

# Ancient Greece

Democracy was invented in Athens in 507 BC. It means "rule by the people". Only men could become citizens and take part in democracy.



# Ancient Greece

Sparta was a military state with a full time army. It was ruled by two kings, from two different Royal families.



# Ancient Greece

Ancient Greece was divided into city states with their own governments and laws. The city states often fought each other. Sometimes they joined forces to fight a common enemy, such as the Persians.



# Ancient Greece

The first Olympic Games were held in 776 BC in Olympia in honour of the god Zeus.



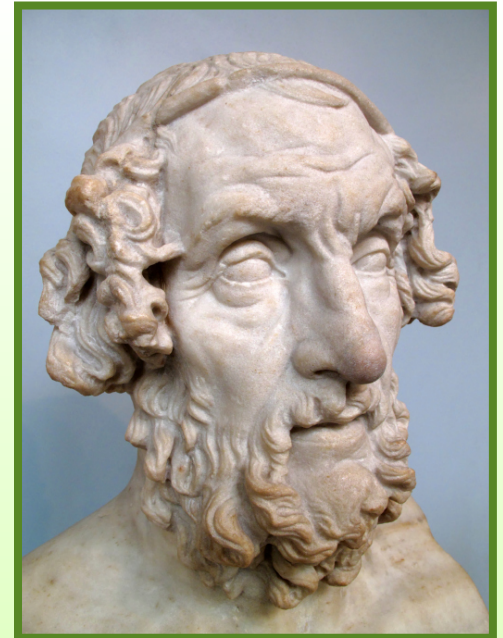
## Ancient Greece

The 12 main Greek gods and goddesses were believed to live in the clouds above Mount Olympus. They had emotions just like humans and could be very badly behaved.



## Ancient Greece

Homer was a famous poet who wrote many of the myths about the gods into his poems (called the Illiad and the Odyssey). They were old stories that had been told for many years.



# Ancient Greece

The Greeks learned how to write letters from the Phoenicians and they added vowels to create an alphabet.



# Ancient Greece

The ancient Greeks used three different styles of column in their buildings: Ionic, Doric and Corinthian.



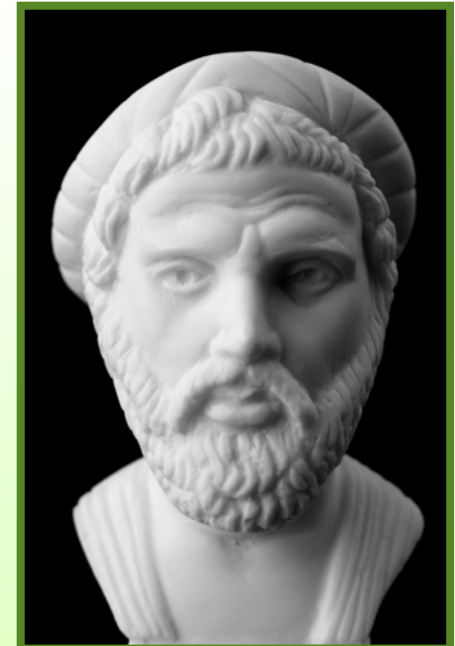
## Ancient Greece

Theatre was invented in Ancient Greece. Up to 15,000 people attended the theatres in the cities. The actors wore masks to show their mood as some of the audience were so far away.



## Ancient Greece

Pythagoras was born in Samos in 570 BC and made many mathematical discoveries, most famously his theorem about right-angled triangles.



# Ancient Greece

Greek homes were built around an open air courtyard. This kept them cool in the summer and warm in the winter. There were different parts of the house for men and women!



# Ancient Greece

Greek houses often had an altar to the goddess Hestia in the courtyard. She was the goddess of the home.



# Ancient Greece

Slaves were very common in Ancient Greece, and everybody (except the very poorest people) had them. In Sparta, there were state owned slaves, who were called Helots.



# Ancient Greece

Lots of Ancient Greek pots have survived and archaeologists use them to learn about life at the time. The pots are often decorated with everyday scenes or stories about the gods and goddesses.



# Ancient Greece

Boys went to school from the age of seven and studied subjects like reading and arithmetic. The girls stayed at home to be taught by their mothers. Some girls were taught to read and write.



# Ancient Greece

Alexander the Great (356-323 BC) died when he was only 32. During his short life, his armies conquered Persia, Egypt, Iran and India and he was the most powerful person in the world.



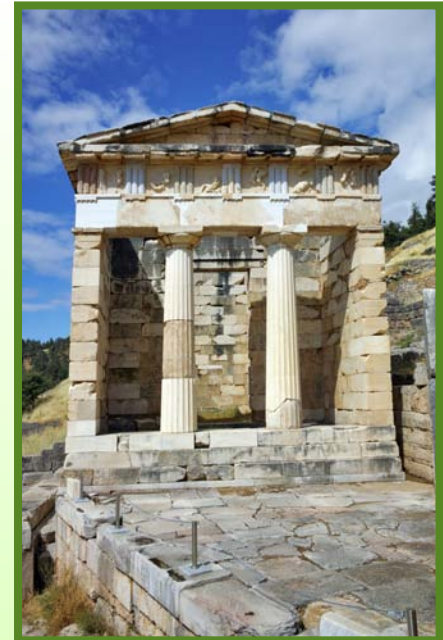
# Ancient Greece

Hoplites (foot soldiers) had to pay for their own armour. They fought with a bronze or iron spear (doru) and an iron sword (xiphos). They wore helmets and carried round shields.



# Ancient Greece

Ancient Greeks asked their gods and goddesses for guidance at a temple called an Oracle. The priestesses went into a trance and gave answers that were very difficult to understand!



## Ancient Greece

In 1180 BC the Greeks took over the city of Troy by hiding soldiers inside a wooden horse. They pretended that it was a gift. This became known as the Trojan Horse.



## Ancient Greece

Each city-state built an acropolis on top of the tallest hill. The acropolis housed important temples and was also a place to retreat to if the city was under attack.



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