

What's the situation in Sparta prior to Lycurgus?

What were the earlier kings like?

What socio-political problems need to be remedied with a new kind of government?

How did Lycurgus learn about the arts of legislature and government?

Where did he find healthy and unhealthy governments? What might they have been?

Where else did Lycurgus go?
Does this look familiar?

How does Lycurgus gain enough power to implement his reforms?

Who opposes his reforms? Who helps?

What is the most important reform?

What are the major parts of the Spartan polity?

How do they work together to achieve harmony and moderation?

Into what classes is Sparta divided?

How is wealth (land, money, moveable property) distributed in Sparta?

What kind of economy does Sparta have?

How is production managed and motivated?

Who is in the productive class?

What are common messes?

How do common messes conduce to harmony?

Do common messes resemble symposia?

Are common messes inclusive or exclusive?

In groups:

Find and discuss three rhetra.

Do marriage and procreation play a role in this utopia? How does Sparta handle them? What happens to people who don't want to marry? How are children raised?

Is there pederasty in Sparta as in Athens?

Describe the education of boys.

What is the *krypteia*?

How do you keep a majority enslaved?

How is this like or unlike Plato's Callipolis in its aristocratic and timarchic/timocratic stages?

Does Sparta degenerate?