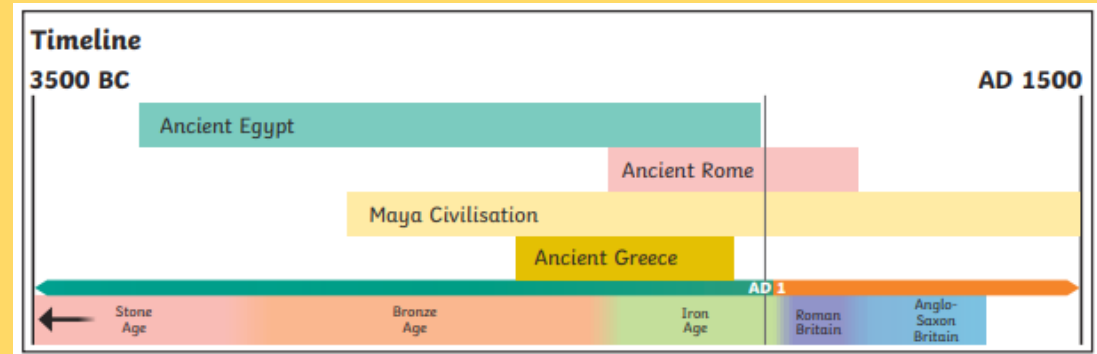


What made the Ancient Greeks successful warriors?

Key vocabulary	Definition
ancient	Something from a very long time ago.
civilisation	A human society with well-developed rules and government, often where technology and the arts are considered important.
city states	Small areas that Ancient Greece was divided into, each with their own governments, laws and army.
empire	A group of countries or states that are ruled by one ruler or country.
legacies	Things that exist after someone dies or after a civilisation or event ends.
democracy	A system where the citizens of a country or state are involved in the way it is run.
myth	A story from ancient times about something that happened long ago that some people believed to be true.



The Spartans and the Athenians



Much of what we see of the Spartans on television and in films is based on **myth** and does not present the Spartans accurately. The Spartans were known for their strong army and ability to fight. In childhood, boys were trained to be warriors. Girls were taught academic subjects and how to fight.

The Athenians were known for their cultural developments and learning. Girls did not go to school but many were taught how to look after the home and family.

Ancient Greek Gods and Goddesses

The **ancient** Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. Each god/goddess represented a certain aspect of humanity and each was responsible for certain parts of life too.

- Festivals were held to celebrate the gods and goddesses.
- It is believed that the 12 most powerful gods lived on Mount Olympus.
- Zeus was the most powerful of all the gods. He was god of the sky and the king of Mount Olympus.



Myths

The Trojan War is a very famous **ancient** Greek **myth**.



- Many people believe that it is a **myth** but that there is some historical truth behind it.
- The Trojan War was between the Greek and the Trojan Armies.
- In the story, the Greeks pretended to surrender, leaving a gift of a giant horse for the Trojans. The gift was brought inside the city walls. During the night, Greek soldiers hiding inside the horse let the Greek army inside Troy's walls and the city was destroyed.

The Olympics

The Olympics were first held in **ancient** Greece in 776 BC. This is one of the **legacies** of **ancient** Greece.



Events included boxing, wrestling, running and chariot racing.

Women were not allowed to compete in the Olympics. This was because **ancient** Greek women were not treated as equals to men and had fewer freedoms.

The idea for the marathon also originates from this time.