VISITING GREECE

1 Warm up

Read the questions below and choose the correct answer.

1. What is the currency of Greece?

   a. Euro b. Drachma c. Pound

2. What is the capital city?

   a. Thessaloniki b. Athens c. Patras

3. Which of these is **not** a Greek island:

   a. Corfu b. Crete c. Corsica

4. What colours are featured on the Greek flag?

   a. blue and white b. red and white c. black and white

Answer the questions below.

1. What climate do you associate with Greece?
2. What do you know about Greece's ancient or modern history?
3. Do you know any famous Greek people?

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2 Visual Guide

Part A: Match the pictures of Greek landmarks and icons to the descriptions below.

1) feta

2) ouzo

3) moussaka

4) Greek Orthodox Church

5) taverna

6) Greek alphabet

7) Parthenon

8) Samariá Gorge

9) Parnassus

1. _____ a mountain range in Central Greece
2. _____ a type of Greek cheese made from sheep's milk (or a mixture of sheep's and goat's milk)
3. _____ a dish made from layers of aubergine and meat with cheese on top
4. _____ a café or restaurant
5. _____ a strong alcoholic drink from Greece, and usually drunk with water
6. _____ twenty-four letters used in the Greek language, starting with alpha and ending in omega
7. _____ a former temple dedicated to the Greek goddess Athena
8. _____ a national park on the island of Crete
9. _____ an organisation of several different religious groups, including the church of Greece

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Part B: The following words will be heard in the video you are about to watch. Choose the best word to label each picture.

ancient ruins cliff facade monastery pillar summit

1._____

2._____

3. _____

4._____

5._____

6. _____

3 Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the words to their definitions.

1.	spe ckled (adjective)	a.	under, or in a lower position than, something
2.	pursuit (noun)	b.	something (such as a large building) that you can see clearly from a distance and that helps you to know where you are
3.	embody (verb)	c.	come out further than surrounding objects
4.	soar (verb)	d.	(of a building or landmark) be very high
5.	jut (verb)	e.	among the best, most expensive, etc. examples of something
6.	beneath (prep)	f.	represent an idea or quality exactly
7.	top-end (adjective)	g.	covered with small marks or spots
8.	main stay (noun)	h.	something that you give your time and energy to
9.	land mark (noun)	i.	a very important part of something

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Part B: Choose a word from part A to fill in the gaps.

1. When visiting one of Greece's many islands, you are likely to see sandy beaches _____ with small stones.
2. If you wish to experience fine Greek cuisine, consider visiting one of Athens' _____ restaurants.
3. The Acropolis is probably Greece's most famous_____. Using it as a reference point can help you to find your way around Athens.
4. Greeks have grown olive trees since ancient times, and olive oil is still a_____of Greek cuisine.
5. The tallest building in Athens, Athens Tower,_____103 metres above the ground.
6. Greece offers a wide range of outdoor_____for active people; you can even enjoy mountain skiing with a sea view!
7. In 2001, a 2,500-year-old ship was discovered_____the sea near the island of Kythera, Greece.
8. The Greek mainland_____out from southern Europe into the Mediterranean Sea.
9. For some people, the idea of spending a week on a Greek island_____the idea of the perfect holiday.

Part C: Answer the questions below.

1. What outdoor or indoor **pursuits** do you enjoy?
2. What (if anything) are the **mainstays** of your country's cuisine?
3. What **embodies** your idea of a good holiday?

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4 Listening for the main idea

You are going to watch a video about visiting Greece. Watch for the first time and tick which subjects are mentioned.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VqtAhvsdc-c&t=161s&ab_channel=LonelyPlanet

1. ☐ Greek myths
2. ☐ Life in Athens
3. ☐ Parnassus
4. ☐ Sunsets
5. ☐ Ancient Greek philosophy
6. ☐ Cost of accommodation

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Listening comprehension

Watch the video again and choose the correct answers.

1. Greece balances its past, present and future in a way that is...
   a. completely unique.
   b. not done by many other countries.
   c. typical of European countries.

2. According to the narrator, who is attracted to the Acropolis?
   a. older people
   b. tourists
   c. people of all ages

3. The narrator believes you will never forget the first time...
   a. you see the Meteora.
   b. you visit Athens.
   c. you take a trip to a Greek island.

4. Where is described as the centre of the ancient Greek world?
   a. the Acropolis
   b. Delphi
   c. Santorini

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5. In Santorini, it's possible to enjoy the sunset...
   a. without many people around you.
   b. only in a crowd.
   c. between May and August.

6. What two advantages of visiting Greece in April or September are given?
   a. It will be cooler and less crowded.
   b. It will be cooler and cheaper.
   c. It will be cheaper and less crowded.

7. In Greece, the network of bus services...
   a. covers only cities.
   b. can transport you to small villages.
   c. is not recommended.

6 Focus on vocabulary 2

Now read the transcript of the video and find a word which means ...

1. _____ whitened (para 1)
2. _____ representing the perfect example (para 2)
3. _____ towards the sky (para 3)
4. _____ several (para 3)
5. _____ a mix of different things (para 5)
6. _____ is full of (para 5)
7. _____ travelling from one island to another (para 7)
8. _____ charming (para 8) - (2 different words)

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Transcript

1. Experience endless miles of *aquamarine coastline, sun-bleached ancient ruins, strong feta and stronger ouzo. It's easy to understand how so many myths of gods and giants
   *originated in this vast and varied landscape. With wide-open skies and a sea speckled with islands, Greece balances its past, present and future in a way managed by few other countries. The result is a nation with endless cultural pursuits.
2. The reason the Acropolis remains the quintessential landmark of Western civilization: it is spectacular. The Acropolis embodies a *harmony, power and beauty that speaks to all generations.
3. You're not likely to forget the first moment the magnificent Meteora comes into view: soaring pillars of rock that jut heavenward, and a handful of monasteries at the summit.
4. Arrive early to catch the magic of the sun's rays pouring over the *sanctuary of Athena Pronea at Delphi, the centre of the ancient Greek world.
5. Life in Athens is a magnificent mash-up of the ancient and the modern. Beneath the *majestic facades of landmarks, the city teems with life and creativity.
6. There's more to Santorini than sunsets, but this remarkable island shaped by the fire of prehistoric eruptions has made the celebratory sunset its own. You can catch the sunset without the crowds from almost anywhere along the cliff edge.
7. High season runs May through August. Milder temperatures and fewer crowds can be found in April and September. Travel costs in Greece can range from less than 60 euros a day if you enjoy a dorm bed and street stall meals to over 150 euros a day for top-end hotels and excellent dining. Buses are the mainstay of land transport with a network that reaches out to small villages. Island-hopping requires a *multitude of ferries.
8. Greece doesn't disappoint. The ruins really are that spellbinding, the seafood that fresh, local music that enchanting and the brown sugar sand truly is that soft.

Glossary

aquamarine (adj.) - pale blue-green in colour
originate (v) - happen or appear for the first time
harmony (n) - a state of peace
sanctuary (n) - safe place where people in danger can stay and be protected
majestic (adj.) - impressive because of its size or beauty
multitude (n) - an extremely large number

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7 Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Fill in the gaps with the words below to create definitions for each vocabulary item.

aggressive or unfriendly	a special event	attached to a ring	in a slow, relaxed way
more than enough	parents and children	respected for something	with people

1. sieve (n): a tool made of a net_____, used for separating larger pieces of something from smaller pieces
2. stroll (v): to walk somewhere _____
3. extended family (phrase): a family group that includes not only_____but also uncles, aunts, grandparents etc
4. festivities (n): the activities that are organised to celebrate _____
5. hostility (n):_____feelings or behaviour
6. renowned (adj.): famous and _____
7. abundance (n): a large quantity that is_____.
8. inhabited (adj.):_____living there

Part B: Fill in the gaps with words from part A.

1. While making tsoureki (Greek Easter bread), I put the flour through a_____before adding it to the other ingredients.
2. Greece has an_____of ancient monuments and historical sites; it's important to choose carefully.
3. Ropoto is an abandoned town in central Greece. It was_____until 2012 when a natural disaster forced the residents to leave.
4. Socrates, Aristotle and Plato are three of the most_____ancient Greek philosophers.
5. After a busy day of sightseeing, I relaxed by_____along the beach and enjoying a glass of ouzo.
6. I'm visiting Crete with my_____this summer to celebrate my grandmother's birthday. Three generations of people will be there.
7. Every year, Greece celebrates a carnival known as Apokreas._____include dancing and parades.
8. The Greek fans showed no_____towards the player, even though he had chosen to play for a different country.

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