

# Contents

---

<b>TEACHING GUIDELINES</b>	4
Grading Sheets	8
Definition of Terms	10
Introduction	12
<b>LESSONS</b>	
Lesson 1: Paraphrase of Aphthonius' Thesis	16
Lesson 2: Should One Homeschool?	26
Lesson 3: Should Parents Help Children Choose a Spouse?	33
Lesson 4: Should One Seek to Become Rich?	40
Lesson 5: Should One Welcome Adversity?	47
Lesson 6: Should One Read Poetry?	54
Lesson 7: Are There Animals in Heaven?	61
Lesson 8: Should One Give Money to the Poor?	68
Lesson 9: Paraphrase of Aphthonius' Law	75
Lesson 10: Approval for a Law That Jaywalkers Should Be Whipped	84
Lesson 11: Disapproval for a Law That Jaywalkers Should Be Whipped	90
Lesson 12: Approval for a Law That Suspends Dress-Code Violators	96
Lesson 13: Disapproval for a Law That Suspends Dress-Code Violators	102
<b>APPENDIX</b>	
Figures of Description With Examples	110
Figures of Speech With Examples	118
Aphthonius' Introduction to Thesis and Law	123
Sentence Variation Exercise	125

## LESSON 1

## Preparing for Class

1. Read Aphthonius' introduction to Thesis in the Appendix.
2. Read Aphthonius' model thesis here.

## +TEACHER TIPS

- » Answers/examples in this Teacher Guide are for your help. Students should think and write their answers, not yours.
- » Follow these guidelines as closely or loosely as it benefits you.

## 1. Review Aphthonius' Model

Read aloud and discuss Aphthonius' introduction to Thesis in the Appendix.

## 2. Thesis

1. Read the title of the lesson and ask: What type of thesis is it?
  - » Political: The question of whether one should marry concerns the fabric of society.
2. Read aloud Aphthonius' first paragraph.
3. Explain "Basis."
  - » It is a declarative statement or general truth.
  - » It must have a subject and predicate.
    - Marriage (subject) is a human institution (predicate).
    - People (subject) get married (predicate).
  - » It can be used to form a thesis question.
4. Brainstorm and write a Basis that declares a general truth about marriage.
  - People get married.
5. Explain "Thesis Question."
  - » This question may ask whether something *should* be done (political thesis) or whether something *is* the case (theoretical).
    - Should* people get married? (political)
    - Are* there many universes? (theoretical)
  - » The answer to the thesis question is the thesis statement.
  - » Have students find the thesis statement in the Introduction paragraph.
6. Write a Thesis Question by turning the Basis into a question.
  - Should* people get married?

## 3. Introduction

Briefly point out each part of the first paragraph, the introduction.

## Lesson 1: Paraphrase of Aphthonius' Thesis:

## Thesis: Should One Marry?

Read aloud the Introduction.

Whoever wishes to praise the universe briefly should praise marriage. [*Credit*] It came from heaven—or, rather, it filled heaven with the gods and established their father, from whom the very title of father is derived. And having produced the gods he allowed nature to preserve them. Then he came to earth and gave the power of reproduction to all other things; he changed what does not know permanence and contrived permanence for them through their descendants. [*Exposition*] And first of all, he stirs up men to bravery; for since marriage is able to produce wives and children, in whose defense wars are fought, he confers vigor by his gifts. [*Legality*] Secondly, he makes men just as well as brave; for since he is the provider of children, out of concern for whom men act justly, marriage renders men just as well as brave. [*Justice*] Wise, too, since he inspires men to take thought for their nearest and dearest. [*Expedience*] And—a paradox—marriage is able to confer self-control, and in his lavish provision of pleasure is intermixed self-control; for since it imposes law on pleasure, self-control provides pleasures lawfully, and what is condemned in itself is admired when combined with marriage. [*Possibility*] So if marriage produces gods, and after them each successive generation, and renders men at once brave and just, and makes men wise and moderate, is not marriage to be held in the utmost possible honor? [*Thesis Statement*]

## Basis

Write a general truth that stands as the Basis for the Thesis Question.

Marriage is a human institution; i.e., People get married.

## Thesis Question

Write a question that the Thesis Statement will answer.

Is marriage a worthwhile institution? i.e., Should one get married?

## Introduction

Paraphrase Aphthonius' Introduction using the following outline.

## Credit (Statement of Praise)

Referring to Aphthonius' model, paraphrase his Credit:

Marriage is a worthwhile institution that has brought about whole civilizations, and it blesses people with growth in courage, love, wisdom, and temperance, so who will deny that it is worthy of praise and use?

## Exposition

Referring to Aphthonius' model, write the nine narrative components of his Exposition and a paraphrase:

Recognition Marriage enabled reproduction in heaven and on earth

Reversal "it filled heaven with the gods ... gave the power of reproduction to all other things"

Suffering Earthly things did not know permanence

## CREDIT (STATEMENT OF PRAISE)

1. Read Aphthonius' example aloud.
2. Ask: What is a credit?
  - » a statement of praise
3. Ask: What does Aphthonius praise?
  - » marriage
4. Ask: What does he say about it?
  - » To praise it is like praising the universe briefly.
5. Have students write a paraphrase.

## EXPOSITION

1. Read Aphthonius' example aloud.
2. Find and write the narrative components of Aphthonius' Exposition.
  - » What truth does the story demonstrate?
  - » What words express the reversal?
  - » Does any suffering occur?
  - » Who are the agents?

Agent Marriage, the gods, Father of the gods, things on earth

Action Marriage established the gods' Father, so that he made the gods and people

Time Before the gods or people

Place Heaven and on earth

Manner In a way that allowed permanence for gods and people

Cause Because marriage filled heaven and earth with rational beings

The gods and goddesses were born through marriage, and through marriage was begotten Zeus, their father. The gods' nature was blessed with eternal longevity. Zeus gave the gift of marriage to humans, so that their race, which would otherwise have come to nothing, could continue through offspring.

#### Four Heads of Purpose

Referring to Aphthonius' model, paraphrase the four Heads of Purpose:

Plausibility (likely or unlikely/ legality or illegality) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Father of gods made it more likely for men to develop courage by giving them marriage. For if men have wives and children, they will have to protect them, which requires courage.

Justice (consistency or inconsistency/ethical or unethical) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Marriage also incites justice, because parents are set in an environment where justice is necessary towards each other and towards their children.

Expediency (beneficial or unbeneficial) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Thus, good comes to a society that marries, because it makes people consider the needs of others besides themselves.

Possibility (is or is not/logical or illogical) \_\_\_\_\_  
 In marriage it is possible to enjoy the greatest delights while tempering that enjoyment with self-control. For marriage can turn what was once evil into something wholesome and good.

### 3. Expediency

- » Read Aphthonius' example of "expediency" aloud.
- » Ask: How does marriage bring good? (making people consider others' needs)

### 4. Possibility

- » Read Aphthonius' example of "possibility" aloud.
- » Ask: What does marriage make possible? (the lawful enjoyment of pleasures, i.e., having legitimate children)

### 5. Have students write paraphrases.

- » What did marriage do?
- » When?
- » Where?
- » How?
- » Why?

## FOUR HEADS OF PURPOSE

### 1. Legality

- » Read Aphthonius' example of "legality" aloud: "And first of all, he stirs up men to bravery; for since marriage is able to produce wives and children, in whose defense wars are fought, he confers vigor by his gifts."
- » Ask: What does marriage make more likely to happen? (for men to have courage)

### 2. Justice

- » Read Aphthonius' example of "justice" aloud: "Secondly, he makes men just as well as brave; for since he is the provider of children, out of concern for whom men act justly, marriage renders men just as well as brave."
- » Ask: How does marriage incite justice? (creating an environment where justice is necessary)

## LESSON 1

## THESIS STATEMENT

1. Read Aphthonius' example aloud.
2. Ask: What question does a thesis statement answer?
  - » thesis question
3. Ask: What is Aphthonius' basic answer to the question, "Should one marry?"
  - » yes
4. Have students write a paraphrase.

## Thesis Statement

Referring to Aphthonius' model, paraphrase his Thesis Statement:

Since we are indebted to marriage for all these blessings and more, we should praise it with great praise.

Read aloud the remainder of Aphthonius' Thesis.

"Yes," someone says, "but marriage is the cause of misfortunes." [*Counterpoint 1-Inexpedience*] I think you are bringing a charge against fortune, not marriage. [*Resolution-Consequence*] What men suffer in adversity is the product of fortune, not marriage; what marriage lavishes upon mankind is not gained by chance. [*Paraphrase*] So marriage should be admired for the blessings it contains, not criticized for the evils which fortune dispenses. [*Epilogue (serving as transition/summary)*] (Continued on next page)

And yet even if we ascribe to marriage the worst features of human life, is that any more reason to abstain from marriage? [*Justice*] The disagreeable aspects of any activity do not make one abandon it. [*Paraphrase*] Consider one by one the trades in which the thing you are criticizing is present. Thunderbolts cause trouble for farmers and hailstorms ruin them; but farmers do not abandon their land because a thunderbolt destroys it; they go on with their farming, even if something comes from heaven that causes damage. [*Analogy*] Men suffer ill fortune at sea and storms wreck their ships; but they do not give up seafaring because they have suffered in their turn, but ascribe their difficulties to fortune and await the income that comes from the sea. [*Analogy*] Battles and wars bring physical destruction on those who fight them; but death in battle does not make them avoid battles, but because they are admired for fighting, they are content to die and efface the misfortune by its attendant good. [*Analogy*] For one should not shun what is good because of what is bad; one should endure the worst because of what is fine. [*Paraphrase*] So it is absurd if farmers, sailors, and soldiers too bear the hardships of their calling for the sake of the praiseworthy things associated with them, while we dishonor marriage because it brings a certain distress. [*Epilogue (serving as transition/summary)*]

"Yes," he says, "but it brings widowhood on women, orphanhood on children." [*Counterpoint 2-Inexpedience*] These evils result from death, which is an affliction of our nature. [*Resolution-Consequence*] You seem to be criticizing marriage because it does not turn men into gods, and to condemn marriage because it does not reckon mortals with gods. [*Paraphrase*] Tell me, why do you blame marriage for what death brings about? [*Paraphrase*] Why do you attribute to weddings what is in nature's power? [*Paraphrase*] Concede the death of one born to die. But if men die because they are born, and in dying leave their mate a widow and make an orphan of their offspring, why do you say that marriage has done what is the result of nature alone? [*Epilogue (serving as transition/summary)*]

I, on the contrary, believe that marriage corrects orphanhood and widowhood. [*Resolution-Honor*] Someone's father has died, and the child is an orphan; but marriage brings a second father for the orphans, and the affliction, which is not the outcome of marriage, is effaced by marriage; marriage is the abolition of orphanhood, not its occasion. [*Cause*] Then again, nature produces widowhood from death, but marriage changes it by a wedding. The woman whom death made a widow, marriage grants to live with a husband, as if standing guard over its own favor; for what it conferred in the beginning it restores when taken away. So marriage is able to remove widowhood, not to inflict it. [*Cause*] Furthermore, a father is deprived of children by death, but through marriage he has a share in others, and he becomes

a father a second time although he was not allowed to be so the first. [Cause] What then? You are turning the blessings of marriage into criticism, and I think you are trying to praise marriage, not to disgrace it; since you force us to enumerate the favors which marriage gives, you have become a supporter, not a critic, of marriage. Moreover, your attack on marriage compels us to admire it and you make a catalog of benefactions out of the charges you bring against marriage. [Epilogue (serving as transition/summary)]

"Yes," he says, "but marriage is tiresome." [Counterpoint 3-Inexpedience] What is it but marriage that can put an end to toil? [Expedience] All toil is taken away by marriage, and for most, coming together in harmony with another is restful. [Cause] What a joy it is for a man to find union with his wife! [Paraphrase] With what delight a child is looked forward to; and, when expected, appears; and, when he appears, says, "father"; and starts to learn his trade, and works alongside his father, and speaks in the assembly, and cares for his father in old age, and in general does all that he ought! [Cause]

It is not possible to go through all the things which marriage can bring. [Impossibility] Marriage is a great thing, bringing forth gods and making mortals, for whom it contrives permanence, seem to be gods. [Condensed Exposition] It teaches those who experience it justice, it incites one to consider self-control, it is the provider of pleasures that are abused in their absence. [Summary of Three Best Resolutions] Therefore it is universally acknowledged that marriage is to be held in the greatest esteem. [Restated Thesis]

### Counterpoints

Paraphrase Aphthonius' three Counterpoints and develop three of your own, identifying the Head of Purpose you use.

#### Counterpoint 1

Referring to Aphthonius' model, paraphrase the first Counterpoint.

Marriage allows many afflictions to enter one's life.

#### Counterpoint 2

Referring to Aphthonius' model, paraphrase the second Counterpoint.

"Perhaps," says our opponent, "but marriage deprives wives of husbands and children of parents."

#### Counterpoint 3

Referring to Aphthonius' model, paraphrase the third Counterpoint.

"Yes," he says again, "but marriage makes one weary."

#### Counterpoint 4

Write your own fourth Counterpoint and identify the Head of Purpose: Impossibility.

Marriage makes it impossible to decide one's own fate because of obligations to spouses and children.

## Paraphrase of Aphthonius' Thesis

19

## COUNTERPOINT 2

1. Ask: What is Counterpoint 2 in Aphthonius' thesis?
2. Ask: What head of purpose is used? Explain it.
  - » Inexpedience; The counterpoint argument is that marriage is not useful or helpful, because it supposedly leads to women becoming widows and children becoming orphans.
3. Have students write a paraphrase.

## COUNTERPOINT 3

1. Ask: What is Counterpoint 3 in Aphthonius' thesis?
2. Ask: What head of purpose is used? Explain it.
  - » Inexpedience; The counterpoint argument is that marriage is not useful or helpful, because it supposedly makes people tired.
3. Have students discuss/write a paraphrase.

## COUNTERPOINTS 4, 5, & 6.

1. Say: Counterpoints 4, 5, and 6 are not in Aphthonius' thesis, but we will create them as three extra counterpoints that could have been used.
2. Brainstorm other heads of purpose (besides inexpedience) that could be used to create these counterpoints, and explain them.

Unclarity: It is unclear why marriage should result in courage, wisdom, or self-control.

Inconsistency: It is unjust for people to marry and further over-populate the world with children.

Implausibility: It is unlikely for people to marry without eventually getting divorced, so people should not marry.

Impossibility: It is not possible for a marriage to last forever, so it should not be started.

Impropriety: It is not honorable to marry, because it is only a means of making pleasures more socially acceptable.

3. Have students choose a head of purpose, write it in the blank, and discuss/write Counterpoint 4.
4. Repeat for Counterpoints 5 and 6.

## 4. Counterpoints

Read aloud the remainder of Aphthonius' thesis, and discuss the counterpoints.

### COUNTERPOINT 1

1. Ask: What is Counterpoint 1 in Aphthonius' thesis?
  - » "Yes," someone says, "but marriage is the cause of misfortunes."
2. Ask: What head of purpose is used? Explain it.
  - » Inexpedience; The counterpoint argument is that marriage is not useful or helpful, because it supposedly causes misfortunes.
3. Have students write a paraphrase.