**Name: April 30,2020**

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION** Why do people form governments?

**GUIDING QUESTION**  How did the culture in Athens differ from other Greek city-states?

**Athens: A Young Democracy**

Athens was another important Greek city-state. It was located northeast of Sparta. The people who lived in Athens were descended from the Mycenaean people. The Athenian people had different ideas about government and society than the people of Sparta.

In Athens, boys studied arithmetic, geometry, drawing, music, and public speaking. They also practiced sports. They believed that this type of education produced young people with strong minds and bodies. Boys finished school at age 18. At that age, they were expected to be active in public affairs.

**Girls in Athens were educated at home**.

● They learned spinning, weaving, and other household duties.

● In some wealthy families they learned to read, write, and play music.

● Women were expected to marry and raise children.

About 600 B.C. most Athenian farmers owed money to the nobles. To avoid an uprising, the nobles turned to a respected merchant named Solon (SOH.luhn). Solon ended the farmers’ debts by promoting trade and freed those who had been enslaved. He also opened up the governing assembly to all male citizens and rewrote the Athenian constitution.

In 560 B.C. another tyrant took over the government. His name was Peisistratus (py.SIHS.truht.uhs). He gave citizenship to people who did not own land. He hired the poor to build temples and divided large estates among farmers.

After Peisistratus died, Cleisthenes (KLYS.thuh.neez) took over. He gave the assembly even greater powers. Cleisthenes also created a new council of 500 citizens to help the assembly manage government business. Each year a lottery was held to choose the council members. Using a lottery meant that every citizen had a chance to be a council member.

Cleisthenes' changes made the Athenian government more democratic. However, people who were not citizens still could not participate in the government. This included all women, foreign born men, and enslaved people.

**Check for Understanding**

1 Why was Solon chosen to be leader in Athens?

2 List the three groups who were not helped by Cleisthenes changes.

3 Contrast life for girls and boys in Athens.

4 In the table below list a major change each of the three leaders did to move Athens from an oligarchy more to a democracy.

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| **Solon** | **Peisistratus** | **Cleisthenes** |
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