

Greece Leaves a Mark

Read for achievements that shaped later societies.

SS.6.W.3.5 "Summarize the important achievements and contributions of ancient Greek civilization."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline three important Greek achievements or contributions and number them 1, 2, and 3 to prepare a clear summary of ancient Greece.

Ideas That Traveled Beyond Greece

- ① Ancient Greece was made up of independent city-states, but Greek people shared language, religious festivals, and ideas. In Athens, some male citizens met in an assembly to debate and vote on laws. This early form of direct democracy did not include women, enslaved people, or foreign residents. Even with those limits, it introduced the idea that citizens could take part in government. Greek city-states also developed written laws and public discussion, which helped shape later ideas about civic participation.
- ② Greek artists and writers created works that are still studied. At outdoor theaters, audiences watched tragedies, serious plays about human choices, and comedies, plays that used humor to comment on society. Poets told long stories about heroes and journeys. Philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle asked questions about knowledge, ethics, and government. Their habit of using reason and evidence to examine ideas influenced later education and philosophy. Builders used columns and balanced designs in temples, styles copied in many public buildings today.
- ③ Greek thinkers made advances in several fields. Hippocrates encouraged doctors to observe patients carefully and look for natural causes of illness instead of blaming the gods. Historians such as Herodotus and Thucydides collected accounts and compared evidence when writing about past events. Mathematicians studied geometry, including shapes and measurements. The Olympic Games, held at Olympia, brought athletes from different city-states together for religious festival and competition. These achievements spread Greek methods, knowledge, and cultural traditions beyond Greece.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did direct democracy in Athens allow some citizens to take part in government? Who was excluded?

2 What was one important contribution of Greek philosophers, and how did it affect later people?

3 What similar method did Hippocrates and Greek historians use in their work?

4 How did the Olympic Games connect Greek city-states?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence summary of ancient Greek civilization. Include achievements from three different areas, such as government, arts, learning, medicine, history, math, architecture, or sports, and explain one lasting influence.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline three important Greek achievements or contributions and number them 1, 2, and 3 to prepare a clear summary of ancient Greece. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did direct democracy in Athens allow some citizens to take part in government? Who was excluded?	Some male citizens debated and voted on laws in an assembly. Women, enslaved people, and foreign residents were excluded.
2	What was one important contribution of Greek philosophers, and how did it affect later people?	Greek philosophers used reason and evidence to examine questions about knowledge, ethics, and government. This influenced later education and philosophy.
3	What similar method did Hippocrates and Greek historians use in their work?	Both used careful observation and evidence. Hippocrates observed patients, while historians collected accounts and compared evidence.
4	How did the Olympic Games connect Greek city-states?	The games brought athletes from different city-states together at Olympia for a religious festival and competition.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Ancient Greeks helped develop direct democracy, although only some people could participate. Greek philosophers used reason and evidence to study important questions. Greek mathematicians advanced geometry by studying shapes and measurements. The idea of citizens taking part in government influenced later governments.

Accept accurate summaries that name three Greek achievements from different areas and explain one effect on later societies. Students may choose different achievements from the passage if their details are accurate.