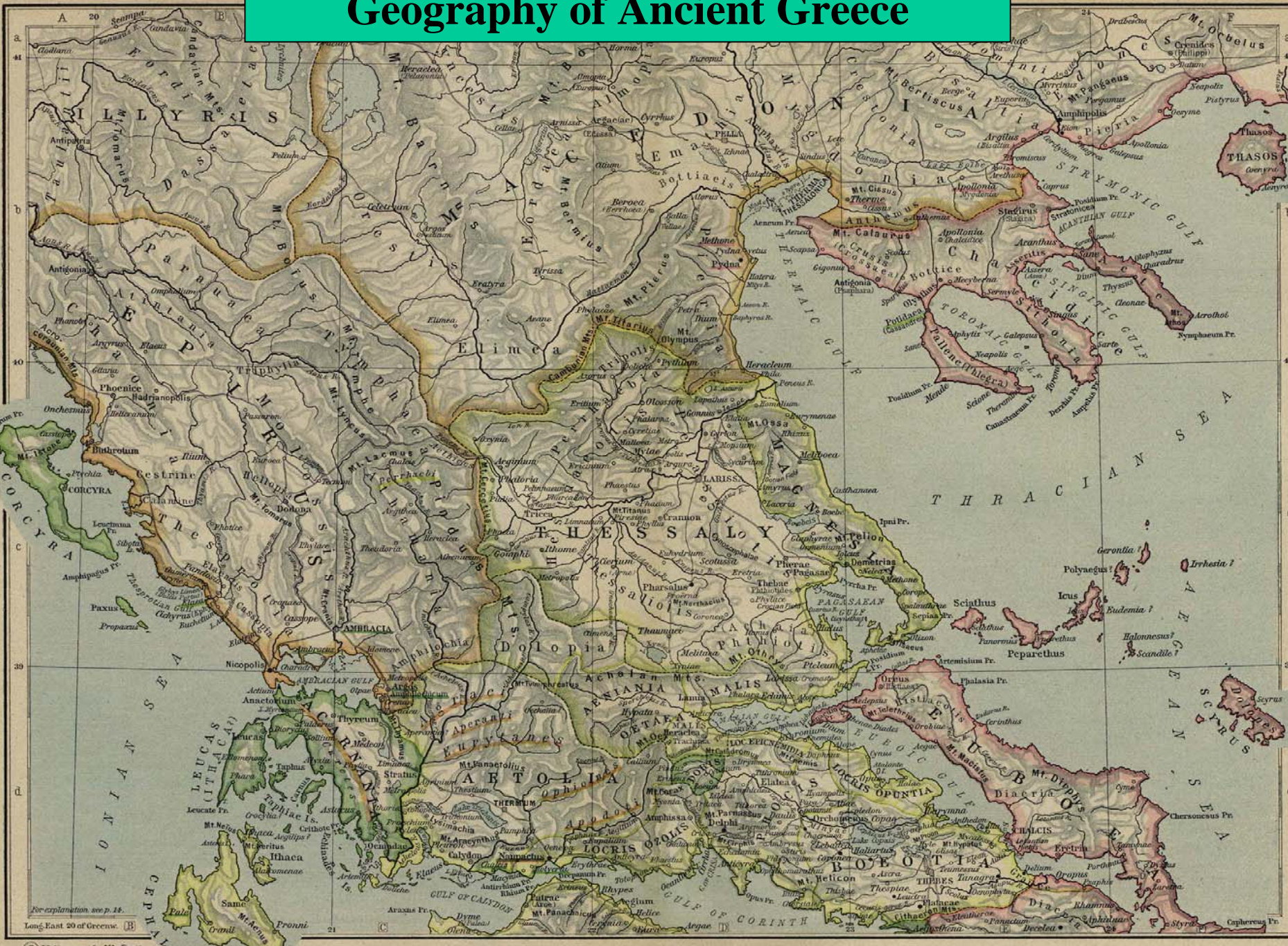


ANCIENT GREECE



Geography of Ancient Greece



For explanation, see p. 14.
Long. East 20 of Greece. (B)



- *Mountainous*
- *Many islands*
- Little usable farm land (about 25%)
- Very rocky soil
- Located near Asia Minor & Egypt – *traded via sea* with both
- *Depended upon sea for food and transportation*

Questions to Ponder

- How did the geography affect the food's the Greeks ate?

The Greeks could only have small animals (goats and sheep) and non-grain crops (grapes and olives) due the mountainous terrain so they had to trade for other foods.

- Why did the geography force the Greeks to trade abroad and establish colonies?

The Greeks had to trade for other foods (Egyptian wheat for wine and olive oil). They needed colonies to protect their trade routes and serve as trade centers.

- How would the geography work to protect the Greeks from outside invasion?

The mountains limited travel so mountain passes could easily be defended. The rugged coast limited where you land a ship. These are the same limitations that separated the Greek city-states.

GREEK RELIGION & SOCIETY

Religion

- *polytheistic*
- Zeus was main god
- gods lived on Mt. Olympus

Society

- patriarchal based
- strong family connections



MINOAN SOCIETY (2000-1400BC)



Background

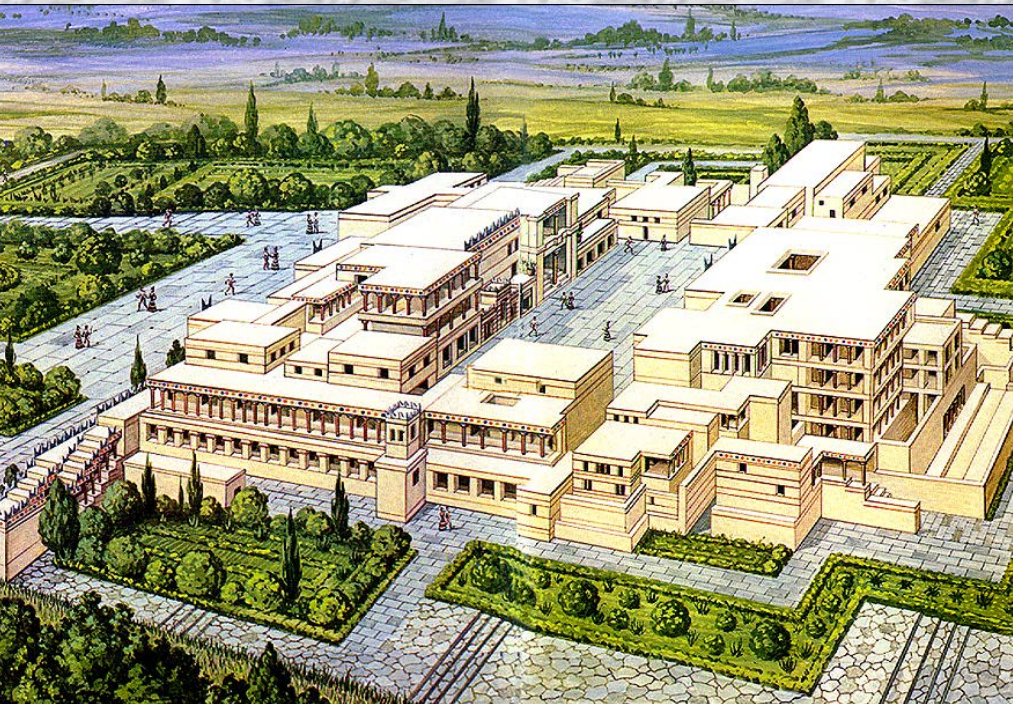
- Lived in Crete
- *Traders*
- Advanced cultures

Achievements

- Palace of Knossos
- Legends (minotaur)
- Art (sculpture & mosaics)

People

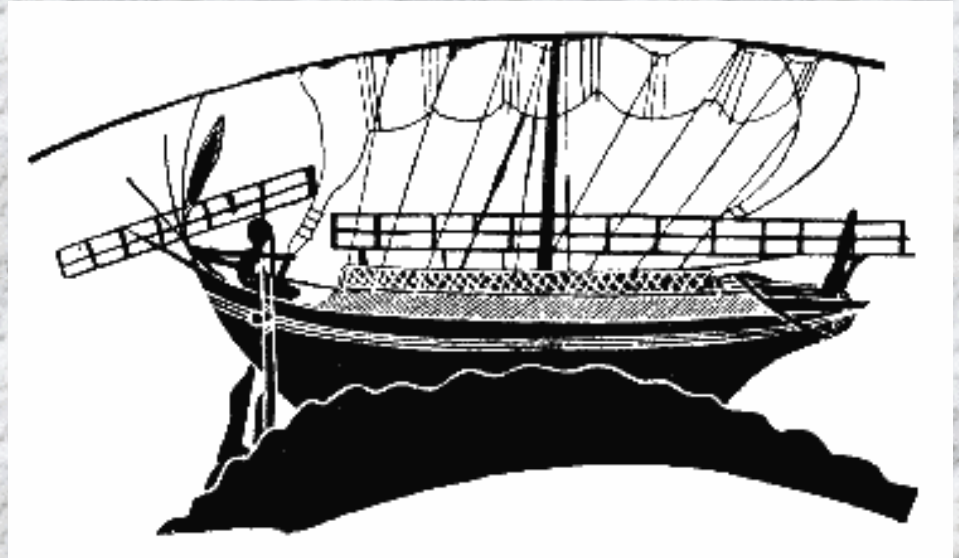
- Minos – greatest Minoan ruler



MYCENAEANS (1400-1200BC)

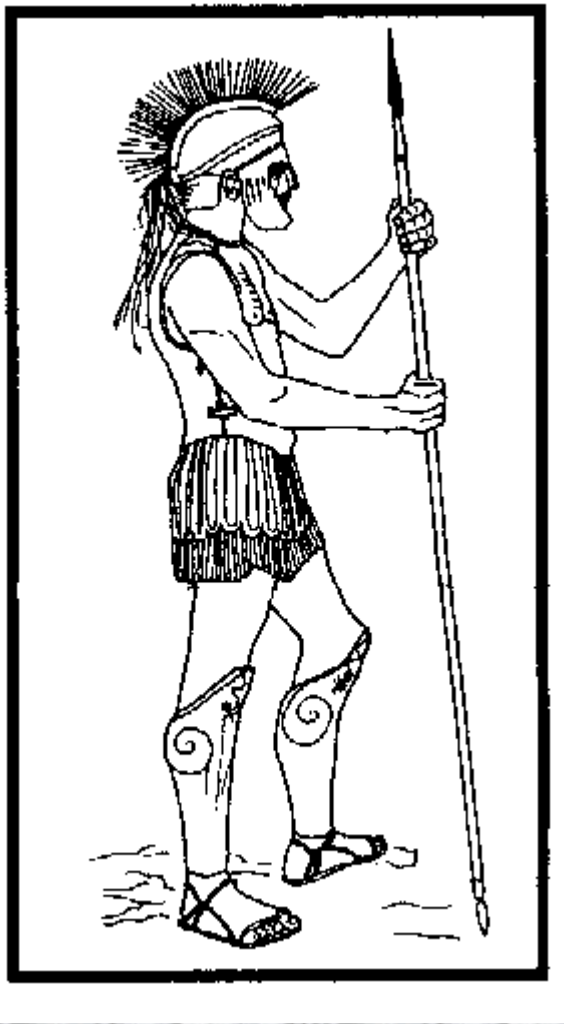
Background

- *Sea traders*
- Traded wine & olive oil with Egyptians for wheat



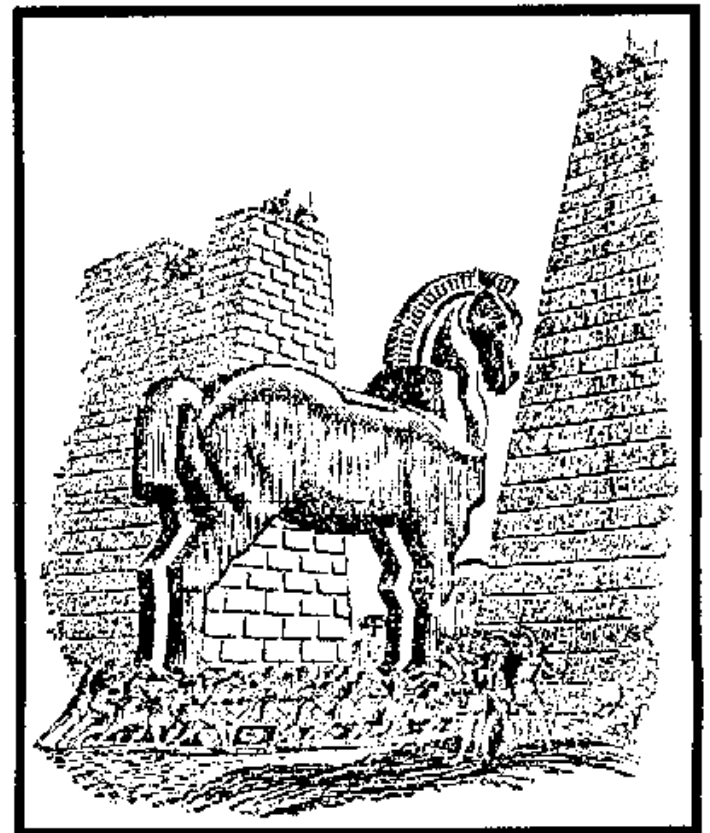
Achievements

- Conquered Minoans
- *Established colonies throughout Mediterranean Sea* (Asia Minor, Sicily, Italy)
- Legends



- **10 year long war (only fought part of the year)**
- **Over a woman (Helen)**
- **Ended with Trojan Horse attack (Greeks won)**
- **City destroyed**

Trojan War



Greek City-States

- **City-State** = city that acts like a country
- **Politics** = study of how people & government interact
- **Tyrant** = a powerful ruler who does things for his benefit (cruel)
- **Democracy** = people's government
- **Monarchy** = king ruled
- **Aristocracy** = government of a few wealthy people
- **Oligarchy** = government ruled by a very small group of people

Acropolis

- Fortified hilltop city
- Usually found in or near the city center
- Most famous one is in Athens





Military

- Some city-states used professional soldiers (paid)
- Women & children used in rear areas (behind the fighting)
- Used the “Phalanx” (soldiers in rows with long spears pointing out from behind their shields)

Economics

- Based upon sea trade
- Traded wine & olive oil to Egyptians for wheat

Athens



Background

- Sea trade based economy
- Overthrew king and developed a *direct democracy* (every male citizen votes on everything)
- Citizens were land owning males
- Place of *learning and the arts*

Achievements

- Built a strong navy to protect trade
- Direct democracy
- “World wide” (as they knew it) traders

Pericles: general/statesman

* *Governed Athens*

during its' height
of power

* *Built many*

public works



BACKGROUND

- *Helots*: peasants forced to stay on the land (like Medieval serfs)
- Dual monarchy
- *Military state* – all things (society, culture, economy, government) revolved around military
- *Self-sufficient* / did not rely on outside areas for supplies

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Built the strongest Greek military
- Eventually came to dominate Greece

SPARTA





Persian War (500-479 BC)

Background

- Persians sought to control Greek colonies in Asia Minor (wanted the iron ore there)
- Persians led by Darius (Royal Road fame) and his son Xerxes
- Xerxes power was weakened by loss to Greeks

Battles

- Thermopylae (300 Spartans vs. 7000 Persians)
- Marathon (messenger runs 26 miles to Athens to tell of the victory)

The hill where the Spartans made their last stand at Thermopylae and were buried



Peloponnesian War (432-404 BC)



Background

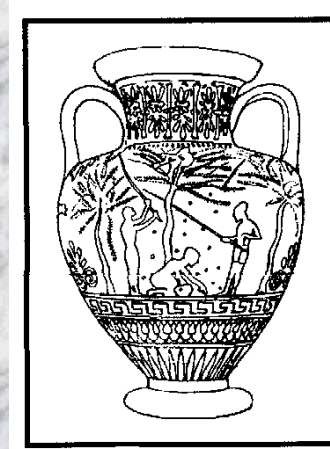
- *Athens vs. Sparta* (all other Greek city-states joined one side or the other)
- Athens had a strong navy while Sparta had a strong army
- Was primarily a land war
- Athens was hit with several epidemics that killed much of its' population
- *Athens loses* and is ruled by the 30 Tyrants

Greek Culture



Art

- Realistic sculpture
- Fine pottery



Architecture

- Columns
- Stone

Drama (plays)

- Tragedy: sad ironic
- Comedy: humorous

Literature

- Centered on stories of gods and heroes (legends & myths)

Philosophy

Socrates

- Believed in *learning beliefs by questioning*
- Sentenced to death for his ideas



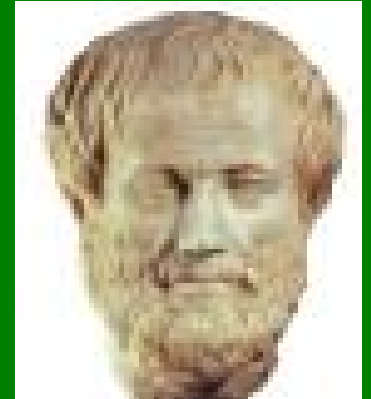
Plato

- Believed *governments should control peoples lives*
- Society should be divided into 3 groups



Aristotle

- Believed that one strong, good person should rule
- *People learned from reason*



Alexander the Great

(356-323 B.C.)



Philip of Macedonia (Father of Alexander)



- At age 23 became King & ruled 23 years
- Developed professional army
- Defeated the Greeks in 338 B.C.
- Assassinated two years later



Alexander the Great



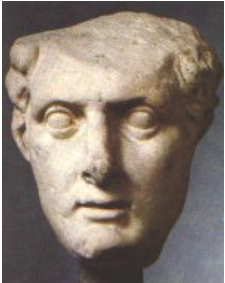
- Proclaimed himself king after his father's death
- Student of Aristotle
- Conquered Persians against overwhelming odds
- *He controlled Anatolia, Egypt, most Asia Minor, Arabia, & parts of India*
- *Built new cities (like Alexandria, Egypt), roads, harbors, spread Greek Culture*

Alexander the Great (cont'd)

The Legacy

- Predicted the division (fracture) of his Empire
- Ended the era of the Greek city-state
- Spread a blend of Greek, Persian, Egyptian, & Eastern cultures called *Hellenistic Culture*

Ptolemy



- One of Alexander's generals
- Ruled Egypt after Alexander's death
- His family would rule Egypt for over 250 years until Cleopatra

Alexandria



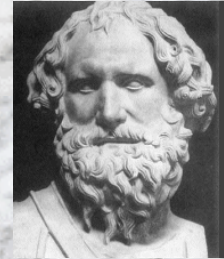
- Named for Alexander the Great
- *Center of commerce, learning, science, & Hellenistic culture*
- Great lighthouse built here (one of the 7 wonders)

Alexander's Empire



Hellenistic culture – Spread by Alexander

- **Science**: discovered Earth moving around sun, the size of the Earth, and medicine
- **Math**: geometry, calculus, and algebra were advanced
 - *Archimedes*: Applied math and science to create new tools (screws, pulleys)
 - *Euclid*: father of geometry
- **Philosophy**: used of observation and wisdom to explain things
 - *Stoicism*: pessimism (worst was going to happen)
 - *Epicureanism*: live life to the fullest at all times
- **Sculpture**: realistic life-like statues captured life

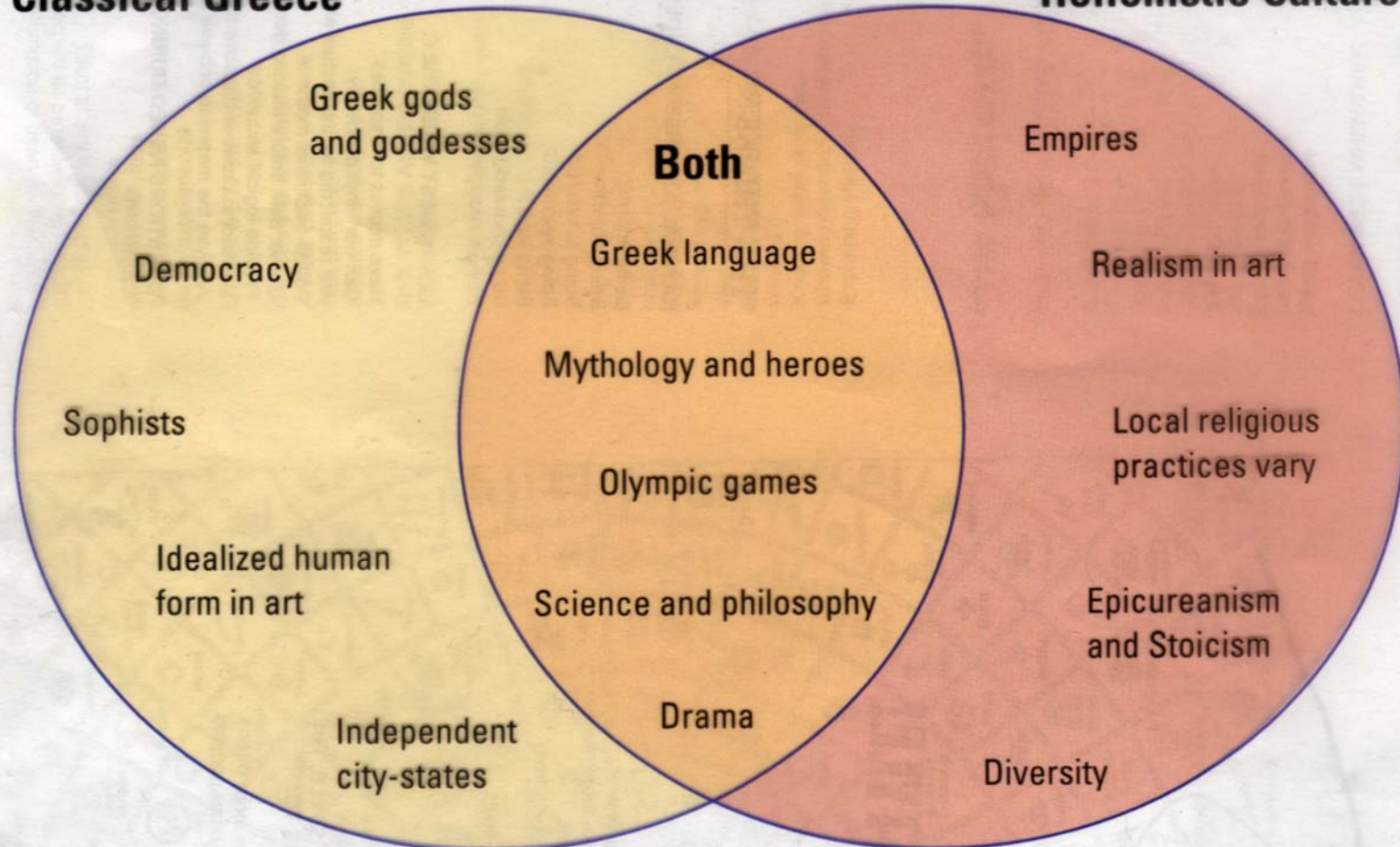


Effects of Alexander on Greece

Elements of Greek Culture Before and After Alexander

Classical Greece

Hellenistic Culture



The Legacy of Greece

Government

- Direct democracy; citizens rule by majority vote
- Written code of laws
- Citizens bring charges of wrongdoing; trial by jury
- Expansion of citizenship to all free adult males, except foreigners

Arts

- Drama and poetry
- Sculpture portraying ideals of beauty
- Painted pottery showing scenes of Greek life
- Classical architecture

Greek Civilization

Culture

- Greek language
- Mythology about gods and goddesses
- Olympic Games
- Philosophers search for truth

Science and Technology

- Disagreement whether sun or earth at center of universe
- Accurate estimate of circumference of earth
- Euclid's geometry textbook
- Development of lever, pulley, pump