ANCIENT GREECE

Reading for Information
Higher-Order Thinking
Writing Prompts
Primary Source Analysis
Vocabulary
Graphic Organizers
Map Activities
& More!

SAMPLE

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CORE
RESOURCE

About this Book

This Common Core Lessons and Activities Book allows you to immediately meet new Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts, as well as Literacy and Writing in History/Social Studies. It is designed to supplement your Social Studies resources, adding new Common Core rigor, analysis, writing, inference, text-dependent questions, and more into your daily instruction.

How to Use this Book:

- Work through the lessons and activities as a class to teach your students higher-order thinking, analysis, and 21st century skills necessary to meet new Common Core expectations.
- Allow students to work through the lessons independently to build and practice these new skills.
- Include technology collaboration, presentation, and discussion in the activities as you desire—you can decide how in-depth to go.
- Watch your class develop new abilities to meet the rigor of Common Core State Standards, right before your eyes!

Tips:

- Use some of the pages—or use them all—based on your grade, your students, your curriculum, and your needs.
- Use the pages at their current size, or if you prefer them to be 8-1/2" x 11", enlarge them 125% on your copy machine.
- Download graphic organizers labeled **"GO"** in the Table of Contents by going to: www.gallopade.com/client/go
- Use the correlations grid to easily see which Common Core standards are covered in each lesson.

Common Core Lessons & Activities:
Ancient Greece

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G: Includes Graphic Organizer

GO: Graphic Organizer is also available 8½" x 11" online
download at www.gallopade.com/client/go
(numbers above correspond to the graphic organizer numbers online)

Pericles & Alexander

Read the two texts and complete the activities.
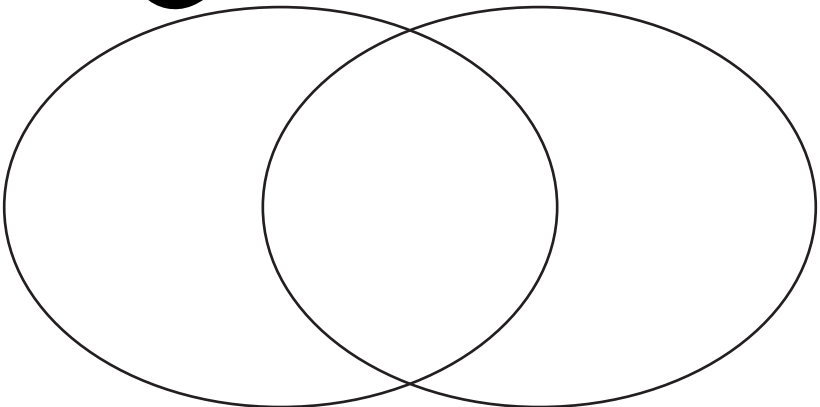
> **Pericles** was one of the most important and influential Greek statesmen and generals of Athens. He ruled during Athens' Golden Age, when the city and culture was at its greatest. The period when he led Athens is known as the "Age of Pericles."
>
> Pericles had a tremendous impact on Athenian society. He helped turn the Delian League, a group of city-states, into an Athenian empire. Pericles created projects to rebuild Athens after many Persian invasions. He also led his people during the first two years of the Peloponnesian War.
>
> Pericles was known for promoting the arts and literature of Athens. Because of his efforts, Athens became known as the educational and cultural center of the ancient Greek world. Pericles launched a project to build most of the structures that survive today on the Acropolis, including the magnificent Parthenon. This project added to the beauty of the city and provided jobs for the people of Athens.
>
> Pericles believed strongly in Athenian democracy. He has even been called a "populist," one who sides with the people against the rulers and upper class.

1. On a separate sheet of paper, create a Venn diagram to compare and contrast Pericles and Alexander the Great.

Alexander III was born in 356 B.C.E., over 100 years after Pericles. His father was King Phillip II of Macedon, a city-state in northern ancient Greece. The famous Greek philosopher Aristotle tutored Alexander until he was 16 years old.

Alexander became king of Macedon when his father died. He wanted to use his strong kingdom and experienced army to expand his kingdom into Asia. Alexander saw that the Persian Empire was growing weak. He used his superior army to free areas of Greek people ruled by the Persians. He then went on to conquer the entire Persian Empire without a single defeat in battle, earning the name "Alexander the Great."

He founded many cities that are named after him, including Alexandria in Egypt. By age 30, Alexander had created one of the largest empires of the ancient world. His empire stretched from the Ionian Sea just west of Greece to the Himalayas in Asia.

Alexander was successful in spreading the Greek culture to Asia, resulting in a new Hellenistic civilization—a blended Greek and Asian culture. His kingdom became linked in a vast network of trade and commerce, changing the ancient world forever.

Alexander is considered to be a military genius and one of history's most successful commanders. Many military leaders have compared themselves to Alexander the Great, and military academies throughout the world still teach his tactics today.

2. According to the text, what did Pericles do to improve Athens under his leadership?

3. What was the effect of Pericles promoting the arts and literature of Athens?

4. According to the text, why did Alexander conquer the Persian Empire?

5. What effect did Alexander the Great have on the ancient world?

6. **Writing Prompt:**

In your opinion, which is more important — to conquer or to build? In a well-organized essay, support your conclusion using Alexander and Pericles as examples and citing evidence from the text.

Ancient vs. Modern Olympic Games

Read the text and answer the questions. Then complete the graphic organizer.

The Olympic Games were originally called the "hunger games." They were a series of athletic competitions among representative athletes from many Greek city-states. The games began in 776 B.C.E in Olympia, and they honored the king of the gods, Zeus. Games were usually held every four years, and the city-states agreed to an "Olympic Truce" and stopped wars between the states during the games.

The games were always held in Olympia, and only freeborn, non-slave, Greeks were allowed to participate. The original Olympic Games lasted for one day, but eventually they grew to five days. Athletes competed in only a few events. Most events were track and field events. Over the years, more events were added like boxing, wrestling, and chariot racing. Victors were praised and honored with wreaths of laurel leaves to wear on their heads.

The Olympic Games became a political tool used by city-states to proclaim dominance over their rivals and to share culture and trade goods. The Olympic Games were also a celebration of religion and artistic competitions. The Olympics continued until 394 C.E., when the Roman Emperor ordered them to end.

In 1894, a Frenchman, Baron Pierre de Coubertin re-introduced the Olympic Games after 1500 years of their absence. As a result, he is considered the father of the modern Olympic Games.

The first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896 in Athens, Greece. Unlike the ancient Olympic games, modern Olympic Games are not always hosted by Olympia, Greece. Every two years, a different city has the honor of hosting the Summer or Winter Olympics. The host city is responsible for welcoming all competitors and important visitors from around the world.

Today, the Olympic Games are a major international event that includes thousands of athletes in many different competitions. The modern Olympic Games are now split into two different competitions, the Summer Olympics and the Winter Olympics. The 2012 Summer Olympics featured a total of 26 sports and over 300 events, while the 2010 Winter Olympics only included 15 sports

and 86 events. The modern Olympic Games can last up to an entire month! The winners of each event earn either a gold, silver, or bronze medal—for first, second, or third place.

   The Olympic Games today are used to support fair competition between countries and to promote peace, cooperation, and good relationships.

1. List three purposes of the original Olympic Games.

2. List three purposes of the Olympic Games today.

3. What are the responsibilities of the host city of the modern Olympic Games?

4. In your opinion, did the modern Olympic Games make improvements to the original Olympic Games? Support your opinion with information from the text.

Olympics

Ancient Olympics

Modern Olympics

ALIKE

DIFFERENT