

Name: _____

Date: _____

PLATO

COMPREHENSION

Use the information on the page to find the answers to the questions below.

LIFE AND TIMES

- Plato was a Greek philosopher who lived in Athens around 2,400 years ago.
- He was born around 427 BCE into a wealthy and noble family.
- When he was about 20 years old, he began studying with the great philosopher Socrates.
- After Socrates was put to death in 399 BCE, Plato was very sad and decided to travel to many places to learn more.
- Plato founded the **Academy** near Athens around 387 BCE. It became one of the world's earliest famous centres of learning.
- He wrote many **dialogues** about ideas such as justice, truth, knowledge and the ideal society.
- Plato believed education was very important and that good leaders should be wise and fair.
- He died around 347 BCE at the age of about 80.

"The beginning is the most important part of the work."

— Plato

QUESTIONS

1. Where did Plato live?

2. Around what year (BCE) was Plato born?

3. What was Plato's family like?

4. Who was Plato's teacher when he was about 20 years old?

5. What happened to Socrates in 399 BCE?

6. What did Plato do after Socrates died?

7. What school did Plato found in Athens?

8. What subjects did Plato write about?

9. Around what year (BCE) did Plato die and how old was he?

PLATO IS KNOWN FOR

- ★ Writing famous philosophical dialogues, including *The Republic*.
- ★ His theory of Forms (perfect ideas that exist beyond the physical world).
- ★ Believing that education helps people become better.
- ★ His ideas about justice, truth and the ideal society.
- ★ Founding the Academy, a centre for learning and discussion.

PLATO FOUNDED

**The Academy
Near Athens
Around 387 BCE**



ANSWER THE EXTRA!

- ★ What was the name of Plato's school in Athens?

- ★ Who was Plato's teacher?

THINK LIKE PLATO!

Plato believed in thinking deeply about big ideas.

Write one important question you would ask to understand what makes a good society.
