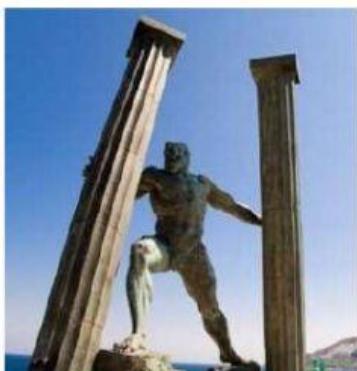


It existed!

The Pillars of Hercules is now known as the Strait of Gibraltar

According to Plato, Atlantis was a land mass in front of the Pillars of Hercules in the Atlantic Ocean. In 2001 a French scientist suggested a possible location. He stated it could have been positioned on an island close to the Strait of Gibraltar, and would have vanished beneath the sea about 11,000 years ago - just as Plato stated. The evidence is based on a study of sea levels that existed when the last Ice Age was ending. His assessment of coral reef data reveals that the sea level at the tip of Gibraltar 19,000 years ago would have been 130 metres below what it is today. This would have revealed an archipelago that currently lies under water off the coast of Spain, with an island at the spot where Plato reported Atlantis to be. However, the island named Spartel was only 14 km long and 5 km wide at the time. Nevertheless, further scientific research also discovered a sedimentary layer on Spartel that could have been left behind after a tsunami, which could also explain why Atlantis perished in just one day - if Spartel really was Atlantis.

1. According to Plato, where is the Atlantis?



2. How does Plato call the place where Atlantis is?
3. Who claims Atlantis existed?
4. Where geographically is the island today according to this man?
5. When did Atlantis disappear=vanish?

6. This island now lies under the sea : it's...

7. This island maybe _____ the _____ told by the philosopher _____ more than 2,000 years ago.

(legend/ name of the philosopher? / inspired)



It did not exist!

Many academics believe that Plato simply created the story of Atlantis to convey his theories about humanity. Throughout all his works divine nature versus human nature, ideal societies, and the gradual corruption of human society are constant themes. Atlantis was merely another vehicle to get his philosophy across. Although the destruction of Atlantis is scientifically logical considering the frequent volcanic activity and the regular occurrence of tsunamis during this period, the story is not based on historical fact. The people of Atlantis were part god and part human - their human nature caused them to become greedy and morally corrupt. They were punished by the gods and destroyed in one day. This is not historical fact - it comes straight from Greek mythology. It is simply a powerful literary device to warn people of the dangers of immorality.

1. Many academics agree with Plato's version of Atlantis
2. What are Plato's 3 favourite themes?
3. Atlantis could have been destroyed by a volcanic eruption and a tsunami
4. The Atlanteans were part god and part humans
5. The story of Atlantis comes from the Norse mythology
6. The story of Plato is based on historical and scientific facts
7. Plato invented Atlantis
8. With this story, he wanted to warn people of the dangers of corruption

What are the two theories explained?

Rewrite the two question

Yes, it existed/ No it didn't exist