

Athens: The Spirit of Learning Name: _____ Prd: ___ Score: ____ /20

Directions: Δώστε έμφαση στην απάντηση στο κείμενο στο αριστερό.

Greece had hundreds of city-states (**polis**), but two became *stronger & greater than* the others. They were **Athens & Sparta**. These city-states had very *different* ways of life. Athens became a great **democracy**, ruled by its *free* men. Sparta became a soldier-state, ruled by a small group of men. The wealth of Athens came from its trade & colonies while Sparta's wealth came from land worked *by* its slaves. Here we shall learn more about life in ancient Athens.

Of all the great cities in history (Rome, London, New York, Florence...) Athens, in its Golden Age, was the most famous. Athens sits on a plain close to the southern end of **Attica**, a peninsula that stretches southeast into the **Aegean Sea**. It is dominated by a rocky hill called the **Acropolis**, which means "high city."

The city of Athens was named for **Athena**, *goddess of wisdom & war*. It was in this great city that the Greeks established a kind of government that they would long be remembered for. That government was called a **democracy** (*or rule by the people*.) This meant "all" citizens had a say in the government of their city-state. In Athens, all citizens could vote on city issues at meetings called the **Assembly**, the law-making body of its government.

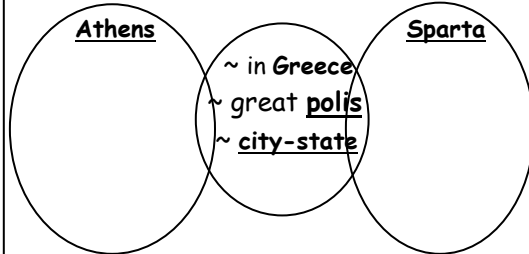
Ancient Greek democracy, however, was quite *different* from the democracy that we know of today. In Greece, all **citizens** (wealthy, male land owners) born in a given city-state had the right & duty to serve in their government. This meant, however, that women, foreigners, & slaves were excluded. Citizens were paid to take time off to help run the democracy. Even jury service was paid.

Greeks led an active life, spending much of their time in the open air. This large, open space, known as the **agora** (marketplace) was the central public meeting place in Greece. Here politicians & philosophers like **Socrates, Plato, & Aristotle** could assemble to debate current issues, talk about city policies, & discuss war.

A city-state is also called a _____.
2 city-states that became *superior to all others*:

_____ & _____

Contrast (give differences between) the 2 city-states in the Venn diagram: (4 pts)



Describe in detail the **geography** of Athens:

Their *high city upon a rocky hill* was called the _____.

Athena was goddess of _____
& _____.



Rule by the people is called _____.

Greek citizens were *only* ____.

- a. land owners
- b. wealthy
- c. male
- d. all the above
- e. only a & b
- f. only b & c

Who, then, were *excluded from* Athen's government? _____

The _____ was Greece's answer to the marketplace.

Who were the great Greek philosophers?

However, only men could take part in public life. (Excuse me!) Women in Athens led a very sheltered life. They were expected to stay at home & had very few legal rights. Women were not permitted to play an active role in society. They could not take part in running the city. They were not allowed to inherit or own any property. And they were never able to conduct any legal transactions. Throughout their lives, they were always under the control of some male relative. (Yah, like that would work!)

Athens' women usually married at about the age of 15. Her husband, however, was likely to be older. Her father would choose her husband. A woman's duties were to run the household. Rarely would she be seen in public ~ (I'm thinking NOT!) perhaps only to attend a theatre performance, religious festival &/or family celebration.

In Greek society, there were always two main groups of people: free & slave. Slaves were workers who were owned by free people. They were used as servants & laborers & had no legal rights. Some had been imprisoned from other Greek states. Some were prisoners of foreign wars & sold into slavery by slave traders. Interestingly, many slaves worked closely with their owners & lived as members of the family. A few were allowed to be skilled **craftsmen** & were paid for their work.

Aside from politics, Greeks were well-respected for their sea-faring skills. Throughout the Mediterranean region, Greek colonies were established &, though they were independent, remained closely linked with their home city. Because these colonies were so scattered around the Mediterranean, Greek ideas spread quickly as Greek sailors sailed the open seas in their quest for fishing, land & wealth.

Few Greek cities could live on their own resources because of their limited farmland, so Greece traded grapes, olives, wine & olive oil.

Through trade, Greeks came into contact with the Phoenician alphabet, Babylon mathematics, & Egyptian sculpture. All greatly influenced Greece as Athens became a great center for the arts, historians, politicians & philosophers during the **Golden Age of Greece!**

Describe in detail the life of a typical Athenian woman: _____



How or from where did Greeks get slaves? _____

Applying past knowledge: What is another word for **craftsman**? (Think "arts & crafts! ☺)

- a. slave
- b. artisan
- c. foreigner
- d. prisoner

Making Inference: What do you think sea-faring skills were? _____



List Greece's agricultural products: _____

Match what the Greeks "borrowed from" the:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| _____ Egypt | a. art |
| _____ Babylon | b. alphabet |
| _____ Phoenician | c. math |