

Ancient Greece: A Journey through Time with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the structure of Ancient Greek city-states, the importance of the Olympic Games, and the legacy of Greek democracy.

Use your knowledge of Ancient Greece to answer the following questions. Remember to use full sentences and provide historical evidence where possible.

Ellie the elephant has been exploring the ruins of Ancient Greece. She has discovered that Greece was not one single country, but a collection of independent city-states, each with its own laws and customs. From the bustling market squares known as the Agora to the strategic peaks of the Acropolis, Greek society shaped the world we live in today. Ellie wants to know: how did these ancient people influence the way we govern our lives and spend our leisure time?

Word bank: Acropolis · Democracy · City-state · Olympics · Philosopher · Agora · Sparta · Athens

1. Explain why the Ancient Greeks lived in independent city-states rather than one unified kingdom. How did this affect the way they interacted with each other? (3 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the values of Athens and Sparta. In your opinion, which city-state would have been more difficult to live in, and why? (4 marks)

3. The Ancient Greeks introduced the concept of 'democracy'. Justify why this is considered one of their most significant contributions to modern society. (3 marks)

4. What might happen if the Olympic Games had never been established in Ancient Greece? How would this have changed the cultural connection between different city-states? (3 marks)

5. If you were visiting an Ancient Greek Agora, what types of items might you see being traded for drachmae? Give two examples of goods and explain their importance. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a cross-section of an Ancient Greek city. Label the Acropolis at the top of the hill, the Agora in the centre, and include at least two examples of Greek architecture like Doric or Ionic columns.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a citizen of Athens in 450 BC. Write a short diary entry explaining how you participated in a democratic vote and how you feel about the influence of philosophers in your city. How does your life compare to the life of a child in modern-day Britain?