

# Year 3 History Knowledge Organiser - Ancient Greece

## Peloponnesian War

1. Sparta declared war on Athens because they thought Athens had become too rich and powerful.
2. This war went on for nearly 30 years.
3. Spartans were very good at fighting on land.
4. Sparta burned all of the crops in the fields, so that Athens began to starve.
5. A plague swept through the city and killed thousands of citizens.
6. Sparta attacked Athens with the help of Allies like Corinth. They even asked the Persians to help!
7. The Persians lent money to the Spartans, so that they could build warships.

## Architecture and Literature

1. Pericles wanted every visitor to Athens to know how important it was, so he decided to build a temple on top of the acropolis (The Parthenon).
2. The architecture of the Ancient Greeks is still copied today.
3. The Greek used three types of columns (see below).
4. The Ancient Greeks loved stories and theatre.
5. Many Ancient Greeks tried to write plays and become famous playwrights.
6. They loved three types of plays: tragedy, comedy and satire.

## Types of columns



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## Athens

1. Athens was a polis in Ancient Greece. This means it was one of the city-states.
2. Athens was a large polis and ruled a group of rich men.
3. Clesithenes suggested they try a democracy which meant the people of Athens would hold the power in the polis.
4. For the next 100 years, Athenian citizens helped decide how Athens was run.
5. Citizens only included free men, not women or slaves.
6. 500 new citizens were chosen each year and they helped to make new laws. A law was not decided until all citizens in Athens voted.

## The Parthenon (A temple dedicated to the goddess Athena)



## Timeline

507 BC	Greek city-state of Athens began to do something different: introduces a <b>democracy</b>
490 BC	Battle of Marathon
480 BC	Battle of Salamis
432 BC	The Parthenon is finished in Athens
431 BC	Peloponnesian War began
405 BC	Sparta defeated Athens
404 BC	Peloponnesian War ended

## Important People

1. Cleisthenes (Athenian citizen who introduced **democracy**)
2. Pericles (An Athenian leader in democracy)
3. Sophocles (He wrote plays)
4. Homer (The most famous Greek writer - he wrote The Iliad and The Odyssey)
5. Odyssey (An epic poem written by Homer)
6. Odysseus (A heroic soldier)
7. Sirens (Magical creatures that looked like beautiful women)
8. Socrates - The first important Greek philosopher
9. Plato (Socrates' student)

## Vocabulary

1. Democracy	A form of government where the people can vote.
2. Declared war	Officially deciding to go to war.
3. Plague	A contagious disease.
4. Allies	Someone who supports another group/ society.
5. Columns	An upright pillar supporting an arch.
6. Scrolls	A roll of parchment or paper for writing on.
7. Sculpture	A figure or form using different materials.
8. Frieze	A layer on top of columns (architecture)
9. Pediment	A triangle above the frieze (architecture)
10. Satire	A type of play that involved making fun of real people and real events.
11. Gestures	These actors did not speak, but told the story using marks and hand movements.
12. Literature	A collection of written work.
13. Nymph	A female spirit who lived in the forests.
14. Philosophy	A greek word that means 'to love wisdom'.