Conclusion (thesis statement) Knowledge of truth and the Good is not only pre-requisite to but also sufficient for right action

Socrates thought that there was an absolute truth about Goodness (in contrast with the Sophists)

This Truth could be reached through the Socratic Method (universal definitions, counterexamples, questioning, Intellectual Midwifery, Innate Knowledge)

Truth, Goodness and Beauty are related in Socrates’s view. A philosopher who approaches Truth and Goodness will see their Beauty and will want to pursue it.

Therefore knowledge of truth leads to right action

This view is known as moral intellectualism - Knowledge is the only virtue (other so-called virtues might be used to do evil)

Care of the soul – i.e. doing philosophy and approaching knowledge of truth - is far more important than care of the body

Side note – this leads to Moral heroism - committing injustice is worse than suffering injustice

Socrates’s moral intellectualism is premised on his moral optimism – that human nature is good and no-one does evil willingly.

Knowledge of the good is the only thing that is necessary for right action according to Socrates, and therefore knowledge of truth is sufficient as well as necessary for right action

This lies in contrast with Plato’s theory of the divided soul

And also with Aristotle’s views on weak will.