

## How did Spartan & Athenian values differ from one another?

Critically read each of the following documents. Circle unfamiliar words. Underline phrases of importance. Place question marks near areas of confusion. Periodically take notes in the margins. When you are finished with the documents, answer the questions that appear at the bottom of the second page.

DOCUMENT 1	NOTES
<p><b>A Comparison of Athens &amp; Sparta (Thucydides)</b>            If the Spartans' city were to become deserted, and only the temples and foundations of buildings were left, I think that the people of that time far in the future would find it difficult to believe that the Spartans' power had been as great as their fame implied and yet they inhabit two-fifths of the Peloponnese, and are in command of all of it as well as of many allies outside it; nevertheless, it has not been synoecized (united) into a city, nor does it possess costly temples and buildings, but consists of a number of villages in the early Greek manner, and would seem an inferior place, whereas if the same thing were to happen to Athens, from its visible remains one would assume that the city had been twice as powerful as it actually is.</p>	
DOCUMENT 2	NOTES
<p>Excerpt from <i>Ancient Greece; A Political, Social, and Cultural History</i>            In Athens, there was no respectable alternative for girls other than marriage. The obligation to dower (provide a dowry; a cash settlement provided to a groom) each daughter was a prime motivator in female infanticide. Though the eldest child was normally raised regardless of its gender, some historians have estimated that as many as 20% of newborn Athenian girls were abandoned in places like the local garbage dump.</p>	
DOCUMENT 3	NOTES
<p>Excerpt from <i>Ancient Greece; A Political, Social, and Cultural History</i>            Whereas other Greek city states left the choice to the father, at Sparta officials appointed by the government examined the newborns. The vitality of male infants and their potential as soldiers determined whether they would be raised, or abandoned in a place near Mount Taygetus designated for that purpose.</p>	
DOCUMENT 4	NOTES
<p><b>A Spartan Poem by Tyrtaeus</b>            Here is a man who proves himself to be valiant in war. With a sudden rush he turns to flight the rugged battalions of the enemy, and sustains the beating waves of assault. And he who so falls among the champions and loses his sweet life, so blessing with honor his city, his father, and all his people. With wounds in his chest, where the spear that he was facing has transfixed. Such a man is lamented alike by the young and the elders, and all his city goes into mourning and grieves for his loss.</p>	

DOCUMENT 5	NOTES
<p>Excerpt from <i>Ancient Greece; A Political, Social, and Cultural History</i>            “Spartans themselves were permitted to use only iron money. These small bars or “spits” made of iron had originally been used throughout Greece before the invention of coinage. Because iron was no longer used as currency in any other city state, Spartans were unable to trade for luxury goods and forced to live off the meager resources that the region of Laconia offered them.”</p>	

DOCUMENT 6	NOTES
<p><b>Pericles, an Athenian leader</b>            “Furthermore, wealth is for us something to use, not something to brag about. And as to poverty, there is no shame in admitting to it – the real shame is in not taking action to escape from it.”</p>	

DOCUMENT 7	NOTES
<p>Excerpt from <i>Ancient Greece; A Political, Social, and Cultural History</i>            Athenian commerce especially was driven largely by the need for grain to feed a large population. Grain might come from north or south. One crucial source was the Black Sea region, which also provided hides, cattle, fish, hemp, wax, chestnuts, iron, and slaves. For this the Athenians exchanged wine and oil, sometimes in decorated vases.</p>	

DOCUMENT 8	NOTES
<p><b>Plutarch’s Sayings of Spartan Women</b>            A Spartan mother burying her son, Plutarch reports received condolences from an old woman who commented on her bad luck. “No, by the heavens,” the mother replied, “but rather good luck, for I bore him so that he could die for Sparta, and this is precisely what has happened.” Another woman, seeing her son come toward her after a battle and hearing from him that everyone else had died, picked up a tile, and hurling it at him, struck him dead, saying “and so they sent you to tell us the bad news?”</p>	

**CRITICAL THINKING:**

**Which documents exemplify Spartan values? What did the Spartan’s value?**

**Which documents exemplify Athenian values? What did the Athenians value?**