

Breakdown of the book *Utopia*.

The book itself consists of three sections:

I. Introductory epistle (letter) from Thomas More to Peter Giles

- A. This short section introduces the three main characters in the full story:
 - the Narrator More (an over-embellished representation of himself; the name More in Greek appears as “Morus,” which translates to “fool.”)
 - Peter Giles (based on a living friend of Thomas More)
 - Raphael Hythlodæus (based on Greek: “speaker of nonsense”)
- B. More recounts a conversation that he had with Hythlodæus a year prior to the letter.
- C. More relates some personal matters that distracted him from writing the MS.
- D. He asks if Giles remembers where the island of Utopia is located; the information is missing from More’s notes. This allows grounding in mock reality; in the same fashion J. R. R. Tolkien created a mock history for his Middle Earth stories.
- E. Tells Giles he plans to publish the manuscript.
- F. More establishes a strong sense of satiric ethos here, promoting the intellect of the fictitious Hythlodæus as an authority on the matter of the New World.
- G. By addressing the letter to a real friend, a stronger suspension of disbelief is encouraged for the reader and encourages the notion of a frame story told in first person.

II. Book I

- A. More explains his presence in Antwerp (paragraphs 1 & 2).
- B. More meets Peter Giles; Peter is described (paragraph 3).
- C. More meets Raphael outside Notre Dame; Raphael is described.
- D. Giles, Raphael, and John Clement are invited to More’s garden.
More summarizes the long conversation with Raphael.
- E. The argument of Book I is proposed: Should a counselor like Raphael serve a king?
 - a. Raphael argues no.
 - b. Morus and Giles argue yes.
- F. After much discourse, they break for lunch and decide to talk more.

III. **Book II** (this section is told by Hythlodæus in first person; see *CI*'s pp. 656-668)

- A. Hythlodæus explains in detail the general features of the island.
- B. The Cities, esp. Amaurot
 - founding in 244 BC 3.
- C. The Officials
 - prince elected for life
 - how senate works
- D. Occupations (see *CI* p.656-658 “A Day in Utopia”)
 - Farming, trades, recreation, architecture, clothing
 - > • “They don’t wear people out, though. [...] That’s just slavery” (*CI*, 656).
- E. Social Relations and distribution of goods
- F. Travels of Utopians
- G. Food Distribution
- H. Attitude and Policy towards Gold and Jewels (see *CI* p.658 “The Household”)
- I. Education (see *CI* p.658-665 “Utopian Beliefs”)
- > J. Slavery, [Etc.] (see *CI* p.665 “Treatment of the Dying”)
 - Treatment of slaves (left out of *CI*'s accounts)
 - Euthanasia
- K. Military Affairs
- L. Utopian Religions
- M. Raphael's Peroration (see *CI* p.665 “The Summing Up”)
 - Utopia is the “best” and “only” country deserving the name "republic"
 - Money is the main problem preventing good social order
 - Pride prevents this needed social change
- N. More's Final Comment