Explain Plato's ‘Theory of Forms’ in your own words. What problem was Plato trying to solve? Does the theory make more sense for mathematical concepts, like number, than for other concepts, like ‘knowledge’ or ‘beauty’?

Trying to solve:

* What makes a thing the kind of thing that it is
* How can anyone learn anything

What about a cat makes it a cat? How do we learn that this is a cat?

2 instances of cats, how are they related? And relate to being a cat.

See something similar, but how to distinct from other animals

Gaging on a scale the cat-tiness of a cat. The **form** of the cat

If we can imagine forms, then we must of have prior knowledge of these forms.

The trauma of being born suppresses our knowledge of these forms.

So when we are learning while growing up we are just recalling things we already had knowledge on.

Plato believes If we were born as a (Tabula rasa = blank slate) we would stay as a blank slate.

Platos understanding of learning is **RECOLLECTION** (asking questions and pulling the knowledge out of someone that they don’t know they already have). He also believed you couldn’t teach someone something **COMPLETELY NEW** that their eternal soul didn’t already have some prior knowledge on.

**THE FORM IS THE IDEA OF A ‘THING’  
THE FORM IS THE CONCEPT OF THE PERFECT ‘THING’**

Perfect does not need to change, only the imperfect needs to

**METAPHYSICS** and **ETHICS ( BEING and the GOOD) are intimately connected**

The more eternal = the more power

