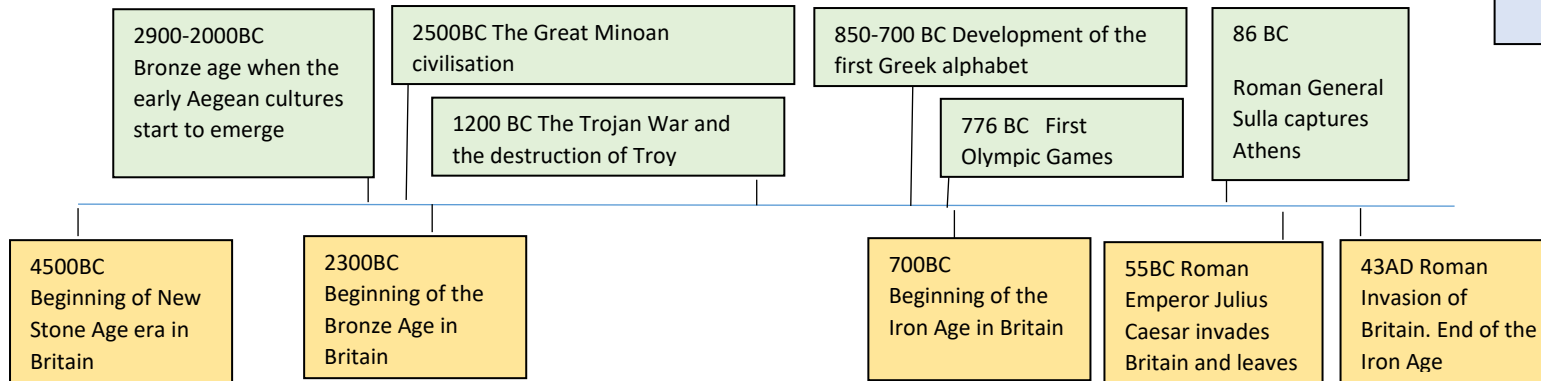


Ancient Greece

KEY CONCEPT:

The Parthenon:



Key Vocabulary

Acropolis	An acropolis is a fortified citadel within a larger city. It is usually located on top of a hill and at the centre of the city.
Fresco	A painting on freshly applied plaster, usually on a wall.
Democracy	A form of government where citizens have a say in how they are ruled including choosing their leaders and deciding on laws
Government	A type of system by which a community or nation is governed.
Olympics	An athletic event held by the Ancient Greeks every four years
Polis	Is a city state, which is like a small country within Greece.

What did the ancient Greeks do for us?

- They gave us Democracy - a form of government where the people elect (vote) for who they want to represent them.
- The alphabet - The first 2 letters of the Greek alphabet are alpha and beta – which is where we get the word alphabet from. Letters from the Greek alphabet are also used in many mathematical and scientific equations. Many words we use today have their origins in Ancient Greece.
- Theatre - The Ancient Greeks invented the idea of written drama performed by actors.

Ancient Greece was not a single country but was made up of many city states (called a Polis). The most famous are: Athens, Sparta and Corinth.

The Minoans are the oldest Ancient Greek civilisation and originate from the island of Crete.

The city states used to fight each other. The Olympics began in Ancient Greece and were a time of peace when warring states could try to come to a peaceful agreement. The original games were held in Olympia in 776 BC and were part of a religious ceremony.

The Ancient Greeks worshipped many gods and goddesses. Zeus was the king of the gods. Others included: Poseidon, Aphrodite, Athena, Demeter and Apollo.

The Romans gave a lot of the Greek gods Roman names. E.G. Poseidon is the Greek name and Neptune is the Roman name for the same god of the sea. The Greeks had a lot of myths and legends which featured Greek heroes and mythical creatures.

Famous Greek heroes included: Heracles (The Romans called him Hercules) Perseus and Theseus.

