**ANCIENT GREECE G.R.A.P.E.S. NOTES**

GEOGRAPHY—

* Greece is 75-80% mountains which provide natural barriers between the various city-states and forced many to settle along the coast.
* Greece is also a **peninsula**- surrounded by water (the Aegean Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, and the Ionian Sea) which many people used for trade and travel.
* Balkan Peninsula created isolation and protection.

RELIGION—

* The Greeks were polytheistic- believed in many gods and goddesses.
* The stories (**myths**) about the gods and goddesses explained many of the phenomenon that occurred in nature.
* Some of the most popular gods/goddesses:
	+ Zeus
	+ Poseidon
	+ Hades
	+ Hera
	+ Demeter
	+ Apollo; twin sister Artemis
	+ Athena- the city of Athens named after her
	+ Aphrodite; Brothers- Hephaestus and Ares

ACHIEVEMENTS—

* Greece contributed many ideas, materials, and architecture to the world.
* Beginning with materials:
	+ The pulley- a simple machine
	+ Ships built out of necessity for the Greek Navy
	+ Modern dice
	+ Crane
	+ Catapult for the Greek Army
	+ Watermill- a mill that used water for grinding grain
	+ Invented the yo-yo (second oldest toy in the world)
* Architecture-
	+ Created and built arcs and columns (used a lot of math)
	+ Built most of their buildings and temples in one of three (3) styles:
		- Doric- simplest; thicker; no decoration at base or top; wider at base than at the top
		- Ionic- thinner than Doric; scrolls at the top
		- Corinthian- most decorative; used mainly scrolls and leaves of the acanthus plant; came in later and adopted by the Romans
* Ideas-
	+ **Democracy**- government by the people
	+ **Philosophy**- study and analyze the world using reason and logic (Socrates, Plato, Aristotle)
	+ Mathematics- studied math and how it applies to the real world (Thales, Pythagoras, Euclid)
	+ Medicine- studied in a scientific way to cure illnesses (Hippocrates)
* Philosophers-
	+ SOCRATES: (@470 B.C.-399B.C.)
		- Developed Socratic questioning- answering a question with a question
		- Self-analysis
		- Step-by-step conclusions
		- Power of reason
		- Logical thinking
		- “Human wisdom begins with the recognition of one’s own ignorance”
	+ PLATO: (@428 B.C.-348 B.C.)
		- Student of Socrates
		- Founded Academy in Athens - first university in the world
		- Perfect world by applying reason
		- Believed a small group of wise men should run the government
		- Wrote “The Republic”- a conversation book about what a model society should be.
	+ ARISTOTLE: (@384 B.C.-322 B.C.)
		- Student of Plato
		- Taught Alexander the Great
		- Wrote 170 books on astronomy, physics, politics, and art
		- Wrote “Ethics”- major works on behavior and judgment that constitute “good living”
		- Made detailed observations of nature and physical world-groundwork of modern biology
		- Created school that was the model for modern universities
	+ PYTHAGORAS: (@570 B.C.-475 B.C.)
		- Pythagorean Theorem (triangles)
		- Mystical view of numbers and their relationship to nature
		- Theories about numbers and music
		- Geometry
	+ ARCHIMEDES: (@287 B.C.-212 B.C)
		- Use of machines, levers
		- Archimedes screw
		- Pi (3.14…) the circumference of a circle
		- Objects displace weight (area and volume of solids) Story of the Golden Crown
	+ PHILIP II OF MACEDONIA: (382 B.C.-336 B.C.)
		- King of Macedonia
		- Conquered and united the Greek city-states
		- Father of Alexander the Great
	+ ALEXANDER THE GREAT: (356 B.C.-323 B.C.)
		- Spread Greek ideas and culture throughout his empire
		- Hellenistic period: cultural diffusion or blending of Greek culture with Asian cultures
		- Empire expanded into Africa and Central and Southern Asia - all the way to the Indus River

POLITICS—

* Divided into city-states- independent from each other but shared the same culture.
* **Assembly**- law making group
* Public debates
* Limited citizenship
* The city-state of Athens was a **democracy**- government by the people.
	+ Athens was a direct democracy where the people (men born in Athens) voted on everything.
	+ The United States is a representative democracy where the people vote for representatives to vote for them.
* However, all of Greece was not a democracy.
* Most of Greece was part of a monarchy- ruled by a king or queen.

ECONOMICS—

* All Greek villages and cities had **agoras**- large marketplaces where many activities of daily life took place.
* Greek soil was very poor so grain crop farming was difficult; therefore trade was necessary.
* Grew/raised:
	+ olives, grapes, sheep, and goats
* Exported:
	+ Olive oil, wine, wool, and pottery
* Imported:
	+ Copper, tin, gold, and food (wheat and other grains)
* Many Greeks were sailors who traveled the ancient world, trading goods or were fishermen.
* Many Greeks were also soldiers.

SOCIAL STRUCTURE—

* There were four basic classes:
	+ Upper class- (Aristocracy; also Free **Citizens**)
		- Independently wealthy (no job)
		- Available to debate government, war, philosophy, and literature
	+ Middle class (Free **Citizens**- only adult males born in a city-state)
		- Merchants. Craftsmen, Tradesmen
	+ Lower class
		- Mostly free people who were once slaves
	+ Slaves
		- Foreigners and people who were conquered by Greeks