Agenda -9/12

- Peer evaluations!
- Notetaking!
  - I'll give you a copy!
- Classical Civilizations: compare and contrast!
  - Today: political!
- Homework: none ☺

THE CLASSICAL CIVILIZATIONS (600 BCE – 600 CE)

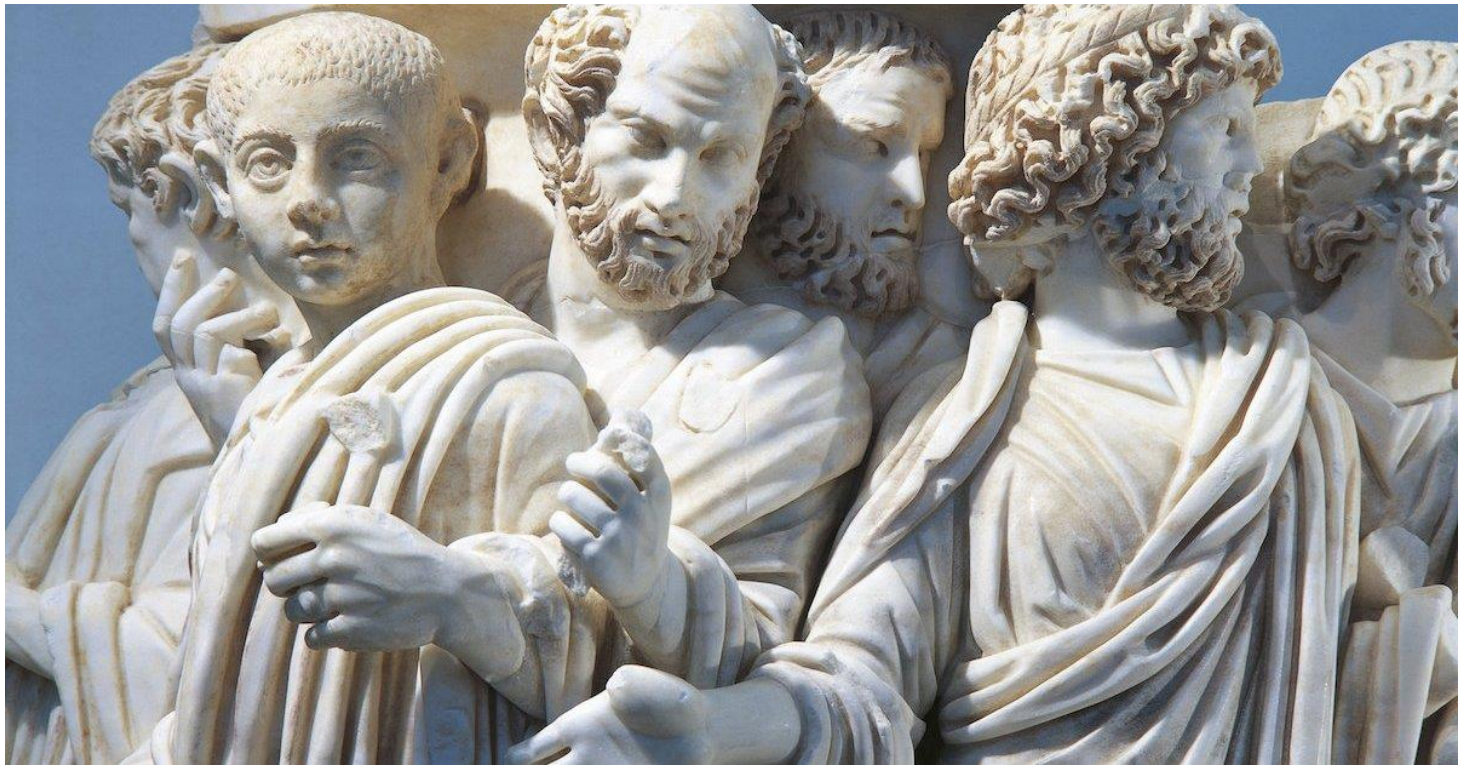
Europe: Greece, Rome, Persia, *Hellenistic Era (when Alexander the Great conquers Greece and Persia)*

South Asia: Maurya and Gupta

East Asia: Qin and Han Dynasties

Central America: Maya

SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES IN **POLITICAL STRUCTURES**



SIMILARITIES

- Brainstorm!
- What are some political similarities that you can see across the classical civilizations?

Government: similarities

- Usually one king/emperor/priest-king
- Law code that applies to all people
- Wars over expansion
- Power determined by wealth or birthright

The exceptions!

GREECE

MAYA

ROMAN REPUBLIC

PERSIA (KIND OF)

Greece and Maya

Greece and the Maya were broken up into **city-states**.

In the Maya, a leader of one of the city-states could conquer nearby city-states and lead the region. This is similar to…

Greece and Maya

Greek city-states were isolated (due to mountains!), → less conflict

Mayan city-states experiences more conflict due to more interaction with each other

Greece

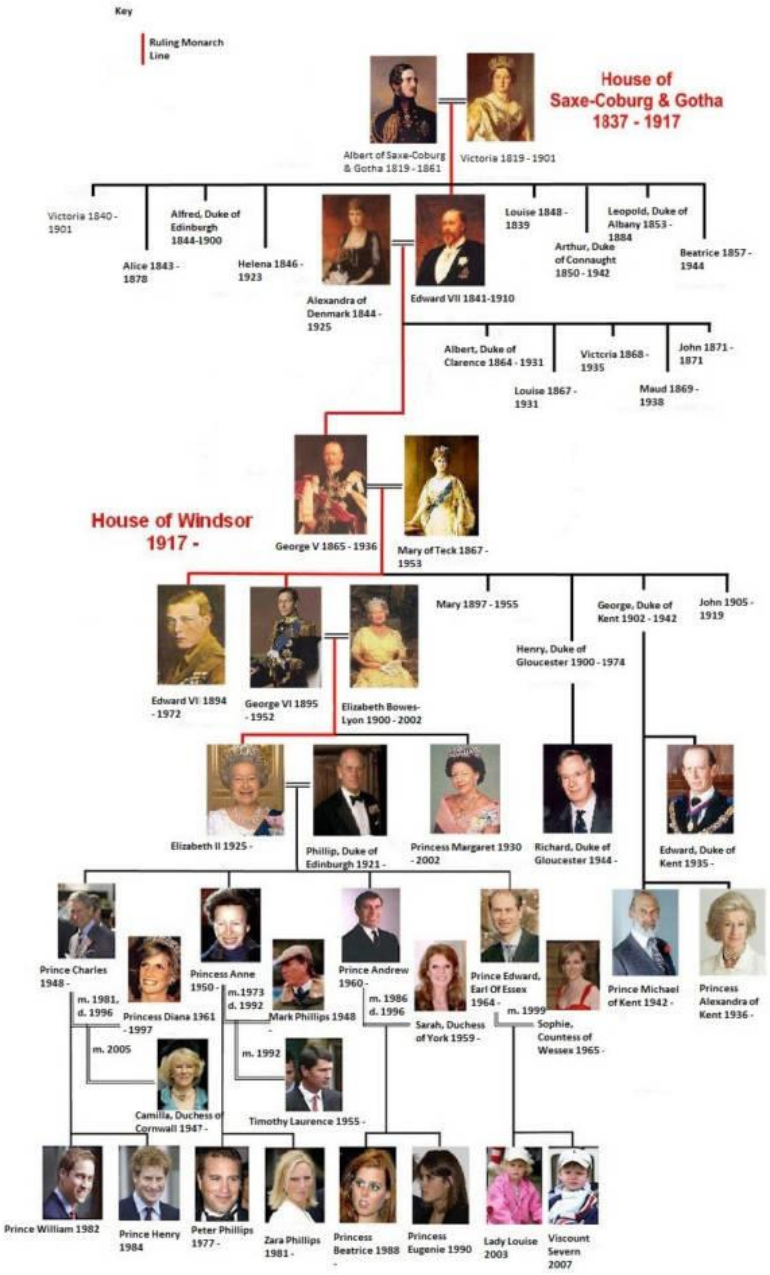
Greece was a collection of city-states (the Greek word for city-states is ***polis***)

Wait: quick review -

TYPES OF GOVERNMENT IN CLASSICAL GREECE

Monarchy

- Rule by a king/queen
- One family – rule is hereditary
- *Practiced in Mycenae*



TYPES OF GOVERNMENT IN CLASSICAL GREECE

Aristocracy

- Rule by the wealthy nobles
- Social status and wealth support a ruler's authority
- *Practiced in Corinth*

TYPES OF GOVERNMENT IN CLASSICAL GREECE

Oligarchy

- Rule by a small group of people
- Usually based on wealth or ability
- Practiced in Sparta
  - Technically, they had a *diarchy*

EVOLUTION TOWARD DEMOCRACY

Monarchy

Rule by one (king/queen)

Aristocracy

Rule by wealthy nobles

Oligarchy

Rule by a small group of people

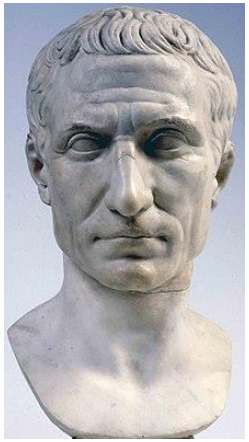
TYPES OF GOVERNMENT IN CLASSICAL GREECE

Tyrant

- A tyrant is a leader who seizes power without the legal right to do so
  - And does so by appealing to the poor and unhappy

(Some tyrants are bad.)

(But some tyrants are good.)



(And sometimes historians disagree over the goodness of tyrants.)

QUICK DISCUSSION

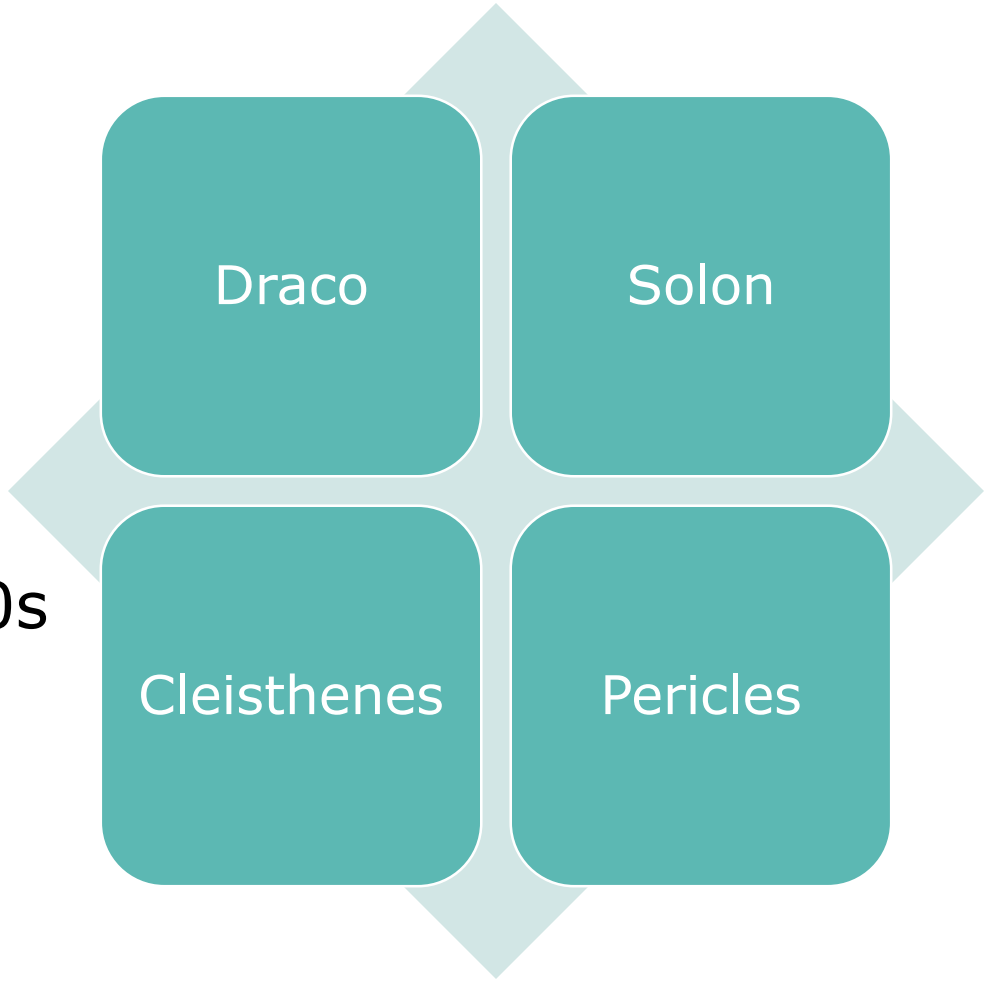
- Which type of government is the most effective?
  - *Monarchy – Aristocracy – Oligarchy – Tyranny*

- Take one minute to decide which you think is the most effective at maintaining and improving a civilization. Be able to *justify* why your choice is correct.
- Share with a partner! Argue (respectfully)!

ATHENS AND ATHENIAN DEMOCRACY

- Democracy
  - *Demos* ("people") + *kratein* ("to rule")

- Democracy developed through various reforms over 200 years (circa 620s BCE-420 BCE)



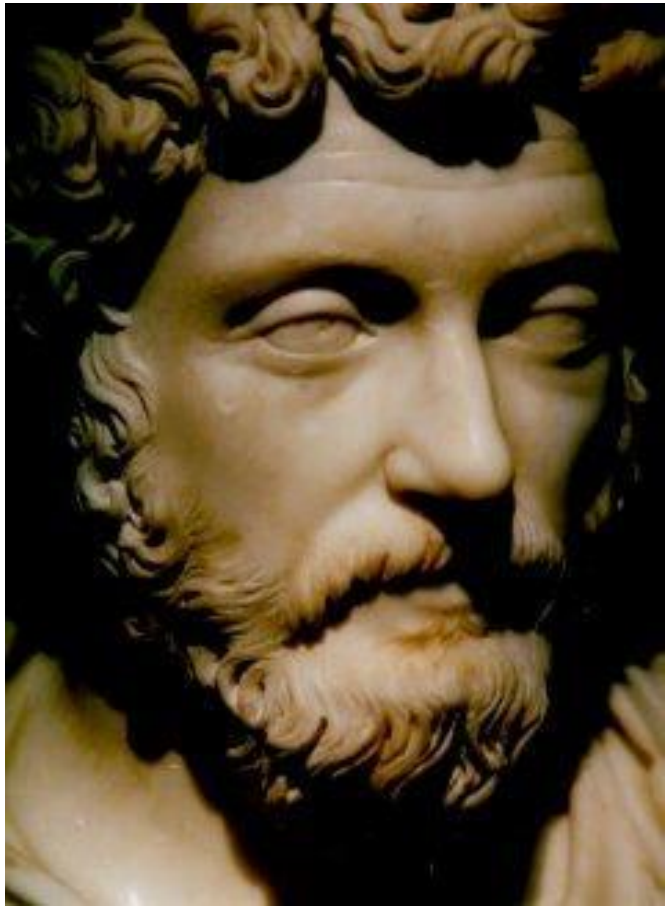
BEGINNINGS OF DEMOCRACY

- Created in response to **aristocrats**' fear of a revolution by the people* > created a limited democracy where:
  - All Athenian citizens could participate in government.
    - But… only 1/5 of Athenians were considered "citizens."

**peasant revolts are the real deal, y'all*

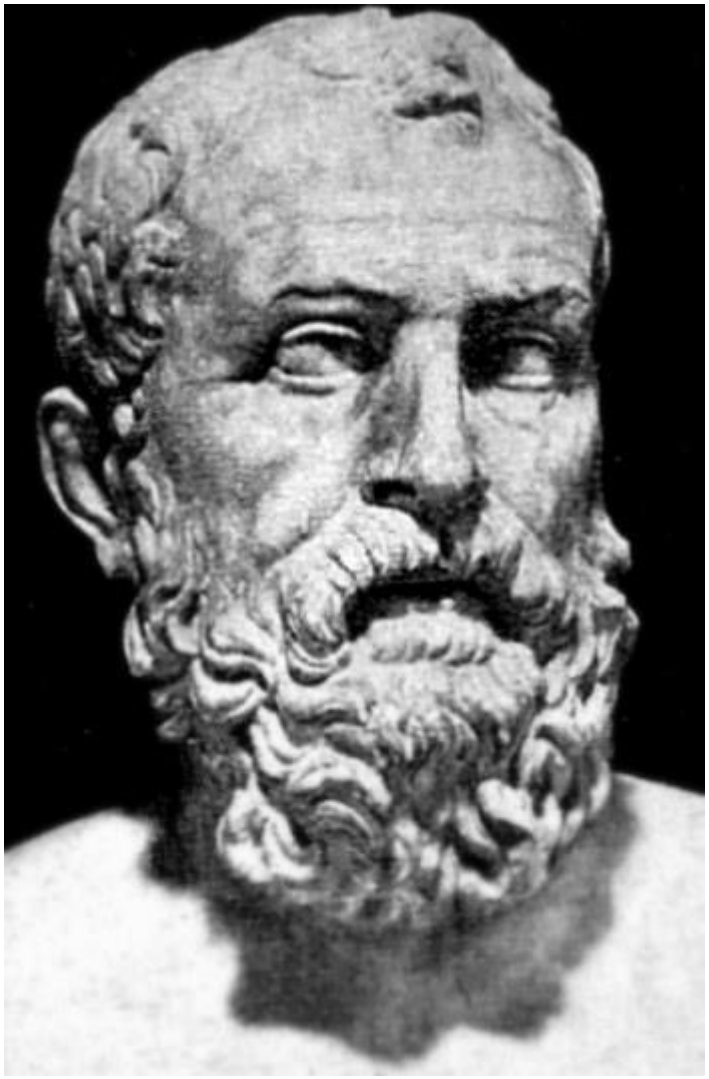
DRACO – 621 BCE

- Athenian noble
- Credited with putting down first written laws of Athens
  - **Severe law code** (modern English term *draconian* meaning "severe" or "harsh")
  - Written "in blood, not ink"



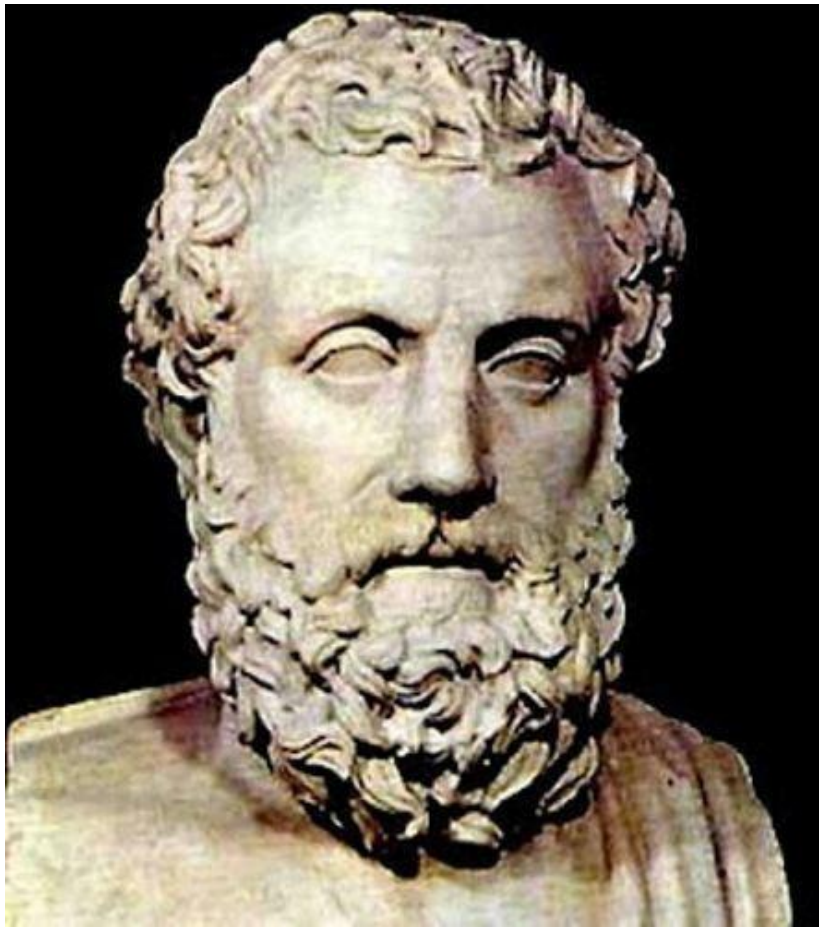
SOLON – 594 BCE

- Rewrote Draco's laws
- Helped the poor
  - All citizens could participate in the legislature
  - Limited amount of land a person could own



CLEISTHENES – 508 BCE

- Created **Council of 500**
  - Created and administered laws after they were approved
- "Executive power" branch
  - Ten generals called *strategi*
  - Elected for one year
- Citizenship granted to some former slaves and immigrants
- Ostracism
  - Names written on ostrakon (piece of broken potsherd) once a year
  - Most votes = ten years of exile



PERICLES – 461-429 BCE

- "Golden Age of Pericles" – 461-429 B.C.E.
- Repeatedly elected as a *strategus*
- Paid people for government service

ATHENIAN DEMOCRACY: ITS FLAWS

- Athens' adult population: around 300,000
  - 150,000 foreigners and slaves (not citizens)
  - 110,000 women, children
  - 40,000 male citizens with voting rights
- **Direct democracy** – the citizen had to be there to vote (typically 5,000-6,000 voted at a time)
  - Women had few rights and opportunities
  - Slavery played a major role in the economy
  - Orators often used forceful and coercive language, rather than logic, to sway voters

QUICK DISCUSSION

- Is there a downside of a ***direct democracy***?

- Is there a downside of democracy in general?

Roman Republic

Agenda -9/13

- Notetaking!
  - I'll give you a copy!
- Classical Civilizations: compare and contrast!
  - Today: political! **And conflict!**
- Homework: none ☺

ROMAN REPUBLIC: POLITICAL

Government – everyone is **elected**!

TWO CONSULS
(*monarchical*)

- Had to agree on decisions
- Served one year – and could not be elected again for 10 years

SENATE
(*aristocratic*)

- Patricians
- Pass laws
- Gave advice to consuls
- Influential – ended up controlling much of the republic

ASSEMBLY
(*democratic*)

- Plebeian representatives called "tribunes"
- Appointed to give the lower class a voice

In times of crisis, the consuls would nominate a person to become **dictator**. His power lasted six months.

ROMAN REPUBLIC: POLITICAL

- Law code = Twelve Tables
  - Publicly displayed in the Roman **Forum** – Rome's public meeting place

The Twelve Tables

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

- Writing practice!
- In your notes, respond to the following prompt:
  - Identify and explain one political similarity between two of the classical empires.
    - Remember: **C.E.R.**
      - Claim! (answer the question)
      - Evidence! (support it with specific evidence)
      - Reasoning! (tell me why/how!)

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

- Writing practice!
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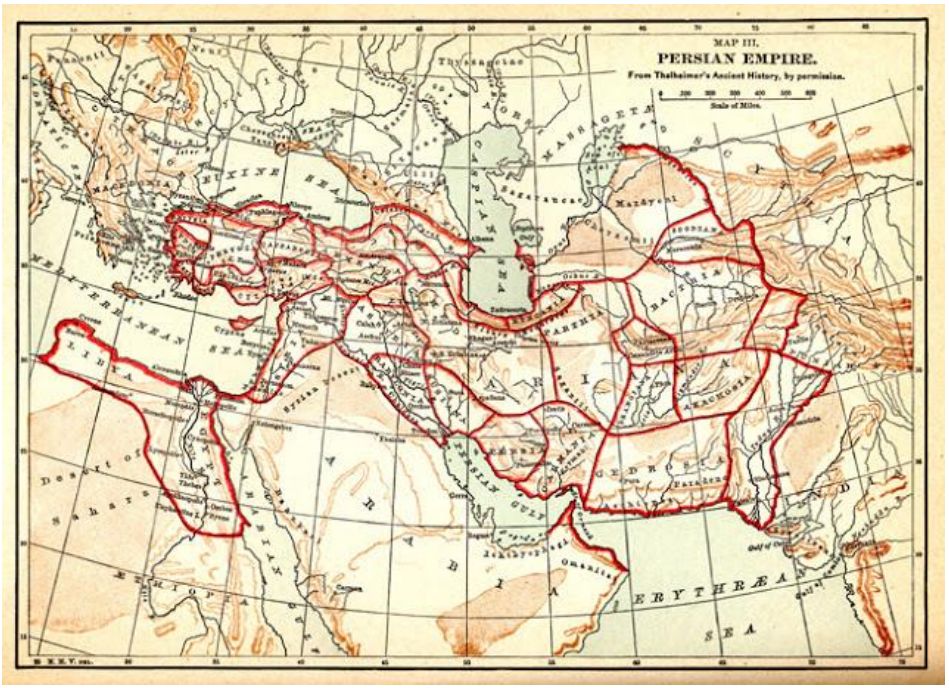
Persia

PERSIAN EMPIRE (AKA ACHAEMENID EMPIRE)

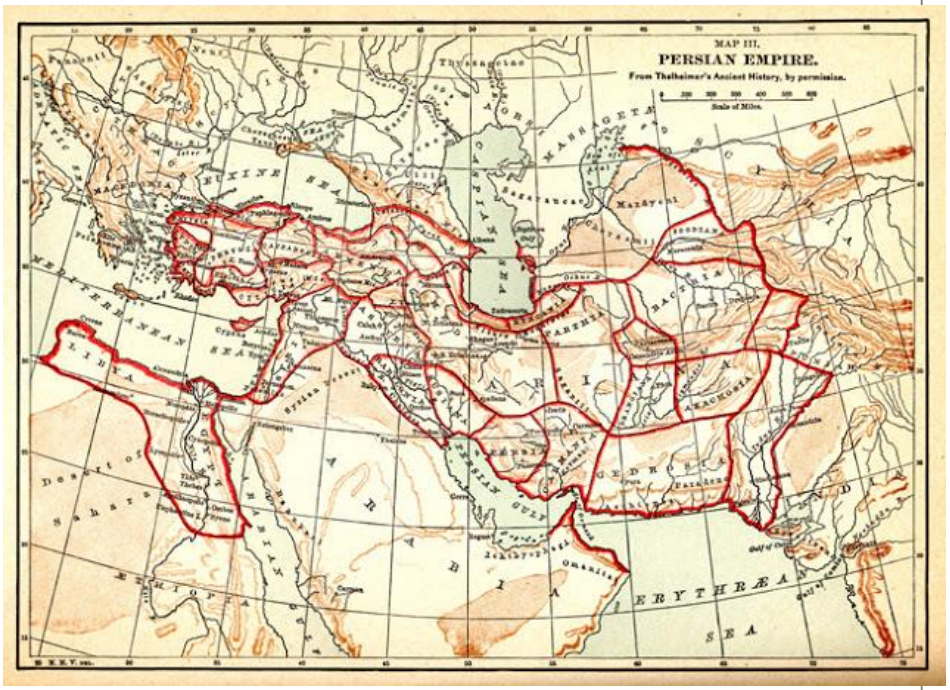
PERSIAN EMPIRE: POLITICAL

- **Satraps**: governors to rule provinces for the central government
  - Ruled over satrapies
  - Represented emperor, maintained defense, collected taxes



PERSIAN EMPIRE: POLITICAL

- Checked on by "King's Eyes and Ears"
  - Elite group of imperial spies ☺
- Local people still made up local governance



POLITICAL SIMILARITIES: CONFLICT. LOTS OF IT.

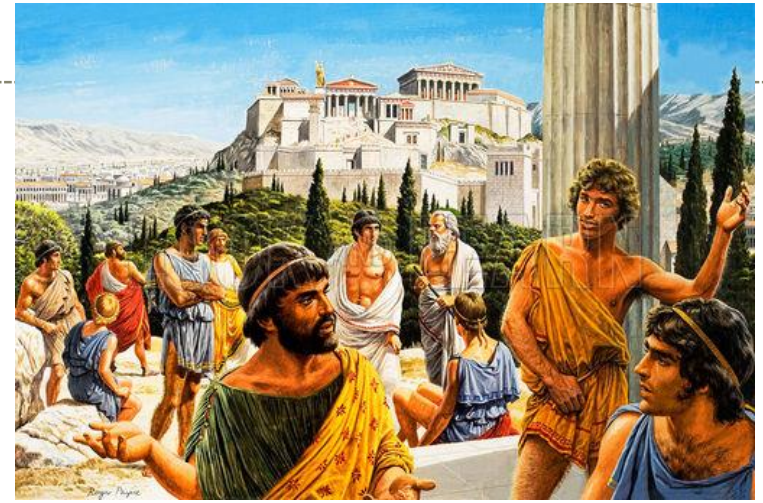
WHY WOULD THESE EMPIRES AND CIVILIZATIONS EXPERIENCE CONFLICT WITH EACH OTHER? BRAINSTORM ☺

MAJOR CITIES: TEOTIHUACAN, CARTHAGE, ROME, ATHENS, ALEXANDRIA, CONSTANTINOPLE, PERSEPOLIS, PATALIPUTRA, CHANG'AN

MAJOR EMPIRES: MAYA, ROME (REPUBLIC & EMPIRE), GREEK CITY STATES (ATHENS, SPARTA, ETC.), PHOENICIA, PERSIA (ACHAEMENID, PARTHIAN, SASSANID), INDIA (MAURYAN, GUPTAN), CHINA (QIN, HAN)

MAJOR INVASIONS: NORTHERN & EASTERN EUROPE TO ROME, WHITE HUNS INTO INDIA, XIONGNU INTO HAN CHINA

The Persian Wars



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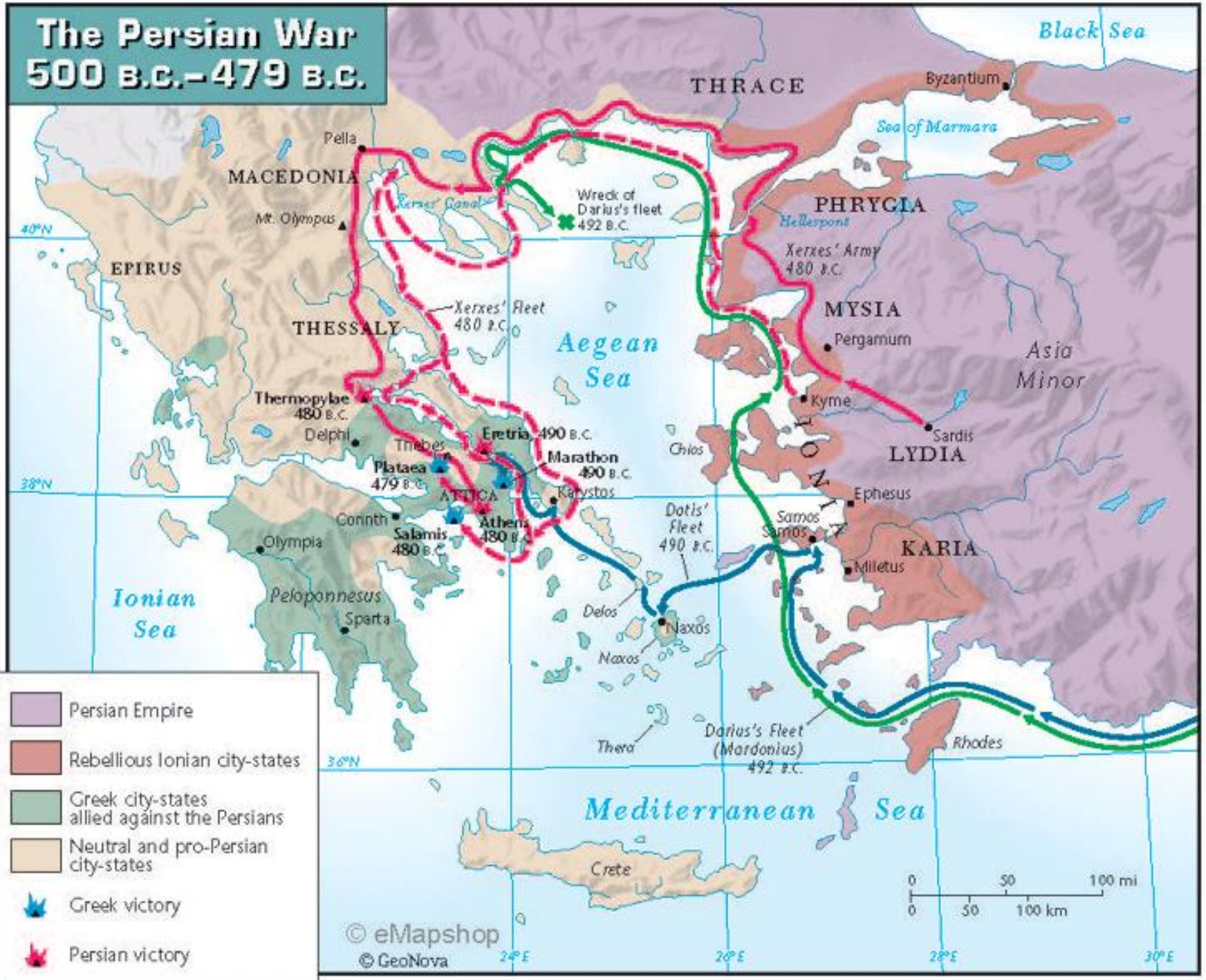

The Persian War
500 B.C.–479 B.C.
Black Sea
THRACE
Byzantium
Sea of Marmara
Pella
MACEDONIA
Mt. Olympus
Xerxes' Canal
Wreck of Darius's fleet 492 B.C.
PHRYGIA
Hellespont
Xerxes' Army 480 B.C.
40°N
EPIRUS
THESSALY
Xerxes' Fleet 480 B.C.
Aegean Sea
MYSIA
Pergamum
Asia Minor
Thermopylae 480 B.C.
Delphi
Thebes
Eretria 490 B.C.
Marathon 490 B.C.
Plataea 479 B.C.
Kyme
Sardis
LYDIA
Chios
38°N
ATTICA
Karystos
Ephesus
Corinth
Athens 480 B.C.
Salamis 480 B.C.
Olympia
Datis' Fleet 490 B.C.
Samos
Samos
KARIA
Miletus
Ionian Sea
Peloponnesus
Sparta
Delos
Naxos
Naxos
Thera
Darius's Fleet (Mardonius) 492 B.C.
Rhodes
36°N
Mediterranean Sea
Crete
Persian Empire
Rebellious Ionian city-states
Greek city-states allied against the Persians
Neutral and pro-Persian city-states
Greek victory
Persian victory
0 50 100 mi
0 50 100 km
© eMapshop
© GeoNova
24°E
26°E
28°E
30°E

GRECO-PERSIAN WARS: WHY DID THEY START?

- Ethnic Greeks living in **Ionia** (coast of Turkey) rebelled against the Persians, with the help of some city-states (especially **Athens**)
- Persian rulers put down the rebellion and invaded Greece as punishment
- Two major invasions – 490BCE (Darius) and 480BCE (Xerxes)

GRECO-PERSIAN WARS:

Some Greek poleis were in support of the Persian Empire.

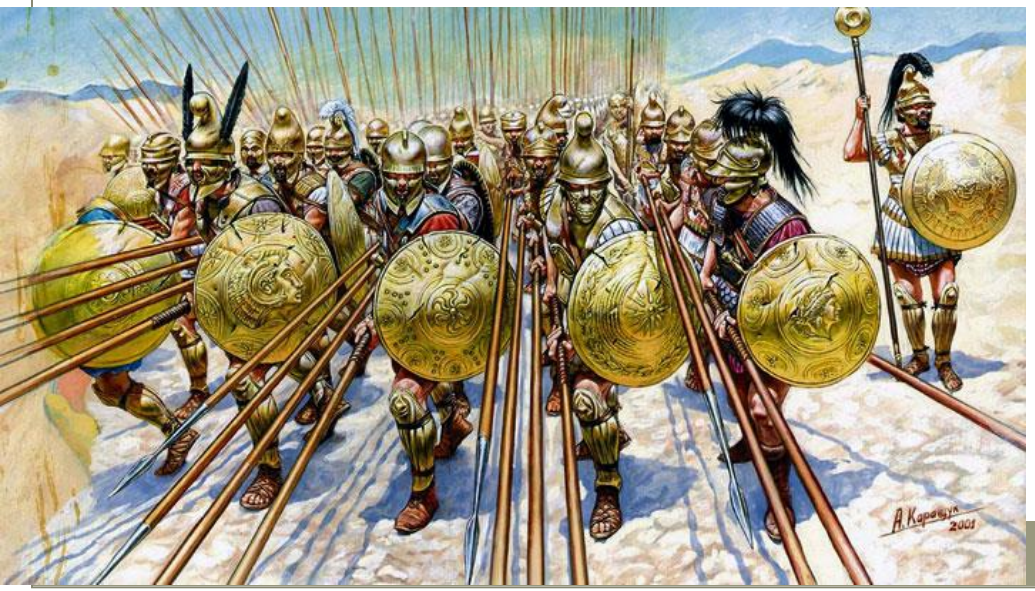
Why?

GRECO-PERSIAN WARS:

Athens and Sparta, most notably, were not.

Why?

GRECO-PERSIAN WARS: Fighting style



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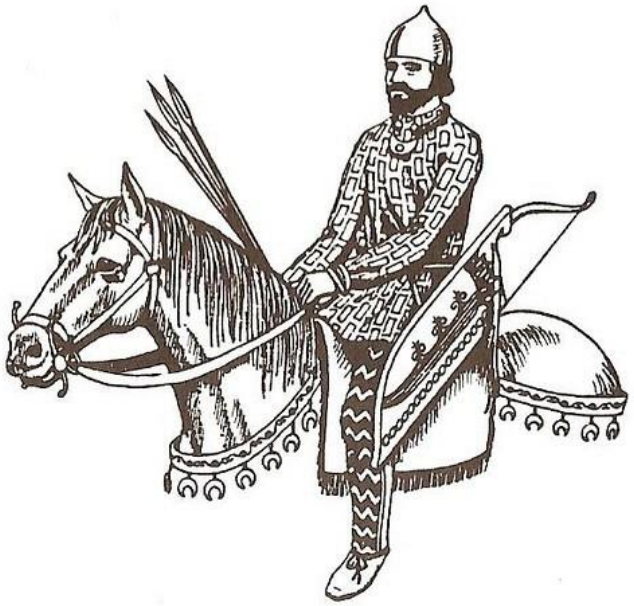
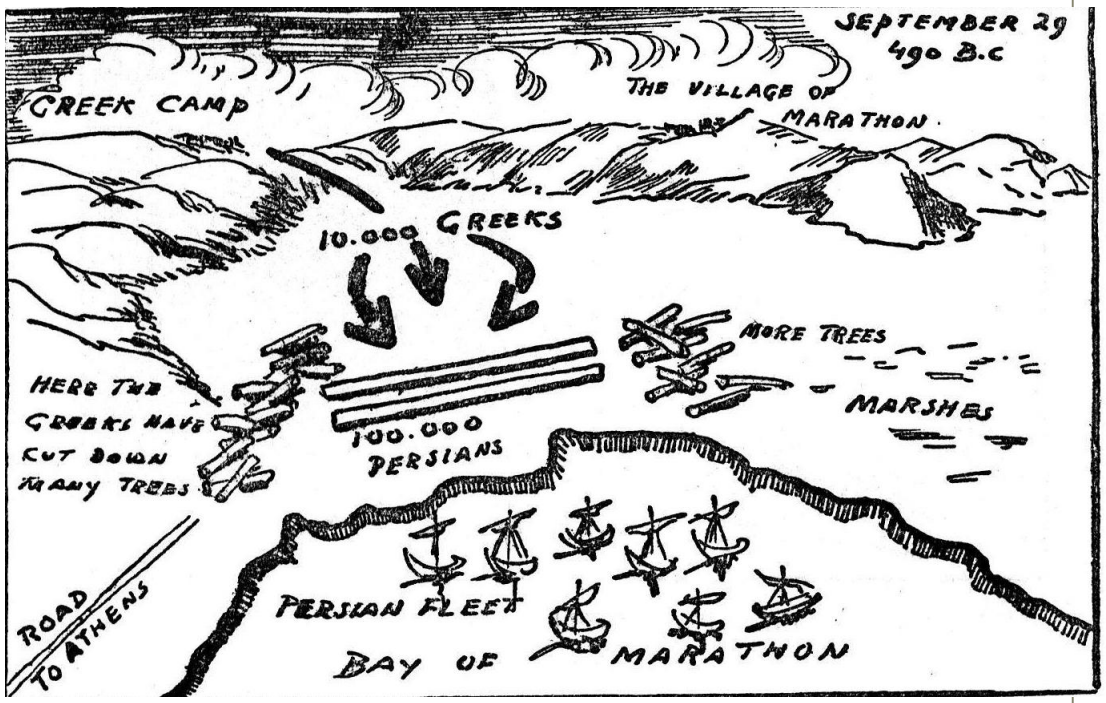


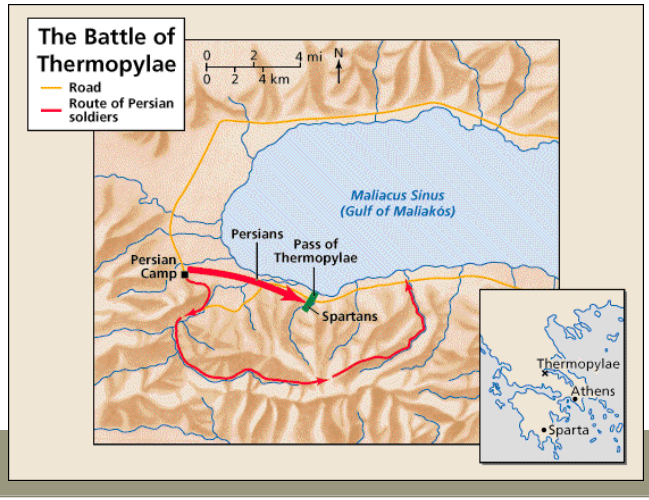
GRECO-PERSIAN WARS: MAJOR EVENTS

- **Battle of Marathon 490 BCE**
  - 10,000 vs somewhere between 15,000 and 600,000
  - Athenians defeat Darius's troops



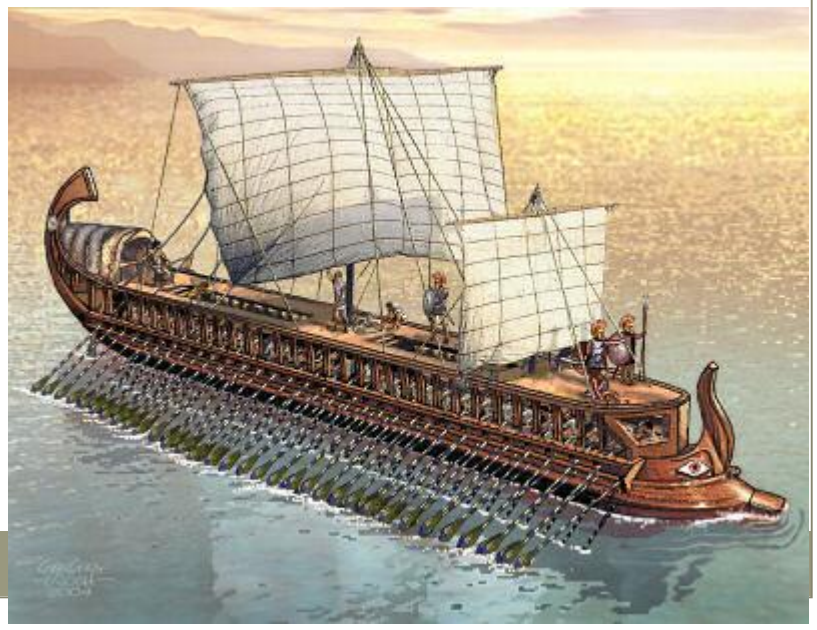
GRECO-PERSIAN WARS: MAJOR EVENTS

- **Battle of Thermopylae 480BCE**
  (aka, the 'Hot Gates')
  - Xerxes invades and defeats Spartans (think: the movie *300*)
    - Offered peace a ton of times; Leonidas says no
    - *"Molon labe" : "Come and take them"*



GRECO-PERSIAN WARS:

- **Battle of Salamis 480BCE**
  - Athenian naval victory over Xerxes's forces (decisive battle of the war)
  - According to some historians, the most important battle in all of world history



GRECO-PERSIAN WARS: EFFECT?

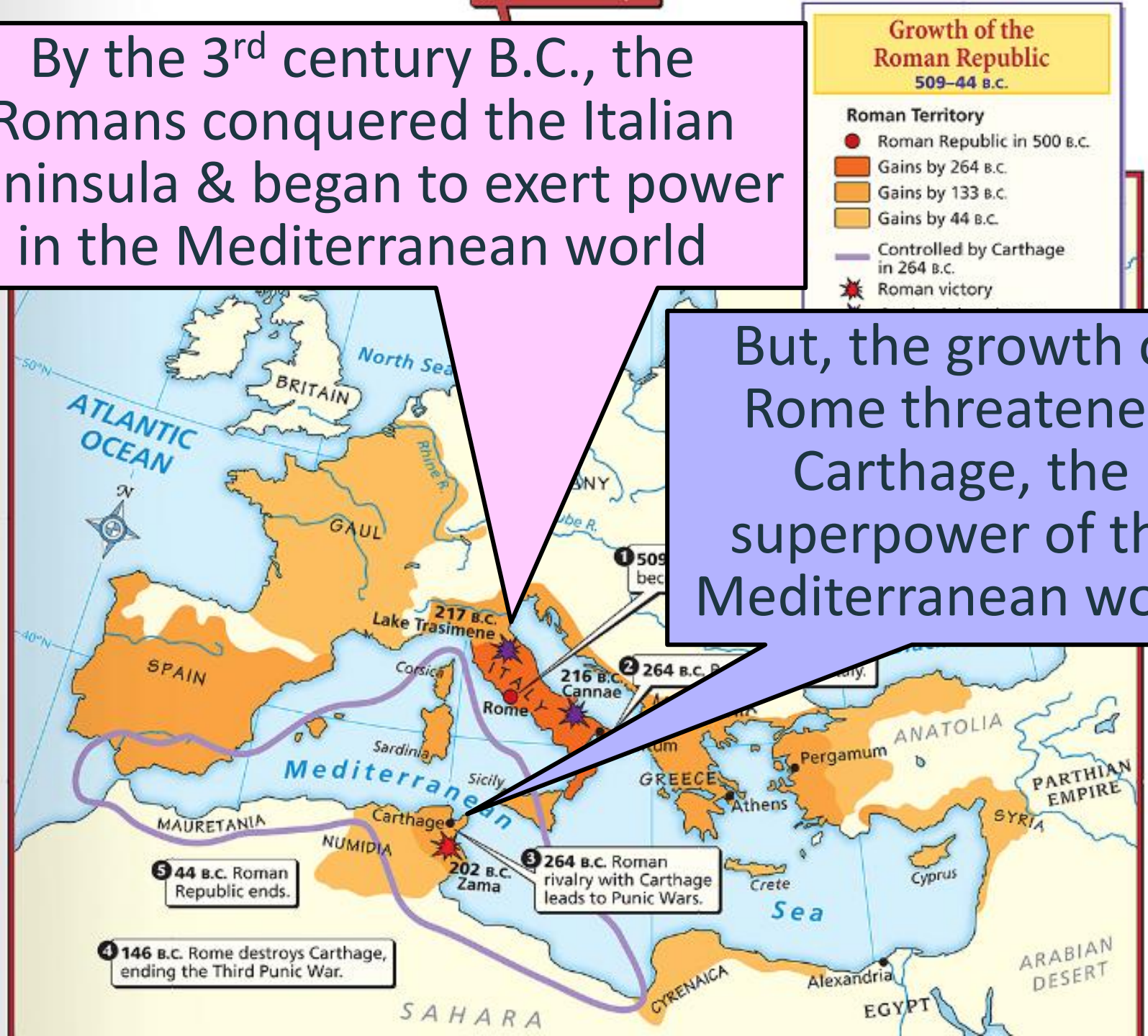
- Greeks win and remain independent
  - Start to view themselves as a united Greece and not only independent poleis
    - **Delian League**
- Persia does not collapse – it just doesn't conquer Greece
- Leads to the **Golden Age of Greece** and the height of Athenian power

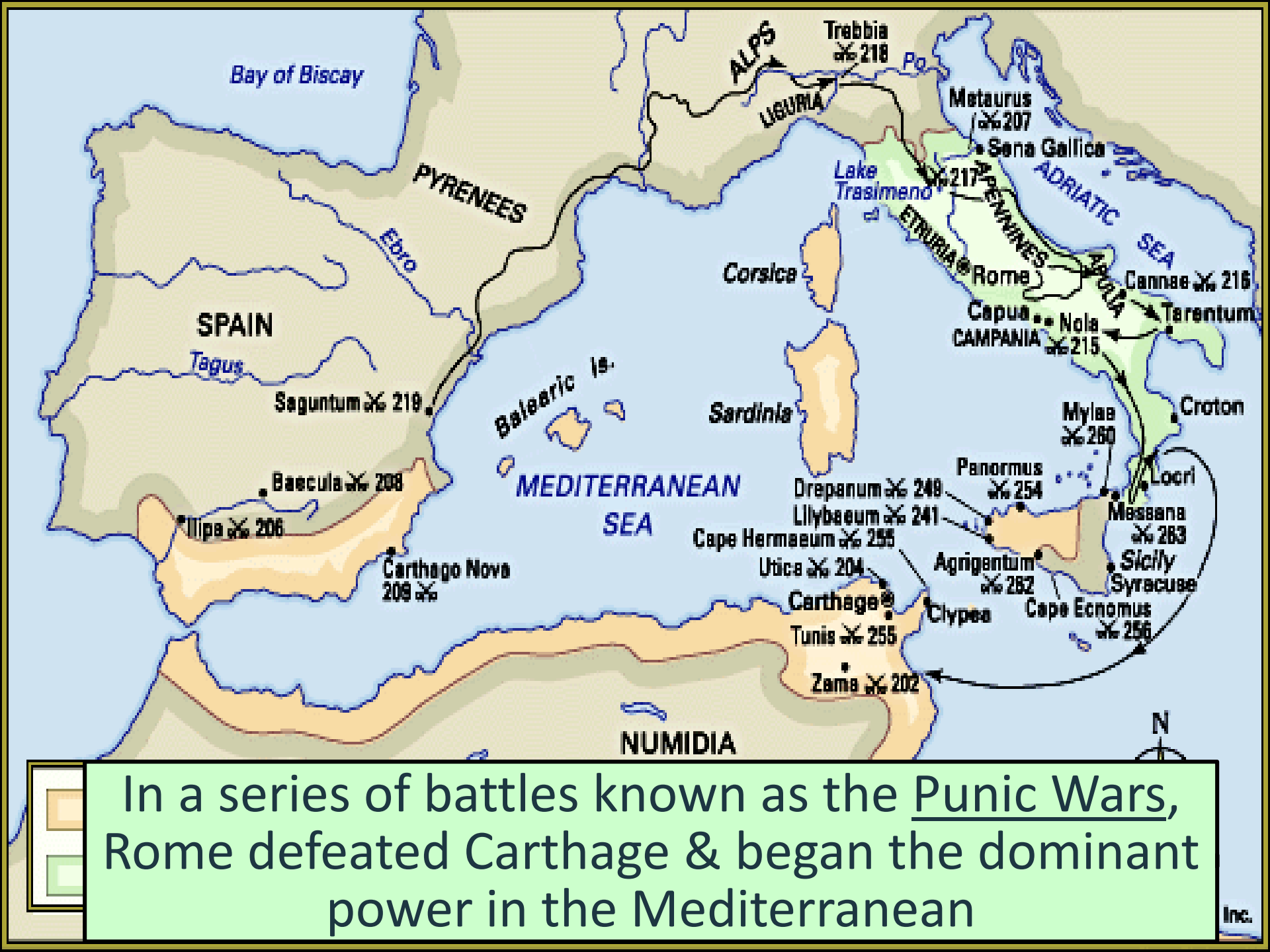
(and then Alexander the Great conquers everyone)

Conflict in the Roman Republic

By the 3rd century B.C., the Romans conquered the Italian peninsula & began to exert power in the Mediterranean world

But, the growth of Rome threatened Carthage, the superpower of the Mediterranean world





In a series of battles known as the Punic Wars, Rome defeated Carthage & began the dominant power in the Mediterranean

ROMAN REPUBLIC: POLITICAL

- Punic Wars
  BCE – 146
  1. Rome won
  2. Hannibal –
     elephants
     the Alps
  3. Rome took
     Carthage;
     everyone s

     And they
     the earth

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

- Writing practice!
- In your notes, respond to the following prompt:
  - Identify and explain one cause of conflict during the Classical Era.
    - Remember: **C.E.R.**
      - Claim! (answer the question)
      - Evidence! (support it with specific evidence)
      - Reasoning! (tell me why/how!)