

# Project glossary

**acropolis**

The upper fortified area of a Greek city, usually built on a hill.

.....

**agora**

A central public space in ancient Greek city states.

.....

**Archaic period**

The period between c800 BC and c500 BC when city states were founded and Greece developed quickly, gaining overseas colonies.

.....

**architecture**

The art and study of designing buildings.

.....

**aristoi**

The highest ranking male citizens in ancient Greece.

.....

**artefact**

An object made by people.

.....

**Assembly**

A group of all eligible citizens who were expected to vote and join in with political discussions.

.....

**Athens**

A city state in ancient Greece consisting of an urban centre and surrounding countryside. It was the centre of power, art, science and philosophy.

.....

**citadel**

A central fortified area of a city or town.

.....

**citizen**

A free man in ancient Greece who had the right to vote.

.....

**city state**

A city and its surroundings with an independent government.

.....

**Classical period**

The golden age of Greece between c500 BC and 323 BC, famed for its many discoveries and achievements.



**Corinth**

One of the wealthiest and most powerful city states in ancient Greece.

**Dark Age**

The period between c1100 BC and c800 BC when many Greek cities were destroyed or abandoned, and Greek writing and art disappeared.

**Delian League**

A group of ancient Greek city states, led by Athens, formed to challenge threats from Persia.

**democracy**

A system that allows people to have a say about how their government and country are run.

**evidence**

A piece of information that provides knowledge, proves a point or answers a question.

**golden age**

A time in ancient Greece when there was peace and prosperity, and cultural activities were at a peak.

**Hellenistic period**

The time between 323 BC and 30 BC after Alexander the Great died, when Greece became divided and many inventions and discoveries were made.

**hierarchy**

A system in society where people are organised into different levels of importance from highest to lowest.

**legacy**

Something that is a result of a period of history that continues to exist after the period comes to an end.

**metic**

A skilled worker who did not come from Athens.

**Minoan civilisation**

A peaceful civilisation of skilled farmers, potters and sailors that formed on the island of Crete between c3000 BC and c1100 BC.

**Mount Olympus**

The highest mountain in Greece, believed in Greek mythology to be the home of the Greek gods.



**Mycenaean civilisation**

A warrior civilisation between c1600 BC and c1100 BC based on the Greek mainland and made up of farmers, soldiers, builders, hunters and fishermen.

.....

**mythology**

A collection of religious and cultural stories.

.....

**Neolithic**

The time between c6000 BC and c3000 BC when hunter-gatherers started to grow crops, rear livestock and live in huts.

.....

**oligarchy**

A country that is controlled by a small number of powerful people.

.....

**Olympic Games**

A sporting event, first held in 776 BC in Olympia, and then every four years until cAD 393.

.....

**Parthenon**

A temple on the Acropolis in Athens.

.....

**Peloponnesian War**

A war fought between the city states of Athens and Sparta from 431 BC to 404 BC.

.....

**philosophy**

The study of the basic ideas about knowledge, right and wrong, reasoning and the value of things.

.....

**polis**

Another name for a city state in ancient Greece.

.....

**primary source**

Evidence made during the time period being studied, such as an artefact, written source, building or art.

.....

**secondary source**

Evidence created after the time period being studied, which may have been made using primary sources, such as information books, historians’ reports and reconstructions.

.....

**Sparta**

One of the most powerful city states in ancient Greece, with one of the strongest armies.

**stratego**

An army general in ancient Greece.

.....



---

**Trojan War**

A conflict between the Mycenaean Greeks and the people of Troy in western Anatolia, modern-day Turkey, in the 12th or 13th century BC.

---

**tyranny**

Unfair or cruel use of power.

