

Here is the summary of Socrates' *literal* storytelling.

3. Imagine a group of prisoners chained since birth. **1.** The prisoners are unable to move their heads. **11.** All they hear is echoes and all they see are shadows. **12.** The sounds and shadows are made by people walking on a raised pathway behind the prisoners. **9.** The prisoners believe the echoes and shadows to be real. **5.** One day, one of the prisoners is set free. **2.** Gradually, his sight adjusts. **10.** He leaves the cave. **6.** He slowly becomes accustomed to the sights of the world outside the cave. **4.** He decides to return to the cave. **7.** His ability to predict the shadows is diminished. **8.** The prisoners mock him and threaten to kill him.