

WHERE IS GREECE?

- Sunny Greece is 1,500 miles from England.
- It's capital city is Athens
- It is famous for its beautiful beaches and sea!



ANCIENT GREECE

- In Ancient Greece, the different cities were at war with each other.
- The most fearsome fighters came from the town of Sparta.



THE CLIMATE

- The climate is Mediterranean.
- The Mediterranean Sea affects the Greek climate, cooling the air in summer and providing warmth in winter.
- The warm summers are cooled by a seasonal breeze from the Mediterranean called the 'Meltemia'.



THE CLIMATE – SUMMER

- The Greek summer is hot and dry.
- On average the sun shines for 3,000 hours per year.
- The average temperature is 33°.
- In Britain it is 15°.
- The average rainfall is 6mm.
- In Britain it is 76mm.



THE CLIMATE - WINTER

- The Greek winter is moderate. It can be rainy on costal regions and snowy in the mountains.
- The average temperature is 15° .
- In Britain it is 4° , sometimes falling to -10° .
- The average rainfall is 65mm.
- In Britain it is over 100mm.



ANCIENT GREECE - TERRAIN

- Greece has a very scenic landscape.
- The terrain of Greece is very varied.
- There are mountains, valleys and coasts.
- The high mountains are separated by deep valleys through which rivers flow.



ANCIENT GREECE - TERRAIN

- No part of Greece is more than about forty miles from the coast (a couple of days walking).
- There are lots of islands surrounding Greece.
- However, millions of years ago the seabed was completely dry!



SOIL AND PLANTS

- Vegetation is dependent on geographical regions.
- Due to the variety of land, there are some 6,000 indigenous species in Greece.
- In Ancient Greece, farmers grew olives, figs, grain, fruit and grapes in the fertile valleys.



SOIL AND PLANTS

- However, other parts of Ancient Greece had drier soil and less vegetation, particularly around the cities.
- Although surrounded by sea water, they found it difficult to find fresh water away from the valleys.
- The high mountains also prevented large-scale farming, so the Greeks were forced to look beyond their own country for fertile land.



VOLCANIC

- Another important aspect of the Greek environment is that it is very unstable.
- Greece is in the middle of a very volcanic zone, between the European and African tectonic plates.
- There are several active volcanoes and earthquakes are common.



TIME LINE

776 BC	The first Olympic games.
about 750 BC	Early Greek culture. Homer ' writes the epics 'The Iliad' and the 'Odyssey
650 - 580 BC	Corinth is ruled by the tyrant Kypselos and then his son Periander.
508 BC	Democracy begins in Athens
490 and 480 BC	Greeks defeat Persian invaders at the battles of Marathon (490 BC) and Salamis (480 BC).
by 450 BC	Athens becomes a very powerful city, and controls an empire.
472 - 410 BC	Greek theatre thrives in Athens. Many of the most famous Greek plays are written during this time.

TIME LINE

462 - 429 BC	Perikles is the popular leader at Athens as the general of the Athenian army
432 BC	The Parthenon in Athens is finished being built.
431 - 404 BC	War between Athens and Sparta (the Peloponnesian war)
428 BC	The revolt of Mytilene
404 BC	Sparta defeats Athens.
338 BC	Philip, king of Macedonia, takes control of Greece
336 - 323 BC	Alexander the Great, son of Philip, conquers most of the known world as far east as India.
146 BC	Rome conquers Greece - Greece becomes part of the Roman empire.