|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **The Battle of Granicus River**  In May, 334 BC, the two armies met at Granicus River. The Persian army had around 10,000 cavalry, including 5000 Greek mercenary soldiers, while Alexander had around 13,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry. The different armies were situated on separate riverbanks. Darius' forces were led by a Greek mercenary commander, called Memnon of Rhodes, who wanted to use the river as a defensive obstacle.    Since it was late afternoon when the armies met, Parmenion, one of Alexander's most devoted generals and commander of his left flank, advised Alexander that they should postpone the assault until morning. According to Plutarch, Alexander responded that it would be "disgraceful" for him to fear the river of Granicus since he had already crossed the much more dangerous Hellespont, and ignored Parmenion's advice.    Alexander's strategy was appears to have been quite simple: draw the Persian commanders out of safety and defeat them as quickly as possible. Once the commanders were dead, Alexander hoped the rest of the army would flee or surrender.    To start the battle, Alexander sent forward units of archers and skirmishers. As predicted, the Persian cavalry, including the commanders, moved forward to counter-act them. The Macedonian unit then fell back, leading the Persians to believe they were fleeing. Once the Persian commanders were out in the open, Alexander quickly lead his cavalry units and charged forward into the river, towards the opposite cavalry.    Alexander may have hoped that his bravery would encourage his men to follow him, and he wore prominent white feathers on his helmet to ensure his soldiers could see him. However, Alexander advanced up the opposite riverbank too quickly for the rest of his men to keep up, and was surrounded by the defending enemy. The Macedonian phalanxes struggled up the muddy banks to help their commander.    **Risks to Alexander's life**  During the fierce fighting, Alexander noticed that Mithridates, Darius's son-in-law, was close by with the Persian cavalry and attempted to chase after him. However, Rhoesaces, another Persian commander, intervened to defend Mithridates and swung his sword at Alexander. The blow cut off part of the feathers on Alexander's helmet and left a crack the metal. Alexander survived though, and quickly killed Rhoesaces.    Then, Spithridates, yet another Persian commander, raised his own sword to attack Alexander, but one of the Macedonians, called Cleitus the Black struck back. He cut Spithridates's arm and saved Alexander.    The rapid loss of a number of the Persian commanders sent the defenders into disarray. The Persian army broke and was defeated. The battle was a very short affair, that was over quicker than either side expected.    The ancient historians of this battle note that the Greek mercenaries who were in the Persian army did not take part in the fighting. They appeared to remain in their positions behind the Persian battle line. However, when the Persian forces fled, the mercenaries were caught up in the slaughter.    Only 2,000 of the 5,000 Greek mercenaries survived, and they were sent to Macedonia to work the mines; the rest were murdered. Also, Alexander sent the captured gold and treasures back home to his mother, Olympias. | KEY BATTLE INFO:  KEY DATE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  LOCATION:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Who are the following people, and which side are they on?**  **PERSIA (P) or MACEDONIA (M)?**  Memnon of Rhodes:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Permenion:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Mithridates:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Rhoesaces:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Sphiridates:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Cleitus:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Summarise the risks to ATG’s life:  Summarise the risks to ATG’s strategy: |
| Why did Alexander win at the Battle of Granicus?  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |