

How was Greece ruled?

There was never one country called 'ancient Greece'. Instead, Greece was divided up into small city-states, like Athens, Sparta, Corinth and Olympia.

Each city-state ruled itself. They had their own governments, laws and army. So, ancient Greeks living in Sparta considered themselves Spartan first, and Greek second.

Famously, the city-states didn't get on very well and often fought each other. However, sometimes they joined together to fight against a bigger enemy, like the Persian Empire.

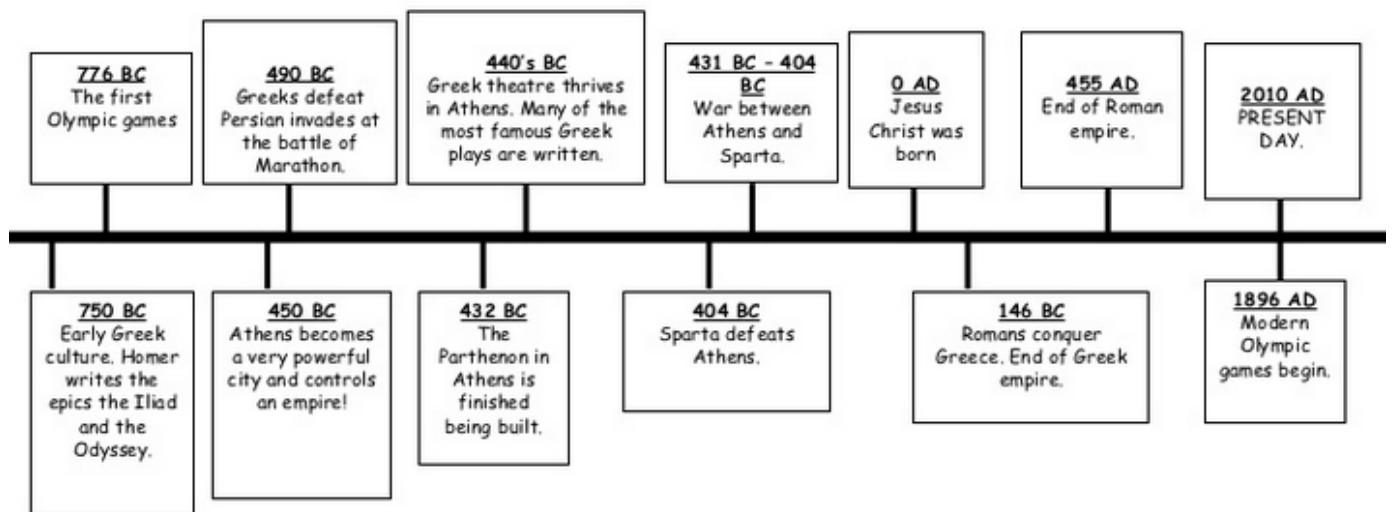
ANCIENT GREEKS



The Parthenon in Athens



Key vocabulary	Definition
BCE (was BC)	Before Common Era (was before Christ).
CE (was AD)	Common Era (was AD – Anno Domini – Year of our Lord).
Ancient	Something from a very long time ago.
Archaeologist	Someone who studies the past by exploring old remains.
Democracy	A fair political system where all adults vote for representatives (elected government). The government then makes decisions on how to rule the country/area.
Parthenon	A temple in Athens dedicated to the goddess Athena.
Polis	An ancient Greek city-state.
Trade	The action of buying, selling or exchanging goods to make a profit.
Mount Olympus	Highest mountain in Greece. Home of the Gods.



Key Knowledge and Understanding:

Be able to explain how Greece not a country, but was made up of different cities that interacted with each other. Use the geography of Greece to explain some key features of the Greeks such as sailing, the myths and the Olympics.

Be able to give brief details about the first Olympic Games.

Be able to give details about Ancient Greek Religion.

Be able to give details about Ancient Greek art and architecture.

Know that some of their buildings have survived and although they are ruins now, but enough is left of the buildings and in pieces of art to help us understand what they must have looked like.

Explore Ancient Greeks pottery and sculptures and say what we can learn from them.

Know some of the legacy by identifying things still in existence today.