

| People | |
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| Apollo | Greco-Roman god of many things including prophecy, light/the sun, music, healing and archery. Twin brother of the huntress goddess Artemis/Diana. |
| Croesus | The king of Lydia. He reigned from around 595-546 BC, until he was defeated by the Persian king Cyrus in 547 or 546 BC. |
| Cyrus II | The founder of the Achaemenid Empire (the first Persian empire). He reigned from about 559 to 530 BCE. Also sometimes known as 'Cyrus the Great'. Both a historical and literary figure as he is found in the Hebrew Bible. |
| Darius I | King of the Achaemenid Empire from 522-486 BCE. He secured and expanded the Empire and attacked Greece in 490 BCE which failed. He is also known as 'Darius the Great'. |
| Leonidas | King of Sparta (Lacedaemon). Ruled 489-480 BC. Led allied Greek forces in battle of Thermopylae (480 BC) where he was killed. |
| Melians | People from Melos. |
| Phaeakians | A group of people from Homer's Epic poem The Odyssey. They lived on Corcyra and were known for their sailing and navigation abilities. They help the main hero, Odysseus, get home. |
| Spartans | The citizens of Sparta, capital of the Laconia area in the Peloponnese. |
| Xerxes I | Achaemenid Persian King (ruled 486-465 BCE) Invaded Greece in 480 BCE but was ultimately defeated. The invasion inspired a play called 'The Persians' by Aeschylus. He was the son of Darius I. |
| Places | |
| Achaemenid empire | Also known as the Persian empire. Founded by Cyrus the Great. The biggest empire of its time covering places such as modern-day Iran, Iraq, Turkey, the Levant and at times into Egypt. |
| Athens | Capital city of Greece. One of most powerful city-states in Ancient Greece. |
| Corcyra | Modern Corfu or Kerkyra is an island in the Ionian Sea, western Greece. In myth it was the island of the Phaeakians. In the Peloponnesian War, the relationship between Corcyra and Corinth was continuously tense. Corfu was colonised by Corinth in the 8 th century BC. |
| Corinth | A city-state between the Peloponnese and mainland Greece, about halfway between Athens and Sparta. |
| Halicarnassus | An ancient Greek city in Anatolia (in modern-day turkey). It had a sheltered harbour and was placed along the sea trade routes. Ruled by Queen Artemisia under Xerxes' influence during the invasion of Greece in 480 BCE. |
| Lacedaemon | Another name for Sparta, an ancient city-state in the southeastern region of the Peloponnese in Greece. |

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| | Lacedaemon refers to both the city of Sparta and the broader territory that the Spartans controlled. Also the name of the founding king of Lacedaemon in mythology. |
| Lydia | An ancient region of western Anatolia (in modern day Turkey) (Dynasty founded in 7 th century BCE) Later in around 546-540 BCE it became a province of the Achaemenid Empire. |
| Melos | An island in the Aegan Sea. East of Greece. People from Melos are called Melians. Siege in 416 BC, in Peloponnesian War – between Athens and Sparta. |
| Peloponnese | A peninsula/area in southern Greece |
| Persia | A region in southwest Asia, now deemed modern-day Iran, formerly known as Persis. Comes from the area of Pārs or Parsa (modern Fārs). Ancient Greeks also used the term. |
| Sardis | The capital of Lydia. After the fall of the Lydian dynasty, it became the capital of the Persian satrapy (province) of Lydia, |
| Sparta | City in the Laconia region of the Peloponnese. City is on the bank of the Evrótas Potamós river. Became its own city-state in the 6 th -2 nd century BCE. Ruled by a military oligarchy. |
| Thermopylae | A narrow pass and modern town in Greece. Site of the Battle of Thermopylae between Greek forces and Persian forces. |
| Other useful words | |
| City-state | Political system of an independent city ruling itself and surrounding territory with the city being the centre of politics, the economy and culture. |
| Empire | An extensive group of states or countries ruled over by a single authority (e.g. a monarch, an oligarchy etc.). |
| Imperialism | A policy of extending a country's power and influence through occupying and invading other places through military force, or other means. |
| Manifesto | A public declaration of policy and aims, especially one issued before an election by a political party or candidate. |
| Oligarchy | Government by a small group of people. Aristotle (an ancient philosopher) used the term to refer to when the wrong (and bad) small group ruled. |
| Stasis/Civil War | Stasis was the Greek word for Civil War. Civil war is conflict between groups of people in the same country/geographical area. 'Civil war' was not used in ancient Greece but we use it because it matches historical events. |