ANCIENT GREECE
ACTIVITIES, WORKSHEETS, & HANDOUTS
My ANCIENT GREECE ACTIVITY PACKET

Name: ____________________
An Introduction to Ancient Greece

Ancient Greece was not one large empire but a collection of smaller city-states. The term the Greeks used was polis, which meant "city-state." A polis was bigger than a city but smaller than a state. They were scattered throughout the Mediterranean area. Some were sea-ports; others were more inland. Some of the more famous city-states were Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Delphi, and Thebes.

Can you find some of the more famous city-states on the map of Ancient Greece?
Circle the city-states.

Sparta
Sparta was a place of great determination. The Spartans believed in a strong army. All Spartan boys were trained to be soldiers. When the Persians invaded Greece, the other city-states looked especially to Sparta and its army to keep them safe.

Fun Fact:
The word “polis” means city-state. In modern times, the word is widely used in the sense of 'city' and is found in the names of many American cities. Can you think of a city with 'polis' in the name?

Athens
Athens was the birthplace of democracy, or the idea that each person could have a voice in what laws were passed and who made up the government.

The Parthenon was built in the 5th century BC in Athens. It is a temple to honor the Greek goddess Athena and remains today as a symbol of Ancient Greece and the beginning of Athenian democracy.
Greek City-States

Ancient Greece was not a country with a single government. Instead, ancient Greece was divided into hundreds of independent city-states, or polises. These city-states usually included a city, like Athens, and its surrounding countryside, farms, and small villages. Each city state had its own government, laws, and customs.

Though the Greek city-states were fiercely independent, these city states did have many things in common. They worshipped the same gods, they spoke the same language, and they had the same cultural background. And in times of foreign invasion (such as the Persian wars), they would band together to fight a common enemy.

Most of the city-states were monarchies ruled by a king. Some of the city-states were oligarchies ruled by the powerful elite members of society. Athens had a very special kind of government called democracy, which meant 'rule of the people.' In Athenian democracy, people voted for the laws that they wanted.

Answer in complete sentences.

1. What is a city-state?

   ________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________

2. How were city-states different from one another?

   ________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________
   ________________________________________________________
3. What did the city-states have in common?

______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________

Most ancient Greeks were loyal to their own city-state. If asked where they came from, they would reply, "I am from Sparta," "I am a citizen of Athens," or "I come from Thebes." They would probably not say, "I am from Greece."

4. When did the city-states unite?

______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________

Fill in the chart:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Government</th>
<th>Monarchy</th>
<th>Oligarchy</th>
<th>Democracy</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advantages</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantages</td>
<td></td>
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Fun Fact: Most ancient Greeks were loyal to their own city-state. If asked where they came from, they would reply, "I am from Sparta," "I am a citizen of Athens," or "I come from Thebes." They would probably not say, "I am from Greece."

How do you reply when someone asks where you are from?
The Greek City-States

Read the passage. Fill in the blanks with words from the word list.

voted  agora  gods  polis  philosophers  city-states
acropolis  arts  government  oligarchy  army

Though everyone in ancient Greece spoke the same language and worshipped the same______, Greece was not a united country. Instead Greece was split into hundreds of _________, which were small countries that included a city and the surrounding farmland. The Greek word for a city-state is a ________________. A typical polis had a marketplace called an _________ and a fortress on a high hill called an _________.

Each city-state had its own form of _________ and system of laws. Athens, for example, is known for its democratic government where all citizens _________ to choose new leaders or make new laws. Sparta, on the other hand, was ruled by an _________, which consisted of two kings and a council of important citizens.

Each polis had very different beliefs. Spartans believed in a strong ___________ and were trained to be soldiers. In contrast, Athenians loved the ___________. Athens produced many great ___________ and writers.

Fun Fact:
Myron’s Discobolus, meaning ‘Discus Thrower’, is one of the most famous Classical Greek statues, held up as a masterpiece of Greek Art.
The system of democracy was introduced 2,500 years ago in Athens, Greece. The Greek _________ of Athens was famous for its government. Unlike most Greek city-states, which were ruled by _________, monarchies or tyrants, Athens in the 5th century B.C. was a _________, which means the rule of the _________.

In Athens, male citizens would gather in an _________ on a hill and make new laws for the city. At the assembly, every Athenian citizen had the right to speak his opinion. Citizens held public _________ and speeches before laws were passed.

In Athenian democracy each male citizen also had a right to _________: The citizens usually voted by having a show of hands. If they needed a secret vote then they voted by scratching their answers on a broken piece of _________.

Did you know?
The word Democracy comes from the Greek words: 'demos' and 'kratia', meaning 'the people rule'.

Fun Fact:
In ancient Athens, the world’s first democracy, they had a process called ostracism, where once a year the people could vote on the politician they thought was most destructive to the democratic process. The “winner” was banished from Athens for 10 years.
Getting to Know Greek Geography

The Greeks lived on rocky, mountainous lands surrounded by water. The mainland of Greece is a peninsula, an area of land surrounded on three sides by water. The Greek peninsula is very irregular. It’s one big peninsula made up of a series of smaller peninsulas. In addition to the mainland, there are many islands.

Because mountains cover much of Greece, there are few flat areas for farmland. People settled in those flat areas along the coast and in river valleys. They lived in villages and towns separated by mountains and seas.

Travel across the mountains and seas was difficult so communities were isolated from one another. As a result, the people created their own governments and ways of life.

1. Name the Island to the south of Greece. ______________________________________

2. Name the body of water to the south of Greece. ____________________________

3. Name the body of water to the west of the peninsula of Greece. _____________________

4. Name the Sea to the East of the Peninsula of Greece. ____________________________
Getting to Know Greek Geography (cont.)

Read each statement and decide if it represents an effect of the mountains or seas on Greece. Write mountain or sea on the line provided.

6. There was little farmland. ___________________

7. A source of food was provided. ___________________

8. Villages and towns were separated from each other. ___________________

9. Greeks were able to trade with other civilizations. ___________________

10. Travel was difficult. ___________________

11. Transportation was made easier. ___________________

12. There was little contact between towns. ___________________

13. The Greeks were able to exchange ideas with other cultures. ___________________
Athens vs. Sparta

Athens and Sparta were probably the two most famous and powerful city-states in Ancient Greece. However, they were both very different.

Athens’s government ruled as a democracy. They were the first to ever do this. A democracy means ‘rule of the people’. In Athenian democracy, people voted for the laws that they wanted. Sparta’s government ruled as an Oligarchy by two kings. Oligarchies were ruled by powerful and elite members of the society.

Athens was a very creative city. The people of Athens believed in a good education for boys. You could go into the army or navy if you wanted to, but it was not required. In Sparta, boys did not have to work or be educated. Instead they were trained to be warriors from a young age. Boys were required to join the Spartan army.

Girls in Athens were not regarded as being very important. They could be educated at home if their parents were wealthy. Girls were not allowed to take part in anything that had to do with war, business, or education. Girls in Sparta were to grow up to be mothers of warriors. Although the girls were not allowed to fight, they took part in all of the trainings because fit women produced fit babies that would grow up to fight!

Athens wanted to control as much land as they possibly could. Although Sparta had a strong military, they pretty much kept to themselves unless their military was needed. Except when Sparta went to war against Athens in the Peloponnesian War.
The two city-states fought from 431 BC to 404 BC with Sparta eventually triumphing over Athens. Sparta did not take over Athens. They promised not to burn it as long as Athens promised not to keep trying to take over. Athens was left as it was and even now is one of the most famous cities in the world.

Use the Venn Diagram to Compare & Contrast Athens vs. Sparta
Athens vs. Sparta Brochure Activity

Create a travel brochure for either Athens or Sparta. Be creative! Remember a travel brochure is meant to convince someone to travel to a particular place.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brochure Activity Rubric:</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing/ Grammar</strong></td>
<td>There are no grammatical mistakes in the brochure.</td>
<td>There are no grammatical mistakes in the brochure after feedback from an adult.</td>
<td>There are 1-2 grammatical mistakes in the brochure even after feedback from an adult.</td>
<td>There are several grammatical mistakes in the brochure even after feedback from an adult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling &amp; Proofreading</strong></td>
<td>No spelling errors remain after one person other than the typist reads and corrects the brochure.</td>
<td>No more than 1 spelling error remains after one person other than the typist reads and corrects the brochure.</td>
<td>No more than 3 spelling errors remain after one person other than the typist reads and corrects the brochure.</td>
<td>Several spelling errors in the brochure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content Accuracy</strong></td>
<td>All facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
<td>99-90% of the facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
<td>84-80% of the facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
<td>Fewer than 80% of the facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attractiveness &amp; Organization</strong></td>
<td>The brochure has exceptionally attractive formatting and well-organized information.</td>
<td>The brochure has attractive formatting and well-organized information.</td>
<td>The brochure has well-organized information.</td>
<td>The brochure’s formatting and organization of material are confusing to the reader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Graphics, Pictures, &amp; Map</strong></td>
<td>Graphics go well with the text and there is a good mix of text and graphics. Brochure includes a map.</td>
<td>Graphics go well with the text, but there are so many that they distract from the text. Brochure includes a map.</td>
<td>Graphics go well with the text, but there are too few and the brochure seems “text heavy.” There is no map.</td>
<td>Graphics do not go with the accompanying text or appear to be randomly chosen. There is no map.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ancient Greece Olympics & Our Modern Day Olympics

Use the internet and/or books to research ancient Greece’s Olympics and our modern day Olympics. Fill in the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What year did the Olympics Start?</th>
<th>Ancient Greece Olympics</th>
<th>Modern Day Olympics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do the athletes wear?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name some events that women take part in.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name some countries that competed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What track and field events did they have?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find some other interesting facts.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fun Fact: Those taking part in the ancient Greek wrestling event had to be the toughest, as there were hardly any rules – and they had to compete naked. Eek!
The Ancient Greeks used different symbols for their numbers. Instead of writing 1 they used a symbol that looked like a capital i. Below is a list of greek numbers. If you want to make 11 you would write the symbol for 10 and then write the symbol for 1. It would look like this Δ.

How would you make the number 21? ____ 31? ____ 35? ____ 42?____

Can you find the symbol for 50? Write it here _____________

If you write the symbol for 10 after the 50 what do you think you would get? ___________

Can you translate these numbers
ΔΓ? ___________

ΗΔΓ?_________________________

ΗΔΓΙ?________________________

Try a Challenge!
Solve these math problems, but write your answer in greek numbers!

15 + 12 = ________
5 + 6 = ________
6 x 3 = _________

Fun Fact:
Because people in ancient Greece had only very clumsy ways of writing down numbers, they didn’t like algebra. They found it very hard to write down equations or number problems. Instead, Greek mathematicians were more focused on geometry, and used geometric methods to solve problems that you might use algebra for.
Ancient Greek Language

The Greeks spoke a different language than us, however, many of their words influenced words we use today.

A Prefix goes at the beginning of a word.

There are many Greek prefixes that we use today. Can you think of some words that use these Greek prefixes? If you have trouble, use a dictionary!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phot-</th>
<th>Anti-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geo-</td>
<td>Bio-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tech-</td>
<td>Tele-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A Suffix goes at the end of a word.

Can you think of some words that have these Ancient Greek endings?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>-ology</th>
<th>-meter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-phobia</td>
<td>-ocracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-graph</td>
<td>-onym</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fun Fact: If a word has a “ph” in it, it is probably Greek.
A long time ago, in Ancient Greece, people began telling stories to explain the mysteries of life. Over the years, the stories (or myths) grew rich and imaginative. The storytellers added in their customs, beliefs, and theories about life, death, and wonders of nature. These myths were about gods and goddesses, fearful monsters, brave heroes, and mysterious beauties.

Ancient Greeks believed these myths were true. They worshiped the gods and believed these gods and goddesses protected them and guided them. They built temples to honor their gods and goddesses.

According to the myths, the gods and goddesses looked and acted like humans. They laughed, loved, and fought with each other. They even got married. But they were immortal - meaning they lived forever- because a fluid called ichor (not blood) flowed through their veins.

The mightiest of gods and goddesses lived on top of a mountain so high that it was hidden in the clouds. This mountain was called Olympus. The gods and goddesses lived in golden palaces and feasted on ambrosia and nectar- the food and drink of the gods.

One of the most famous goddesses was Athena. She was the patron goddess of Athens. The people of Athens worshiped her and built a temple to honor her. This temple was called the Parthenon. Athena was a warrior, but she preferred to settle fights peacefully.

**Choose a Greek god. Use books and/or the internet to research the god. Fill in the graphic organizer on the next page.**
Greek God:

Draw a picture of me.

What am I god of?

Is there a special Myth about me?

Name of Myth:

The basic story:

Fun Fact:

Write a fun fact about me.
Ancient Greek Philosophers

**Socrates**
was a philosopher who taught by asking questions. Socrates asked many questions, but he gave few answers. Socrates was a well-known teacher in Athens. He walked around the city with his students, engaging many people in arguments. What we know about Socrates comes from what others wrote about him. Socrates did not write any books since he believed it was better to debate than write. Socrates regarded the tales of the gods as just make-believe.

This upset the leaders of Athens. They threatened to bring him to trial for neglecting the gods and for corrupting the children of Athens by encouraging them to consider new ideas. The leaders expected the seventy year old Socrates to leave Athens before his arrest, but he remained in Athens, stood trial, and was found guilty. A friend planned an escape from prison, but Socrates refused to participate. He believed that he must obey the law, even if he disagreed with it. His last day was spent with friends. At the end of the day, Socrates calmly drank from a cup of poison hemlock, the customary practice of execution at that time.

**Plato** was Socrates’ most famous student. Most of what we know about Socrates comes from Plato. When his teacher was executed, Plato left Greece for more than a decade. He returned to start The Academy, a school that would operate for more than 900 years.

Plato described his idea of the best society in his most famous book, *The Republic*. Plato did not believe in democracy. He argued in favor of an “aristocracy of merit,” where the best and the wisest people would rule. Plato believed a small group of people intelligent and educated men and women should govern everyone.

**Aristotle** was the greatest scientist of the ancient world. He believed in using science and reason, rather than the anger or pleasure of gods, to explain natural events. Aristotle moved to Athens and studied at Plato's Academy. He remained at the school for more than twenty years until shortly after Plato died. Aristotle then returned to his home in Macedonia, where King Philip hired him to prepare his thirteen-year-old son, Alexander, for his future role as a military leader. His student would one day be known as Alexander the Great, one of the greatest military conquerors of all time. Once Alexander became King of
Macedonia, Aristotle returned to Athens and opened a school he called the Lyceum. For the next twelve years, Aristotle organized his school as a center of research on astronomy, zoology, geography, geology, physics, anatomy, and many other scientific fields. Aristotle wrote 170 books, 47 of which still exist more than two thousand years later. His ideas formed the basis of modern science.

Answer the questions.
1. Who were three great philosophers in ancient Greece? __________________, ________________, and ____________________________

2. Why was Socrates sentenced to death? _______________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

3. What was Plato’s school called? ___________________________________________

4. Plato’s most famous book is called? _______________________________________

5. Aristotle helped teach this famous military leader? ____________________________

Other Ancient Greece Philosophers:

- **Pythagoras** - Pythagoras is most known for the Pythagorean Theorem which is used to find the length of sides of right triangles. He also believed that the world was based on mathematics.

- **Epicurus** - Said that the gods had no interest in humans. That what we should do is enjoy our lives and be happy.

- **Zeno** - Founded a type of philosophy called Stoicism. He said that happiness was from accepting whatever happened, good or bad. His philosophy was a way of life that emphasized a person’s actions more than their words.

Fun Fact:
Above the entrance to Plato’s Academy was the following quote, “Let none who has not learned Geometry enter here.”
Alexander, known as the Great Greek, was not actually Greek. He was a Macedonian prince. Macedonia was an empire located to the north of Greece. He would one day become the King of Macedonia.

Alexander had many teachers, one of which was Aristotle. Aristotle was also born in Macedonia, but he lived in Greece for a really long time. He loved the Greeks. He believed in the Greek gods and he knew Greek history. Aristotle thought the Greeks were clever, interesting, and talented. He taught his student, Alexander, all about the Greeks.

Alexander dreamed of the day that he would be king. When he was king, he too would teach everyone about the Greek culture he had come to know and love. Alexander also had other teachers who taught him how to wage war and conquer other people. When Alexander became king, he allowed every place he conquered the opportunity to rule themselves. All he asked was that they be loyal to Alexander.

Alexander taught all of the people that he conquered about the ancient Greeks. He shared their stories, myths, gods, and language--just as Aristotle had taught him.

Alexander never lost a single battle. By the time he was 32, he had conquered the entire Mediterranean region. He probably would have continued to conquer more people, but one day, he became ill and died. He was only 33 years old.
Alexander was only 33 years old when he died. Some say he was poisoned. It is just as likely that this great general was defeated by a mosquito because others believe he died of malaria.

Fun Fact:
Alexander was responsible for spreading the Greek culture throughout the Mediterranean. Without him, the Greek’s culture might not have survived.

**Answer the questions.**

Alexander was Greek. (circle one)  True  or  False

Alexander had many teachers, one of which was __________________________.

Alexander became king of __________________________.

When he was king he wanted to teach everyone about ____________________.

Alexander was a great commander who never lost a single ________________.

By the time Alexander was _______ years old he had conquered all of the ______________________________ region.

Explain why the Greek culture might not have survived if it had not been for Alexander the Great.

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Explain why the Greek culture might not have survived if it had not been for Alexander the Great.
Which continent is Greece located on?

A. United States of America  
B. Asia  
C. Europe

What body of water is located to the south of Greece?

A. Aegean Sea  
B. Atlantic Ocean  
C. Mediterranean Sea

What landform makes up most of Greece?

A. Mountains  
B. Rivers  
C. Flatlands

What is the Greek word for city-state?

A. Polish  
B. Polis  
C. Poland

What is a city-state?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

What were the two most powerful city-states in Ancient Greece?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Compare & Contrast the two most powerful city-states in Ancient Greece. Write two things that are the different about each and two things that are the same.
Write at least one interesting fact about each Ancient Greek philosopher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socrates</th>
<th>Plato</th>
<th>Aristotle</th>
</tr>
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</table>

Define each type of government.

Monarchy ____________________________

Oligarchy ____________________________

Democracy ____________________________

Explain how Ancient Greece was the birthplace of democracy.

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________
What Does Greece Look Like Today?

In modern times, Athens is the largest city and capital of Greece. It is a large cosmopolitan metropolis and central to economic, financial, industrial, maritime, political and cultural life in Greece.

Using context clues, what do you think the underlined word metropolis means?

The city of Athens has a population of around 664,046 people. The urban area of Athens, including the port area of Piraeus has a population around 3,090,508 people.

The heritage of the classical era is still evident in the city, represented by ancient monuments of art. The most famous being the Parthenon, can still be visited by tourist today.

How has the Parthenon changed from ancient times?
My ANCIENT GREECE ANSWER KEY

Name: ____________________________
Greek City-States

Ancient Greece was not a country with a single government. Instead, ancient Greece was divided into hundreds of independent city-states, or polises. These city-states usually included a city, like Athens, and its surrounding countryside, farms, and small villages. Each city state had its own government, laws, and customs.

Though the Greek city-states were fiercely independent, these city states did have many things in common. They worshipped the same gods, they spoke the same language, and they had the same cultural background. And in times of foreign invasion (such as the Persian wars), they would band together to fight a common enemy.

Most of the city-states were monarchies ruled by a king. Some of the city-states were oligarchies ruled by the powerful elite members of society. Athens had a very special kind of government called democracy, which meant 'rule of the people.' In Athenian democracy, people voted for the laws that they wanted.

Answer in complete sentences.

1. What is a city-state?
A city-state is a city and its surrounding countryside, farms, and villages in Ancient Greece with its own government, laws, and customs.

2. How were city-states different from one another?
City-states were different because they each had their own government, laws, and customs. Some were monarchies, ruled by a king while others were oligarchies ruled by a powerful elite member of society. Other city-states were a democracy which means they were ruled by the people.
3. What did the city-states have in common?

The city-states worshipped the same gods, spoke the same language, and had the same cultural background.

4. When did the city-states unite?

The city-states would unite together to fight a common enemy.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Definition</strong></td>
<td>Ruled by a king.</td>
<td>Ruled by powerful elite members of society.</td>
<td>Ruled by the people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advantages</strong></td>
<td>One person making decisions means less arguing and since the rule for life—their interest is long term.</td>
<td>More than one person making decisions.</td>
<td>Citizens get to vote and have a say in government.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disadvantages</strong></td>
<td>Citizens do not get to vote. King (only one person) makes decisions.</td>
<td>Control is in the hands of a small number of people, usually wealthy and passed down to family members, not voted on.</td>
<td>Lots of people need to agree to make decisions—could take time and arguments when people disagree.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Though everyone in ancient Greece spoke the same language and worshipped the same __________, Greece was not a united country. Instead Greece was split into hundreds of __________, which were small countries that included a city and the surrounding farmland. The Greek word for a city-state is a __________ ___________. A typical polis had a marketplace called an __________ and a fortress on a high hill called an __________.

Each city-state had its own form of __________ and system of laws. Athens, for example, is known for its democratic government where all citizens __________ to choose new leaders or make new laws. Sparta, on the other hand, was ruled by an __________, which consisted of two kings and a council of important citizens.

Myron's Discobolus, meaning 'Discus Thrower', is one of the most famous Classical Greek statues, held up as a masterpiece of Greek Art.
The system of democracy was introduced 2,500 years ago in Athens, Greece. The Greek polis of Athens was famous for its government. Unlike most Greek city-states, which were ruled by oligarchies, monarchies or tyrants, Athens in the 5th century B.C. was a democracy, which means the rule of the people.

In Athens, male citizens would gather in an assembly on a hill and make new laws for the city. At the assembly, every Athenian citizen had the right to speak his opinion. Citizens held public debates and speeches before laws were passed.

In Athenian democracy each male citizen also had a right to vote. The citizens usually voted by having a show of hands. If they needed a secret vote then they voted by scratching their answers on a broken piece of pottery.

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Travel across the mountains and seas was difficult so communities were isolated from one another. As a result, the people created their own governments and ways of life.

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2. Name the body of water to the south of Greece. ____________________________
3. Name the body of water to the west of the peninsula of Greece. _____________________
4. Name the Sea to the East of the Peninsula of Greece. ____________________________
Getting to Know Greek Geography (cont.)

Read each statement and decide if it represents an effect of the mountains or seas on Greece. Write mountain or sea on the line provided.

6. There was little farmland.
   ____________Mountain

7. A source of food was provided.
   ____________Sea

8. Villages and towns were separated from each other.
   ____________Mountain

9. Greeks were able to trade with other civilizations.
   ____________Sea

10. Travel was difficult.
    ____________Mountain

11. Transportation was made easier.
    ____________Sea

12. There was little contact between towns.
    ____________Mountain

13. The Greeks were able to exchange ideas with other cultures.
    ____________Sea
Athens vs. Sparta

Athens and Sparta were probably the two most famous and powerful city-states in Ancient Greece. However, they were both very different.

Athens’s government ruled as a democracy. They were the first to ever do this. A democracy means ‘rule of the people’. In Athenian democracy, people voted for the laws that they wanted. Sparta’s government ruled as an Oligarchy by two kings. Oligarchies were ruled by powerful and elite members of the society.

Athens was a very creative city. The people of Athens believed in a good education for boys. You could go into the army or navy if you wanted to, but it was not required. In Sparta, boys did not have to work or be educated. Instead they were trained to be warriors from a young age. Boys were required to join the Spartan army.

Girls in Athens were not regarded as being very important. They could be educated at home if their parents were wealthy. Girls were not allowed to take part in anything that had to do with war, business, or education. Girls in Sparta were to grow up to be mothers of warriors. Although the girls were not allowed to fight, they took part in all of the trainings because fit women produced fit babies that would grow up to fight!

Athens wanted to control as much land as they possibly could. Although Sparta had a strong military, they pretty much kept to themselves unless their military was needed. Except when Sparta went to war against Athens in the Peloponnesian War.
The two city-states fought from 431 BC to 404 BC with Sparta eventually triumphing over Athens. Sparta did not take over Athens. They promised not to burn it as long as Athens promised not to keep trying to take over. Athens was left as it was and even now is one of the most famous cities in the world.

Use the Venn Diagram to Compare & Contrast Athens vs. Sparta

**Sparta**
- Oligarchy
- Boys required to Join army
- Education not as important as training to be warriors.
- Kept to themselves and own land.

**Athens**
- Greek City-State
- Girls not allowed to fight in war.
- Wanted as much land as possible.
- Could go in army, but not required
- Believed in education
- Appreciated arts
- Education not as important as training to be warriors.

---

The Parthenon at the Acropolis of Athens.
Athens vs. Sparta  
Brochure Activity

Create a travel brochure for either Athens or Sparta. Be creative! Remember a travel brochure is meant to convince someone to travel to a particular place.

Brochure Activity Rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing/ Grammar</strong></td>
<td>There are no grammatical mistakes in the brochure.</td>
<td>There are no grammatical mistakes in the brochure after feedback from an adult.</td>
<td>There are 1-2 grammatical mistakes in the brochure even after feedback from an adult.</td>
<td>There are several grammatical mistakes in the brochure even after feedback from an adult.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling &amp; Proofreading</strong></td>
<td>No spelling errors remain after one person other than the typist reads and corrects the brochure.</td>
<td>No more than 1 spelling error remains after one person other than the typist reads and corrects the brochure.</td>
<td>No more than 3 spelling errors remain after one person other than the typist reads and corrects the brochure.</td>
<td>Several spelling errors in the brochure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content Accuracy</strong></td>
<td>All facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
<td>99-90% of the facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
<td>84-80% of the facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
<td>Fewer than 80% of the facts in the brochure are accurate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attractiveness &amp; Organization</strong></td>
<td>The brochure has exceptionally attractive formatting and well-organized information.</td>
<td>The brochure has attractive formatting and well-organized information.</td>
<td>The brochure has well-organized information.</td>
<td>The brochure's formatting and organization of material are confusing to the reader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Graphics, Pictures, &amp; Map</strong></td>
<td>Graphics go well with the text and there is a good mix of text and graphics. Brochure includes a map.</td>
<td>Graphics go well with the text, but there are so many that they distract from the text. Brochure includes a map.</td>
<td>Graphics go well with the text, but there are too few and the brochure seems “text heavy.” There is no map.</td>
<td>Graphics do not go with the accompanying text or appear to be randomly chosen. There is no map.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Ancient Greece Olympics & Our Modern Day Olympics

Use the internet and/or books to research ancient Greece’s Olympics and our modern day Olympics. Fill in the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What year did the Olympics Start?</th>
<th>Ancient Greece Olympics</th>
<th>Modern Day Olympics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1896</td>
<td>776 B.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What do the athletes wear?</th>
<th>Ancient Greece Olympics</th>
<th>Modern Day Olympics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Many didn’t wear clothes!</td>
<td>jerseys, athletic clothes, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name some events that women take part in.</th>
<th>Ancient Greece Olympics</th>
<th>Modern Day Olympics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No women competed</td>
<td>swimming, skiing, gymnastics, etc..</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name some countries that competed.</th>
<th>Ancient Greece Olympics</th>
<th>Modern Day Olympics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All men from Greek city-states (Athens, Sparta, etc..)</td>
<td>France, Great Britain, Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What track and field events did they have?</th>
<th>Ancient Greece Olympics</th>
<th>Modern Day Olympics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foot Race (only event in first Olympics)</td>
<td>High jump triple jump</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Find some other interesting facts.</th>
<th>Ancient Greece Olympics</th>
<th>Modern Day Olympics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fun Fact: Those taking part in the ancient Greek wrestling event had to be the toughest, as there were hardly any rules – and they had to compete naked. Eek!</td>
<td></td>
<td>Answers Will Vary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ancient Greek Language

The Greeks spoke a different language than us, however many of their words influenced words we use today.

A Prefix goes at the beginning of a word.

There are many Greek prefixes that we use today.
Can you think of some words that use these Greek prefixes?
If you have trouble, use a dictionary!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phot-</td>
<td>Photograph, photosynthesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo-</td>
<td>Geography, geometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tech-</td>
<td>Technology, technician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-</td>
<td>Antibiotic, antisocial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio-</td>
<td>Biology, biography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tele-</td>
<td>Telescope, telephone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A Suffix goes at the end of a word.

Can you think of some words that have these Ancient Greek endings?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Suffix</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-ology</td>
<td>biology, urology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-phobia</td>
<td>arachnophobia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-graph</td>
<td>Autograph, pictograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-meter</td>
<td>Thermometer, diameter, perimeter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-oery</td>
<td>Democracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-onym</td>
<td>Synonym, homonym</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fun Fact: If a word has a “ph” in it, it is probably Greek.
Ancient Greek Philosophers

**Socrates**
was a philosopher who taught by asking questions. Socrates asked many questions, but he gave few answers. Socrates was a well-known teacher in Athens. He walked around the city with his students, engaging many people in arguments. What we know about Socrates comes from what others wrote about him. Socrates did not write any books since he believed it was better to debate than write. Socrates regarded the tales of the gods as just make-believe.

This upset the leaders of Athens. They threatened to bring him to trial for neglecting the gods and for corrupting the children of Athens by encouraging them to consider new ideas. The leaders expected the seventy year old Socrates to leave Athens before his arrest, but he remained in Athens, stood trial, and was found guilty. A friend planned an escape from prison, but Socrates refused to participate. He believed that he must obey the law, even if he disagreed with it. His last day was spent with friends. At the end of the day, Socrates calmly drank from a cup of poison hemlock, the customary practice of execution at that time.

**Plato** was Socrates’ most famous student. Most of what we know about Socrates comes from Plato. When his teacher was executed, Plato left Greece for more than a decade. He returned to start The Academy, a school that would operate for more than 900 years. Plato described his idea of the best society in his most famous book, *The Republic*. Plato did not believe in democracy. He argued in favor of an “aristocracy of merit,” where the best and the wisest people would rule. Plato believed a small group of people intelligent and educated men and women should govern everyone.

**Aristotle** was the greatest scientist of the ancient world. He believed in using science and reason, rather than the anger or pleasure of gods, to explain natural events. Aristotle moved to Athens and studied at Plato's Academy. He remained at the school for more than twenty years until shortly after Plato died. Aristotle then returned to his home in Macedonia, where King Philip hired him to prepare his thirteen-year-old son, Alexander, for his future role as a military leader. His student would one day be known as Alexander the Great, one of the greatest military conquerors of all time. Once Alexander became King of
Macedonia, Aristotle returned to Athens and opened a school he called the Lyceum. For the next twelve years, Aristotle organized his school as a center of research on astronomy, zoology, geography, geology, physics, anatomy, and many other scientific fields. Aristotle wrote 170 books, 47 of which still exist more than two thousand years later. His ideas formed the basis of modern science.

Answer the questions.

1. Who were three great philosophers in ancient Greece? __________________, _______________, and ____________________________
   - Socrates
   - Aristotle
   - Plato

2. Why was Socrates sentenced to death?
   - Socrates was sentenced to death because he was found guilty for regarding the tales of the gods as make-believe.

3. What was Plato’s school called? ___________________________________________
   - The Academy

4. Plato’s most famous book is called? _______________________________________
   - The Republic

5. Aristotle helped teach this famous military leader? ____________________________
   - Alexander the Great

Other Ancient Greece Philosophers:

- **PYTHAGORAS** - Pythagoras is most known for the Pythagorean Theorem which is used to find the length of sides of right triangles. He also believed that the world was based on mathematics.

- **EPICURUS** - Said that the gods had no interest in humans. That what we should do is enjoy our lives and be happy.

- **ZENO** - Founded a type of philosophy called Stoicism. He said that happiness was from accepting whatever happened, good or bad. His philosophy was a way of life that emphasized a person’s actions more than their words.

**Fun Fact:**
Above the entrance to Plato’s Academy was the following quote, “Let none who has not learned Geometry enter here.”
Alexander, known as the Great Greek, was not actually Greek. He was a Macedonian prince. Macedonia was an empire located to the north of Greece. He would one day become the King of Macedonia.

Alexander had many teachers, one of which was Aristotle. Aristotle was also born in Macedonia, but he lived in Greece for a really long time. He loved the Greeks. He believed in the Greek gods and he knew Greek history. Aristotle thought the Greeks were clever, interesting, and talented. He taught his student, Alexander, all about the Greeks.

Alexander dreamed of the day that he would be King. When he was King, he too would teach everyone about the Greek culture he had come to know and love. Alexander also had other teachers who taught him how to wage war and conquer other people. When Alexander became King, he allowed every place he conquered the opportunity to rule themselves. All he asked was that they be loyal to Alexander.

Alexander taught all of the people that he conquered about the ancient Greeks. He shared their stories, myths, gods, and language-- just as Aristotle had taught him.

Alexander never lost a single battle. By the time he was 32, he had conquered the entire Mediterranean region. He probably would have continued to conquer more people, but one day, he became ill and died. He was only 33 years old.
Alexander is responsible for spreading the Greek culture throughout the Mediterranean. Without him, the Greek’s culture might not have survived.

Answer the questions.

Alexander was Greek. (circle one)   True  or  False  
Alexander had many teachers, one of which was Aristotle.
Alexander became king of Macedonia.
When he was king he wanted to teach everyone about the Greek culture.
Alexander was a great commander who never lost a single battle.
By the time Alexander was 32 years old he had conquered all of the Mediterranean region.

Explain why the Greek culture might not have survived if it had not been for Alexander the Great.

Alexander loved the Greek culture. As he conquered new lands and new people he taught them all about the Greek culture. He kept the Greek culture alive by sharing their stories, myths, gods, and language.

Fun Fact:
Alexander was only 33 years old when he died. Some say he was poisoned. It is just as likely that this great general was defeated by a mosquito because others believe he died of malaria.
Ancient Greece Test

Which continent is Greece located on?

A. United States of America   B. Asia   C. Europe

What body of water is located to the south of Greece?

A. Aegean Sea   B. Atlantic Ocean   C. Mediterranean Sea

What landform makes up most of Greece?

A. Mountains   B. Rivers   C. flatlands

What is the Greek word for city-state?

A. polish   B. polis   C. poland

What is a city-state?

A city-state is a city and its surrounding countryside, farms, and villages in Ancient Greece with its own government, laws, and customs.

What were the two most powerful city-states in Ancient Greece?

Sparta

Athens

Compare & Contrast the two most powerful city-states in Ancient Greece. Write two things that are different about each and two things that are the same.
Write at least one interesting fact about each Ancient Greek philosopher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socrates</th>
<th>Plato</th>
<th>Aristotle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sentenced to death for not believing In gods.</td>
<td>Started a school called The Academy.</td>
<td>Taught Alexander the Great.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Define each type of government.

**Monarchy**
Ruled by a king who makes all of the decisions alone.

**Oligarchy**
Ruled by powerful elite members of society.

**Democracy**
Ruled by the people. People vote to make decisions.

Explain how Ancient Greece was the birthplace of democracy.

Athens was the birthplace of democracy, or the idea that each person could have a voice in what laws were passed and who made up the government. Athens was the first place to rule in this way. A democracy means ‘rule of the people’. In Athenian democracy, people voted for the laws they wanted.
What Does Greece Look Like Today?

In modern times, Athens is the largest city and capital of Greece. It is a large cosmopolitan metropolis and central to economic, financial, industrial, maritime, political and cultural life in Greece.

Using context clues, what do you think the underlined word *metropolis* means?

A big city with lots of buildings

The city of Athens has a population of around 664,046 people. The urban area of Athens, including the port area of Piraeus has a population around 3,090,508 people.

The heritage of the classical era is still evident in the city, represented by ancient monuments of art. The most famous being the Parthenon, can still be visited by tourist today.

How has the Parthenon changed from ancient times?

The Parthenon is visited by tourists. It is no longer used as a place to worship the Greek God, Athena.
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