Contributions of the Ancient Greeks
Document-Based Question
DBQ to be introduced near the conclusion of this unit of study

Directions: The task below is based on documents 1 through 6. This task is designed to test your ability to work with historical documents. Look at each document and answer the question or questions after each document. Use your answers to the questions and your background knowledge of social studies to help you write the essay.

Theme:
Contributions of the ancient Greeks

Historical Background:
The ancient Greeks laid the foundation for the modern world. Many of their contributions or inventions in government, arts, architecture, and medicine continue to influence our lives today.

Task:
For Part A, read each document carefully and answer the question or questions after each document. Then read the directions for Part B and write your essay.

For Part B, use your answers from Part A, the information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies to write a well-organized essay. In your essay you should:

- Describe three ancient Greek contributions that continue to influence our lives today. Explain how they affect our lives.
Give one difference between aristocratic rule and democracy.

Name one event that occurred before the beginning of Hoplite warfare.

List three kinds of governments that developed in the Greek city-states.

Greek Democracy Timeline

Directions: Read each document and answer the questions that follow each document in the space provided.

Part A

Short Answer Questions
Athens had courts of law with trial by jury. Juries were much larger than today, with several hundred members. They used from 500 to 1501 people, in part as protection against bribes: who could afford to bribe 500 people? After listening to the evidence, jurors voted by placing metal discs into one of two jars - one for guilty, one for not guilty. Punishments were decided by the court, and included the death penalty.

All jurors were required to swear this oath by the gods of Zeus, Apollo, and Demeter:

"I will cast my vote (according to) the laws and decrees passed by the Assembly and by the Council, but, if there is no law, then (according to) my sense of what is most just, without favor or enmity, I will vote only on the matters raised in the charge, and I will listen impartially to the accusers and defenders alike."

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>just</th>
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<tr>
<td>enmity</td>
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<tr>
<td>impartially</td>
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<td>fairly</td>
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Source:
BBC - Schools - Ancient Greece Athens
http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ancientgreece/athens/guilty.shtml
Criminal Procedure in Ancient Greece and the Trial of Socrates
http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/socrates/greekimpro.html

1. Why did Athens have so many people on their juries?

2. List two promises that jurors made by taking the oath.

3. List one similarity and one difference between jury trials in Athens and jury trials of today.

   Similarity:  

   Difference:  

Ancient Greek civilization was at its peak during the 400’s BC. During this period of time, sick people went to the temples dedicated to Asclepius, the Greek god of healing. They were seeking magical cures. At this time, a man named Hippocrates began teaching that every disease had only natural causes. He is known as the great Greek physician. Hippocrates was the first physician known who actually considered medicine to be a science, and to be separate from religion. He wrote the Hippocratic oath, an oath that every new doctor-to-be still says to this day. It reflected Hippocrates’s high ideals. Hippocrates created the field of medicine as we know it today. The effect of this ancient Greek physician is truly unbelievable. Thousands of people every year are reminded of that when they take his oath. Modern medicine is based on the assumption made by Hippocrates that a well-trained physician can cure illness with knowledge gained from medical writings or experience. Hippocrates is the most famous person in ancient medicine, and is often called the “Father of Medicine”.

1. How did Hippocrates’s beliefs change the way Greek people viewed illness?

2. Explain why Hippocrates’s ideas are important in today’s medical world.
Tragic and comic plays began in Athens around 500 B.C.E. Greek theaters were built on hillsides in the open air and could often hold more than 16,000 people. The theaters were built in a semi-circular shape, and in the center of the theater was a circular dancing floor for the chorus. The stage was a raised area within this circle.

At each performance there would be three serious plays, with a short break, then an amusing play. Tragedies were often about the past, while comedies were usually about everyday life. All the actors in the plays were men. They wore large masks, and the expression on the mask showed what type of character the actor was playing. When they needed to play the part of women, the actors wore wigs. Actors in comedies wore bright colors, and actors in tragedies usually wore black.

If the audience enjoyed the play, they would whistle and stamp their feet. If they didn’t enjoy the play, then they would boo and perhaps throw rocks.

Source: Anglia Campus
Ancient Greece for Kids
http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework/Greece.htm#theatre
ELAC Guide to Greek Theatre
http://www.perspicacity.com/eleactheatre/library/greektheatre/
http://www.globalquestphoto.com

1. Describe one part of the Greek theater shown in Document 4 and explain what it was used for in theatrical productions.

2. Give two ways in which the performance of a comedy was different from the performance of a tragedy in ancient Greece.

3. List one similarity and one difference between theater performances in Athens and those of today.

Similarity: _______________________

Difference: _______________________

http://www.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/Homework/Greece.htm#theatre
Tragic and comic plays began in Athens around 500 B.C.E. Greek theaters were built on hillsides in the open air and could often hold more than 18,000 people. The theaters were built in a semi-circular shape, and in the center of the theater was a circular dancing floor for the chorus. The stage was a raised area within this circle.

At each performance there would be three serious plays, with a short break, then an amusing play. Tragedies were often about the past, while comedies were usually about everyday life. All the actors in the plays were men. They wore large masks, and the expression on the mask showed what type of character the actor was playing. When they needed to play the part of women, the actors wore wigs. Actors in comedies wore bright colors, and actors in tragedies usually wore black.

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Similarity: ____________________________

Difference: ____________________________
The Olympic Games

The Greeks believed that having a physically fit body was a way of honoring the gods. The Olympic games were held in Olympia once every four years in honor of Zeus. They lasted five days, and people came from all over Greece. Wars were even postponed for three months so that people could travel safely to see the games. The events included boxing, long jumping, running, chariot races, wrestling, the pentathlon and the discus. Winning athletes were treated like heroes.

Source: Ancient Greece, World Almanac Education

1. What is being pictured on the vase in document 5?

2. Using document 5, give two examples of how the Greeks showed the importance of the Olympic games in Greek society.

3. Name one similarity and one difference between the ancient Olympic games and modern Olympic games.

   Similarity:________________________

   Difference:________________________
Religion was important to the Greeks, so it is not surprising that the temples of ancient Greece were the biggest and most beautiful buildings. They also had a political purpose, as they were often built to celebrate a town's or city's power and pride.

The Greeks are most famous for using a variety of columns in their buildings to hold and support the roofs. The pictures below show the types of columns you would see.

**Doric**  
The Doric style is rather sturdy and its top (known as the capital) is plain.

**Ionic**  
The Ionic style is thinner and more elegant. Its capital is decorated with a scroll-like design.

**Corinthian**  
The Corinthian style was rarely used in the Greek world. Its capital is very elaborate.

Source: Ancient Greece  
Voyage Back in Time  
http://oncampus.richmond.edu/academics/education/projects/webunits/greeceron/Greecearch1.html

1. What is **one** reason that temples were the most beautiful buildings Greek towns and cities?

2. Give **two** differences between a Doric column and an Ionic column.

(OVER)
3. What type of column is found in the U.S. Supreme Court building?

Sources: Acclaim Images
http://www.acclaimimages.com/_gallery/_SM/
0038-0409-0105-2144_SM.jpg
Wikimedia
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/0/00/
Jefferson_memorial_night_20040704_220948_1.752.jpg

4. Give an example of how Greek architecture influenced buildings constructed in modern time.
Part B

Essay

Directions: Write a well-organized essay using the documents, the answers to the questions in Part A, and your knowledge of social studies.

Historical Background:
The ancient Greeks laid the foundation for the modern world. Many of their contributions or inventions in government, arts, architecture, and medicine continue to influence our lives today.

Task:
Using the information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, write an essay in which you:

* Describe three ancient Greek contributions that continue to influence our lives today. Explain how they affect our lives.

In your essay remember to

* Describe three ancient Greek contributions that continue to influence our lives today. Explain how they affect our lives.

* Include an introduction, body, and a conclusion.

* Use information from at least three documents in your answer.

* Include details, examples, or reasons in developing your ideas.