

VOCABULARY #006: SS Chapter 4 – Ancient Greece

1. peninsula - body of land with water on three sides.
2. colony - settlement in a new territory that keeps close ties with its homeland.
3. polis - the early Greek city-state, made up of a city and the surrounding countryside and run like an independent country.
4. agora - in early Greek city-states, an open area that served as both a market and a meeting place.
5. tyrant - person who takes power by force and rules with total authority.
6. oligarchy - government in which a small group of people holds power.
7. democracy - government in which all citizens share in running the government.
8. helot - person who was conquered and enslaved by the ancient Spartans.
9. satrap - official who ruled a state in the Persian Empire under Darius.
10. direct democracy - system of government in which people gather at mass meetings to decide on government matters.
11. representative democracy - system of government in which people elect leaders to make laws.
12. philosopher - thinker who seeks wisdom and ponders questions about life.
13. legacy – what a person leaves behind when he or she dies.
14. epic – long poems told about heroic deeds.
15. oracle – a sacred shrine where a priest spoke for gods and goddess.
16. myth – traditional stories about gods or goddess that are used to explain beliefs and things that affect people's lives.
17. fable – a short tale that teaches a lesson.