



# School in Ancient Times

**Complete the words in this story.**

syllables / stylus/ tablets / dynasty / stressed / typically / bilingual

In Greece, 2,500 years ago, only the sons of rich people went to school, and they started around the age of seven. Students first learned to read and write \_\_\_\_\_ and then words, and then they copied famous sayings. They wrote on wax \_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_, which was like a pen. After they learned to read and write, they used to study Greek poetry and historical works. Music was an important part of their education, and so was physical training. Girls stayed at home with their mothers and learned how to keep the house.

In ancient Rome, boys and girls from wealthy families received a \_\_\_\_\_ education. They had to study Greek and Latin. Students usually had classes outside, if the weather was good, or in the teacher's house. Teachers used to beat students who didn't pay attention or who were lazy.

In ancient China, many children never got a chance to go to school. With the Han \_\_\_\_\_ (206 B.C.-220 A.D.), the emperor paid for free education. Only boys were allowed to study. They \_\_\_\_\_ used to start school when they were about six years old, and there was one teacher for the whole school. There weren't any math or science lessons. Students learned to read and write, and they used to memorize pages of the great Chinese philosopher Confucius. His teachings \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of duty, family, and hard work. Boys used to work very hard to pass the government tests. Students with the highest scores could get a job in the government. Around 500 A.D., girls also began to learn how to read and write in Buddhist temples, which were spreading in China.

