

# **Teacher's Guide For**

## **Ancient History:**

### **The Greek City-State and Democracy**

For grade 7 - College

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## **MATERIALS IN THE PROGRAM**

**Teacher's Guide** -This Teacher's Guide has been prepared to aid the teacher in utilizing materials contained within this program. In addition to this introductory material, the guide contains the following:

- *Suggested Instructional Notes*
- *Student Learning Goals*
- *Test Questions on Blackline Masters A for duplication and handout to students.*
- *Timeline of Events in Ancient Greek history*
- *Gallery of Famous Greek Individuals*

## **INSTRUCTIONAL NOTES**

It is suggested that you preview the program and read the Student Goals and Teacher Points. By doing so, you will become familiar with the materials and be better prepared to adapt the program to the needs of your class. Please note that this show is set up to be played continuously and you will probably find it best to follow the program in the order in which it is presented, but this is not necessary. The program can be divided into chapters accessed through the DVD's Menu Screen under Chapter Selects. In this way each chapter can be played and studied separately. A proposed Lesson Plan based on chapter headings accessed through the DVD menu screen can be found on page 4 of this Teachers Guide. It is also suggested that the program presentation take place before the entire class and under your direction. As you review the instructional program outlined in the Teacher's Guide, you may find it necessary to make some changes, deletions, or additions to fit the specific needs of your students. After viewing the program you may wish to copy the **Test Questions on Blackline Masters 1A** and distribute it to your class to measure their comprehension of the events.

## **INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY OF PROGRAM ANCIENT HISTORY: THE GREEK CITY-STATES AND DEMOCRACY**

*Ancient History: The Greek City-States and Democracy* is a new approach to presenting in an exciting way the history of the Greek City-state and the founding of democracy. The program is designed to present *Ancient History: The Greek City-States and Democracy* in a way that promotes successful student learning. The program begins with an overview of the Greek Golden age, then discusses the founding of the Greek city-state from between 1000 and 700 B.C, and follows the creation of democracy and the concept of citizenship. It ends by focusing on the Golden Age of the most famous Greek City-State, Athens as a model for what the Greek City-State was like

**Student Goals - In this Ancient History: The Greek City-States and Democracy program the students will learn:**

- Athens represents the remarkable 500 years of accomplishment, during which the Greek civilization flourished
- Greeks during the 500 year period from 750 B.C. to 250 B.C. laid the foundations for almost every aspect of western civilization

- What a people, who value freedom and individual excellence, can accomplish
- How the Greeks invented democracy and the concept of citizenship
- The creation of the Greek city-state
- The importance of Greek mythology in shaping character
- The three greatest Greek city-states – Athens, Corinth and Sparta
- The center of the ancient Greek civilization and its massive accomplishments was the city-state
- The Greek city-states began to emerge out of an early Greek dark age around 700 B.C.
- The Olympics were a Greek invention
- The cornerstone of the Greek City-State was citizenship
- The significance of the Acropolis and its most important building, the Parthenon
- The influence of the *agora* and the *stoa* on Athenian life and politics
- The contributions of Socrates to Athens

### **LINKS TO CURRICULUM STANDARDS**

The design for this program was guided by the National Center for History in the Schools, United States History curriculum Era 3: Revolution and the New Nation- Standards 1 and 3 for grades 5-12, Era 9 Postwar United States -Standard 4 for grades 5-12, and the California Public School Standards for Historical Content, Grade 8 - Standards 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3 (#4 - #7), Standard 8.8 (#1) and Grade 11, Standards 11.1 (#2, #3), 11.3 (#5), 11.5 - (#3, #4) and 11.10 (#2, #3) and Grade 12, Standards 12.1, 12.4 and 12.5.

### **SUGGESTED LESSON PLAN**

*Ancient History: The Greek City-States and Democracy* is laid out so they can be viewed in their entirety, or by selecting the DVD menu screen, chapter selects, individual chapters can be viewed separately to create a lesson plan. Each chapter presents a part of the uniqueness of the Greek experience that brought the western world democracy, the concept of citizenship, western scientific method, art and literature. The program shows how the ancient Greeks during this 500 year period from 750 B.C. to 250 B.C. laid the foundations for almost every aspect of western civilization and how they impacted not only the Mediterranean region during this time but how they influenced future generations of western Europe and the United States. In addition, historical themes and figures are clearly presented, using state of the art visuals.

Below is a list of the program and its chapters. Using these chapters, teachers can create a lesson plan to cover the specific issues, themes and the historical figures mentioned.

#### **Ancient History: The Greek City-State and Democracy**

- Introduction
- The Greek City State
- Athens

## **Chapter One: Introduction**

### **Student Goals - In this Ancient History: The Greek City-States and Democracy chapter the students will learn:**

- Greece gave to the world three great accomplishments: the foundations for Western scientific thought, democracy; and the concept of citizenship
  - Can be seen in Neoclassical architecture
- Greek concept of citizen became the model for American democracy and the Western world's ideal of self-governance ... justice ... freedom

## **Chapter Two: The Greek City-State**

### **Student Goals - In this Ancient History: The Greek City-States and Democracy chapter the students will learn:**

- At the center of the ancient Greek civilization and its massive accomplishments was the city-state
- The origin of the Greek city state owes much to geography
- The amount of tillable land was quite small because mountains dominated the landscape
- The Greek city-states began to emerge out of an early Greek dark age around 700 B.C.
- The cornerstone of these city-states was a new concept for humankind ... It was citizenship ... The idea of shared power and individual rights
  - A certain number of Greeks decided that they were going to have a new way to share power
  - They were all going to be partners in deciding the most important decisions affecting their lives
- During this period, Greeks learned to write again
- Homer's *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* were warrior hero stories that laid out the Greek notion of personal excellence
- The Olympics were an example of the Greek commitment to an ideal and actuality of personal excellence
  - The Olympic Games were different from the city-states because they were international
  - Competitors came from individual city-states, but winners were international celebrities
- Greek myths told them how to live a virtuous life
- In order to pursue excellence, beauty, and knowledge - three things had to happen
  - First, a new concept of justice needed to be created
  - Second, freedom of speech needed to be preserved
  - And finally, decisions affecting the city -state needed to be made democratically
- Democratic decision-making and free speech were critical to the governance of the Greek city-states

- The three major Greek City-States were Corinth, Sparta and Athens
- Other Greek city-states existed throughout the Mediterranean

### **Chapter Three: Athens**

#### **Student Goals - In Ancient History: The Greek City-States and Democracy chapter the students will learn:**

- In the modern era, Athens is the capital of Greece
- Athens is the largest Greek city-state with 250,000 people
- At Athen's center is a most remarkable geographic feature - a mesa now known as the Acropolis
- The Acropolis is home to a great symbol of democracy and one of the wonders of the ancient world, the Parthenon
- The Parthenon and the adjacent buildings were great civic works built to honor and house the city's patron god, Athena
- Even at the height of Athenian economic power, it would have been hard to build the Parthenon
- The Parthenon is remarkable not only for its unusual design but for its representation of the Athenian people
  - The Parthenon is the most brilliant expression of classical understanding and art
  - The marble came from Greece
- Other structures on the Acropolis such as the Temple Erechteion
- The other place for democracy in Athens was the agora
- There was this profound feeling among the Athenians that what democracy is about is truth
- Socrates was one philosopher who took the principles of free speech in the agora to its zenith
- Perhaps the greatest philosopher of all time, Socrates' unrelenting pursuit of the truth and the meaning of justice got him in trouble and he was sentenced to death
- Socrates' ways of searching for the truth, known as the Socratic dialogue, were continued by his students, particularly the philosopher Plato

#### **Answers to Blackline Master 1A Quiz**

1-c; 2-b; 3-d; 4-a; 5-b; 6-d; 7-c; 8-b; 9-c; 10-a