

ATHENS VS. SPARTA



Click the above button to play on each page

IN THE BEGINNING

- They were two powerful city-states
 - Athens grew through trade
 - Sparta grew through conquering other lands
- Both wanted to overthrow the tyrants
 - What is a tyrant? Someone who takes power by force and rules with total authority.
 - The tyrants took over after the farmers lost their land to the nobles
- Both were an oligarchy after the tyrant rule
 - Oligarchy = only a few rule



SPARTA

- Needed more land as it grew, but they conquered and enslaved their neighbors to gain that land
- Captured people were called “Helots”, they became slaves.
- Whole society was focused on raising and training soldiers
- Banned travel outside of Sparta
- No foreign visitors
- Education focused on physical fitness training



SPARTA

- Training Begins
 - Infants were examined by city elders shortly after birth, if found to be physically defective, they were left on a mountainside to die
 - Age 7: training for war began, left family, lived in barracks, were treated harshly
 - Age 12: no longer allowed to wear undergarment, given 1 coat
 - Boys belonged to a group, several groups were a class
 - Had to make their own beds from rushes (reeds)
 - Food was scarce, boys were encouraged to steal food to them to be cunning, if caught they were beaten
 - Bathed in the river
 - Each year a competition was held to see who could bear the most pain by being beaten



SPARTA

- Military
 - Age 20: entered regular army, served for 10 years, ate meals in dining halls, their meal was “black broth” which was pork biolded in animal blood, salt, and vinegar
 - Age 30: returned home, but stayed in army till age 60, continued to train, expected to win or die on the battlefield, never give up
 - One mother said: “Come home carrying your shield or being carried on it”.
 - Married around age 30, if they were still alive
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SPARTA

- Girls & Women
 - Trained in sports: running, wrestling, and throwing the javelin.
 - Kept fit to become healthy mothers
 - Healthy mothers meant healthy babies, healthy babies meant a strong army
 - Could own property
 - Could go where they wanted
 - Lived at home while husbands lived in barracks

SPARTA

- Oligarchy
 - 2 kings headed a council
 - Council included 28 citizens over the age of 60 and presented laws to an assembly
 - A citizen was a male born in Sparta
 - All men over 30 belonged to the assembly, they voted on laws and chose 5 people to to enforce the laws and manage the taxes

ATHENS

- Prosperous
- Well rounded in education and physical fitness
- Traded regularly with other city-states, which made them outgoing
- Loved the arts
- Forward thinkers: they believed in asking questions and searching for answers
- Most citizens were farmers
- The population by 500 BCE reached almost 300,000

ATHENS

- Going to School ~ boys from wealthy families
 - one teacher taught them to read, write and do arithmetic.
 - Another taught them sports
 - A third teacher taught them to sing and play a stringed instrument called the lyre
 - At age 18 boys became citizen
 - A Citizen
 - Free native-born men
 - Owned land
 - Right to vote, pass laws, hold office, own property and defend themselves in court
 - Duty was to serve in the government and fight for their city-state

ATHENS

- Girls ~
 - Learned from their mothers
 - Responsibilities = spin and weave cloth, manage the house, prepare meals, and tend to the sick
 - In some wealthy families girls could learn to read, write and play the lyre at home with a tutor
 - Not considered a citizen unless husband was
 - Did not have the rights as a citizen did

ATHENS

- Birth of Democracy
 - 600 BCE Athenians began to rebel against the nobles
 - Most farmers owned the nobles money and had to sell themselves into slavery to cap their debts
 - In 594 BC the nobles got help from Solon. He canceled the farmers debts and freed those sold into slavery and he created an assembly of men. This angered the wealthy nobles.
 - 30 years of turmoil followed
 - In 560 BCE a tyrant Peisistratus, took control. He loaned money to the poor and gave them jobs.
 - In 508 BCE Cleisthenes reorganized the assembly, the assembly could debate, hear court cases and appoint army generals.
 - Means all citizens share in running the government

ACTIVITY

1. Create a venn diagram
2. Label one side Athens and the other Sparta
3. Use the slides and worksheet to help you fill out the diagram to show the similarities and differences between these two powerful city-states.

Name _____

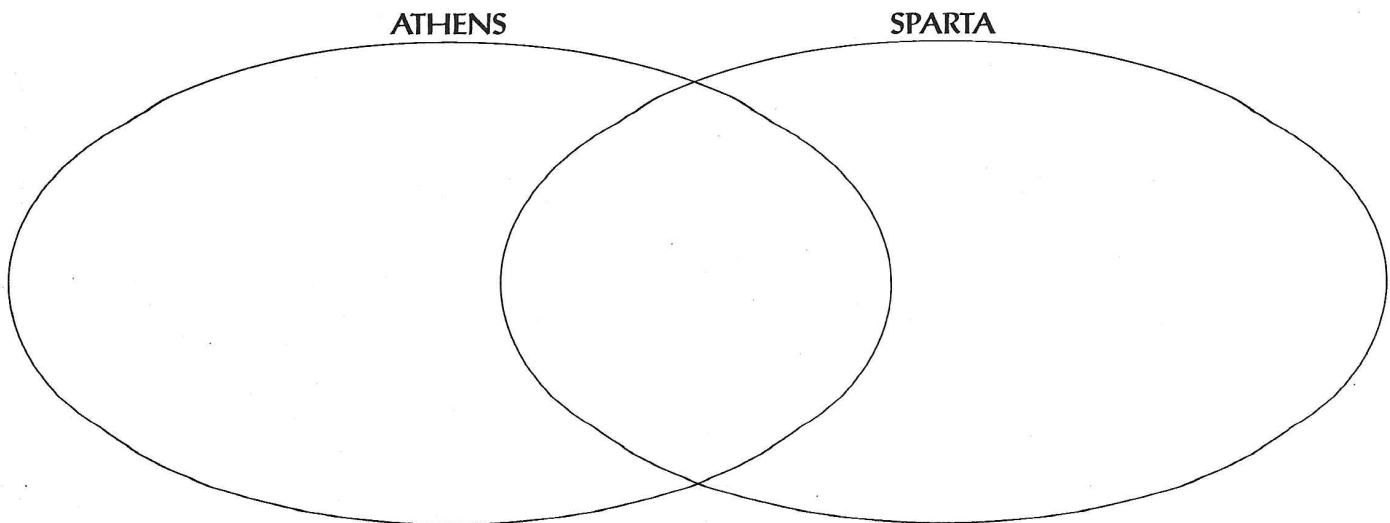
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Who's the Winner?

Fill in the Venn diagram below using this information.

	ATHENS	SPARTA
Language:	Greek	Greek
Estimated free population (adult males only):	45,000	25,000
Estimated population of slaves:	75,000	250,000
Form of government:	democracy	oligarchy
Main form of money:	silver coins called <i>drachmas</i>	heavy iron bars called <i>obols</i>
Chief god:	Zeus	Zeus
Important religious site:	the Parthenon—dedicated to Athena, the goddess of wisdom	shrines to the minor gods Fear, Laughter, and Death
Major exports:	silver, olives, olive oil, wine, pottery	the Spartans discouraged all trade with foreigners
Major imports:	slaves, timber, corn, iron, tin	
Best-known literary works:	Homer's <i>Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i>	Homer's <i>Iliad</i> and <i>Odyssey</i>
Age when men become full citizens:	18	30
Typical childhood activities (boys):	going to school, exercising, learning military drills, playing with friends	exercising, learning military drills, stealing food to survive, hunting and killing rebellious slaves, policing slaves to keep them in line
Typical childhood activities (girls):	learning household duties	exercising, athletic competitions, learning household duties
Military strong point:	Greece's most powerful navy	Greece's most powerful army



Name _____

Date _____ Class/HR _____

Sparta Vs. Athens

Read pages 125- 130 in the textbook.

Complete the Venn diagram with your partner and be ready to share with the whole class.

