

SSWH 3 Presentation

Ancient World

SSWH3

Examine the political, philosophical, and cultural interaction of Classical Mediterranean societies from 700 BCE to 400 CE.



Italy/ Roman

Greece/ Greek

"THE CLASSICAL WORLD"
ITALY, GREECE, MALTA, AND THE BALKANS

SSWH 3 A

Compare the origins and structure of the Greek polis, the Roman Republic, and the Roman Empire.



KEY
Ancient Greece

How did we get here?

- 700 BCE, Greece was divided into several independent, warring kingdoms
- Each army was made up of part-time hoplite soldiers
 - class of small landowning farmers, merchants and artisans
- In some areas the soldiers were unhappy
- Lead to the rise of tyrants
 - Who promised reforms in exchange for the support of the hoplites



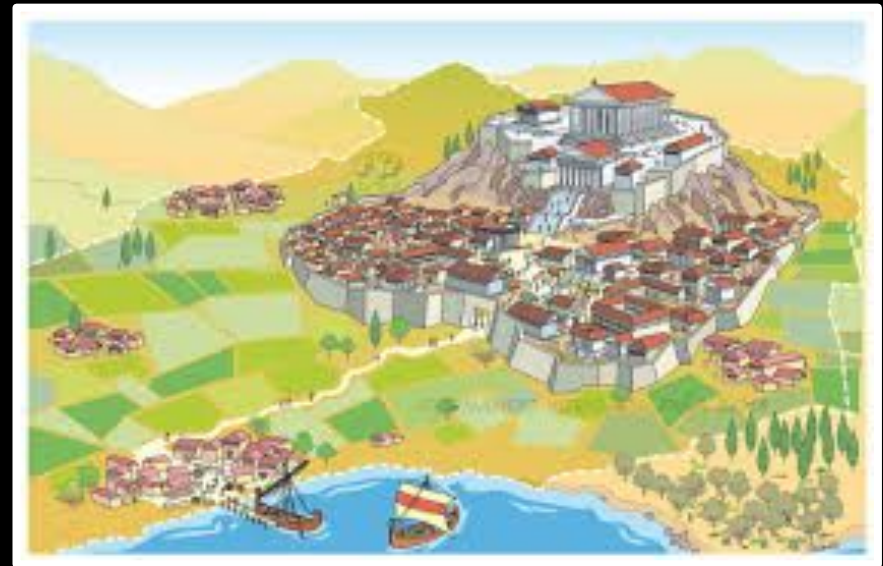
How did we get here?



- Tyrants overthrew many of the kings
 - attempted to take all the power for themselves
- most cases were unsuccessful
 - tyrants were themselves overthrown by the hoplites
- Chaos and the army eventually ushered in the period of the Greek Polis

What is a polis?

- The polis (plural, poleis) was the ancient Greek city-state.
- In the ancient world, it was the central urban area that could also have controlled the surrounding countryside.
- The word polis could also refer to the city's body of citizens.



Greek Polis



- The polis began to emerge as a new form of social and political organization in the eighth century B.C.
- Athens, Sparta, Thebes, Corinth, etc.

Elements of a Polis

- Self-governance, autonomy and independence (city-state)
- Agora: the social hub and financial marketplace
- Acropolis: the citadel
- Temples, Altars



Greek Polis

- considered as the time of recovery and the peak of Greek Civilization
- 30,000 to 300,000 in population
- All spoke Greek, polytheistic, practiced different forms of government, and had the same culture.



Forms of Government



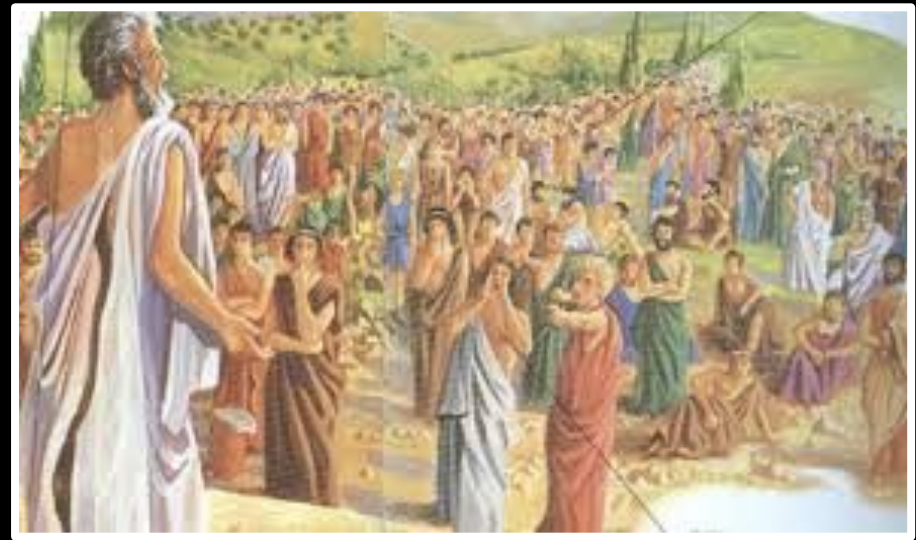
- Oligarchy - rule by the few
- Democracy - rule by the people
- Monarchies - rule by a king/queen
- Military states - rule by the military

Let's look at two
famous Greek
City-States.



Athens

- **held their cultural achievements in the highest regard**
- Economy based on trade and seafaring
- Birthplace of democracy
- Only 10-15% of the population allowed to participate in government
 - Women, slaves, and foreigners not allowed to participate



Sparta



- Economy based on farming
- Practiced oligarchy
- **MILITARY BASED SOCIETY - held all military matters to be of the utmost importance**
- All males expected to spend the majority of their life in the military
- Spartan women had only a few more rights here than in Athens

Let's look at the
Roman Republic.



Roman Republic

- Built on the Tiber River near the Mediterranean Sea
- **Considered to be a REPUBLIC - rule of law by elected officials**
 - **Officials were elected by citizens**
- **All men were considered citizens**



Roman Republic



- **All land owning men were considered citizens**
- Had to be a landowner to be allowed to join the military
- All adult male landowners were given citizenship
 - Patriarchal Society - women had no rights
- **Communication was aided by having a network of good roads**

Roman Republic

- Had 2 **consuls** (king like rulers) and a senate
 - **highest elected position in the Roman Republic**
 - **highest civilian and military magistrates**
- **Tribunes were governmental offices filled through elections**



Roman Republic



- Formed a republic with 2 main ruling groups:
 - **the patricians - a wealthy and powerful group of nobles, small in numbers**
 - **the plebeians - a poor group, large in numbers, politically limited**
- Established written laws (12 Tables)
 - Covered Plebeians and Patricians

Fall of the Roman Republic

- Causes:
 - Discontent of the plebeians
 - **Stress between the two classes**
 - War with Carthage
 - Soldiers away at war for so long - no one to mind the farm back home so had to sell the land
 - Rising unemployment
 - Landless Romans no longer qualified for military service reduced the size of the Roman army

Fall of the Roman Republic

- after the fall Rome fell into a series of civil wars
- The senate was no longer the most powerful instrument of the government
- During this time members of the patrician class accumulated vast personal estates and enormous wealth



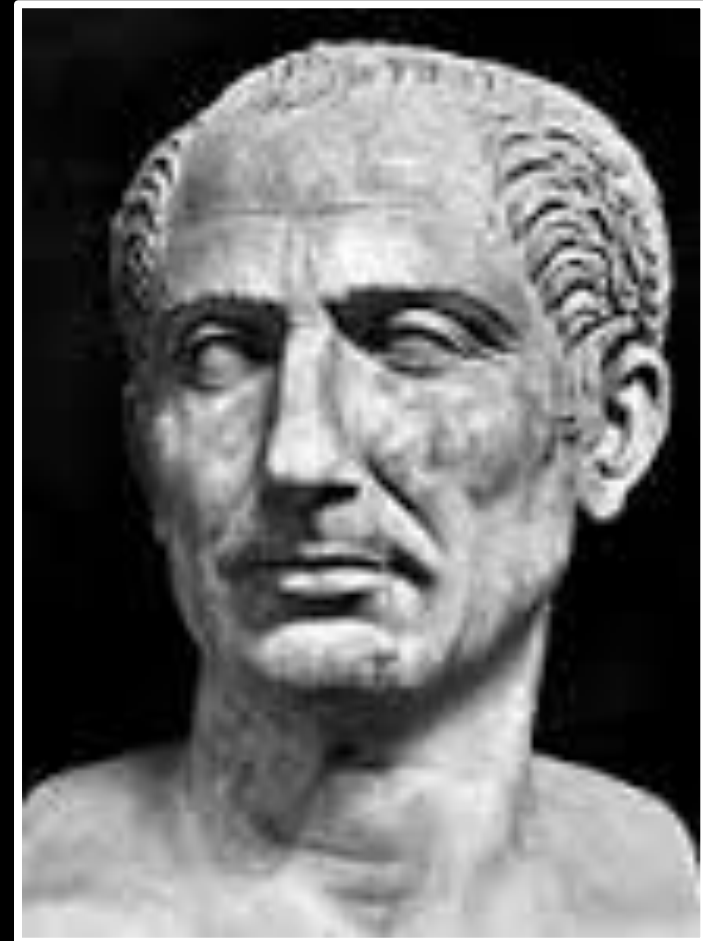


Extent of the Roman Republic

Let's look at the
Roman Empire.

Roman Empire

- Ending the civil wars is a group of people known as the First Triumvirate
 - Julius Casear, Crassus, and Pompey
 - had overwhelming influence over the affairs of Rome.
- Caesar eventually wins complete power and is declared dictator
- **Creation of the EMPIRE - benefited the wealthy and the poor were overlooked**



Roman Empire

- Julius Caesar assassinated
- Second Triumvirate formed
 - Ushers in a **NEW PEACE**
 - “Pax Romana”
 - Pax Romana - Colosseum is built, empire expands, public works are built
 - Pax Romana - strongest unifying force was the government



Eventually the **Roman Empire** falls.....

This is the **beginning** of the **Dark Ages**.

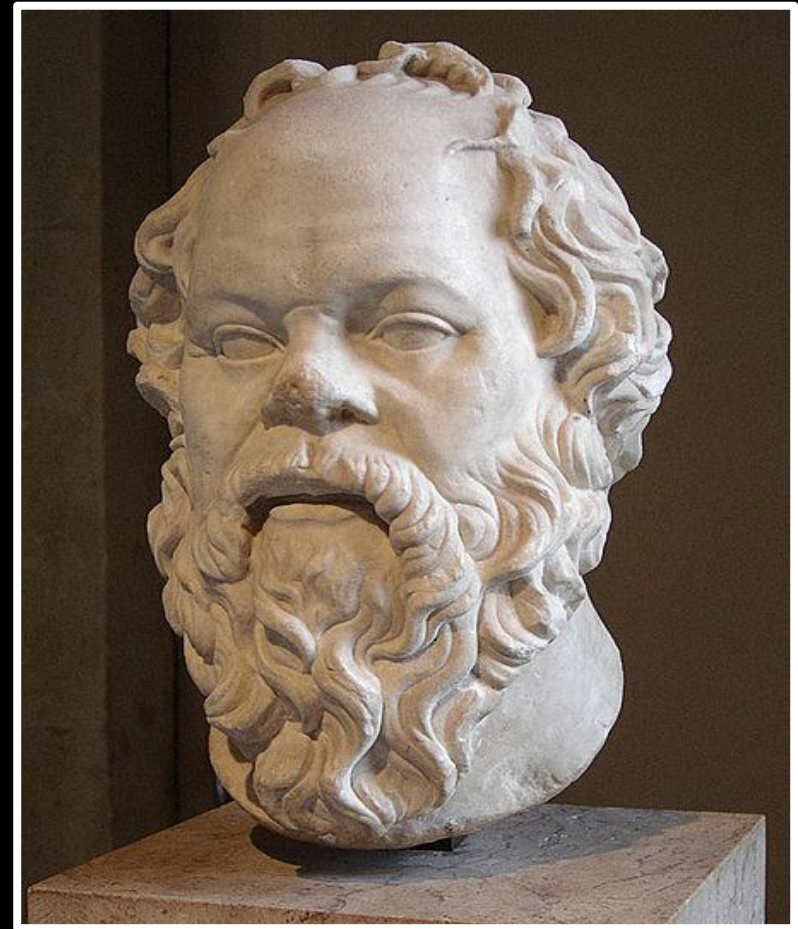
SSWH 3 B

Identify the ideas and impact of important individuals, include: Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, and Augustus Caesar.

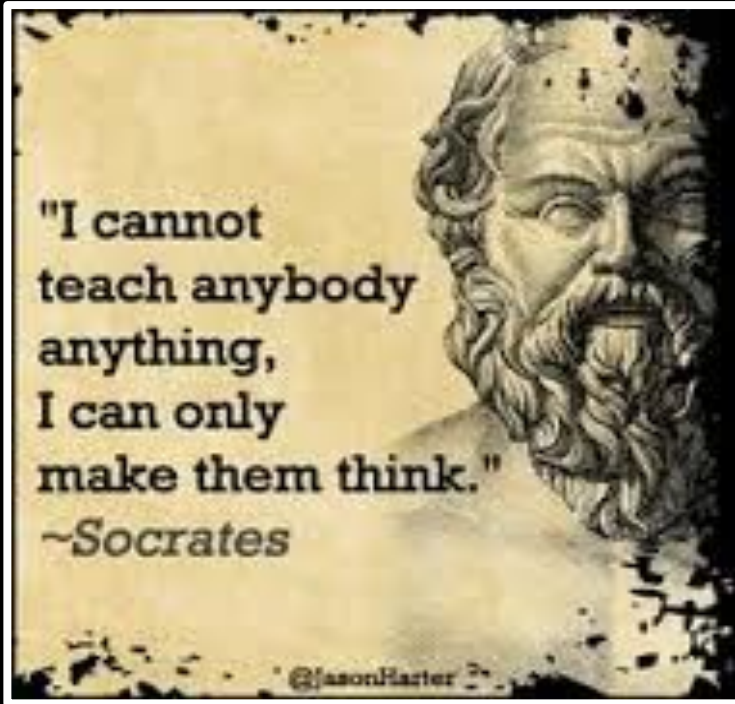
Famous Greeks

Socrates

- 470 BC – 399 BC
- classical Athenian philosopher
- A founder of Western philosophy
- Plato - famous student
- argued that there were no absolute standards for truth



SOCRATES



- believed that **average people were not qualified to rule themselves**
- Socratic method (**relies heavily on question and answer**)
 - a series of questions
 - encourage deeper insight
- **taught his students to question everything around them**
- to think critically rather than simply memorizing things.
- questioned the notion of "might makes right"

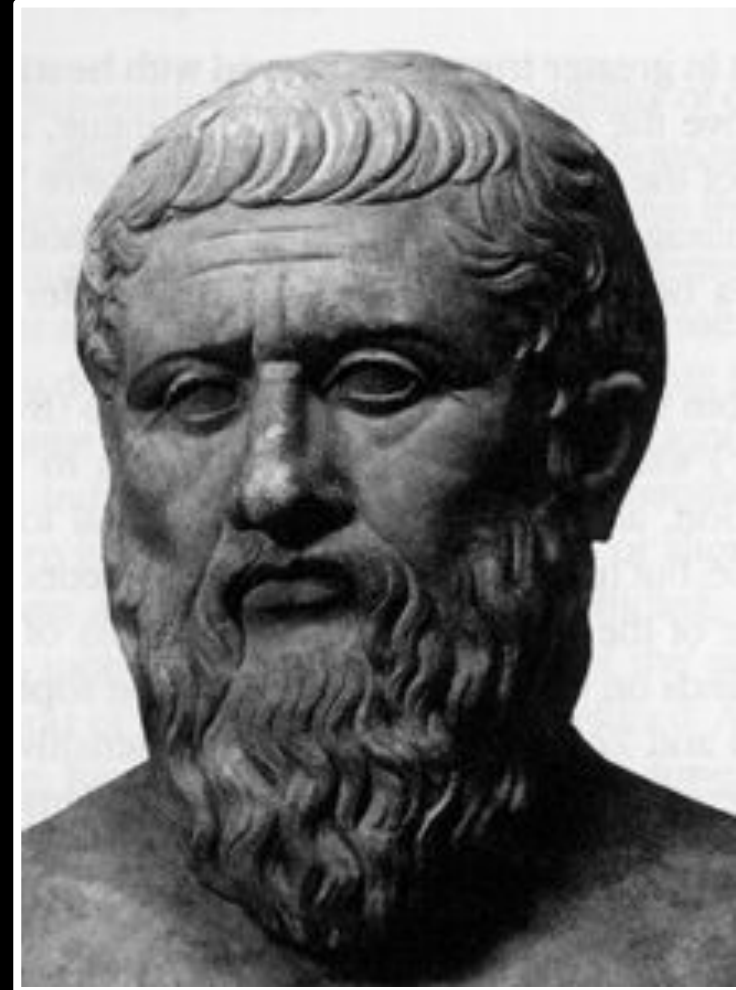


Socrates

- irritated people with ideas of justice
- attempts to improve the Athenians' sense of justice = source of his execution
- found guilty of corrupting the minds of the youth of Athens and sentenced to **death by drinking a mixture containing poison hemlock**

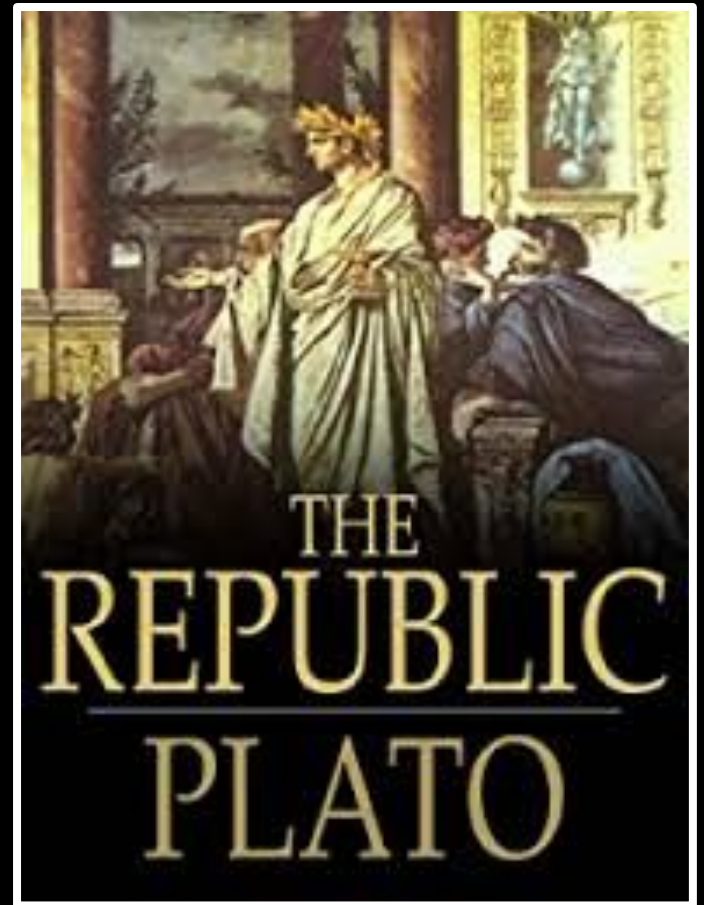
PLATO

- 429-349 BCE
- Greek philosopher, **mathematician**
- student of Socrates
- founder of the Academy in Athens, the first institution of higher learning in the Western world
- **believed that average people were not qualified to rule themselves**
- **students should master five mathematical disciplines before beginning the study of philosophy**



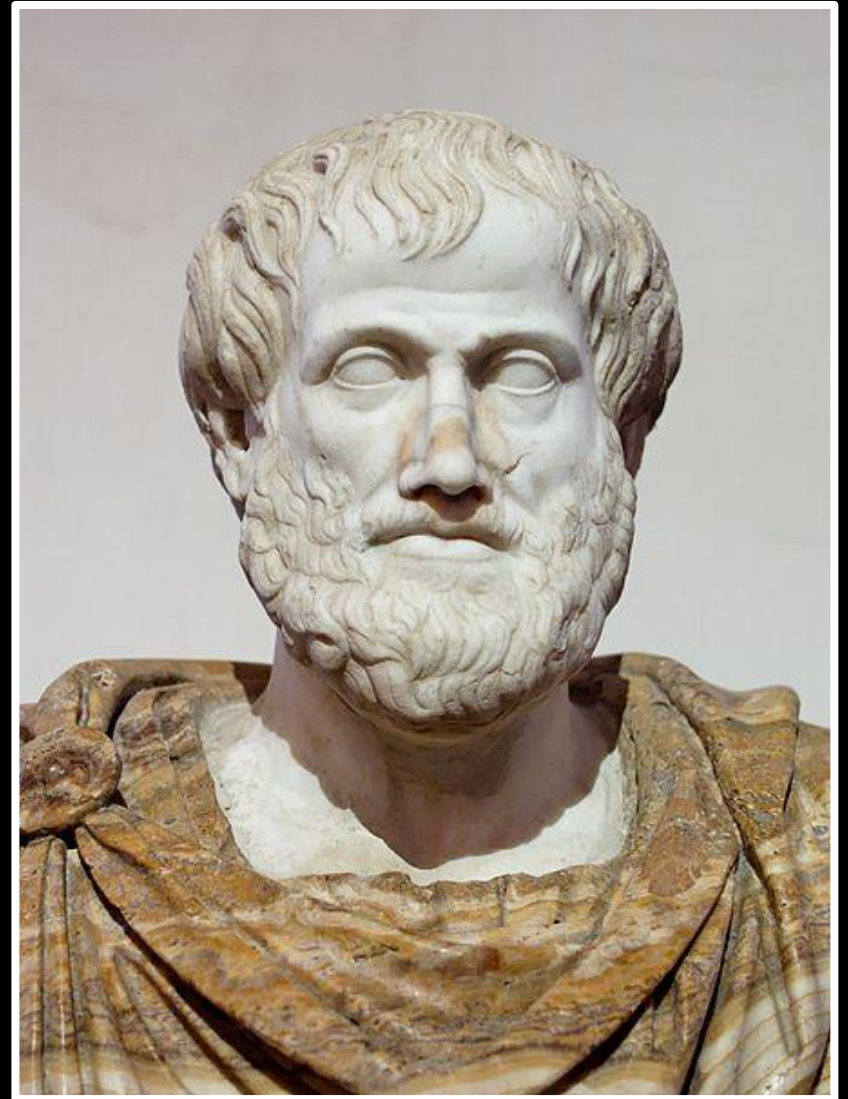
PLATO'S REPUBLIC

- Student of Socrates
- Wrote *The Republic*
 - to explain such topics as justice and the "ideal" state
 - Socratic dialogue written by Plato
 - MAIN IDEA: VISION OF A PERFECTLY GOVERNED SOCIETY



ARISTOTLE

- 384 BC – 322 BC
- Greek philosopher
- a student of Plato
- Founded his own school to teach philosophy
- teacher of Alexander the Great
- believed that **average people were not qualified to rule themselves**

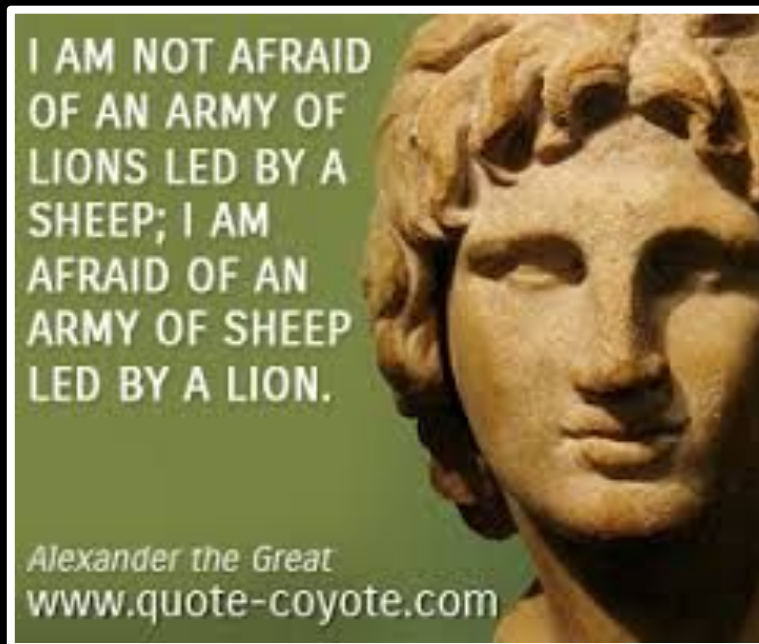


ARISTOTLE

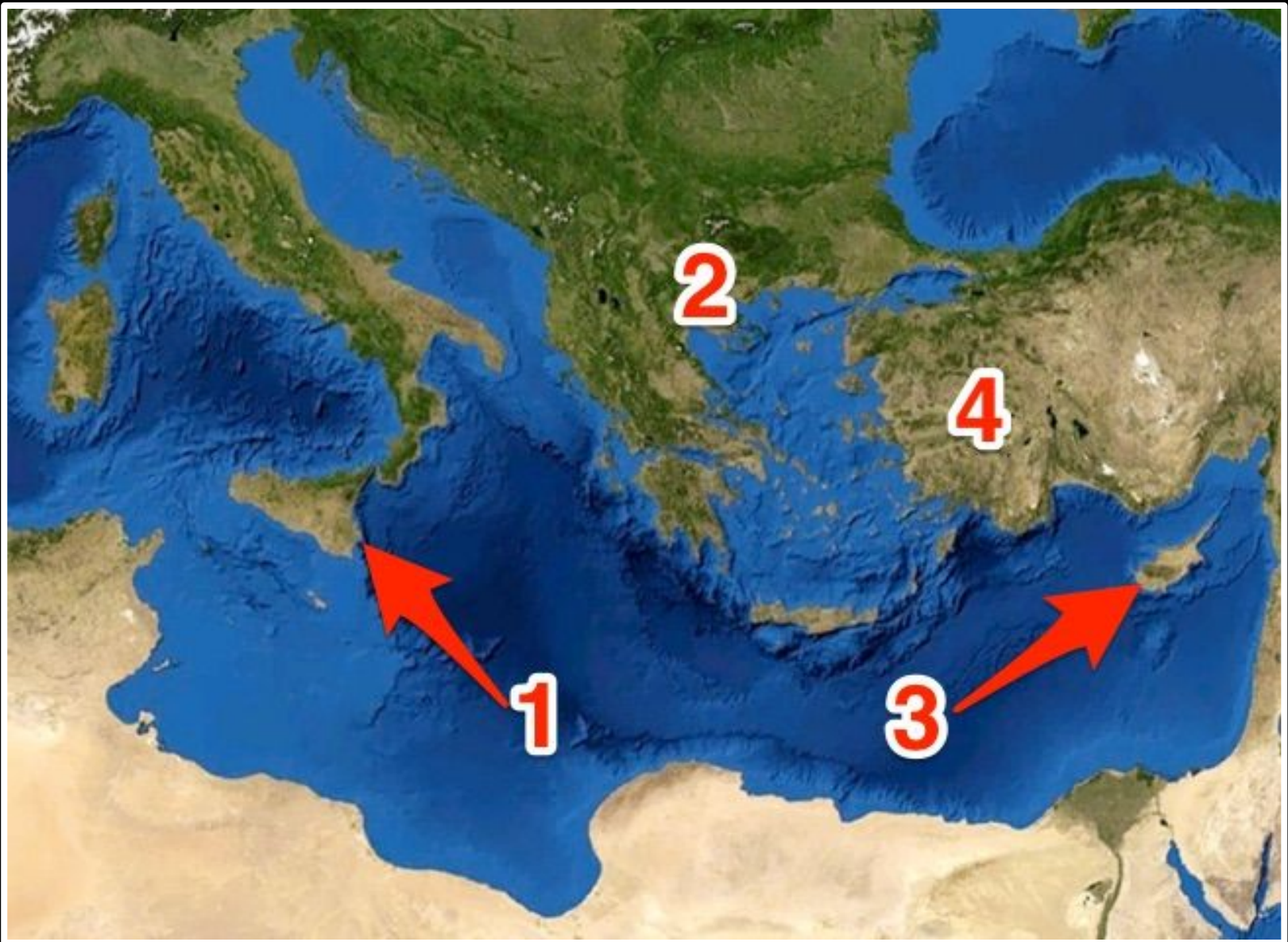


- Rules of logic
- **Said that females had the least amount of right**
 - **female slaves** would **MOST LIKELY** be considered the lowest social class in Ancient Greece tasks

ALEXANDER THE GREAT



- Born in Macedonia
- By 30 created one of the largest empires
- undefeated in battle - **conquered most of the known world**
- considered one of history's most successful commanders
- **created an empire that blended the influences of several ancient cultures**



Alexander the Great was from Macedonia which is located next to Greece

Alexander the Great



- founded some 20 cities that bore his name
- Promoted religious and political freedom in conquered lands

- the spread of Greek culture in the east resulted in a new Hellenistic civilization
- **main cause of the spread of Hellenistic (GREEK) culture the conquest of Alexander the Great**

Alexander the Great

- **cultural diffusion =**
Greek culture went with him and stayed behind
 - **Religion, art, and philosophy**
influenced by Greek thought

**"I AM INDEBTED
TO MY FATHER
FOR LIVING,
BUT TO MY
TEACHER FOR
LIVING WELL."**

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Julius Caesar

- Came to power as a Roman military leader
- very popular with citizens
- His army was deeply loyal
- **MOST responsible for Rome's move from a republic to a dictatorship**
- Expanded citizenship to a wide group of people



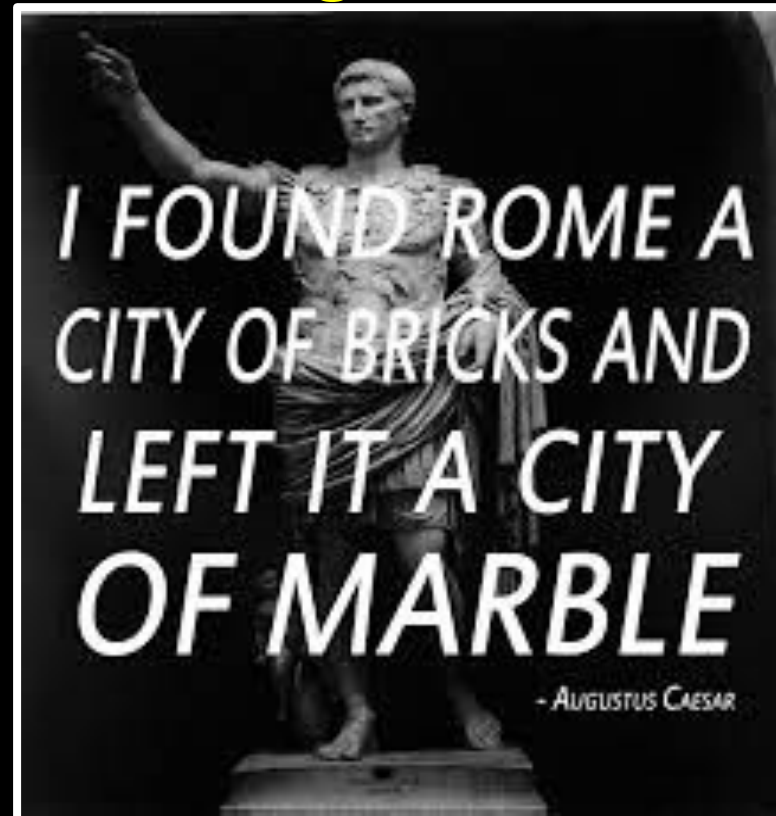
Julius Caesar



- provided jobs through public works
- Set up the Julian Calendar
- Would not obey the Senate
- **Assassinated by senators**

Augustus Caesar

- Came to power after Caesar's death
- Rule marked the end of the Roman Republic
- Rome became an empire under his reign
- Created a civil service system
- reign ushered in the Pax Romana
 - attention paid to cultural growth rather than war



SSWH 3 C

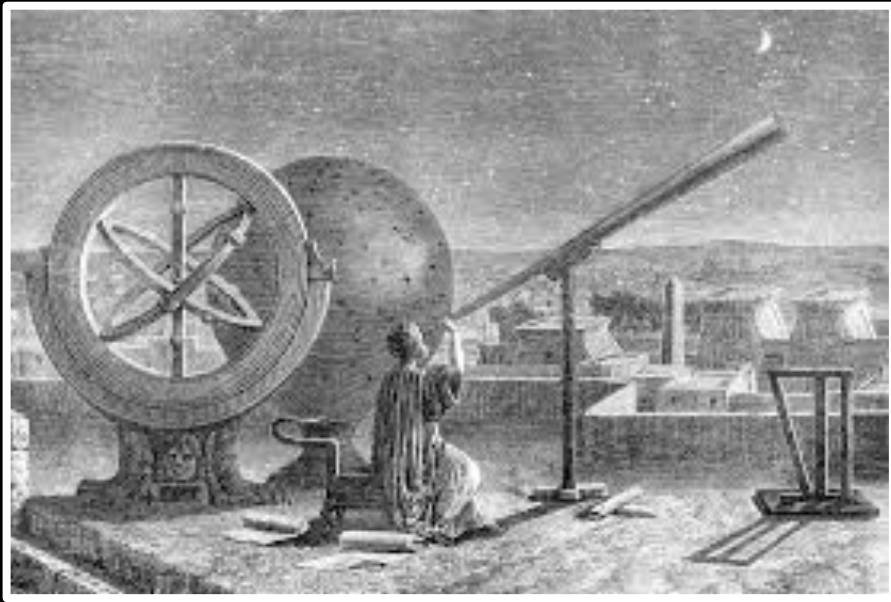
Analyze the impact of Greek and Roman culture, politics, and technology.



Italy/ Roman

Greece/ Greek

Greek Culture



- Science:
 - Studied astronomy and built an observatory
 - Studied the planets and the sun
 - **Ancient discoveries relate to the modern world**

- Culture:
 - Opened up trade throughout the Mediterranean
 - Built a research library, art galleries, and a zoo

Greek Culture

- Law: Democracy gave way to a monarchy -Ended polis (city-states)
- Gender: - women did not have a lot of freedom
- Math:
 - famous mathematicians - Ptolemy, Pythagoras, Eudoxus



The Iliad and the Odyssey are the two best known epic works most closely associated with Greek culture.

Roman Culture

- Lever & pulley
- Hippocratic oath (ethical standards for doctors)
- Built roads, bridges, harbors
- **the arch lead to larger and more stable structures**
- Aqueducts: structures that carry water into cities
- **Urban areas became larger due to aqueducts**



Roman Culture



- major contribution - **concept of government by law - Twelve Tables**
- innocent until proven guilty
- equal treatment under law
- Solid evidence must be presented to indict someone

Roman Culture

- Women no longer restricted to their homes
- Women learned to read and write
- Royal women held power, some were rulers, others worked outside of home



Greek and Roman Impact

- Writings were used by later French and English philosophers that led to the development of participatory democracy
- **Latin is often associated with science, especially medicine and biology**
- Roman law codes served as the starting point for the development of many modern European law codes.



Greek and Roman Impact



- Greek and Roman contributions influenced the Arab world where they were key in the development of navigational technologies that spurred the Age of Exploration
- The prosperity of the Roman Empire increased the development of scholarship that lasted well beyond the collapse of the Empire.

SSWH 3 D

Describe polytheism in the Greek and Roman world.

Polytheism



- Greeks and Romans were polytheistic
 - origins were established through traditional stories of mythology.
- Greeks and Romans shared same religious concepts
- Roman Empire tolerated other religions as long as the people were loyal to the emperor

Greek Gods

- Zeus - King
- Hera - Queen/Marriage
- Athena - Wisdom
- Hermes - messenger
- Hades - Underworld
- Ares- War
- Poseidon - Sea

Roman Gods

- Jupiter - King
- Juno - Queen/Marriage
- Minerva - Wisdom
- Mercury - messenger
- Pluto - Underworld
- Mars War
- Neptune - Sea



Polytheism

- Greeks and Romans believed:
 - gods and goddess confronted many of the same emotions as humans
 - engaged with each other and humanity in complex and often troublesome ways



Romans religion included many gods adapted from the Greeks

Polytheism



- Attempts to appease the gods and goddess:
 - construction of monumental architecture and statues
 - Parthenon in Athens and the Pantheon in Rome
 - development of complex state run rituals that helped justify the power of the government.

SSWH 3 E

Explain the origins and diffusion of Christianity in the Roman World.

Christianity

- Christianity came from the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth
- savior of the Hebrew (Judaic) peoples
- personal relationship w/ God
- promise of Heaven
- **Christians were persecuted so they worshiped in private and in catacombs**
- Jesus put to death, Paul spreads word of Jesus & God (missionary)



Christianity



- Following the death of Jesus - **Christianity spread due to its appeal to lower classes and the poor**
- Liked by many because it accepted all people, especially the poor
- Used Roman roads to travel & spread the word of Jesus

Christianity

- Christianity spread through empire easily due to Pax-Romana
 - Emperor Constantine (Roman) was the first emperor to convert to Christianity
 - With imperial support, Christianity grew quickly to become the dominate religion of Europe.



SSWH 3 F

Analyze the factors that led to the collapse of the Western Roman Empire.

Roman Empire

SPLIT:

- To try to save the empire, it was split in the 3rd century to make it easier to rule
 - Western Roman Empire
 - Capital at Rome
 - Eastern Roman Empire
 - Capital at Constantinople

Roman Empire Splits

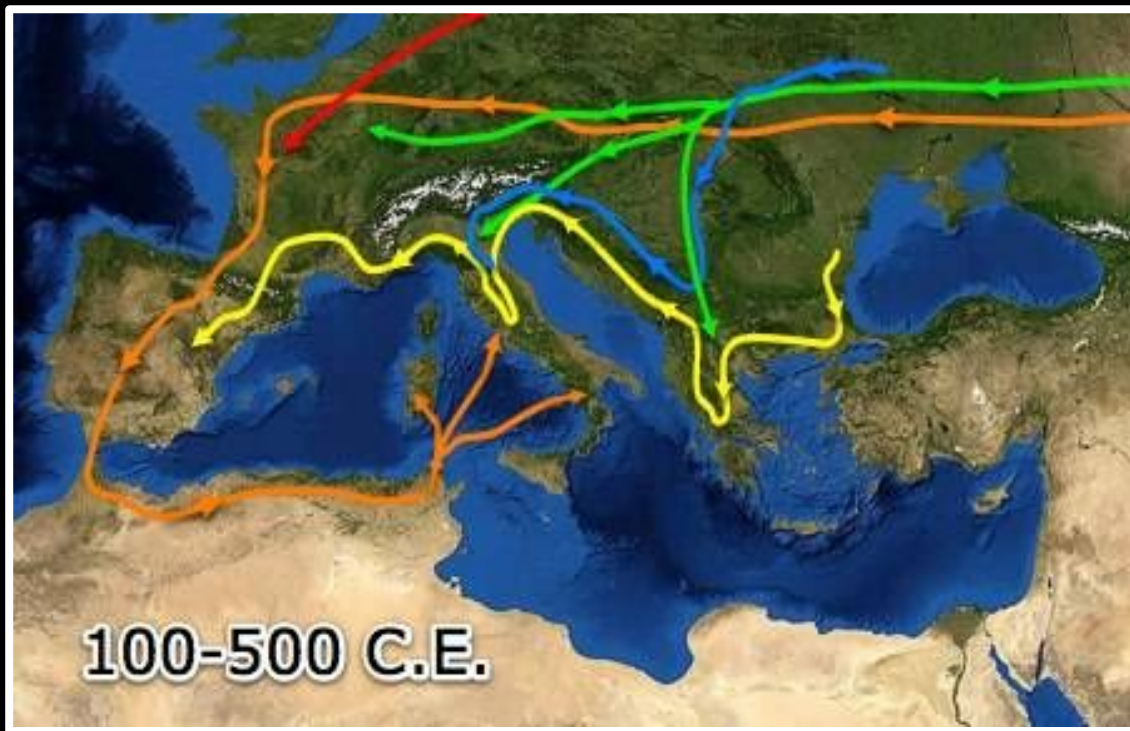


Collapse of the Western Empire

- **Social/Political**: Ineffective and corrupt leadership
 - Emperor position auctioned off
 - Lack of interest/ pride in government by people
 - Contrast between rich and poor
 - Due to the rise in those who followed Christianity
 - People no longer so the Emperor as divine
 - Ultimately weakened the power of the Emperor

Collapse of the Western Empire

- **Economic**: Poor Harvests
 - Decrease in agricultural output - leads to higher food prices
 - Disruption of Trade by invaders
 - Western Empire not as rich as the Eastern Empire
 - Weak currency/ High inflation
 - High cost of defending against invasions
 - Invaders were known as the Huns
 - Increase in Taxes



- Military:
 - Threat from barbarian invaders
 - Recruitment of non-Roman soldiers developed a lack of loyalty
 - Series of disastrous military losses
 - Lack of money caused a decline in the military numbers

Collapse of the Western Empire

- Why were the Germanic tribes attacks increasing in frequency?
 - **Fear of attack from the Huns** forced Germanic tribes into the territory of the Roman Empire.
- **Romulus Augustus** was last emperor of Western Empire
 - Deposed by a Germanic tribal leader
 - No Emperor would ever rule again from Rome

Impact from Fall of the Western Roman Empire

- The Fall of the Roman Empire marks the **beginning of the Dark Ages.**
 - Lack of stability
 - Decline in learning
 - Failing infrastructure
 - Decrease in trade
 - Literature stopped spreading
 - Writing declined
 - Collapse of the large scale system of slavery
 - Life became harsh and brutal
 - Decline in Population