Chapter 4 : Greece and Persia

1. Compare the creation of the Persian and Alexandrian Empires. What factors accelerated the rise of these empires and facilitated their decline? Discuss whether the rapid rise of these empires contributed to their similarly rapid fall.
2. Describe Persia‘s religious beliefs during the height of the Persian Empire.
3. How did geography and the environment affect Greek development?
4. Compare and contrast the polis as it existed in Athens and Sparta. How did two such different city-states emerge from the same general geography region?
5. Discuss the development of Greek democracy. Was Greek democracy "democratic"?
6. Explain Greek intellectual currents using the life of Socrates as an example.
7. Explain what is meant by the Hellenistic age.
8. Compared the political systems of the Persian Empire and of Greece.
9. How and why did the government of Greek city-states develop and change from the archaic through the classical periods?
10. Why did the Persians and the Greeks come into conflict? What factors might explain the outcome of the Persian wars and Alexander's conquest of the Persian Empire?
11. Why were Athens and Sparta at conflict with each other? What factors might explain the outcome of the Peloponnesian War, and what were the consequences of war for the city-states?
12. How would you describe and explain the influence of the Persians and the Greeks on Western Asia and Egypt?
13. What was the relationship between power and artistic and literary culture in the Greek world?

**Key Terms**

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| 1. Cyrus | 1. tyrant 2. democracy 3. sacrifice 4. Herodotus 5. Pericles 6. Persian Wars 7. trireme | 1. Socrates 2. Peloponnesian War 3. Alexander 4. Hellenistic Age 5. Ptolemy 6. Alexandria |
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Map exercise

Using map 4.1, explain how the geography of Iran left it relatively isolated from the more Western settlements of Mesopotamia and Syria. Explain why the lack of cities contributed to this isolation.

Using map 4.2, describe the geography of Greece. How did Greek geography contribute to the development of polis – centered civilization, rather than a unified "country" of Greece?

Using map 4.2, locate the major battles of the wars with Persia. Why were the battles fought in these locations? What were the results of these wars?

Using map 4.3 show the extent of the territory conquered by Alexander the Great. What areas did Alexander target for conquest, and why? Which different groups of people's were brought within the empire? How did Alexander plan to rule such a large empire?

Using map 4.3 explain how Alexander's unification of these territories led to the fostering of cultural exchange, the creation of a cosmopolitan Empire, and the idea of Hellenism.

Using map 4.3, describe what happened to Alexander's Hellenistic Empire after his death.