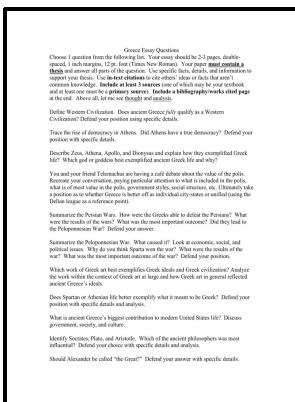


# Classical Greece and the Birth of Western Art

Cambridge University Press - 9780521618359

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## Ancient Greece: The Cradle of Western Civilization

Ancient Greece: The Cradle of Western Civilization The civilization of ancient Greece flowered more than 2500 years ago but the ideas of the ancient Greeks continue to influence the way we live today. This period occurs from the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BCE, to the Greek defeat at the Battle of Actium in 30 BCE.

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Greek artists absorbed many elements from their European colleagues, resulting in the culmination of the distinctive style of Greek Romantic art, inspired by revolutionary ideals as well as the country's geography and history. Numerous archives have been discovered at Minoan sites; however their language, Linear A , has yet to be deciphered.

Other major heroes in Greek mythology include the warriors and participants of the Trojan War, such as Achilles, Ajax, Odysseus, Agamemnon, Paris, Hector, and Helen. More than ever before, artists came to be regarded as creative and independent — a long way from their medieval predecessors, who were regarded as craftspeople in the service of the state or church. City-states claimed individual gods and goddesses as their patrons.

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This book introduces students to these questions and offers some answers to them.

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