Name & Surname: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Ancient Greece

City-states, daily life and bright ideas

About 45 minutes Level ★★★☆☆



Greece in a Nutshell

About 2,500 years ago, Greece was not one **country**. It was a **civilisation** made of small **city-states** like Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Olympia.

- Each **city-state** had its own laws and leaders, but shared language and gods.
- Athens developed **democracy**, where adult men born in Athens voted with pebbles in jars.
- Sparta trained strong **warriors**, with boys learning to fight from a young age.
- Greeks built **temples** like the Parthenon, started the Olympic Games and created theatre and philosophy.



Task A

/2

Spot the mistake in each bubble and write the correct fact.



Student A

Ancient Greece was one big country with one king and one set of laws.

What mistake did Student A make? Write the correct fact.

.....

.....



Student B

In Athens, everyone could vote, including women, children and enslaved people.

What mistake did Student B make? Write the correct fact.

.....

.....

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Athens or Sparta?

Sort out how the two famous city-states differed.

Key words

city-state: small community with its own laws and leaders

democracy: government where citizens vote and decide

philosophy: study of big ideas about life

citizen: person with the right to vote

temple: building to honour a god or goddess

Olympics: sports games held every four years

Task B

Example done for you

/5

Put these events in the right order from earliest to latest.

- [ ] Parthenon in Athens finished in 432 BC
- [1] City-states begin to form around 800 BC
- [ ] First Olympic Games at Olympia in 776 BC to honour Zeus
- [ ] Death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC
- [ ] Democracy begins in Athens around 508 BC
- [ ] Romans take control of Greece in 146 BC

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Daily Life Detective

Use clues to work out what Greek life was like.

Task C

/2

Read the text and answer using clues from what you read.

You visit a small house made of hardened mud bricks. All the rooms open onto a sunny courtyard in the middle. In the dining room there are low couches and small tables for reclining. For dinner there is bread, olives and fish. A boy is getting ready for school, while his sister stays at home to learn household skills.

Question	It says...	I say...	And so...
What was the **house** like?	Rooms open onto a sunny courtyard, walls of mud bricks.	A courtyard gives light and keeps the house cool.	Houses were small, built round a courtyard.
What was **family** life like?			

Task D

/3

Pick one box from each column to build a true sentence, then write three.

Athens	developed	democracy
Sparta	focused on	warriors
		your own idea

Write three sentences

Athens developed democracy.

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Greece Lives On

Spot Greek achievements we still use today.

Task E

Give three examples, then explain how you know they fit.

Give an example of an Ancient Greek achievement we still use today

An example

.....

Now another

.....

Now one nobody else will think of!

.....

How do you know they all fit?

.....

.....

Task F

/2

Match each letter to the right date on the timeline.

A Death of Alexander the Great | **B** Democracy begins in Athens

776 BC	First Olympic Games at Olympia to honour Zeus	
508 BC	☐	_____
432 BC	Parthenon in Athens finished	
323 BC	☐	_____
146 BC	Romans take control of Greece	

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Judge the Statements

Decide what is always true about Ancient Greece.

Task 6

/3

Decide if each statement is always, sometimes or never true.

Statement	Always	Sometimes	Never
Greek city-states shared the same **language** and gods.			
Convince me: _____			
Girls in Ancient Greece went to **school** like boys in Athens.			
Convince me: _____			
Athens and Sparta had exactly the same **laws** and leaders.			
Convince me: _____			

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Ancient Greece

Task H

Make a claim about the statement, give evidence, and ask a question.

> Ancient Greece still influences the western world today.

My claim

Claim: I agree. Support: We still vote in a democracy and watch the Olympic Games. Question: Which other ideas came from Greece?

Support: what I see or know

A question I still have

How did I do?

Circle a face for each line.

I can name two city-states and how they differed	☹	😐	☺
I can describe daily life in Ancient Greece	☹	😐	☺
I can give examples of Greek influence today	☹	😐	☺

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Answer sheet: Ancient Greece

Task A

1. Student A: Wrong: Greece was many independent city-states, each with its own laws and leaders.
2. Student B: Wrong: only adult men born in Athens could vote, not women, children or enslaved people.

Task B

1. City-states begin to form around 800 BC 2. First Olympic Games at Olympia in 776 BC to honour Zeus 3. Democracy begins in Athens around 508 BC 4. Parthenon in Athens finished in 432 BC 5. Death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC 6. Romans take control of Greece in 146 BC

Task C

1. Houses were small, built round a courtyard.
2. Daily life was simple and different for boys and girls.

Task D

Answers will vary, e.g. Athens developed democracy. Sparta focused on warriors. Athens developed democracy and learning.

Task E

Answers will vary, e.g. democracy - voting to make decisions; the Olympic Games - sports contest every four years; theatre - tragedies and comedies in an outdoor theatre

Task F

A: 323 BC – Death of Alexander the Great

B: 508 BC – Democracy begins in Athens

Task G

1. Always (All city-states spoke Greek and worshipped the same gods.)
2. Never (In Athens girls learnt at home, not at school, and in Sparta girls did sport, not school like Athens boys.)
3. Never (Each city-state had its own laws and leaders, Athens had democracy, Sparta had two kings.)

Task H

Answers will vary, e.g. Claim: I agree. Support: We still vote in a democracy and watch the Olympic Games. Question: Which other ideas came from Greece?

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