

Part 1: The Anchor Fact Timeline of Ancient History

Write a brief description (in a complete sentence) of the key event occurring at the date indicated on the anchor fact timeline.



1. 2015/16 - We are here! This world we live in, today, is the way that it is because of human history — all the way back to ancient times. **(1 pt)**
2. 1492 AD - Christopher Columbus discovers America, bringing Europe and its knowledge of ancient history to the Americas. **(1 pt)**
3. c.509/c.508 BC - Rome became the first republic and Athens became the first democracy, establishing the classical examples upon which modern government is based. **(1 pt)**
4. c.776 BC - The first Olympics are held, marking the beginning of Greek history and the rise towards democracy. **(1 pt)**
5. 1799 - The Rosetta Stone is discovered in Egypt, leading to the decipherment of hieroglyphs and a huge expansion of our knowledge of the ancient past. **(1 pt)**
6. 1922 - The intact tomb of King Tut is discovered by Howard Carter, leading to new interest in archaic Egypt in modern society. **(1 pt)**
7. c.1700 BC - The code of Hammurabi is created by the Babylonian emperor Hammurabi, showing us what archaic life was like. **(1 pt)**
8. c.3000 BC - Menes/Narmer unifies ancient Egypt, which is as far back into the ancient world as we can see today. **(1 pt)**

Total Points for this page: 8 points

Part 2: Archaic Greece

9. What is a “city-state”? Why did Greek history involve city-states, instead of a single unified country?

A “city-state” is a country the size of a city, or looking at it another way, a city that is also a country all by itself. Greek history is the story of city-states because its mountainous terrain made unification difficult. The people lived in separate, isolated communities and came to be loyal to those cities instead of the whole of Greece.

(3 pts: 1 pt for city-state; 1 pt for terrain/early history; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

10. How do the Greek Olympics show the unity of Greece? How else were the Greeks united?

The Greek Olympics were an athletic and religious festival starting c.776 BC. They show that the Greeks had the same religion and a feeling of common culture so they would celebrate such a festival together. They also spoke the same basic language. **(3 pts: 1 pt for religion; 1 pt for language; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Part 3: Archaic Athens

11. What was Athens’ first form of government? What was its second, and how did the change happen?

Athens’ first form of government was monarchy (the rule of one). Its second was aristocracy (the rule of the best). It change from one to the other because the Eupatrids (sons of noble fathers) refused to let a single family (the Medontidae) have all the power. They forced the kings to share power with other officials and to be chosen from among all the noble families. **(4 pts: 1 pt for monarchy; 1 pt for aristocracy; 1 pt for Eupatrid takeover; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

12. Why is Solon an important person in Greek history?

Solon is an important person in Greek history because he abolished debt slavery in Athens and emancipated the debt slaves. This was an important step in removing the unfairness of the aristocracy, but it did not address the need of the commoners for more land to avoid debt in the future. In the end, Solon’s actions led to a tyranny, which led to democracy. **(3 pts: 1 pt for abolish debt slavery; 1 pt for consequences of Solon’s actions; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 13 points

13. Why is Peisistratus an important person in Greek history?

Peisistratus is an important person in Greek history because he was the first tyrannos of Athens. This meant he was chosen by the commoners to overthrow the aristocracy. Specifically, Peisistratus promised the commoners more land after Solon abolished debt slavery. By doing this he angered the aristocracy, leading to a new conflict that brought about democracy. **(3 pts: 1 pt for tyranny; 1 pt for land redistribution and its consequences; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

14. What would have happened with the aristocracy back in power if Cleisthenes had not invented democracy? What was Cleisthenes' basic idea for breaking the pattern of violence in Athens?

The normal pattern in archaic Greece was for an aristocracy to be a harsh "rule of the best." This would have led to a rebellion and the rise of a new tyrannos. And the cycle would have repeated over and over. Cleisthenes' idea for breaking this pattern was for the aristocrats and commoners to share power in a democracy, with every individual having the same amount of power. **(3 pts: 1 pt for the cycle of violence; 1 pt for sharing of power; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Part 4: Archaic Sparta

15. How was Sparta like a monarchy? Why is that not the best term to use for Sparta's form of government?

Sparta was like a monarchy because it had kings—but it had *two* kings at a time. This would make it a duarchy, but even that is not the best term to describe Sparta's government. One reason is that there were many controls on the kings, especially because of the five ephors who watched over them. This made it more of an aristocracy. **(3 pts: 1 pt for kings; 1 pt for duarchy/aristocracy; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

16. How were the lives of men and women in Sparta *the same*? What form of government did Sparta have?

Spartan men were warriors and Spartan women were homemakers, but in one way they were the same. Their lives belonged to the government. They lived in service to Sparta, and had no rights except by virtue of their service to the state. A form of government where every individual has no rights and no property, and where even the rulers must live to serve the government is called "communism." **(3 pts: 1 pt for life belonging to Sparta; 1 pt for communism; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 12 points

Part 5: BONUS

17. What is the word for something that lasts *ten* years (like the kingship in Athens at a certain point)?

decennial

(0.5 bonus pts)

18. What was the name of the fighting unit involving heavily armed soldiers that made commoners more important?

phalanx

(0.5 bonus pts)

19. What modern word means “harsh” or “severe,” and comes from the name of a Greek lawmaker?

draconian

(0.5 bonus pts)

Total bonus points on Test: 1.5 points
Total Points on Test: 33 points