

Republic Terms

Also see the glossary in the back of your book.

title

the *Republic*:

Res Publica (Latin), public thing, government

[translation of]

Politeia (Greek), government

[a word coming from *polis*, city]

general key terms

reason: *logos*, word, capacity for rational thought

justice: *dikaioness*, ethical rightness

virtue: *arete*, excellence

do better: *pleonektein*; connected to *pleonexia*: wanting more, wanting what is not one's own, the chief cause of injustice

physical training: *gymnastike*, including dance and training in warfare

musical training: *mousike*, including poetry and stories

daimon: *daimon*, a god or a child of both a god and a mortal

central philosophical ideas

the things that are: *ta onta*, ultimate ideals which stably and eternally *are* a certain way (just, true, good, beautiful, etc.), and thus *are* more real than things which change and cease to exist (a just society, a true story, a good apple, a beautiful table, etc.)

the good: *to agathon*, ultimate ideal goodness, the source of everything good

parts of the soul

rationally calculating element: *logistikon*, part that loves truth and learning
(from *logos*, reason)

spirited element: *thumoeides*, part that prompts someone to fight, to be angry, and to love honor
(from *thumos*, the word translated "fighting spirit" in the *Iliad*)

appetitive element: *epithumetikon*, part that has appetites and desires (e.g., for food)

political constitutions

aristocracy: *aristokratia*, "best-cracy," rule by the best people

timocracy: *timokratia*, "honor-cracy," rule by people who love honor (& war)

oligarchy: *oligarkhia*, "few-archy," rule by a few (rich) people

democracy: *demokratia*, "common people-cracy," rule by the common people

tyranny: *tyrannia*, "tyrant-y," rule by a tyrant