

The Great Greek Culture (2600BC-338 BC)

1. Beginning of Greek and Western Civilization

- A. When- 2600BC
- B. Where- island of Crete
- C. Name of Culture- Minoans
- D. Height of civilization- palace at Knossos (King Minos minotaur)
- E. Major accomplishments
 - 1. skilled in frescoes paintings
 - 2. underground plumbing at Knossos
 - 3. Huge pottery (vases) water supply and trading products)
 - 4. very first entrepreneurs, adapted and developed seamanship skills faster than any culture.
 - 5. 1st to develop linear A linear B writing
 - ***F. Year and reason for collapse- 1450 BC huge volcanic eruption on the island of Santorini that caused a huge tsunami that wiped out the Minoan culture.

II Collapse of Minoans/ Reign of Myceneans

- A. Group who followed Minoans- Myceneans (came in from Peloponnese)
- B. Year- 2000 BC
- C. major achievements (adopted Minoan sea trade and culture)
 - 1. political- warlike and absolute kings, conquered Minoans, Trojan war
 - 2. religious- polytheistic, introduce Greek mythology
 - 3. economic- sailors, farmers, merchants
 - 4. social- patriarchic society,(rulers, nobles, merchants, farmers, slaves)
 - 5. intellectual- Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, great metal workers, Bronze age (weapons)
- D. Collapse of Mycenaean rule- collapses around 1200BC. Replaced by Dorian's, less advanced than Minoans and Myceneans. Leave no written record. send Greece into Dark Ages for 300 years!
- ***E. Epic Story of Trojan war-

III (Hellenic age)

- A. Known as- Classical age
- B. Time period- 800-324 BC (approx)
- C. Areas impacted- mainland Greece, Crete, Greek islands. (Entire

Mediterranean and Southwest Asia)!

D. major accomplishments- Hellenistic era impacted the following:

1. art, literature, poetry
2. sculptures and canons
3. architecture (Doric, Ionic, Corinthian columns)
4. advances in science (father of science father of physics)
5. advances in math (father of geometry) (father of math)
6. philosophy (the big 3!) SAP
7. impact of history! (father of History)
8. theater (Greek tragedies)
9. medicine- (father of medicine)

IV City states and the emergence of 2 powerful city states

A. defined- independent cities that existed throughout Greece

B approximate number- 150-200

C. 2 geographical factors that contributed to their existence

1. mountains (very mountainous)
2. water (Greece is a peninsula)

D. 2 most powerful city states

1. Sparta- largest in area, rugged terrain.

* ruled by a king (Oligarchy)

* women were given rights

* state owned slaves

* strict control

*scorned wealth (despised Athens)

2. Spartan culture

*success was dependent on military strength (fitness and health)

*stressed body over mind

* women were trained in gymnastics, needed to be physically fit for child bearing.

* infants were examined at birth to be examined for any birth defects and physical ailments. (those determined unfit left on Mt. Sparta)

* boys were taken at age 7 to a military boarding school until 21 years old.

(purpose was to become the strongest, most disciplined fighter in the world!)

*entire culture was based on total intimidation!

3. Athens- most populated city state (250,000 slaves accounted 100,000)

*had direct democracy (sorry girls)

* male citizens participated in gov't

* military and academic training for boys

* traded with city states

4. Athenian culture

- *was commercial center of Greece
- *first society to introduce democracy
- *strove for excellence, no matter what the challenge
- * believed in the balance of mind and body
- * becomes the intellectual center of Greece
- *contributions I democracy, philosophy, astrology, biology, math, physics and theater, to name a few!

V Persian wars

A.Who- 3 great Persian rulers

- 1.Cyrus the Great
2. Darius
3. Xerxes

B. reason for Persia wanting to defend Greece- Ionian revolt

C. 1st major battle in 490BC- Marathon

D. Outcome- 25,000 Persians vs 10,000 Athenians. Greeks deployed their phalanx system, and chased persians to their ships. 6,400 persians killed, 192 Greeks.

E. Phedippides- athenian who ran 26.2 miles back to Athens to relay the victory. (Nikemos) victory. Died as he relayed words, in his honor marathon race!!

F. 2nd major battle in 480 BC- Thermopylae

G. reason for battle- persian ruler Xerxes wants to destroy Greece (Athens) after Marathon. Assembles largest land and naval fleet ever. (300,000 men 1,000 ships)

H. Outcome- Epic story of 300 Spartans along with 3,000 other Greeks defends the narrow pass at Thermopylae for 3 days. After third day, a traitor tells Xerxes of a rear pass and all are killed.

I. 3rd major battle in 480 BC- Salamis Bay

J. Outcome- Persian ruler Xerxes burns Athens and Greeks led by Themistocles defeat Xerxes at a narrow channel (salamis). Xerxes is forced to flee Greece and never returns!!

K. Result of Persian wars- Greece forms the Delian league, 140 city states unite.

L. Impact- Greece enters the Golden Age- (480-430BC) age of Pericles, height of Greece civilization!

VI Know your fathers-

1. geometry-
2. mathematics-
3. medicine-
4. physics-

5. history!!!
6. theater
7. philosophy-
8. democracy-
9. trigonometry-
10. poetry-

VI Know your gods

1. Zeus-
2. Hera-
3. Poseidon-
4. Ares-
5. Apollo-
6. Athena-
7. Hermes-
8. Hades-
9. Aphrodite-
10. Nike-

VII Peloponesian War (Those dumb Greeks!)

- A. 2 adversaries- Athens and Sparta (Sparta declares war on Athens)
- B. length of war- 431- 404 BC (27 years)
- C. Impact of war- Sparta is eventually victorious, however Greece is weakened militarily. King Phillip of Macedonia takes advantage.
- D. 338 BC- (a sad day!) Phillip conquers Greece, and is followed by his son Alexander the Great.
- E. Impact of Alexander- creates one of the largest empires ever, (Greece to India) Spreads the Hellenistic culture throughout his empire.