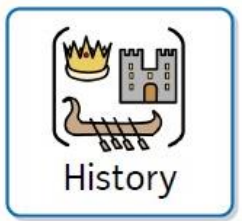




Year 6

# What is the legacy of the ancient Greek civilisation?



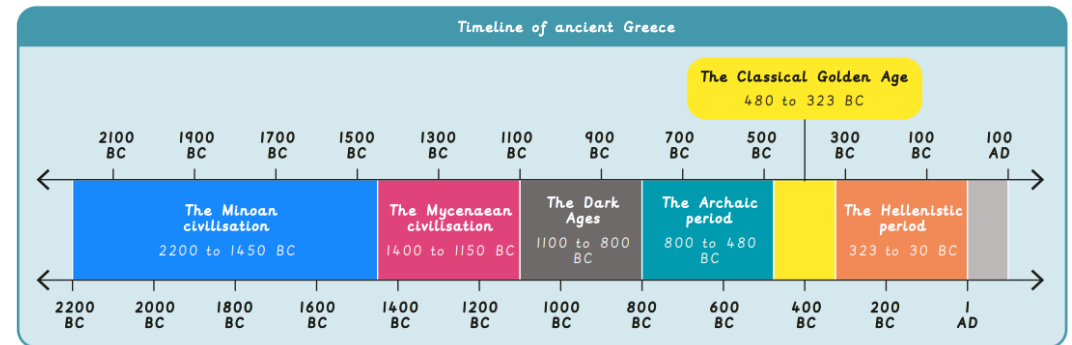
Prior learning: What did the Ancient Egyptians achieve and how do we know?

## What we are learning

Lesson 1: To explain where and when the ancient Greeks lived.	Lesson 2: To identify ancient Greek beliefs by exploring their gods and goddesses.	Lesson 3: To use a range of secondary sources to identify similarities and differences between Athens and Sparta.	Lesson 4: To recognise how Athenian democracy worked by participating in a debate.	Lesson 5: To use research to explore the significance of the ancient Greek philosophers.	Lesson 6: To evaluate the legacy of the ancient Greek civilisation.
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## Key vocabulary

assembly	A democratic organisation in ancient Athens where all male citizens over 20 years old could vote on laws.	
constitutional monarchy	A system where the king or queen is head of state but does not make the laws and decisions.	
democracy	A system of government in Athens which gave all male citizens the right to vote.	
direct democracy	A system of governing in which citizens make the decisions themselves.	
Golden Period	The period from 480 BC to 323 BC in which the Greeks built temples, created democracy and made scientific discoveries.	
government	A group of people who govern a state and design a system of rules or laws.	
period	A particular length of time in the past with its own distinctive features.	
philosophy	The love of wisdom.	
oligarchy	A system of government where only a few people held power.	
Representative democracy	A system of governing in which citizens elect representatives to make decisions for them.	



## Gods and goddesses



The ancient Greeks believed 12 gods and goddesses lived on Mount Olympus. The Greeks prayed to them at home and in temples and ran sporting events and festivals in their honour. They believed that if something went wrong, the gods were unhappy with them. The characters, images and abilities of the Greek gods and goddesses have influenced modern-day movies, animations, books, comics and video games.

## Democracy



Athenian democracy was one of the first in the world. It was a direct democracy in which the citizens themselves voted for laws in the assembly. Modern Britain has a representative democracy where people elect a representative (Member of Parliament) to make decisions on their behalf. Citizens over 18 can vote in Britain; however, in ancient Athens, only adult males born in Athens could vote.

## Philosophy



Philosophy (meaning 'love of wisdom') was developed by the ancient Greeks. Famous philosophers such as Pythagoras, Socrates, Plato and Aristotle still influence our thinking today: Pythagoras created the first maths formula, Socrates developed the Socratic method used to discuss ideas, Plato's ideas on ethics are still debated today, and Aristotle laid the foundations for modern science.

## The English language

A B X Δ  
E H Γ I  
K Λ M N  
Ω O Φ Π  
Ψ P Σ T  
Θ Y E Z

Many words in the English language (such as character, comedy, democracy, dinosaur, drama, planet, geography, and technology) originated from Greek. The Greek alphabet (alphabetum) contributed ten letters to the English language. Moreover, the word alphabet comes from the Greek letters alpha and beta.