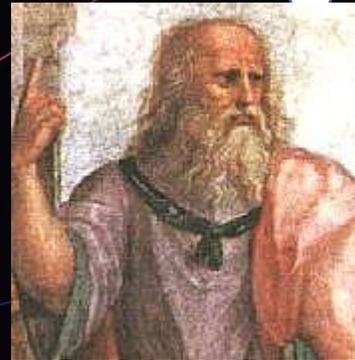


Where knowledge comes from....

By Mr. Semmens @philosophyinKS2

SOCRATES, PLATO AND THE FORMS

How do we see the world?



The British Library
CC BY-



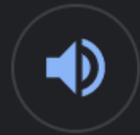
THIS WORLD IS PERFECT.

TTYP



WHAT IS 'GOOD' IN THE WORLD?

TTYP about what the word good means to you....



strive

/strʌɪv/

verb

gerund or present participle: **striving**

make great efforts to achieve or obtain something.
"national movements were **striving** for independence"

- struggle or fight vigorously.
"scholars must **strive** against bias"

Similar:

try

try hard

attempt

endeavour

FOR SOCRATES AND PLATO....

The people are not
striving for the
'good'

A close-up photograph of a person's hand reaching out to touch a delicate, pink, feathery flower in a field. The background is a soft-focus landscape with green grass and trees under a bright sky. A white speech bubble with a black outline is overlaid on the lower left side of the image.

NONE OF THESE THINGS IS
AS GOOD AS IT COULD BE.
TTYD

ultimate

/ˈʌltɪmət/

See definitions in:

All

Physics

Philosophy

Team Sports

adjective

1. being or happening at the end of a process; final.
"their ultimate aim was to force his resignation"

Similar:

eventual

last

final

concluding

conclusive

terminal

end



2. being the best or most extreme example of its kind.
"the ultimate accolade"

Similar:

best

ideal

greatest

supreme

paramount

superlative

highest



noun

1. the best achievable or imaginable of its kind.
"the ultimate in decorative luxury"

Similar:

utmost

optimum

last word

very limit

height

epitome

peak



2. a final or fundamental fact or principle.

ULTIMATE

Etymologically
ultimate comes
from the Latin:
Ultimare meaning
'come to an end'

WHAT IS AND WHERE
IS THE GOOD? HOW DO
WE KNOW IT?

For Plato there is a 'good'.

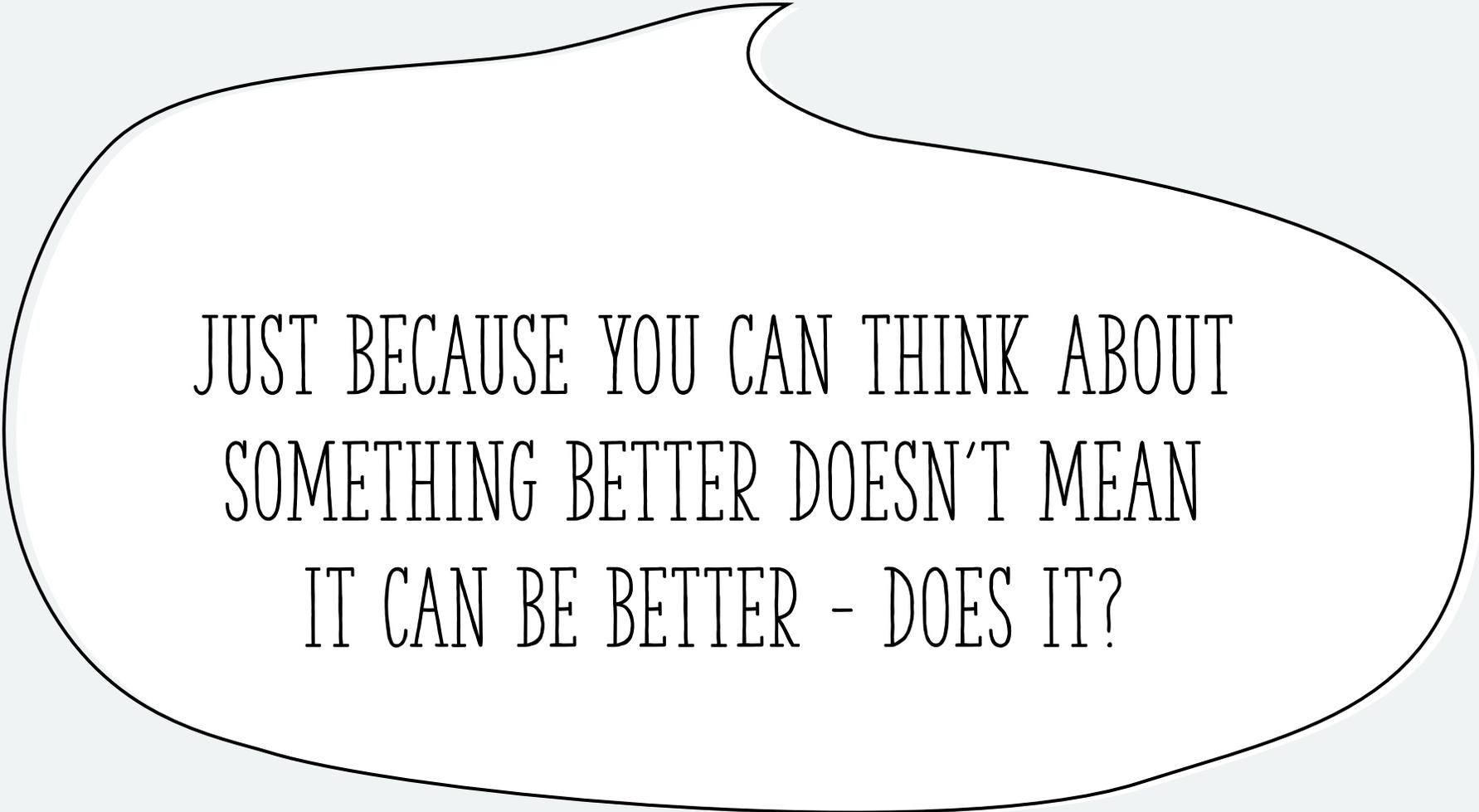
There are things in the world that are good.

These 'good' things could be better or worse.

As there is a 'good' there is a better 'good'

As there is a better 'good' there is an 'ultimate good'

Ultimately 'The Good' must be eternal and heavenly...



JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN THINK ABOUT
SOMETHING BETTER DOESN'T MEAN
IT CAN BE BETTER - DOES IT?

The Realm of the Forms

The Ultimate Good

The World

Even more Good

More Good

Good

Less Good

Not Good

THE GOOD IN A
DIAGRAM:

The 'Good' can be better, therefore
there must be an ultimate good.
This ultimate good is an eternal,
heavenly idea....

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Plato argues that our understanding of what is:

Good - Courageous - Justice (any of these ideals will fit)

Is a 'Form' and therefore comes from Heaven....

Through education your soul can remember the knowledge of these ideals as your soul and this knowledge come from the same place.... <https://youtu.be/V-8LpLOHIYM?t=89>

BEAUTY

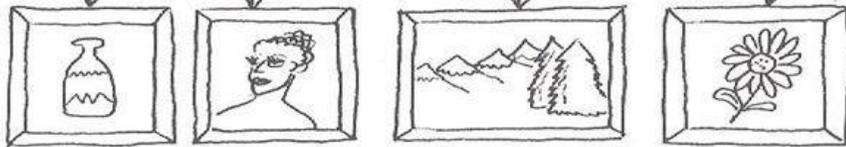
The Form of Beauty



The Concept of Beauty



Individual Beautiful Entities



Imitations of Beautiful Entities
(paintings, photos, reflections, shadows)

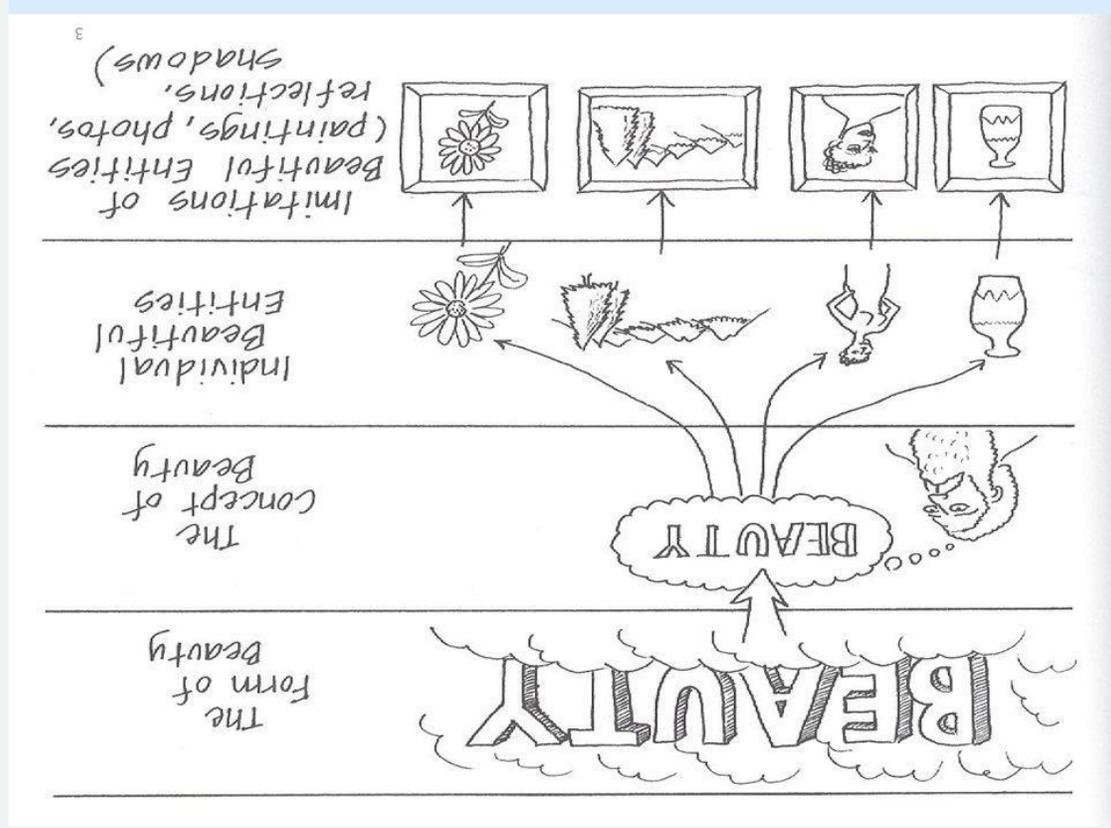
3

SO FOR PLATO....KNOWLEDGE IS INNATE AND REDISCOVERED...



Innate means you are born with it....

Knowledge is 'rediscovered' as you recognise it in the world....



KNOWLEDGE AS RECOGNITION

So when:

- We see a picture of a beautiful flower
- We are recognising the beauty of a real flower
- Which is recognising the concept of beauty in our minds
- Which recalls the 'Form' of beauty in the 'Realm of the Forms'

EDUCATION ENABLES YOU TO RECOGNISE THE FORMS

The more educated you are the more you are in touch with the 'forms'....

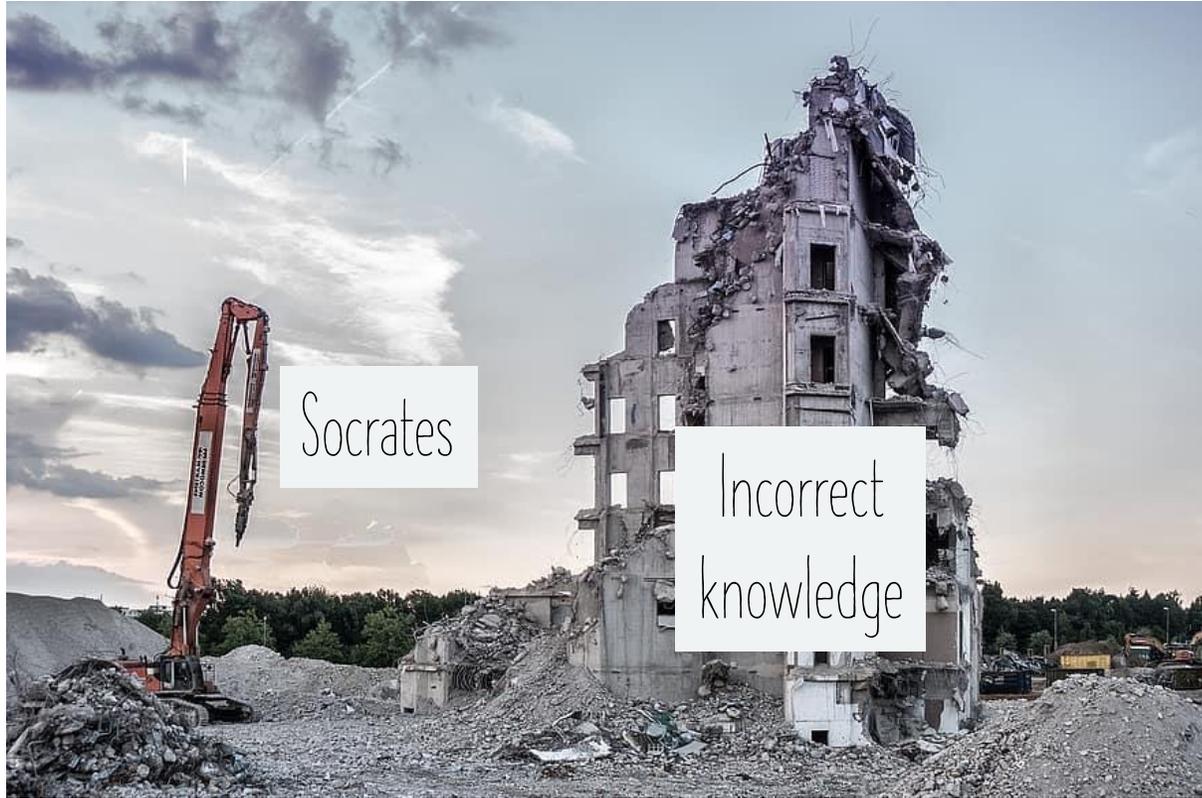
But of course...you can still be wrong....

The problem is with your body and brain.

If you 'recognise' wrongly or mistake something as 'good' when it is 'bad' that is your fault....

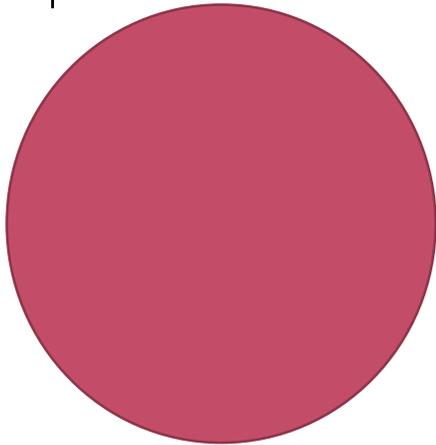
The only true knowledge is knowing you know nothing....

KNOCK DOWN THE FALSE KNOWLEDGE...AND RE-BUILD WITH THE
NEW, REALLY REAL KNOWLEDGE



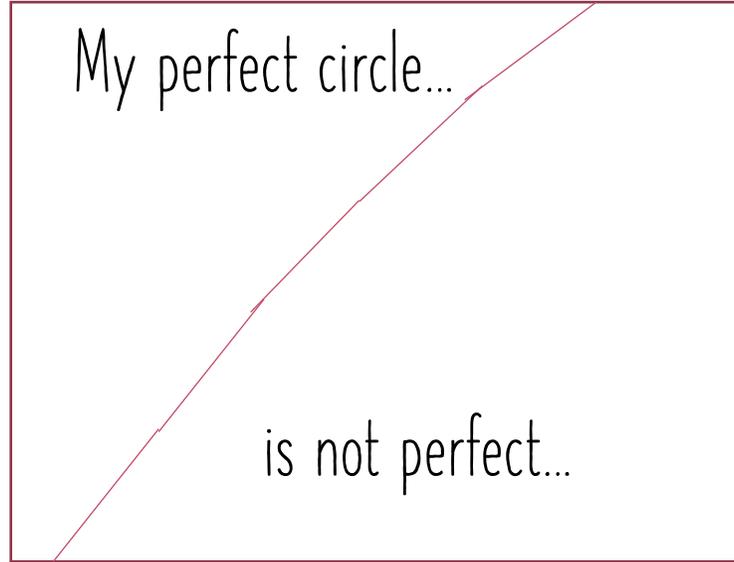
SO HOW CAN WE UNDERSTAND THIS?

I've drawn a
perfect circle....



My perfect circle...

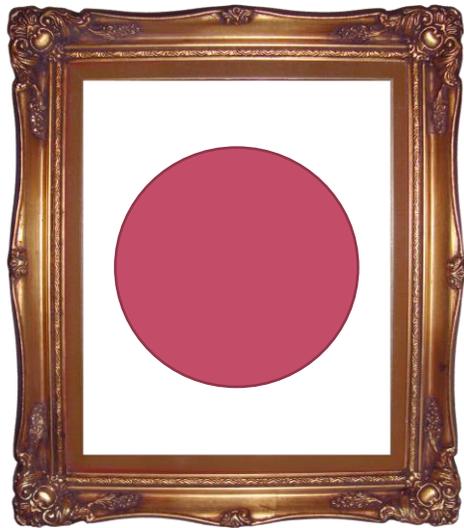
is not perfect...



My perfect circle is actually not perfect at all....the picture is made up of straight lines that look like a perfect circle... The perfect circle is not possible on earth but it is in my mind...but only for a moment....whereas the perfect circle exists in the Realm of the Forms.

IMITATION < ENTITY < CONCEPT < FORM

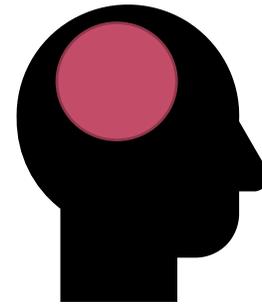
Imitation = picture



Entity = real world version



Concept = theory in my mind



Form = eternal 'really real' ideal



Inside the cave

Outside the cave

ONCE WE ARE OUT OF THE CAVE WE CAN
SEE THAT THERE IS REALLY REAL WORLD....

This is where the perfect versions of everything we are
trying to strive for come from....

On this world though, this imperfect world, we can only
get closer...

In this imperfect world we can never have perfection....

**I AM NOT
PERFECT**

but I am So Close

**IT SCARES
ME!**

Manghera

The Realm of the Forms

The Ultimate Good

The World

Even more Good

More Good

Good

Less Good

Not Good

THE PHILOSOPHER
HAS THE BEST
KNOWLEDGE OF THE
'GOOD'

And should therefore be king...

