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#### Grammata #1

The first reason Strepsiades' burning down Socrates' Thinkery can be justified by the fact that Socrates uses one teaching style and condemns all those (Strepsiades) who do not learn in this fashion. Socrates teaches by asking guiding questions and expects his pupils to recall the lessons of his guiding questions. After Strepsiades answers incorrectly multiple times, he calls him a "sieve-brained idiotic old man" (line 790).

Another, better, justification for Strepsiades' burning down Socrates' Thinkery is the fact that the teaching of the "Worse Argument" incites violence through the use of ignorance and the logical fallacy of ad hominem attacks. When Better Argument and Worse Argument are introduced, Worse Argument makes their first attack by saying "[they] shall have [Better Argument] cowed" (892). Worse Argument's first refute states "that Justice does not exist" (902). This blatant ignorance is used against Better Argument to distract them from the topic-at-hand and argue about the underlying assumptions of the topic of dispute rather than the actual dispute. From this point, Better Argument becomes agitated and starts insulting Worse Argument. Worse Argument achieves their goal of inciting violence.

In *Clouds*, Socrates is portrayed consistent with his character because of the exemplification of his teaching style - asking guiding questions. This teaching style gives the illusion of autonomous learning to the student with regards to their ability to ponder answers on their own. In reality, this allows Socrates to lead them to the "correct" answer. Strepsiades introduces his idea of using a voodoo woman to avoid his debt. Socrates realizes the stupidity of this idea; however, he wants Strepsiades to realize this on his own. Socrates asks three consecutive questions in responses to Strepsiades: "And how would that be of any use?", "Why wouldn't they?", and "... how would you make that lawsuit go away?" (752, 755, 759).