, you will write a response to your question. Your response should present a reasonable interpretation of the text and must contain evidence for your assertions. Your response should be based on what is stated in the text, but you do not need to use quotations. You should, however, include a citation (by line number, when appropriate) when you have something specific from the text in mind.

You should write at least 200 words. To get a sense of how long that is, the previous two paragraphs are 142 words, so aim for a quarter more than that.

*Suggested order: write your question first (along with providing context, citation, etc.) a part from your written response, and then below it write your response.*

GLOSSARY of KNOWLEDGE TERMS

**Craft Knowledge**, *techne* (VI.4): Often translated as “art” a *techne* encompasses the skills and knowledge associated with making something.

**Scientific Knowledge**, *episteme* (VI.3): the most “precise” form of knowing, Aristotle defines that this kind of knowledge is “deductive” concerned with universals (i.e. knowledge that is logically deduced from principles). Translated into Latin as *scientia*, which is the origin of the English word “science”. Mathematics would be an example of “scientific” knowledge.

**Prudence**, *phronesis* (VI.5): Also translated as “practical” wisdom or knowledge, Aristotle claims that prudence is concerned with particulars.

**Understanding**, *nous* (VI.6): A word difficult to translate into English, *nous* is also sometimes translated as “mind”. For the pre-Socratic philosopher Anaxagoras, *nous* was the governing principle of all things. For Aristotle, *nous* (as a capacity present in human beings) is the faculty through which principles are apprehended.

**Wisdom**, *sophia* (VI.7): The ultimate “aim” of philosophy (which literally means *love of wisdom* in Greek), *sophia* can be understood quite broadly in everyday speech (e.g. a craftsman could be called wise). According to Aristotle, however, genuine *sophia* is to be understood as union of *nous* with *episteme*. It is scientific knowledge with “its head on”.