

Plato's Apology Discussion Questions

1. What is the reason that Socrates is being prosecuted?
2. Who are the two classes of accusers of whom Socrates speaks? What are the charges brought against Socrates by the first class of accusers? How does Socrates attempt to defend himself against these charges?
3. What is the source of the claim that Socrates is the wisest man? What did Socrates do to test the claim? How did he interpret the claim?
4. What are the charges brought against Socrates by the second class of accusers? How does Socrates defend himself against these charges?
5. What does Socrates offer as a counterproposal to the death penalty after having been convicted of the charges? Why does he refuse to take the counterproposal to death seriously?
6. Did Socrates commit suicide or is he a martyr? If the former, explain why? If the latter, then what were the principles to which Socrates devoted his life?