Cultures of the Mountains and the Sea

BEFORE YOU READ
In the last section, you read about belief systems in ancient China and the Qin dynasty. In this section, you will read about the development of culture in ancient Greece.

AS YOU READ
Use the chart below to take notes on ancient Greek life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GEOGRAPHY</th>
<th>MYCENAEANS</th>
<th>DORIANS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mountains and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>valleys</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>separated areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Geography Shapes Greek Life
(pages 123–124)

How did geography influence the Greeks?

The lives of the ancient Greeks were shaped by the geography of their land. Greece is a rocky land with high mountains and deep valleys. These landforms were like barriers. Moving over the land was difficult. For these reasons, Greeks living in different areas could not be easily united.

Good farmland covered only about one-fourth of Greece and could not support many people. The need for more living space and the lack of good farmland may have influenced the Greeks to find new colonies.

The Greeks had easy access to the sea, however. They became excellent sailors. Trade became important because Greece had few natural resources.

The climate is mild. As a result, Greek people spent much time outdoors. They attended public events and even conducted government outside.
1. Why was sea trade important for the Greeks?

Mycenaean Civilization Develops (pages 124–125)

Who were the Mycenaeans?

A large wave of people moved from Europe, India, and Southwest Asia. Some of these people settled on the Greek mainland around 2000 B.C. They were later called Mycenaeans. They were ruled by powerful warrior-kings.

The Mycenaeans developed a strong culture. They borrowed from the Minoan culture of Crete. They adapted the Minoan form of writing and artistic design. The Mycenaeans also became interested in trade.

According to legend, Mycenaeans fought a long war with the people of Troy, a city in Turkey. This conflict was called the Trojan War.

The war was said to have started because a Trojan youth kidnapped a Greek woman. Her name was Helen. She was the beautiful wife of a Greek king. The Greek army later destroyed Troy.

2. How were the Mycenaeans influenced by the Minoans?

Greek Culture Declines Under the Dorians (pages 125–126)

What was Greece like under the Dorians?

The culture of the Mycenaeans fell about 1200 B.C. Sea raiders destroyed their palaces. A less advanced people called the Dorians occupied the land. For the next 400 years, Greece went into decline. No written records exist from this period. Little is known about this era.

The spoken word lived on, however. A great storyteller named Homer made up epics, long poems, based on tales he heard. Epics are about heroes and their deeds. One of Homer’s great epics was the Iliad. It centers on the heroes of the Trojan War. The heroes of the Iliad are warriors. Homer tells about their courage and noble actions in battle.

The Greeks also created a rich set of myths. These stories explain the actions of gods and events in nature. In Greek myths, gods often act like humans. For example, they show feelings, such as love, hate, and jealousy. Unlike humans, though, the Greek gods lived forever.

3. How did Homer keep Greek culture alive under the Dorians?
Warring City-States

BEFORE YOU READ
In the last section, you read about the rise of early cultures in Greece.
In this section, you will read about city-states and their governments.

AS YOU READ
Use the chart below to take notes on the city-states,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOVERNMENT</th>
<th>city-state—main political unit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ways to rule city-states—monarchy, aristocracy, oligarchy, democracy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SPARTA

ATHENS

PERSIAN WAR

Rule and Order in Greek City-States (page 127)

How were city-states governed?
The center of Greek life was the polis, or city-state. A polis was made up of a city and the countryside villages surrounding it. Men would gather in the marketplace or on a fortified hilltop in the polis, called an acropolis, to conduct business.

The city-states had different kinds of government. Some had a monarchy, a government ruled by a king or queen. Some had an aristocracy, a government ruled by a small group of noble families. Later, some merchants and craft workers formed an oligarchy, a government ruled by a few powerful people.

Sometimes, the common people clashed with the rulers of the city-states. Powerful individuals called tyrants sometimes appealed to the common people for support. Tyrants would then rule the city-state. Unlike today, tyrants generally were not considered harsh or cruel. Rather, they were looked upon as leaders who did things for the ordinary people.
1. What types of government existed in the city-states?

Athens Builds a Limited Democracy (pages 128–129)

How was Athens governed?

In some city-states, most notably Athens, the idea of representative government took hold. In Athens, as in other city-states, wealthy nobles and poor people clashed. The people of Athens avoided major political problems, however, by making reforms. Reformers in Athens tried to build a democracy, or government by the people.

In 594 B.C., a trusted statesman named Solon came to power. He introduced far-reaching changes to the government of Athens. He gave citizens a greater voice. He made it possible for any citizen of Athens to join discussions in the assembly, which approved laws. About 90 years later a leader named Cleisthenes took power and introduced further democratic reforms.

Athenian citizens, then, were able to participate in a limited democracy. Not everyone was involved in making political decisions, though. Only free adult men were citizens. Women and slaves had few rights. They played little or no role in political life.

2. Why was Athens not a full democracy?

Sparta Builds a Military State (pages 129, 131)

How was Sparta governed?

Sparta was a very strong city-state in the south of Greece. It conquered its neighbor Messenia. The people of Messenia became helots. They were peasants forced to stay on the land they worked. They had to give the Spartans half their crops.

An assembly, the Council of Elders, and elected officials governed Sparta. Two kings ruled over Sparta’s military. Sparta prized military skills. Boys joined the army at the age of seven and went through a long period of training as soldiers. Spartan women ran the family estates, freeing their husbands to serve in the army.

3. What was Sparta’s focus as a city-state?

The Persian Wars (pages 131–133)

Who fought the Persian Wars?

Over the years, the Greeks developed the ability to make iron weapons. Because these cost less than weapons made of bronze, more people could afford them. Soon each city-state had its own army. In this army, soldiers stood side by side. They had a spear in one hand and a shield in the other. Together they formed a phalanx.

The Persian Wars were fought between Greece and the Persian Empire. In 490 B.C., Persian ships landed 25,000 soldiers on the coast of Greece. At the Battle of Marathon, the Greeks won a tremendous victory that saved Athens.

Ten years later, the Persians returned. The Greeks lost a battle on land, despite the heroic efforts of a small band of Spartans. The Persians also burned Athens. However, the ships of Athens won a great sea battle. The Greeks followed it with another victory on land. The threat from Persia was over.

4. What was the outcome of the Persian Wars?
CHAPTER 5 Section 3 (pages 134–139)

Democracy and Greece’s Golden Age

BEFORE YOU READ
In the last section, you read about the government of the city-states.
In this section, you will read about democracy and the Golden Age of Greece.

AS YOU READ
Use the web below to show characteristics and events of Greece’s Golden Age.

PERICLES’ PLAN FOR ATHENS (pages 134–135)
How did Pericles change Athens?
Pericles led Athens during its golden age. He served in this role from 461 to 429 B.C. Greek culture reached new heights under his leadership. Pericles had a great influence over Athens. Pericles took many steps to make Athens better.

He set three goals. One goal was to make Athens much more democratic. More people served in the government. Pericles helped bring about direct democracy. This meant that citizens ruled directly and not through representatives. An assembly of male citizens had a voice in making laws for Athens.

Another goal was to make Athens stronger. Pericles tried to increase its wealth and power. He helped build up Athens’s navy. It became the strongest in the Mediterranean.

Another goal was to make Athens beautiful. Pericles used money from the empire to buy gold, ivory, and marble. He helped fund great works of art.
1. What were Pericles’ three main goals for Athens?

Glorious Art and Architecture
(pages 135–136)

How was Greek art unique?

One of the glories of Athens was the Parthenon. This temple was built to honor the goddess Athena. It is a masterpiece of art. Like other buildings and sculptures in Greece, it is an example of classical art. It reflects order, balance, and proportion.

2. Why was the Parthenon built?

Drama and History
(page 136)

What kinds of drama did Greeks produce?

Athens also became home to a group of very skilled playwrights. Some wrote tragedies. These plays were about the pain and suffering of human life. Love, hate, and war were common themes. The main characters were called tragic heroes. They had flaws that caused their downfall.

Other playwrights wrote comedies. These plays made audiences laugh about important ideas. Some plays were critical of customs, politics, and people. Such performances showed that Athens was a free and open society.

Also, such writers as Herodotus and Thucydides pioneered the accurate reporting of events. Their works led to the development of the subject of history.

3. What was the purpose of Greek comedies?

Athenians and Spartans Go to War
(pages 137–138)

What was the Peloponnesian War?

After being rivals for many years, Sparta and Athens finally went to war. The Peloponnesian War began in 431 B.C. The conflict ended badly for Athens. In 430 B.C. a horrible plague killed a great many people in Athens. After several battles, the two sides signed a truce. However, they were soon back at war. Finally, Athens gave up in 404 B.C. Athens had lost its empire.

4. What was the result of the Peloponnesian War?

Philosophers Search for Truth
(pages 138–139)

What did philosophers contribute to Greek culture?

After Athens’s defeat, this city-state became home to several philosophers. They were thinkers who tried to understand human life. One of these great thinkers was Socrates. He believed deeply in truth and justice. Yet many people did not trust him. They thought his teachings were a danger to young people. Socrates was brought to trial and condemned to death.

His pupil, Plato, recorded many of Socrates’s ideas. Plato became an important thinker in his own right. Plato’s student, Aristotle, wrote books that summarized the knowledge of the Greeks. He also developed a way of reasoning. His system of logic became the foundation of scientific thought used today.

5. Who were three important Greek philosophers?
**TERMS AND NAMES**

Philip II  King of Macedonia who conquered Greece
Macedonia  Kingdom located just north of Greece
Alexander the Great  Philip II's son who established a huge empire
Darius III  Persian king

**BEFORE YOU READ**

In the last section, you read about the Golden Age of Greece and the fall of Athens.

In this section, you will learn about Alexander the Great and his empire.

**AS YOU READ**

Use the diagram below to take notes on Alexander's Invasions.

**Philip Builds Macedonian Power**  
(pages 142–143)

**Who were the Macedonians?**

In 359 B.C., Philip II became king of Macedonia, a kingdom located just to the north of Greece. He was a strong leader and trained his troops to be tough fighters. Philip prepared his army to invade Greece.

The Athenian orator Demosthenes tried to warn the Greeks. He told them about Philip's plans. But they united too late to save themselves. The Macedonians won. Greek independence was now over.

Philip planned to invade Persia next. He never got the chance. He was killed. His son Alexander became king at age 20. He became known as Alexander the Great.

**1. How did Greek independence end?**

**Alexander Defeats Persia**  
(pages 143–144)

**How did Alexander defeat Persia?**

Alexander was a brilliant general, just like his father. He was prepared to carry out his father's dream of world conquest. In 334 B.C., Alexander invaded Persia. After Alexander's first victory, the king of Persia, Darius III, raised a huge army to face him. Alexander then used a surprise attack. Darius III had to retreat.
Alexander then moved south to enter Egypt. He was crowned pharaoh and founded a city that he named for himself—Alexandria. He then turned back to Persia and won another great battle. It ended all Persian resistance. The empire was his.

2. What two kingdoms did Alexander defeat?

Alexander’s Other Conquests
(pages 144–145)

How far east did Alexander push?

Alexander pushed east, taking his army as far as India. He moved deep into that country. After many years of marching and fighting, however, his soldiers wanted to return home. Alexander agreed and turned back. On the way home, he began to make plans for how to govern his new empire. Then he suddenly fell ill and died. He was not yet 33 years old.

Three of Alexander’s generals divided his empire. One ruled Macedonia and Greece. Another took control of Egypt. The third became ruler of the lands that used to be in the Persian Empire. Alexander’s empire was not long lasting. Yet it had important effects. After Alexander, the people of Greece and Persia and all the lands between mixed together and shared ideas and culture.

3. How did Alexander’s power come to an end?
The Spread of Hellenistic Culture

BEFORE YOU READ
In the last section, you read about the military conquests of Alexander the Great.
In this section, you will learn about the spread of Hellenistic culture.

AS YOU READ
Use the web below to take notes on developments in Hellenistic culture.

TERMS AND NAMES
Hellenistic Relating to the culture that blended Greek with Egyptian, Persian, and Indian influences
Alexandria Egyptian city that was the center of Hellenistic culture
Euclid Greek mathematician and pioneer in geometry
Archimedes Greek scientist, inventor, and mathematician
Colossus of Rhodes Huge bronze statue created on the island of Rhodes

Hellenistic Culture in Alexandria
(pages 146–147)

What was Hellenistic culture?
A new culture arose—the Hellenistic culture. It blended Greek with Egyptian, Persian, and Indian influences. The center of this culture was Alexandria, Egypt. This city was located near the mouth of the Nile River on the Mediterranean Sea. Alexandria had a ship harbor. Trade was lively. Alexandria had a large population. These people were from many different countries.

Alexandria was also a beautiful city. Its huge lighthouse towered over the harbor. Its famous museum had works of art, a zoo, and a garden. Alexandria had the first true research library. It held half-million papyrus scrolls. These contained everything known in the Hellenistic world.

1. Give two reasons why Alexandria became a center of Hellenistic culture.
Science and Technology
(pages 147–148)

**What new ideas arose in science, technology, and mathematics?**

While scholars kept what was known about science alive, others learned new ideas. Some used an observatory to look at the stars and planets. One of these astronomers developed the idea that the sun was actually larger than Earth. No one had believed this before.

The thinkers in Alexandria also made advances in mathematics. **Euclid** wrote a book with the basic ideas of geometry. His approach is still used today. **Archimedes** invented many clever machines. One was the pulley. Another is called Archimedes screw. Its purpose was to bring water from a lower level to a higher one.

2. **What two inventions did Archimedes make?**

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Philosophy and Art (pages 148–149)

**What new developments occurred in philosophy and the arts?**

Two new schools of philosophy arose in these times. The **Stoics** argued that people should live a good life to keep themselves in harmony with natural laws. Desire, power, and wealth led people down the wrong path. The **Epicureans** said that people could rely only on what they learned from their five senses. They urged everyone to live moral lives.

The arts were also important in Hellenistic times. Great achievements occurred in sculpture. Sculpture in the earlier Greek style aimed at showing perfect forms. In the Hellenistic age, sculpted figures were more realistic and emotional. The largest known Hellenistic statue is the **Colossus of Rhodes**. It stood over 100 feet high.

3. **How were Hellenistic sculptures different from earlier Greek sculptures?**

---
A. Terms and Names  If the statement is true, write “true” on the line. If it is false, change the underlined word or words to make it true.

Example: Ancient Greece included the southern Balkan peninsula, many islands, and lands on the western coast of Asia Minor. __________true__________

Example: The Minoans lived on the Greek island of Minos. __________Crete__________

1. Ancient Greece was dependent on trade in large part because only a small part of its land was usable for farming. ________________________________________________

2. The various regions of Greece were separated by rivers. _________________________

3. The Trojan War was fought between the Minoans and the Dorians about 1200 B.C. _______________________________________________________________________

4. Not long after the Trojan War, the Minoans became the dominant Greek civilization, and a period of decline began. ________________________________________________

5. It appears that, for the next 400 years after the Dorians migrated into Greece, the Greeks somehow lost their ability to use a written language. _________________________________

6. The great Greek storyteller Homer is known to the present day for two myths, which are called the Iliad and the Odyssey. ________________________________________________

B. Extended Response  Briefly answer the following question on the back of this paper.

How was ancient Greek civilization and culture affected by geography? Be sure to consider the sea, the land, and the climate.
A. Terms and Names  Write the letter of the best answer.

1. Given the meaning of polis, and considering the definition of acropolis, you can tell that the Greek combining form acro- means
   a. “old.”
   b. “first.”
   c. “highest.”
   d. “measure.”

2. In ancient Greece, a tyrant differed from other leaders in that he
   a. allowed slavery.
   b. seized power illegally.
   c. shared power with the nobility.
   d. had authority over the military.

3. The type of government that existed in Sparta could be described as
   a. a monarchy.
   b. a direct democracy.
   c. an oligarchy.
   d. an aristocracy.

4. Solon is known for
   a. introducing political and economic reforms to Athens.
   b. writing a legal code for Athens that included debt slavery.
   c. racing from Marathon to Athens with news of an Athenian victory.
   d. convincing the Athenians to abandon Athens and fight the Persians at sea.

5. A phalanx was a type of
   a. mythical creature.
   b. military formation.
   c. governmental body.
   d. military conquest.

6. The most severe restriction on democracy in Athens under Cleisthenes concerned
   a. how much participation in government a citizen had.
   b. which members of the society were considered citizens.
   c. whether citizens could propose laws or merely vote on them.
   d. whether the citizens’ decisions were binding on the government.

7. The Persian army that invaded Greece in 480 B.C. and was defeated at sea near Salamis was led by
   a. Xerxes.
   b. Darius the Great.
   c. Draco.
   d. Pheidippides.

B. Extended Response  Briefly answer the following question on the back of this paper.

What were a few ways in which Sparta and Athens were similar and how were they different?
A. Terms and Names  Write the letter of the best answer.

_____ 1. All of the following were characteristics of Athens’ direct democracy EXCEPT
   a. an executive branch.
   b. leaders chosen by the aristocracy.
   c. political power limited to citizens.
   d. laws directly proposed and voted on by citizens.

_____ 2. A significant democratic reform carried out by Pericles was to
   a. increase the public payroll.
   b. decrease the requirements for citizenship.
   c. eliminate the position of a chief executive.
   d. provide lawyers for citizens accused of crimes.

_____ 3. Greek art of the time, also called “classical art,” exhibits all of the following characteristics EXCEPT
   a. balance.
   b. proportion.
   c. order.
   d. emotion.

_____ 4. During the Peloponnesian War, more than one-third of the Athenians, including Pericles, died as a result of
   a. disease.
   b. starvation.
   c. battle wounds.
   d. a devastating fire.

_____ 5. The Peloponnesian War was won by
   a. Persia.
   b. Sparta.
   c. Athens.
   d. the Delian League.

_____ 6. Which philosopher was condemned to death for “corrupting the youth of Athens” and “neglecting the city’s gods”?
   a. Plato
   b. Aristotle
   c. Socrates
   d. Protagoras

_____ 7. Who wrote The Republic, a book that set forth his vision of a perfectly governed society?
   a. Plato
   b. Pericles
   c. Socrates
   d. Sophocles

B. Extended Response  Briefly answer the following question on the back of this paper.

Why is the Age of Pericles considered a golden age in the history of Greece?
A. Terms and Names  Write the letter of the name that best matches the description. A name may be used more than once. Where noted, there is more than one answer.

a. Philip II  
b. Darius III  
c. Alexander  
d. Demosthenes

1. He was Greek.
2. He was Persian.
3. He ruled over Greece. (There is more than one answer.)
4. After his death, his son assumed control over his empire.
5. This king twice fled the battlefield to escape from Macedonian forces.
6. He was king of Macedonia. (There is more than one answer.)
7. His offer to give up the western third of his empire was rejected.
8. After his death, much of his empire was split among three of his generals.
9. He ruled over the Persian Empire. (There is more than one answer.)
10. He defeated a powerful Indian army at the Hydaspes River in 326 B.C.
11. His warnings of threats posed by foreign armies were ignored by the Greeks.
12. He was assassinated by a former follower. (There is more than one answer.)
13. After his conquest of Egypt, he was welcomed by the people as a liberator.
14. At Issus, realizing that his forces were outnumbered, he ordered his finest troops to charge straight at the enemy’s king. The ploy earned him control over Asia Minor.

B. Extended Response  Briefly answer the following question on the back of this paper.

What are some of the reasons that Alexander was considered “the Great”? 
A. Terms and Names  Write the letter of the term or name that matches the description. A term may be used more than once or not at all.

a. Euclid  
b. Stoicism  
c. Alexandria  
d. Archimedes  
e. Aristarchus  
f. Eratosthenes  
g. Epicureanism  
h. Colossus of Rhodes  
i. Nike (Winged Victory) of Samothrace

____ 1. This city was the center of commerce and culture in the Hellenistic world.  
____ 2. This scientist arrived at a fairly accurate calculation of the value of pi (π).  
____ 3. This astronomer arrived at a surprisingly accurate calculation of the earth’s circumference.  
____ 4. This astronomer argued that the sun was much larger than the earth and that the planets revolve around the sun.  
____ 5. This bronze statue stood more than 100 feet high. It appears to have been the tallest statue in the Hellenistic world.  
____ 6. Among its attractions was a great museum-temple dedicated to the Muses and the first true research library in the world.  
____ 7. This mathematician’s work is still the basis of courses in geometry. His best-known work was the textbook Elements.  
____ 8. This school of philosophy held that the universe is controlled by a divine power and argued that people should lead virtuous lives in harmony with natural law.  
____ 9. This school of thought held that the universe is governed by gods who were not interested in people and the only real objects are those that can be perceived by the five senses.

B. Extended Response  Briefly answer the following question on the back of this paper.

What do you think were the chief characteristics of Hellenistic culture? Support your ideas.