This bibliography includes a selection of books and articles relevant to *Euthyphro* and *Meno*. None of these items is required reading (other than the set texts), but knowledge of any of them or of other recent work in the field will always be an advantage.

[A] **General works and collections of essays**

2. I.M. Crombie *An Examination of Plato’s Doctrines* (2 vols, Routledge 1962-3)
5. T. Irwin *Plato’s Ethics* (Oxford 1995)
11. N.P. White *Plato on Knowledge and Reality* (Hackett 1976)

[B] **Set texts**


If you are doing course IB, IIA, or IIB, you should consult your tutor or the *Examination Decrees and Regulations* for details of what you are required to read in Greek and what in English, and for details of the set translations.

[C] **Commentaries and translations**


*Plato: Five Dialogues* (Hackett 1981): translation of *Apology, Crito, Euthyphro, Meno,* and *Phaedo*


[D]  Introductory material

(1)  For brief biographies of Socrates and Plato, see respectively Santas, *Socrates*, ch. 1 and Crombie, *An Examination of Plato’s Doctrines*, vol. I, ch. 1; there are longer accounts in Guthrie, *HGP*, vol. III, ch. 13 (= Guthrie, *Socrates* [Cambridge 1971], ch. 2) and vol. IV, ch. 2.

(2)  On Plato’s use of the dialogue form and the importance of the literary aspects of his writing see:


R.B. Rutherford  *The Art of Plato*, ch. 1

(3)  Introductions to Plato’s ‘early dialogues’ (of which *Euthyphro* is one), and *Meno*’s relationship to them, can be found in:


T. Penner  ‘Socrates and the Early Dialogues’, in the same volume

R.B. Rutherford  *The Art of Plato*, ch. 1 and pp. 69-83


(5)  For the intellectual background to both dialogues, see:

G. Kerferd  *The Sophistic Movement* (Cambridge 1981)

Further background to *Euthyphro*:

On piety and the gods see:

K.J. Dover  *Greek Popular Morality* (Blackwell 1974), pp. 246-68


On Athenian law relevant to Euthyphro’s prosecution of his father see:

D.M. MacDowell  *Athenian Homicide Law* (Manchester 1963), pp. 1-5 and 8-15

C. Emlyn-Jones  *Plato: Euthyphro*, pp. 8-9

On the prosecution of Socrates see Plato’s *Apology* and *Crito*.

[E]  Works on some particular issues

(1)  Socrates’ arguments against Euthyphro’s definitions of piety
P. Geach  ‘Plato’s Euthyphro: An Analysis and Commentary’, *Monist* 50 (1966), 369-82 (pp. 370-2 of this also relate to (3) below: this section of the article is criticised in a number of the articles listed under (3), and in pp. 462-5 of A. Anderson, ‘Socratic Reasoning in the *Euthyphro*, Review of Metaphysics 22 [1968-9])


G. Patzig  ‘Logic in the “Euthyphro”’, in S.M. Stern, A. Hourani, and V. Brown (eds), *Islamic Philosophy and the Classical Tradition* (Cassirer 1972) -- an offprint of this is available at the Philosophy Library (shelf-mark O/P PAZ 1)

Modern discussions of the ‘Euthyphro dilemma’ (cf. *Euthyphro* 10a-11b) include:


J.L. Mackie  *Ethics: Inventing Right and Wrong* (Penguin 1977), pp. 229-32

(2) Does *Euthyphro* present Socrates as having a positive conception of piety?


C.C.W. Taylor  ‘The End of the *Euthyphro*, *Phronesis* 27 (1982), 109-18

W.S. Cobb  ‘The Religious and the Just in Plato’s *Euthyphro*, *Ancient Philosophy* 5 (1985), 41-6


(3) Socratic definition, and the claim that one cannot know what X is like unless one knows what X is (*Euthyphro* 2a-6e; *Meno* 70a-80e, 86d-e)

R. Robinson  *Plato’s Earlier Dialectic*, esp. chs 2 & 5

G.X. Santas  ‘The Socratic Fallacy’, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 10 (1972), 127-41


I.M. Crombie  pp. 90-3 of ‘Socratic Definition’, *Paideia* 1976 (Special Plato Issue); reprinted as pp. 187-92 of *Day, PMF*

N.P. White  *Plato on Knowledge and Reality*, ch. 2, sects 1-2

M. Burnyeat  ‘Examples in Epistemology’, *Philosophy* 52 (1977), 381-98


T. Irwin  *Plato’s Ethics*, sects 12-18, 88-91

(4) Desire and the good (*Meno* 77b-78c; *Gorgias* 466a-472e; *Protagoras* 352a-358e)

G.X. Santas  ‘The Socratic Paradoxes’, *Philosophical Review* 73 (1964), 147-64; reprinted with
revisions as ch. 6 of Santas, Socrates

J.J. Walsh

*Aristotle's Conception of Moral Weakness* (Columbia 1964), ch. 1; reprinted as ‘The Socratic Denial of Akrasia’, in Vlastos (ed.), *The Philosophy of Socrates*

T. Irwin

*Plato’s Moral Theory* (Oxford 1977), pp. 78-82

*Plato’s Ethics*, sects 97-98

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(5) Meno’s paradox, recollection, and the slave-boy example (*Meno* 79e-86c, 97d-98a; *Phaedo*, esp. 72e-84b; *Phaedrus* 245c-249d)

Leibniz

*Discourse on Metaphysics* (translated P.G. Lucas and L. Grint [Manchester 1953]), sects XXVI-XXVII; another translation can be found in Brown, Plato's *Meno*

New Essays on Human Understanding, Preface, sects 44-53, and Book I, ch. i (the best translation is that by P. Remnant and J. Bennett [Cambridge 1981]; NB: in some other editions Book I, ch. i is called ‘Introduction’)

I.M. Crombie

An Examination of Plato’s Doctrines, vol. II, ch. 1, sect. III, esp. pp. 135-41

G. Vlastos


N.P. White


A. Nehamas


D. Scott


G. Fine


T. Irwin

*Plato’s Ethics*, sects 92-95

P. Geach

*Mental Acts* (Routledge 1957), sects 6-10

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(6) *Arete* and *episteme* (*Meno* 86c-96d; *Laches* 194c-201c; *Gorgias* 466a-479d; *Protagoras*, esp. 352a-362a)

W.K.C. Guthrie

*The Sophists* (Cambridge 1971) ch. 10 (= HGP, vol. III, ch. 10)

G. Kerferd

The Sophistic Movement, chs 9-11

G. Vlastos


D.T. Devereux

‘Nature and Teaching in Plato’s *Meno*’, Phronesis 23 (1978), 118-26

K.V. Wilkes

‘Conclusions in the *Meno*’, Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie 61 (1979), 143-53; reprinted in Day, *PMF*

I.M. Crombie

pp. 93-100 of ‘Socratic Definition’, Paideia 1976 (Special Plato Issue); reprinted as pp. 193-203 of Day, *PMF*

T. Irwin

*Plato’s Ethics*, sects 96-103

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(7) *Episteme* and *doxa* (*Meno* 85b-86c, 96d-end)

N. Gulley

*Plato’s Theory of Knowledge* (Methuen 1962), pp. 13-23

I.M. Crombie

An Examination of Plato’s Doctrines, vol. II, pp. 34-41, 50-2

M. Burnyeat


J. Annas

An Introduction to Plato’s Republic (Oxford 1981), ch. 8, esp. pp. 190-5, 212-15

Modern discussions of knowledge and belief include:
A.J. Ayer *The Problem of Knowledge* (Penguin 1956), ch. 1
J. Dancy *Introduction to Contemporary Epistemology* (Blackwell 1985), ch. 2

(8) Hypotheses and philosophical method in the *Meno* (*Meno* 86c-96d)

R. Robinson *Plato’s Earlier Dialectic*, chs 7 & 8
K.V. Wilkes ‘Conclusions in the *Meno’*, listed under (6) above

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