


LO: Use a various means of research and begin independently researching.

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=GJBFS8RDOYO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJBFS8RDOYO)

### Athens V Sparta



Athens and Sparta were probably the two most famous and powerful city states in Ancient Greece. However, they were both very different.



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Which city state are  
you?

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# WHAT IS A CITY-STATE?



Did you know?  
The two most powerful city states were Athens and Sparta

Ancient Greece wasn't a single country or empire united under a single government, it was made up of a number of city-states. At the center of each city-state was a powerful city. The city ruled the lands and area around it. Sometimes it also ruled smaller less-powerful cities. The Greek name for a city-state was "polis".

Each city-state, or polis, had its own government. Some city states were monarchies ruled by kings or tyrants. Others were oligarchies ruled by a few powerful men on councils. The city of Athens invented the government of democracy and was ruled by the people for many years.

The two most powerful and famous city-states were Athens and Sparta, but there were other important and



# THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SPARTA AND ATHENS

Key event:  
479BC the two most powerful city-states, Athens and Sparta, teamed up to defeat the Persians.



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It is all harmonious so what was the relationship between Athens and Sparta?

# THE RELATIONSHIP

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- ✓ At the start of the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, Athens only ruled a small region of Greece
- ✓ Athens and Sparta defeated the Persians in 479BC,. As a result, the Athenians took control of a large group of city-states
- ✓ Athens became the most powerful city in Ancient Greece



So where did it all go wrong?  
Well due to Athens monopolising the city-states, this upset Sparta and created political tension.

# SPARTA REACTS...

- ✓ Athens became more powerful
- ✓ 431 BC a war was declared between Athens and Sparta
- ✓ The war dragged on for 27 years
- ✓ Sparta defeated Athens in 404BC



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What was life like in Athens?

# ATHENS LIFESTYLE COMPARED TO SPARTA

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- ✓ Athens government ruled as a democracy
  - ✓ The city was built below the acropolis which stood on a high hill above Athens.
  - ✓ Had a strong impetus on education, culture and art.
- Athens was a creative city-state
- ✓ Boys could join the army or navy.

- ✓ Sparta was a city focused on obedience and war. The people did not have any luxuries.
- ✓ Boys did not have to work or be educated as they trained to be warriors from an early age.
- ✓ Boys had to join the Spartan army.

# EDUCATION IN ATHENS COMPARED TO SPARTA

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## Athens

- ✓ Boys were in education from 6-20 years.
- ✓ Books were very expensive so boys had to memorise everything.
- ✓ They learnt how to play the lyre and about the poet Homer

## Sparta

- ✓ Boys and girls went to school at 6 years.
- ✓ The boys were trained to be warriors with brutal training and harsh conditions.
- ✓ Girls were taught wrestling, gymnastics and combat skills.



# LIFESTYLE OF GIRLS IN ATHENS COMPARED TO SPARTA

## Athens

- ✓ Girls were not seen as important in Athens.
- ✓ Girls could be taught at home only if they had rich parents.
- ✓ Girls were not allowed to take part in war, business or education.

## Sparta

- ✓ Girls grew up to be mothers of warriors.
- ✓ Although they were not allowed to fight, girls took part in the training because fit women produced healthy babies.

# JUST CHECKING

	True	False
Sparta was a democracy?		
Sparta and Athens defeated the Persians?		
Sparta defeated Athens?		
Sparta valued education other war?		
Athens allowed their boys to join the army or navy?		

# TASKS

BG: to complete the correct statements and then compose a short paragraph on which city state they should belong to.

YO: to complete the correct statements and then compose a short paragraph on which city state they should belong to.

R- To order events of Sparta and Athens