BOOK 1 OF UTOPIA (Cambridge UP, Revised edition)

N.B.: “Morus” refers to the character, whereas “More” refers to the author.

1. Introduction (pages 8-13)
   a. Morus explains his presence in Antwerp (paragraphs 1 & 2).
   b. Morus meets Peter Giles; Peter is described (paragraph 3).
   c. Morus meets Raphael outside Notre Dame; Raphael is described (paragraphs 4ff).
   d. Giles, Raphael, and John Clement are invited to Morus’s garden (page 11). Morus summarizes the long conversation with Raphael; Morus states his intention in telling the narrative that follows (pp.11-13).

   Study questions:
   What do we learn about each of these characters?
   What do we learn about Morus’s intentions in narrating this account?

2. The Main Issue of Debate Is Posed: Should a counselor like Raphael serve a king? (13-14)
   a. Raphael argues no.
   b. Morus and Giles argue yes.

   Study question: What are the arguments on each side? With whom do you agree?

3. Raphael’s First Example of the Futility of Service: Cardinal and Lord Chancellor Morton (14-28)
   a. John Morton is described (15).
   b. With a lawyer, Raphael discusses the cause of thievery in England (15-18).
   c. Raphael condemns enclosures (18-20).
   d. Lawyer objects but the Cardinal asks Raphael to explain his position (20-21).
   e. Raphael suggests ways of remedying theft in England (21-24); he explains the methods used by the Polylerites (22-24).
   f. Lawyer objects; the company agrees; Cardinal expresses interest (24-25).
   g. Raphael relates a “silly” incident between a friar and a fool (25-27).
   h. Raphael concludes; Morus still disagrees and invokes Plato; Raphael objects (27-28).

   Study question: Explain how this example supports Raphael’s argument against serving.

4. Raphael’s Second Example: An imaginary court of some French king set on war (28-30)
   a. In a 464-word sentence, Raphael advises the French king to imitate the Achorians who asked their king to rule only one kingdom (28-30).
   b. Morus’s four-word response to Raphael (31)

   Study question: What is the main point of Raphael’s argument here? Do you agree?

5. Raphael’s Third Example: An imaginary court of a king set on accumulating money (31-35)
   a. At the end of this 926-word sentence, Raphael gives the example of the Macarians.
   b. Morus gives his longest reply, distinguishing academic from political philosophy (34-35).

   Study question: Who seems to make the stronger argumentation here?

6. Introducing Raphael’s Fourth Example: Utopia (35-40)
   a. Raphael disagrees with Morus, invoking Plato and Utopians and Christ (35-37).
   b. Raphael then explains why the elimination of private property is needed for justice (37-38).
   c. Morus strongly disagrees, invoking the need for legal protection (38-39).
   d. Raphael responds by wishing that More had seen Utopia (39-40).

7. Morus invites Raphael to tell him all about Utopia, after they have lunch (40).