

Aristophanes

Quotes

*Men, Children, Wine, War, Age, Justice, People, Art, Winning, Honest, Mind,
Crabs, Voice, Life, Childhood, Poet, Phrases, Two, Wisdom, Trying*

Open your mouth and shut your eyes and see what Zeus will send you.

~Aristophanes

Youth ages, immaturity is outgrown, ignorance can be educated, and drunkenness sobered, but stupid lasts forever.

~Aristophanes

A man's homeland is wherever he prospers.

~Aristophanes

Quickly, bring me a beaker of wine, so that I may wet my mind and say something clever.

~Aristophanes

Ignorance can be cured, but stupidity is forever

~Aristophanes

Wise people, even though all laws were abolished, would still lead the same life.

~Aristophanes

You cannot teach a crab to walk straight.

~Aristophanes

A man may learn wisdom even from a foe.

~Aristophanes

Characteristics of a popular politician: a horrible voice, bad breeding, and a vulgar manner.

~Aristophanes

By words the mind is winged.

~Aristophanes

When men drink, then they are rich and successful and win lawsuits and are happy and help their friends. Quickly, bring me a beaker of wine, so that I may wet my mind and say something clever.

~Aristophanes

Comedy too can sometimes discern what is right. I shall not please, but I shall say what is true.

~Aristophanes

Times change. The vices of your age are stylish today.

~Aristophanes

Old age is second childhood.

~Aristophanes

This is what extremely grieves us, that a man who never fought Should contrive our fees to pilfer, on who for his native land Never to this day had oar, or lance, or blister in his hand.

~Aristophanes

Hunger knows no friend but its feeder.

~Aristophanes

Under every stone lurks a politician.

~Aristophanes

High thoughts must have high language.

~Aristophanes

There is no beast, no rush of fire, like woman so untamed. She calmly goes her way where even panthers would be shamed.

~Aristophanes

Have you ever, looking up, seen a cloud like to a Centaur, a Part, or a

Wolf, or a Bull?

~Aristophanes

To invoke solely the weaker arguments and yet triumph is an art worth more than a hundred thousand drachmae.

~Aristophanes

First listen, my friend, and then you may shriek and bluster.

~Aristophanes

The gods, my dear simple fellow, are a mere expression coined by vulgar superstition. We frown upon such coinage here.

~Aristophanes

The wise learn many things from their enemies.

~Aristophanes

You vote yourselves salaries out of the public funds and care only for your own personal interests; hence the state limps along.

~Aristophanes

Prayers without wine are perfectly pointless.

~Aristophanes

No man is really honest; none of us is above the influence of gain.

~Aristophanes

To plunder, to lie, to show your arse, are three essentials for climbing high.

~Aristophanes

These impossible women! How they do get around us! The poet was right: can't live with them, or without them!

~Aristophanes

An insult directed at the wicked is not to be censured; on the contrary, the honest man, if he has sense, can only applaud.

~Aristophanes

Open your mind before your mouth

~Aristophanes

Mix and knead together all the state business as you do for your sausages. To win the people, always cook them some savory that pleases them.

~Aristophanes

Let each man exercise the art he knows.

~Aristophanes

Today things are better than yesterday.

~Aristophanes

Thou shouldst not decide until thou hast heard what both have to say.

~Aristophanes

One bush, they say, can never hide two thieves.

~Aristophanes

Full of wiles, full of guile, at all times, in all ways, are the children of Men.

~Aristophanes

Your lost friends are not dead, but gone before, advanced a stage or two upon that road which you must travel in the steps they trod.

~Aristophanes

Men of sense often learn from their enemies. It is from their foes, not their friends, that cities learn the lesson of building high walls and ships

of war.

~Aristophanes

If you strike upon a thought that baffles you, break off from that entanglement and try another, so shall your wits be fresh to start again.

~Aristophanes

Comedy is allied to justice.

~Aristophanes

Why, I'd like nothing better than to achieve some bold adventure, worthy of our trip.

~Aristophanes

Love is merely the name for the desire and pursuit of the whole.

~Aristophanes

There is no honest man! not one, that can resist the attraction of gold!

~Aristophanes

Surely you do not believe in the gods. What's your argument? Where's your proof?

~Aristophanes

The old are in a second childhood.

~Aristophanes

Weak mortals, chained to the earth, creatures of clay as frail as the foliage of the woods, you unfortunate race, whose life is but darkness, as unreal as a shadow, the illusion of a dream.

~Aristophanes

Evil events from evil causes spring.

~Aristophanes

It should not prejudice my voice that I'm not born a man, if I say something advantageous to the present situation. For I'm taxed too, and as a toll provide men for the nation.

~Aristophanes

It often happens that less depends upon the valor of an army than the skill of the leader.

~Aristophanes

It is bad taste for a poet to be coarse and hairy.

~Aristophanes

To win the people, always cook them some savoury that pleases them.

~Aristophanes

Women, you overheated dipsomaniacs, never passing up a chance to wangle a drink, a great boon to bartenders but a bane to us--not to mention our crockery and our woollens!

~Aristophanes

Words give wings to the mind and make a man soar to heaven.

~Aristophanes

Ah! the Generals! they are numerous, but not good for much!

~Aristophanes

Ye Children of Man! whose life is a span, Protracted with sorrow from day to day, Naked and featherless, feeble and querulous, Sickly, calamitous creatures of clay!

~Aristophanes

Chorus of women: [...] Oh! my good, gallant Lysistrata, and all my friends, be ever like a bundle of nettles; never let you anger slacken; the wind of fortune blown our way.

~Aristophanes

Tis not for us to warn a wilful sinner; We stay him not, but let him run his course, Till by misfortunes rous'd, his conscience wakes, And prompts him to appease th' offended gods.

~Aristophanes

Even if you persuade me, you won't persuade me.

~Aristophanes

A fox is subtlety itself.

~Aristophanes

Wealth--the most excellent of all gods.

~Aristophanes

What unlooked-for things do happen, to be sure, in a long life!

~Aristophanes

An actor should refine public taste.

~Aristophanes

Do not take a blind guide.

~Aristophanes

It is right that the good should be happy, that the wicked and the impious on the other hand, should be miserable; that is a truth, I believe, which no one will gainsay.

~Aristophanes

A slave is but half a man.

~Aristophanes

I saw a cavalry captain buy vegetable soup on horseback. He carried

the whole mess home in his helmet.

~Aristophanes

One must not try to trick misfortune, but resign oneself to it with good grace.

~Aristophanes

If a man owes me money, I never seem to forget. But if I do the owing, I somehow never remember.

~Aristophanes

Woman is adept at getting money for herself and will not easily let herself be deceived; she understands deceit too well herself.

~Aristophanes

Children have a master to teach them, grown-ups have the poets.

~Aristophanes

There's no art where there's no fee.

~Aristophanes

When men drink wine they are rich, they are busy, they push lawsuits, they are happy, they are friends.

~Aristophanes

The love of wine is a good man's failing.

~Aristophanes

Poverty, the most fearful monster that ever drew breath.

~Aristophanes

A man should be able to stand up under any disaster for his country's good.

~Aristophanes

The truth is forced upon us, very quickly, by a foe.

~Aristophanes

A demagogue must be neither an educated nor an honest man; he has to be an ignoramus and a rogue.

~Aristophanes

You cannot make a crab walk straight.

~Aristophanes

[Y]ou [man] are fool enough, it seems, to dare to war with [woman=] me, when for your faithful ally you might win me easily.

~Aristophanes

Shall I crack any of those old jokes, master, At which the audience never fail to laugh?

~Aristophanes

You will never make the crab walk straight.

~Aristophanes

Meton (astronomer in 5th century BC): With the straight ruler I set to work To make the circle four-cornered .

~Aristophanes

A truce to idle phrases!

~Aristophanes

Old age is but a second childhood.

~Aristophanes

I would treat her like an egg, the shell of which we remove before eating it; I would take off her mask and then kiss her pretty face.

~Aristophanes

You can't have anything else to say: you've poured out every drop of what you know.

~Aristophanes

It is the compelling power of great thoughts and ideas to engender phrases of equal size.

~Aristophanes

An ancient tradition declares that every idiot blunder we pass into law will sooner or later redound to Athens' profit.

~Aristophanes

How can I study from below, that which is above?

~Aristophanes

Do not bandy words with your father, nor treat him as a dotard, nor reproach the old man, who has cherished you, with his age.

~Aristophanes

Evil events from evil causes spring, And what you suffer flows from what you've done.

~Aristophanes

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