

## A2 Greek Unseen Prose (Xenophon) Past Paper: 1990 (Socrates debates the concept of wealth with Critobulus)

You may have more money than I have, Socrates tells Critobulus, but your life-style makes greater demands on you and leaves you no richer.

At that point Critobulus took up what Socrates had been saying and continued something after this fashion: 'Well, I think you have told me quite enough about such overmastering passions as gambling and gluttony and drink, and when I examine myself I find, I think, that I have them fairly well under control. So, if you would give me some advice on how I could increase my estate, I don't think these passions would be likely to hinder me. So please don't hesitate to give me any good advice you can—unless, of course, you have made up your mind that we are rich enough already and think that we have no further need of money.

οὐκ οὐκ ἔγωγε, ἔφη ὁ Σωκράτης, εἰ καὶ περὶ ἐμοῦ λέγεις, οὐδὲν μοι δοκῶ προσδεῖσθαι χρημάτων, ἀλλ' ἰκανῶς πλουτεῖν· σὺ μὲν τοῖ, ὦ Κριτόβουλε, πάννυ μοι δοκεῖς πένεσθαι. καὶ ναὶ μὰ Δι' ἔστιν ὅτε καὶ πάννυ οἰκτίρω σε ἐγώ.

καὶ ὁ Κριτόβουλος γελάσας εἶπε· καὶ πόσον ἂν πρὸς τῶν θεῶν οἶε, ὦ Σώκρατες, ἔφη, εὐρεῖν<sup>1</sup> τὰ σὰ κτήματα πωλούμενα, πόσον δὲ τὰ ἐμά;

ἐγὼ μὲν οἶμαι, ἔφη ὁ Σωκράτης, εἰ ἀγαθοῦ ὠνητοῦ ἐπιτύχοιμι, εὐρεῖν<sup>1</sup> ἂν μοι σὺν τῇ οἰκίᾳ τὰ ὄντα πάντα πάννυ ῥαδίως πέντε μνᾶς.<sup>2</sup> τὰ μὲν τοῖ σὰ ἀκριβῶς οἶδα ὅτι πλέον ἂν εὐροῖ<sup>3</sup> ἢ ἑκατονταπλασίονα τούτου.

κᾶτα οὕτως ἐγνωκῶς σὺ μὲν οὐχ ἡγῆ προσδεῖσθαι χρημάτων, ἐμὲ δὲ οἰκτίρεις ἐπὶ τῇ πενίᾳ;

τὰ μὲν γὰρ ἐμά, ἔφη, ἰκανά ἐστιν ἐμοὶ παρέχειν τὰ ἐμοὶ ἀρκούντα· εἰς δὲ σὺν σχῆμα<sup>3</sup> ὃ σὺ περιβέβλησαι καὶ τὴν σὴν δόξαν, οὐδ' εἰ τρεῖς ὄσα νῦν κέκτησαι προσγέναιτό σοι, οὐδ' ὡς ἂν ἰκανά μοι δοκεῖ εἶναι σοί.

πῶς δὴ τοῦτ'; ἔφη ὁ Κριτόβουλος.

ὅτι πρῶτον μὲν, ἀπεκρίνατο ὁ Σωκράτης, ὀρώ σοὶ ἀνάγκην οὐσαν θύειν πολλά τε καὶ μεγάλα, ἢ οὔτε θεοὺς οὔτε ἀνθρώπους οἶμαι σε ἂν ἀνασχεῖσθαι.<sup>4</sup> ἔπειτα ξένους προσήκει σοὶ πολλοὺς δέχεσθαι, καὶ τούτους μεγαλοπρεπῶς. ἔτι δὲ καὶ τὴν πόλιν αἰσθάνομαι· τὰ μὲν ἤδη σοὶ προστάπτουσαν, ἐὰν δὲ δὴ πόλεμος γένηται, οἶδ' ὅτι τριηραρχίας καὶ εἰσφορᾶς<sup>5</sup> τοσαύτας ὄσας σὺ οὐ ῥαδίως ὑπόσεις.

XENOPHON: *Oeconomicus* 2. 2-6 (adapted)

<sup>1</sup> εὐρίσκω (here) = fetch (of prices)

<sup>2</sup> ἢ μνᾶ, μνᾶς = mina (sum of money)

<sup>3</sup> τὸ σχῆμα = life style

<sup>4</sup> ἀνέχομαι = I am satisfied with

<sup>5</sup> ἢ εἰσφορά = war tax

