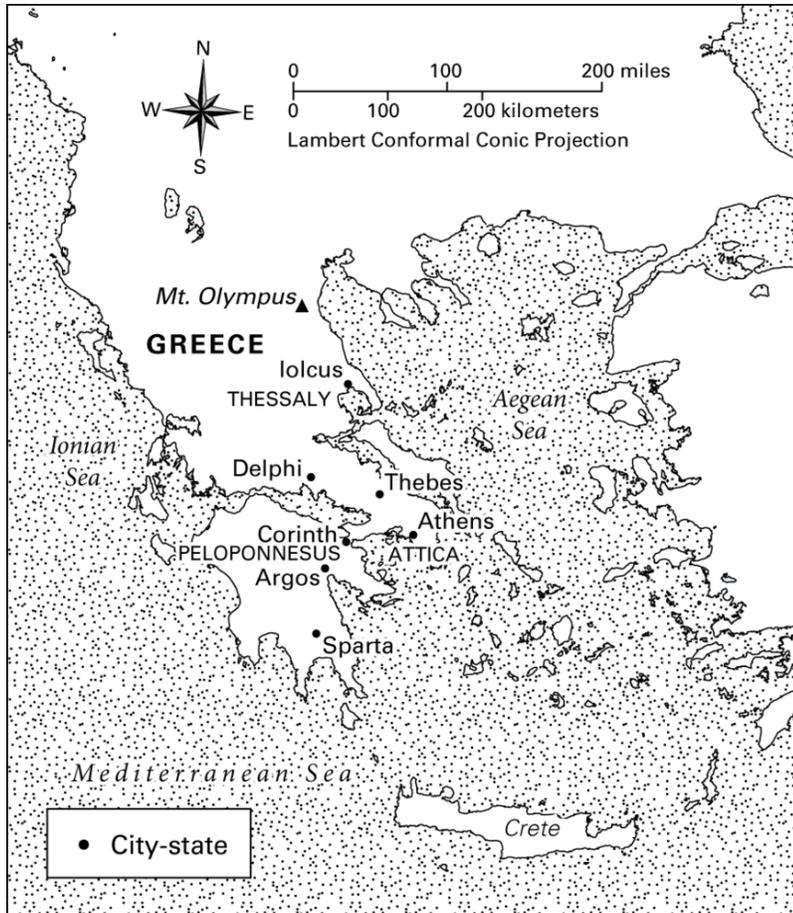


Assessment: Life in Two City-States: Athens and Sparta

Mastering the Content

Circle the letter next to the best answer.



1. Which of these city-states on the map was on the Peloponnesus?
 - A. Argos
 - B. Athens
 - C. Thebes
 - D. Delphi

2. Which feature of Athens's geography most affected its economy?
 - A. It was on a peninsula.
 - B. It was close to the sea.
 - C. It was built on rocky cliffs.
 - D. It was surrounded by fertile fields.
3. Which physical feature made Sparta somewhat isolated?
 - A. poor soil
 - B. broad rivers
 - C. major highways
 - D. surrounding mountains
4. How would a man become a member of Athens's Council of 500?
 - A. He inherited the position.
 - B. He was elected by citizens.
 - C. He was chosen in a drawing.
 - D. He overthrew a council member.
5. How did the citizens of Athens get enough grain to eat?
 - A. They conquered neighboring farm villages.
 - B. They shipped local products to Egypt to trade.
 - C. Grasses good for making bread grew wild nearby.
 - D. Every family raised its own food behind the house.
6. What is one way the Assembly of Athens differed from the Council of 500?
 - A. The Assembly was larger.
 - B. The Assembly met more often.
 - C. The Assembly had far less power.
 - D. The Assembly did not permit discussion.
7. Which of these events most likely happened in the agora of Athens?
 - A. People bought leather sandals.
 - B. People voted for their leaders.
 - C. Boys held a wrestling contest.
 - D. Girls played musical instruments.
8. Why did Athenian schoolboys have to memorize everything?
 - A. There were not enough books.
 - B. Public speaking was important.
 - C. They wanted to become citizens.
 - D. Examinations were very difficult.
9. A 12-year-old Athenian girl would most likely get her education
 - A. in another city.
 - B. in a day school.
 - C. from a priestess.
 - D. from her mother.

10. Why is Sparta said to have been an oligarchy?
 - A. Military strength was valued.
 - B. It was organized as a city-state.
 - C. The government had two kings.
 - D. A small group held the most power.
11. Who made the most important government decisions in Sparta?
 - A. the Assembly
 - B. the military leaders
 - C. the Council of Elders
 - D. the winners of sports games
12. Which sentence best describes education in Sparta?
 - A. Children did not learn to read.
 - B. Children studied sculpture and painting.
 - C. Both boys and girls got military training.
 - D. Both boys and girls learned to cook and clean.
13. Sparta used heavy iron bars as money. What conclusion does this suggest?
 - A. Sparta shipped most goods by boat.
 - B. Sparta discouraged trade with other city-states.
 - C. Spartan money was easier to use than Athenian money.
 - D. Spartan money was more valuable than Athenian money.
14. To become a full citizen, a Spartan man had to
 - A. pass a difficult test.
 - B. come from a rich family.
 - C. get elected by the people.
 - D. marry a citizen's daughter.
15. What happened after Sparta conquered a neighboring land?
 - A. The conquered people left by sea to start new colonies for Sparta.
 - B. The conquered people moved to Sparta to sell goods in the marketplace.
 - C. The Spartans made the conquered people leave so that Spartans could move there.
 - D. The Spartans made the conquered people give Sparta much of their food crops.
16. Unlike the women of Athens, the women of Sparta
 - A. could not vote.
 - B. could own property.
 - C. had most influence in the home.
 - D. served equally with men in the army.

Applying Social Studies Skills

Use the passage below and your knowledge of history to answer the questions. Write the word or phrase in the space provided.

Herodotus was an ancient Greek historian. He made up a conversation between a Greek man and the king of Persia. The king asked what would happen if the Persian army attacked Greece. Here is part of the Greek man's answer:

All Greeks are brave, but what I am about to say does not concern all, but only the Spartans. . . . They are sure to join battle with you, even if all the rest of the Greeks surrendered to you. As for Spartan numbers, do not ask how many or few they are, hoping for them to surrender. For if a thousand of them should take the field, they will meet you in battle, and so will any other number, whether it is less than this, or more.

One against one, they [the Spartans] are as good as anyone in the world. But when they fight in a body, they are the best of all. For, though they are free men, they are not entirely free. They accept Law as their master. And they respect this master, Law, more than your subjects respect you. Whatever he commands, they do. And his command never changes: It forbids them to flee in battle, whatever the number of their foes. It requires them to stand firm—to conquer or die.

17. Why does the speaker say not to ask how many Spartans there are?

18. What does the speaker mean by saying that the Spartans are not entirely free?

19. What do you think was Herodotus's opinion of the Spartans? Explain your answer.

Exploring the Essential Question: What were the major differences between Athens and Sparta?

20. In which city-state would you rather have lived—Athens or Sparta? In the spaces below, state your answer and give three reasons. Your reasons should include facts about both Athens and Sparta.

City-state where you would rather have lived:

Reason #1

Reason #2

Reason #3