Sparta Athens

* Culture was “dominated by the military.”
* Citizens were “good at …following orders.”
* Citizens were “good at enduring hardships…”
* “…everyone wants to be athletic…”
* Citizens were “admired if you could think deeply…”
* Citizens were “admired if you could…speak persuasively…”
* Citizens were “admired if you…knew a lot about astronomy or history…”
* Citizens were “admired if you…sang and played beautiful music.”
* If a baby boy was not healthy he “was taken outside the city and left to die.”
* “Healthy boys were trained from an early age to be soldiers.”
* “As part of their training, boys ran, jumped, swam, and threw javelin to increase their strength.”
* “They also weren’t given much food.”
* “…boys weren’t given shoes or heavy clothes, even in the winter.”
* “…only occasionally visited their families.”
* “Women had more rights than other Greek women.”
* “Some women owned land…”
* “…didn’t spend time spinning cloth or weaving.”
* “Like the men, they learned how to run, jump, wrestle, and throw javelins.”
* “…boys from rich families worked to improve both their bodies and their minds.”
* “But this training was not as harsh or as long…”
* “…didn’t have to devote their whole lives to the army….only two years.”
* “They learned to read, write, count as well as sing and play musical instruments.”
* They learned about “…philosophy, geometry, astronomy and other subjects.”
* They learned “…how to be good public speakers.”
* “Most of the boys from poor families became farmers and grew food for the city’s richer citizens.
* “While the boys received good education, girls didn’t.”
* “…most girls only learned household tasks like weaving and sewing.”
* “…women in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had almost no rights at all.”

Imagine that you could choose which culture to live in within Greek civilization.

Ask yourself the following questions:

* How do I feel about the quotes? Describe your feelings and reactions.
* What are my values?
* How do my values affect where I would choose to live?

In your social studies notebook, jot down a few bullets about your feelings, values, and reactions.

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