

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Unit 6 Vocabulary Words– Ancient Greece

Word	Definition	Illustration
peninsula	a body of land that is surrounded on 3 sides by water	
harbor	a protected part of a sea, lake, or river which serves as a shelter for ships; a port	
Peloponnesus	a mountainous peninsula in southern Greece between the Ionian and Aegean Seas	
democracy	form of government in which the ruling power is in the hands of the people	
oligarchy	a government in which only a few people have power	
monarchy	form of government in which the ruling power is in the hands of one person (king, emperor)	
tyranny	a government in which absolute ruling power is held by a person (tyrant) who has obtained it by force	
acropolis	a high hill above a Greek city upon which Greek temples or fortresses were built	
agora	a marketplace in ancient Greece	
Parthenon	a temple built on the acropolis of Athens to thank the goddess Athena for their victory over the Persians	

Alexander the Great	a military leader responsible for spreading Greek culture and expanding the Greek empire	
Minoans	(muh-NOH-uhnz) an advanced civilization on the island of Crete that influenced Greek culture during the Bronze Age	
Mycenaens	(my-suh-NEE-uhnz) an advanced civilization that build towns and fortresses on mainland Greece; first people to speak Greek, so they were first to be considered Greek (Mycenae=largest & most powerful)	
aristocrat	a rich landowner or noble; a member of the most powerful class in ancient Greece	
phalanx	a group of Greek warriors who stood close together in a square formation	