

WEEK

ONE



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Who Did Ancient Greeks Pray to?

01 Check (✓) the elements that you think come from Ancient Greek culture. Then, scan the text and confirm your answers.

heroes / demigods

☐

immortal gods

☐

indoor theaters

☐

monotheistic religion

☐

Mount Olympus

☐

outdoor theaters

☐

polytheistic religion

☐

theatrical plays

☐

02 Read "Art and Religion in Ancient Greece." Answer the following questions.

1. What type of religion did the Greeks have?

2. What were the differences between heroes and gods?

3. List the known forms of Ancient Greek art.

4. What were the different types of plays in Ancient Greek Civilization?

Art and Religion in Ancient Greece

The Greeks were polytheistic, meaning they had many gods and goddesses. Each city-state had a god that gave it special protection. For example, Athena was the patron of Athens. There were two main kinds of religious figures:



- › **Gods.** They were **immortal** beings but looked human. Their father and **leader** was Zeus, who lived on Mount Olympus along with other gods and goddesses.
- › **Heroes or demigods.** They were born from the union of a god and a human. They were very powerful yet mortal, such as Achilles and Heracles.

Drama originated as religious celebrations to the god Dionysus. Tragedies, **comedies**, and satyr plays were presented in **outdoor** theatres. Other forms of art known from the Greek civilization are stone sculptures, pottery, painting, and **coin** making. Most of the art depicted the human body.

03 Match each word from the text with its synonym.

1. leader

☐

a. humorous plays

2. immortal

☐

b. currency made of flat, molded metal

3. drama

☐

c. situated outside

4. comedy

☐

d. never dying

5. outdoor

☐

e. principal or superior

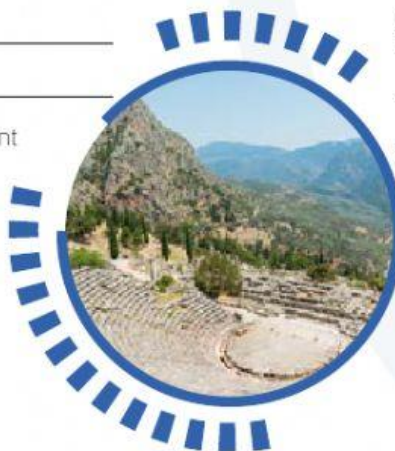
6. coin

☐

f. theatre, play

04 Work in pairs. Discuss and answer the following questions.

- › What is a polytheistic religion?
- › Who were the Greek gods? Where did they live?
- › What other word do we use nowadays for drama?
- › What types of plays do you know or have you seen?



05 Read the sentences and underline the right option.

1. Zeus **has been** / **was** the leader of the Greek gods.
2. Drama **originating** / **originated** as religious celebrations to the god Dionysus.
3. Plays **were** / **is** presented in outdoor theaters. They **are** / **were** either tragedies, comedies, or satyr plays.
4. Every city-state **has** / **had** a god that **protects** / **protected** it.

06 Answer the following questions with complete sentences. Create one more question of your own and ask a classmate to answer it.

1. What was the type of religion in Ancient Greece?

2. Who were Achilles and Heracles?

- 3.



PLURILITERACY SKILLS

When you have a lot of information to connect and don't know how to do it, make a mind map. Mind maps are useful to visualize different concepts and ideas, and to find the connections between them. Science subjects and other topics contain too much information, so we have to connect ideas to correctly grasp their concepts.

In what other sciences and topics do you think you could use mind maps for?



07 Imagine you had to explain the basics of Ancient Greek religion to a friend. Write a short paragraph in the space below to help you do it (30 – 50 words).

DO

Theogony



MAKER ZONE

You read about the basics of Ancient Greek religion, and you know who Zeus is. Do you know about other gods and goddesses? Work in groups of three to prepare a presentation. Find a god or goddess you like, and make a presentation on them. Use materials of your Maker Lab or materials you already have. Follow the instructions:

1. Research and find out who the other gods and goddesses were, and pick the one you like the most.
2. Look for pictures or illustrations if you want.
3. With the information you've discovered adapt the god or goddess you picked to the present time.
4. Think about what he or she would look like, live, wear, and do for a living.
5. Use cardboard, markers, or any other material and work on your presentation.

