

Knowledge Organiser - Year 6—History: Ancient Greeks

Key Question — What did we learn from the Ancient Greeks?



Historical Greek Periods

Archaic Period	Classical Greece	Hellenistic Greece	Roman Greece
800—500 BC	499—323 BC	323—146 BC	146 BC—395AD

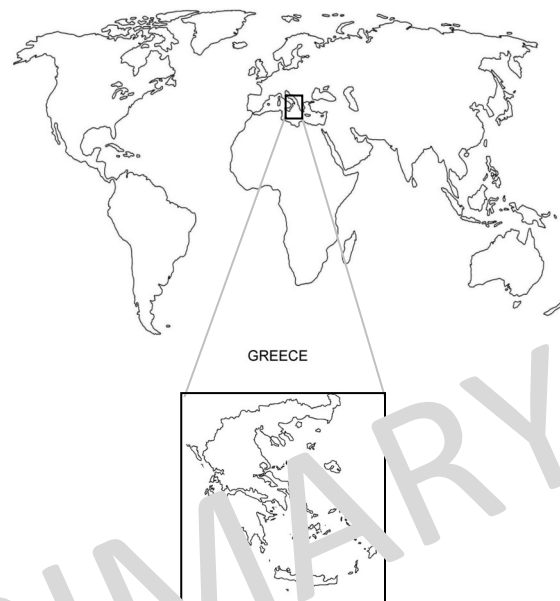
Famous Greeks

Alexander The Great 356— 323 BC	A king of Macedonia, and educated by Aristotle. He was called 'the Great' because he conquered more lands than anyone before him and became the overall ruler of Greece.
Archimedes 287—212 BC	Mathematician and engineer. He designed a machine, called the Archimedeian screw, which could make water flow uphill. His design has been used for almost 2,000 years, to take water from rivers to the fields. He was able to tell fool's gold from real gold.
Aristotle 382-322 BC	Discovered many things in science and biology. He wrote books about physics, poetry, zoology, biology, politics, governments, and more. At 17, he went to Athens to study with Plato.
Hippocrates 460—375BC	Known as the 'Father of Medicine' he was a physician (doctor) who professionalised the treatment of illness and is thought to have inspired 'The Hippocratic Oath' a moral code that doctors and nurses still follow today.
Plato 429-327 BC	He was a brilliant student of Socrates and later carried on his work. He gathered Socrates' ideas and wrote them down as a philosopher.
Parmenides 515—Mid 400s BC	He watched an eclipse of the Moon in about 470 BC, and noticed that the Earth's shadow was curved. He worked out that if the shadow was curved then the Earth must be round.
Pythagoras 569—490 BC	A mathematician who explored a range of mathematical ideas, including Pythagoras' theorem on right-angled triangles.
Socrates 470—399BC	A philosopher whose way of life, character and thoughts had a significant influence on ancient and modern philosophy.

Key Vocabulary

citadel	Fortress, typically on high ground, protecting or dominating a city.
mythology	A collection of myths (traditional stories), often belonging to a particular religious or cultural tradition
philosophy	The word philosophy comes from the Greek language. It means "love of wisdom." It is the study of basic ideas about knowledge, right and wrong, reasoning, and the value of things.
theory	An explanation for why things work or how things happen.

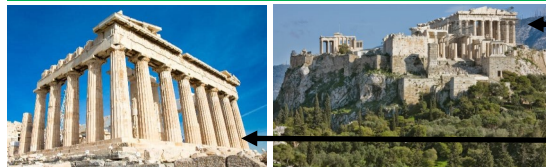
Where in the world is it?



Greek City-States

Greece existed as a number of city-states, rather than one country.

Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Thebes, Eretria, Chalcis, Syracuse, Massalia



Contributions to Modern Life

Astronomy	Many of the constellations are named after Greek characters, as well as identifying and explain the movement of the planets and stars.
Democracy	The concept of democracy and voting for leadership are still applied in many countries today
Education	Set the foundations of modern education, creating public schools and university. Key subjects were reading, writing & maths, along with philosophy.
Idioms & sayings	Modern sayings with Greek origins include Achilles heel, Pandora's box, Midas touch, and split the difference.
Law	The Athenians introduced courts and a set of laws which must be followed by everyone to ensure equilibrium (balance) in society.
Religion & mythology	Greek mythology impacted on everyday life as well as influencing art, sport and literature.
Sport	Gave us the first Olympic Games in 776 BC, and a range of different sports including boxing, long jump, javelin which stemmed from training for military combat.
Theories	A number of intellectual minds from Ancient Greece gave us theories on Mathematics, Science, & Engineering, that are still used today.

Key Concepts

Civilisation	The process by which a society or place reaches an advanced stage of social and cultural development and organisation with its own religion, agriculture and written language.
Democracy	A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.
Society	A large social group sharing the same geographical or social territory subject to the same political authority and dominant cultural expectations, with shared views, laws and culture.

Key Places

Acropolis	An ancient citadel located on a rocky outcrop above the city of Athens . It contains the remains of several ancient buildings of great architectural and historic significance.
Athens	Capital city of Modern Greece. It was also the birthplace of much of the Ancient Greek culture and philosophy when it was a city state.
Mount Olympus	Highest mountain in Greece, home to Olympus the place of the gods in Greek mythology.
Parthenon	Former temple on the Acropolis, dedicated to the goddess Athena, whom the people of Athens held as their patron.