

**CHAPTER 5** Section 1 (pages 123–126)

# Cultures of the Mountains and the Sea

## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about belief systems in ancient China and the Qin dynasty.

In this section, you will read about the development of culture in ancient Greece.

## AS YOU READ

Use the chart below to take notes on ancient Greek life.

### TERMS AND NAMES

**Mycenaean** Member of a group who settled on the Greek mainland around 2000 B.C.

**Trojan War** War in which the Mycenaeans attacked the city of Troy

**Dorian** Member of a group of people who migrated into the Greek mainland

**Homer** Greek poet who composed the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*

**epic** Heroic story told in the form of a long poem

**myth** Traditional story that explains why the world is the way it is

GEOGRAPHY	MYCENAEANS	DORIANS
<i>mountains and valleys separated areas</i>		

## Geography Shapes Greek Life

(pages 123–124)

### *How did geography influence the Greeks?*

The lives of the ancient Greeks were shaped by the geography of their land. Greece is a rocky land with high mountains and deep valleys. These landforms were like barriers. Moving over the land was difficult. For these reasons, Greeks living in different areas could not be easily *united*.

Good farmland covered only about one-fourth of Greece and could not support many people. The need for more living space and the lack of good farmland may have influenced the Greeks to find new colonies.

The Greeks had easy access to the sea, however. They became excellent sailors. Trade became important because Greece had few natural resources.

The climate is mild. As a result, Greek people spent much time outdoors. They attended public events and even *conducted* government outside.

**1. Why was sea trade important for the Greeks?**

---

---

---

---

**Mycenaean Civilization Develops** (pages 124–125)

**Who were the Mycenaeans?**

A large wave of people moved from Europe, India, and Southwest Asia. Some of these people settled on the Greek mainland around 2000 B.C. They were later called **Mycenaeans**. They were ruled by powerful warrior-kings.

The Mycenaeans developed a strong culture. They borrowed from the Minoan culture of Crete. They adapted the Minoan form of writing and artistic design. The Mycenaeans also became interested in trade.

According to legend, Mycenaeans fought a long war with the people of Troy, a city in Turkey. This conflict was called the **Trojan War**.

The war was said to have started because a Trojan youth kidnapped a Greek woman. Her name was Helen. She was the beautiful wife of a Greek king. The Greek army later destroyed Troy.

**2. How were the Mycenaeans influenced by the Minoans?**

---

---

---

---

**Greek Culture Declines Under the Dorians** (pages 125–126)

**What was Greece like under the Dorians?**

The culture of the Mycenaeans fell about 1200 B.C. Sea raiders destroyed their palaces. A less advanced people called the **Dorians** occupied the land. For the next 400 years, Greece went into decline. No written records exist from this period. Little is known about this era.

The spoken word lived on, however. A great storyteller named **Homer** made up **epics**, long poems, based on tales he heard. Epics are about heroes and their deeds. One of Homer’s great epics was the *Iliad*. It centers on the heroes of the Trojan War. The heroes of the *Iliad* are warriors. Homer tells about their courage and noble actions in battle.

The Greeks also created a rich set of **myths**. These stories explain the actions of gods and events in nature. In Greek myths, gods often act like humans. For example, they show feelings, such as love, hate, and jealousy. Unlike humans, though, the Greek gods lived forever.

**3. How did Homer keep Greek culture alive under the Dorians?**

---

---

---

---

**CHAPTER 5** Section 2 (pages 127–133)

# Warring City-States

## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about the rise of early cultures in Greece.

In this section, you will read about city-states and their governments.

## AS YOU READ

Use the chart below to take notes on the city-states,

### TERMS AND NAMES

**polis** City-state of ancient Greece

**acropolis** Fortified hilltop in an ancient Greek city

**monarchy** Government ruled by a king or queen

**aristocracy** Government ruled by a small group of noble families

**oligarchy** Government ruled by a few powerful people

**tyrant** Powerful ruler who gained control of a city-state's government by asking the common people for support

**democracy** Rule by the people

**helot** Peasant forced to stay on the land

**phalanx** Side-by-side fighting formation of Greek foot soldiers

**Persian Wars** Wars between Greece and the Persian Empire

<b>GOVERNMENT</b>	<i>city-state—main political unit ways to rule city-states—monarchy, aristocracy, oligarchy, democracy</i>
<b>SPARTA</b>	
<b>ATHENS</b>	
<b>PERSIAN WAR</b>	

## Rule and Order in Greek City-States

 (page 127)

### *How were city-states governed?*

The center of Greek life was the **polis**, or city-state. A polis was made up of a city and the countryside villages surrounding it. Men would gather in the marketplace or on a fortified hilltop in the polis, called an **acropolis**, to conduct business.

The city-states had different kinds of government. Some had a **monarchy**, a government ruled by a king or queen. Some had an **aristocracy**, a

government ruled by a small group of *noble* families. Later, some merchants and craft workers formed an **oligarchy**, a government ruled by a few powerful people.

Sometimes, the common people clashed with the rulers of the city-states. Powerful individuals called **tyrants** sometimes appealed to the common people for support. Tyrants would then rule the city-state. Unlike today, tyrants generally were not considered harsh or cruel. Rather, they were looked upon as leaders who did things for the ordinary people.

### 1. What types of government existed in the city-states?

## Athens Builds a Limited Democracy

(pages 128–129)

### How was Athens governed?

In some city-states, most notably Athens, the idea of representative government took hold. In Athens, as in other city-states, wealthy nobles and poor people *clashed*. The people of Athens avoided major political problems, however, by making reforms. Reformers in Athens tried to build a **democracy**, or government by the people.

In 594 B.C., a trusted statesman named Solon came to power. He introduced far-reaching changes to the government of Athens. He gave citizens a greater voice. He made it possible for any citizen of Athens to join discussions in the assembly, which approved laws. About 90 years later a leader named Cleisthenes took power and introduced further democratic reforms.

Athenian citizens, then, were able to participate in a limited democracy. Not everyone was involved in making political decisions, though. Only free adult men were citizens. Women and slaves had few rights. They played little or no role in political life.

### 2. Why was Athens not a full democracy?

## Sparta Builds a Military State

(pages 129, 131)

### How was Sparta governed?

Sparta was a very strong city-state in the south of Greece. It conquered its neighbor Messenia. The people of Messenia became **helots**. They were peasants forced to stay on the land they worked. They had to give the Spartans half their crops.

An *assembly*, the Council of Elders, and elected officials governed Sparta. Two kings ruled over Sparta's military. Sparta prized military skills. Boys joined the army at the age of seven and went through a long period of training as soldiers. Spartan women ran the family estates, freeing their husbands to serve in the army.

### 3. What was Sparta's focus as a city-state?

## The Persian Wars

(pages 131–133)

### Who fought the Persian Wars?

Over the years, the Greeks developed the ability to make iron weapons. Because these cost less than weapons made of bronze, more people could afford them. Soon each city-state had its own army. In this army, soldiers stood side by side. They had a spear in one hand and a shield in the other. Together they formed a **phalanx**.

The Persian Wars were fought between Greece and the Persian Empire. In 490 B.C., Persian ships landed 25,000 soldiers on the coast of Greece. At the Battle of Marathon, the Greeks won a tremendous victory that saved Athens.

Ten years later, the Persians returned. The Greeks lost a battle on land, despite the heroic efforts of a small band of Spartans. The Persians also burned Athens. However, the ships of Athens won a great sea battle. The Greeks followed it with another victory on land. The threat from Persia was over.

### 4. What was the outcome of the Persian Wars?

**CHAPTER 5** Section 3 (pages 134–139)

# Democracy and Greece's Golden Age

## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about the government of the city-states.

In this section, you will read about democracy and the Golden Age of Greece.

## AS YOU READ

Use the web below to show characteristics and events of Greece's Golden Age.

### TERMS AND NAMES

**direct democracy** Form of government in which citizens rule directly

**classical art** Art in which harmony, order, and balance were emphasized

**tragedy** Serious drama dealing with such themes as love, hate, war, or betrayal

**comedy** Light and amusing play that may poke fun at serious subjects

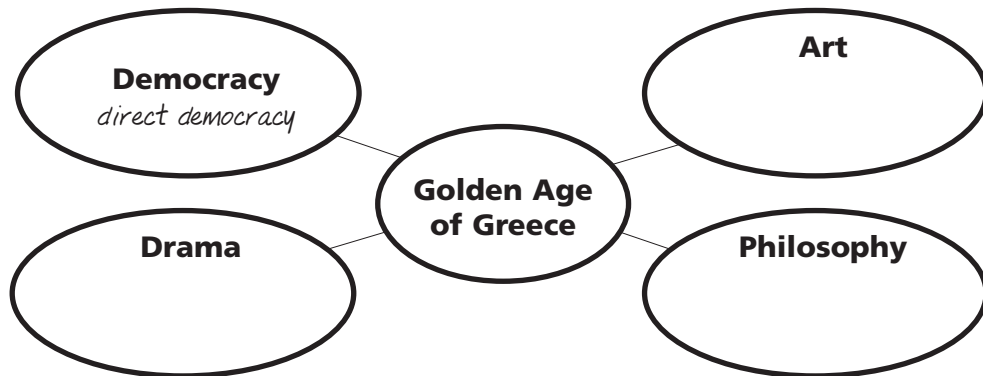
**Peloponnesian War** War in which Athens and its allies were defeated by Sparta and its allies

**philosopher** Thinker who uses logic and reason to explore life's important questions

**Socrates** Greek thinker who explored truth and justice and developed a method of questioning and answering

**Plato** Socrates's student who wrote *The Republic*, a view of the ideal society

**Aristotle** Plato's student who developed a method for testing and organizing ideas.



## Pericles' Plan for Athens (pages 134–135)

### *How did Pericles change Athens?*

Pericles led Athens during its golden age. He served in this role from 461 to 429 B.C. Greek culture reached new heights under his leadership. Pericles had a great influence over Athens. Pericles took many steps to make Athens better.

He set three goals. One goal was to make Athens much more democratic. More people served in the

government. Pericles helped bring about **direct democracy**. This meant that citizens ruled directly and not through representatives. An assembly of male citizens had a voice in making laws for Athens.

Another goal was to make Athens stronger. Pericles tried to increase its wealth and power. He helped build up Athens's navy. It became the strongest in the Mediterranean.

Another goal was to make Athens beautiful. Pericles used money from the empire to buy gold, ivory, and marble. He helped fund great works of art.

### 1. What were Pericles' three main goals for Athens?

---

---

---

## Glorious Art and Architecture

(pages 135–136)

### *How was Greek art unique?*

One of the glories of Athens was the *Parthenon*. This temple was built to honor the goddess Athena. It is a masterpiece of art. Like other buildings and sculptures in Greece, it is an example of **classical art**. It reflects order, balance, and *proportion*.

### 2. Why was the Parthenon built?

---

---

---

## Drama and History (page 136)

### *What kinds of drama did Greeks produce?*

Athens also became home to a group of very skilled playwrights. Some wrote **tragedies**. These plays were about the pain and suffering of human life. Love, hate, and war were common themes. The main characters were called tragic heroes. They had flaws that caused their downfall.

Other playwrights wrote **comedies**. These plays made audiences laugh about important ideas. Some plays were critical of customs, politics, and people. Such performances showed that Athens was a free and open society.

Also, such writers as Herodotus and Thucydides pioneered the accurate reporting of events. Their works led to the development of the subject of history.

### 3. What was the purpose of Greek comedies?

---

---

---

## Athenians and Spartans Go to War (pages 137–138)

### *What was the Peloponnesian War?*

After being *rivals* for many years, Sparta and Athens finally went to war. The **Peloponnesian War** began in 431 B.C. The conflict ended badly for Athens. In 430 B.C. a horrible *plague* killed a great many people in Athens. After several battles, the two sides signed a truce. However, they were soon back at war. Finally, Athens gave up in 404 B.C. Athens had lost its empire.

### 4. What was the result of the Peloponnesian War?

---

---

---

## Philosophers Search for Truth

(pages 138–139)

### *What did philosophers contribute to Greek culture?*

After Athens's defeat, this city-state became home to several **philosophers**. They were thinkers who tried to understand human life. One of these great thinkers was **Socrates**. He believed deeply in truth and justice. Yet many people did not trust him. They thought his teachings were a danger to young people. Socrates was brought to trial and condemned to death.

His pupil, **Plato**, recorded many of Socrates's ideas. Plato became an important thinker in his own right. Plato's student, **Aristotle**, wrote books that summarized the knowledge of the Greeks. He also developed a way of reasoning. His system of logic became the foundation of scientific thought used today.

### 5. Who were three important Greek philosophers?

---

---

---

**CHAPTER 5** Section 4 (pages 142–145)

# Alexander's Empire

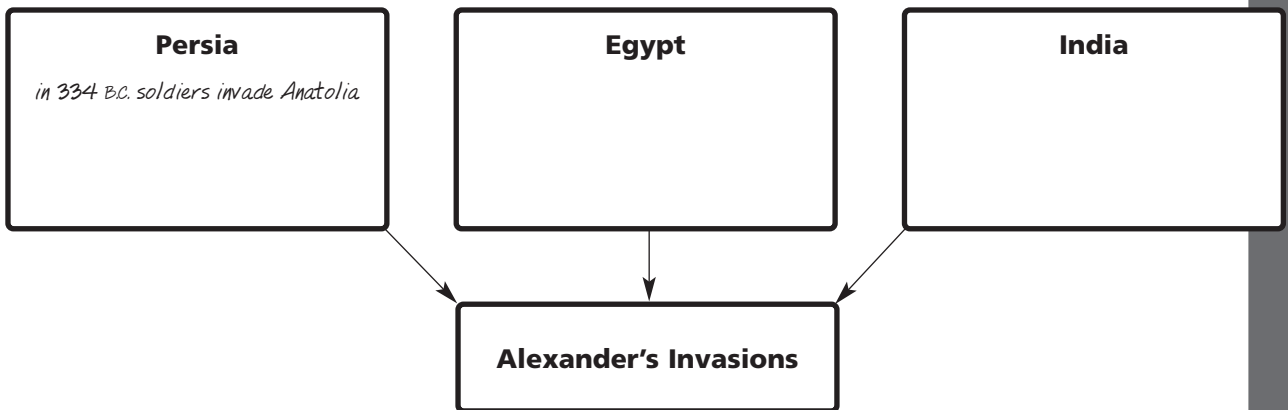
## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about the Golden Age of Greece and the fall of Athens.

In this section, you will learn about Alexander the Great and his empire.

## AS YOU READ

Use the diagram below to take notes on Alexander's Invasions.



### TERMS AND NAMES

**Philip II** King of Macedonia who conquered Greece

**Macedonia** Kingdom located just north of Greece

**Alexander the Great** Philip II's son who established a huge empire

**Darius III** Persian king

## Philip Builds Macedonian Power

(pages 142–143)

### *Who were the Macedonians?*

In 359 B.C., **Philip II** became king of **Macedonia**, a kingdom located just to the north of Greece. He was a strong leader and trained his troops to be tough fighters. Philip prepared his army to invade Greece.

The Athenian *orator* Demosthenes tried to warn the Greeks. He told them about Philip's plans. But they united too late to save themselves. The Macedonians won. Greek independence was now over.

Philip planned to invade Persia next. He never got the chance. He was killed. His son Alexander became king at age 20. He became known as **Alexander the Great**.

### 1. How did Greek independence end?

---



---

## Alexander Defeats Persia (pages 143–144)

### *How did Alexander defeat Persia?*

Alexander was a brilliant general, just like his father. He was prepared to carry out his father's dream of world *conquest*. In 334 B.C., Alexander invaded Persia. After Alexander's first victory, the king of Persia, **Darius III**, raised a huge army to face him. Alexander then used a surprise attack. Darius III had to retreat.



Alexander then moved south to enter Egypt. He was crowned pharaoh and founded a city that he named for himself—Alexandria. He then turned back to Persia and won another great battle. It ended all Persian resistance. The empire was his.

**2. What two kingdoms did Alexander defeat?**

---

---

## Alexander's Other Conquests

(pages 144–145)

### *How far east did Alexander push?*

Alexander pushed east, taking his army as far as India. He moved deep into that country. After many years of marching and fighting, however, his soldiers wanted to return home. Alexander agreed

and turned back. On the way home, he began to make plans for how to govern his new empire. Then he suddenly fell ill and died. He was not yet 33 years old.

Three of Alexander's generals divided his empire. One ruled Macedonia and Greece. Another took control of Egypt. The third became ruler of the lands that used to be in the Persian Empire. Alexander's empire was not long lasting. Yet it had important effects. After Alexander, the people of Greece and Persia and all the lands between mixed together and shared ideas and culture.

**3. How did Alexander's power come to an end?**

---

---



**CHAPTER 5** Section 5 (pages 146–149)

# The Spread of Hellenistic Culture

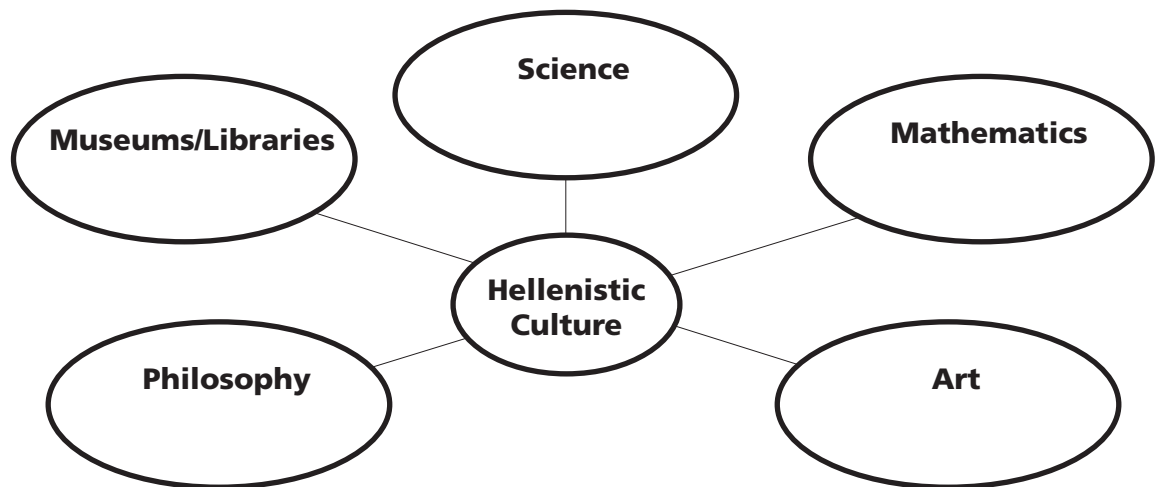
## BEFORE YOU READ

In the last section, you read about the military conquests of Alexander the Great.

In this section, you will learn about the spread of Hellenistic culture.

## AS YOU READ

Use the web below to take notes on developments in Hellenistic culture.



### TERMS AND NAMES

**Hellenistic** Relating to the culture that blended Greek with Egyptian, Persian, and Indian influences

**Alexandria** Egyptian city that was the center of Hellenistic culture

**Euclid** Greek mathematician and pioneer in geometry

**Archimedes** Greek scientist, inventor, and mathematician

**Colossus of Rhodes** Huge bronze statue created on the island of Rhodes

## Hellenistic Culture in Alexandria

(pages 146–147)

### *What was Hellenistic culture?*

A new culture arose—the **Hellenistic** culture. It blended Greek with Egyptian, Persian, and Indian influences. The center of this culture was **Alexandria**, Egypt. This city was located near the mouth of the Nile River on the Mediterranean Sea. Alexandria had a ship harbor. Trade was lively. Alexandria had a large population. These people were from many different countries.

Alexandria was also a beautiful city. Its huge lighthouse towered over the harbor. Its famous museum had works of art, a zoo, and a garden. Alexandria had the first true research library. It held half-million papyrus scrolls. These contained everything known in the Hellenistic world.

1. Give two reasons why Alexandria became a center of Hellenistic culture.

---



---

## Science and Technology

(pages 147–148)

**What** new ideas arose in science, technology, and mathematics?

While scholars kept what was known about science alive, others learned new ideas. Some used an *observatory* to look at the stars and planets. One of these *astronomers* developed the idea that the sun was actually larger than Earth. No one had believed this before.

The thinkers in Alexandria also made advances in mathematics. **Euclid** wrote a book with the basic ideas of geometry. His approach is still used today. **Archimedes** invented many clever machines. One was the pulley. Another is called Archimedes screw. Its purpose was to bring water from a lower level to a higher one.

**2. What two inventions did Archimedes make?**

---

---

## Philosophy and Art (pages 148–149)

**What** new developments occurred in philosophy and the arts?

Two new schools of philosophy arose in these times. The *Stoics* argued that people should live a good life to keep themselves in harmony with natural laws. Desire, power, and wealth led people down the wrong path. The *Epicureans* said that people could rely only on what they learned from their five senses. They urged everyone to live moral lives.

The arts were also important in Hellenistic times. Great achievements occurred in sculpture. Sculpture in the earlier Greek style aimed at showing perfect forms. In the Hellenistic age, sculpted figures were more realistic and emotional. The largest known Hellenistic statue is the **Colossus of Rhodes**. It stood over 100 feet high.

**3. How were Hellenistic sculptures different from earlier Greek sculptures?**

---

---