Adventures in Ancient Greece with Ellie

Learning objective: To understand the structure of Ancient Greek society, their daily life, and the legacy of the city-states.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of Ancient Greece to write your answers. Ellie the Elephant is here to help you remember the facts!

Ellie the Elephant has been travelling through history! She has visited the sunny hills of Ancient Greece, where people lived in independent city-states like Athens and Sparta. The Greeks were famous for their art, their clever ideas about how to run a country, and their love of sports. They built grand temples on high hills called the Acropolis and told stories about powerful gods and goddesses. Today, we still use many of their inventions and ideas in our own lives.

Word bank: City-state · Democracy · Olympics · Acropolis · Pottery · Philosophy

1. Ancient Greece was not one single country, but a collection of independent areas. What is the special name for these individual cities that acted like their own countries? (1 mark)

2. The people of Athens created a system where citizens could vote on important decisions. What do we call this system of government today? (1 mark)

3. The Ancient Greeks held a famous sporting festival every four years to honour their gods. What is this festival called, which we still celebrate in the modern world? (1 mark)

4. Describe one reason why the Ancient Greeks built their temples, such as the Parthenon, on top of a high hill (the Acropolis). (2 marks)

5. Think about the legacy of Ancient Greece. Name one thing we use or do today that was influenced by the Ancient Greeks. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from an Ancient Greek marketplace (an agora). Include a tall stone pillar, a person wearing a 'chiton' (a Greek tunic), and a piece of decorated pottery.

Extension challenge: Ellie wants you to imagine you are a citizen of an Ancient Greek city-state. Write three sentences explaining what your daily job might be and what you would see when you walk to the city centre.