You are required to write one 7-10 page critical book review of *The Open Society and Its Enemies: 1. The Spell of Plato* by Karl R. Popper.

This review will be due on a date of your choosing between now and December 2, 2003. You will need to inform me via email of your desired due-date by Thursday, September 4, 2003.

**Structural Comments:**

Your review should contain three main elements:

1. A brief summary of the book, including a more detailed summary of the section(s) of the book with which you will critically interact.

2. Interaction with other critical assessments of the book found in scholarly journals, book reviews, etc. and/or other scholarly sources dealing with the same topic(s).


Since this is your critical review, the most important element of the paper is your critical assessment of the text. The summary and the interactions with other writers should serve to set up and support your own position. This is not to say that you should not include reviews which are contrary to your position. Your paper will actually be stronger if you do include such reviews, and then go on to interact critically with those reviews in order to show your position to be preferable.

Please note that there should not necessarily be a specific section of the paper in which you deal with all of the secondary sources, and then move on from there to another section in which you give your own critique. The secondary sources can and should be used throughout the paper. Ultimately, you should be using them as a means to build up to your own critique of the work.

Bear in mind that you need not disagree with the book. It is perfectly acceptable to give a positive reading of the text, but if you do so, be specific in pointing out the value of the work. Do not be content with saying simply, "this is a good book and I would recommend it to three of my friends."

**Format Requirements:**

You are required to make active use of at least five secondary sources in addition to the main text. These may include scholarly reviews of Popper's book, or books or journals in philosophy or history that relate to the issues being discussed. Brief and/or uncritical reviews should not be counted as contributing to your required five sources. Feel free to make use of such articles, but be sure that in addition to these, you have used five scholarly sources as well.

Use any standard form of documentation you wish. Just be sure to cite the source and page number of material when necessary, and be consistent and correct in the application of your style. Please number your pages and also include a bibliography of works consulted. Your document should be double-spaced with 1-inch margins and should be typed in a 12-point Times New Roman font.