

Ancient Greece

Enquiry question: 'How has ancient Greece influenced the world?'

Timeline of Key Events

776 BC	The first Olympic games is held. They are then held every 4 years to honor the God Zeus.
700 BC	Homer writes Odyssey and Iliad poems.
650 BC	The tyrant Kypselos takes over the city state of Corinth. When Kypselos dies, his son Periander takes over.
508 BC	Males citizens of Athens are given a chance to vote in order to decide how things should be run. This is called a 'democracy'.
500 BC	The 'classic period' starts. There is interest in arts, imagination and buildings.
472 BC	Greek theatres become popular in Athens.
460 BC	Hippocrates, the 'father of modern medicine' is born. His ideas on the human body are still used today.
432 BC	Parthenon is finished in Athens. The temple is built to house a statue of Athena, the goddess of wisdom and arts.
338 BC	King Phillip II of Macedonia takes control of Greece.
336 BC	Alexander the Great takes rule over Greece, ages 20, after the death of his father King Phillip II.
146 BC	Rome conquers at the Battle of Vorinth and Greece falls under the rule of the Roman Empire.



Major Figures

Hector

Hector was a key figure during the Trojan War. He was a Trojan prince and the greatest fighter for Troy in the Trojan War. He acted as leader of the Trojans and their allies in the defence of Troy.

Achilles

Achilles was also a major figure during the Trojan War. He is known as the greatest of all the Greek warriors.

Hector and Achilles fought each other in a epic battle, during the Trojan War.



Athens and Sparta

The two main provinces of Ancient Greece were Athens and Sparta. Despite the fact that they shared the same heritage and language, ancient Spartans and ancient Athenians were very different. The Spartans were warriors, disciplined and strong, and always ready to die for their homeland. Athenians were educated and those who were not soldiers were philosophers, politicians, writers, musicians, and sculptors.

No wars were permitted in the month leading up to the Ancient Olympic games so that spectators could travel to Olympia unharmed.

Statues of Gods and Goddesses were placed inside temples specifically designed for the worship of different gods.

Mount Olympus is the highest mountain in Greece and the mythical home of the Gods.

The Titans were the twelve 'divine entities' who were overthrown by Zeus and the gods in a ten-year long battle.

Ancient Greek pottery was decorated with soldiers, gods and goddesses and daily scenes of life.

Ancient Greeks invented the theatre and only men were permitted to perform on stage.

Sparta was the most feared city-state in Ancient Greece due to their highly-trained army.

Ancient Greek was the official language of Greece until 1976.

Key Greek Gods and Goddesses



Zeus

Zeus was the most powerful of all the gods. He was the god of the sky and the King of Mount Olympus.



Poseidon

Poseidon was the god of the sea. He was the most powerful god except for his brother, Zeus.



Hades

Hades was the brother of Zeus. Hades was the god of the dead. He ruled the underworld where people went when they died.



Hera

Hera was the goddess of marriage. She was the sister and wife of Zeus. She was powerful and beautiful but very jealous and vain.



Athena

Athena was the goddess of wisdom. She was the daughter of Zeus. The city of Athens is named after Athena.