

Wars Shape Greece

Trace the causes and results of two Greek conflicts.

SS.6.W.3.4 "Explain the causes and effects of the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each cause of either war and circle each effect or result. Write 1 beside causes of the Persian Wars and 2 beside causes of the Peloponnesian War.

Two Wars, Lasting Changes

- ① Early in the fifth century BCE, the Persian Empire controlled Greek cities along the coast of Asia Minor. These cities rebelled, and Athens sent ships to help them. Persian king Darius I wanted to punish Athens and prevent more rebellion. In 490 BCE, Persian soldiers landed at Marathon. Athenian hoplites defeated them there. Ten years later, Darius's son Xerxes led a larger invasion. Greek city-states, though often rivals, joined forces because they feared Persian rule over them.
- ② In 480 BCE, Xerxes's army marched south. A small Greek force delayed the Persians at Thermopylae, but Persia won that battle and moved toward Athens. Many Athenians left their city and boarded warships. The Greek navy then trapped Persian ships in the narrow waters near Salamis. Greek sailors won the naval battle. Xerxes returned to Asia, leaving troops behind. In 479 BCE, Greek forces defeated those troops at Plataea, ending the invasion and protecting Greek independence for a time.
- ③ After the Persian Wars, Athens built a powerful sea alliance called the Delian League. It used league money to strengthen Athens, which worried Sparta and its allies. Athens also competed with Corinth, a Spartan ally, over trade and colonies. These tensions helped cause the Peloponnesian War in 431 BCE. The long war brought fighting, disease, and shortages. Sparta received Persian money for a fleet and defeated Athens in 404 BCE. Athens lost its empire, and many Greek city-states were weakened by years of conflict.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What two actions helped cause Darius to attack Athens?

2 How did the Greek victory at Salamis affect Xerxes's invasion?

3 What tensions helped cause the Peloponnesian War?

4 Give one effect of the Persian Wars and one effect of the Peloponnesian War.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write exactly four sentences that explain a cause and an effect of the Persian Wars and a cause and an effect of the Peloponnesian War. Use because, led to, or another phrase that clearly connects each cause to its effect.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each cause of either war and circle each effect or result. Write 1 beside causes of the Persian Wars and 2 beside causes of the Peloponnesian War. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What two actions helped cause Darius to attack Athens?	Greek cities in Asia Minor rebelled against Persia, and Athens sent ships to help the rebels.
2	How did the Greek victory at Salamis affect Xerxes's invasion?	The Greek navy defeated Persian ships at Salamis. Xerxes returned to Asia and left troops behind.
3	What tensions helped cause the Peloponnesian War?	Athens used Delian League money to grow stronger, worrying Sparta and its allies. Athens also competed with Corinth over trade and colonies.
4	Give one effect of the Persian Wars and one effect of the Peloponnesian War.	The Persian Wars ended Xerxes's invasion and protected Greek independence for a time. The Peloponnesian War ended Athens's empire and weakened many Greek city-states.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Persian rule over Greek cities in Asia Minor and Athens's help for their revolt led Darius to attack Athens. Greek victories at Salamis and Plataea ended Xerxes's invasion and protected Greek independence for a time. Athens's growing Delian League power and competition with Sparta's allies helped lead to the Peloponnesian War. Sparta's victory over Athens ended the Athenian empire and weakened Greek city-states.

Accept equivalent cause-and-effect explanations supported by the passage. For the open response, check that all four required elements are present and that each cause is clearly connected to an effect.