

## ANCIENT GREECE GEOGRAPHY

Use the clues below to **label** the following on your map (you do not need to include words in brackets). If you cannot locate one of the items on the list, come back to it as you locate others. Some items will require you to use multiple clues.

### 1) Peloponnese

Natural regions were created in ancient Greece by mountains and seas.

Peloponnese is a peninsula (land surrounded by water, but connected to the mainland) that is nearly an island. Several key city-states were located here.

### 2) Central Greece

North of Peloponnese. Includes Attica. Home to the city-states Delphi and Thebes.

### 3) Attica

Projects into the Aegean Sea. Home of Athens, which is the capital and largest city of modern Greece. Located on the Eastern edge of Central Greece.

### 4) Thessaly

Northeast of Central Greece.

### 5) Epirus

Northwest of Central Greece.

### 6) Macedonia

North of Thessaly.

### 7) Thrace

East of Macedonia.

### 8) Anatolia

Modern-day Turkey. East of Greece and the Aegean Sea.

### 9) Crete

Largest island in Greece.

### 10) Ionian Islands

Islands in the Ionian Sea.

11) Aegean Islands

Includes the Cyclades, South of Attica, and islands from Central Greece, Macedonia, and Thrace.

12) Mount Olympus

Sacred site to the ancient Greeks, believed to be the home of their gods.  
Located between the Haliacmon and Pineiós rivers.

13) Pindus Mountains

Mountain range that extends between Epirus and Thessaly, through Central Greece to the Gulf of Corinth.

14) Taygetos Mountains

Located on the Peloponnese from the center, down the middle peninsula.  
Mount Taygetos is the highest mountain in the range and one of the oldest recorded names in Europe, appearing in Homer's *Odyssey*, the second oldest surviving written work of Western literature.

15) Rhodope Mountains

Located along the Northern border of Thrace and a quarter of Macedonia.

16) Gulf of Corinth

Located between Central Greece and Peloponnese.

17) Mediterranean Sea

Surrounded by the Mediterranean Basin, almost entirely enclosed by land.

18) Aegean Sea

East of Greece.

19) Sea of Crete

North of Crete, South of Attica.

20) Propontis (Sea of Marmara)

Connects the Aegean and Black Seas. East of the Aegean Sea.

21) Black Sea

East of Propontis which connects it to the Aegean Sea.

22) Ionian Sea

West of Greece.

23) Haliacmon

The longest river in Greece.

24) Pineiós

River that empties into the Aegean Sea.

25) Achelous

River that empties into the Ionian Sea.

26) Alfeiós

The longest river in Peloponnese.

27) Eurotas

A major river in Peloponnese.

28) Straits of Euboea

North of Thebes.

29) Straits of Artemisium

North of the Straits of Euboea, location of the Battle of Artemisium.

30) Athens

Modern-day capital of Greece and one of the major city-states of Ancient Greece. Located in Attica. Named for the goddess, Athena, who was the god of wisdom. The city was a center for the arts and philosophy. One of the world's oldest cities. The birthplace of democracy and considered the cradle of Western civilization.

31) Sparta

The dominant military power of ancient Greece. The society did everything it could to maximize military excellence. Located in the South on Peloponnese.

32) Rhodes

City-state in ancient Greece. Home of the Colossus, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, located on the island of Rhodes.

33) Amphipolis

A strategic transportation center that Athens sought to control for its resources (timber, gold, and silver). Athens did eventually claim it, though it would pass through numerous other hands, as well as be independent over its long history. Northeast of Mount Olympus.

#### 34) Marathon

Site of the battle of Marathon where the vastly outnumbered Athenians defeated the Persians during the first Persian invasion of Greece by Darius the Great (father of Xerxes I). The origin of the marathon running is from the legend that the herald, Pheidippides, ran from Marathon to Athens to announce the victory. Located in Attica, East of Athens.

#### 35) Argos

Powerful city-state that was the rival of Sparta. One of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. Possible birthplace of Alexander the Great. South of Corinth.

#### 36) Thebes

The largest city in its region in ancient Greece. A major rival of Athens that sided with Xerxes I during second Persian invasion of Greece. A major force in Greek history until its destruction in 335 BCE by Alexander the Great.

#### 37) Troy

The setting of the Trojan War from the Epic Cycle and the epic poems of Homer, the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. Located in modern Turkey.

#### 38) Corinth

City-state located about halfway between Athens and Sparta. One of the largest and most important cities of ancient Greece.

#### 39) Delphi

Home of the Pythia, the high priestess of the Temple of Apollo, commonly called the Oracle of Delphi. Her advice was sought between the 7<sup>th</sup> century BCE and 4<sup>th</sup> century CE as the woman in this position was the leading oracle in Greece. She was the most powerful woman in the classical world. Delphi is located Northwest of Thebes.

#### 40) Battle of Thermopylae

The famous battle of the 300 Spartans led by King Leonidas of Sparta. The 7,000 Greeks held the narrow coastal pass of Thermopylae ("The Hot Gates") against the 100,000 forces of Xerxes I during second Persian invasion of Greece for three days. When they were betrayed by a local who showed the

Persians a path behind the Greek lines, Leonidas dismissed most of the army, protecting their retreat with 300 Spartans, 700 Thespians, and 900 helots who fought to their death. Located North and slightly to the East of Delphi along the coast. Mark with an "X."

#### 41) Battle of Artemisium

The less well-known naval battle that occurred at the same time as the Battle of Thermopylae. The Athenian general, Themistocles, held the Persian navy at the Straits of Artemisium, for three days. As the strategy for this battle required the successfully holding the pass of Thermopylae, upon learning of the defeat, Themistocles withdrew to Salamis. The Persians burned Athens. Mark with an "X."

#### 40) Battle of Salamis

Themistocles clashed again with the Persians in one of the largest naval battles in history with over 1000 ships involved. The Persians outnumbered the Greek fleet more than 2 to 1, but the Themistocles used his knowledge of the geography to lure the Persian forces where they could not maneuver. The Greeks sank 300 ships while only losing 40. The Persians retreated. Occurred between the island of Salamis (West of Athens) and the mainland. Mark with an "X."

Colour the following on your map:

- 1) Outline all bodies of water in **BLUE**.
- 2) Draw a **BLUE** line over all rivers.
- 3) Outline Peloponnese in **DARK GREEN**.
- 4) Outline Central Greece in **DARK PURPLE**.
- 5) Outline Attica in **YELLOW**.
- 6) Outline Thessaly in **BROWN**.
- 7) Outline Epirus in **PINK**.
- 8) Outline Macedonia in **ORANGE**.
- 9) Outline Thrace in **RED**.
- 10) Outline Anatolia (and the areas surrounding Propontis) in **LIGHT PURPLE**.
- 11) Outline Crete in **LIGHT GREEN**.
- 12) Outline the Ionian Islands in **PEACH or LIGHT ORANGE**
- 13) Outline the Aegean Islands in **BLACK**.

