

Anaximenes

571–529 BC



Dates uncertain. Likens matter to air, which can be compressed to different states.

Heraclitus of Ephesus

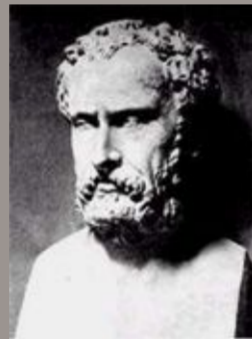
571–531 BC



Dates uncertain. Viewed matter as constantly changing form.

Xenophanes

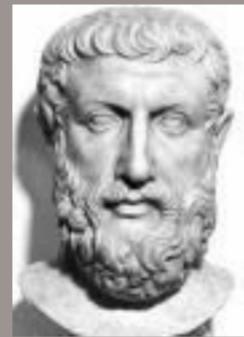
571–466 BC



Follower of Pythagoras, championed material world shaped as a sphere, floating in space around the sun.

Parmenides

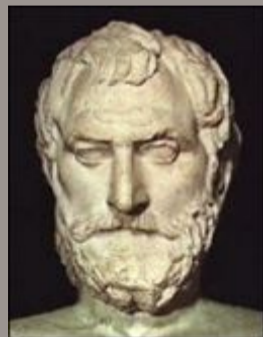
516–451 BC



Dates uncertain. Limited human perception causes us to sense change where none exists.

Thales of Miletus

625–548 BC



"All is Water"

Anaximander of Miletus

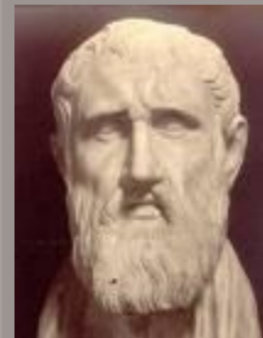
612–551 BC



Dynamic tension between infinite and bound, earth floating in space.

Zeno of Elea

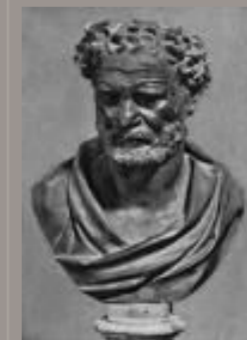
491–431 BC



Posed paradoxes as examples of inconsistent concepts of motion, place, unity, and plurality

Democritus

431–401 BC



Along with Leucippus, proposed theories and materialist view of nature

625 BC

600 BC

575 BC

550 BC

525 BC

500 BC

475 BC

450 BC

425 BC

400 BC

375 BC

Ionian Monists