**Vocabulary (Persia + Greece)**

1. Herodotus- Greek Historian, considered the father of History. He came from a Greek community in Anatolia and traveled extensively, collecting information in western Asia and the Mediterranean lands.
2. Homer- A Greek poet, author of the Iliad and the Odyssey
3. Plato- (430-347 BCE) Was a disciple of Socrates; was a philosopher in Classical Greece and the founder of the Academy in Athens, the first institution of higher learning in the Western world; founder of Western political philosophy, with is *Republic* and *Laws* among other dialogues
4. Aristotle- A Greek Philosopher, taught Alexander the Great, started a famous school, studied with Plato
5. Parthenon- A large temple dedicated to the goddess Athena on the Acropolis in Athens, Greece. It was built in the 5th century BCE, during the Athenian golden age.
6. Socrates- (470-399 BCE) An Athenian philosopher who shifted the emphasis of philosophical investigation from questions of natural science to ethics of human behavior [Socratic Method]. He attracted young disciples from elite families but made enemies by revealing the ignorance and pretentions of others, actions that culminated in his trial and execution by the Athenian state.
7. Zoroastrianism- Persian religion founded by Zoroaster; taught that humans had the freedom to choose between right and wrong, and that goodness would triumph in the end (good vs. evil)
8. Cyrus the Great- king of Persia and founder of the Persian empire (circa 600-529 BCE)
9. Delian League- An alliance headed by Athens that says that all Greek city-states will come together and help fight the Persians
10. Darius I- (550-486 BCE) King of Persia from 522 to 486 BCE; he reorganized and strengthened the Persian Empire by reforming the army and the government.
11. Xerxes- (c. 519-465 BCE) King of Persia; his armies invaded Greece but were eventually defeated by the Greeks during the Persian Wars)
12. Phillip II- 336 BCE, was an ancient Greek king of Macedon from 359 BCE until his assassination in 336. He was the father of Alexander the Great.
13. Alexander the Great- son of Philip II; received military training in Macedonian army and was a student of Aristotle; great leader; conquered much land in Asia Minor, Syria, Egypt, and Mesopotamia; goal was to conquer the known world
14. Satrap- A governor of the provinces of the ancient Persian Achaemenid Empire
15. Polis- A city-state in ancient Greece, an urban center and the agricultural territory under its control
16. Bureaucracy- A system of government in which most important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
17. Aristocracy- A government in which power is in the hands of a hereditary ruling class or nobility
18. Oligarchy- A form of government in which the power to rule is held by a small, usually self-appointed elite.
19. Direct Democracy- A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state. Also known as a popular vote, majority rules.
20. Persian Wars- 5th century BCE wars between the Persian empire and Greek city-states; Greek victories allowed Greek civilization to define identity.
21. Marathon- a decisive battle in 490 BCE in which the Athenians and their allies defeated the Persians
22. Battle of Thermopylae- (480 BCE) Battle in which Spartan king Leonidas and his army of 300 Spartans and other Greeks refused to surrender to the numerically superior Persian army at the pass of Thermopylae; they were annihilated to the man but allowed the other Greek forces to prepare for the Persian invasion.
23. Battle of Salamis- 480 BCE The battle that effectively ended the Persian war. The Greek fleet, although vastly outnumbered, defeated the Persian fleet. This helped end the Persian war, freeing Greece.
24. Persians- Ethnic group that settled in what is now Iran. They were rivals for control of Mesopotamia with the Greeks, and later the Arabs.
25. Peloponnesian War- Ancient Greek war (431-404 BCE) fought between Athens and Sparta and their respective allies. The war remained undecided for a long time until the decisive intervention of the Persian Empire in support of Sparta. Athens was defeated and this started a period of Spartan hegemony/dominance over Greece.
26. Achaemenid empire- First great Persian empire (558-330 BCE which began under Cyrus and reached its peak under Darius.
27. Athens- A city-state of ancient Greece that was first to have a democracy; also known as the birthplace of Western civilization; the ancient capital of present-day Greece.
28. Sparta- Greek city-state that was ruled by an oligarchy, focused on military, used slaves for agriculture, discouraged the arts
29. Alexandria- City in Egypt founded by Alexander the Great, center of commerce and Hellenistic civilization
30. Hellenistic Period- 300 BCE - 31 BCE; Greek culture is spread; Greek power shifts from Athens to Alexandria, Alexander the Great, cosmopolitanism, Library at Alexandria
31. Acropolis- “highest, topmost, outermost” was in ancient Greece a settlement built upon an area of elevated ground (usually a hill), chosen for purposes of defense