

 **Guided Reading Activity 4-1**

Early Civilizations in Greece

DIRECTIONS: Answer the following questions as you read Section 1.

1. What geographic features played especially significant roles in the development of Greek history?

2. Into what three seas did the Greeks sail, making contact with the outside world?

3. What civilization was established on the large island of Crete by 2800 B.C.?

4. Most historians believe the destruction of the Minoan civilization on Crete was the result of what?

5. Describe a typical Mycenaean palace center.

6. According to the writings of Homer, what happened to the city of Troy around 1250 B.C.?

7. Name the difficulties of Greece after the collapse of Mycenaean civilization.

8. During the Dark Age of Greece, describe the actions of the Aeolian and Dorian Greeks.

9. Explain the transformation that took place in the construction of weapons during the Dark Age.

10. List the first two great epic poems of early Greece.

11. Tell the essence of the story of the *Iliad*.

12. What does the *Odyssey* recount?

SECTION 4-1

**Guided Reading Activity 4-2****The Greek City-States**

DIRECTIONS: As you are reading the section, decide if a statement is true or false. Write **T** if the statement is true or **F** if the statement is false. For all false statements write a corrected statement.

- _____ 1. The main gathering place in the polis, or city-state, was usually a valley.

- _____ 2. The fortified area known as an acropolis served as a place where people could come and enjoy meals together.

- _____ 3. The polis was, above all, a community of people who shared a common identity and common goals.

- _____ 4. The Greek philosopher Aristotle argued that a citizen belongs only to himself or herself.

- _____ 5. Hoplites went into battle as a unity, marching shoulder to shoulder in a rectangular formation known as a phalanx.

- _____ 6. Greek tyrants were rulers who were placed in power by a popular vote of the peasants.

- _____ 7. When Sparta was faced with the need for more land, it sent its people out to start new colonies.

- _____ 8. The famous Spartan black broth consisted of a piece of pork boiled in animal blood, salt, and vinegar.

- _____ 9. Solon, a reform-minded aristocrat of Athens, increased the debt-load of peasants and saw that many were sold into slavery.


**Guided Reading Activity 4-3****Classical Greece****DIRECTIONS:** Fill in the blanks below as you read Section 3.

In 490 B.C., the Persians landed on the plain of **(1)** _____, 26 miles (41.8 km) from Athens. There, an outnumbered **(2)** _____ army attacked and defeated the Persians decisively. According to legend, an Athenian runner named **(3)** _____ brought news of Persia's defeat by racing 26 miles (41.8 km) from Marathon to Athens. The Persian king, **(4)** _____, vowed revenge and planned to invade Greece. Early in 479 B.C., the Greeks formed the largest Greek army up to that time and defeated the Persian army at **(5)** _____.

In 478 B.C., the Athenians formed a defensive alliance against the Persians called the **(6)** _____. Under the rule of the dominant figure **(7)** _____, Athens expanded its new empire abroad. This period saw the height of Athenian power and **(8)** _____.

In Athens, every **(9)** _____ participated in the governing assembly and voted on all major issues. Meetings of the assembly were held every 10 days on a hillside east of the **(10)** _____. By paying **(11)** _____ and making lower-class male citizens eligible for public office, Pericles made it possible for poor citizens to take part in public affairs. A person named as undesirable by at least **(12)** _____ members of the assembly could be banned from the city for 10 years.

Disputes between Sparta and Athens led to the outbreak of the Great **(13)** _____ War in 431 B.C. This struggle lasted for about 27 years until 405 B.C., when the Athenian fleet was destroyed at **(14)** _____ on the Hellespont. In continuing their petty wars, the Greeks ignored the growing power of **(15)** _____ to their north.


Guided Reading Activity 4-4
The Culture of Classical Greece

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the blanks below as you read Section 4.

- I. _____ affected every aspect of Greek life.
 - A. Greeks considered religion necessary to the _____ of the state.
 - B. Twelve chief gods and goddesses were thought to live on _____.
- II. The Greeks created drama as we know it in _____ culture.
 - A. The first Greek dramas were _____, which were presented in a trilogy.
 1. The only complete trilogy in existence today is the _____, by Aeschylus.
 2. Sophocles's most famous play was _____.
 - B. Greek comedy was used to criticize both _____ and _____.
- III. Philosophy refers to an _____ system of thought.
 - A. Pythagoras taught that the essence of the universe could be found in _____ and _____.
 - B. The Socratic method of teaching uses a _____ format to lead pupils to see things for themselves.
 - C. Plato was fascinated with the question of _____; how do we know what is real?
- IV. Some of the finest examples of Greek classical _____ were from the fifth century.
 - A. The most famous building from this period was the _____.
 1. The patron goddess of Athens was _____.
 2. The Parthenon was an expression of Athenian _____ in their city-state.
 - B. Greek sculptors did not seek to achieve _____, but rather a standard of ideal beauty.

**Guided Reading Activity 4-5****Alexander and the Hellenistic Era****DIRECTIONS:** Fill in the blanks below as you read Section 5.

1. The Greeks viewed their northern neighbors, the _____, as barbarians.
2. _____ was only 20 when he became king of Macedonia.
3. Alexander's invasion of the _____ was motivated by the desire for glory but also by the desire to avenge the Persian burning of _____ in 480 B.C.
4. The city of _____ became and remains today one of the most important cities in both _____ and the _____ world.
5. The word Hellenistic is derived from a Greek word meaning _____.
6. Eventually, four Hellenistic kingdoms emerged as the successors to Alexander:
_____, _____, _____, and _____.
7. The Greek cities of the Hellenistic Era became the chief agents in the spread of Greek culture in _____.
8. Hellenistic buildings characteristic of the Greek homeland were _____, _____, and _____.
9. Eratosthenes determined that Earth was _____ and calculated its _____ at 24,675 miles (39,702 km).
10. Archimedes was important because of his work on the geometry of _____ and _____, as well as for establishing the value of the math constant _____.
11. Epicureans believed that human beings were free to follow _____ as a basic motivating force.
12. According to the _____, happiness could be found only when people gained inner peace by living in _____ with the will of God.