

Sparta: Home of the Brave Name: _____ Prd: ____ Score: ____ /20

Directions: **Δώστε έμφαση στην απάντηση στο κείμενο στο αριστερό.**

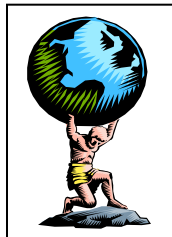
"Stranger, tell the Spartans that we lie here obedient to their laws."

These words were written on the grave of 300 Spartan soldiers. They had fought to the *last* man against a large army of Persians at Thermopylae in 480 B.C. Before the battle, they were told that the *arrows* of the Persians would fly in such numbers that they would hide the sun. A Spartan soldier answered, "So much the better. We shall fight in the shade."

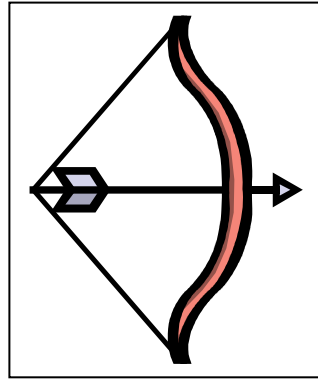
Spartan soldiers were the best in Greece, & they were very brave. They did not give up or run. They fought until they won...or died! Spartan fighters were trained to be that way from the time they were born. They were taught to become good soldiers & obey their leaders. They were not allowed to have any trade or job. That was for slaves. Spartan men had to be soldiers & *nothing else!*

Why did Sparta raise its boys to become professional soldiers? Like other Greek **city-states**, Sparta did not have *enough* land to feed its people. *Other* city-states solved the problem by sending some of their people to overseas colonies. Sparta solved the problem *another* way. It made war on its neighbor, Messenia. Sparta took over the land of Messenia & *made slaves of its people*. But, in the area Sparta now ruled, there were about 10 slaves for every Spartan citizen!

In about 650 B.C., slaves *rebelled against* their masters. *And it took the Spartans almost 20 years to put down the rebellion!* After that, the Spartans lived *in fear of* other slave uprisings. They decided that they should have a strong Army ready at all times. So, Spartans were



trained to be tough soldiers & to obey orders. While they spent almost all their time developing their bodies, they *cared very little about improving their minds*. Usually, they looked down upon any new ideas.



Describe a typical Spartan soldier:

(There are more than 4; you choose & you may use phrases.)

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____ 2 pts

T or F: Spartan men *could only be* soldiers.

How did Sparta solve its problem of *not being able to feed its people differently than other Greek city-states?*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. sent them to overseas colonies | d. took over neighboring lands |
| b. made neighboring people slaves | e. all the above |
| c. made war on its neighbor | f. b , c & d only |

Slaves outnumbered Spartans _____ : _____.
(give ratio)

Making conclusions: What event inspired Spartans to build such a strong army?

How did Spartans feel about education & the improvement of one's mind? _____

Spartan women *lived very differently from* those of Athens. Here they were *considered* citizens & equals of men! Although they could not become soldiers, they were healthy, strong, & athletic. Young girls did not do housework or sew like Athenian girls. That sort of work was considered only fit for slaves. Instead, girls wrestled, boxed, raced, & generally lived an outdoor life. The state encouraged this. It was believed that athletic women would produce healthy sons who would, in turn, become good soldiers. Women married when they were about 20 years old. They were encouraged to have as many children as possible. Sometimes women had *two* husbands at once & had children with both of them!

Family life was controlled by the state. Husbands & wives did not spend much time together. Husbands were usually off at war, or training with their fellow soldiers. Greek historian Plutarch noted that sometimes married couples spent only a *little* time together in the evenings. Sometimes they were married for months before they saw each other in the daylight. Daughters were raised at home, but not sons. Young boys were taken from their parents & trained as future soldiers.

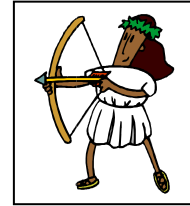
Typically, soon after birth, a Spartan boy was examined carefully by a group of Spartan leaders. If he was viewed as healthy, he was returned to his parents. However, if he were deemed unhealthy or weak, in any way, he was thrown into a deep hole & left to die!

Spartan boys were never spoiled. They were taught to be content with plain food & to not fear the dark. They were never to cry!

At the age of seven, a boy was forced to leave his home & move into a camp with other young boys. He slept on a hard bed & wore few clothes, even in cold weather. He was taught by a trainer to: withstand pain, answer in few words, speak only when spoken to, respect his elders without question, obey every order completely, eat little & harden his body!

List the ways Spartan women were *different from* Athenian women:

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____ 2 pts



Why would Spartans *encourage* their women to be outdoors & athletic?

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. They preferred tan bodies to pale ones. | c. They couldn't stand their women complaining. |
| b. They thought athletic women would produce healthy sons. | d. Women were just too bored inside. |

Spartan family life was *controlled by* (fathers / mothers / the state ← circle 1).

Drawing conclusions: How were boys treated differently than girls in Sparta? _____

Making connections & comparisons...

If a baby boy was examined & *viewed as* _____, he was returned to his parents. However, if he was examined & found **sickly or weak**, he was _____.

Spartan boys were **never allowed to** _____!

Describe the "**Spartan*** ways" of a young boy in **training**. (Use phrases.)

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____

***Spartan** means "*marked by strict self-discipline & self-denile; meager*"

When he became a teenager, he was sometimes sent to live alone in the woods. He was given no food & forced to find or steal whatever he needed in order to survive. If he didn't, he would starve! If caught, he would be whipped. This was done to train the future soldier to take care of himself!

Boys in training played rough games together. In one game, two teams of 15 players each fought each other to keep a ball. Biting, kicking, & punching were all allowed! The winning team was the one that had the ball when the time was called. In another game, two teams fought each other on an island in the river. The team that pushed the other into the river won.

Spartan sports were not always so rough. Boys were taught to drill & exercise with music playing. They were taught to read & write...but in reality, had very little use for books.

At 18, a boy was considered a man. He trained with the army & was allowed to let his hair grow long. Spartans believed that long hair was a sign of manliness. They liked to curl it & adorn it, too. At 24, men could become 1st class soldiers. At 30, then, they became full citizens. A man was now allowed to marry & start a family. It was the first time a man was allowed to live in a real home since he was a small boy.

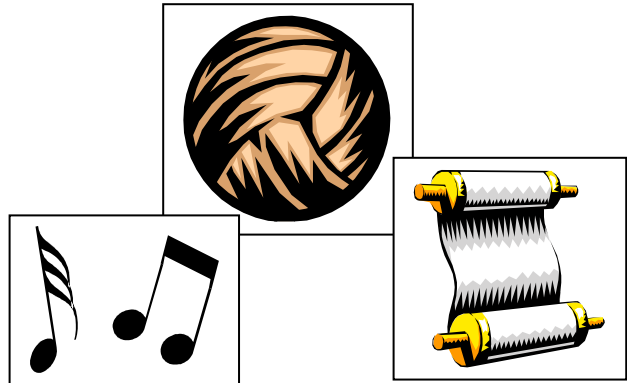
Even so, a man had to eat dinner every day with other soldiers rather than with his families. He often slept in the soldiers' barracks rather than at home. When war came, he had to put on his armor & march off. He was required to serve in the army until he was 60.

It was *better* for a man to *not* run away or give up in battle. The Spartans were rough on "cowards." Soldiers who quit in battle lost *all* their rights. Other Spartans would have *nothing* to do with them or with their families. Spartan women had the same spirit. When a Spartan soldier went to war, his mother told him, "*Come back carrying your shield, or lying on it!*"

How were Spartan men trained to be a future soldier? (You may use phrases.)

1) _____

2) _____



I. *transition into manhood*

A. at 18

1. *trained* in the _____

2. *grew* _____ long

B. at 24 *became* 1st class _____

C. at 30

1. *became* full _____

2. *allowed to* _____

3. *start* his own _____

However, *instead of dining at home* with family, **men ate with** fellow _____.

Men had to *serve in* the army *until* they were _____.
(#)



Drawing conclusions: What did Spartan mothers *mean* when they said, "Come back CARRYING your shield, or LYING on it!" _____
