

---

## **Oral Presentation**

### **MENO BY PLATO: AN ANCIENT INEXHAUSTIBLE MINE OF KNOWLEDGE**

Panagiotis Delikanlis

Greek Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs

Meno by Plato is a middle period dialogue. It was written about 385-386 B.C. The dialogue begins with Meno asking Socrates whether virtue can be taught. Socrates states that he does not know the definition of virtue. Meno is in *aporia* (puzzlement) and responds with a paradox. Socrates introduces the recollection as a theory of knowledge (since, it would seem, research and learning are wholly recollection, Plat. Meno 81d). Afterwards, he illustrates his theory by posing a geometrical problem: “A square of side two feet has area four square feet. Doubling the area, we draw another square of eight square feet. How long is the side of the new square?”

In this oral presentation I would like to discuss:

- Solutions using different types of square paper
- Socratic method solutions
- Pick’s formula solution

Square paper is a mediating tool. Tools are mediators of human thought and behaviour. The use of square paper supported ingenious geometry solutions.