

Worlds Meet, Ideas Grow

Trace people and ideas across the Hellenistic world.

SS.6.W.3.7 "Summarize the key achievements, contributions, and figures associated with the Hellenistic Period."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each achievement or contribution, and circle each important figure, so you can see who shaped the Hellenistic Period and what they did.

A Blended Greek World

- ① In 323 BCE, Alexander the Great died after building an empire that stretched from Greece to Egypt and parts of Asia. His generals divided the empire into several kingdoms. This began the Hellenistic Period, a time when Greek ideas mixed with Egyptian, Persian, Indian, and other local traditions. Greek became a common language for trade and learning in many cities. New cities, including Alexandria in Egypt, became busy centers where people, goods, and ideas met.
- ② At Alexandria, the Library and the Museum supported scholars who copied, compared, and studied texts from many cultures. Euclid wrote *Elements*, a book that organized rules of geometry. Eratosthenes compared shadows in two Egyptian cities and made a close estimate of Earth's circumference. Archimedes of Syracuse investigated levers, floating objects, and machines. These achievements show that Hellenistic learning involved collecting knowledge and using observation and mathematics to explain the natural world more carefully in new ways.
- ③ Hellenistic rulers also used Greek-style government and culture while adapting to local customs. In Egypt, Ptolemy I founded a dynasty that ruled for nearly three centuries. Trade linked ports around the Mediterranean with lands farther east, spreading products and ideas. Artists created sculptures with movement, strong emotion, and realistic details, unlike the calmer style of earlier Greek art. The period ended when Rome took Egypt in 30 BCE, but its blended culture continued to influence Roman life.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did the Hellenistic Period bring cultures together? Give one detail from the passage.

2 Who was Euclid, and what was his important contribution?

3 What did Eratosthenes do to estimate Earth's circumference? What does this show about Hellenistic learning?

4 Choose Ptolemy I or Hellenistic artists. Summarize that person's achievement or that group's contribution.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a four-sentence museum label that summarizes why the Hellenistic Period mattered. Name two figures and their achievements or contributions, then explain one way ideas or culture spread during this period.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each achievement or contribution, and circle each important figure, so you can see who shaped the Hellenistic Period and what they did. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Hellenistic Period bring cultures together? Give one detail from the passage.	Greek ideas mixed with local traditions, and Greek became common in trade and learning. Alexandria was also a center where people, goods, and ideas met.
2	Who was Euclid, and what was his important contribution?	Euclid was a scholar who wrote <i>Elements</i>, a book that organized rules of geometry.
3	What did Eratosthenes do to estimate Earth's circumference? What does this show about Hellenistic learning?	He compared shadows in two Egyptian cities. This shows that scholars used observation and mathematics to understand the natural world.
4	Choose Ptolemy I or Hellenistic artists. Summarize that person's achievement or that group's contribution.	Ptolemy I founded a dynasty in Egypt that ruled for nearly three centuries. Hellenistic artists created realistic sculptures showing movement and strong emotion.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The Hellenistic Period began after Alexander's empire was divided, and it brought Greek ideas into contact with local traditions. In Alexandria, Euclid organized geometry in *Elements*, while Eratosthenes used shadows to estimate Earth's circumference. Artists made lifelike sculptures that showed motion and strong feelings. Trade and a shared Greek language helped ideas travel, so Hellenistic culture later influenced Rome.

Accept equivalent summaries that accurately name two figures from the passage and connect each to a contribution or achievement. The museum label should also explain a supported way that ideas or culture spread, such as trade, shared language, or cultural mixing.