

Anamnesis and Aporia in Plato's *Meno*

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In Plato's *Meno*, Socrates answers to Meno's paradox (80d5-8) with reference to his claim called the theory of 'recollection' (anamnesis), which claims that "since the soul is immortal ... [has] seen both what is here, and what is in Hades, and everything, there is nothing it has not learnt" (81c5-7) and that "inquiring and learning are wholly recollection" (81d4-5). Then, he offers a short conversation with the Meno's slave-boy as its evidence or an experiment of recollection. The purpose of this paper is to consider the implications of Socratic inquiry which used to fall into an aporia while grasped as a recollection. I shall first confirm what Meno's paradox is, next explore how the experiment and the theory of recollection could be regarded as designed to answer the paradox, and thirdly consider the significance in interpreting inquiry (or learning) as recollection.