

The Minoans, Myceneans, and Archaic Greece

Essential Question:
How did the Minoans and Myceneans establish the basic foundations of Classical Greek Civilization?

World History
Mr. Cegielski

Ancient Greece

Understanding Goal:
People and place influence culture.



Student Learning Objectives:

Know: How did the location of Ancient Greece affect the development of its culture?

Explain: Point out Greece on the map. How do you think the economic development of Greece was affected by its geography?

Connect: Greece made major contributions in the areas of art, architecture, science, math, and philosophy. How do you think the importance of the individual was reflected in each of these areas?

Apply: Go to LOC.gov to find examples of images that represent Greek contributions in the areas of art, architecture, science, math, and philosophy, such as those in Rome, Britain, The Colosseum, Library of Alexandria, and the Parthenon.

Geographic Background

- In ancient times, Greece was not a united country. It was a collection of separate lands where Greek-speaking people lived.
- By 2000 BCE, the **Minoans** lived on the large Greek island of **Crete**. The Minoans created an elegant civilization that had great power in the Mediterranean world.
- At the same time, Indo-European peoples migrated from the plains along the Black Sea and Anatolia. The Indo-Europeans settled in mainland Greece. Seaborne commercial networks spread ideas as well as resources throughout the eastern Mediterranean.
- Ancient Greece consisted mainly of a **mountainous peninsula** — surrounded by water on three sides-- jutting out into the **Mediterranean Sea**. It also included approximately **1,400 islands** in the **Aegean and Ionian seas**. Lands on the western coast of Anatolia were also part of ancient Greece. The region's physical geography directly shaped Greek traditions and customs.



THE SEA:

- The sea shaped Greek civilization just as rivers shaped the ancient civilizations of Egypt, the Fertile Crescent, India, and China. In one sense, the Greeks did not live on a land but AROUND a sea. Greeks rarely traveled more than 85 miles to reach the coastline.
- The **Aegean Sea, the Ionian Sea, and the neighboring Black Sea** were important transportation routes for the Greek people. These liquid highways linked most parts of Greece.
- As the Greeks became skilled sailors, sea travel also connected Greece with other societies. Sea travel and trade were also important because Greece itself was poor in natural resources. Greece lacked timber, precious metals, and usable farmland.

THE LAND:

- Rugged mountains covered about three-fourths of ancient Greece. Mountains divided the land into different regions.
- The mountain chains ran mainly from northwest to southeast along the Balkan peninsula. They influenced Greek political life.
- Unlike the Egyptians or the Chinese, it was difficult to unite the ancient Greeks under a single government. Greece developed small, independent communities within each little valley and its surrounding mountains. Most Greeks gave their loyalty to these local communities.
- In ancient times, the uneven terrain also made land transportation difficult. Early Greek roads were dirt paths.
 - For example, the city-state of Sparta was only about 60 miles from Olympia, the site of the Olympic Games. Yet it took Spartans almost seven days to travel that distance.



THE LAND continued...

- The land was stony and only a small part of it—approximately 20 percent—was **arable**, or suitable for farming. Tiny but fertile valleys covered about one-fourth of Greece. The small streams that watered these valleys were not suitable for large-scale irrigation projects.
- With little fertile farmland or fresh water, Greece was never able to support a large population. It is estimated that no more than a few million people lived in ancient Greece at any given time. Even this small population couldn't expect the land to support a life of luxury.
- The Greeks based their diet on basic staple crops such as grains, grapes, and olives. A desire for more living space, grassland for raising livestock, and adequate farmland may have been factors that motivated the Greeks to seek new sites for colonies.



THE CLIMATE:

- Climate was the third important environmental influence on Greek civilization. Greece has a varied climate with temperatures averaging 48 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter and 80 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer.
- In ancient times, these moderate temperatures supported an outdoor life for many Greek citizens. Men spent much of their leisure time at outdoor public events. They met often to discuss public issues, exchange news, and take an active part in civic life.



The Minoans

2000 - 1400 BCE

Knossos



- **Knossos** became the dominant city in Crete after 1700 B.C.
- This "**Palace of Minos**," built of brick, limestone and wood, was at least three stories high and covered nearly six acres.
- It featured a maze of royal apartments, storerooms, corridors, open courtyards, and broad stairways.

Sir Arthur Evans, 1851-1941



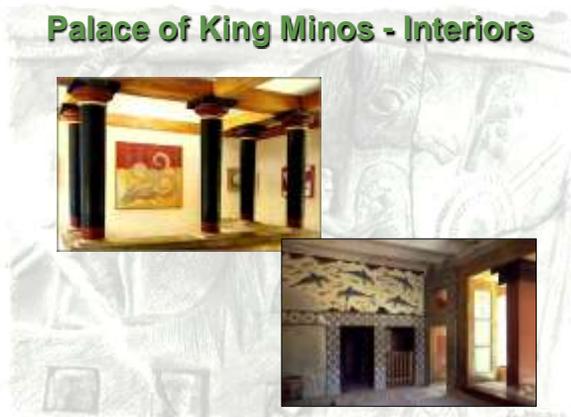
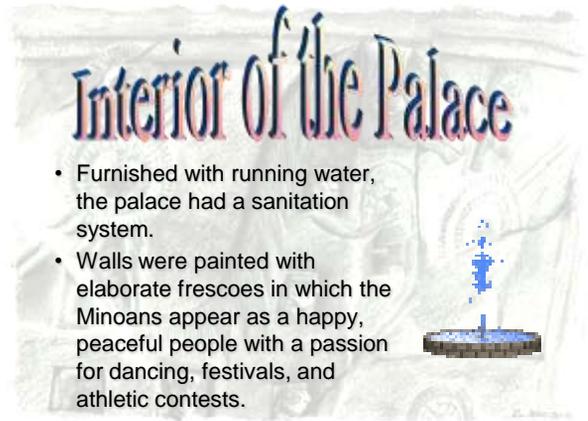
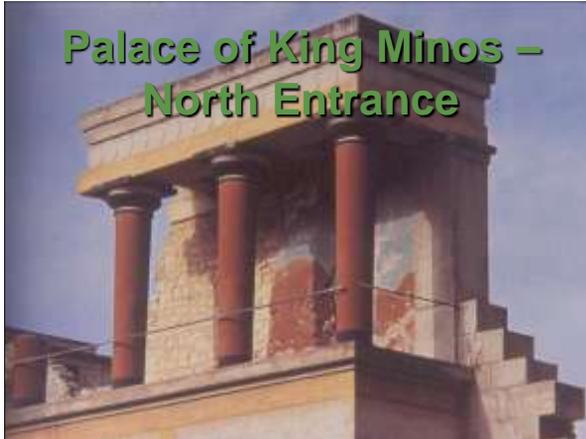
- **Arthur Evans** was the archaeologist who excavated the famous palace at the city of Knossos on Crete in order to reconstruct their way of life.

Artist's Recreation of Knossos



Aerial View of Knossos





Myths of Crete: The Minotaur

Part 1: The Foundation of the Story

The island of Crete is shrouded in mystery. It is also full of legends.

Tradition tells us that the Minoan Civilization, one of the earliest known civilizations founded on Crete before ancient Greece really got going and then maintained its strength through much of Greece's early history.

The story of Crete brings with it two enduring legends: the minotaur and the wings of wax. The latter will be examined in [another column](#). The former is examined below.

King Minos was ruler of all he surveyed, on his island of Crete and beyond, to the Greek mainland. He was a strong ruler of a strong people. He was also jealous of other men's intentions toward his daughter, Ariadne. Our story begins with Ariadne in love with Theseus, an early hero of Greece. The two of them, it seemed, couldn't be without each other. So, Minos invited the young hero to the Palace of Knossos as the king's guest. Minos then threw Theseus into the labyrinth, which housed the fearsome beast known as the Minotaur.

Assignment--
100-word response:
Summarize the purpose of the Labyrinth and the Minotaur. Then, explain whether you think the story contains any truth.



The Minotaur was said to be the offspring of a goddess and a bull. As such, it had the body of a man and the head of a bull. It also wielded a double-bladed axe. The Minotaur waited at the center of the labyrinth. Anyone thrown into the labyrinth would have a difficult time finding his way out because the passages all looked the same and sometimes went on for a very long time before turning.

Ariadne, those unlucky enough to be thrown into the labyrinth were stripped of their weapons and other possessions. They would have to use their bare hands against the Minotaur, which was wielding that axe.

Next page > [The Rest of the Story](#) > Page 1, 2

Graphics courtesy of ArtToday

Myths of Crete: The Minotaur

Part 2: The Rest of the Story

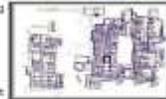
But Theseus had a crafty woman on his side. Ariadne gave him a handful of string, which he was to unwind as he went, thereby letting her know which way he had come. He crept into the center of the maze, killed the Minotaur with his bare hands, and followed the string trail back out to the arms of his beloved.

They somehow managed to elude the grasp of Minos and fled the island altogether.

This is all well and good as a story, but is it true? Well, as with many myths, it probably has a basis in truth.

Recent excavations at Knossos have turned evidence of seismic activity underneath the palace, where the labyrinth was supposed to have been. A rather convincing theory has been advanced that the underground chambers were built over an area that was prone to earthquakes. Such tremblings in the earth and their consequent noise might have sounded very much like a giant bull. This is one possible explanation for the story of the Minotaur. The person thrown into the labyrinth wouldn't come back, of course, because the earthquake would have killed him.

The idea of the maze itself might very well come from the confusing building pattern that the Palace of Knossos had. Sculptures and paintings of the palace show it to be a sprawling construction, with many passages appearing to lead nowhere. Other paths take the long way around to get somewhere. The story of the labyrinth could very well have been a Greek attempt to disparage the greatness of the Palace.



The Greeks were very much interested in mythology and stories that taught lessons. The story of Theseus's defeating the Minotaur could very well have been a metaphor for the Greeks' eclipsing of the once proud Minoan Civilization. Take one part confusing building pattern (the labyrinth), one part natural phenomenon (the earthquakes that sounded like a bull), add a Greek hero (Theseus), and you have a uniquely Greek story that everyone thinks is fanciful but which everyone understands.

To us today, it seems like a fantasy. It may very well have had its roots in reality.

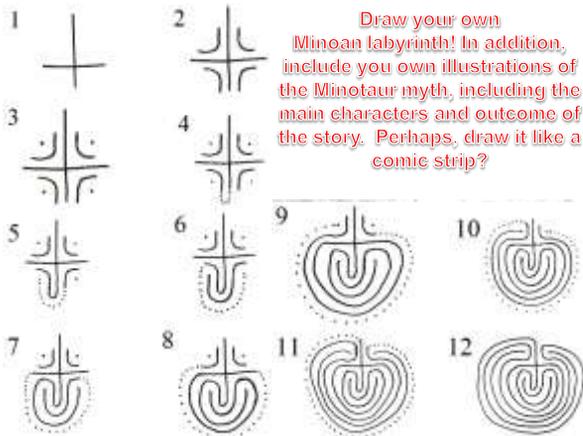
How To Draw/Build A Classic Minoan Labyrinth

Suggestion: Practice on paper a couple times before you start building around anything heavy

1. Draw an equal armed cross.
2. Add "lary P's" in each of the four corners: frontward, backward, and upside down.
3. Put a dot just off the curve of each P.
4. Start with the head of the cross and draw a curve that connects it to the top of the P on the right.
- 5 - 11. Moving counter-clockwise and drawing toward the right, connect the next line on down (from the left) to the next available line or dot (on the right). Try to keep an equal distance between the lines you're drawing pathways. Extend the lines of the cross as needed. Round the corners.



Vidal



Draw your own Minoan labyrinth! In addition, include your own illustrations of the Minotaur myth, including the main characters and outcome of the story. Perhaps, draw it like a comic strip?

Myths from Crete: Icarus

Part 1: Background

In [the story of the Minotaur](#), we have seen how Theseus slew the Minotaur and escaped with Ariadne, daughter of King Minos, who threw Theseus into the labyrinth. This story also yields another famous figure in Greek mythology: Daedalus.

Daedalus: It was who designed the labyrinth for Minos. Daedalus was a great architect. He may have even had a hand in designing the Palace of Knossos, Minos's famed seat of power. He alone knew the secret of the labyrinth. In a moment of weakness, he revealed the secret to Ariadne, Minos's daughter and Theseus's lover.

It was all so simple, really: Just take a handful of string into the maze with you, unravel it as you go, and then follow your trail back out to escape. Of course, you'd have to kill the Minotaur to escape, but that was a minor detail. The real mystery was how to escape. Daedalus gave to Ariadne the answer.

Well, you might imagine that Minos was angry after Theseus killed his man-beast and then escaped with his daughter. He threw Daedalus and his son, Icarus, in the labyrinth. Daedalus feared for his life, and rightly so. But he was a builder, and he was smart. (Here's where the legend takes over.)



He built a pair of wings for himself and his son. The idea was that even the all-powerful Minos, who had command of land and sea, couldn't command the air. If Daedalus and Icarus could fly away, they could escape. They were worried that Minos would stop at nothing to track them down and kill them for what Daedalus had done.

So Daedalus built the wings. They were made of wax.

They worked.

Next page > [The Sad End of Icarus](#) > Page 1, 2

Assignment-
100-word response:
Summarize how King
Minos and the other
characters are
portrayed in this
story. How can this
myth be considered a
tragedy? What is the
moral or lesson of
the myth?

Part 2: The Sad End of Icarus

Daedalus flew to safety. Icarus flew to the Sun. He was so impressed with the power and strength of his wings that he flew ever higher in the sky, out into space, and even to the Sun itself. The wings, being made of feathers and wax, melted in the Sun's heat, and Icarus plummeted to his death.



Daedalus continued his flight, landing in Athens first and then ending up in Syria, ever fearful of retribution. Minos never caught up with him, but Daedalus mourned his son for the rest of his days.

What are we to make of this tale? It's as simple as the adage, "Pride goes before a fall." We could also term it, "Listen to your parents." Icarus was so proud of his new wings and his newly found flying ability that he wanted to alone off. He ignored his father's warning not to fly too high, setting off for as high as he could reach. The result was his death.

This story was probably used as an object lesson to prove the adages in the previous paragraph. Icarus did not listen to his father; he died because of it. Icarus was too proud; the result was his death.

Minoan Women in Art

- Women are shown enjoying great freedom.
 - They are not secluded in the home but are seen sitting with men and taking an equal part in public festivities - even as toredors in a form of bull fighting.
 - Their dresses are very elaborate, with colorful patterns, pleats, puffed sleeves, and flounces.
 - Bodices are open in front to the waist
 - Hair is elaborately fashioned with ringlets over the forehead and about the ears.



Minoan Ladies



Minoan Religion

- There were no great temples, powerful priesthoods, or large cult statues of the gods.
- The main deity was the **Mother Goddess**; her importance reflected the important position held by women in Cretan society.
- A number of recovered statuettes show her dressed like a fashionable Cretan woman with flounced skirts, a tightly laced, low-cut bodice, and an elaborate coiffure.
- She was probably the prototype of such later Greek goddesses as Athena, Demeter, and Aphrodite.

Minoan Culture - Religion



Minoan Priest



Minoan Snake Goddess

Bull Cult



Bull Jumping Fresco



Minoan Economy-Trade

- Large-scale trade ranged from Sicily, Greece, and Asia Minor to Syria and Egypt.
- Minoans ships were capable of long voyages over the open sea.
- Chief exports were **olive oil, wine, metalware, and pottery**.

Minoan Trade



Coast of Crete



"Bireme" ship

Minoan Art

- The glory of Minoan culture was its art, spontaneous and full of rhythmic motion.
- Art was an essential part of everyday life.

Minoan Artistic "Motifs"



Minoan Writing

- Administrative records were written on clay tablets, using a syllabic script known as **Linear A**, which has never been deciphered.
- Archaeologists rely on Minoan art to reconstruct this civilization.

Early Writing System: "Linear A" (Undecipherable)



Canon?

What caused the End of the Minoan Civilization??

Click here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z75J-0FIJYh&feature=Playlist&list=PL5974FFDAAB5929A081003529>



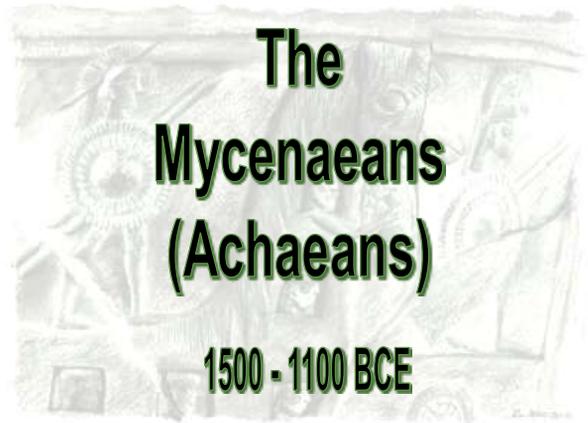
End of Minoan Civilization

- After the destruction of the labyrinthian palace at Knossos by volcanic activity, the Mycenaeans conquered Knossos about 1450 B.C.



Culture of the Minoan

Name: _____ Date: _____



The Mycenaean

- About 2000 B.C., an Indo-European Greek tribe, called the **Achaean**, entered Greece, where they absorbed the earlier settlers and ruled Mycenae, Pylos, Athens, and other sites.
- By 1600 B.C. the Achaeans – also called the **Mycenaean**, had adopted much of the advanced culture of the Minoans.
- They planted colonies in the eastern Mediterranean.



Heinrich Schliemann



- In 1876 archaeologist **Heinrich Schliemann** (left) unearthed the wealth accumulated by the kings of Mycenae - the greatest single hoard of gold, silver, and ivory objects.



View of Mycenae



Mycenean Government and Economy

- Mycenean kings ruled from fortified palaces and cities, called **citadels**, and administrative centers.
- Most of the population lived in scattered villages where they worked the land.
- The nobles were controlled by the kings.
- The most important trade item was olive oil, which was controlled by a royal monopoly.

Mycenae: Lion's Gate (undated drawing)

Aerial View of Mycenae



Mycenae Citadel & Reconstruction



Approach to the Lion's Gate



Lion's Gate Entrance to Mycenae

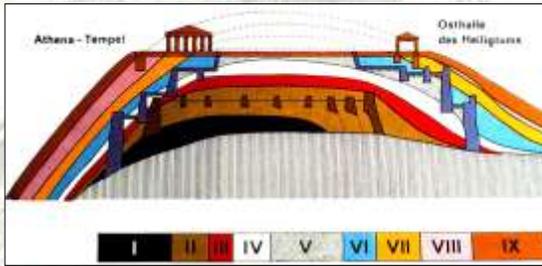


Mycenaean Writing System: "Linear B"

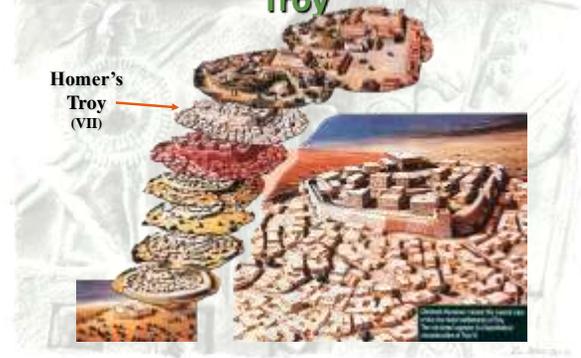


- Mycenaean scribes kept records, using **Linear B**.
- These clay tablets provide details about grain, the use of wine as wages, and the collection of taxes.

The Seven "Layers" of Ancient Troy



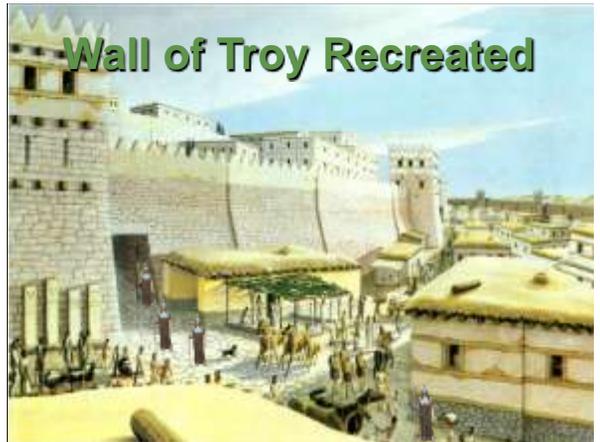
The Seven "Layers" of Ancient Troy



Original Wall of the City



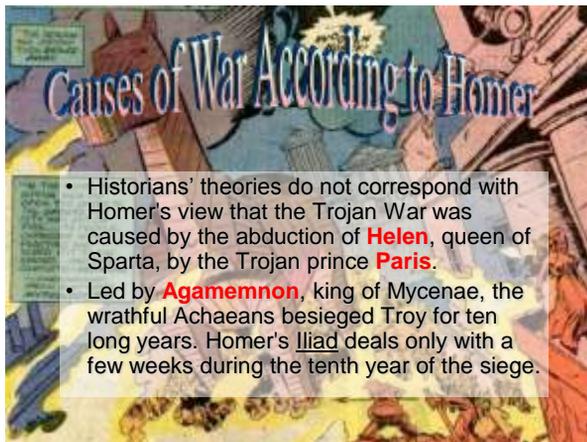
Wall of Troy Recreated



What were the Historical Causes of the Trojan War??

Desiring to control the seas, the Mycenaean (Achaean) kings launched a famous expedition against Troy in 1250 B.C. in order to eliminate a powerful commercial rival.

Bronze Age Enemies: The Trojan War



- Historians' theories do not correspond with Homer's view that the Trojan War was caused by the abduction of **Helen**, queen of Sparta, by the Trojan prince **Paris**.
- Led by **Agamemnon**, king of Mycenae, the wrathful Achaeans besieged Troy for ten long years. Homer's *Iliad* deals only with a few weeks during the tenth year of the siege.

Mask of Agammemnon



Helen of Troy: "The Face That Launched 1000 Ships?"

What
did she
look
like?



King Priam: A Real or Mythological King?



Actor Peter O'Toole plays King Priam in the movie Troy.

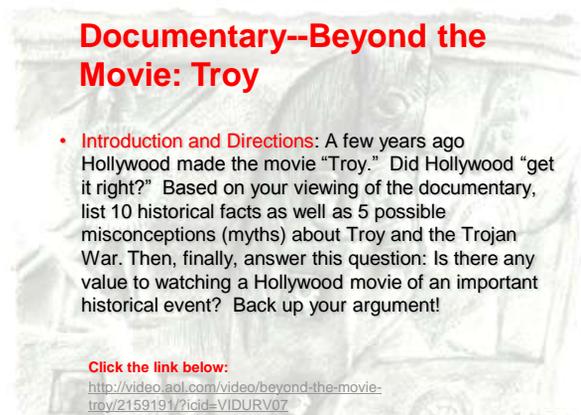
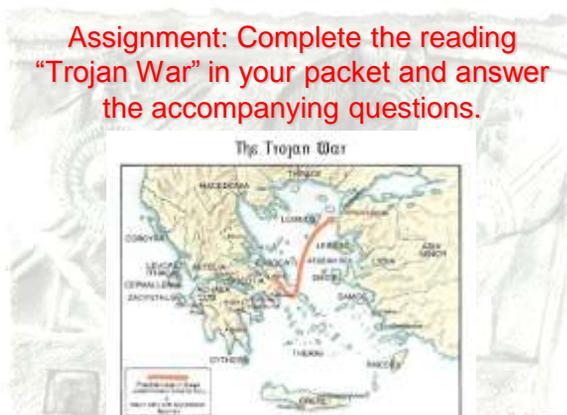
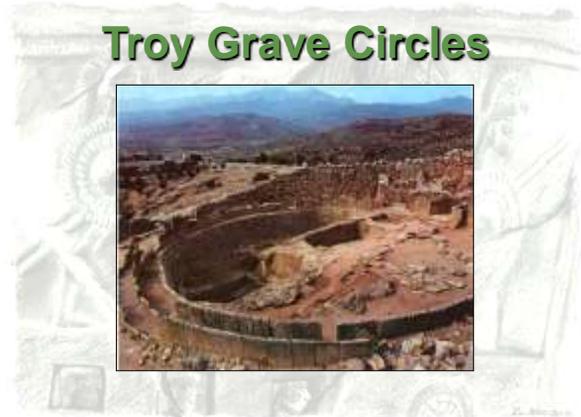
- In Greek mythology, **Priam** was the king of Troy during the Trojan War.
- Priam had several wives and was the father of 50 sons and many daughters. His chief wife, Hecuba, bore him 19 children, including Hector, Paris, Polyxena, Helenus, Cassandra, Troilus, Creusa, Polydorus, and Deiphobus.
- When the Greeks sacked and burned Troy, Priam was killed by Neoptolemus.

King Priam's Treasure: Sofie Schliemann, the Archaeologist's Wife, with King Priam's Jewelry



The "Trojan Horse"?





Alternative: The Trojan War—Fact or Fiction?

- Introduction and Directions--
Writing Prompt of 200 words:

– Based on your research of the site <http://www.archaeology.org/0405/etc/troy.html> as well as two (2) other sites of your choice, discuss 7 historical facts as well as 7 possible misconceptions (myths) about Troy and the Trojan War. Finally, in your opinion, was the Trojan War a real event? Back up your opinion with the evidence from the readings.



The Fall of Mycenaean Civilization

- About 1200 B.C. a new wave of Indo-Europeans--the **Dorian Greeks**--invaded Greece.
- The Mycenaean center Pylos was sacked and burned, and the destruction of the other major Mycenaean citadels soon followed.
- Mycenaean refugees fled to Athens and to Ionia on the western coast of Asia Minor.



Culture of the Mycenaeans

Name: _____ Date: _____

Storage

Money

Government

Education

Writing

Language/Communication

Entertainment

Religion

Transportation

The Greek "Dark Ages"

1100 - 750 BCE

From the Darkness Arose Hellenic Civilization

- After the Dorian invasion, Mycenaean civilization disappeared including centralized administration, wide-ranging commerce, sophisticated art forms and architecture, and writing.
- Yet, a unique **Hellenic** (from "Hellas," the Greek name for Greece) civilization arose.

Migrations in the



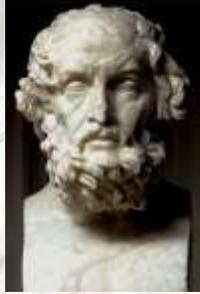
The Influence of Geography

- The numerous mountain ranges made communication difficult, leading to the development of fiercely independent city-states.
- The major cleft is the Gulf of Corinth, which made southern Greece almost an island - hence, it was called the Peloponnesus ("Pelop's island").
- In order to secure more fertile lands and sea trade, the Greeks established colonies abroad.

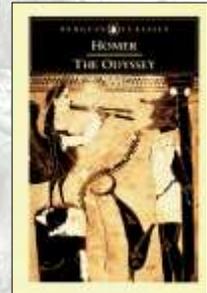
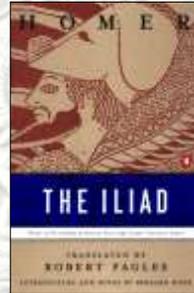


The Homeric Age

- The blind poet **Homer** created the epics the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*.
 - The *Iliad* describes the Trojan War.
 - *The Odyssey* tells of *Odysseus* returning from war (after twenty years)--and his trials in which he had to overcome.
- The poet described details of political, economic, social, religious life.
- Homer's epics emphasize heroic values - the strength, skill, and valor of the preeminent warrior.



Homer's Great Epics



Homer's View of the



Greek Myths

- **Myths** are stories about divine beings and nature.
- Before the world understood science, the Greeks explained their world through their myths.
- These stories reveal Greek history, their understanding of nature, and the values of the mythmakers.



Clash of the Titans – Medusa

Rating: PG (Violence/Brief Nudity/Suitable for Children)

-- A film adaption of the myth of Perseus and his quest to battle both Medusa and the Kraken monster to save the Princess Andromeda.

Note: Although this movie is rated PG, feel free to leave the room if the movie clip gets too scary!

View the clip from the classic movie on

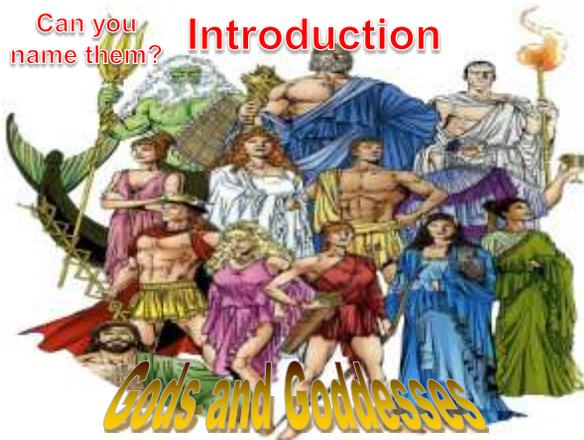
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBtAO4dYL98>

Greek Gods and Goddesses



Can you name them?

Introduction



MATCHING THE GODS AND THEIR REALMS - QUIZ (put the correct letter on the line)

Cerberus _____	f. God of War
Zeus _____	h. God of the Heavens and the earth, Ruler of the Gods
Hera _____	k. Goddess of Agriculture
Proserpina _____	m. Goddess of Love and Beauty
Hades _____	e. God of the Underworld, Brother of Zeus
Ares _____	a. Ruler of the Titans, Father of Zeus
Apollo _____	n. God of the Sun (and medicine, poetry, music), A triskelion
Artemis _____	i. Goddess of the Moon, A twin
Athena _____	l. Goddess of Wisdom (and unmarried girls)
Aphrodite _____	d. God of the Sea, Brother of Zeus
Eros _____	o. God of Love
Hephaestus _____	j. God of Fire
Hermes _____	i. Messenger of the Gods
Demeter _____	c. Goddess of Harvest, Wife of Zeus
Dionysus _____	g. God of Wine and Revelry

Zeus

King of heaven and earth and of all the gods on Olympus



"Zeus," Museum of Olympia, Greece.
Image courtesy of Corel Corporation.
Credit (bust images): courtesy of Corel Corporation.



Hera



As the wife (and sister) of Zeus, Hera is the patron of marriage. She is also known as Juno (Roman). She has no unique attributes in iconography and so can only be identified by context or inscription.

A t h e n a



Goddess of wisdom, reason and purity

Hades

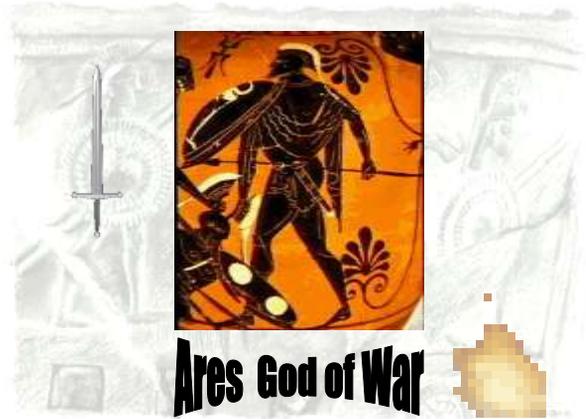


God of the Underworld



Poseidon was the Greek god of the sea and earthquakes. Poseidon was depicted as a bearded man with long hair, holding a trident (a three-pronged spear) and accompanied by dolphins and fish. He reputedly had a very bad temper.

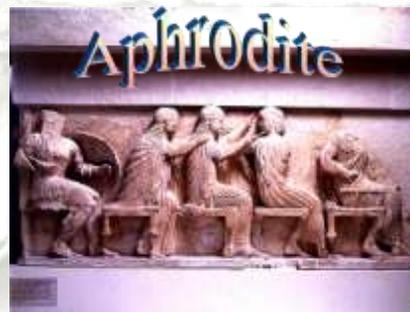
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Demeter



Demeter is the giver of grain. She is also known as Ceres (Roman) and sometimes Deo. Her attributes in iconography can include a torch, a crown, a sceptre, and stalks of grain. She is often portrayed with her daughter, Persephone/Kore.



Aphrodite was the Greek goddess of love and beauty.



Left section of the frieze (c. 525 B.C.) of the treasure of Siphniot, entitled "Symposium of the Gods." Delphi, Greece. From left to right we can see Aphrodite, Artemis, and Apollo.
Image courtesy of the Superintendency (Ephoria) of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Delphi. Greek Ministry of Culture-Archaeological Receipt Fund. (c) Greek Ministry of Culture.



In Greek mythology, Artemis was born with her twin brother Apollo in the island of Delos. Their parents were Zeus and Leto. Artemis was the goddess of woodland and the personification of the Moon. She was also known as the goddess of the hunt.

Artemis

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S**



GOD OF CHANCE AND GAMING



Head of Hermes. Statue of the 2nd century A.D. from Turkey. Image courtesy of Corel Corporation.

Apollo



GOD OF THE SUN, LOGIC AND MUSIC



In Greek mythology, Apollo was the son of Zeus (Jupiter) and Leto (Letona). He was the twin brother of the goddess Artemis

**H
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God of Fire and artisans. He was ugly and lame. Protector of smiths.

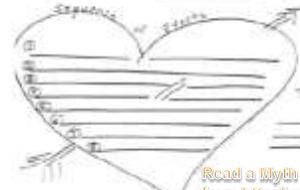
Title of Myth _____

Major Characters 

Setting 

Major Challenges _____

Author's Purpose _____

Sequence of Events 

Theme of Myth _____

Read a Myth of your own choice from <http://www.online-mythology.com/> & Complete this Outline

Plan Your Myth

Which characteristics will your myth have?

Characteristics of a Myth

Myths are stories that explain natural events and human behavior. They are passed down from generation to generation. They are often based on ancient beliefs and customs. They are often used to teach moral lessons. They are often used to explain the unknown. They are often used to inspire people. They are often used to entertain people. They are often used to give people a sense of purpose. They are often used to give people a sense of identity. They are often used to give people a sense of belonging. They are often used to give people a sense of hope. They are often used to give people a sense of direction. They are often used to give people a sense of meaning. They are often used to give people a sense of purpose. They are often used to give people a sense of identity. They are often used to give people a sense of belonging. They are often used to give people a sense of hope. They are often used to give people a sense of direction. They are often used to give people a sense of meaning.

Sequence of events _____

Sub-plot/Conflict _____

Resolution _____

Setting _____

Your written myth must be 200 words!

Checklist for Writing Your Own Myth

1. Student has grasped the basic definition of a myth in their story by either explaining the origin of humankind, the meaning of life, or utilizing a hero to provide a moral.
2. Student has used two or more of the myth characteristics listed on the "Write your Own Myth" planner.
3. The story has a sequence of events, gods and goddesses and/or other mythological creatures as well as setting.
4. Student has checked for (and fixed) grammar, punctuation and spelling errors.
5. The student has provided a detailed illustration with their myth.

Perform Your Story!

Assess C
State Fair Exhibit
Class: Mythology

Student: _____ Teacher: _____
 Date: _____ Other Group Member: _____
 Title: _____

Learning criteria	4-10	3	2	1	0
Exhibit #	4	3	2	1	0
Subject/Character: Be specific and meaningful					
Clarity					
Ability to hold the audience attention					
Eye-catching and eye-opening					
Clear intention					
Person character appropriate					
Excites live in the character					
Ability to improve and use assessment					
Appropriate behavior in setting					
Participation to prove					
Total					

Task: _____
 Date: _____
 State: _____
 School: _____
 Teacher: _____
 Student: _____

Perform Your Story!

10 minutes to rehearse and prepare

Appendix B
Oral Story Matrix
Grade 5C History



Student: _____ Teacher: _____
Title: _____ Other Group Members: _____
Date: _____

Learning criteria	4-50 Excellent	3 Good	2 Satisfactory	1 Needs more improvement	0 Needs much improvement	0 Needs further work
Interpret literature by speaking and writing						
Character						
Ability to hold the audience's attention						
Make story come with feeling and expression						
Clear diction						
Produce appropriate pronunciation						
Interpret setting correctly						
Ability to integrate oral and written						
Adaptation of work to oral format						
Participation in group						

Greek Colonization: Prelude to Classical Greece 750-550 BCE

Government and Social Class

- By the 700's B.C.E., kings had lost power to the **aristocrats**, or wealthy nobles.
- Many farmers were unable to pay back their debts and were forced to become sharecroppers or slaves to the aristocrats.
- Many non-land holding merchants and artisans began to acquire some political rights as members of the assembly.
- The economy was a simple, self-sufficient agricultural system.

Greek & Phoenician Colonization:



The Benefits of Colonization and Trade

- From 750 to 550 B.C. the Greeks planted colonies along the northern coast of the Aegean and around the Black Sea.
- Greek colonies supplied grain to help feed the overcrowded city-states.
- Merchants transported bulky cargo—animals, textiles, timber, and jugs of olive oil—throughout modern-day Europe.
- By the 600's B.C.E., the Greeks replaced their barter system with a money economy and their trade expanded further.

Trade Resumes: 6c BCE Amphoras



“Iron Age” Trade Routes



Evolution of Our Alphabet: From Phoenician to Latin



Name _____

DISCOVERING ANCIENT GREECE (1600-100 B.C.)
The Greek Alphabet and Writing in Greek

	Capital	Lower Case	Latin Equivalent
ALPHA	Α	α	A, a
BETA (BETA)	Β	β	B, b
Gamma	Γ	γ	G, g
DELTA	Δ	δ	D, d
EPA (EPA)	Ε	ε	E, e
ZETA (ZETA)	Ζ	ζ	Z, z
ETA (ETA)	Η	η	H, h
THETA	Θ	θ	TH, th
IOTA	Ι	ι	I, i
KAPPA	Κ	κ	K, k
LAMBDA	Λ	λ	L, l
MU	Μ	μ	M, m
NI	Ν	ν	N, n
XI	Ξ	ξ	X, x
OMICRON	Ο	ο	O, o
PI	Π	π	P, p
RHO	Ρ	ρ	R, r
SIGMA	Σ	σ	S, s
TAU	Τ	τ	T, t
UPSILON	Υ	υ	U, u
PHI	Φ	φ	F, f
CHROMA	Χ	χ	HA, h
PSI	Ψ	ψ	PS, p
OMEGA	Ω	ω	O, o

Write these words in Greek: **ATHENS** **GRACE** **ARMS**
STON **FRANCIS**

