

## Important Topic Vocabulary

<b>Greece</b>	A country in Europe.
<b>Greek</b>	A person or thing from (or relating to) Greece.
<b>ancient</b>	Something from the distant past that no longer exists.
<b>glory</b>	A high honour won by notable achievements.
<b>wisdom</b>	Having experience, knowledge and good judgement.
<b>strategy</b>	A plan of action designed to achieve a long-term aim.
<b>god/goddess</b>	A superhuman being worshipped as having power over nature or human fortunes.
<b>mortals</b>	Human beings (in contrast to gods and goddesses).
<b>Olympic</b>	Something relating to ancient Olympia or the Olympic games.
<b>Olympian</b>	A god who lived above Mount Olympus or a competitor in the Olympic games.

## The Olympic Games

The Greeks loved sport because they considered it bring a great sense of connection between people. The Olympic Games were the biggest sporting event in the ancient calendar. The Olympic Games began over 2,700 years ago in Olympia, in South West Greece. Every four years, around 50,000 people came from all over the Greek world to watch and take part. The ancient games were also a religious festival, held in honour of Zeus, the king of the gods.

## Winners



There weren't any gold, silver or bronze medals as there are in today's Olympic Games. Winners were given a wreath of leaves and a hero's welcome back home. Athletes competed for the glory of their city and the winners were seen as being touched by the gods.

## What should you already know?

### Greek City-States

- In ancient times, Greece wasn't a single country like it is today. It was made up of lots of smaller states.
- Each city-state ruled itself. They had their own governments, laws and army.

### Athens

- Athens was the centre of power, art, science, and philosophy in the world.
- It was the birth place of democracy. Democracy means allowing citizens to make their own decisions for their personal lives.
- Boys could go into the army or navy if they wanted to.
- Girls were not regarded as important by the Athenians.

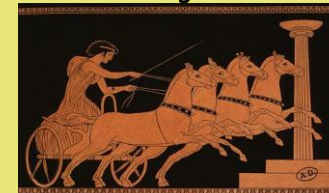
### Sparta

- The Spartans believed that strict discipline and a tough upbringing was the secret to making the best soldiers.
- Boys left their families at seven to begin their 23-year-long training to become a soldier.
- Girls were expected to be physically fit too. They weren't allowed to be soldiers, but they did compete against the boys at sport.

## Some sports at the Olympic Games

### *Ancient Olympics*

- Pentathlon  
*This consisted of 5 events; discuss, javelin, long jump, running and wrestling*
- Long distance running
- Hoplite race  
*Running in full armour*
- Boxing
- Chariot racing



### *Modern Olympics*

- Pentathlon  
*These sports are no longer competed as a pentathlon, but still exist as individual events*
- Modern pentathlon**  
*This consists of 5 events; fencing, freestyle swimming, show jumping, pistol shooting and running*
- Long distance running  
*The closest equivalent is the 5000m race*
- Boxing

## Gods and Goddesses

The Greeks believed that gods and goddesses watched over them. They thought that the gods could send storms if they were angry and decide who was victorious in wars. Sometimes, they thought the gods were playing tricks on humans too! The gods were believed to live high above Mount Olympus in a palace in the clouds. The Greeks built temples where they would pray to statues and leave presents for their gods.



There were Twelve Olympians who were the main gods in Ancient Greece; Zeus, Hera, Poseidon, Demeter, Aphrodite, Hephaestus, Ares, Athena, Artemis, Apollo, Hermes and Dionysus.

### Athena



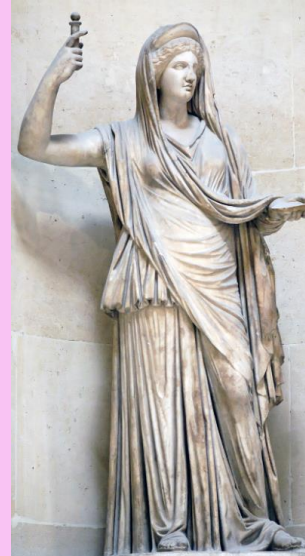
Athena is goddess of wisdom and strategy. Her symbol is the owl. Women and girls were just seen as mothers and wives, whereas she went to war and was clever and cunning.

### Zeus



Zeus is the god of sky and thunder and King of Mount Olympus. His symbol is the lightning bolt. He imposed his will onto Gods and mortals.

### Hera



Hera is the goddess of marriage, women and family and Queen of Mount Olympus. Her symbol is a peacock feather.

### Poseidon



Poseidon is god of the sea, water, storms and earthquakes. His symbol is a trident.

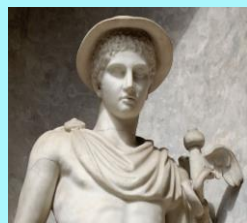
### Hades



Hades is god of the underworld. His symbols are the sceptre and Cerberus (three-headed dog). As the god of the underworld, Hades was not considered an Olympian.

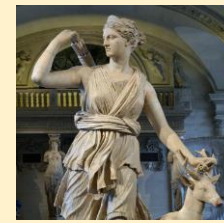
### Hermes

Hermes is god of travel, communication and games and the messenger of the gods. His symbol is a winged helmet.



### Artemis

Goddess of the hunt, the wilderness, the Moon and protection. Her symbol is the bow and arrow.



## Useful Websites and Videos

You will find links to some useful websites and videos on your Google Classroom class stream.