

## TIMELINES OF ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

10 PART SERIES

EGYPTIAN Part I & II

CHINESE Part I & II

GREEK Part I & II

ROMAN Part I & II

MESOPOTAMIAN Part I & II

### Consider Visiting These Web Sites:

[http://devlab.dartmouth.edu/history/bronze\\_age/lessons/27.html](http://devlab.dartmouth.edu/history/bronze_age/lessons/27.html)

<http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/greeks/index.htm>

<http://www.pbs.org/empires/thegreeks/>



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# TIMELINES *of* ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

10 PART SERIES



## GREEK: PART 1

NEOLITHIC PERIOD TO ARCHAIC PERIOD

**INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE**

## INTRODUCTION TO SERIES

Designed to enhance the social studies curriculum for the intermediate aged student on up. "Timelines of Ancient Civilizations" offers students a unique perspective about the chronological developments of the greatest societies the world has ever known.

As a complementary device with each video, an instructional guide suggests exercises to enhance the learning for teachers, parents and students. These interactive exercises will reinforce and further develop a student's level of comprehension.

The instructional guide provides:

Vocabulary  
Biography  
Chronology / Q & A  
Discussion Points / Activities  
Geography

**Permission granted to copy the exercises provided in this guide. For educational use ONLY.**

E-Guides available at  
[www.filmideas.com](http://www.filmideas.com)

Study the map and site descriptions on pg. 12. Then write the name of the location on the solid black line and on a separate piece of paper write a brief description about each location.



- ① \_\_\_\_\_
- ② \_\_\_\_\_
- ③ \_\_\_\_\_
- ④ \_\_\_\_\_
- ⑤ \_\_\_\_\_

## Study the Map & Its Significant Locations



- ❶ **ATHENS:** The capital city of Greece today.
- ❷ **CRETE:** The largest Greek Island. Area where a volcanic eruption ended settlements established by the Minoans.
- ❸ **KNOSSOS:** Site of a famous Minoan palace and the home of the legendary King Minos for whom the Minoan culture was named.
- ❹ **DELPHI:** Site of the most famous Greek oracle.
- ❺ **OLYMPIA:** Site of the statue of Zeus. This gigantic ivory and gold statue of Zeus is one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Site of the first Olympic games.

# GREEK

Ancient Greek culture has been a contributing influence throughout western civilization in the areas of art, literature, philosophy, drama, architecture and politics. With their inspiring intellect and unending pursuit of knowledge, the Greeks were the first to envision the principles of democracy and personal freedoms. Although ancient, these early Greek ideas continue to effectively establish the precepts for governments throughout the world today including the United States of America.

Located in southern Europe along the Mediterranean Sea, Greece's mainland, surrounded by 437 islands, consists of 50,000 square miles of robust mineral rich rock, pristine coastal shores, and divinely carved hill rolling countryside landscapes. During Greece's early history its geographical location became strategically important for trade and commerce. Early communities known as the Aegeans, Achaeans, Pelasgians, and Minoans settled along these potentially rich coastal regions. While seeking dominance over coastal territories many of these early settlements embellished upon bitter conflicts.

As internal conflicts continued, foreign invasion also became part of Greece's historic timeline. Instability became an inherent part of a developing Greek culture. However, as Greek society began to rise an athletic competition known as the Olympic Games originated in 776 BC. These famous games marked a milestone for early Greek dominance. Its cultural rise produced well-studied philosophers – Socrates and Plato; the religious mythology of gods and goddesses; the architectural wonders of oracles; and the poetic epic of Homer's Iliad. However, by 197 BCE the Greek empire diminished as Roman forces overtook Greek warriors led by King Philip V. Although the Greek empire was eventually conquered by Roman rule, Greek culture was later incorporated into Roman society.

Like the Roman empire, societies throughout the world continue to implement Greek culture into their own. As we study the historic timelines of Greece we will understand why such an ancient society has influenced the world both today and in its past.

## VOCABULARY of *Greek Part I*

**ACROPOLIS:** The highest part of a Greek city i.e. Athens.

**ARCHAIC PERIOD: (800 - 500 BCE)** A period during which regions in Greece became city-states called "poleis". Each city-state spoke its own dialect of the Greek language, minted its own money and had its own set of laws. Also the era when the first Olympic Games began.

**CRETE:** The largest of all the Greek Islands where a sophisticated early Greek community known as the Minoans had settled.

**DARK AGE: (1100 - 800 BCE)** A period during which traditional Greek culture was extinguished by the invasion of a people known as the Dorians.

**DEMOCRACY:** Means "Rule By Many". A system of government whereby the majority of people who vote determines which leaders will represent them. The original idea for this system of government was developed by the Greeks.

**GREECE:** 50,000 square miles of land, surrounded by 437 islands, located in southern Europe along the Mediterranean Sea.

**HEINRICH SCHLIEMANN:** A German archaeologist who discovered the ruins of Troy in 1870. In 1876 he unearthed the ancient city of Mycenae proving that Homer's writings were poems which included actual history.

**HOMER:** A Greek poet about whom nothing is completely known. However he is credited with writing the Greek literary classic epic entitled "Iliad", about the siege of the city Troy.

**HOMO ERECTUS:** The scientific name given to the first human species who walked upright and appeared 2 million years ago to inhabit the area known today as Greece.

Study the vocabulary words on pgs. 2 & 3. Then fill in the blank by selecting the words from the answers list:

### ANSWERS LIST :

Minotaur • Meister Shindler • Archaic  
Dinosaur • Neolithic • Italy • Minnesotans  
Greece • Heinrich Schliemann • Minoans

**A)** A German archaeologist named \_\_\_\_\_ discovered the ruins of Troy in 1870.

**B)** According to Greek mythology a \_\_\_\_\_ is a half bull - half man creature.

**C)** During the \_\_\_\_\_ period in 776 BCE the Olympic Games officially originated in Greece.

**D)** Located in southern Europe \_\_\_\_\_ consists of 50,000 square miles of land and is surrounded by 437 islands.

**E)** \_\_\_\_\_ established settlements along the island of Crete. However after 500 years of prosperity a volcanic eruption brought about their ruin.

## Q & A about *Greek Part I*

Study the vocabulary words on pages 2 & 3 and the timeline on pg. 4. Then answer the questions.

1. What is the scientific name given to describe the human species which walked upright approximately 2 million years ago?
2. Ancient Greece was the first civilization to explore the idea of democracy. Define democracy. Name a country in the modern world which embraces democracy.
3. Name the largest Greek island? The Minoans established a settlement along Greece's largest Island. Who were the Minoans?
4. The Trojan War became a subject of an epic poem. Name the poem and its author?
5. Greek mythology became an important part of the Greek culture? What is Greek mythology? Who is Zeus? Describe one example of Greek mythology.
6. From 1100 to 800 BCE Greece entered into a period of gloom. Name this era and what occurred during its time period.
7. Name the athletic competition which originated in Greece in 776 BCE? During what period was this competition performed? Who did this competition honor? Name the 200 meter foot race which officially started this competition.

**MINOANS:** An early Greek community who settled on the Island of Crete from 3300 to 1500 BCE. After 500 years of prosperity a volcanic eruption brought about their ruin.

**MINOTAUR:** The half bull - half man creature as described in Greek mythology.

**MYCENAEANS: (1,600 to 1,100 BCE)** An early Greek community which settled on Greece's mainland. Their traits include the horse and war chariot.

**MYTHOLOGY:** A story or historical event which explains the practice or beliefs of a people.

**NEOLITHIC PERIOD: (6,500 to 2,900 BCE)** A period during which early man migrated into Greece from the north. These nomadic tribes transformed themselves from hunters and gatherers to herders and farmers.

**OLYMPIC GAMES:** An athletic competition which originated in Greece during the Archaic Period in 776 BCE. These games honored the king of all Greek gods Zeus. These games occurred every four years whereby military activity was suspended for three months.

**ORACLE:** A place or shrine where Greeks went to ask the gods for advice or predictions of the future.

**STADION:** A 200 meter foot race which officially started the Olympic games. The winner of this prestigious race had his name attached to that year's games and was honored across all of Greece.

**TROJAN WAR:** The subject of the epic poem, the "Iliad", written by Homer.

**ZEUS:** The king of gods and husband of Hera in Greek Mythology.

## TIMELINE of *Greek* Part I

— **200 Million years ago:** Dinosaurs roamed the earth.

— **65 Million years ago:** Dinosaurs extinct.

— **2 million years ago:** Homo Erectus (human species) arrive in the land known today as Greece.

— **6,500 BCE:** The Neolithic Age

— **3,300 to 1,500 BCE:** The Minoans

— **1,600 to 1,100 BCE:** The Mycenaeans

— **1,250 BCE:** The Trojan War

— **1,100 to 800 BCE:** The Dark Age

— **800 to 500 BCE:** The Archaic Period.

— **776 BCE:** The first Olympic Games.

— **394 BCE:** After 1000 years of competition Roman Emperor Theodosius I suspends the Olympic Games.

— **1870:** Heinrich Schliemann uncovers the ruins of Troy.

— **1876:** Schliemann unearths the ancient city of Mycenae.

## Discussion Points / Activities

1. Imagine you lived during the time of ancient Greece. Discuss how life would be different than living in the 21st century.

2. A timeline offers a chronological perspective of significant events which have happened throughout history. After viewing the video, study the timeline on pg. 4 of this guide, then develop your own timeline which illustrates Greece's enduring history. Perhaps use the computer; add pictures along with text; if possible develop a multimedia presentation.

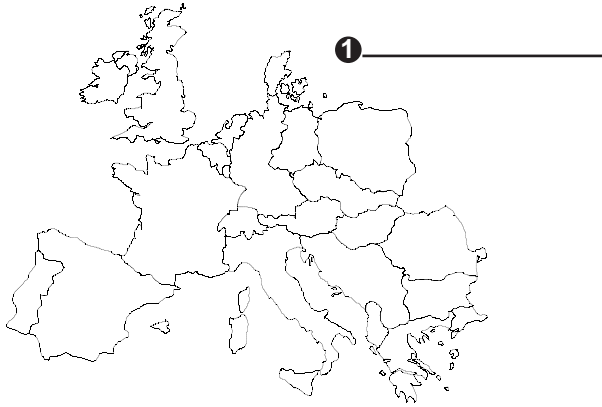
3. Greece is famous for its mythology. Choose one of these legendary stories and write a brief profile explaining its meaning, what lessons are being taught and what part of the story is fact or fiction. Research the theories about its origins. Use the internet.

4. The science of archeology has provided valuable information about the historic past to the modern-day world. If possible contact an archeologist (preferably one who is an expert on ancient Greece) at a local university, museum or privately funded institution. Ask them to visit your school or arrange a class trip to visit them to explain the importance of archeology and ancient Greece.

5. Discuss the differences and similarities between ancient Greece and present-day Greece. Who is the leader of Greece today? What is and was the primary religion practiced in ancient Greece and Greece today? What major industries existed in ancient Greece and Greece today? What is and was the primary means of transportation in ancient Greece and Greece today? What was and is the primary language of ancient Greece and Greece today? etc.

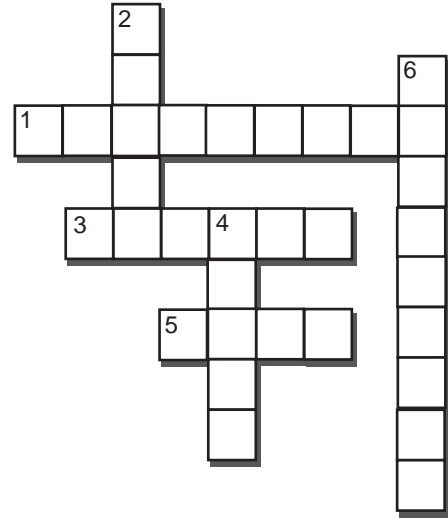
## GEOGRAPHY of GREECE Part 1

Study the map on pgs. 6 & 7. Then on separate piece of paper write the name and a brief description of each location.



8

Use the words described in this guide on pgs. 2 & 3 to complete the crossword.



### ACROSS:

- 1) Ruled by many.
- 3) Place to seek advise from the gods.
- 5) King of the Greek gods.

### DOWN:

- 2) Greek poet who wrote Iliad.
- 4) Largest Greek Island.
- 6) Stories which describe Greek beliefs.

**ANSWERS:**  
**Across** - 1) Democracy, 3) Oracle, 5) Zeus  
**Down** - 2) Homer, 4) Crete, 6) Mythology

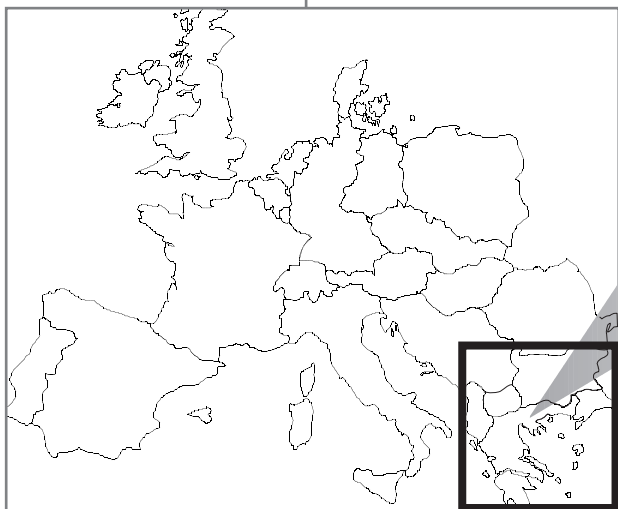
**ANSWERS:**

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## MAP of *Modern-Day Greece Part I*

Study the modern-day map and its significant locations below. Then test your geography skills on pg. 8.

- 1** EUROPE: Greece is located on Europe's southern border along the Mediterranean Sea. It consists of 50,000 square miles of land and is surrounded by 437 islands.



- 2** GREECE: 50,000 square miles of land, surrounded by 437 islands, located in southern Europe along the Mediterranean Sea.
- 3** ALBANIA: country along Greece's northwestern border.
- 4** MACEDONIA: country along Greece's northern border.
- 5** BULGARIA: country along Greece's northeast border.
- 6** TURKEY: country along Greece's eastern border.
- 7** AEGEAN SEA: body of water along Greece's southeast border.