GOVERNMENT OF ANCIENT ATHENS

i) Type of Government;
   - Athens ran their people and state as an democracy more appropriately named Athenian Democracy, It was the first known democracy in Greece, it developed around the fifteenth century BC Where most other city states of Greece based their ways of governing around it.
   - It was a system of direct democracy where participating citizens voted directly Participation was not open to all however, 30,000 to 50,000 voted for the 250,000 to 300,000 of the population at the time.

ii) Participation in Government
   - In 507 BC, Athenian leader Cleisthenes introduced the form of democracy, or “demokratia” in Greek.
   - Male citizens over 18 years of age were eligible to directly participate in the Athenian government, who were all paid for their service.
   - They were divided into three structures: The People’s Assembly (Ecclesia), The Council of 500, and The People’s Court.
   - The Ecclesia, who were the central structure of Athenian government, can have all citizens to speak, however, adult male citizens can only participate. 5,000 to 7,000 out of approx. 40,000 people can only attend any meeting for revising laws or creating political decisions.
   - The Council of 500 is comprised of 500 adult men, comprised of 50 men from each of the ten tribes of Athens (Erechtheus, Aegis, Pandionis, Leontis, Akamantis, Oenesis, Cecropis, Hippothontis, Aeantis, Antiochus)
   - The People’s Court were the most powerful part of Athenian democracy, where more than 500 jurors out of the total amount of adult male citizens over 30 years of age were chosen.

iv) How did the government make decisions?
   - The central events of the Athenian democracy were the meetings of the assembly
   
   **The assembly had four main functions:**
   - it made executive pronouncements (decrees, such as deciding to go to war or granting citizenship to a foreigner);
   - it elected some officials;
   - it legislated;
   - it tried political crimes
   - The standard format was that of speakers making speeches for and against a position followed by a general vote (usually by show of hands) of yes or no.

   - **The Council/The Boule**
   - The boule coordinated the activities of the various boards and magistrates
- that carried out the administrative functions of Athens and provided from its own membership randomly selected boards of ten responsible for areas ranging from naval affairs to religious observances.

v) The ancient Athens government was split into three sections

Assembly
- Met about 40 times a year
- make decisions on issues big or small
- members make speeches that the Pnyx
- Debate, listen, discuss and vote
- Every member had an equal right to speak
- Voted by hands up or by stones

Council of 500
- Full time government
- People served a one year term
- 10 tribes with 50 members each, over age 30
- Council was chosen by lottery
- Every 24 hours, a new leader of the council was chosen by the lottery
- Council supervised the running of the government
- Council planned the agenda for assembly meetings
- Discussed and voted on decrees that would later go for approval by the assembly

The court:

Magistrates
- Government officials working for the court
- could fine people or send them to trial

Jury
- male citizens over 30 could be on jury
- had 501-1500 people
- chosen by lottery

vi) when new territory was conquered how was it treated?
- Metics, or foreigners were treated much differently than those of the original tribes in Athens, many were enslaved or had no right to vote since they were technically foreigners and were unable to vote until they became a citizen and completed their military training.

vii) Interesting Facts
- For 100 years, Athens had a Direct Democracy in the government in which all citizens could vote for rules and laws
- Only free men were citizens, not women, slaves, or children
- Every year, 500 people were drawn from a pool in of all the citizens in Ancient Athens.
- They had the responsibility of changing old laws and making new laws that fit
- When they wanted to change or make a new law, it didn't just happen right away, all the citizens of Athens had to vote
- To vote, you had to attend the assembly on the day the vote was taken place. You have to be present to vote
- Majority Ruled
- This is called, direct democracy in which the government which all citizens vote on rules and laws
- Athens had this for 100 years until they got defeated by Sparta in the Peloponnesian War