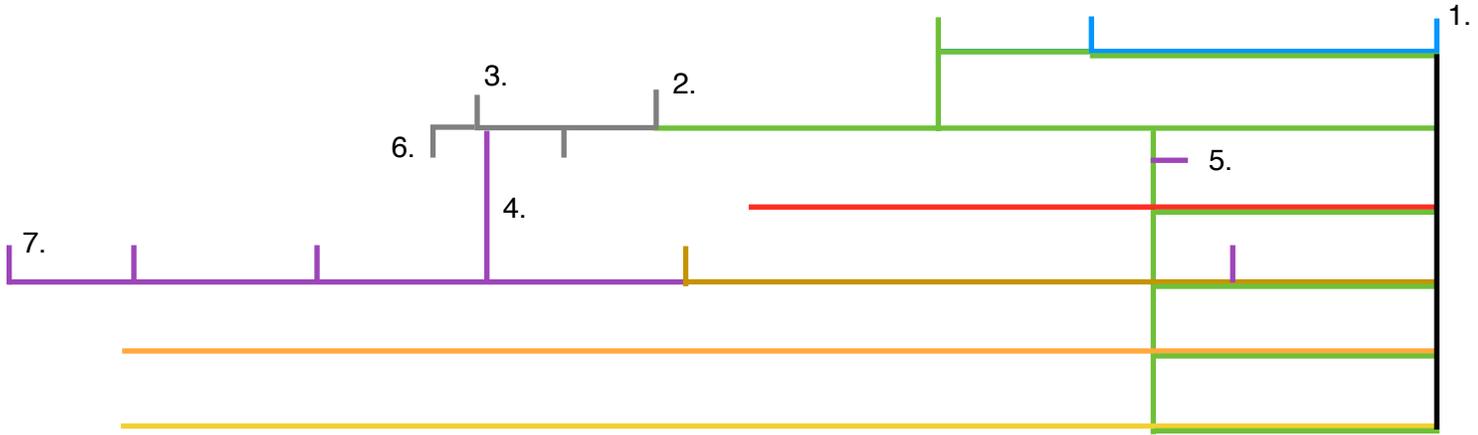


Part 1: The Anchor Fact Timeline of Ancient History

Write a brief description (in a complete sentence) of the key event indicated on the anchor fact timeline, including the date it occurred if it is not given.



- 1. We are here, in 2015 AD! This world we live in, today, is the way that it is because of human history — all the way back to ancient times. **(2 pts: 1 for event and significance; 1 for the date)**
- 3. 476 AD - The Fall of the Roman empire leads to the end of ancient times and the Dark Ages. We now study it thanks to the rebirth of classical greatness in the Renaissance. **(2 pts)**
- 3. Rome becomes the first republic c.509 BC and Athens becomes the first democracy c.508 BC, establishing the classical examples upon which modern government is based. **(2 pts)**
- 4. c.500-449 BC - The Greeks win the Greco-Persian war, making democracy and the Athenian Golden Age possible, thus making it possible for us to learn from “classical” Greece in modern times. **(1 pt)**
- 5. 1799 AD - (Following Napoleon’s conquest of Egypt in 1798) The Rosetta Stone is discovered in Egypt in 1799 AD, leading to the decipherment of hieroglyphs (by Jean-Francois Champollion in 1822) and a huge expansion of our knowledge of the ancient past. **(1 pt + 1 bonus point for items in brackets)**
- 6. c. 776 BC - The first Olympic games are held in Greece marking Greece’s rise out of prehistorical darkness, and the beginning of the Greek climb towards its classical greatness. **(1 pt)**
- 7. Menes/Narmer unifies ancient Egypt c.3000 BC, becoming its monarch (ruler) in the first event of archaic Egyptian history. **(2 pts: 1 for event and significance; 1 for the date)**

Total Points for this page: 11 points

Part 2: The Greco-Persian War

8. Complete this sentence: “*The Greco-Persian War is (one of) the most important war(s) in history because...*” Explain your statement as fully as possible in the space permitted.

The Greco-Persian War is the most important war in history because if the Greeks had lost the war, history would be radically different—for the worse! There could not have been a Renaissance, because the Renaissance is the rebirth of *Greek* ideas, and if Greece had been conquered by Persia, there would have been no Athenian Golden Age and no great ideas to be reborn in the Renaissance. Even democracy, which came before the war, would be nothing more than an archaic curiosity. We see in history that the Persians would have possibly allowed it in some city-states, but they would have forced the Greeks to fight each other to show their loyalty to the empire. This would have destroyed the meaning of democracy and prevented the rise of the other branches of knowledge (especially history and philosophy) that make democracy so important. **(5 pts: 4pts for discussion, including the Golden Age and democracy in the Persian empire; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

9. Tell the story of the start of the Greco-Persian War, from the Ionian Revolt to the Battle of Marathon.

The Greco-Persian War began with the Ionian Revolt. Greek colonies in Ionia (the coast of Turkey today) asked Athens for help in establishing democracies and rebelling against Persia. Athens agreed to provide help, and sacked the local Persian capital of Sardis. They were looking for Hippias, the son of their former tyrannos Peisistratus, whom they hated. After this Persia sought revenge. Emperor Darius sent a fleet that was wrecked off Chalkidiki in the Aegean Sea. And finally, with Hippias to guide him, he set off directly for Athens, which led to the Battle of Marathon. The Athenians asked for help from Sparta, sending the runner Phidippides, but the Spartans refused to break a religious observance, so Athens was on its own. Its brilliant commanders overturned terrible odds, however, using a “double envelopment” maneuver, sending the Persians packing. Of course, the war was not over...

(5 pts: 1 pt for Athens’s role; 1 pt for initial fleet; 1 pt for Phidippides; 1 pt for double envelopment; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)

Total Points for this page: 10 points

10. Why is the Battle of Thermopylae an important event in history?

The Battle of Thermopylae is an important event in history because it was an important battle of the the Greco-Persian Wars. It was, precisely, the “greatest *defeat*” of the Greeks in the war. The giant Persian army was invading Greece, but 300 Spartans and their Greek allies led by king Leonidas rallied at Thermopylae, the “Hot Gates.” Their army was small, but because the location was a narrow mountain pass, they could hold off the larger army until a traitor revealed how to surround them, and they died in defense of Greece. This delay helped the Greeks to prepare, and ultimately to win. It was a “great defeat.” **(3 pts: 1 pt for part of the war; 1 pt for key details ; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

11. When the Persians were invading Greece, the Greeks went to the Oracle at Delphi for advice. What did it say, and what did they do with the advice?

The oracle said that the Greeks should retreat from the foe, and that Zeus would grant Athena (Athens) a “wooden wall,” and finally that Salamis would “destroy the sons of women.” The Greeks decided to retreat to the island of Salamis and hide behind the “wooden wall” of their fleet. **(3 pts: 1 pt for wooden wall; 1 pt for fleet at Salamis; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

12. What was the Delian League? Explain how its formation led to the Peloponnesian War.

After the Persians were defeated at Salamis and Plataea, the Delian League was formed by Athens as an alliance to continue the war by attacking Persia. It became an Athenian Empire when Athens conquered the members that didn’t want to stay in the alliance. This created resentment of Athens, and gave Sparta more influence as the most powerful city-state to resist Athenian power. When an Athenian ally and a Spartan ally went to war, the two sides were drawn in. **(4 pts: 1pt alliance; 1 pt for Athens conquering others; 1 pt for Sparta vs. Athens; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 10 points

Part 3: The Athenian Golden Age

13. What does the word “philosophy” mean? What did Greek philosophers think was the purpose of philosophy? As an example, what did Socrates encourage people to do in order to be more philosophical?

The word “philosophy” means the *love of wisdom*. Greek philosophers believed that it was possible (and desirable) to think clearly about the most important questions in human life and find answers using logic, thus creating a guide to a life well lived. Socrates, in particular, advised checking one’s own claims to knowledge. His motto was “Know Thyself,” and he challenged people to use logic to check their assumed knowledge to see if it was as solid as they felt it was. **(4 pts: 1pt for love of wisdom; 1 pt for purpose of philosophy; 1 pt for Socrates; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Part 4: The Decline and Fall of Greece

14. How did Alexander the Great come to be in charge of Greece? (Provide an answer that is appropriate given the space provided.)

Alexander the Great became the ruler of Greece when his father Philip of Macedon died. Philip himself had only recently become the ruler of Greece through a series of wars. First Sparta had defeated and ruined Athens in the Peloponnesian War, then Thebes had defeated Sparta. It was during that time that Philip had been received into the Theban ruling family as a hostage by the general Epaminondas. Epaminondas trained Philip while keeping him as a hostage, allowing him to become a master of Greek politics and warfare. When Philip was released, he returned to Macedon, became king, and made it the most powerful city-state of Greece. **(4 pts: 1pt for succeeding Philip; 2 pts for background story of the rise of Macedon; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 8 points

15. What does the word “Hellenistic” mean? What does Alexander’s own conduct as a conqueror contribute to our understanding of this word?

The word “Hellenistic” means related to, but inferior to, things “Hellenic,” i.e. Greek. Alexander was a Hellenistic ruler. He led a Greek army, but behaved like a Persian ruler. He became pharaoh, in order to control Egypt. He also insisted that Greeks prostrate themselves before him at court, like a Persian king. This was anathema to the Greeks, who knew that kings are not gods, but are merely men who happen to be in charge. The word “Hellenistic” is usually applied to things *after* Alexander, but he himself was obviously Hellenistic too. **(4 pts: 1pt for definition; 1 pt for pharaoh; 1 pt for prostration; 1 pt for spelling and grammar)**

Total Points for this page: 4 points

Part 5: BONUS

16. Who were the two great historians of the Athenian Golden Age?

Herodotus and Thucydides

(1 bonus pt)

17. What famous runner ran all the way from Athens to Sparta to get help for the Battle of Marathon?

Phidippides

(0.5 bonus pts)

18. What expression means “finding a tricky solution to a difficult problem”?

“cutting the Gordian knot”

(0.5 bonus pts)

Total bonus points on Test: 2 points
Total Points on Test: 43 points