Each civilization that you will study in this unit made important contributions to history.

- The Greeks developed democratic government.
- The ancient Chinese created paper.
- The people of India invented the concept of zero.
People to Meet

Homer

Greek poet, wrote *Iliad* and *Odyssey*
Chapter 5, page 159

Siddhartha Gautama

c. 563–483 B.C.
Founder of Buddhism
Chapter 6, page 207

Confucius

551–479 B.C.
Chinese philosopher
Chapter 7, page 237

Pericles

c. 495–429 B.C.
Athenian general and leading statesman
Chapter 4, page 141

See Ancient Greece Chapters 4 & 5

See Ancient Greece Chapter 5
Ancient Greeks

The Parthenon rises above the city of Athens. The people of ancient Greece built this temple to celebrate their goddess Athena.

When & Where?

- **700 B.C.**
  - c. 750 B.C.: Greece’s Dark Age comes to an end

- **600 B.C.**
  - c. 650 B.C.: Tyrants overthrow nobles in city-states

- **500 B.C.**
  - 480 B.C.: Xerxes invades Greece

- **400 B.C.**
  - 431 B.C.: Peloponnesian War begins
The Early Greeks
The earliest civilizations in Greece were the Minoans and the Mycenaeans. Greece’s mountains, climate, and surrounding seas played a large role in their history.

Sparta and Athens
Athens and Sparta became the two most powerful city-states in ancient Greece. Sparta focused on its military force, while Athens focused on trade, culture, and democracy.

Persia Attacks the Greeks
The Persian Empire gained control of most of southwest Asia. However, when the Persians tried to conquer the Greeks, Athens and Sparta united to defeat them.

The Age of Pericles
Under the leadership of Pericles, Athens became a powerful city-state and culture blossomed.

Summarizing Information
Make this foldable to help you organize and summarize information about the ancient Greeks.

Reading and Writing
As you read the chapter, write information under each appropriate tab. Be sure to summarize the information you find by writing only main ideas and supporting details.
Unlock meaning by making a connection between what you read and what you already know. Your own experiences can help you understand words or ideas that are unfamiliar. Read the paragraph below. Make a connection between a Greek *agora* and a place that is familiar to you.

Below the acropolis was an open area called an *agora* (A • guh • ruh). This space had two functions: it was both a *market* and a place where people could meet and debate issues.

— from page 122

Do you know what an *agora* looks like? You know what a *market* looks like. Can you also visualize *a place where people could meet*? If so, then you have a good idea of what an agora might look like.

Try to create a picture in your mind as you read. Imagine a mini-movie as you “see” what the author is describing.
Read the following paragraph from Chapter 4. What ideas can you connect to your own experiences? Use the questions below to help you begin a class discussion about things in your life that relate to life in ancient Greece.

At age 20, Spartan men entered the regular army. The men remained in military barracks for 10 more years. They ate all their meals in dining halls with other soldiers. A typical meal was a vile-tasting dish called black broth—pork boiled in animal blood, salt, and vinegar.

Spartans returned home at age 30 but stayed in the army until age 60. They continued to train for combat. They expected to either win on the battlefield or die, but never to surrender. One Spartan mother ordered her son to “Come home carrying your shield or being carried on it.”

—from pages 126–127

Do you have any family members or friends who are 20 years old? What would they say if they were required to serve in the army for 40 years?

Have you ever seen or tasted food that looks like “black broth”?

As you read the chapter, choose five words or phrases that make a connection to something you already know.
What's the Connection?

In Chapters 1 and 2, you learned about Mesopotamia and Egypt. These civilizations grew up in great river valleys with rich soil. Greece had no great river valleys. Instead, it had mountains, rocky soil, and many miles of seacoasts.

Focusing on the Main Ideas

• The geography of Greece influenced where people settled and what they did. (page 117)
• The Minoans earned their living by building ships and trading. (page 118)
• Mycenaeans built the first Greek kingdoms and spread their power across the Mediterranean region. (page 119)
• Colonies and trade spread Greek culture and spurred industry. (page 121)
• The idea of citizenship developed in Greek city-states. (page 122)

Locating Places
Crete (KREET)
Mycenae (my•SEE•nee)
Peloponnesus (PEH•luh•puh•NEE•suhs)

Meeting People
Agamemnon (A•guh•MEHM•nahn)

Building Your Vocabulary
peninsula (puh•NIHN•suh•luh)
colony (KAH•luh•nee)
polis (PAH•luhs)
agora (A•guh•ruh)

Reading Strategy
Finding Details Draw a diagram like the one below. In each oval write one detail about a polis.

c. 2000 B.C.
Minoans control eastern Mediterranean

c. 1200 B.C.
Mycenaean civilization declines

c. 750 B.C.
Greece’s Dark Age comes to an end
The Geography of Greece

Main Idea The geography of Greece influenced where people settled and what they did.

Reading Focus Do you rake leaves in the fall? Do you walk uphill to school? Your answers explain how geography shapes your life. Read to learn how geography shaped life in early Greece.

If you fly over Greece today, you will see a mountainous land framed by sparkling blue water. To the west is the Ionian (eye•OH•nee•uhn) Sea, to the south is the Mediterranean Sea, and to the east is the Aegean (ih•JEE•uhn) Sea. Hundreds of islands lie offshore, stretching across to Asia like stepping-stones. Mainland Greece is a peninsula (puh•NIHN•suh•luh)—a body of land with water on three sides.

Many ancient Greeks made a living from the sea. They became fishers, sailors, and traders. Others settled in farming communities. Greece’s mountains and rocky soil were not ideal for growing crops. However, the climate was mild, and in some places people could grow wheat, barley, olives, and grapes. They also raised sheep and goats.

Ancient Greeks felt deep ties to the land, but the mountains and seas divided them from one another. As a result, early Greek communities grew up fiercely independent.

Reading Check Cause and Effect How did geography discourage Greek unity?

Ancient Greece c. 750 B.C.

Using Geography Skills

All parts of ancient Greece were near water.
1. What body of water lies east of the Balkan Peninsula?
2. What transportation was probably most useful to the early Greeks?

Find NGS online map resources @ www.nationalgeographic.com/maps
The Minoans

Main Idea The Minoans earned their living by building ships and trading.

Reading Focus Imagine what it would be like to uncover a building that is more than 5,000 years old. Read to learn how such a discovery unlocked clues to Greece’s ancient past.

The island of Crete (KREET) lies southeast of the Greek mainland. There, in 1900, an English archaeologist by the name of Arthur Evans made the find of a lifetime. Evans uncovered the ruins of a grand palace that had been the center of Minoan (muh•NOH•uhn) civilization. The Minoans were not Greeks, but their civilization was the first to arise in the region that later became Greece.

The palace at Knossos (NAH•suhs) revealed the riches of an ancient society. Its twisting passageways led to many different rooms: private quarters for the royal family and storerooms packed with oil, wine, and grain. Other spaces were workshops for making jewelry, vases, and small ivory statues. The palace even had bathrooms.

The Minoans made their wealth from trade. They built ships from oak and cedar trees and sailed as far as Egypt and Syria. There they traded pottery and stone vases for ivory and metals. By 2000 B.C., Minoan ships controlled the eastern Mediterranean Sea. They carried goods to foreign ports and kept the sea free of pirates.

About 1450 B.C., the Minoan civilization suddenly collapsed. Some historians think undersea earthquakes caused giant waves that washed away the Minoans’ cities. Others think the cities were destroyed by a group of Greeks from the mainland. These invaders were called the Mycenaeans (MY•suh•NEE•uhns).

Reading Check Explain How did the Minoans become a trading civilization?
The First Greek Kingdoms

Main Idea  Mycenaeans built the first Greek kingdoms and spread their power across the Mediterranean region.

Reading Focus  What is the most important building in the area where you live? Is it a government building, a grocery store, or a hospital? Read to find out what building was most important in the Mycenaean civilization.

The Mycenaeans were originally from central Asia. They invaded the Greek mainland around 1900 B.C. and conquered the people living there. The Mycenaean leaders became the first Greek kings. Their warriors became nobles who ruled the people they had conquered. In the late 1800s, a German named Heinrich Schliemann (HYN•rihk  SHLEE•MAHN) discovered one of their walled palaces in Mycenae (my•SEE•nee). He named the people of this civilization the Mycenaeans.

What Were Mycenaean Kingdoms Like?
The centerpiece of each Mycenaean kingdom was a fortified palace on a hill. The ruler lived there, surrounded by giant stone walls. Beyond the palace walls lay large farms, or estates, that belonged to the nobles. Slaves and farmers lived on the estates and took shelter inside the fortress in times of danger.

Mycenaean palaces hummed with activity. Artisans tanned leather, sewed clothes, and made jars for wine and olive oil. Other workers made bronze swords and ox-hide shields. Government officials kept track of the wealth of every person in the kingdom. Then they collected wheat, livestock, and honey as taxes and stored them in the palace.

Power From Trade and War  Soon after the Mycenaeans set up their kingdoms, Minoan traders began to visit from Crete. As a result, Mycenaeans learned much about Minoan culture. They copied the ways Minoans worked with bronze and built ships. They learned how the Minoans used the sun and stars to find their way at sea. The Mycenaeans even started worshiping the Earth Mother, the Minoans’ chief goddess.

Around 1400 B.C., the Mycenaeans replaced the Minoans as the major power on the Mediterranean. They traded widely, sailing to Egypt and southern Italy. Some
Although trade made the Mycenaeans wealthy, they were prouder of their deeds in battle. Their most famous victory is probably the Trojan War. In the next chapter, you will learn the legend of how the Mycenaean king *Agamemnon* (A•guh•MEHM•nahn) used trickery to win that war.

**What Was the Dark Age?** By 1200 B.C., the Mycenaeans were in trouble. Earthquakes and fighting among the kingdoms had destroyed their hilltop forts. By 1100 B.C., Mycenaean civilization had collapsed.

The years between 1100 B.C. and 750 B.C. were difficult for the Greeks. Overseas trade slowed and poverty took hold. Farmers grew only enough food to meet their own family’s needs. People also stopped teaching others how to write or do craftwork. Before long, the Greeks had forgotten their written language and how to make many things. As a result, historians call this time the Dark Age.

The changes that took place in the Dark Age were not all bad, however. One positive development was a huge population shift. Thousands of Greeks left the mainland and settled on islands in the Aegean Sea. Other Greeks moved to the western shores of Asia Minor, to what is now the country of Turkey. This wave of movement expanded the reach of Greek culture.

Meanwhile, a Greek-speaking people known as the Dorians (DOHR•ee•uhns), who lived in Greece’s northern mountains, began to move south. Many settled in the *Peloponnesus* (PEH•luh•puh•NEE•suhs). The Dorians brought iron weapons with them, giving Greece more advanced technology. Iron weapons and farm tools were stronger and cheaper than those made of bronze.

Gradually, people began to farm again and to produce surplus food. As a result, trade revived. One benefit of the increased trade was a new way of writing. As you read in Chapter 3, the Greeks picked up the idea of an alphabet from the Phoenicians, one of their trading partners who lived on the coast of the eastern Mediterranean.

The Greek alphabet had 24 letters that stood for different sounds. It made reading and writing Greek much simpler than ever before. Soon people were writing down tales that had been passed down by storytellers for generations.

**The Greek Alphabet**

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<tr>
<th>Greek Letter</th>
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<th>English Sound</th>
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 haciendo alucinar.
A Move to Colonize

Main Idea Colonies and trade spread Greek culture and spurred industry.

Reading Focus If you read labels, you know that your food and clothing come from all over the world. Read to find out where the early Greeks got their goods.

As Greece recovered from its Dark Age, its population rose quickly. By 700 B.C., farmers could no longer grow enough grain to feed everyone. As a result, cities began sending people outside Greece to start colonies (KAH•luh•nees). A colony is a settlement in a new territory that keeps close ties to its homeland.

Between 750 B.C. and 550 B.C., adventurous Greeks streamed to the coasts of Italy, France, Spain, North Africa, and western Asia. With each new colony, Greek culture spread farther.

Colonists traded regularly with their “parent” cities, shipping them grains, metals, fish, timber, and enslaved people. In return, the colonists received pottery, wine, and olive oil from the mainland. Overseas trade got an extra boost during the 600s B.C., when the Greeks began to mint coins. Merchants were soon exchanging goods for money rather than for more goods.

The growth of trade led to the growth of industry. As the demand for goods grew, producers had to keep pace. People in different areas began specializing in making certain products. For example, pottery making became popular in places with large amounts of clay.

Reading Check Cause and Effect How did new colonies affect industry?
The Polis

**Main Idea** The idea of citizenship developed in Greek city-states.

**Reading Focus** Did you know that the word “politics” comes from *polis*, the Greek term for a city-state? Read to find how the Greeks also created the idea of citizenship.

By the end of the Dark Age, many nobles who owned large estates had overthrown the Greek kings. They created city-states. Like the Mesopotamian city-states you read about in Chapter 1, those in Greece were made up of a town or city and the surrounding countryside. Each Greek city-state, known as a *polis* (PAH·luhs), was like a tiny independent country.

The main gathering place in the polis was usually a hill. A fortified area, called an acropolis (uh·KRAH·puh·luhs), stood at the top of the hill. It provided a safe refuge in case of attacks. Sometimes the acropolis also served as a religious center. Temples and altars were built there to honor the many Greek gods and goddesses.

Below the acropolis was an open area called an *agora* (A·guh·ruh). This space had two functions: it was both a market and a place where people could meet and debate issues.

City-states varied in size. Some were a few miles square, while others covered hundreds of square miles. They also varied in population. Nearly 300,000 people lived in Athens by 500 B.C. Most city-states were much smaller, however.

**What Was Greek Citizenship?** Each Greek city-state was run by its citizens. When we speak of citizens, we mean members of a political community who treat each other as equals and who have rights and responsibilities. This was very different from ancient Mesopotamia or Egypt. There, most people were subjects. They had no rights, no say in government, and no choice but to obey their rulers.

The Greeks were the first people to develop the idea of citizenship. Today, the word applies to almost everyone in a society. However, in most Greek city-states, only free native-born men who owned land could be citizens. From their point of view, the city-state was made up of their lands, and it was their responsibility to run it. They did not think anyone else should be a citizen.

Some city-states, such as Athens, eventually dropped the land-owning requirement. Slaves and foreign-born residents, however,
continued to be excluded. As for women and children, they might qualify for citizenship, but they had none of the rights that went with it.

What exactly were the rights of Greek citizens? They could gather in the agora to choose their officials and pass laws. They had the right to vote, hold office, own property, and defend themselves in court. In return, citizens had a duty to serve in government and to fight for their polis as citizen soldiers.

Citizens as Soldiers In early Greece, wars were waged by nobles riding horses and chariots. As the idea of citizenship developed, however, the military system changed. By 700 B.C., the city-states had begun to depend on armies of ordinary citizens called hoplites (HAHP•LYTS).

Unable to afford horses, the hoplites fought on foot and went into battle heavily armed. Each carried a round shield, a short sword, and a 9-foot (2.7-m) spear. Row upon row of soldiers marched forward together, shoulder to shoulder. With their shields creating a protective wall, they gave their enemies few openings to defeat them.

Hoplites made good soldiers because, as citizens, they took pride in fighting for their city-state. However, “hometown” loyalties also divided the Greeks and caused them to distrust one another. A lack of unity always existed among the Greek city-states.

Reading Check Explain How did citizenship make the Greeks different from other ancient peoples?

What Did You Learn?

1. What made the Minoans wealthy?
2. How was a Greek city-state different from a city?
3. Compare Create a Venn diagram to compare the Minoans and Mycenaeans.
4. Summarize What changes occurred in Greece during the Dark Age?
5. Citizenship Skills Name three rights granted to Greek citizens that American citizens have today.
6. Link to Economics Why did the use of money help trade to grow?
7. Making Connections Choose one passage from this section. Write a paragraph to explain how it connects to something you already know or something you have experienced.
Sparta and Athens

What's the Connection?

Although Greek city-states developed the idea of citizenship, they had many different types of government. This section describes their different governments and compares the best-known city-states, Athens and Sparta.

Focusing on the Main Ideas

• Tyrants were able to seize power from the nobles with the support of Greek farmers, merchants, and artisans. (page 125)

• The Spartans focused on military skills to control the people they conquered. (page 126)

• Unlike Spartans, Athenians were more interested in building a democracy than building a military force. (page 128)

Locating Places

Sparta (SPAHR•tuh)
Athens (A•thuhnz)

Meeting People

Solon (SOH•luhn)
Peisistratus (py•SIHS•truht•uhs)
Cleisthenes (KLYS•thuh•NEEZ)

Building Your Vocabulary

tyrant (TY•ruhnt)
oligarchy (AH•luh•GAHR•kee)
democracy (dih•MAH•kruh•see)
helot (HEH•luht)

Reading Strategy

Compare and Contrast Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast life in Sparta and Athens.

When & Where?

700 B.C. 600 B.C. 500 B.C.

c. 650 B.C. Tyrants overthrow nobles in city-states
594 B.C. Solon takes power in Athens
508 B.C. Cleisthenes reforms Athenian government
Tyranny in the City-States

Main Idea  Tyrants were able to seize power from the nobles with the support of Greek farmers, merchants, and artisans.

Reading Focus  How do you feel when someone makes a decision that affects you without asking for your opinion? Read to find out how ancient Greeks who were shut out of governing made their voices heard.

As you read in the last section, kings ruled the first Greek communities. However, by the end of the Dark Age, the nobles who owned large farms had seized power from the kings.

Rule by the nobles would also be short-lived. The first challenge to their rule came from the owners of small farms. These farmers often needed money to live on until they could harvest and sell their crops. Many borrowed money from the nobles, promising to give up their fields if they could not repay the loans. Time and time again, farmers lost their land. Then they had to work for the nobles or become laborers in the city. In desperate cases, they sold themselves into slavery.

By 650 B.C., small farmers began to demand changes in the power structure. Merchants and artisans also wanted to share in governing. Both groups had become very wealthy from the trade between city-states. Because they did not own land, however, they were not citizens and had no say in running the polis.

The growing unhappiness led to the rise of tyrants. A tyrant is someone who takes power by force and rules with

Sparta and Athens c. 700 B.C.

KEY
- Territory controlled by Sparta
- Territory controlled by Athens

Using Geography Skills

Sparta and Athens were the dominant city-states in ancient Greece.

1. How many miles apart were Sparta and Athens?
2. Which city-state’s geography might make it more open to attack in a military battle? Explain.
total authority. Today the word describes a harsh, oppressive ruler. Most early Greek tyrants, though, acted wisely and fairly.

During the 600s B.C., tyrants managed to overthrow the nobles because they had the backing of the common people. Key support came from the hoplites in the army, many of whom were also farmers.

Tyrants made themselves popular by building new marketplaces, temples, and walls. However, rule by one person was the opposite of what most Greeks wanted. They longed for rule by law with all citizens participating in the government.

By 500 B.C., tyrants had fallen out of favor in Greece. Most city-states became either oligarchies or democracies. In an oligarchy (AH•luh•GAHR•kee), a few people hold power. In a democracy (dih•MAH•kruh•see), all citizens share in running the government. The oligarchy of Sparta (SPAHR•tuh) and the democracy of Athens (A•thuhnz) became two of the most powerful governments of early Greece.

Evaluate Why were tyrants popular in the city-states?

Sparta

Main Idea The Spartans focused on military skills to control the people they conquered.

Reading Focus What would it be like to leave home when you were only seven? Read to learn how Spartan boys faced this challenge.

As you read in the last section, Sparta was founded by the Dorians—Greeks who invaded the Peloponnesus in the Dark Age. Like other city-states, Sparta needed more land as it grew, but its people did not set up colonies. Instead, they conquered and enslaved their neighbors. The Spartans called their captive workers helots (HEH•luhts). This name comes from the Greek word for “capture.”

Why Was the Military So Important?

Spartans feared that the helots might someday rebel. As a result, the government firmly controlled the people of Sparta and trained the boys and men for war.

At age seven, boys left their family to live in barracks. They were harshly treated to make them tough. The Greek historian Plutarch describes life for Spartan boys:

“After they were twelve years old, they were no longer allowed to wear any undergarment; they had one coat to serve them a year; . . . They lodged together in little bands upon beds made of the reeds [grasses] . . . which they were to break off with their hands without a knife.”

—Plutarch, “Spartan Discipline”

At age 20, Spartan men entered the regular army. The men remained in military barracks for 10 more years. They ate all their meals in dining halls with other soldiers.
A typical meal was a vile-tasting dish called black broth—pork boiled in animal blood, salt, and vinegar.

Spartans returned home at age 30 but stayed in the army until age 60. They continued to train for combat. They expected to either win on the battlefield or die, but never to surrender. One Spartan mother ordered her son to “Come home carrying your shield or being carried on it.”

Girls in Sparta were trained in sports—running, wrestling, and throwing the javelin. They kept fit to become healthy mothers. Wives lived at home while their husbands lived in the barracks. As a result, Spartan women were freer than other Greek women. They could own property and go where they wanted.

**What Was Sparta’s Government Like?**
The Spartan government was an oligarchy. Two kings headed a council of elders. The council, which included 28 citizens over age 60, presented laws to an assembly.

All Spartan men over age 30 belonged to the assembly. They voted on the council’s laws and chose five people to be ephors (EH•fuhrs) each year. The ephors enforced the laws and managed tax collection.

To keep anyone from questioning the Spartan system, the government discouraged foreign visitors. It also banned travel abroad for any reason but military ones. It even frowned upon citizens who studied literature or the arts.

The Spartans succeeded in keeping control over the helots for nearly 250 years. However, by focusing on military training, the Spartans fell behind other Greeks in trade. They also knew less about science and other subjects. However, their soldiers were especially strong and swift. The Spartans would play a key role in defending Greece.

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**Reading Check** Cause and Effect Why did the Spartans stress military training?
Athens

Main Idea Unlike Spartans, Athenians were more interested in building a democracy than building a military force.

Reading Focus When visiting a new city, does everything feel strange to you? Spartans who visited Athens probably felt the same way. Read to find out why.

Athens lay northeast of Sparta, at least a two-day trip away. The two city-states were also miles apart in their values and systems of government.

What Was Life in Athens Like? Athenian citizens raised their children very differently from Spartans. In Athenian schools, one teacher taught boys to read, write, and do arithmetic. Another teacher taught them...
sports. A third teacher taught them to sing and to play a stringed instrument called the lyre. This kind of education created well-rounded Athenians with good minds and bodies. At age 18, boys finished school and became citizens.

Athenian girls stayed at home. Their mothers taught them spinning, weaving, and other household duties. Only in some wealthy families did girls learn to read, write, and play the lyre. When they married, women stayed home to keep house and to teach their own daughters.

**A Budding Democracy** Early Athens, like other city-states, was ruled by landowning nobles during the 600s B.C. An assembly of all citizens existed, but it had few powers. Actually, the government was an oligarchy, as in Sparta.

Around 600 B.C., the Athenians began to rebel against the nobles. Most farmers owed the nobles money, and many sold themselves into slavery to pay their debts. Over and over, farmers demanded an end to all debts, along with land for the poor.

In 594 B.C. the nobles turned to the one man both sides trusted: a noble named Solon (SOH•luhn). Solon canceled all the farmers’ debts and freed those who had become slaves. He also allowed all male citizens to participate in the assembly and law courts. A council of 400 wealthy citizens wrote the laws, but the assembly had to pass them.

Solon’s reforms were popular among the common people. However, the farmers continued to press Solon to give away the wealthy nobles’ land. This he refused to do.

After Solon, there were 30 years of turmoil. Finally, a tyrant named Peisistratus (py•SIHS•truht•uhs) seized power in 560 B.C. He won the support of the poor by dividing large estates among landless farmers. He also loaned money to poor people and gave them jobs building temples and other public works.
The most important leader after Peisistratus died was **Cleisthenes** (KLYS•thuh•NEEZ). When he came to power in 508 B.C., he reorganized the assembly to play the central role in governing. As before, all male citizens could belong to the assembly and vote on laws. However, members had new powers. They could debate matters openly, hear court cases, and appoint army generals.

Most importantly, Cleisthenes created a new council of 500 citizens to help the assembly carry out daily business. The council proposed laws, dealt with foreign countries, and oversaw the treasury.

Athenians chose the members of the council each year in a lottery. They believed this system was fairer than an election, which might favor the rich.

Cleisthenes’ reforms did not bring all Athenians into the political process.

Non-citizens, which included all women, foreign-born men, and slaves, were still excluded. Nonetheless, Cleisthenes is credited with making the government of Athens a democracy.

**How did Cleisthenes build a democracy in Athens?**

**Reading Check** Explain How did Cleisthenes build a democracy in Athens?
Persia Attacks
the Greeks

What’s the Connection?

Section 2 explained how Greeks built strong but separate city-states. At the same time far to the east, the Persians were building a powerful empire. It was only a matter of time before Persia would try to invade Greece.

Focusing on the Main Ideas

• The Persian Empire united a wide area under a single government. (page 132)

• Both Sparta and Athens played roles in defeating the Persians. (page 134)

Locating Places

Persia (PUHR•zuh)
Marathon (MAR•uh•THAHN)
Thermopylae (thuhr•MAH•puh•lee)
Salamis (SA•luh•muhs)
Plataea (pluh•TEE•uh)

Meeting People

Cyrus the Great (SY•ruhs)
Darius (duh•RY•uhhs)
Xerxes (ZUHRK•SEEZ)
Themistocles (thuh•MIHS•tuh•KLEEZ)

Building Your Vocabulary

satrapies (SAY•truh•peez)
satrap (SAY•TRAP)
Zoroastrianism (ZOHR•uh•WAS•tree•uh•NIH•zuhm)

Reading Strategy

Organizing Information

Create a chart like the one below to list the accomplishments of Cyrus, Darius, and Xerxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ruler</th>
<th>Accomplishments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cyrus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darius</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xerxes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cyrus becomes ruler of Persia
559 B.C.

Zoroaster born
660 B.C.

Xerxes invades Greece
480 B.C.
The Persian Empire

Main Idea The Persian Empire united a wide area under a single government.

Reading Focus Have you ever seen soldiers marching through city streets on the news? Imagine the same thing happening in Asia in the 500s B.C. Read to learn what happened as Persian armies marched westward from Asia.

The people of Persia (PUHR•zhuh) lived in what is today southwestern Iran. Early Persians were warriors and nomads who herded cattle. For a time, they were dominated by others. Then one remarkable leader, Cyrus the Great (SY•ruhs), managed to unite the Persians into a powerful kingdom. Under Cyrus, who ruled from 559 B.C. to 530 B.C., Persia began building an empire larger than any yet seen in the world.

The Rise of the Persian Empire In 539 B.C. Cyrus’s armies swept into Mesopotamia and captured Babylon. Then they took over northern Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, Syria, Canaan, and the Phoenician cities. Cyrus treated all his new subjects well. As you read in Chapter 3, he allowed the captive Jews in Babylon to return home. Cyrus’s merciful rule helped hold his growing empire together.

The Persian Empire 500 B.C.

A system of roads, including the Royal Road, helped Persian kings rule their empire.
1. About how long was the Royal Road?
2. Based on the map, why might the Persian Empire have been a threat to Greece?
The leaders who followed Cyrus continued to add to Persian territory. They conquered Egypt, western India, and Thrace, a region northeast of Greece. From one end to the other, the Persian Empire was about the size of the continental United States today.

To connect their vast holdings, the Persians built miles of roads. The Royal Road stretched from Asia Minor to Susa, the Persian capital. Along the way, the Persians set up roadside stations to supply food, shelter, and fresh horses to the king’s messengers.

**What Was Persian Government Like?** As the Persian Empire grew bigger, it became very difficult to manage. When Darius (duh•RY•uhs) came to the throne in 521 B.C., he reorganized the government to make it work better.

Darius divided the empire into 20 provinces called satrapies (SAY•truh•peez). Each was ruled by an official with the title of satrap (SAY•TRAP), meaning “protector of the kingdom.” The satrap acted as tax collector, judge, chief of police, and head recruiter for the Persian army. However, all the satraps answered to the Persian king.

The king’s power depended upon his troops. By the time of Darius, Persia had a large army of professional soldiers. Unlike the Greek city-states, where the citizens took up arms in times of war, in Persia the government paid people to be full-time soldiers. Among them were 10,000 specially trained soldiers who guarded the king. They were called the Immortals because when a member died, he was immediately replaced.

**The Persian Religion** The Persian religion was called Zoroastrianism (ZOHR•uh•WAS•tree•uh•NIH•zuhm). Its founder, Zoroaster, was born in 660 B.C. He began preaching after seeing visions as a young man.

Like the Jews, Zoroaster believed in one god. He viewed this supreme being as the creator of all things and a force of goodness. However, Zoroaster recognized evil in the world, too. He taught that humans had the freedom to choose between right and wrong, and that goodness would triumph in the end. The Persians practiced Zoroastrianism for centuries, and it still has a small number of followers today.
The Persian Wars

Main Idea Both Sparta and Athens played roles in defeating the Persians.

Reading Focus Have you and a rival ever set aside your differences to work for a common cause? This happened in ancient Greece when Sparta and Athens came together to fight the Persians. Read about the outcome.

As the Greeks set up colonies in the Mediterranean area, they often clashed with the Persians. By the mid-500s B.C., Persia already controlled the Greek cities in Asia Minor. In 499 B.C. the Athenian army helped the Greeks in Asia Minor rebel against their Persian rulers. The rebellion failed, but King Darius decided the mainland Greeks had to be stopped from interfering in the Persian Empire.

The Battle of Marathon In 490 B.C. a Persian fleet landed 20,000 soldiers on the plain of Marathon (MAR•uh•THAHN), only a short distance from Athens. For several days, the Persians waited there for the Athenians to advance. The Athenians, however, did not take the bait. They had only 10,000 soldiers compared to the Persians’ 20,000. They knew that attacking was too dangerous. Instead they held back in the hills overlooking the plain.

Using Geography Skills

The Persian Empire invaded Greece twice and was beaten back both times.
1. Which of the major battles shown was a naval battle?
2. Why might attacks on the Greek city-states have been difficult for the Persians?
Tired of waiting, the Persian commander decided to sail south and attack Athens directly. He ordered his troops back onto the ships, and it was then that he made a big mistake. The first to board, he decided, would be the horsemen in the cavalry, the strongest part of the Persian army.

As soon as the cavalry was out of fighting range, the Greeks charged down from the hills and onto the plain of Marathon. They caught the Persian foot soldiers standing in the water, waiting their turn to board the ships. Unable to defend themselves, the Persians were easily defeated.

According to legend, the Athenians sent a messenger named Pheidippides (fy•DIHP•uh•DEEZ) home with the news. The runner raced nearly 25 miles (40.2 km) from Marathon to Athens. He collapsed from exhaustion and, with his last breath, announced, “Victory.” Then he died. Modern marathon races are named for this famous run and are just over 26 miles long.

Another Persian Strike  After Darius died in 486 B.C., his son Xerxes (ZUHRK•SEEZ) became the Persian king. Xerxes vowed revenge against the Athenians. In 480 B.C. he launched a new invasion of Greece, this time with about 180,000 troops and thousands of warships and supply vessels.

To defend themselves, the Greeks joined forces. Sparta sent the most soldiers, and their king, Leonidas (lee•AH•nuh•duhs), served as commander. Athens provided the navy. An Athenian general, Themistocles (thuh•MIHS•tuh•KLEEZ), came up with a plan to fight the Persians.

The Greeks knew that as the huge Persian army marched south, it depended on shipments of food brought in by boat. Themistocles argued that the Greeks’ best strategy would be to attack the Persians’ ships and cut off food supplies to the army.

The Greek historian Herodotus (hih•RAH•duh•tuhs) wrote _History of the Persian Wars_. This is thought to be the first real history in Western civilization. Herodotus described the conflict between the Greeks and Persians as one between freedom and dictatorship. Here he tells of Xerxes’ address to Persian nobles: “And truly I have pondered upon this, until at last I have found out a way whereby we may at once win glory, and likewise get possession of a land which is as large and as rich as our own . . . while at the same time we obtain satisfaction and revenge . . . My intent is to . . . march an army through Europe against Greece, that thereby I may obtain vengeance from the Athenians for the wrongs committed by them against the Persians and against my father.”

—Herodotus, _The Persian Wars_, Book VII

**DBQ Document-Based Question**

What reasons besides revenge does Xerxes have for invading Greece?
To ready their fleet for battle, the Greeks needed to stall the Persian army before it reached Athens. The Greeks decided the best place to block the Persians was at Thermopylae (thuhr • MAH • puh • lee). Thermopylae was a narrow pass through the mountains that was easy to defend. About 7,000 Greek soldiers held off the Persians there for two days. The Spartans in the Greek army were especially brave. As one story has it, the Greeks heard that Persian arrows would darken the sky. A Spartan warrior responded, "That is good news. We will fight in the shade!"

Unfortunately for the Greeks, a traitor directed the Persians to a mountain path that led them around the Greeks. As the Persians mounted a rear attack, King Leonidas sent most of his troops to safety. He and several hundred others, however, stayed behind and fought to the death. The Greeks lost the battle at Thermopylae, but their valiant stand gave Athens enough time to assemble 200 ships.

The Greek fleet attacked the Persian fleet in the strait of Salamis (SA • luh • muhs), not far from Athens. A strait is a narrow strip of water between two pieces of land. The Greeks expected to have the upper hand in the battle because their ships could maneuver well in tight spaces. Greek ships were smaller, faster, and easier to steer than the big Persian ships, which became easy targets.

The Greek plan worked. After a ferocious battle, the Greeks destroyed almost the entire Persian fleet. Still, the Persian army marched on. When their troops reached Athens, the Greeks had already fled.

The Persians burned the city. This only stiffened the resolve of the Greek city-states.

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**Battle of Salamis**

At the Battle of Salamis, smaller, faster Greek ships defeated the Persian fleet. **Near what Greek city-state was the strait of Salamis located?**
In early 479 B.C., they came together to form the largest Greek army ever assembled. With solid body armor, longer spears, and better training, the Greek army crushed the Persian army at Plataea (pluh • TEE • uh), northwest of Athens.

The battle was a turning point for the Greeks, convincing the Persians to retreat to Asia Minor. By working together, the Greek city-states had saved their homeland from invasion.

**What Caused the Persian Empire to Fall?**
When the Greeks defeated the Persian army, they helped to weaken it. The empire was already facing internal problems. As these problems worsened, the empire would gradually lose its strength.

Persia remained intact for almost 150 more years. However, after Darius and Xerxes, other Persian rulers raised taxes to gain more wealth. They spent the gold and silver that flowed into the treasuries on luxuries for the royal court.

The high taxes angered their subjects and caused many rebellions. At the same time, the Persian royal family fought over who was to be king. Many of the later Persian kings were killed by other family members who wanted the throne.

Persian kings had many wives and children. The sons had little, if any, power so they were constantly plotting to take over the throne. As a result of such plots, six of the nine rulers after Darius were murdered.

All of these problems made Persia vulnerable to attack. By the time a young Greek conqueror named Alexander invaded the empire in 334 B.C., the Persians were no match for his troops.

By 330 B.C., the last Persian king was dead and Alexander ruled over all his lands. You will learn more about Alexander the Great and his many achievements in Chapter 5.

**What Did You Learn?**

1. **Why was Cyrus considered a fair ruler?**
2. **What was the Royal Road?**
3. **Critical Thinking**
   **Summarize** Draw a table like the one below. Then summarize what happened at each battle in the Persian Wars.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Battle</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marathon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermopylae</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salamis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plataea</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Persuasive Writing** Imagine you are an adviser to Xerxes and are alarmed about his plan for revenge on Greece. Compose a letter to him outlining reasons why he should cancel his invasion of Greece.

**Making Connections** The Persians wanted revenge against the Greeks. Describe an event in your own life or on the news where revenge was involved. What was the outcome?
What’s the Connection?
In Section 3, you learned how the Greeks defeated the Persians at Plataea. One lesson the Greeks drew from the war was that they needed each other for security. Athens and several other city-states soon banded together in a league for the common defense.

Focusing on the Main Ideas
• Under Pericles, Athens became very powerful and more democratic. (page 139)
• Athenian men and women had very different roles. (page 142)
• Sparta and Athens went to war for control of Greece. (page 144)

Meeting People
Pericles (PEHR•uh•KLEEZ)
Aspasia (as•PAY•zhuh)

Building Your Vocabulary
direct democracy
(dih•MAH•kuh•see)
representative democracy
(REH•prih•ZEHN•tuh•tihv)
philosopher (fuh•LAH•suh•fuhr)

Reading Strategy
Organizing Information Create a circle graph to show how many citizens, foreigners, and enslaved people lived in Athens in the 400s B.C.
As you read in Section 3, the Battle of Plataea in 479 B.C. put an end to the Persians’ invasion of Greece. Although the Persians retreated, they still remained a threat. In 478 B.C. Athens joined with other city-states— but not Sparta—to form the Delian League.

The Delian League promised to defend its members against the Persians. It also worked to drive Persia out of Greek territories in Asia Minor. Eventually, the league freed almost all of the Greek cities under Persia’s control.

At its start, the Delian League had headquarters on the island of Delos (DEE•LAHS). However, its chief officials—the treasurers in charge of its money and the commanders in charge of its fleet—were from Athens, as were most of the troops. Little by little, Athens gained control over the other city-states in the alliance. Soon the league was no longer a partnership to fight Persia but an Athenian empire.

In 454 B.C. the Athenians moved the Delian League’s treasury from Delos to Athens. The Athenians also began sending troops to other Greek city-states, to help the common people rebel against the nobles in power.

**Democracy in Athens** Athenians had a strong faith in their democratic system. We call their system **direct democracy** (dih•MAH•kruh•see). In a direct democracy, people gather at mass meetings to decide on government matters. Every citizen can vote firsthand on laws and policies.

Can you imagine such a system in the United States? A mass meeting of our millions of citizens would be impossible! Instead, in the United States we have a **representative democracy** (reh•prih•ZEHN•tuh•tihv). Under this type of democracy, citizens choose a smaller group to make laws and governmental decisions on their behalf. This is a much more practical system when the population is large.

What made direct democracy workable in ancient Athens was the relatively small number of citizens. In the mid-400s B.C., about 43,000 male citizens over 18 years old made up the assembly. Usually fewer than 6,000 attended the meetings, which were held every 10 days. The assembly passed all laws, elected officials, and made decisions on war and foreign affairs. Ten officials known as generals carried out the assembly’s laws and policies.
## Comparing Governments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Athenian Democracy</th>
<th>American Democracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of Democracy</strong></td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Right to Vote</strong></td>
<td>Only adult males born in Athens</td>
<td>All citizens, male and female age 18 or over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Laws</strong></td>
<td>Proposed by the council and approved by a majority in the assembly</td>
<td>Approved by both houses of Congress and signed by the president</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Citizen Involvement</strong></td>
<td>Citizens with voting rights can vote for or against any law</td>
<td>Citizens with voting rights can vote for or against the officials who make the laws</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The Achievements of Pericles

Athenians reelected their favorite generals again and again. After the Persian Wars, the leading figure in Athenian politics was a general named **Pericles** (PEHR•uh•KLEEZ). This great statesman guided Athens for more than 30 years, from 461 B.C., when he was first elected, until 429 B.C., shortly before his death.

Pericles helped Athens dominate the Delian League. He treated the other city-states like subjects, demanding strict loyalty and steady payments from them. He even insisted that they use Athenian coins and measures.

At the same time, Pericles made Athens more democratic at home. He believed that people’s talents were more important than their social standing. For this reason, Pericles included more Athenians than ever before in government. He allowed lower-class male citizens to run for public office, and he also paid officeholders. As a result, even poor citizens could, for the first time, be part of the inner circle running the government.

Culture also blossomed under the rule of Pericles. The Age of Pericles was a period of tremendous creativity and learning that peaked in the mid-400s B.C. The Persians had destroyed much of the city during the Persian Wars. So Pericles started a major rebuilding program. He had new temples and statues built across the city.

Pericles supported artists, architects, writers, and **philosophers** (fuh•LAH•suh•fuhrs). Philosophers are thinkers who ponder questions about life. In Chapter 5, you will read more about the Greeks’ achievements and understand why Pericles called Athens “the school of Greece.”

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### Understanding Charts

The small number of citizens made a direct democracy possible in Athens.

1. In Athens, how was a law approved?
2. **Compare** Which government granted the right to vote to more of its population?

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### Reading Check

**Identify** What is the difference between a direct democracy and a representative democracy?
Pericles was born just outside Athens, to a wealthy and powerful family. He received his education from philosophers. As a young man, he was known for his skill with words. Later, when he became a political leader, he strongly supported democracy.

Although he was from a wealthy family himself, he believed that citizenship should not be limited to the wealthy and powerful. He made changes to take power from the few and give it to the many. However, in describing Pericles’ rule over Athens, Greek historian Thucydides wrote “In name democracy, but in fact the rule of one man.”

The “Age of Pericles” was Athens’s Golden Age, and the city blossomed under his leadership. Pericles wanted Athens to be a model for the world. He made it a centerpiece of art, philosophy, and democracy.

Pericles’ goal was to make Athens a city that Greeks could be proud of. He hired hundreds of workers to construct public buildings in Athens. The most well known is the Parthenon. Based on the value of money today, it cost about $3 billion to build. Workers hauled 20,000 tons of marble from a nearby mountain and spent almost 15 years completing it.

Pericles was a private person. He avoided being in public as much as possible. He spent most of his time alone, with family, or with close friends. He married and had three sons. In 429 B.C. Pericles died from the plague.

“ Athen...is the school of Greece.”
—Pericles, as recorded by Thucydides

Consider what Thucydides wrote about Pericles’ rule in Athens. Do research to find out how the U.S. Constitution ensures that our government is not dominated by one leader.
Daily Life in Athens

Main Idea  Athenian men and women had very different roles.

Reading Focus  School may be difficult at times, but how would you feel if you could not go to school? Read on to learn about the limits placed on some Athenians.

In the 400s B.C., more people lived in Athens than in any other Greek city-state. Athens had about 285,000 residents in all. Some 150,000 were citizens, although only 43,000 of these were men with political rights. Foreigners in Athens numbered about 35,000. The population also included about 100,000 enslaved people.

Slavery was common in the ancient world. There was at least one enslaved person in most Athenian homes, and wealthy Athenian households often had many. Some worked as household servants—cooks, maids, or tutors. Others toiled in the fields, in industry, and in artisans’ shops. Without their labor, Athens could not have supported its bustling economy.

Athenian Homes

Many wealthy Athenians had large homes made of mud bricks and tiled roofs. They had many small windows to let light and air in the house. Where are religious influences seen in the house?

- Wool Room: Yarn was spun and cloth was woven here.
- Altar and Courtyard: Greek courtyards usually had an altar to the favorite family god.
- Family Room
- Kitchen: Cooking was often done over an open fire.
- Bedroom
- Dining Room: Men ate their meals alone while served by women.

Athenian urn
What Drove the Athenian Economy?
Many Athenians depended on farming for a living. Herders raised sheep and goats for wool, milk, and cheese. Some farmers grew grains, vegetables, and fruit for local use. Others grew grapes and olives to make wine and olive oil to sell abroad.

Athens did not have enough farmland to grow crops for all its people. As a result, the city had to import grain from other places. During the 400s B.C., Athens became the trading center of the Greek world. Merchants and artisans grew wealthy by making and selling pottery, jewelry, leather goods, and other products.

Roles of Men and Women
Athenian men usually worked in the morning and then exercised or attended meetings of the assembly. In the evenings, upper-class men enjoyed all-male gatherings where they drank, dined, and discussed politics and philosophy.

For Athenian women, life revolved around home and family. Girls married early—at 14 or 15—and were expected to have children and take care of household duties. Poor women might also work with their husbands in the fields or sell goods in the agora. Respectable upper-class women, however, stayed at home. They supervised the household servants and worked wool into cloth—spinning, dyeing, and weaving it. They rarely went out, except to funerals or festivals. Even then, they could leave the house only if a male relative went with them.

Although Athenian women could not attend school, many learned to read and to play music. Still, even educated women were not considered the equals of men. They had no political rights and could not own property. Fathers took charge of unmarried daughters. Husbands looked after their wives. Sons or other male relatives looked after widows.

Women’s Duties
In ancient Athens, a woman’s place was in the home. Her two main responsibilities were caring for the household and raising children. The Greek writer Xenophon (ZEH•nuh•fuhn) recorded a man’s explanation of women’s duties.

“Thus your duty will be to remain indoors and send out those servants whose work is outside, and superintend those who are to work indoors . . . and take care that the sum laid by for a year be not spent in a month. And when wool is brought to you, you must see that cloaks are made for those that want them. You must see too that the dry corn is in good condition for making food.”

—Xenophon, Memorabilia and Oeconomicus

The second floor of each home was the women’s quarters. An Athenian woman lived there with her children. She was expected to keep her children well and happy. She encouraged them to learn sports and play with toys, and taught them how to interact with friends and family members. Although boys left home at age seven to attend school, girls stayed with their mothers, learning how to care for a house and children.

Connecting to the Past
1. Why do you think women and children lived on the second floor of the home?
2. Over what areas of life did an Athenian woman have authority?
A few women did move more freely in public life. Aspasia (as • PAY • zhuh) is perhaps the most famous example. Aspasia was not a native Athenian. This gave her special status. She was well-educated and taught public speaking to many Athenians. Her writings have not survived, but Plato, the famous Greek philosopher, said her work helped shape his ideas. Pericles often consulted Aspasia, as did many other Athenian leaders. In this way, she became influential in politics even though she was not allowed to vote or hold office.

Describe How did Athenian men and women spend their time?

The Peloponnesian War

Main Idea Sparta and Athens went to war for control of Greece.

Reading Focus Have you ever tried to get people to work together and been frustrated when they will not cooperate? Read to find out how the Greek city-states’ refusal to cooperate nearly led to their destruction.

As the Athenian empire became rich and powerful, other city-states grew suspicious of its aims. Led by Sparta, they joined forces against Athens. Sparta and Athens had built two very different kinds of societies, and neither state understood or trusted the other. The two groups clashed several times over

The Peloponnesian War 431–404 B.C.

The Peloponnesian War between Sparta and Athens lasted for over 25 years.

1. In what year was the earliest battle of the war fought? In whose territory?
2. Which major cities were allied with Sparta? How do you think having those allies helped the Spartans to win the war?
what Sparta and its allies saw as Athenian aggression. Finally, war broke out in 431 B.C. It would drag on until 404 B.C. and shatter any possibility of future cooperation among the Greeks. Historians call this conflict the Peloponnesian War because Sparta was located in the Peloponnesus.

**Pericles’ Funeral Oration** In the first winter of the war, the Athenians held a public funeral. Its purpose was to honor those who had died in battle. The relatives of the dead wept for their loved ones. The rest of the citizens joined in a procession.

As was the custom, a leading Athenian addressed the crowd. On this day, Pericles spoke. He talked about the greatness of Athens and reminded the people that they made their government strong.

In this famous speech, called the Funeral Oration, Pericles pointed out that Athenians were part of a community. As citizens, they agreed to obey the rules in their constitution—their framework of government. They accepted certain duties, such as paying taxes and defending the city. They also gained certain rights, such as the ability to vote and run for office.

Pericles’ speech reminded Athenians of the power of democracy and gave them the courage to keep fighting. Its ideas are still important for people living in democratic nations today.

**Why Was Athens Defeated?** At the beginning of the Peloponnesian War, both Sparta and Athens thought they knew how to win. The Spartans and their allies surrounded Athens. They hoped that the Athenians would send out an army to fight. However, Pericles knew that Spartan forces could beat the Athenians in open battles. Believing his people would be safe behind the city walls, he urged farmers and others on the outskirts to move inside the city. There Athenians stayed put and had the navy deliver supplies from their colonies and allies. Because Sparta did not have a navy, it could not attack the Athenian ships.

Athens escaped serious harm for some time. Then, in the second year of the war, a deadly disease spread through the overcrowded city. It killed more than a third of the people, including Pericles himself in 429 B.C. Despite these terrible losses, the

**Pericles’ Funeral Oration**

Pericles was a dominant figure in Athenian politics between 461 B.C. and 429 B.C., a period historians call the Age of Pericles. In his Funeral Oration, given during the Peloponnesian War, Pericles described democracy, the importance of the individual, and citizenship.

“Our constitution is called a democracy because power is in the hands not of a minority but of the whole people. When it is a question of settling private disputes, everyone is equal before the law; when it is a question of putting one person before another in positions of public responsibility, what counts is not membership of a particular class, but the actual ability which the man possesses. No one . . . is kept [out of government] because of poverty. And, just as our political life is free and open, so is our day-to-day life in our relations with each other.”

—Pericles, as recorded by Thucydides, *History of the Peloponnesian War*

**Document-Based Question**

When Pericles said “everyone is equal before the law,” what did he mean?
Athenians fought on. The standoff continued for another 25 years.

The historian Thucydides recorded what he saw:

“This, then, was the calamity which fell upon Athens, and the times were hard indeed, with men dying inside the city and the land outside being laid waste.”
—Thucydides, History of the Peloponnesian War

Finally, desperate to win, the Spartans made a deal with the Persian Empire. In exchange for enough money to build a navy, they gave the Persians some Greek territory in Asia Minor.

In 405 B.C. Sparta’s new navy destroyed the Athenian fleet. The next year, after losing more battles on land, Athens surrendered. The Spartans and their allies then tore down the city walls and broke up the Athenian empire. The war was over at last.

The Peloponnesian War weakened all of the major Greek city-states, both the winners and the losers. Many people died in the fighting, and many farms were destroyed. Thousands of people were left without jobs. The war also made it impossible for the Greeks to unite and work together again.

After defeating Athens, Sparta tried to rule all of Greece. Within 30 years, however, the city-states rebelled. Sparta fought Persia again and tried to maintain control of rebellious allies. While they were fighting amongst themselves, the Greeks failed to notice that to their north, the kingdom of Macedonia was growing in power. This would eventually cost them their freedom.

Reading Check Cause and Effect What effects did the Peloponnesian War have on Greece?

What Did You Learn?

1. What caused the Peloponnesian War?
2. According to Pericles, what duties did Athenian citizens have?

Critical Thinking

3. Summarize Use a chart like the one below to summarize what Athens was like in the Age of Pericles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Economy</th>
<th>Culture</th>
<th>Wars</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

4. Analyze What caused the lack of trust between Sparta and Athens?

5. Interpreting Visuals Examine the drawing of the Athenian home on page 142. What does it show about the role of women in Athens?

6. Civics Link How did the direct democracy of Athens differ from the democracy we have in the United States?

7. Expository Writing Describe the role of the Delian League in the creation of the Athenian empire.
Section 1 The Early Greeks

Vocabulary
peninsula
colony
polis
agora

Focusing on the Main Ideas
• The geography of Greece influenced where people settled and what they did. (page 117)
• The Minoans earned their living by building ships and trading. (page 118)
• Mycenaeans built the first Greek kingdoms and spread their power across the Mediterranean region. (page 119)
• Colonies and trade spread Greek culture and spurred industry. (page 121)
• The idea of citizenship developed in Greek city-states. (page 122)

Section 2 Sparta and Athens

Vocabulary
tyrant
oligarchy
democracy
helot

Focusing on the Main Ideas
• Tyrants were able to seize power from the nobles with the support of Greek farmers, merchants, and artisans. (page 125)
• The Spartans focused on military skills to control the people they conquered. (page 126)
• Unlike Spartans, Athenians were more interested in building a democracy than building a military force. (page 128)

Section 3 Persia Attacks the Greeks

Vocabulary
satrapies
satrap
Zoroastrianism

Focusing on the Main Ideas
• The Persian Empire united a wide area under a single government. (page 132)
• Both Sparta and Athens played roles in defeating the Persians. (page 134)

Section 4 The Age of Pericles

Vocabulary
direct democracy
representative
democracy
philosopher

Focusing on the Main Ideas
• Under Pericles, Athens became very powerful and more democratic. (page 139)
• Athenian men and women had very different roles. (page 142)
• Sparta and Athens went to war for control of Greece. (page 144)
Review Vocabulary
Write the vocabulary word that completes each sentence. Write a sentence for each word not used.

a. satrap       d. direct democracy
b. agora        e. oligarchy
c. democracy    f. peninsula

1. In a(n) ___, a few wealthy people hold power.
2. The Greek mainland is a(n) ___, a body of land with water on three sides.
3. In a(n) ___, people at mass meetings make decisions for the government.
4. A(n) ___ acted as tax collector, judge, chief of police, and army recruiter.

Review Main Ideas
Section 1 • The Early Greeks
5. How did the geography of Greece influence where people settled and how they made a living?
6. How did the Greek colonies help industry to grow?

Section 2 • Sparta and Athens
7. Why were tyrants able to seize control from Greek nobles?
8. Describe the differences between Athens and Sparta.

Section 3 • Persia Attacks the Greeks
9. What system did Darius use to unite his large empire under one government?
10. Why did Sparta and Athens unite during the Persian Wars?

Section 4 • The Age of Pericles
11. How was democracy expanded during the Age of Pericles?
12. What was the result of the Peloponnesian War?

Critical Thinking
13. Cause and Effect  How did the geography of Greece help to encourage trade?
14. Conclude  Did the people of ancient Athens have a full democracy? Explain.
15. Explain  Do you think people would enjoy more freedom in an oligarchy or a tyranny? Explain.

Use What You Know
16. Which of these experiences would help you to better understand the meaning of democracy?
   ___ a. running for class president
   ___ b. trading CDs with your friend
   ___ c. picking up litter in your neighborhood
   ___ d. checking out a book at a library

17. The lives of Athenian girls were very different than the lives of girls today. Write a paragraph that explains the differences. As examples, use your own experiences or the experiences of someone you know.

To review this skill, see pages 114–115.
**Geography Skills**

Study the map below and answer the following questions.

18. **Place** What sea lies along the west coast of Greece?
19. **Location** Where was Knossos?
20. **Movement** If you traveled from Athens to Troy, in what direction would you be going?

![Map of Ancient Greece](image)

**Linking Past and Present**

24. **Making Comparisons** Choose a person mentioned in Chapter 4. Write a description of someone in the news today who has similar ideas or has acted in similar ways. Give examples of their similarities.

**Building Citizenship Skills**

25. **Analyze** Democracy is not easy to achieve or maintain. Make a chart like the one below to identify things that challenged or threatened democracy in Athens.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Democratic Idea</th>
<th>Challenges</th>
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**Read to Write**

21. **Paraphrasing** Select a quotation or primary source from one of the sections in this chapter. Reread it and then paraphrase what you have read. Remember that when you paraphrase, you restate in your own words all of the words in the passage, not just the main ideas.

22. **Descriptive Writing** Work in a small group to create a script for a play about an Athenian citizen who visits Sparta for the first time. Perform your play for the class.

23. **Using Your Foldables** Use the information from your completed chapter opener foldables to create a brief study guide for the chapter. Your study guide should include at least five questions for each section. Questions should focus on the main ideas. Exchange your study guide with a partner and answer each of the questions.

**Primary Source**

Study the following quote, then answer the questions that follow.

“Our constitution does not copy the laws of neighbouring states; we are rather a pattern to others than imitators ourselves. Its administration favours the many instead of the few; this is why it is called a democracy. . . . The freedom which we enjoy in our government extends also to our ordinary life. . . . Further, we provide plenty of means for the mind to refresh itself from business. We celebrate games and sacrifices all the year round.”

—Pericles, as recorded by Thucydides, *The Peloponnesian War*

26. According to Pericles, why is Athens considered a democracy?
27. What does Pericles mean when he says, “we provide plenty of means for the mind to refresh itself from business”? 