

## The Greeks: Crucible of Civilization, Part 1

**Directions: Answer the following questions based on the movie. The questions are listed in the order they appear in the film and you do not have to answer in complete sentences.**

**IMPORTANT: The Crucible of Civilization is a two part film. This is part 1 and you should also watch part 2 to get a more complete story of the rise and fall of the ancient Greeks.**

1. What was the situation in Athens in 508 BC and why?
2. What class did Cleisthenes come from and what kind of power did this group exercise over Athenians?
3. How did Aristotle describe life for most Athenians in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC?
4. Where were the great civilizations in Cleisthenes day and how was Greece geographically different than these?
5. What Greek city seemed the most likely to dominate all others politically during Cleisthenes lifetime?
6. What specific stories inspired Cleisthenes and his fellow Greeks?
7. Describe Arete, the Greek ideal or vision of a hero.
8. What surprising political move did the ruler Pysistritus make in order to consolidate power in Athens?
9. What was Athens' most valuable trading commodity?
10. What Athenian product that was almost worthless at the time now commonly fetches millions of dollars on the Antiquity's market? What were the artisans who made these products main motivation in doing such good work?
11. How was Hippias a different ruler than his father Pysistritus? What did he do to his father's reforms?
12. What did Cleisthenes do in 510 BC? How was Greek society in Athens changing at this time?
13. How had the Olympics changed from their founding to the days of Cleisthenes and how did this festival influence ordinary Greeks?
14. Who did Isagoras turn to in 508 BC to help him overthrow Cleisthenes?
15. What happened in Athens while Cleisthenes was in exile? What did this do for Cleisthenes?
16. What did Cleisthenes carve out from the hillside that was near the Acropolis and why did he do this? What was this the forerunner of?
17. Why did Phidippides run 26 miles to Athens in 490 BC?

18. Why would conquest by the Persians be the destruction of the Greek way of life?
19. How many Hoplites did the Athenians muster at Marathon to face the Persian army? How many men did the Persians have?
20. How many miles did Phidippides run in two days to get help for the Athenians?
21. Who actually won the battle of Marathon?
22. How was the Athenian leader Themistocles different than all the other Athenian leaders that came before him? What was Themistocles worried about while he ruled Athens?
23. What new advanced weapon did Themistocles invest in to increase Athenian military power?
24. How did Themistocles sell his idea to the Athenians and what was the result?
25. What was the first declaration of the Persian king Xerxes after he replaces his father Darius on the throne? What else did he do?
26. Why did the Athenians send messengers to Delphi when the Persian Army again invaded in 480 BC? What did the Oracle tell them?
27. Who was the one person who didn't panic at the Oracle's news and how did he interpret the second prediction of the Oracle?
28. What does Themistocles convince the Athenian citizens to do and what ends up happening to the city of Athens?
29. How did Themistocles' fleet of Triremes use the size of the Persian fleet against them? Who wins the battle?