

CHAPTER
4
SECTION 2

Note Taking Study Guide
THE RISE OF GREEK CITY-STATES

Focus Question: How did government and culture develop as Greek city-states grew?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the outline below to record the main ideas and supporting details in this section.

I. Geography Shapes Greece

A. Landscape defines political boundaries

1. _____

2. _____

B. Life by the sea

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

II. _____

A. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

B. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

C. _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

III. _____

A. _____

1. _____

2. _____

B. _____

1. _____

(Outline continues on the next page.)

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(Continued from page 38)

	2.	_____
	3.	_____
IV.		_____
A.		_____
	1.	_____
	2.	_____
	3.	_____
	4.	_____
B.		_____
	1.	_____
	2.	_____
	3.	_____
	4.	_____
	5.	_____
C.		_____
	1.	_____
	2.	_____
D.		_____
	1.	_____
	2.	_____
E.		_____
	1.	_____
	2.	_____
	3.	_____
F.		_____
	1.	_____
	2.	_____
	3.	_____

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Section Summary

THE RISE OF GREEK CITY-STATES

READING CHECK

What is a tyrant?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *imposing* mean in the underlined sentence? It comes from a Latin word that means "to put upon." Use this word-origins clue to help you figure out the meaning of *imposing*.

READING SKILL

Identify Supporting Details

What details in the Summary support the main idea that geography had a role in the development of Greece?

Greek city-states were isolated from one another by mountains or water. The seas, however, provided a vital link to the outside world. The Greeks became skilled sailors and traders. As they traveled, they acquired new ideas from foreign lands, which they adapted to their own needs.

As their world expanded, the Greeks evolved a unique version of the city-state, called the **polis**. The polis consisted of a major city or town and its surrounding countryside. The **acropolis**, or high city, with its many temples, stood on a hill. Because the population was small for each city-state, the **citizens** felt a shared sense of responsibility for the triumphs and failures of their polis.

Different forms of government evolved in Greece. At first, there was a **monarchy**. In a monarchy, a hereditary ruler exercises central power. In time, the power shifted to an **aristocracy**—or rule by the landholding elite. As trade expanded and a wealthy middle class emerged, the result was a form of government called an **oligarchy**—where power is in the hands of a small, wealthy elite.

A new method of fighting also emerged. The **phalanx** was a massive tactical formation of heavily armed foot soldiers. In the city-state of **Sparta**, Spartans focused on developing strong military skills, paying less attention to trade, wealth, new ideas, or the arts.

In **Athens**, government evolved from a monarchy into an aristocracy. Under the aristocracy, discontent spread among ordinary citizens. Slowly Athens moved toward **democracy**, or government by the people. Despite government reforms under the leadership of Solon in around 594 B.C., there was still unrest. This led to the rise of **tyrants**, or those who gained power by force. They often won support from the merchant class and the poor by imposing reforms to help these groups. In 507 B.C., the reformer Cleisthenes broadened the role of ordinary citizens in government and made the assembly a genuine **legislature**, or lawmaking body.

Despite divisions among city-states, Greeks shared a common culture. They spoke the same language, honored the same ancient heroes, participated in common festivals, and prayed to the same gods.

Review Questions

1. What different forms of governments evolved in ancient Greece?

2. What reforms did Cleisthenes make?
