Ancient Greece Background Information – Reading Guide

Section	Question(s)	Answer(s)
General Information	What historical era is this unit about? What is the timeframe?	Classical Period or Golden Age of Greece 800 BCE - 300 BCE
Chronology	Which historical era happened first, the Hellenistic Period of the Classical Period of Greece?	Classical Period
Geography	On what continent is Greece located? What is a major geographical difference for Greece compared to the other ancient cultures? Were Greeks better farmers or sailors? Why?	Europe Did not begin near a river Sailors The Greeks could not farm most of their mountainous rocky land

City-States	What is a city-state? What is the Greek word for city-state? What are the two most well-known city-states from ancient Greece?	A community that has its own laws, rulers, money and customs. Polis Sparta and Athens
Advancements in Government	What was the basic chronology of government style in ancient Greece (primarily Athens)? What were the criteria to be a citizen in ancient Greece?	Monarchy Aristocracy Democracy To be male over 18 years old and born in the polis
How their democracy worked	What were the three branches of their government? What were two rights citizens had?	Ten Generals, Assembly, Council 500 Speaking for themselves in court and voting

How their democracy worked con't	What were two responsibilities citizens had?	attend assembly meetings and had to serve in the military to defend the polis if needed
Slavery and Systems of Labor	Approximately how many slaves were there in ancient Greece? Why were slaves so significant to Greek life?	There were as many Slaves as citizens Slaves did most of the work
Values and beliefs	What's a synonym for gods/goddesses? What was the purpose behind everything the Greeks did?	Deity TO please or honor the deity
Importance of Trade	If the Greeks were not self-sufficient, what term describes them? Many of their jobs were based on the resources available to them, what term means this?	InterdePendence Specialization

Importance of Trade con't	Name three products the Greeks specialized in.	Pottery, wine, olive oil
Cultural Legacies	There are nine cultural legacies listed, categorize each into tangible or intangible	Tangible: architecture, coins, medicine, vases/pottery, triremes Intangible: democracy, Olympics, theater, mythology
Several Famous Greeks	Pick one of the famous people….if you were to travel back in time to meet that person, what would be two questions you would ask (based on his achievements)?	Person: Q#1 Q#2
Historically Significant Wars	Basically all of these wars were fought for what? (1 word)	Power