## Plato, Epistle XIII – a brief introduction

Plato (c. 427–c. 347 BCE) was an Athenian philosopher. The most influential of Socrates' followers, he composed at least twenty-five philosophical dialogues and founded the Academy c. 385. Thirteen letters of questionable authenticity were also attributed to him in antiquity. Four of these are addressed to Dionysius II of Syracuse (see bearded figure in image), four to Dion of Syracuse and his friends and the remainder to other contemporary rulers and statesmen.

Plato supposedly visited Syracuse for the first time in 388/387 when Dionysius I was tyrant. He is said to have admired the character and abilities of the ruler's brother-in-law Dion and the two established a strong friendship based on an enthusiasm for philosophy. When the young Dionysius II succeeded in 367, Dion persuaded Plato to return in order that they might make his ideal state ruled by a philosopher-king a reality. Neither Dionysius nor the Syracusans were too pleased with their initiatives, however, and Dion was soon forced into exile amid rumours of disloyalty. Plato returned to Syracuse once more in 360, this time at the invitation of Dionysius himself who now wished to present himself as a man of great learning. Plato accepted and again tried to mentor the tyrant. He also took the opportunity to persuade Dionysius to restore his uncle Dion. The relationship between teacher and pupil again broke down, this time with Dionysius becoming aggressive towards the philosopher. Plato was apparently confined to the palace and routinely disrespected while Dion was further deprived of his wife, child and property. The philosopher was eventually rescued

through the intervention of Archytas of Tarentum. Dion had his revenge in 357 when he seized control of Syracuse by arms. His attempts at reform were again met with hostility, however, and he was assassinated in 353. Dionysius resumed power in 346 but was again deposed and died a few years later.

If authentic, Epistle XIII to Dionysius belongs to the period after the philosopher's second visit to Syracuse (366–365). Below are the seven passages that we will be translating and discussing over the course of the week. Among the matters discussed are mathematics, dried figs, Plato's great-nieces and Dion. Vocabulary lists are provided at the end of each passage.

**Bibliography**

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**Plato, Epistle XIII 360.a–c**

**(a)** ἀρχή σοι τῆς ἐπιστολῆς ἔστω καὶ ἅμα σύμβολον ὅτι παρ’ ἐμοῦ ἐστιν· τοὺς Λοκρούς ποθ’

ἑστιῶν νεανίσκους, πόρρω κατακείμενος ἀπ’ ἐμοῦ, ἀνέστης παρ’ ἐμὲ καὶ φιλοφρονούμενος εἶπες

εὖ τι ῥῆμα ἔχον, ὡς ἔμοιγε ἐδόκεις καὶ **(b)** τῷ παρακατακειμένῳ—ἦν δ’ οὗτος τῶν καλῶν τις—

ὃς τότε εἶπεν· “Ἦ που πολλά, ὦ Διονύσιε, εἰς σοφίαν ὠφελῇ ὑπὸ Πλάτωνος·” σὺ δ’ εἶπες· “Καὶ

εἰς ἄλλα πολλά, ἐπεὶ καὶ ἀπ’ αὐτῆς τῆς μεταπέμψεως, ὅτι μετεπεμψάμην αὐτόν, δι’ αὐτὸ τοῦτο

εὐθὺς ὠφελήθην.” τοῦτ’ οὖν διασωστέον, ὅπως ἂν αὐξάνηται ἀεὶ ἡμῶν ἡ ἀπ’ ἀλλήλων ὠφελία.

καὶ ἐγὼ νῦν τοῦτ’ αὐτὸ παρασκευάζων, τῶν τε Πυθαγορείων πέμπω σοι καὶ τῶν διαιρέσεων, καὶ

ἄνδρα, ὥσπερ ἐδόκει ἡμῖν τότε, **(c)** ᾧ γε σὺ καὶ Ἀρχύτης, εἴπερ ἥκει παρά σε Ἀρχύτης, χρῆσθαι

δύναισθ’ ἄν. ἔστι δὲ ὄνομα μὲν Ἑλίκων, τὸ δὲ γένος ἐκ Κυζίκου, μαθητὴς δὲ Εὐδόξου καὶ περὶ

πάντα τὰ ἐκείνου πάνυ χαριέντως ἔχων·

**Vocabulary:**

αὐξάνω ‘increase, grow’

γένος, -ους τό ‘race’

διαίρεσις, -εως ἡ ‘division’

διασωστέος, -εαν, -εον ‘to be maintained’

εἴπερ (conj.) ‘if’

εἰς (prep.) ‘in regard to’ + acc.

ἑστιῶ (-άω) ‘feast, entertain’

εὐθύς (adv.) ‘immediately’

ἥκω ‘have come’

ἦ που ‘surely, no doubt’

κατάκειμαι ‘lie down, recline’

μεταπέμπω ‘send for, summon’

μετάπεμψις, -εως ἡ ‘invitation, summons’

νεανίσκος, -ου ὁ ‘youth, young man’

πάνυ (adv.) ‘very, exceedingly’

παρακατάκειμαι ‘lie, recline beside’

παρασκευάζω ‘procure’

πόρρω (adv.) ‘far away, at a distance’

ῥῆμα, -ατος τό ‘word, saying’

σύμβολον, -ου τό ‘proof’

φιλοφρονοῦμαι (-έομαι) ‘be cheerful, in a friendly mood’

χαριέντως (adv.) ‘cleverly’

χρῶμαι (-ήομαι) ‘use’

ὠφελία, -ας ἡ ‘benefit, profit’

ὠφελῶ (-έω) ‘(pass.) derive benefit’

**Plato, Epistle XIII 360.c–e**

ἔτι δὲ καὶ τῶν Ἰσοκράτους μαθητῶν τῳ συγγέγονεν καὶ Πολυξένῳ τῶν Βρύσωνός τινι ἑταίρων. ὃ δὲ σπάνιον ἐπὶ τούτοις, οὔτε ἄχαρίς ἐστιν ἐντυχεῖν οὔτε κακοήθει ἔοικεν, ἀλλὰ μᾶλλον ἐλαφρὸς καὶ εὐήθης **(d)** δόξειεν ἂν εἶναι. δεδιὼς δὲ λέγω ταῦτα, ὅτι ὑπὲρ ἀνθρώπου δόξαν ἀποφαίνομαι, οὐ φαύλου ζῴου ἀλλ’ εὐμεταβόλου, πλὴν πάνυ ὀλίγων τινῶν καὶ εἰς ὀλίγα· ἐπεὶ καὶ περὶ τούτου φοβούμενος καὶ ἀπιστῶν ἐσκόπουν αὐτός τε ἐντυγχάνων καὶ ἐπυνθανόμην τῶν πολιτῶν αὐτοῦ, καὶ οὐδεὶς οὐδὲν φλαῦρον ἔλεγεν τὸν ἄνδρα. σκόπει δὲ καὶ αὐτὸς καὶ εὐλαβοῦ. μάλιστα μὲν οὖν, ἂν καὶ ὁπωστιοῦν σχολάζῃς, **(e)** μάνθανε παρ’ αὐτοῦ καὶ τἆλλα φιλοσόφει· εἰ δὲ μή, ἐκδίδαξαί τινα, ἵνα κατὰ σχολὴν μανθάνων βελτίων γίγνῃ καὶ εὐδοξῇς, ὅπως τὸ δι’ ἐμὲ ὠφελεῖσθαί σοι μὴ ἀνιῇ. καὶ ταῦτα μὲν δὴ ταύτῃ.

**Vocabulary**

ἀνίημι ‘slacken’

ἀπιστῶ (-έω) ‘suspect’

ἀποφαίνω ‘declare, give (an opinion)’

ἄχαρις, -ι ‘unpleasant’

δείδω ‘fear, be anxious’

διά (prep.) ‘through’ + acc.

δόξα, -ης ἡ ‘opinion’

ἐκδιδάσκω ‘(mid.) have someone taught, educated’ + acc. pers.

ἐλαφρός, -ά, -όν ‘gentle’

ἐντυγχάνω ‘converse with, meet with’ + dat. pers.

ἔοικα (perf. with pres. mean.) ‘seem’

εὐδοξῶ (-έω) ‘be in good repute, gain glory’

εὐήθης, -ες ‘mild’

εὐλαβοῦμαι (-έομαι) ‘be cautious’

εὐμετάβολος, -ον ‘inconstant, changeable’

καὶ ταῦτα (adverbial) ‘so much’

κακοήθης, -ες ‘ill-disposed’

κατά (prep.) ‘on account of, because of’ + acc.

ὁπωστιοῦν (relat. adv.) ‘whenever’

πλήν (prep.) ‘except in’ + gen.

πυνθάνομαι ‘learn from, inquire of’ + gen. pers.

σκοπῶ (-έω) ‘examine’

σπάνιος, -α, -ον ‘rare’

συγγίγνομαι ‘associate with’+ dat. pers.

σχολάζω ‘have spare time’

σχολή, -ῆς ἡ ‘learned discussion’

ὑπέρ (prep.) ‘about’ + gen.

φαῦλος, -η, -ον ‘bad, evil’

φιλοσοφῶ (-έω) ‘study’

φλαῦρος (= φαῦλος), -α, -ον ‘bad, evil’

φοβῶ (-έω) ‘(mid.) fear, be afraid’

**Plato, Epistle XIII 361.a–c**

**(a)** περὶ δὲ ὧν ἐπέστελλές μοι ἀποπέμπειν σοι, τὸν μὲν Ἀπόλλω ἐποιησάμην τε καὶ ἄγει σοι Λεπτίνης, νέου καὶ ἀγαθοῦ δημιουργοῦ· ὄνομα δ’ ἔστιν αὐτῷ Λεωχάρης. ἕτερον δὲ παρ’ αὐτῷ ἔργον ἦν πάνυ κομψόν, ὡς ἐδόκει· ἐπριάμην οὖν αὐτὸ βουλόμενός σου τῇ γυναικὶ δοῦναι, ὅτι μου ἐπεμελεῖτο καὶ ὑγιαίνοντος καὶ ἀσθενοῦντος ἀξίως ἐμοῦ τε καὶ σοῦ. δὸς οὖν αὐτῇ, ἂν μή τι σοὶ ἄλλο δόξῃ. πέμπω δὲ καὶ οἴνου γλυκέος δώδεκα σταμνία τοῖς παισὶ καὶ μέλιτος δύο. **(b)** ἰσχάδων δὲ ὕστερον ἤλθομεν τῆς ἀποθέσεως, τὰ δὲ μύρτα ἀποτεθέντα κατεσάπη· ἀλλ’ αὖθις βέλτιον ἐπιμελησόμεθα. περὶ δὲ φυτῶν Λεπτίνης σοι ἐρεῖ. Ἀργύριον δ’ εἰς ταῦτα ἕνεκά τε τούτων καὶ εἰσφορῶν τινων εἰς τὴν πόλιν ἔλαβον παρὰ Λεπτίνου, λέγων ἅ μοι ἐδόκει εὐσχημονέστατα ἡμῖν εἶναι καὶ ἀληθῆ λέγειν, ὅτι ἡμέτερον εἴη ὃ εἰς τὴν ναῦν ἀναλώσαμεν τὴν

Λευκαδίαν, σχεδὸν ἑκκαίδεκα μναῖ· τοῦτ’ οὖν ἔλαβον, καὶ λαβὼν αὐτός **(c)** τε ἐχρησάμην καὶ

ὑμῖν ταῦτα ἀπέπεμψα.

**Vocabulary**

ἀναλίσκω ‘spend on’ εἰς + acc.

ἂν μή ‘unless’

ἀπόθεσις, -εως, ἡ ‘storing’

ἀποτίθημι ‘put away, store’

ἀσθενῶ (-έω) ‘be sick, ill’

αὖθις (adv.) ‘hereafter’

ἀξιῶς (adv.) ‘in a manner worthy of’ + gen.

γλυκύς, -εῖα, -ύ ‘sweet’

δημιουργός, -οῦ ὁ ‘craftsman’

δώδεκα (indecl.) ‘twelve’

εἰσφορά, -ῆς ἡ ‘tax’

ἑκκαίδεκα (indecl.) ‘sixteen’

ἕνεκα (prep.) ‘for’ + gen.

ἐπιμελοῦμαι (-έομαι) ‘take care of’ + gen.

ἐπιστέλλω ‘instruct’ + dat. pers. + inf.

εὐσχήμων, -ον ‘decent, becoming’

ἰσχάς, -άδος ἡ ‘dried fig’

κατασήπω ‘(pass.) rot away’

κομψός, -ή, -όν ‘nice’

μέλι, -ιτος τό ‘honey’

μνᾶ, -ᾶς ἡ ‘mina’

μύρτον, -ου τό ‘myrtle-berry’

παῖς, -δός ὁ/ἡ ‘child’

ὑγιαίνω ‘be healthy’

ὕστερος, -α, -ον ‘too late for’ + gen.

σταμνίον, -ου τό ‘jar’

σχεδόν (adv.) ‘approximately’

ὠνοῦμαι (-έομαι), aor. ἐπριάμην ‘buy’

**Plato, Epistle XIII 361.c–362.a**

τὸ δὴ μετὰ τοῦτο περὶ χρημάτων ἄκουε ὥς σοι ἔχει, περί τε τὰ σὰ τὰ Ἀθήνησιν καὶ περὶ τὰ ἐμά.

ἐγὼ τοῖς σοῖς χρήμασιν, ὥσπερ τότε σοι ἔλεγον, χρήσομαι καθάπερ τοῖς τῶν ἄλλων ἐπιτηδείων,

χρῶμαι δὲ ὡς ἂν δύνωμαι ὀλιγίστοις, ὅσα ἀναγκαῖα ἢ δίκαια ἢ εὐσχήμονα ἐμοί τε δοκεῖ καὶ παρ'

οὗ ἂν λαμβάνω. ἐμοὶ δὴ τοιοῦτον νῦν συμβέβηκεν. εἰσί μοι ἀδελφιδῶν **(d)** θυγατέρες τῶν

ἀποθανουσῶν τότε ὅτ' ἐγὼ οὐκ ἐστεφανούμην, σὺ δ' ἐκέλευες, τέτταρες, ἡ μὲν νῦν ἐπίγαμος, ἡ

δὲ ὀκταέτις, ἡ δὲ σμικρὸν πρὸς τρισὶν ἔτεσιν, ἡ δὲ οὔπω ἐνιαυσία. ταύτας ἐκδοτέον ἐμοί ἐστιν

καὶ τοῖς ἐμοῖς ἐπιτηδείοις, αἷς ἂν ἐγὼ ἐπιβιῶ· αἷς δ' ἂν μή, χαιρόντων. καὶ ὧν ἂν γένωνται οἱ

πατέρες αὐτῶν ἐμοῦ πλουσιώτεροι, οὐκ ἐκδοτέον· τὰ δὲ νῦν αὐτῶν ἐγὼ εὐπορώτατος, καὶ τὰς

μητέρας δὲ αὐτῶν ἐγὼ **(e)** ἐξέδωκα καὶ μετ' ἄλλων καὶ μετὰ Δίωνος. ἡ μὲν οὖν Σπευσίππῳ

γαμεῖται, ἀδελφῆς οὖσα αὐτῷ θυγάτηρ. δεῖ δὴ ταύτῃ οὐδὲν πλέον ἢ τριάκοντα μνῶν· μέτριαι γὰρ αὗται ἡμῖν προῖκες. ἔτι δὲ ἐὰν ἡ μήτηρ τελευτήσῃ ἡ ἐμή, οὐδὲν αὖ πλείονος ἢ δέκα μνῶν δέοι ἂν εἰς τὴν οἰκοδομίαν τοῦ τάφου. καὶ περὶ ταῦτα τὰ μὲν ἐμὰ ἀναγκαῖα σχεδόν τι ἐν τῷ νῦν ταῦτά ἐστιν· ἐὰν δέ τι ἄλλο γίγνηται ἴδιον ἢ δημόσιον ἀνάλωμα διὰ τὴν παρὰ σὲ ἄφιξιν, ὥσπερ τότε ἔλεγον δεῖ ποιεῖν, ἐμὲ μὲν διαμάχεσθαι ὅπως ὡς ὀλίγιστον γένηται τὸ **362. (a)** ἀνάλωμα, ὃ δ’ ἂν μὴ δύνωμαι, σὴν εἶναι τὴν δαπάνην.

**Vocabulary**

ἀδελφιδῆ, -ῆς ἡ ‘niece’

Ἀθήνησιν (adv.) ‘at Athens’

ἄν (conj.) ‘if’

ἀνάλωμα, -ατος τό ‘expense’

ἀναγκαῖος, -α, -ον ‘necessary’

αὖ (adv.) ‘on the contrary’

ἄφιξις, -εως ἡ ‘coming’

γαμέω (-ῶ) ‘marry’ + dat. pers.

δαπάνη, -ης ἡ ‘cost, expenditure’

δημόσιος, -α, -ον ‘public’

διαμάχομαι ‘strive’

ἐάν (conj.) ‘if’ + subjunct.

ἐκδίδωμι ‘provide for’ + acc. pers.

ἐκδοτέος, -ον ‘to be provided for’ + acc. pers. – in neuter with ἐστί ‘it must be provided for’

ἐνιαύσιος, -α, -ον ‘one year old’

ἐπιβιῶ (-όω) ‘live to see married’ + dat. pers.

ἐπίγαμος, -ον ‘marriageable’

ἐπιτήδειος, -α, -ον ‘serviceable, friendly’

ἔτι (adv.) ‘moreover’

εὔπορος, -ον ‘well-provided, wealthy’

ἴδιος, -α, -ον ‘personal, private’

κελεύω ‘command, order, bid’

μετά (prep.) ‘after’ + acc.

μέτριος, -α, -ον ‘reasonable (in number)’

οἰκοδομία, -ας ἡ ‘construction’

ὀκταέτις, -ιδος (fem. adj.) ‘eight years old’

ὅπως (conj.) ‘in order that’

ὅτε (relat. adv.) ‘when’

οὔπω (adv.) ‘not yet’

πλέον (compar. adv.) ‘more’

πλούσιος, -α, -ον ‘wealthy’

προίξ, -κός ἡ ‘dowry, marriage-portion’

πρός (prep.) ‘over (i.e. in excess of)’

σμικρός, -ά, -όν ‘little’

στεφανῶ (-όω) ‘crown’

συμβαίνω ‘happen’

σχεδόν τι ‘more or less’

τὰ νῦν ‘at present’

τάφος, -ου ὁ ‘tomb’

τελευτῶ (-άω) ‘die’

τέτταρες, -α ‘four’

τὸ δή ‘so then’

τοιοῦτος, -αύτη, -οῦτο ‘such, the following’

τρεῖς, τρία ‘three’

τριάκοντα (indecl.) ‘thirty’

χαίρω ‘be glad, lucky’

**Plato, Epistle XIII 362.e–363.a**

τὰ μετὰ ταῦτα περὶ Δίωνος λέγοιμ’ ἄν. τὰ μὲν ἄλλ’ οὔπω ἔχω λέγειν, πρὶν ἂν παρὰ σοῦ ἔλθωσιν αἱ ἐπιστολαί, ὥσπερ ἔφης· περὶ μέντοι ἐκείνων ὧν οὐκ εἴας μεμνῆσθαι πρὸς αὐτόν, οὔτε ἐμνήσθην οὔτε διελέχθην, ἐξεπειρώμην δὲ εἴτε χαλεπῶς εἴτε ῥᾳδίως οἴσει γιγνομένων, καί μοι ἐδόκει οὐκ ἠρέμα ἂν ἄχθεσθαι εἰ γίγνοιτο. τὰ δὲ ἄλλα περὶ σὲ καὶ λόγῳ καὶ ἔργῳ μέτριός μοι δοκεῖ εἶναι Δίων.

**363. (a)** Κρατίνῳ τῷ Τιμοθέου μὲν ἀδελφῷ, ἐμῷ δ’ ἑταίρῳ, θώρακα δωρησώμεθα ὁπλιτικὸν τῶν μαλακῶν τῶν πεζῶν, καὶ ταῖς Κέβητος θυγατράσι χιτώνια τρία ἑπταπήχη, μὴ τῶν πολυτελῶν τῶν Ἀμοργίνων, ἀλλὰ τῶν Σικελικῶν τῶν λινῶν. ἐπιεικῶς δὲ γιγνώσκεις τοὔνομα Κέβητος·

γεγραμμένος γάρ ἐστιν ἐν τοῖς Σωκρατείοις λόγοις μετὰ Σιμμίου Σωκράτει διαλεγόμενος ἐν τῷ

περὶ ψυχῆς λόγῳ, ἀνὴρ πᾶσιν ἡμῖν οἰκεῖός τε καὶ εὔνους.

**Vocabulary**

ἄχθομαι ‘be annoyed, vexed’

διαλέγομαι ‘discuss, converse with’ + dat. pers.

δωρῶ (-έω) ‘give, present’

εἴτε... εἴτε ‘whether... or’

ἐκπειρῶμαι (-άομαι) ‘inquire’

ἑπτάπηχυς, -υ ‘seven cubits long’

ἐπιεικῶς (adv.) ‘probably’

ἑταῖρος, -ου ὁ ‘companion, comrade’

εὔνους, -ουν ‘kind’

ἔχω ‘be able’ + inf.

ἐῶ (-άω) ‘allow’ + inf.

ἠρέμα (adv.) ‘slightly’

θώραξ, -ακος ὁ ‘corslet’

λινός, -ή, -όν ‘of linen’

λόγος, -ου ὁ ‘discourse’

μαλακός, -ή, -όν ‘soft’

μέντοι (particle) ‘however’

μιμνήσκω ‘mention’

οἰκεῖος, -α, -ον ‘friendly, intimate’

ὁπλιτικός, -ή, -όν ‘of a hoplite’

πεζός, -οῦ ὁ

πολυτελής, -ές ‘very expensive, costly’

ῥᾳδίως (adv.) ‘easily, calmly’

χαλεπῶς (adv.) ‘hardly, badly’

χιτώνιον, -ου τό ‘dress, frock’

**Plato, Epistle XIII 363.b–c**

**(b)** περὶ δὲ δὴ τοῦ συμβόλου τοῦ περὶ τὰς ἐπιστολάς, ὅσας τε ἂν ἐπιστέλλω σπουδῇ καὶ ὅσας ἂν

μή, οἶμαι μέν σε μεμνῆσθαι, ὅμως δ’ ἐννόει καὶ πάνυ πρόσεχε τὸν νοῦν· πολλοὶ γὰρ οἱ

κελεύοντες γράφειν, οὓς οὐ ῥᾴδιον φανερῶς διωθεῖσθαι. τῆς μὲν γὰρ σπουδαίας ἐπιστολῆς θεὸς

ἄρχει, θεοὶ δὲ τῆς ἧττον. οἱ πρέσβεις καὶ ἐδέοντο ἐπιστέλλειν σοι, καὶ εἰκός· πάνυ γὰρ προθύμως

σὲ πανταχοῦ καὶ ἐμὲ ἐγκωμιάζουσιν, καὶ οὐχ ἥκιστα Φίλαγρος, ὃς τότε τὴν χεῖρα ἠσθένει. καὶ

**(c)** Φιλαίδης παρὰ βασιλέως ἥκων τοῦ μεγάλου ἔλεγεν περὶ σοῦ· εἰ δὲ μὴ πάνυ μακρᾶς

ἐπιστολῆς ἦν, ἔγραψα ἂν ἃ ἔλεγεν, νῦν δὲ Λεπτίνου πυνθάνου.

**Vocabulary**

διωθῶ (-έω) ‘repulse, push away’

ἐγκωμιάζω ‘laud, praise’

ἐννοῶ (-έω) ‘consider’

ἔοικε (impers. perf. with pres. mean.) ‘it is reasonable’

ἥκιστα (superl. adv.) ‘least’

ἧττον (compar. adv.) ‘less’

νοῦς, -οῦ ὁ ‘mind, attention’

οἶμαι (= οἴομαι) ‘believe, suppose’

ὅμως (conj.) ‘nevertheless’

πανταχοῦ (adv.) ‘everywhere’

πάνυ (adv.) ‘very much’

πρέσβυς, -εως ὁ ‘ambassador’

προσέχω ‘turn’

πυνθάνομαι ‘inquire, learn from’ + gen. pers.

σπουδῇ (adv.) ‘seriously, earnestly’

φανερῶς (adv.) ‘openly’

**Plato, Epistle XIII 363.c–e**

ἔρρωσο καὶ φιλοσόφει καὶ τοὺς ἄλλους προτρέπου τοὺς **(d)** νεωτέρους, καὶ τοὺς συσφαιριστὰς

ἀσπάζου ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ, καὶ πρόσταττε τοῖς τε ἄλλοις καὶ Ἀριστοκρίτῳ, ἐάν τις παρ’ ἐμοῦ λόγος ἢ

ἐπιστολὴ ἴῃ παρὰ σέ, ἐπιμελεῖσθαι ὅπως ὡς τάχιστα σὺ αἴσθῃ, καὶ ὑπομιμνῄσκειν σε ἵνα ἐπιμελῇ

τῶν ἐπισταλέντων. καὶ νῦν Λεπτίνῃ τῆς ἀποδόσεως τοῦ ἀργυρίου μὴ ἀμελήσῃς, ἀλλ’ ὡς τάχιστα

ἀπόδος, ἵνα καὶ οἱ ἄλλοι πρὸς τοῦτον ὁρῶντες προθυμότεροι ὦσιν ἡμῖν ὑπηρετεῖν.

**(e)** Ἰατροκλῆς, ὁ μετὰ Μυρωνίδου τότε ἐλεύθερος ἀφεθεὶς ὑπ’ἐμοῦ, πλεῖ νῦν μετὰ τῶν

πεμπομένων παρ’ ἐμοῦ· ἔμμισθον οὖν που αὐτὸν κατάστησον ὡς ὄντα σοι εὔνουν, καὶ ἄν τι

βούλῃ, αὐτῷ χρῷ. καὶ τὴν ἐπιστολὴν ἢ αὐτὴν ἢ ὑπόμνημα αὐτῆς σῷζέ τε, καὶ ὁ αὐτὸς ἴσθι.

**Vocabulary**

αἰσθάνομαι ‘perceive, (here) see’

ἀμελῶ (-έω) ‘neglect, be neglectful of’ + gen.

ἀποδίδωμι ‘pay’

ἀπόδοσις, -εως ἡ ‘payment’

ἀσπάζομαι ‘greet’

ἀφίημι ‘let go, release’

ἐλεύθερος, -α, -ον ‘free’

ἔμμισθος, -ον ‘hired, paid’

εὔνους, -ουν ‘well-disposed towards’ + dat.

καθίστημι ‘ (trans.) appoint’

πλέω ‘sail’

πρόθυμος, -ον ‘ready’ + inf.

προστάττω ‘tell, command’

προτρέπω ‘urge on, encourage’

συσφαιριστής, -ου ὁ ‘one who plays ballgames with another’

σῴζω ‘save, preserve’

ὑπηρετῶ (-έω) ‘serve, assist’ + dat. pers.

ὑπομιμνήσκω ‘remind’

ῥώννυμι ‘(in perf. pass.) be well’

ὑπόμνημα, -ατος τό ‘copy’

φιλοσοφῶ (-έω) ‘study philosophy’

ὡς τάχιστα ‘as soon as possible’