Ancient Greece ~part 2
Classical Greece (500–336 BCE)

- **Polis** (city states) = all had its own form of government, laws and money (Corinth, Thebes, Athens, Sparta)
- Dominance of Athens as political power (**Delian League**)
- Construction of Parthenon and Acropolis
- Full development of democracy under **Pericles** of Athens
- **Classical age** of Greece produced great literature, poetry, philosophy, drama, philosophical thinkers and art
Greek Architecture

- Parthenon
- Acropolis
- Statue of Athena
- Public buildings
- Columns
- marble
- Frieze
Greek Columns

- Greeks developed three different orders
- **Doric & Ionic** = 6th century BCE
- **Corinthian** = 5th century BCE and was further developed and used by Romans
Greek Art

- First to use 3-D on a flat surface by using different shades to give illusion of depth
- Focus on the concept of the “ideal” (beautiful, life like youthful, calm expression)
- Depictions of gods
- Statues of nude forms (detailed and proportional)
- Emphasis on elaborating on existing styles
- Money devoted to building theatres, stadiums, gymnasiuims, tombs
Athenian Democracy

“Demos” = people; “kratos” = rule

- Monarchy and Kings
- Rise in power of aristocracy & oligarchy
- Hoplites c. 675-650 BCE
- Age of tyrants
- Democratic Reforms by Solon and Cleisthenes
- Three Pillars of Athenians Democracy:
  1. Council of 500
  2. Assembly
  3. Courts

- Athens lived under a radically democratic government from 508 until 322 BCE. The People governed themselves, debating and voting individually on issues great and small, from matters of war and peace to the proper qualifications for ferry-boat captains.
Daily Life in Athens

MEN
- Only men could be citizens; men ran government
- Open expression of homosexuality (words, behaviour, literature and visual arts) especially between older men and young boys
- Advancements in culture, thinking, literature, philosophy, wealth, expansion, trade
- Reliance on slaves and women opened up free time for men to discuss philosophy and participate in politics

WOMEN
- Women could not vote, hold office or own property and did mostly household duties
- Education involved spinning, weaving and domestic arts
- At 15 years old, girls were considered ready for marriage

SLAVES
- Ratio of slaves to free men was quite high as historians estimate that as much as 40% of people in Athens area were slaves
- Slaves were household servants; had few rights; some could gain freedom from generous owners
Spartan Government:

democratic timocratic monarchial oligarchy

- Government ruled by a Council = made up of 2 kings (aristocracy) and 28 nobles (over age of 60) who made most political decisions and foreign policy and was supreme criminal court

- Assembly of the Spartiate (democracy)- Spartan males over the age of 30 who could veto and approve decisions made by Kings and Council

- 5 Ephors (oligarchy)- led the council, ran the military and educational system and could veto any ruling made by the Council or Assembly

- Spartan government was considered one of the most stable in all of Ancient Greece = led to a warrior and military state (state above individual)

Aries- God of war was a patron god of the city, of wars, battles, and warriors, and also of fearlessness in battle.
Daily Life in Sparta

MEN
- At 30 men became citizens and could vote in Assembly, marry, own a house
- Educated in reading, fitness and use of weapons
- Boys started military training at the age of 7; joined military at age of 20; end of military service at the age of 60
- Soldiers given land which was farmed by the helots

WOMEN
- Girls taught reading and writing
- Participated in running and wrestling, foot races, staged battles
- Wives of Spartan soldiers supervised farms
- Expected and driven to produce strong and healthy children and be loyal to the state
- Spartan women could own and control property but held no political rights

SLAVES
- Slaves were called helots (agricultural slaves / peasants) made up 2/3 of population = defeated Messenian peoples
- Attempted revolt in 640 BCE but was crushed (this forced Sparta to create a stronger army)
Greek Philosophers and Thinkers

- Philosophers: Socrates, Plato, Aristotle
- Establishment of philosophical schools that examine issues such as true knowledge, the soul, love, beauty and scientific learning
- Logical thinking, rhetoric, politics
- Playrights: Sophocles, Euripides, Aeschylus
- Other: Hippocrates, Epicurus, Archimedes, Pythagoras
Hellenistic Era: Greece

- Period between conquest of Persian Empire by Alexander the Great to establishment of Roman supremacy

- The word, Hellenistic, is derived from the word, Hellene, which was the Greek word for the Greeks.

- The Hellenistic age "hellenized" the world through the spread of Greek culture and language throughout Near East, Mediterranean and Asia Minor

- Exported Greek culture: architecture, politics, law, literature, philosophy, religion, and art as models of perfection
Trade and Coinage

- Trade by sea
  - Most important crops: olive and grapes
  - Items traded: olive oil, wine, silver, white marble, pottery, furniture, jewelry, textiles for grain, glass, ivory, timber
- Trade by barter system
- Coinage emerged from metallurgy that was weighed
  - 8th and 7th century BCE, silver pieces were stamped by government
  - First mints 7th BCE in Lydia
  - By 5th century BCE, most common coinage in Mediterranean was Athens coin with owl on one side and Athena on other
Legacies of Greece

- City states (polis)
- Thought & Philosophy
- Greek Language
- Politics
- Democracy
- Great Thinkers
- Art and architecture
- Myths and literature