

Name: _____

Chapter 8: "Ancient Greece" Study Guide

Important Vocabulary:

- **assembly**: This was a meeting that allowed all citizens to debate and vote on laws.
- **Athens**: Democracy was born in this city.
- **citizens**: In Greece, free men who had the right to participate in government were known as this.
- **Cleisthenes**: He was a leader in Greece who was known as the father of democracy.
- **democracy**: The Greeks used this term to describe "rule of the people."
- **Draco**: He was a tyrant. He created a set of very harsh laws for Athens.
- **Mycenaeans and Minoans**: These were two of the first cultural groups to develop in Greece.
- **Macedonians**: These people conquered Greece and brought an end to democracy in Athens.
- **oligarchy**: This is a term that means "government by the few."
- **Pericles**: He was a leader in Greece who wanted and encouraged his people to participate in government.
- **representative democracy**: This is the type of government that is used in the United States.
- **peninsula**: This is an area of land that is surrounded by water on three sides. The mainland of Greece is located on a peninsula.

- **polis**: This is the Greek word for city-state. A polis was usually built around a strong fortress.
- **acropolis**: a high hill upon which a Greek fortress was built.
- **colonies**: The Greeks created colonies because they wanted to become rich from trade.
- **Zeus**: He is known as the king of the Greek gods.
- **Apollo**: god of the sun.
- **Dionysus**: god of celebration.
- **Iliad**: This poem tells the story of the final years of the Trojan War and the hero Achilles. The Iliad is an example of an epic poem. It was written by Homer.
- **Sappho**: She was one of the most famous lyric poets. Most poets were men, but she was one of the most famous lyric poets.
- **myths**: a story that explains how the world works. Many Greek myths were told to explain historical events and natural events. Ancient Greek myths have had a great affect on the way we speak and write today. Greek myths and literature have influenced many English words and expressions. The Greeks enjoyed telling stories of heroes who had special abilities and often faced terrible monsters.
- **Hercules**: He was one of the most famous Greek heroes. He fought and defeated the hydra.
- **lyric poem**: a poem that is set to music.
- **Hera**: queen of the gods.
- **fable**: used to teach a life lesson. Many times fables use animals as main characters.

Use the following page
to check your answers.

Do not check your answers until you
have completed the work first.