



Saint Elizabeth's Knowledge Mat



Year: 5 **Subject:** History **Topic:** The Ancient Greeks

1. What I Know Already

Greece is a country in the continent of Europe (Y2)
 Knowledge of BC and AD for chronology (Y3)
 Historical sources i.e., the Rosetta Stone & Bronze age tools, and how they provide information about the past (Y3 & 4)
 The Romans invaded Britain and were powerful in war (Y4)
 Ancient civilisations, such as the Egyptians, often worshipped more than one god (Y4)

2. Key Concepts

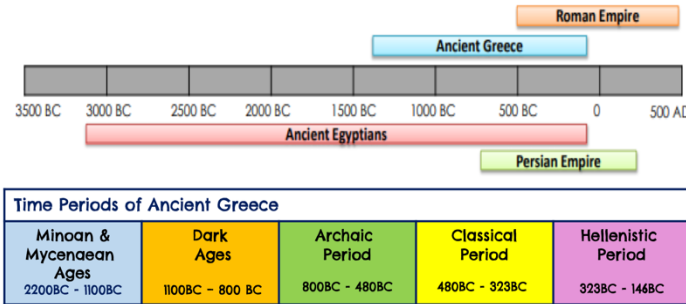
The Ancient Greek civilisation lasted between 2200BC-146BC, when they were conquered by the Romans. Ancient Greece was separated into five key time periods.

Ancient Greece was not one single nation, but a group of hundreds of **city-states**. Often at war with each other, they developed different forms of government with their own laws. The Athenians invented **democracy**, a system that allows citizens to vote on important matters. However, women, children and slaves were not allowed to vote.

The Greeks believed that **gods and goddesses** watched over them, living above Mount Olympus in a palace in the clouds. These gods were a bit like humans, but they were immortal and much more powerful. They felt human emotions, like love, anger and jealousy and people believed that gods protected them from harm. The Greeks worshipped them by building temples, praying and making sacrifices to them.

Alexander the Great was the king of Macedonia, or Ancient Greece. He is considered one of the greatest military commanders in history. He conquered much of Asia and Europe.

Aristotle, Plato and Socrates were renowned Greek **philosophers**; people who make observations and judgements about human nature. They asked a lot of difficult - seemingly unanswerable - questions like "what is love?".



Timeline of main events

2200BC-1450BC	The Minoans , disputedly the first Greek civilisation, lived in Crete (a Greek island). Some argue that this civilisation was so different to later Greek cultures that they shouldn't be considered as 'Greek'!
1600BC-1100BC	The Mycenaeans settled on mainland Greece. These are considered 'the first Greeks' because they were the first to speak the Greek language.
1230-1180BC	The Trojan War is theorised to have taken place.
776BC	First Olympic games are held.
700BC	The Iliad and Odyssey poems are written by Homer.
600BC	Coin currency introduced
508BC	Democracy introduced in Greece as male citizens of Athens are allowed to vote.
472BC	Greek theatres become popular in Athens .
432BC	The Parthenon in Athens is completed.
431BC	The Peloponnesian War between Sparta and Athens . Sparta defeats Athens.
336BC	Alexander the Great takes control of Greece
146BC	The Romans conquer Greece

3. Key Vocabulary

amphoras	A two-handled narrow necked jar for oil or wine
Athens	A powerful Greek city-state where democracy was born.
citizens	People who belong to a place
city-state	A community structure in Ancient Greece with its own laws and government.
culture	The ideas/habits and public behaviour of a particular society.
democracy	A system of government where people choose who is in charge by voting in elections.
demigods	Less important gods, usually half god, half human
dictatorship	Governance whereby one person rules with unlimited power.
historical sources	Things that give information about the past
Olympics	A sporting event held by the Ancient Greeks every four years. It was also a religious event, honouring Zeus, king of the Gods.
philosophy	The study of how people think and live (usually by asking difficult questions!)
Sparta	A powerful Greek city-state and rival to Athens. Their culture was driven battle and warfare!
titans	The first Greek gods. They were overthrown by their children, the Olympians.
tyrant	The ruler of a Greek city-state - equivalent of a king. Today, the word describes an unfair or unjust ruler.