



Key Vocabulary	
ancient	Something from a very long time ago.
Athenian	People from the Greek city of Athens.
city state	A small area that ancient Greece was divided into which had its own government, laws and army.
civilisation	The people, culture and way of life of a certain area.
democracy	A fair political system where adults vote for an elected government who then make decisions on how to run the country.
empire	A group of countries that is ruled by one ruler or country.
honour	To show respect and admiration for someone or something.
Persian	People from the area of Persia.
philosopher	Someone who studies the idea of right and wrong, the value of things and knowledge.
Spartans	People from the Greek city of Sparta.

The Olympic Games

- Began in 776 BC in Olympia.
- Believed to be a religious event to **honour** Zeus, the King of the Gods.
- Events included boxing, wrestling, long-distance running and chariot racing.
- Some of the evidence about the games comes from paintings discovered on vases.

Greek Gods and Goddesses

- The **ancient** Greeks believed that their gods and goddesses controlled everything and should be respected and **honoured**.
- Temples and shrines were built as places of worship.
- Festivals were held to celebrate the gods and goddesses and people would make offerings to them in the hope of being granted good fortune.
- It is believed that the 12 most powerful gods lived on Mount Olympus.
- Stories were told about the gods and goddesses and included heroic quests and scary beasts.



Zeus

- The most powerful of all the gods.
- God of the Sky and the King of Mount Olympus.
- His temper affected the weather, and when he was angry he threw thunderbolts.



Hera

- The sister and wife of Zeus.
- She was powerful and beautiful but very jealous and vain.
- Hera is an earth goddess and the goddess of family and marriage.



Battles and Wars

Battles took place between different **city states** but when an outside enemy attacked, these **city states** would sometimes join forces.

The Battle of Marathon

- The **Athenians** were being invaded by the **Persians** and needed more soldiers to help them fight.
- Pheidippides was sent to run to Sparta to ask them to join forces with the **Athenians**. He ran 26 miles from Athens to Sparta which took him two days.
- The **Spartans** said they would help but only after they had finished celebrating a festival.
- Pheidippides ran all the way back to Athens to tell them they would have to wait.
- The **Athenian** army couldn't wait and unbelievably, with strong fighting strategies, they were victorious.
- Pheidippides ran all the way back to Athens to tell them of the army's victory but when he arrived after delivering the message, he died.



The Trojan War

- The Trojan War is a famous story told by the famous Greek writer, Homer.
- The Greeks had a plan to win a battle against the Trojans... they gifted a large wooden horse to the city which the Trojans thought was a sign that the Greeks had given up.
- Hiding inside the horse, was a group of Greek soldiers, who, in the dead of night, climbed out and let the rest of the Greek army into the city to fight.
- Finally, the city of Troy was destroyed.

