

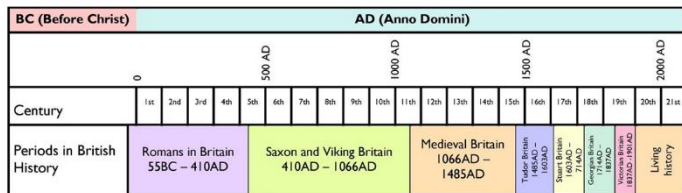


Year 5 Knowledge Organiser

Meet the Greeks

What I should already know.

- Greece is a country in the continent of Europe.
- The climate of Greece is different to that of the UK.
- Human and physical geographical features of Greece.
- Information about the Egyptian civilisation.
- The Romans invaded Britain.
- The chronology of British history.



What will I know by the end of the unit?

Key Facts

- Greece is made up of the mainland and many islands.
- Its position by the sea meant that the Greeks were a seafaring people.
- City-states (polis) were created and trade happened between each of the cities.
- Greece is a warm country, but winds from the Mediterranean, and rains from the north, kept temperatures livable and created fertile farming conditions.
- In Sparta, life was very different; all that was important was being able to defend Sparta in battle.
- The first Olympic games were held in 776 in the city-state Olympia.
- A polis consisted of an urban centre, often fortified and with a sacred centre built on a natural acropolis (citadel) or harbour.
- Alexander the Great was a powerful military leader, who expanded the Greek Empire from Greece to Persia, Babylon, Egypt and beyond.



Timeline	776 BC: The first Olympic games take place.	570 BC: Pythagoras is born. He made major breakthroughs in science and maths.	c. 450 BC: Athens becomes a powerful city and controls an empire.	336 BC: Alexander the Great is King and helps the Greek empire expand further.
	c. 750 BC: Early Greek	508 BC: Democracy begins	432 BC: The Parthenon,	146 BC: Rome conquers
	culture thrives. Homer writes The Iliad and The Odyssey.	in Athens, giving greater power to the people.	the most famous building in Athens, is completed.	Greece, making it part of the Roman Empire.

Key Vocabulary

acropolis	The citadel of an ancient Greek city.
archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.
architecture	The art of planning, designing and constructing buildings.
circa	Latin meaning 'around'. c. 800 BC means around 800 BC.
citadel	A strong building (fortress) in or near a city, where people could shelter for safety.
civilisation	A human society with its own social organisation and culture.
continent	A very large area of land that consists of many countries. Europe is a continent.
culture	Activities such as the arts and philosophy, which are considered to be important for the development of civilisation
deity	A god or goddess.
democracy	A fair political system where all adults vote for an elected government. This government then makes decisions on how to run the country.
empire	A number of individual nations that are all controlled by the government or ruler of one particular country.
fertile	Rich in nutrients to support the growth of many plants.
invasion	To try and take over a place by force.
merchant	A person who buys or sells goods in large quantities.
military	Relating to or belonging to the army.
mythology	A group of myths, especially all the myths from a particular country, religion, or culture.
philosophy	The study or creation of theories about basic things such as the nature of existence, knowledge, and thought, or about how people should live,
polis	An ancient Greek city-state.
polytheists	The worship of or belief in more than one god.
seafaring	Working as a sailor or travelling regularly on the sea.
society	People in general, thought of as a large organized group.
trade	The activity of buying, selling, or exchanging goods or services.
urban	Belonging to, or relating to, a town or city.
warfare	The activity of fighting a war.

Key Knowledge

- Greece was divided into city-states (polis) that each had their own laws and way of life, but that all spoke the same language. Two of the most well-known city states are **Athens and Sparta**.
- **In Athens, Greek styles of art, architecture, philosophy and theatre were developed - these helped shaped our modern society along with science, language and maths.**
- Athens had a **democratic government** – this means that the people who lived there made decisions by voting, like we do in Britain.
- **Religion** was very important in ancient Greece. They were **polytheists**.
- **Temples** were built in their honour and they featured heavily in the stories of Greek mythology.
- **Alexander the Great** was a military leader.

Historical Skills & Enquiry

- Examine Greek artefacts (such as vases) and use these to make inferences about the past. Describe how Greek artefacts and ruins tell us about their culture, military, and religious beliefs.
- Describe how the Greek society has had an impact on modern society. - Discuss the notion of democracy - compare the democratic process of ancient Greece with that of modern Britain.
- Examine the timeline of the Greek civilisation and consider where there was rapid change and where there was very little change. Explain why this may be the case.
- Place the chronology of key events on a time line and compare what was happening in the Greek civilisation with what was happening in Britain at the same time.
- Describe the ideas, beliefs and attitudes of groups of people in the Greek civilisation.