

## ESTABLISHMENT OF GREEK AND ROMAN EMPIRES- CONTRIBUTIONS

### **I. Answer in a word or a sentence.**

**Question 1.**

Which is the most ancient civilization of Europe?

**Answer:**

Greek Civilization

**Question 2.**

What is the meaning of the word 'Hellenes'?

**Answer:**

Greeks

**Question 3.**

In which civilization do we find City-States?

**Answer:**

Greek Civilization

**Question 4.**

In which city-state of Greece did democracy develop?

**Answer:**

Athens

**Question 5.**

Whose period is popularly called as the 'Golden age' of Athens?

**Answer:**

Pericles

**Question 6.**

Who is called as the father of Medicine?

**Answer:**

Hippocrates

**Question 7.**

Between whom was the Peloponnesian wars fought?

**Answer:**

Athens and Sparta

**Question 8.**

Name the battle in which Alexander defeated Porus.

**Answer:**

Battle of Hydaspes (326 B.C.E.)

**Question 9.**

Which Indian King defeated Seleucus?

**Answer:**

Chandragupta Maurya

**Question 10.**

Who was Euripides?

**Answer:**

A Greek tragic playwright

**Question 11.**

Who is the author of Peloponnesian wars?

**Answer:**

Thucydides

**Question 12.**

Who wrote the book 'The Republic'?

**Answer:**

Plato

**Question 13.**

In which year did the Olympic Games begin?

**Answer:**

776 B.C.E.

**II. Answer in two words or two sentences**

**Question 1.**

Name any two City-States of ancient Greece.

**Answer:**

Athens and Sparta

**Question 2.**

Name any two reforms introduced by Solon.

**Answer:**

Abolished debt-slavery; introduced coin currency.

**Question 3.**

Mention any two reforms of Cleisthenes.

**Answer:**

Granted citizenship rights to male adults; broke the power of nobles.

**Question 4.**

Where is Parthenon temple? And who built it?

**Answer:**

It is in Athens; built by Pericles.

**Question 5.**

Name any two dramatists of Periclean age.

**Answer:**

Aeschylus and Sophocles.

**Question 6.**

Name any two important Historians of Periclean Age.

**Answer:**

Herodotus and Thucydides.

**Question 7.**

Name any two battles in which Alexander defeated the Persians.

**Answer:**

Battle of Granicus and Battle of Issus.

**Question 8.**

Which are the two works of Homer?

**Answer:**

Iliad and Odyssey.

**Question 9.**

Who are the two lyric poets of Greek Civilization?

**Answer:**

Pindar and Sappho.

**Question 10.**

Name the two works of Aeschylus.

**Answer:**

Prometheus Bound and Agamemnon.

**Question 11.**

Mention any two works of Sophocles.

**Answer:**

Oedipus Rex and Antigone.

**Question 12.**

Who were the mathematicians of ancient Greece?

**Answer:**

Pythagoras and Euclid.

**Question 13.**

Mention any two styles of ancient Greek architecture.

**Answer:**

Doric and Ionic.

**Question 14.**

Mention any two important philosophers of ancient Greece.

**Answer:**

Socrates and Plato.

**Question 15.**

Mention the two works of Plato.

**Answer:**

The Republic and The Laws.

**Question 16.**

Mention the two works of Aristotle.

**Answer:**

Politics and History of Animals.

**III. Answer in 15 to 20 Sentence.****Question 1.**

Write a short note on city-states of ancient Greece.

**Answer:**

The most remarkable political contribution of the Greeks was the development of City-States (Polis). A city-state was a small, independent political unit consisting of a fort (Acropolis), the city, and the surrounding countryside. Geography played a major role in their rise since rugged mountains divided Greece into small isolated regions. Around 800 B.C.E., many villages joined to form city-states. The Acropolis or Citadel served as a defensive centre, while the lower town developed around it.

Important city-states were Athens, Sparta, Thebes, Corinth, and Macedonia. Though independent and often quarrelsome, they were united by common language, religion, and culture.

Festivals like the Olympic Games also promoted unity. Athens became famous for democracy and culture, while Sparta was known for its military power. The city-state system gave rise to different forms of government like monarchy, aristocracy, tyranny, and democracy. Thus, the city-state was a unique feature of Greek political life and an important contribution to world history.

**Question 2.**

Explain briefly how democracy developed in Athens.

**Answer:**

Athens is regarded as the birthplace of democracy. In the beginning, Athens was ruled by kings, later by aristocrats, and

then by tyrants. However, Athenians preferred a government by the people. The first step was taken by Draco, who introduced a written code of laws to prevent corruption, though his laws were harsh. Next came Solon, who abolished debt slavery, freed poor farmers, cancelled mortgages, and introduced coin currency. He also gave political rights to the middle and lower classes. Later, Cleisthenes reorganized the state on democratic lines, gave citizenship rights to all male adults, and reduced the power of nobles.

Finally, under Pericles (469–429 B.C.E.), democracy reached its peak. He introduced the jury system, encouraged all citizens, including the poor, to participate in politics, and strengthened the Assembly. This system was called Direct Democracy, where citizens directly took part in decision-making. Thus, Athens laid the foundation of democracy, which influenced future governments of the world.

### **Question 3.**

Why is the Periclean age called as the 'golden age'?

### **Answer:**

The period of Pericles (469–429 B.C.E.) is called the Golden Age of Athens. During his rule, democracy reached its highest point. Pericles deprived the old aristocratic council of political power and strengthened the Assembly and the Council of 500. He encouraged the participation of all citizens in public life and introduced the jury system. Athens, which had been destroyed during the Persian wars, was rebuilt under his leadership. He constructed magnificent public buildings, the most famous being the Parthenon, a temple dedicated to Goddess Athena.

He also built long walls connecting Athens to its port, Piraeus, for defense. Pericles encouraged art, music, architecture, philosophy, and literature. Great philosophers like Socrates and Plato lived during this period. The age also produced great dramatists like Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides, and

historians like Herodotus and Thucydides. Medical science progressed under Hippocrates. Thus, Athens became the cultural and intellectual centre of Greece, and Periclean age is rightly called the Golden Age.

#### **Question 4.**

What are the contributions of the Greeks to literature?

#### **Answer:**

The Greeks made remarkable contributions to world literature. In the field of epic poetry, Homer composed two great works – the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, which describe the Trojan War and adventures of Odysseus. These works give valuable information about early Greek life. In lyric poetry, poets like Pindar and Sappho expressed human emotions beautifully. The Greeks also developed drama. Tragedy was introduced by Aeschylus, who wrote *Prometheus Bound* and *Agamemnon*.

Sophocles wrote *Oedipus Rex* and *Antigone*, while Euripides emphasized human emotions in plays like *Trojan Women*. Comedy was developed by Aristophanes, who ridiculed society and politics. In history, Herodotus is called the “Father of History” for his *Histories*, and Thucydides wrote *History of the Peloponnesian War*. Later, Plutarch wrote biographies of great men. In oratory, Demosthenes was a famous orator who opposed Macedonian rule. Thus, Greek literature has left a permanent legacy to world culture.

#### **Question 5.**

Briefly explain the contribution of the Greeks to science.

#### **Answer:**

The Greeks made pioneering contributions to science. They were curious and sought natural explanations for phenomena. In medicine, Hippocrates laid the foundations of modern medicine and taught that diseases had natural causes, not due to evil spirits. Herophilus is called the “Father of Anatomy”. In

mathematics, Pythagoras developed geometry, and Euclid wrote *Elements of Geometry*. Archimedes made discoveries in physics, including the principle of the lever and buoyancy.

In astronomy, Ptolemy believed Earth was the centre of the universe, while Aristarchus proposed the heliocentric theory that the Earth revolved around the Sun. Eratosthenes calculated the circumference of the Earth with remarkable accuracy and prepared a world map. Theophrastus, a student of Aristotle, laid the foundation of botany. The Greeks also studied zoology and natural sciences under Aristotle, who is called the “Father of Biology and Political Science”. Their scientific spirit influenced later civilizations and laid the base for modern science.

### **Question 6.**

What are the contributions of the Greeks to Art and Architecture?

### **Answer:**

The Greeks excelled in art and architecture, which reflected beauty, harmony, and balance. Early buildings were made of wood and sun-dried bricks, later replaced with marble. They developed three distinct styles – Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian. The most famous building is the Parthenon in Athens, built under Pericles, dedicated to Goddess Athena. It was adorned with sculptures by Phidias, the greatest sculptor of Greece.

Another sculptor, Myron, is famous for the statue *Discus Thrower*. Greek art glorified the human body and portrayed Gods in human form. They also excelled in painting, especially vase painting, which depicted scenes of daily life and mythology. Greek influence also spread to India, where it gave rise to the Gandhara School of Art. Architecture and sculpture from Greece set the foundation for Roman and Renaissance



art. Thus, Greek art and architecture are considered timeless contributions to world heritage.

#### **IV. Answer in 30 to 40 Sentence. (Each carries 10 Marks)**

##### **Question 1.**

Discuss the contributions of Greeks.

##### **Answer:**

- The Greeks made remarkable contributions to the growth of human civilization. Ancient Greece is often called the “cradle of Western civilization” because of its lasting influence in the fields of politics, literature, science, philosophy, art, and architecture.
- One of the greatest contributions of the Greeks was in the field of **politics**. The Greeks introduced the concept of **city-states** like Athens and Sparta, each with its own system of governance. Among them, Athens became famous for developing **democracy**, where citizens were given the right to participate in government. Leaders like **Solon, Cleisthenes, and Pericles** laid the foundation for democratic institutions, which later inspired modern democracies around the world.
- In the field of **literature**, the Greeks made outstanding progress. **Homer’s epics – the Iliad and the Odyssey** – are timeless classics that influenced later European literature. Greek dramatists like **Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides** developed tragedy, while **Aristophanes** contributed to comedy. Their plays dealt with themes of human suffering, justice, and social issues, and are performed even today. The Greek poet **Sappho** was known for lyric poetry, while **Pindar** glorified athletic victories.
- The Greeks also excelled in **history writing**. **Herodotus**, often called the “Father of History,” wrote about the

Persian wars. **Thucydides** gave a scientific and analytical account of the Peloponnesian wars. Their works emphasized critical inquiry and accuracy, setting a model for modern historians.

- In **philosophy**, the Greeks produced some of the greatest thinkers. **Socrates** emphasized questioning and moral philosophy. **Plato** wrote “The Republic” and discussed justice, equality, and ideal states. **Aristotle**, the disciple of Plato, contributed immensely to logic, politics, ethics, and natural sciences. Their philosophical ideas continue to guide human thought.
- Greek contributions to **science and mathematics** were also significant. **Pythagoras** developed the Pythagorean theorem, **Euclid** wrote “Elements” on geometry, and **Archimedes** worked on mechanics and hydrostatics. **Hippocrates**, known as the “Father of Medicine,” laid the foundation for scientific medicine and established ethical principles for doctors.
- In **art and architecture**, the Greeks achieved perfection. They developed three architectural styles – **Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian**. The **Parthenon temple of Athens** is a masterpiece of Greek architecture. Greek sculpture aimed at realism and beauty, producing statues like those of **Zeus and Athena**. They introduced the concept of harmony and proportion in art.
- The Greeks also contributed to **sports and culture**. The **Olympic Games** began in 776 BCE in Olympia to honor Zeus. These games promoted physical fitness, unity, and cultural exchange among the Greeks.

