

A Day in the Life of an Ancient Greek Citizen

Learning objective: To describe the daily life, culture, and societal roles of people in Ancient Greece using historical vocabulary.

Use this scaffold to structure your historical narrative. Imagine you are a child living in the city-state of Athens. Use the word bank to help you describe your surroundings, your daily chores, and the importance of democracy or the gods.

The sun rose over the marble columns of the Acropolis, casting long, golden shadows across the bustling streets of Athens.

Word bank: agora · acropolis · chiton · democracy · philosophy · nevertheless · furthermore · in contrast · consequently · bustling · magnificent · theatre

1. The Setting: Describe the sights and sounds of the city. Start with: 'As I walked through the busy agora, I could see...' (3 marks)

2. Daily Life: Explain what a typical day looks like for you. Start with: 'My morning began by preparing for school where we learn...' (3 marks)

3. Society and Values: Compare your life to someone else in the city, such as a merchant or a politician. Start with: 'While some citizens spend their time debating in the assembly, I believe...' (4 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Why was the geography of Greece, with its many islands and mountains, so important for the development of individual city-states? Start with: 'The landscape of Greece influenced our lives significantly because...' (4 marks)

5. Critical Thinking: Explain why democracy was such a revolutionary idea for the people of Athens. Start with: 'Democracy changed our society because...' (3 marks)

6. What might happen if: Imagine if the Ancient Greeks had not valued philosophy and education. How would our modern world be different? Start with: 'If the Ancient Greeks had neglected the pursuit of knowledge, our world today would...' (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Research a specific Greek god or goddess. Write a short, persuasive speech (3-4 sentences) explaining why your chosen deity was the most important one for the citizens of Athens to worship, justifying your opinion with evidence from your historical research.