Social sciences – activity

Topic: Ancient philosophy – Plato

Instructions:

1. The teacher makes the students familiar with the historical background regarding the period of Plato's life.

2. The teacher tells the students about Plato's life, his opinions and the most important elements of his philosophy.
   The teacher can take some inspiration in these links:
   http://www.philosophypages.com/ph/plat.htm
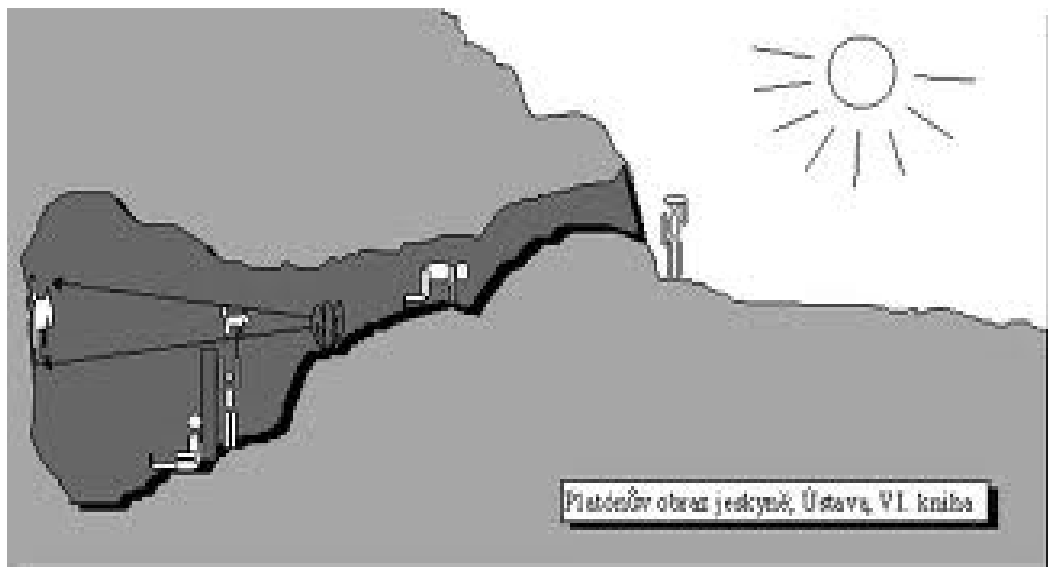   http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/plato/

3. As soon as the students are familiar with the basic information about Plato's life and his philosophy, they can start the following activity.

4. The students will describe the picture of „Plato's Cave" and based on this picture, they will try to explain how Plato understands cognition.

   For this task both the teacher and the students can use this link:
   http://www.philosophypages.com/hy/2h.htm#women

5. In the following minutes the students in small groups of 2-4 will find the most important Plato's thoughts and quotes (preferably from politology, but not exclusively). They will match these with the correct field of Plato's philosophy (ontology, gnoseology, politology, logics, etc.) and then they will introduce them to their classmates. They can start a discussion on whether the students agree or disagree with the statements and what they think about them.

For this activity, they can use this link:
http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/p/plato.html

Author: Tereza Kachlikova