

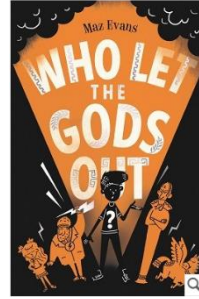


# Ancient Greece

## Vocabulary

city-state	a city that had its own government and rules the area around it e.g. Athens, Sparta, Corinth, Delphi & Thebes (Greek = Polis)
Hellenistic	period within Greek history. During this period the Greeks flourished and spread through the Mediterranean
democracy	a form of government where citizens have a say in how they are ruled
Polis	a city state in ancient Greece, especially as considered in its ideal form for philosophical purposes
trireme	an ancient Greek or Roman war galley with three banks of oars
suffrage	the right to vote in political elections
Olympics	an athletic event held every 4 years.
marathon	a long-distance running race, strictly one of 26 miles 385 yards (42.195 km)
myth	a traditional story explaining the history of people or a natural phenomena
hoplite	a heavily armed foot soldier of ancient Greece
phalanx	a body of troops or police officers standing or moving in close formation

## Our Class text



2200 BC	Ancient Greeks defeat the Persians at Marathon.
1600 BC	End of the Minoan period.
1450 BC	End of Mycenaean period – Ancient Greece enters 'the Dark Age'.
1200 BC	Parthenon in Athens is completed.
1100 BC	Rome conquers Greece and it becomes part of the Roman Empire.
776 BC	End of the Classical period and start of the Hellenistic period.
508 BC	Classical Greek period begins – 'the Golden Age'.
490 BC	First Greek civilisation, the Minoan, grows up in Crete.
480 BC	Start of the Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta.
480 BC	Democracy is founded in Athens.
432 BC	The Trojan War begins between Athens and Troy.
431 BC	Battle of Salamis – Greeks defeat the Persians at this naval battle.
404 BC	Alexander the Great rules Ancient Greece and establishes the Ancient Greek Empire.
336 BC	The Peloponnesian War ends with the defeat of Athens.
323 BC	First Olympic Games.
146 BC	Mycenaean civilisation grows on the mainland.

## Key knowledge

The Greeks were great thinkers, warriors, writers, actors, athletes, artists, architects and politicians.

**FAMILY LIFE** – Most people lived in villages in the countryside. Many Greeks were poor and life was hard. Ancient Greek homes were built around a courtyard or garden.

**RELIGION** – The Greeks believed that gods and goddesses watched over them. They were like humans but lived forever and were more powerful. The most famous temple in Greece is the Parthenon in Athens, dedicated to the goddess Athena.

**WARFARE** – Greece was made up of lots of smaller states and they often went to war with one another or with foreign enemies. Soldiers would lock their shields together with their spears pointing out of the top, this was called a phalanx.

