

## Humanities I

Unit 7 The Rogue: A study of dishonesty and badness.

This passage deals with the personal characteristics and kinds of behavior that the Greeks considered unseemly or ridiculous.

Why do you think Theophrastus found these particular types of people obnoxious? What kind of behaviour do you think he would have approved of? Would most Athenians have agreed with Theophrastus that these characters were obnoxious?

\* Could any qualities of Athenian society have encouraged men to behave in this manner rather than live up to the ideals of culture?

Discuss the possibility that perhaps Athenian democracy encouraged the use of power for personal profit.

Why do you suppose Theophrastus said his piece in the form of comedy? Why didn't he simply write an Emily Post essay telling people how they ought to behave? Do modern writers ever use similar techniques?

What makes a bad man? Or to phrase the question differently - what makes a man bad?

Is there any virtue in bad behavior? Many of history's villains have been interesting to read about, why is our interest so rapt in what is obviously unreasonable, selfish and often self-destructive behavior?

Why do we behave badly - what are the motives and intentions of bad behavior?

Are men who lack some of the traits of the Athenian definition of good men, considered bad?

Is bad behavior a social sickness? Why or why not? Give examples preferably of a sound psychological nature.

Discuss the consequences of bad behavior on the self; the family group; society and humanity in general.