



ANCIENT GREECE





Name _____

TIMELINE OF ANCIENT GREECE



about 3000–1450 B.C.E.	Minoan Period began on the island of Crete
about 1600–1200 B.C.E.	Mycenean Civilization began on Greek mainland
about 1200 B.C.E.	Trojan War
about 1200–800 B.C.E.	A period of wars known as the Dark Ages
about 800–500 B.C.E.	Archaic Period Greek city-states emerged Athens and Sparta become the two most important city-states
about 800–700 B.C.E.	Homer composed the Illiad and the Odyssey
about 776 B.C.E.	First documented Olympic Games held at Olympia
about 610 B.C.E.	Greeks begin using coins
about 600 B.C.E.	Temple of Apollo built at Delphi
about 534 B.C.E.	First drama competitions held in Athens
about 490–479 B.C.E.	City-states join to defeat Persian armies
about 479–431 B.C.E.	Golden Age Advances in government, mathematics, science, philosophy, and the arts
461–429 B.C.E.	Pericles is a leading statesman in Athens
460 B.C.E.	Hippocrates born: Father of Medicine
447–432 B.C.E.	Parthenon built in Athens
431–404 B.C.E.	Sparta defeated Athens in Peloponnesian War
338 B.C.E.	Philip II of Macedonia conquered Greece
336–323 B.C.E.	Reign of Alexander the Great
323–146 B.C.E.	Hellenistic Age Greek ideas and learning spread to other countries
146 B.C.E.	Rome conquered Greece





Name _____

THE GLORY THAT WAS GREECE



The civilization of ancient Greece has played a larger part in shaping our modern society than any other ancient civilization. The poetry, literature, myths, sculpture, architecture, science, and philosophy of ancient Greece influence our lives even today.

Who were these ancient people who have reached from the past to touch our lives? The earliest people known to live in Greece were herdsmen and their families. Their sheep and goats grazed on rocky hillsides and they raised donkeys, oxen, and pigs.

Greece is a land of hundreds of small islands, mountains, hills, and valleys. The soil is thin and farmland scarce. The ancient Greeks planted grape vines and olive trees on the hillsides. They grew vegetables, fruit, wheat, and barley.

The people of Greece were cut off from each other except by sea. They did not have one king who ruled the country. The ancient Greeks depended on trade for food and other goods. Cities grew in valleys and along the coast where the land was most fertile and trading easier.

The Minoan civilization, named after King Minos, flourished on the island of Crete about 3,000 years ago.

Around 2000 B.C.E. people from the north and east moved into the mainland of Greece. Known as the Mycenaeans, their civilization lasted about 400 years until wars with invaders brought the end of this civilization and a time known as the Dark Ages.

Eventually peace returned. Many of the larger cities like Sparta and Athens became independent city-states. Each was like a small country. Although the cities were widely scattered and isolated, the people shared the same language and traditions.

Greek learning reached its peak during the Golden Age, beginning about 479 B.C.E. This was followed by the Hellenistic Period during which the Greeks spread their learning and ideas to other countries around the Mediterranean Sea.

1. Number these periods in Greek history in order.

___ Golden Age ___ Hellenistic ___ Minoan ___ Mycenaean

2. In what areas have the ancient Greeks influenced our lives?



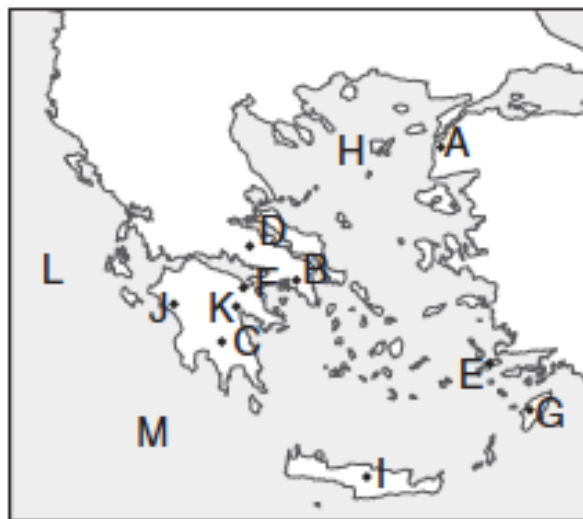


Name _____

WHERE IN ANCIENT GREECE?



Use the transparency map of Greece. Write the correct letters of the places in bold on the blanks.



1. ____ The east coast of Greece is on the **Aegean Sea**.
2. ____ Hippocrates founded a school of medicine on the island of **Cos**.
3. ____ West of Greece is the **Ionian Sea**.
4. ____ **Olympia** was the site of the first Olympic games.
5. ____ In **Sparta** boys began training to be soldiers at the age of seven.
6. ____ The **Mediterranean Sea** lies south of Greece.
7. ____ The earliest known Greek civilization developed on the island of **Crete**.
8. ____ **Corinth** was the chief commercial center for the Greeks by about 650 B.C.E.
9. ____ **Argos** is believed to be the oldest city in Greece.
10. ____ According to legend, Hercules was born in **Thebes**.
11. ____ **Rhodes**, an island in the Aegean Sea near Turkey is noted for its fertile soil.
12. ____ The city-state of **Athens** was the home of many famous Greek philosophers including Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle.
13. ____ Believed to be only a legend, the ancient city of **Troy** was located by Heinrich Schliemann in 1870.

DID YOU KNOW?

The land area of the country of Greece is slightly smaller than Alabama.





LITERATURE AND DRAMA



About 800 B.C.E. the poet Homer wrote two of the most famous and earliest works of Greek literature. In *The Illiad*, he tells the story of the Trojan War fought to recover Helen, the beautiful Greek queen who had been kidnapped. Homer describes a long battle that ends with a famous trick—the soldiers gain entrance into the walled city of Troy by hiding inside a huge wooden horse.

Homer's other epic poem, *The Odyssey*, tells of the travels and adventures of Odysseus for ten years after the Trojan War.

Two hundred years after Homer, the Greeks invented another type of literature: drama. The earliest plays were religious ceremonies. A group of performers called a chorus sang and spoke together to tell stories of the gods and goddesses.

As the form developed, individual actors began to play separate parts. The stories retold the adventures of great heroes. Greek actors were always men. They wore large masks to represent the characters they portrayed. Greek dramas continued to use the chorus which spoke, sang, and even danced together.

Drama was so important to the Greeks during the Golden Age that they built huge, open-air theaters all across Greece. Dramatic presentations could last an entire day and included both comedies and tragedies. Touring companies of actors traveled from city to city across Greece.

1. Comedies were plays about everyday things that made people laugh. Name movies or plays you have seen that are comedies.

2. Tragedies were plays about serious subjects. Name movies or plays you have seen that are tragedies.



Eventually drama competitions were held with prizes given for the best plays and actors. Today awards are still given for plays, movies, songs, singers, and actors.

3. List ways Greek dramas are similar to modern movies and ways they are different.

Similar

Different



Name _____

THE FIRST OLYMPICS



Sports were very important in ancient Greece. Greeks idolized physical beauty, health, and strength. To keep in shape, they built gymnasiums for exercise and stadiums for competitions.

The Olympic games, held at Olympia in honor of Zeus, took place every four years beginning in the 8th century B.C.E. During the Olympics most work stopped and wars were put on hold during a month-long holiday so people could journey to, compete in, and watch the games.

The pentathlon included competition in five events: racing, long jump, discus, javelin, and wrestling. Other Olympic events included boxing, horseback racing, and chariot racing.



Use a dictionary or other reference source:

1. What is a javelin? _____
2. What is a discus? _____

Olympic winners received a wreath of olive leaves, a palm branch, and ribbons, as well as fame and honor.

The modern practice of carrying a torch to begin the Olympic games came from the Greek relay runners who passed a lit torch to each other instead of a baton. The winner of the race lit a fire to honor the gods.

Married women were forbidden by law to compete or even watch the Olympics. The Greeks believed that the presence of wives would defile the religious shrine at Olympia. Although the shrine was dedicated to a woman, the fertility goddess Rhea, and young girls were allowed to attend, married women who broke the rule were thrown from a nearby cliff.

3. Use reference sources. List three modern Olympic events that probably were not part of ancient Greek Olympics.

Summer Olympic Events

Winter Olympic Events

In 394 A.D. the Roman Emperor Theodosius, a Christian, banned the Olympic games because they honored a Greek god. The first modern Olympics were held in Athens in 1896.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Greeks used onions to fortify athletes for the Olympic games. Before competition, athletes would consume many pounds of onions, drink onion juice, and rub their bodies with onions.





Name _____

WHO WERE THE GREEK PHILOSOPHERS? □

During the Golden Age of Greek history beginning about 479 B.C.E., several famous philosophers began questioning the traditional view of the world.

Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle were the three most famous philosophers of ancient Greece. They had strong beliefs about how people should think and behave. They encouraged others to discuss and exchange ideas, an important method of learning.

Philosophy can be defined as the love of wisdom and the search for truth. The most influential Greek philosopher was Socrates who became the teacher of Plato. Plato founded an Academy in Athens where his famous student Aristotle studied, became a teacher, and later founded his own school, the Lyceum.

Socrates encouraged his students to challenge traditional beliefs. When someone answered a question, he picked apart their answers, finding flaws, asking more questions, and forcing them to come up with original ideas. Socrates questioned everyone and everything. He believed that knowledge was the only road to happiness.

1. On another sheet of paper, write your opinion of the Socratic method of teaching.

Many people were uncomfortable with Socrates' methods, especially when he challenged their beliefs in the gods and goddesses. He refused to give up his teaching and was sentenced to death.



469-399 BC

Plato, a student of Socrates, wrote the *Dialogues* which included conversations between Socrates and his students.



427-347 BC

Aristotle attended Plato's Academy. He studied and wrote about astronomy, meteorology, plants, animals, religion, politics, ethics, and the human soul. His goal was to examine and understand everything.

Aristotle believed intellectual excellence could only be attained by mature, adult,

upper-class males, not by women, children, barbarians (non-Greeks) or manual laborers.

2. What is your opinion of this belief? Explain your answer on another sheet of paper.



384-322 BC





Name _____

SLAVERY IN ANCIENT GREECE



Slavery played a major role in ancient Greek civilization. Slaves worked in homes, factories, shops, mines, and on ships. There may have been more slaves than free people in ancient Greece.

Slaves had few rights. They were considered the property of their masters and could not become citizens. Slaves were not allowed to marry, because marriage was a privilege of the citizens of Athens.

Children of slaves were usually slaves too. Many slaves were prisoners of war, captured in battle. Criminals could be sentenced to slavery. If a family needed money, they might sell one of the children (usually a daughter) into slavery. Kidnapping was another common way in which one could have been sold into slavery.

The cost of slaves in ancient Greece depended on their appearance, age, and attitude. Healthy, attractive, young, and submissive slaves were more valuable than those who were old, weak, or stubborn. After winning a large battle when there were many prisoners of war, the price of slaves went down.



Male slaves did agricultural and industrial work. Female slaves performed domestic duties like shopping, fetching water, cooking, serving food, cleaning, child-care, and spinning wool. They became housekeepers, cooks, and nurses. Slaves who worked in homes were supervised by the woman of the house. Wealthy Greek households had as many as 10 to 20 slaves.

1. List five ways people could become slaves in ancient Greece.

2. Compare slavery in ancient Greece to slavery in the American colonies.





Name _____

WOMEN IN ANCIENT GREECE



Women played little or no part in politics or public life in ancient Greece. Girls were not allowed to go to school. They learned to spin, weave, cook, and take care of a home from their mothers. If they were wealthy, they had slaves or servants to help. If not, they did the work themselves.

Girls married young, usually by the age of 15, to a man usually much older who was chosen by the girl's father. Often the couple did not know each other before their wedding day. The bride's father was expected to provide a dowry. Many ancient Greeks believed a man should not marry until he was 30 to 35 years old.



1. How would you feel about marrying someone you had never met?

On their wedding day the bride wore a white tunic with a veil. The groom arrived in a cart or chariot with friends to take his wife to their new home. When they arrived, he carried her over the threshold. Together they said prayers in front of the hearth. The next day the bride's family brought presents and celebrated with a feast.

Use a dictionary.

2. Define dowry: _____
3. Define threshold: _____
4. Define hearth: _____
5. Which of these wedding practices are similar to ones people still follow today?

Once married, women spent most of their time at home. They only went out when attended by their husbands, servants, or slaves.

Husbands were allowed to divorce their wives at any time for any reason. However, they were required to return her dowry. A divorced woman returned to live with her parents, but the children stayed with their father.

A woman could divorce her husband but she was required to give written reasons.

DID YOU KNOW?

In ancient Greece a man could marry his wife off to another man without her consent!



Name _____

WHAT DID THEY LEARN IN SCHOOL? □□□

Only boys were allowed to attend school in ancient Greece. If a family could afford to send their sons to school, they began their education when they were seven years old. Those who could not afford to go to school stayed at home and worked on the farm or became apprentices in a trade.

Education in Athens included learning to count, read, and write. Students read texts on papyrus scrolls written in ink. They used an abacus to learn math. They learned to write with a pointed stick called a stylus on tablets coated with wax.



1. Why do you think students learned to write on tablets coated with wax rather than with ink on papyrus?

Learning music was another important part of education. Boys and girls learned to play stringed instruments and a type of flute. (Girls learned at home from their mothers.)

When they were about 14, boys began training in wrestling, running, jumping, and throwing the javelin and discus. This helped them become strong and healthy. Some boys left school at 16 to learn a trade. Others stayed until they were 18, then trained as soldiers for two years.

2. List three ways education in ancient Greece was different from your education today.

3. List three ways education was similar then and now.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rosemary, long associated with remembrance, was worn as wreaths by students in ancient Greece during exams.









Name _____

THE BEGINNING OF DEMOCRACY

A system of government known as *demokratia* began in Athens about 500 B.C.E. *Demokratia* means "government by the people."

1. What common English word comes from the Greek word *demokratia*?

2. Compare democracy in ancient Athens to democracy in the U.S.

 In ancient Athens 	 In the United States 
Only adult Greek men were citizens. Women, children, and slaves had no rights. All citizens were allowed to vote.	_____ _____ _____
All citizens were allowed to hold political office.	_____ _____
Citizens were allowed to serve on juries. All citizens could attend and speak at public meetings.	_____ _____
A council of 500 was chosen each year by lottery to help manage the city.	_____ _____
Mollusk shells were used as ballots because once a vote was scratched on the shell, it couldn't be erased or altered.	_____ _____

A board of ten generals was chosen each year by lottery. It was their duty to protect Athens against invaders.

3. What is your opinion of how effective this system would be? _____

DID YOU KNOW?

At one time the population of Athens exceeded 200,000. Of those, 50,000 were adult male citizens. The rest were women, slaves, and foreigners.





Name _____

THE FOUNDATIONS OF MODERN MEDICINE

The ancient Greeks believed illness was a punishment from the gods. People who were ill went to one of the temples of Asclepius, the god of healing. His symbol, a staff with a snake called a caduceus, is still used as a symbol of medicine today and is the emblem of the medical branches of the U.S. Army and Navy.



The priests of the temples treated patients with secret remedies and magical charms handed down from father to son. They believed that praying to the gods and goddesses could cure diseases.

During the Golden Age a new approach to medicine began with Hippocrates who was born in 460 B.C.E. He believed that illnesses were not caused or cured by the gods. Diseases had physical causes which could be treated and prevented, but not by magical charms or prayers.

Known as the father of medicine, Hippocrates examined patients and prescribed treatments which included diet, exercise, and medication. He founded a school of medicine on the island of Cos.

Students of Hippocrates took an oath when they became doctors, promising to help the sick using scientific study and treatment and to follow a code of honorable behavior. Doctors today make a similar promise called the Hippocratic Oath.

Another famous doctor, Herophilus, lived about 100 years after Hippocrates. He became the first person to cut apart human bodies and write about what he found inside. From his studies, he learned how to perform some types of surgeries.

Dioskorides, a Greek physician in the first century A.D., wrote about the use of plants and herbs to cure sicknesses. He noted several medicinal uses of onions.

Which methods do people today still use when they are ill?

- Pray for a cure.
- Go to a temple when they are ill.
- Believe illness is a punishment from the gods.
- Visit a doctor for an exam.
- Take medicine.
- Exercise to stay healthy.
- Believe some plants and herbs can cure sicknesses.
- Have surgery when needed.
- Manage their diet to prevent or control illnesses.

DID YOU KNOW?

Parsley was well known to the ancient Greeks. They considered it too sacred to eat.



Name _____

THE PARTHENON

Built on the hillside near Athens in the fifth century B.C.E., the Parthenon is one of the most familiar examples of Greek architecture.



1. Use the internet or other reference sources to list five facts about the Parthenon.

The Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. was modeled on the Parthenon.

2. Use the internet or other reference sources to list five facts about the Lincoln Memorial.

3. List three ways the Parthenon and the Lincoln Memorial are similar.



4. List three ways the Parthenon and the Lincoln Memorial are different.



SPARTA



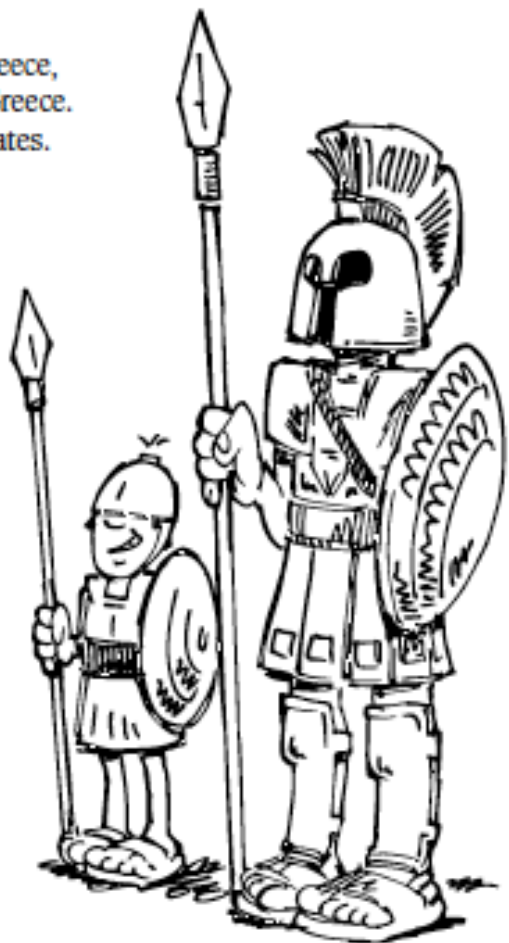
Sparta, built on the banks of the Eurotas River in Southern Greece, became one of the two most important city-states in ancient Greece. Life in Sparta was different from life in the other Greek city-states. The Spartans had little use for music, the arts, or philosophy. To them, being a brave soldier was important.

All children became the property of the state at birth. Babies were presented to the leaders. If a child was sick or weak, he or she was left to die.

The government of Sparta was not a democracy. The people were led by the 28 members of the Council of Elders who elected two kings. One king led the army and the other became the chief priest.

Boys lived at home until they were about seven years old. Then they went to live in a boarding school similar to an army barracks where they learned not only to read and write, but also learned the lessons the Spartans considered most important. They learned to obey orders and become soldiers. They learned to accept hardship, hunger, and pain.

Girls in Sparta were treated much differently from those in Athens. They were also trained to fight, jump, run, wrestle, and throw a javelin and discus. The Spartans wanted women to be strong and healthy so they would have strong, healthy sons.



1. People still speak of living a "Spartan life." What do you think that phrase means?

2. Imagine being a child in Sparta. Describe how you feel about your training.

DID YOU KNOW?

Herodotus wrote that Spartans combed their hair before a battle so "they might die with their heads tidy."



Name _____

ATHENS, CITY OF ATHENA



Founded in the ninth century B.C.E., Athens became the most powerful of all the Greek city-states. Named for the goddess Athena, Athens was the cultural center for the arts and learning in ancient Greece.

Its location on the coast of southeastern Greece provided several advantages. The mountains provided some protection on three sides from inland invaders. Access to the sea contributed to the city's economic and military success.



During its history, Athens, like other city-states, was ruled for a time by tyrants. A later development was the Council of Elders who chose leaders responsible for conducting war, religion, and law. Around 500 B.C.E. the city became a democracy.

Although rivals, the Spartans joined with Athens in the war against Persian invaders. Athens was attacked and nearly destroyed in 480 B.C.E. Finally Themistocles, the leader of Athens, with the help of a strong navy, defeated the Persians on land and at sea. He built a wall around Athens and began construction of walls connecting the city with its port, Piraeus.

1. Why do you think a leader would want to build a wall around a city?

During the 450s B.C.E. Pericles continued the work begun by Themistocles using public funds to build the Parthenon, the temple of Athena Nike, the Erechtheion, and other great monuments.

The Athenians convinced more than 200 city-states and islands to join with them in an alliance called the Delian League. Athens developed a large powerful navy that provided protection to members of the alliance—for a price. Over time, the alliance became an Athenian empire.

The influence of Athens declined after it was defeated by Sparta during the Peloponnesian War (431-404 B.C.E.). Although later conquered by the Macedonians and the Romans, Athens remained a center of Greek culture and learning until the third century A.D.

2. List ways Athens and Sparta were different.





Name _____

A VISIT TO THE AGORA



You might think large malls are rather recent inventions, but think again. If you had lived in ancient Greece, you could have visited the agora to buy pottery, baskets, cheese, grain, jewelry, perfume, or a thousand different items. Shoppers could buy items made and grown in Greece as well as items brought in by traders from many countries.

The agora was a large open space in the center of most Greek cities. Some cities also had closed market buildings surrounding the agora where more expensive goods were sold. Similar types of goods were sold in one area. All merchants who sold fish, for example, would have their stalls in one section of the agora.

Bankers also had a place at the agora. Since each city-state had its own coins, shoppers could exchange foreign money for their coins from their cities. Bankers also made loans and charged interest on the money.



1. Circle the items you think the ancient Greeks could have bought at the agora.

- | | | | |
|----------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| abacus | baskets | books | chickens |
| clothing | computers | figs | fish |
| fruit | furniture | goats | grain |
| jewelry | leather goods | meat | olives |
| perfume | pottery | sandals | televisions |
| wine | vases | vegetables | wool |



2. Imagine walking through the agora on a busy day. Think about what you might see, hear, smell, taste, and touch as you wander from stall to stall. Use sensory words to describe your visit.





DID YOU KNOW?

The ancient Greeks had perfumes for every part of the body. Scents were designed to clear the mind, cure illness, and win true love.





Name _____

WHO AM I?



Most Greeks believed there were many gods and goddesses who looked and acted like humans. Some were good and some bad. The deities who lived on Mount Olympus were very real to the ancient Greeks. They represented various aspects of life and nature.

Use reference sources to match the names of the twelve most important Greek deities with their descriptions.

Aphrodite	Apollo	Ares	Artemis
Athena	Hades	Hephaestus	Hera
Hermes	Hestia	Poseidon	Zeus



- _____ God of war; son of Zeus and Hera
- _____ Goddess of the hunt; daughter of Zeus and Leto
- _____ Ruler of the sea; brother of Zeus and Hades
- _____ Goddess of love and beauty; daughter of Zeus and Dione
- _____ Ruler of all the gods and goddesses; his symbol was a lightning bolt
- _____ Goddess of the hearth and home, sister of Zeus
- _____ Goddess of wisdom and war and protector of cities, arts, and crafts
- _____ God of fire and craftsman; son of Zeus and Hera or Hera alone, myths varied
- _____ The messenger god; son of Zeus and Maia
He delivered the souls of those who died to the Underworld.
- _____ Ruler of the Underworld; brother of Zeus and Poseidon
- _____ God of light, music, and poetry; son of Zeus and Leto
- _____ Protector of marriage and women; wife of Zeus
- Athena was the daughter of Zeus, but had no mother. How was she born? _____

- What did Poseidon use to cause rough seas and earthquakes?



Name _____

THINK ABOUT IT

A man at a coin shop tells you he has a wonderful ancient rare Greek coin dated 437 B.C.E. He'll sell it to you for only \$50.

1. Should you buy it? Why or why not? _____

People in Sparta believed in the importance of physical perfection through hardship, hunger, pain, and strenuous exercise. People in Athens were more interested in learning, art, music, painting, sculpture, science, and philosophy.

2. Which do you agree with most? Explain your answer.

Citizens in Athens could vote to exile "undesirables." If anyone received more than 6,000 votes, he had to leave Athens for 10 years.

3. Would you like to have a system like this in your city? Why or why not?

Some archaeologists explore underwater looking for clues about ancient cultures.

4. What do you think they can learn from sunken ships and ruins under water?

Women in Greece were not allowed to vote in national elections until 1952.

5. Why is this ironic? _____



Name _____

ANCIENT GREEK TIMES

Our motto: If it's not more than 2,000 years old, it's too new to use.

Write a headline in six words or less for each event.

1. Socrates is sentenced to death because he questions traditional beliefs in the gods and goddesses.

2. The Persians invade Greece, attack Athens, and nearly destroy the city. Combined with the armies of Sparta and Athens and a strong navy, Themistocles finally defeats the Persians.

3. A man in Athens claims he was taken by the gods to their home on Mount Olympus where he learned the secrets of immortality which he is willing to share for a price.

Complete the ad in your own words.

Enroll Now

4. Students interested in attending Plato's Academy should apply within the next ten days. Must be

interested in _____

willing to _____

and _____

Actors Wanted

Tryouts for a new play opening this spring will be held at the amphitheater tomorrow morning. Members needed for the chorus. Only men may apply.

Tickets on Sale Now

Action! Suspense! Mystery! Advance tickets to the best tragedy to hit the big stage are now available. Get yours early. Seating is limited.

Sale at the Agora

BIG SAVINGS!
Hurry in for best selection.

5. Write another imaginary ad for the Ancient Greek Times.

THE INFLUENCE OF GREEK ON ENGLISH

GREEK	MEANING	ENGLISH
acro	tip; top	acrobat
ant, anti	against	antisocial
auto	self	automobile
biblio	book	bibliography
bio	life	biology
dec, deca	ten	decade
di, dis	two	dialogue
dys	difficult, bad	dysfunctional
hemi	half	hemisphere
ideo	idea	ideology
hyper	above, beyond	hyperactive
kilo	thousand	kilogram
macro	long, large	macrocosm
mega	great	megalith
micro	small	microscope
mono	one	monochrome
neo	new	neoclassical
paleo	long ago, ancient	paleontology
penta	five	pentagon
peri	around	perimeter
poly	many	polygon
tri	three	trident

