The Peloponnesian War

# Tensions between Athens and Sparta rise

* Sparta is mad that Athens is excessively using money from the Delian league
* Athens punished city-states that were against this spending
* Sparta got fed up and the **Peloponnesian War** begun.

# War begins

* Athens avoids fighting Sparta on land and Sparta avoids fighting Athens on water.
* When Sparta attacks and burns Athenian crop, the entire city of Athens and its army are protected in the city walls.
* In 430 BC, Athens gets an outbreak of Typhoid fever and one in 3 Athenian citizens die.
* In 421 BC, due to the fact that neither Athens or Sparta was able to beat each other in a battle, Athens and Sparta signed a truce.

# Sparta Wins

* The truce was supposed to last 50 years, but instead lasted 2.
* Sparta and Athens had a fight on Sicily, where Athens lost 200 ships and 40,000 troops.
* Meanwhile, Sparta seized Athens, and blocked it from receiving resources from outside. With Athens weakened, its allies left it.
* Sparta finally allied with its old enemy – Persia – to block all access to Athens and force refugees to flee. This caused Athens to surrender in 404 BC.
* When Sparta won, instead of destroying Athens, Sparta tore down the walls connecting Athens to the sea and reduced the Athenian navy to just 12 ships. They also replaced the democracy in Athens with an oligarchy.

Greek Philosophers

# Socrates

* Socrates was an Athenian philosopher interested in ethics.
* He asked questions like, “What is justice?”
* Made the Socratic method, a method where you teach by asking a question and then giving the logical answer.
* This method made him unpopular with the Athenian ruler because his ideas did not agree with the gods.
* Sentenced to death.

# Plato

* Thought that this world was a shadow of a superior world.
* Student of Socrates, teacher of Aristotle.
* Founded an elite academy for education.
* He disliked democracy, he instead believed that a philosopher-king should rule.

# Aristotle

* Searched for understanding by examining the world closely.
* He categorized everything by laying the foundations for biology, law, physics and politics.
* Created an academy known as the Lyceum, where anyone could study a range of subjects.
* Teacher of Alexander the Great

Epic and Histories

# Homer

* Wrote epics, or heroical poems that combine elements of drama and narrative. They have mythical creatures and gods.
* He wrote two famous epics about the Trojan war – The Iliad and The Odyssey

# Aesop

* Wrote fables, or short stories with a small moral lesson to be learned from them
* One famous example: the rabbit and the hare

# Herodotus

* First person to research history and write it down. Known as the “father of history”
* He wrote the history of the Persian wars
* He was the first to accurately check his sources while writing, however, he is also known as the “father of lies” due to his bias toward Greece.