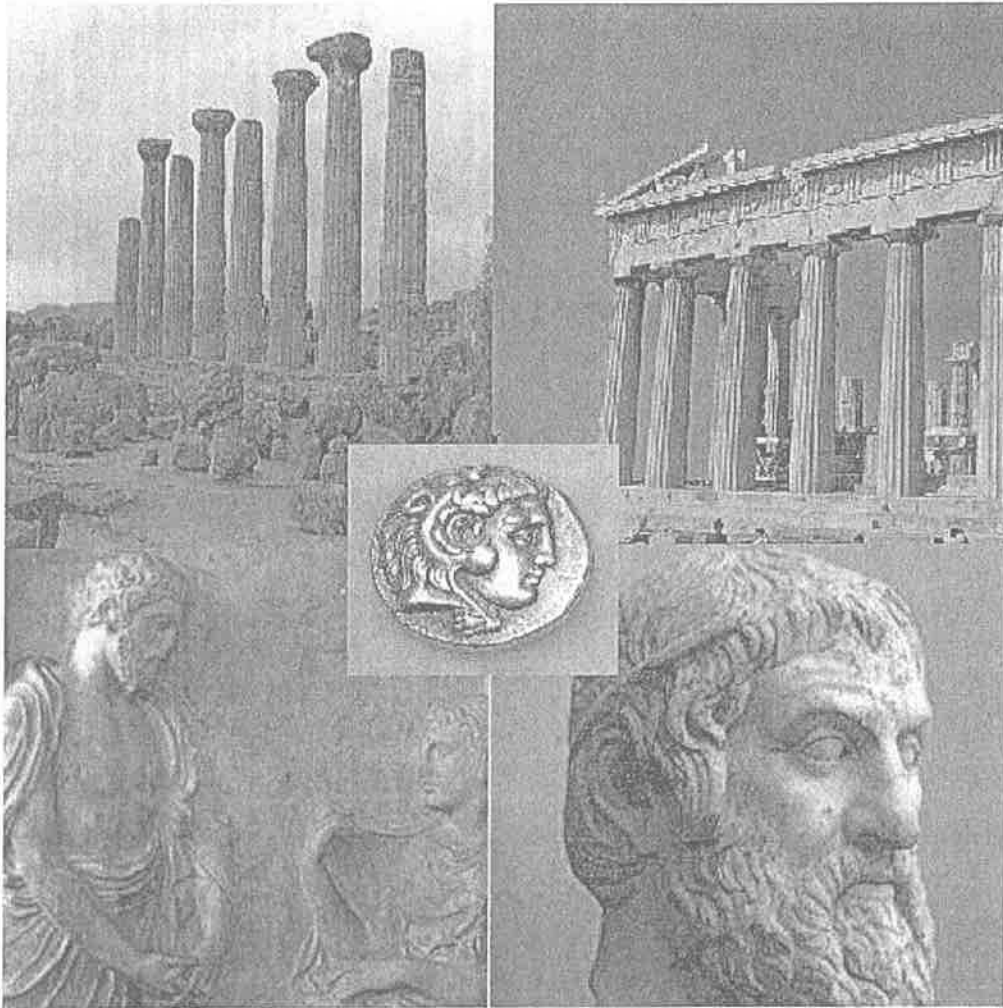


# Ancient Greece

(1750 B.C. – 133 B.C.)



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GS 9 Per: \_\_\_\_\_

# Ancient Greece

## Vocabulary

Acropolis \_\_\_\_\_

Comedy \_\_\_\_\_

Democracy \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Democracy \_\_\_\_\_

Hellenistic \_\_\_\_\_

Jury \_\_\_\_\_

Legislature \_\_\_\_\_

Monarchy \_\_\_\_\_

Oligarchy \_\_\_\_\_

Phalanx \_\_\_\_\_

Polis \_\_\_\_\_

Tragedy \_\_\_\_\_

# Ancient Greece (1750 B.C. – 133 B.C.)

## I. Geography Facts

- A. Continent: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. About \_\_\_\_\_ of Greece is made mountainous or hilly
- C. Much of the country is dry and rocky, only 28% of the land is arable.
- D. Greece has mild, wet winters and hot, dry summers

## II. Early Civilizations

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ – 1750 B.C. they built the first Greek culture on the Island of Crete.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ – 1400 B.C. conquered Crete, were sea traders
  - 1. Early Civilization Facts
    - Trojan War (Troy vs. Mycenae)
    - Homer wrote the Iliad and the Odyssey

## III. Rise of City-States

- A. Greece is divided by mountains and water causing the Greeks to develop in small city-states (\_\_\_\_\_).
- B. Two parts to almost every polis
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_ – city center (hilltop)
  - 2. Main city
- C. Forms of Government
  - 1. \_\_\_\_\_ (King)
  - 2. Oligarchy (Elite Group)
  - 3. Aristocracy (Upper Class)
  - 4. \_\_\_\_\_ (People)
  - 5. Dictatorship (One)

D. Most powerful cities states

1. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Pericles (460-429 B.C.)
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ under Pericles
  - c. Many male citizens participated in government
  - d. slaves, women excluded
2. \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. military state
  - b. boys started training away from home at age seven
  - c. girls trained to give birth to healthy boys

**IV. Greek World at War**

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ Wars (499-479 B.C.)
  1. War between Persian Empire and the Greeks
  2. Famous Persian leaders – Darius, Xerxes
  3. Famous Greek Leader – Leonidas (Spartan)
  4. Battle of Thermopylae
  5. 479 B.C. – Greeks defeat the Persians
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ War (431-404 B.C.)
  1. War between Athens and Sparta
  2. Fought over money and power
  3. Sparta defeats Athens

## V. Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic Age (300s B.C.)

A. Philip of Macedonia conquers Greece (Northern)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ takes over after his death

1. Builds a large empire

2. Spreads \_\_\_\_\_ Culture – blended aspects of Greek, Persian, Egyptian and Indian cultures.

## VI. Greek and Hellenistic Achievements

A. Government

1. \_\_\_\_\_ develops democracy

B. Philosophy

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – Socratic Method (ask questions to get answers)

2. Plato – understudy of Socrates

3. \_\_\_\_\_ – tutored Alexander the Great

C. Literature

1. Comedies, dramas and tragedies (plays)

2. Wrote histories – \_\_\_\_\_

D. Art and Architecture

1. Built the Parthenon (temple to honor goddess Athena)

2. Developed \_\_\_\_\_

E. Science

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – earth rotates on an axis

2. \_\_\_\_\_ – studied causes of illness and looked for cures

F. Mathematics

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – developed a formula to measure sides of a triangle

2. Euclid – wrote a book that becomes basis for geometry

G. Sports

1. Developed the \_\_\_\_\_ in 776 B.C.

2. No wars can be fought during this time in Greece

# Greece

Map

---



**Label the following items on the map (pg. 101 in text will assist with some answers):**

Waterways (color blue): Ionian Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Sea of Crete, Aegean Sea, Peneus River, Axios River

City-States (dot in red): Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Olympia, Delphi, Milos, Mycenae

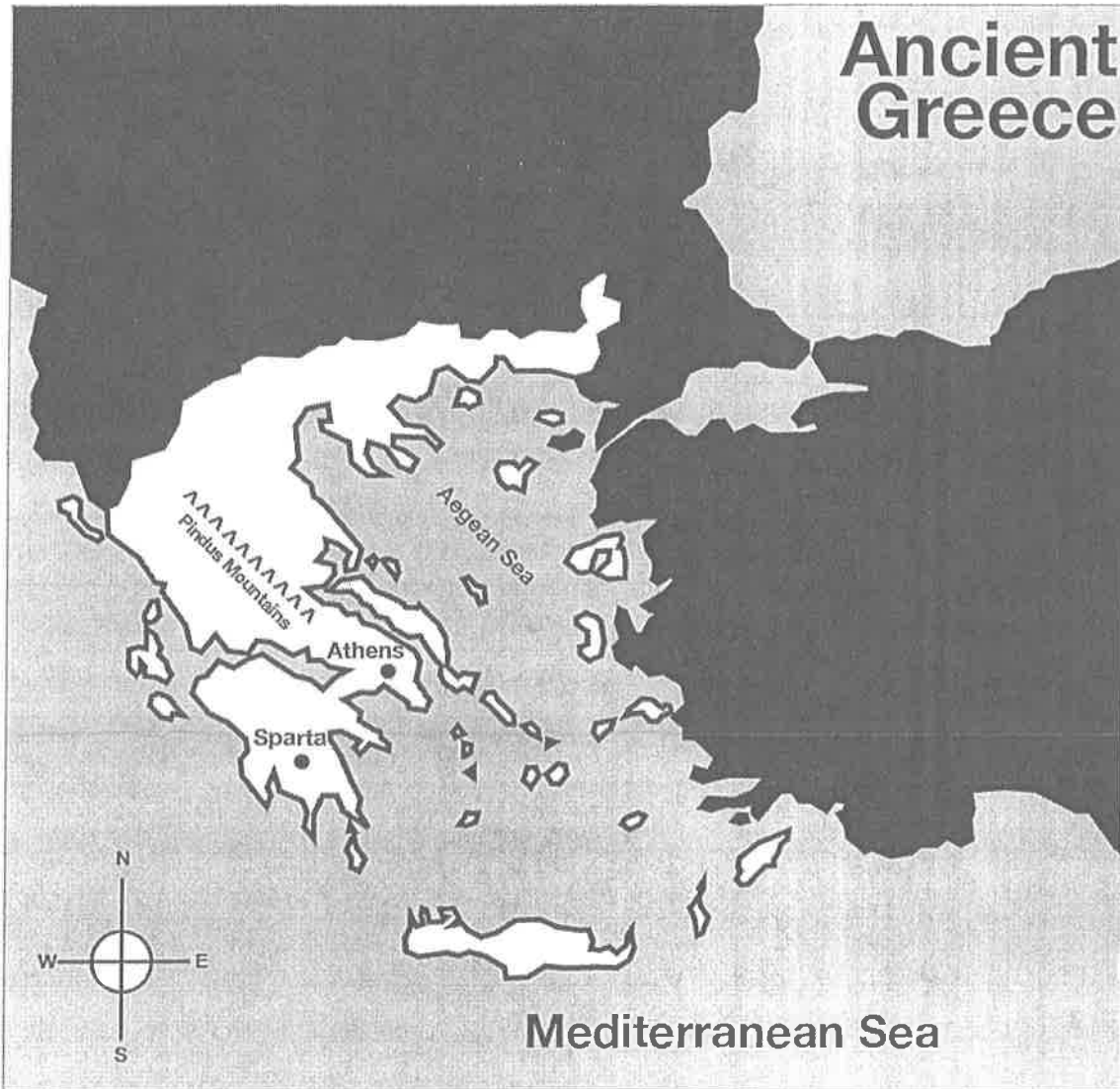
Island (label in black): Crete

Mountains (color brown): Pindus Mountains, Mt. Olympus

Question: How did geographic factors help or hinder expansion and interactions in Greece?

### **Ancient Greece: Division**

Greek civilization began in 1750 BC north of the Mediterranean Sea in southeastern Europe. Greeks developed individual *polis*, also known as **city-states**. City-states were cities with surrounding land and villages. Each city-state was **independent** and located in an **isolated valley**. They had their own government and social structure. The Greeks defended the independence of their city-states and there was often **rivalry** and **antagonism** that led to wars. The two most well-known city-states were **Sparta** and **Athens**. One question historians try to answer is why the Greeks had many different city-states with competing ideas rather than one large united civilization. Historians look to **geography** to answer some of these questions.



Using the map above, identify two geographic features that separated the city-states.

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_







Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Ancient Greece - How Did It All Begin?

By Vickie Chao

Greece has a very long and interesting history. Over the course of thousands of years, people there made many groundbreaking discoveries that would later profoundly reshape other cultures. For example, Archimedes figured out the law of buoyancy in the 3rd century B.C. Aristarchus was the first in the world to claim that the Earth rotates and revolves around the sun. Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were three great philosophers whose schools of thought laid the foundation of Western philosophy. And, of course, there was the famous Alexander the Great. This mighty Macedonian king defeated Egypt and eradicated the Persian Empire. He even invaded and controlled a portion of the Indian subcontinent.

Everybody mentioned here is an iconic figure that helps to define what a magnificent civilization ancient Greece once had. But before these people came along, Greece was already bustling with all sorts of advanced developments, dating as far back as 3000 B.C. At the time, a group of people called the Minoans settled on the island of Crete in the Aegean Sea. Their culture, termed the Minoan civilization, lasted nearly 2,000 years.

The Minoans, by all accounts, were fond of doing overseas business. Most of their commercial activities revolved around making trades with other countries, such as Egypt. Since very early on, they had discovered a way to cast bronze (an alloy traditionally composed of copper and tin) and applied that knowledge to make metal tools and weapons. The Minoans had their own languages and sophisticated art. They loved building palaces and enjoyed decorating them with lively frescoes. Those vibrant wall paintings told tales about what life was like back then. Because of them, we know that "bull jumping" was one of the most popular sports at the time. We know, too, that the Minoans had their own beliefs and practiced various religious rituals.

The Minoan civilization reached its peak around 1600 B.C. But by the middle of the 15th century B.C., it had declined so much that it was suffering an agonizingly slow death. For years, historians have debated why this once powerful civilization simply ceased to exist. Some said it was due to a violent volcanic eruption on a nearby island

called Thera. The eruption unleashed toxic gas, ash clouds, and quite possibly massive tsunamis that reached Crete in no time. If that theory is correct, then any or all three of the post-disaster traumas might have played a crucial role in the downfall of the Minoan civilization.

Whatever actually happened, we will never know. The only thing we can say with any certainty is that the Minoan civilization eventually collapsed and was replaced by the Mycenaean civilization.

The Mycenaean civilization flourished between 1600 B.C. and 1100 B.C. Unlike its predecessor, this thriving culture had its focus on mainland Greece. Its most famous, defining event was, undoubtedly, the Trojan War. That conflict, according to Homer, was a battle between the Greeks and the Trojans over a beautiful woman named Helen. After a decade of fighting, the Greeks finally won and sacked the city of Troy.

Around the 12th century B.C., the Dorians, a tribe from northern Greece, began to flex their muscles and advance southward. Their military aggression brought the Mycenaean civilization to its knees. The invasion marked the official end of the Bronze Age. For the next 300 years or so, the so-called Dark Ages clouded over Greece, but details about that bleak period would be the topic of a different story.

Ancient Greece - How Did It All Begin?

## Questions

1. Which of the following about the Minoans is true?  
A. Their civilization reached its peak between 1600 B.C. and 1100 B.C.  
B. Their civilization replaced the Mycenaean civilization.  
C. Their civilization was a bustling culture found on the island of Crete.  
D. They were the first people in ancient Greece to use iron.
2. What type of metals did the Minoans use to make tools and weapons?  
A. Silver  
B. Gold  
C. Iron  
D. Bronze



Name \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Who brought ancient Greece into the Dark Ages?
- A. The Dorians
  - B. The Minoans
  - C. The Trojans
  - D. The Mycenaean
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Which of the following about the Trojan War is correct?
- A. Homer said it was a war over a woman named Helen.
  - B. The Trojans won the war and sacked the city of Mycenae.
  - C. It was triggered by the Dorian invasion.
  - D. It was a war between the Minoans and the Mycenaean.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Which of the following statements about the Mycenaean civilization is correct?
- A. It was the last phase of Greece's Bronze Age.
  - B. It marked the beginning of Greece's Dark Ages.
  - C. It reached its peak around 3000 B.C.
  - D. It was destroyed by a volcanic eruption.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. What was a popular sport among the Minoans?
- A. Bull jumping
  - B. Swimming
  - C. Marathon
  - D. Ice skating
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Which of the following was NOT a Greek philosopher?
- A. Socrates
  - B. Aristarchus
  - C. Aristotle
  - D. Plato
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Which island's volcanic eruption was the possible cause of the fall of the Minoan civilization?
- A. Sicily
  - B. Thera
  - C. Rhodes
  - D. Simi

\_\_\_\_\_ 9. In which sea can we find Crete?

- A. The Baltic Sea
- B. The Caspian Sea
- C. The Aegean Sea
- D. The Black Sea

\_\_\_\_\_ 10. What did the Minoans use to decorate their palaces?

- A. Golden leaves
- B. Wall paintings
- C. Ceramic tiles
- D. Marble statues

## ACTIVITY 4. Types of Governments

*Should society be ruled by one individual, a small group, or all the people?*

Who should be given the responsibility of governing? Should only "the best and brightest" govern? Or should all the people participate equally in government whether they are rich or poor, educated or ignorant, mature or immature?

In the time of Socrates (around 400 B.C.), Greek philosophers and politicians argued endlessly about such questions. They were familiar with three types of governments: a *monarchy*, an *oligarchy*, and a *democracy*.

The dialogue that follows was reported by the Greek historian Herodotus. It involves three citizens who are earnestly debating what form of government would be best for their own city. You may find this activity more enjoyable if you and other students take parts and read this dialogue aloud.

OCTANES ..... an advocate of *democracy* (rule by the people)  
DARIUS ..... an advocate of *monarchy* (rule by one person)  
MEGABYZUS ..... an advocate of *oligarchy* (rule by a small group)

### WHO SHOULD RULE?

OCTANES: But, Darius, how can you possibly want a monarchy again? Surely you remember how bad it was when our city was ruled by one man—a cruel tyrant who cared about nothing except his own power. Monarchy may begin well enough, but as we have seen, it almost always turns rotten. And the people invariably suffer for it. No, we should not repeat the mistakes of the past. Instead, let us have a democracy so that all the citizens may propose and vote upon laws for the state.

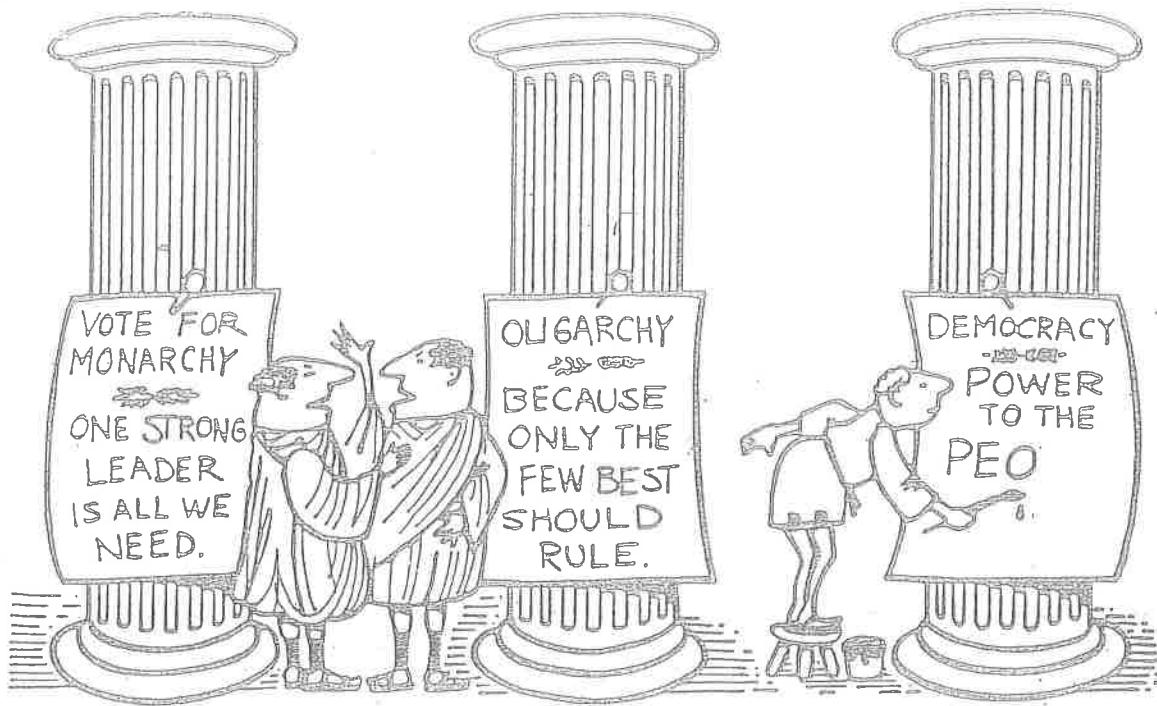
DARIUS: Just because one monarch failed is no reason to conclude that monarchy will never succeed.

OCTANES: The chief trouble with monarchs—even the best of them—is that they can make any laws they please. They have absolute authority.

DARIUS: But what can be wrong with that if the ruler making these rules is the best and wisest person in the society? Just as the best cook makes the best meals, so the best ruler can always be counted upon to make the best laws.

OCTANES: No, governing is not at all like cooking. The reason is that power has an effect on the people who hold it. And the effect is often not good. It may give even the best of people evil thoughts. Putting too much power into the hands of one person is like dumping too much salt into a pot of soup. In either case, it ruins everything.

MEGABYZUS: I fully agree with you, Octanes, in all that you have said against monarchy. But a democracy would mean handing over power to ordinary people. That is not right either. Most people don't have enough training in the complicated business of running a government. They rush wildly into the affairs of state with all the fury of a stream swollen in the winter by rains. They confuse everything and make foolish decisions.



OCTANES: But gentlemen, in a democracy, the people in power are answerable for what they do. The laws come from the citizens in the community.

MEGABYZUS: Yes, and most of those citizens are ignorant, uneducated fools. Democracy is not an intelligent choice because, to be truthful, most people are not intelligent. No, gentlemen, the only government we can depend upon is an oligarchy consisting of our city's wisest, brightest, and best-educated citizens. Oligarchy offers the advantages of monarchy without the disadvantages of democracy.

DARIUS: That is not true, Megabyzus. An oligarchy has the same disadvantages as democracy. It is nearly as unstable and will fall apart from the same causes. Democracy cannot last. Rival groups will inevitably form and struggle for power. The same will happen in an oligarchy. Your supposedly wise leaders will sooner or later disagree among themselves. The quarrel may become bitter. The strongest and most determined person in the group will eventually win and get appointed the sole ruler—or monarch. If you are going to end up with a monarchy anyway, why not adopt it now and save ourselves much time and trouble?

OCTANES: Both of you have passed over my argument as if you did not hear it. Only in a democracy, I say, will the elected leaders be answerable for what they do. Don't you see how important this is? Democratic government is the only way to ensure that the people will not be mistreated by a cruel leader and subjected to unfair laws. After all, any leader foolish enough to treat people harshly will be quickly replaced by someone else.

MEGABYZUS: But how do you answer my argument that only the most intelligent and best-educated citizens should be allowed to govern?

OCTANES: I agree that we need intelligent leaders. But how are we going to select such leaders? I say that the choice should be made by all the people casting votes in an election. The people are not dumb. Most of the time, they will vote for leaders who are unusually able and educated. You can trust the common people to be wiser than you think. That is my answer to you, Megabyzus.

Summarize the arguments of the three Greeks by filling in the chart below:

### COMPARING GOVERNMENTS

	Who has power to make the laws?	Advantages of this type of government	Disadvantages of this type of government
DEMOCRACY (Octanes)			
OLIGARCHY (Megabyzus)			
MONARCHY (Darius)			

Suppose that you were invited to participate in the discussion. Turning to you, Megabyzus asks: "Which type of government do *you* think is best?" You reply: I think a/an

\_\_\_\_\_ is best because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Unlike the ancient Greeks, Americans today seldom debate whether one form of government is better than another. We take for granted the idea that the U.S. system should be a democracy. But the word democracy means many different things to different people.

What do *you* mean when you use the word? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

According to one dictionary definition, democracy is simply "government by the people." But does that mean that *every* citizen must vote directly for *every* law? Or can a few elected representatives make laws for "the people"? Can a government claim to be democratic if some of its laws are unfair to a particular group?

## Sparta vs. Athens

Each city-state was in an **isolated valley** and it had its own government and social structure. Often times, because these city-states were divided, they did not like one another or were **antagonistic**. The most well-known **feuding** city-states were **Sparta** and **Athens**. The **feuding** between Sparta and Athens eventually led to the **Peloponnesian War** in 431 BC between Athens and Sparta. The Peloponnesian War was a **civil war** or a war fought between people of the same nation. This 27 year war led to the decline of Greece. Historians use **primary sources** and **secondary sources** to identify **causes** for the **rivalry** between Sparta and Athens. Historians seek to answer the questions:

*What are the differences between Sparta and Athens?*

*What are the similarities between Sparta and Athens?*

### Sparta

“Instead of softening their feet with shoe or sandal, his rule was to make them hardy through going barefoot. He believed this would allow them to climb hills and run. In fact, with his feet so trained the young Spartan would leap and spring and run faster without shoes than another in the ordinary way. Instead of making them effeminate (lady-like) and spoiled with a variety of clothes, the rule was to give them one piece of clothing the entire year. They would wear the same piece of clothing whether it was hot or cold. This taught them to be brave in all weather. With regards to food, young boys received small amounts of food. It was believed that young boys needed to know the pains of starvation.”

- Xenophon, *Constitution of the Lacedaemonians*

From childhood until age 30, a Spartan prepared to be part of the military state. Officials examined every newborn and sickly children were abandoned to die. At the age of seven, boys moved to military camps and began training for the military. At the age of 20, a man could marry, but he could not leave the military camp until he was 30.

-Prentice Hall: *World History (Ellis & Esler, 2007)*

In order to the good education of their youth (which, as I said before, he thought the most important and noblest work of a lawgiver), he went so far back as to take into consideration their very conception and birth, by regulating their marriages. For Aristotle is wrong in saying, that, after he had tried all ways to reduce the women to more modesty and sobriety, he was at last forced to leave them as they were, because that in the absence of their husbands, who spent the best part of their lives in the wars, their wives, whom they were obliged to leave absolute mistresses at home, took great liberties and assumed the superiority; and were treated with overmuch respect and called by the title of lady or queen. The truth is, he took in their case, also, all the care that was possible; he ordered the maidens to exercise themselves with wrestling, running, throwing, and casting the dart, to the end that the fruit they conceived might, in strong and healthy bodies, take firmer root and find better growth, and withal that they, with this greater vigor, might be the more able to undergo the pains of child-bearing.

- From *Lycurgus* by Plutarch written 75 C.E. Translated by John Dryden

### Athens

If we look to the laws, they afford equal justice to all despite their differences. If a man is able to serve the state, he is not hindered by his condition. The freedom we enjoy in our government extends to our ordinary life. There...we do not feel called upon to be angry with our neighbor for doing what he likes...

Advancement in politics is about potential, social class is not allowed to determine merit. Our ordinary citizens, though occupied with personal business, are still fair judges of public issues. At Athens we live exactly as we please, and yet are just as ready to encounter every legitimate danger.

To be happy means to be free. We throw open our city to the world, and never...exclude foreigners from any opportunity of learning or observing.

-Pericles, *Funeral Oration*

Unlike girls, who received little or no formal education, boys attended school if their families could afford it. Besides learning to read and write, they studied music, memorized poetry, and studied public speaking because, as citizens in a democracy, they would have to voice their views. Although they received military training and participated in athletic contests, unlike Sparta, which put military training above all else, Athens encouraged young men to explore many areas of knowledge.

-Prentice Hall: *World History (Ellis & Esler, 2007)*

# Sparta: Raising an Army

Each city in Greece was unique in population, size, and government. Some city states were unique in other ways. One of the largest city-states in ancient Greece was Sparta.

Located on the Peloponnesus, Sparta contained at least 300,000 people. Its government was an oligarchy. Five men, called ephors, or overseers, wielded great power. Spartan government also included a council of 30 members including 2 kings and 28 men over 60 years old. Known as the Gerousia, or “council of old men,” this assembly created proposals which were voted on by all free adult Spartan males.

Between these political groups, Sparta was a city which expected its people to obey the laws of the city-state. Yet the Spartans never wrote down their laws. They taught their children to obey and live rigid lives by training them as members of a highly disciplined army.

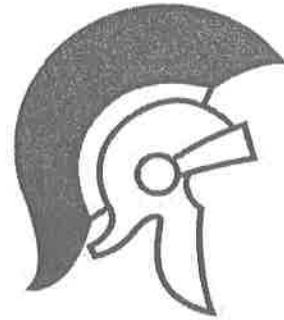
Nothing in Sparta was more important than service to the city-state through being a well disciplined soldier. Nearly from birth, Spartan life revolved around the army and its discipline. Young boys were expected to leave home at age 7 and live in barracks with other youths until age 30.

These years were spent training for military service. Boys and young men regularly exercised, practiced with weapons, and hunted. Spartan discipline was tough. Boys were not allowed to speak without permission. They were not fed well so that they would learn how to steal food without being caught.

A Spartan story tells of one young man who stole a fox, hid it under his tunic, and allowed the animal to rip his chest open, rather than be caught with the fox and fail at being stealthy.

At age 20, Spartan men joined the regular military service, although their training was not considered finished. Such men could marry, but they did not live with their wives. They still lived in the common

barracks. To visit their wives at night, Spartan husbands were supposed to sneak into their own wives’ bedrooms without being seen.



Women in Sparta were also supposed to endure rigorous training. They were not expected to fight, but were to remain strong and fit for child-birth. The greatest honor a woman could pay to her city-state was to bear healthy children. In fact, only women who died in childbirth had their names placed on their grave markers as an honor to their sacrifice.

To keep healthy, Spartan women exercised vigorously. Sometimes they worked out alongside the men.

The sacrifice of army life continued for another 10 years. Soldiers ate together in a common mess or meal, and their usual food was legendary for being bad-tasting. The basic Spartan meal consisted of a black broth or soup made from pork boiled in blood, salt, and vinegar.

By age 30, the training was completed. Spartan soldiers could return to their homes and live with their ‘wives. Their service continued until age 60.

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## Review and Write (answer on next page)

1. Describe the government of Sparta.
2. What role did men and women play in Sparta?
3. Why were soldiers in training forced to steal food and sneak home to their wives?

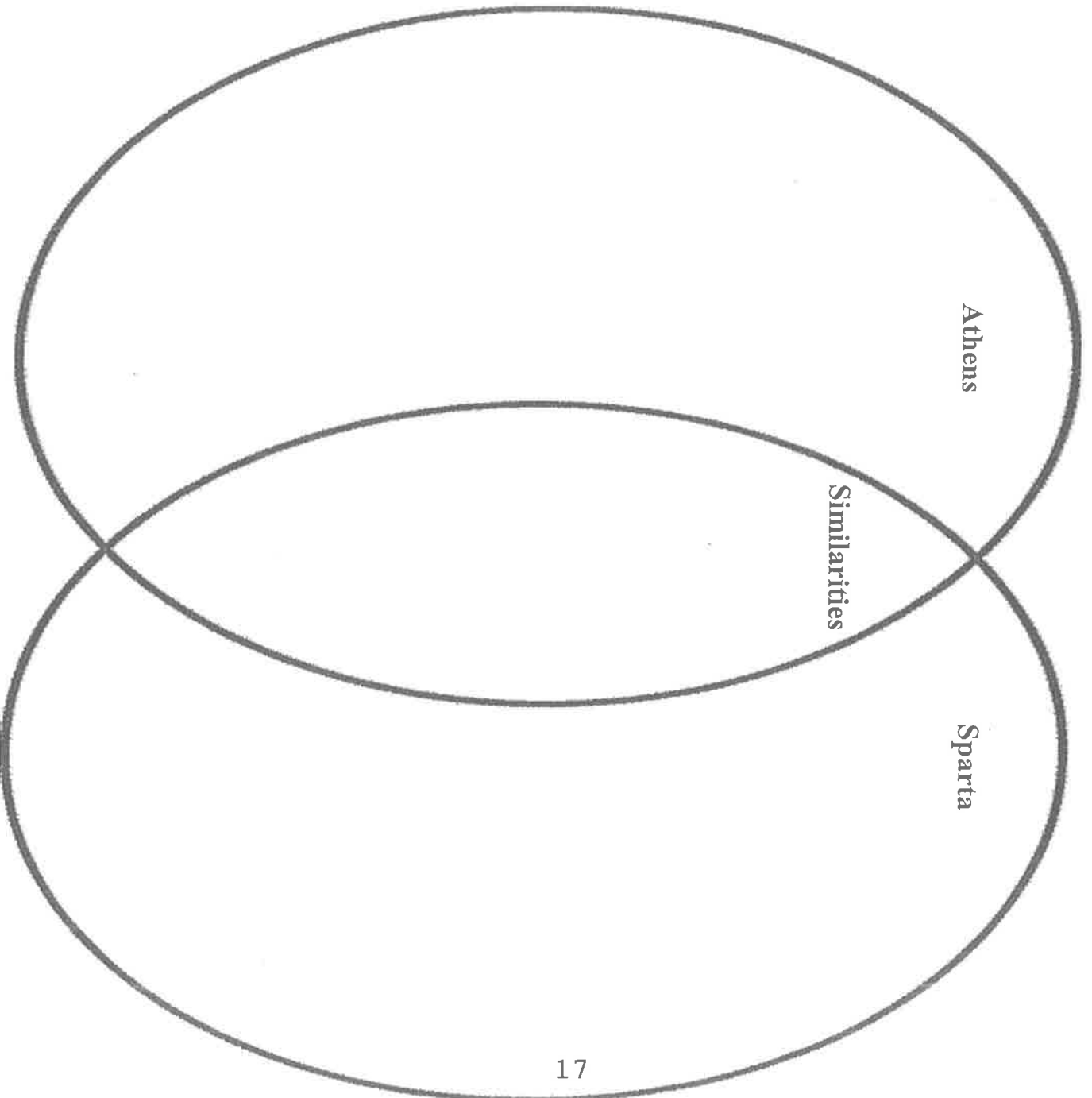


Athens vs Sparta Comparison

Directions: Using video clip and the readings above, determine if each statement is a characteristic of Athens, Sparta or a similarity. Then place the number under the proper heading in the Venn Diagram.

Characteristics:

- (1) Limited Democracy
- (2) Language
- (3) Monarchy with Two Kings
- (4) Laws made by assembly
- (5) Military society
- (6) Male citizens in assembly
- (7) Trade/travel not allowed
- (8) Military training for all boys
- (9) Participated in Olympic Games
- (10) Trade with other city-states
- (11) Believe in multiple gods
- (12) Women are not citizens
- (13) Schooling for boys
- (14) Girls trained to be mothers of soldiers



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Per: \_\_\_\_\_

### Decisive Battles: Thermopylae

- 1) Name two countries that were part of the Persian Empire?
- 2) How many men did Xerces bring to conquer Greece?
- 3) What does Thermopylae mean?
- 4) How many soldiers did Sparta send to help protect the pass?
- 5) At what age did the Spartan boys go to military school?
- 6) What did the oracle at Delphi predict?
- 7) What did a Spartan soldier wear and what weapons did he have?
- 8) What are the immortals?
- 9) What is a Phalanx?
- 10) What were the Greek shields made of?
- 11) How did the Spartans identify the dead?
- 12) What did the Spartan soldiers do when Leonidas fell?
- 13) How did the Spartans regard the bow?
- 14) How many men did Xerces lose at the battle of Thermopylae?
- 15) How did the Greeks ultimately defeat the Persians?

# Alexander The Great – Iron Maiden

'my son ask for thyself another  
Kingdom for that which I leave  
Is too small for thee'  
(king Philip of Macedonia - 339 B.C.)

Near to the east  
In a part of ancient Greece  
In an ancient land called Macedonia  
Was born a son  
To Philip of Macedon  
The legend his name was Alexander

At the age of nineteen  
He became the Macedon king  
And he swore to free all of Asia minor  
By the Aegean sea  
In 334 B.C.  
He utterly beat the armies of Persia

Alexander the great  
His name struck fear into hearts of men  
Alexander the great  
Became a legend 'mongst mortal men

King Darius the third  
Defeated fled Persia  
The Scythians fell by the river of Jaxartes  
Then Egypt fell to the Macedon king as well  
And he founded the city called Alexandria

By the Tigris river  
He met king Darius again  
And crushed him again at the battle of Arbela  
Entering Babylon  
And Susa treasures he found  
Took Persepolis the capital of Persia

Alexander the great  
His name struck fear into hearts of men  
Alexander the great  
Became a God 'mongst mortal men

A Phrygian king had bound a chariot yoke  
And Alexander cut the 'Gordian knot'  
And the legend said that who untied the knot  
He would become the master of Asia

Hellenism he spread far and wide  
The Macedonian learned mind  
Their culture was a western way of life  
He paved the way for Christianity

Marching on marching on  
The battle weary marching side by side  
Alexander's army line by line  
They wouldn't follow him to India  
Tired of the combat, pain and the glory

Alexander the great  
His name struck fear into hearts of men  
Alexander the great  
He died of fever in Babylon

# Alexander the Great

By Iron Maiden

**Directions:** Listen to the song *Alexander the Great* by Iron Maiden and answer the questions below.

Where was Alexander the Great born?

---

Who was his father?

---

How old was he when he first became king?

---

What culture did Alexander the Great spread far and wide?

---

Alexander the Great paved the way for what religion?

---

Why would Alexander's army not follow him to India?

---

What did people think of Alexander the Great?

---

How did he die?

---

# Alexander's Empire



Read the paragraph for background information. Then use the map to answer the questions.

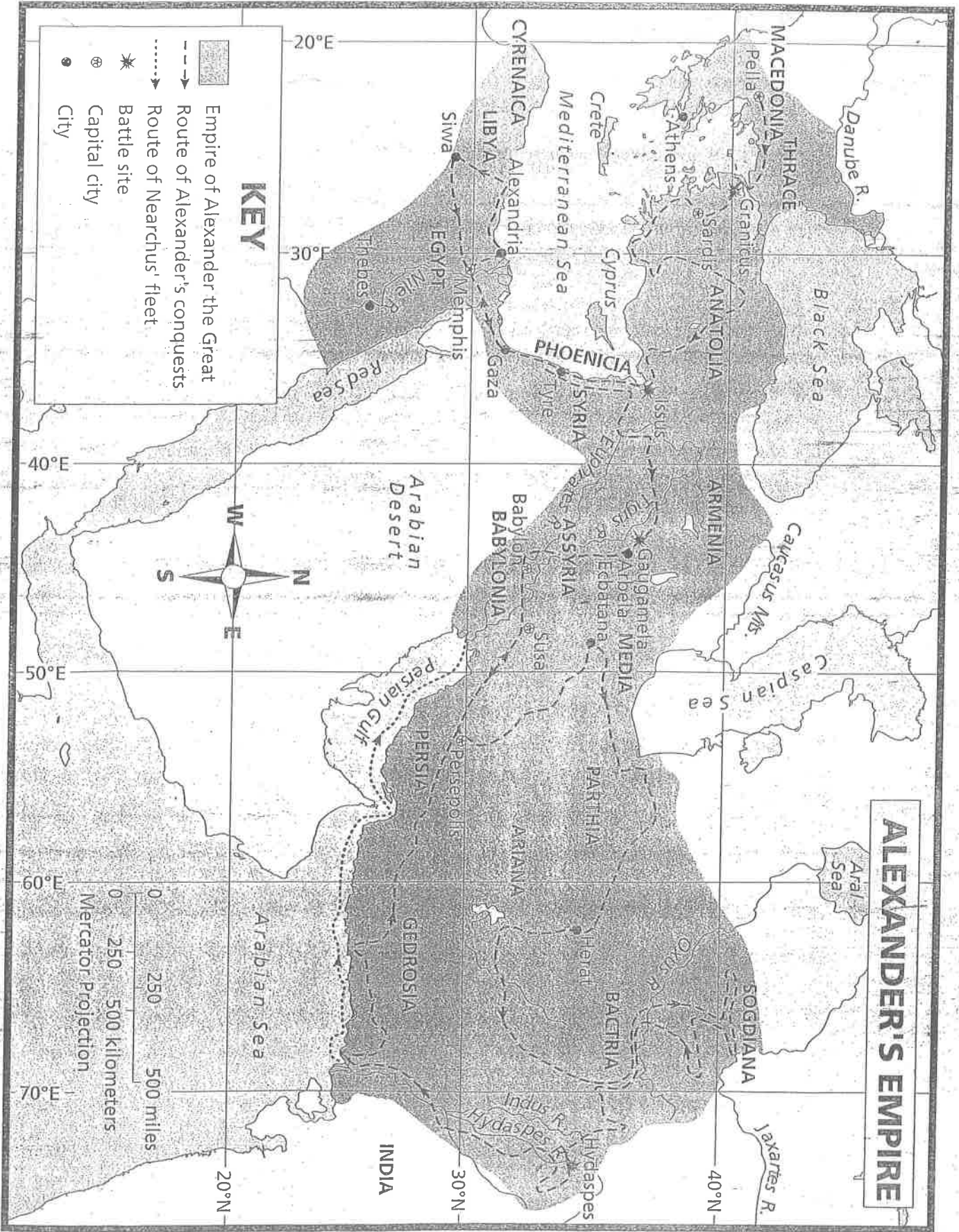
Alexander III of Macedon was the son of King Philip. After Philip's death, Alexander took the throne and began his rule by unifying the restless Greek city-states. He led the Greek army across the Hellespont and into Asia where he spent the rest of his career conquering more lands until his untimely death by fever at the age of 33.

Alexander was considered charming, brilliant, and hot tempered. He had a classical education under the philosopher Aristotle and was athletically gifted. His feats of skill and bravery on his horse Bucephalus grew to mythic proportions.

He was only 20 when he came to power and only 33 when he died, so the empire had not had a chance to stabilize. He had one son, but the child was still a young boy. Consequently, after Alexander's death, his generals began to fight bitterly among themselves as they divided up his kingdom. The empire did not last.

In this map, Nearchus' fleet refers to part of Alexander the Great's army that he sent by boat under the care of his friend Nearchus to meet him back at Susa.

1. After Alexander visited Memphis for the first time, where did he go next? What does it look like he did there?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which river forms his northernmost boundary? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which battle location is northwest of Arbela? \_\_\_\_\_
4. About how far is Herat from Ecbatana? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which battle location is directly east of Herat? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What are the approximate coordinates of Alexandria in latitude and longitude? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Which capital city is closest to 32°N and 48°E? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Where did Alexander's journey begin? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Which is closer to Susa: Persepolis or Arbela? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Which Greek city is shown on the map? \_\_\_\_\_



## THE GOLDEN AGE OF ATHENS

More than 2,000 years ago, Athens became the cultural center of Greece. Achievements were made in many fields during a period known as the "Golden Age." These achievements greatly contributed to the development of Western civilization.

The people of ancient Greece have had more influence on present times than anyone else in history. The chart which follows summarizes the accomplishments made during this Golden Age of Athens. Carefully read the statements on the chart. The information will be used later during the playing of "The Olympic Games."

Contributions of Ancient Greek Civilization	
Philosophy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were the world's first philosophers.</li> <li>• By asking basic questions about man and the universe, philosophers influenced people to change their way of thinking on many subjects.</li> </ul>
Science and Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlike the Egyptians and Mesopotamians, Greek scientists did not believe gods and demons caused storms, floods, droughts, and other problems for man. They believed these happenings were simply a part of nature's way. Democritus was the first to observe that all matter was made of tiny particles called "atoms."</li> <li>• Aristotle founded "zoology," the study of animals. One of his students -- Theophrastus -- started "botany," the study of plants.</li> <li>• Pythagoras discovered important mathematical principles still studied in geometry today.</li> </ul>
Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Greek named Hippocrates was the "Father of Modern Medicine." About 400 B.C., most people -- including doctors -- thought illness and disease were caused by gods and demons. But Hippocrates taught that health-related problems had natural causes. He operated on patients, reset dislocated joints, and put broken bones back in place. Graduating medical students today take the "Hippocratic Oath" in which they agree to rules of good conduct between doctor and patient.</li> </ul>
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instead of one ruler for all of Greece, the individual city-states preferred having their own government in their own community.</li> <li>• The democratic government of Athens was the beginning of democracy in Western civilization. Citizens were given freedom of speech and a voice in making laws.</li> </ul>

## Government

- Pericles was the leader of Athens at the height of the city's "Golden Age." He let the common people, not just the rich, take part in the government. Arts and sciences flourished, and manufacturing and trade continued to grow.

## Literature

- The Greeks enjoyed stories, poems, plays, and tales of historical events.
- Greek mythology included stories about Zeus, the chief god; Apollo, the sun god; Athena, goddess of wisdom; and Aphrodite, the goddess of love. It was thought that the gods lived on Mount Olympus in northeastern Greece.
- Homer is one of the greatest poets who ever lived. He wrote about the courage and loyalty of brave soldiers in Greek history. His best works were the Iliad and the Odyssey.
- Herodotus, known as the "Father of History," wrote stories describing the Persian Wars. Thucydides told about the Peloponnesian War between Sparta and Athens.
- Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides wrote Greek tragedies. A "tragedy" is a serious play with an unhappy ending.
- Aristophanes wrote comedies. A "comedy" is a humorous play with a happy ending.
- Once a year, a festival of plays was held in Athens. Everyone attended, including both rich and poor. Even prisoners were let out of jail so they could enjoy the festival. Greek dramas were performed in outdoor amphitheaters.

## Architecture

and

## Sculpture

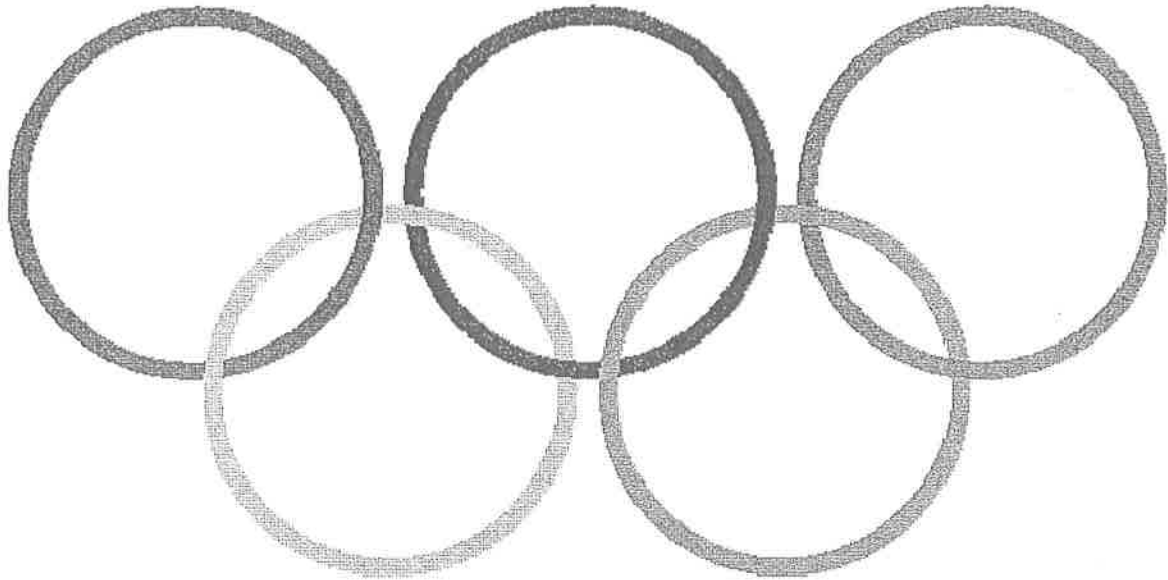
- "Architecture" is the art of planning and constructing buildings. The Greeks were skilled architects who erected beautiful temples and public buildings made of marble and limestone.
- The "Acropolis" of Athens, a hill towering above the city, was the site of some of the world's most imaginative buildings. The most famous of these was the Parthenon, a temple built to honor the goddess Athena.
- "Sculpture" is the art of carving or modeling figures, such as statues. Greek sculptors worked with marble and bronze. Phidias, the greatest Greek sculptor, carved the beautiful statue of Athena for the Parthenon. Another sculptor, Myron, carved the famous "Discus Thrower," which portrays the Greek appreciation for physical strength and athletic ability.



## Chart Questions

- (1) - The "Father of Modern Medicine."
- (2) - Hill towering above Athens.
- (3) - Ruler of Athens at the height of the "Golden Age."
- (4) - Most people thought they caused disease.
- (5) - The leading Greek city-state.
- (6) - Poet who wrote about the courage and loyalty of soldiers.
- (7) - Sophocles and Euripides wrote these.
- (8) - Art of planning and constructing buildings.
- (9) - Any building which honored gods or goddesses.
- (10) - Wrote stories on the Persian Wars.
- (11) - A humorous play with a happy ending.
- (12) - The study of plants.
- (13) - A philosopher along with Socrates and Aristotle.
- (14) - Chief god of Mount Olympus.
- (15) - Everyone attended an annual festival of plays there.
- (16) - A beautiful building on the Acropolis.
- (17) - The practice of carving and modeling.
- (18) - Mathematician who discovered basic principles of geometry.
- (19) - War described by Thucydides.
- (20) - The study of animals.
- (21) - The sun god.
- (22) - Series of contests between city-states.
- (23) - Government in which people have a voice in making the laws.
- (24) - The sculptor who carved the statue of Athena.
- (25) - A skilled craftsman who erects buildings.
- (26) - The Peloponnesian War involved two of these.
- (27) - Homer wrote the Iliad and also this poem.
- (28) - A period of great achievement in Athens.
- (29) - A pledge made by graduating medical students.
- (30) - Democritus found that all matter is made of these tiny particles.

# The Olympic Games



The first Olympics games are usually given the start year of 776 BCE, but they probably began even sooner. The ancient Greeks loved competitions of all sorts, especially sporting competitions. The Olympics were not the only games held in ancient Greece, but they were the most popular.

The following is a humorous look at five ancient Greek city-states. In truth, the Greeks did take the games quite seriously. Nearly all the ancient Greek cities sent teams to participate in the ancient Greek Olympics. If two or more Greek city-states happen to be at war with each other when the game date arrived, war was halted for the duration of the games. Everyone wanted their city-state to win!

Adapted from: <http://greece.mrdonn.org/olympics.html>

# Ancient Greece

## Review Sheet

### Geography

- Greece is made up of many rocky islands and isolated valleys. This caused the ancient Greeks to develop numerous different city-states. Each city-state developed different identities because of this.
- The seas surrounding Greece were their link to the outside world.

### Contributions

- Homer wrote the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* which reveals ancient Greek values and customs
- Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were all philosophers. Socrates developed the Socratic Method which is asking questions to help others seek truth and self-knowledge.
- The golden age of Greece was a time when numerous advances were made in the area of art and literacy. Many works of art were created as well. This art emphasized beauty, anatomy and balance
- Greek sculpture and architecture (columns) was used by later societies. (cultural diffusion)
- The Greeks had many gods and goddesses. (polytheistic)

### Government

- Government and law are two areas where the Greeks made long-term contributions to later societies.
- Democracy spread to other civilizations through cultural diffusion.
- In ancient Athens, only adult male citizens could vote in their direct-democracy.
- Oligarchy is rule by a small, elite group.

### City-States

- Another name for a city-state is a polis
- Spartan boys were trained to be soldiers from a very young age (7).
- Athens is credited with developing direct-democracy
- Athens and Sparta were both Greek city-states but they differed in forms of government, military strength and their focus on art and literature.
- Athens and Sparta fought one another in the Peloponnesian War
- Sparta held off the Persian army at the Battle of Thermopylae. They killed over 10,000 Persians before they were defeated.

### Alexander the Great

- Alexander the Great helped spread Greek and Hellenistic culture.
- Hellenistic culture is a blending of Greek, Persian, Egyptian, and Indian.