

Philosophy

Philosophy is the art of discussing the world around us and trying to make sense of everything in it. This might mean discussing the very nature of reality, what it means to be human or ideas such as religion and faith.

Some of the earliest philosophers were Ancient Greeks. You may have heard of some of them, such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle and Pythagoras.

Socrates was one of the earliest philosophers but never wrote anything down. All of his ideas were passed on to his students orally. Plato was one of those students. He developed a method called the Socratic Method that your teachers might still use today. It's a way of helping people to learn by continually asking them questions. This way, they can delve deeper into a subject and fully understand it. Socrates was eventually executed after he criticised Greek religion.

Many philosophers studied other things as well. Pythagoras is famous for his mathematical theories that we still use today, and Aristotle was a renowned scientist.

Vocabulary

What does "delve" mean?

Summarise

How might the Socratic Method help you to learn about Ancient Greece?

Summarise what philosophy is.

Infer

Why might Socrates not have written any of his ideas down?

Aristotle once said "One swallow does not make a summer, neither does one fine day." What do you think this means?

Retrieve

Why was Socrates executed?