

Ancient Greece Study Guide

Chapter 9-Section 1: Geography and the Early Greeks

Vocabulary

- 1) *polis*: a city-state.
- 2) *classical*: an age that is marked by great achievements.
- 3) *acropolis*: a high hill.

Main Ideas:

- 1) Geography helped shape early Greek civilization. Remember—the geography of Greece isolated the city-states from each other until the Greeks developed their sailing skills.
- 2) Trading cultures developed in the Minoans and the Mycenaeans civilizations.
- 3) The Greeks created city-states for protection and security.

Chapter 9-Section 2: Government in Athens

Vocabulary

- 1) *democracy*: type of government in which the people rule themselves.
- 2) *aristocrats*: rich, landowners.
- 3) *oligarchy*: rule by a few people who share power.
- 4) *citizens*: people who have the right to participate in the government.
- 5) *tyrant*: a leader who takes power by force.
- 6) *Pericles*: Brilliant, elected leader of Athens. Encouraged Athenians to take pride in their city and participate in their government.

Main Ideas

- 1) Aristocrats and tyrants ruled early Athens.
- 2) Athens created the world's first democracy.
- 3) Ancient democracy was different than modern democracy.

Chapter 9-Section 3: Greek Mythology and Literature

Vocabulary

- 1) *mythology*: a body of stories about gods and heroes that try to explain how the world works.
- 2) *Homer*: blind storyteller who wrote the Iliad—the story of the Trojan War.
- 3) *Sappho*: wrote emotional poems.
- 4) *Aesop*: writer of fables.
- 5) *fables*: short stories that teach a lesson.

Main Ideas

- 1) The Greeks created myths to explain the world.
- 2) Ancient Greek literature provides some of the world's greatest poems and literature.
- 3) Greek literature lives in and influences our world today.

Chapter 10-Section 2: Sparta and Athens

Vocabulary

- 1) *alliances*: an agreement to work together.
- 2) *Peloponnesian War*: a war between Athens and Sparta that threatened to tear all of Greece apart.

Main Ideas

- 1) The Spartans built a military society to provide security and protection.
- 2) The Athenians admired the mind and the arts in addition to physical abilities.
- 3) Sparta and Athens fought over who should have power and influence in Greece.

Chapter 10-Section 3: Alexander the Great

Vocabulary

- 1) *Philip II*: king of Macedonia who conquered Greece. He was Alexander's father.
- 2) *phalanx*: a group of warriors who stood close together in a square.
- 3) *Alexander the Great*: became king after Philip's death. Expanded his father's empire.
- 4) *Hellenistic*: Greek-like.

Main Ideas

- 1) Macedonia conquered Greece in the 300s B.C.E.
- 2) Alexander the Great built an empire that united much of Europe, Asia and Egypt.
- 3) The Hellenistic kingdoms formed from Alexander's empire blended Greek and other cultures.

Chapter 10-Section 4: Greek Achievements

Vocabulary

- 1) *Socrates*: philosopher and teacher who believed that people must never stop looking for knowledge.
- 2) *Plato*: a student of Socrates. Ran the Academy and wrote *The Republic*.
- 3) *Aristotle*: Plato's student and teacher of Alexander the Great. He believed that moderation was based on reason or clear and ordered thinking.
- 4) *reason*: clear and ordered thinking.
- 5) *Euclid*: mathematician who studied geometry.
- 6) *Hippocrates*: Greek doctor.

Main Ideas

- 1) The Greeks made great contributions to the arts.
- 2) The teachings of Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle are the basis of modern philosophy.
- 3) In science, the Greeks made key discoveries in math. Medicine and engineering.