Jonathan Quang

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Period 8

HW#73

Some examples of the types of knowledge Socrates uses to teach Strepsiades are meter, rhythm, and apparently grammar. In the end, Socrates teaches logic by forcing Strepsiades to undergo torture. Aristophanes turns Socrates lessons about meter and rhythm into a humorous scene by having Strepsiades act like a fool. Strepsiades asks to learn about meter, however the audience finds out that Strepsiades was talking about measurements as opposed to literary rhythm. Socrates suggests Strepsiades to learn rhythm, which Strepsiades shows to have no promise in because he makes a dirty joke involving an obscene middle figure and his phallus. This perpetuates the theme that Strepsiades is a very slow learner as he has not yet realized that Socrates is trying to fix his speech. Eventually, Socrates gives in to Strepsiades demands to learn about logic. However, Socrates methods of teaching logic is not really teaching that much. He submits Strepsiades to torture by laying on a mattress with a sheepskin filled with biting insects. Socrates gives a couple words about staying there until he comes up with a good plan to get out of his dilemma. Socrates is not really teaching, but rather motivating Strepsiades to come up with the ideas himself and occasionally judging Strepsiades ideas.