

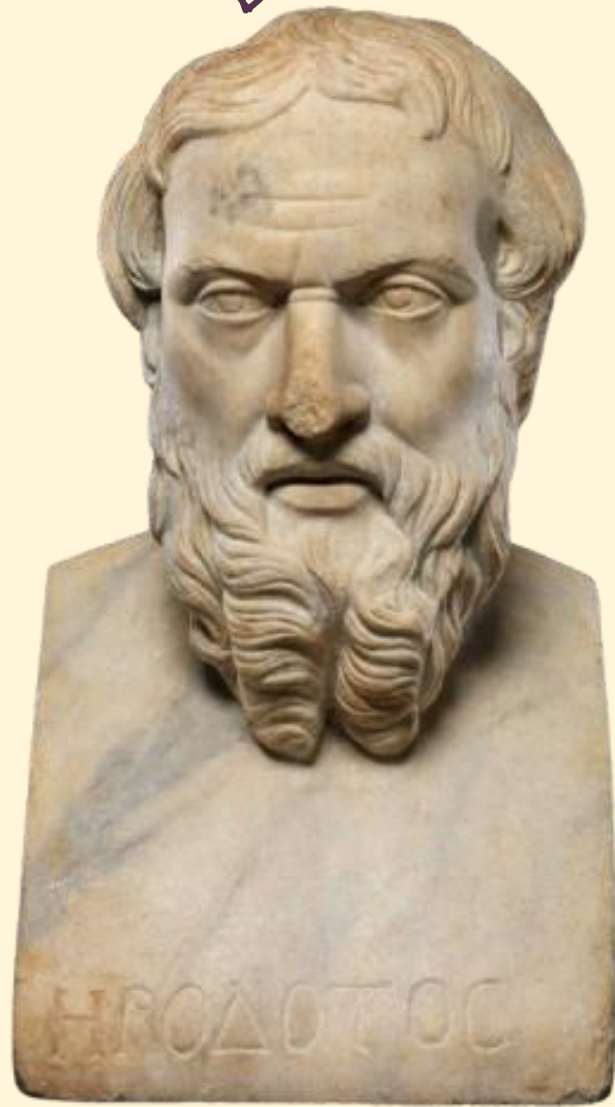
Thinking with the ancient historians:

War and Peace



Who are these people?

Herodotus



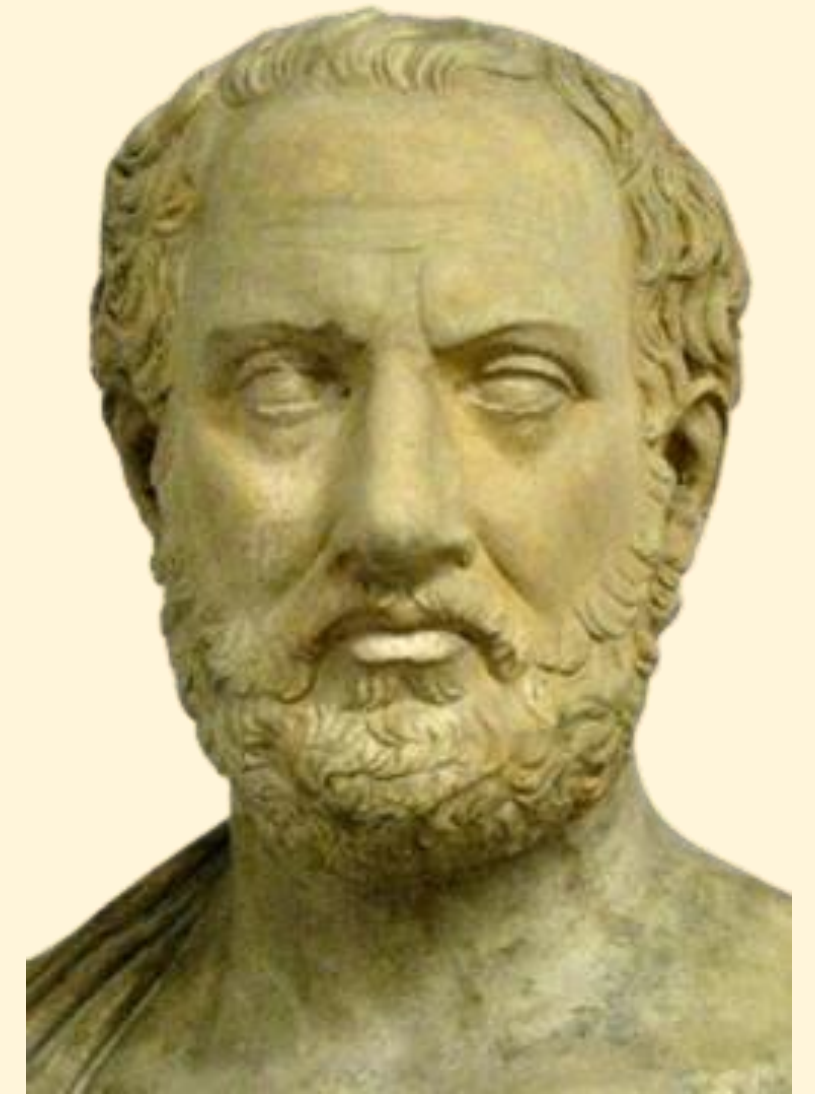
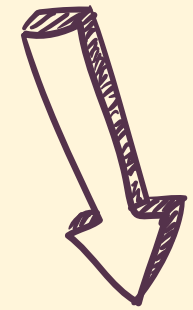
Today we are going to look at the work of two historians from ancient Greece.

In your groups, use the fact files to find out more these ancient historians.

You will be researching either Herodotus or Thucydides.

Then, share your findings with another group.

Thucydides



Become an ancient historian!

You are going to have a look at some of the ancient historic writings of Herodotus and Thucydides.

You may notice some key themes:

- **War**
- **Truth**
- **Memory**

They weren't just writing for readers at the time, but for future generations too. They wanted to share useful lessons for the future and so their work focuses on not forgetting important things over time.



What is a **proem**?

A proem is like an *introduction*.

In the first paragraph of their work, ancient historians usually present themselves and their work to the readers.

They *explain their aims* and what is significant and distinctive about their take on history writing.



What about the present?

- The Histories of Herodotus and Thucydides talk about wars that took place in times and societies that are different from the world we live in today.
- But, both texts are **still influential today**.
- They have inspired modern historians, political philosophers, authors of historical fiction, artists, and public debate on social media, such as X (formerly Twitter).
- Leonidas at Thermopylae and the Spartans continue to inspire today as symbols of **bravery**, **sacrifice** for a good cause, and **masculinity**.