

# [Finally, or thought, the mathematical objects. then,](https://assignbuster.com/finally-or-thought-the-mathematical-objects-then/)

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Finally, I willexplain the cave allegory. A group of captives are chained to a dark cave fortheir entire lives. All they can see are the shadows some figurines carried bypeople who pass in front of a fire behind the captives. These shadows are theirentire world. Now, let’s suppose that somehow one of these captives was freedfrom his chains or was forcefully dragged to the outside. First, he would seefigurines making the shadows he saw his whole life. Than he would see theflame.

When he exists the cave, he would be blinded by sun light at first, butwhen his eyes finally adapt to it, he would see natural objects and theirshadows and even the sun itself. If we take the first two allegories, we willreach to a special interpretation of this final allegory. This whole event canbe seen as a philosophical journey leading to a philosophical awakening.

The movementtowards the outside of the cave can be considered the climbing the ladder ofthe divided line and going from physical sun to the good for the allegory ofthe sun. At first, all that the captive knew was shadows of artificial things, this can be thought as the eikasia part of the divided line. Then he sees thefigurines themselves, which would be the pistis. After this, he sees the firethat was burning behind the captives. This would be the physical sun from thesun allegory. When he goes outside, he sees the shadows of the real objects andthis would be the dianoia or thought, the mathematical objects. Then, he seesthe physical objects themselves, which would be the noesis.

Finally, he seesthe sun, which is the good from the sun allegory. To conclude, Iwill talk about on Plato’s view of philosophy and the mission of thephilosopher. Philosophy, for Plato, is about finding model, generaldefinitions. Unlike the many, the philosopher seeks the essence of things anddoes not focus on neither attributes nor instances.

With the help ofdialectics, the philosopher tries to achieve understanding and tries to uncoverthe first principle. For, Plato this ultimate understanding comes in the formof the good. After achieving understanding and finding the good, philosophermust share this knowledge like the cave captive who saw the outside world. Thisis the mission, the role of the philosopher. like the captive who returns tohis fellow captives, he must return to the many.

Like the captive, he mustteach them what he learned and try to show them the gaps in their knowledge, the errors in their reasoning. He must show them that there is more to theworld then the shadows of artificial things even if they see him as useless orridicule him for his ideas. He must do this even if they turn against him andtry to kill him. After all, he is not a sophist; he is not doing this formoney. He’s doing this for a higher pursuit, which is to discover the truth andteach it to others. The philosopher should follow the footstep of the Socrates. Like him, he must become like a gadfly, helping or rather annoying the peopleso that they can improve.