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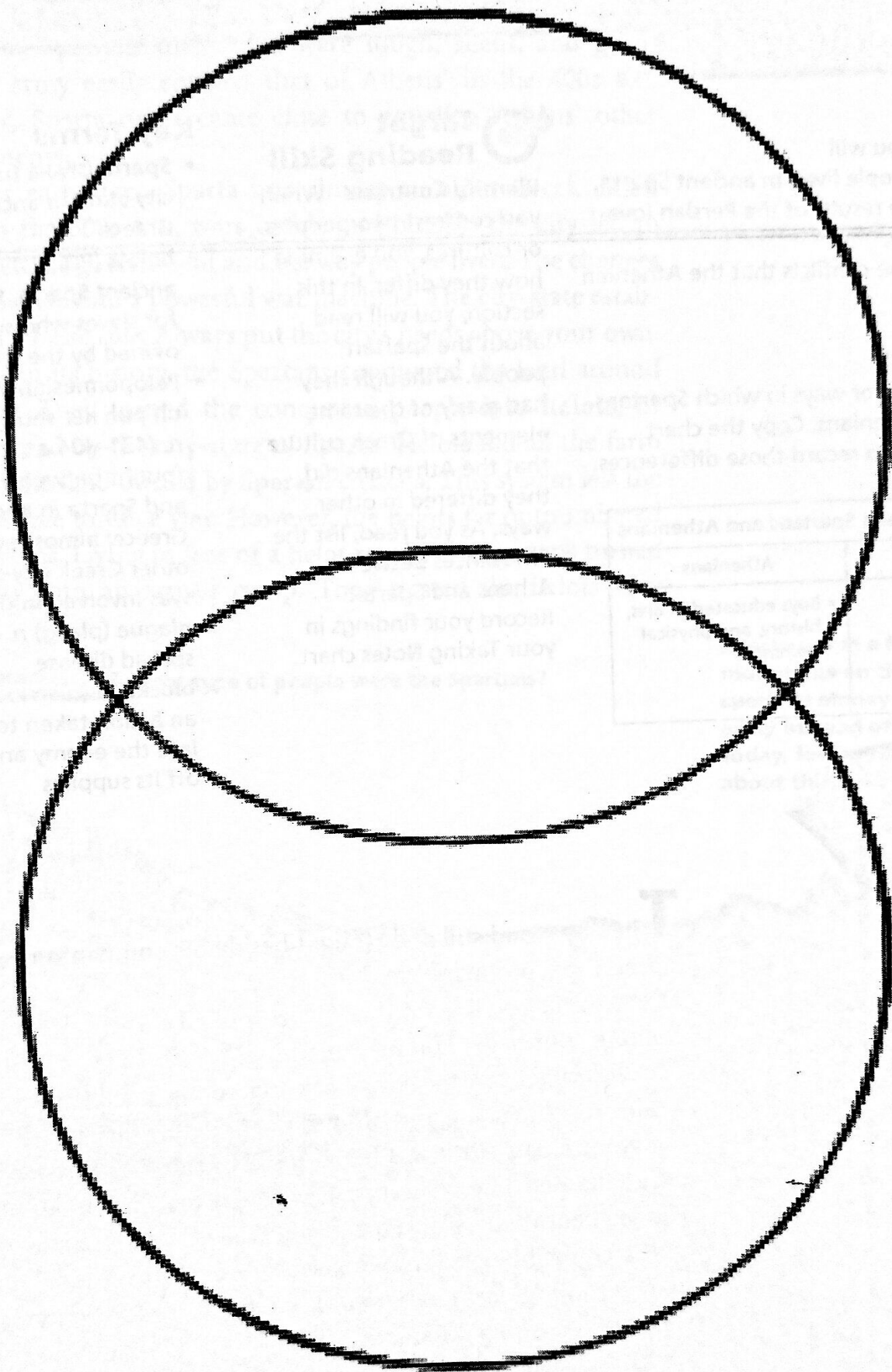
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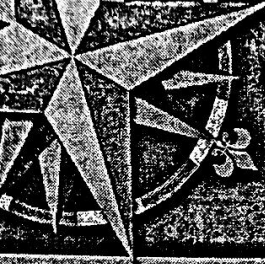
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Athenian and Spartan Day Planner

Event / Time	Spartan	Athenian
Wake Up - Breakfast What would the person from your city state have for breakfast?		
Morning Routine - How would the individual from your city state spend their morning?		
Lunch - What's for lunch?		
Work - <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do you do for work?• What kind of classes are there in your city state?• What is your Economy based on?		

<p>Visit to the Agora -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your government like? • Do you discuss politics? • Who is in charge? 		
<p>Back Home - Describe the home life of someone from your city state.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you know how big the family is? • What does your house look like? • What kind of activities do you participate in for entertainment? 		
<p>What's for Dinner? What is the typical evening meal like?</p>		
<p>Time for bed - Where do you sleep?</p>		
<p>Other interesting facts you have not yet shared.</p>		





Athens and Sparta

Prepare to Read

Objectives

In this section you will

1. Learn how people lived in ancient Sparta.
2. Discover some results of the Persian invasion of Greece.
3. Understand the conflicts that the Athenian empire faced.

Taking Notes

As you read, look for ways in which Spartans differed from Athenians. Copy the chart below, and use it to record those differences.

Differences Between Spartans and Athenians	
Spartans	Athenians
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boys trained in military arts••	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boys educated in arts, history, and physical training••



Target Reading Skill

Identify Contrasts When you contrast two peoples or cultures, you examine how they differ. In this section, you will read about the Spartan people. Although they had many of the same elements of Greek culture that the Athenians did, they differed in other ways. As you read, list the differences between Athens and Sparta. Record your findings in your Taking Notes chart.

Key Terms

- **Sparta** (SPAHR tuh) *n.* a city-state in ancient Greece.
- **helots** (HEL uts) *n.* In ancient Sparta, the term for slaves who were owned by the state.
- **Peloponnesian War** (pel uh puh NEE shun wawr) *n.* (431–404 B.C.), a war fought between Athens and Sparta in ancient Greece; almost every other Greek city-state was involved in the war.
- **plague** (playg) *n.* a widespread disease.
- **blockade** (blah KAYD) *n.* an action taken to isolate the enemy and cut off its supplies.



A Spartan warrior

The boy stood still and straight beside his companions as their trainer approached. “You,” the trainer barked, “Are you sick? Don’t think you’ll get out of sword practice—and why are you holding your belly? Hiding something?”

The trainer gave the boy’s cloak a sharp tug. It fell to the ground, freeing a fox that streaked off into the underbrush. The boy fell to the ground. His cloak was blood red. His side was shredded with deep cuts and bites. The boy had stolen the fox for his dinner. Hidden beneath the cloak, the fox had clawed and bit him.

Later, the boy died from his wounds. He had endured terrible pain without giving any sign of his distress. To the Spartans, this was the sign of true character.

This Spartan story of the boy and the fox may be true, or it might be just a legend. However, it tells us much about the people of Sparta, a city-state in southern Greece.

Living in Sparta

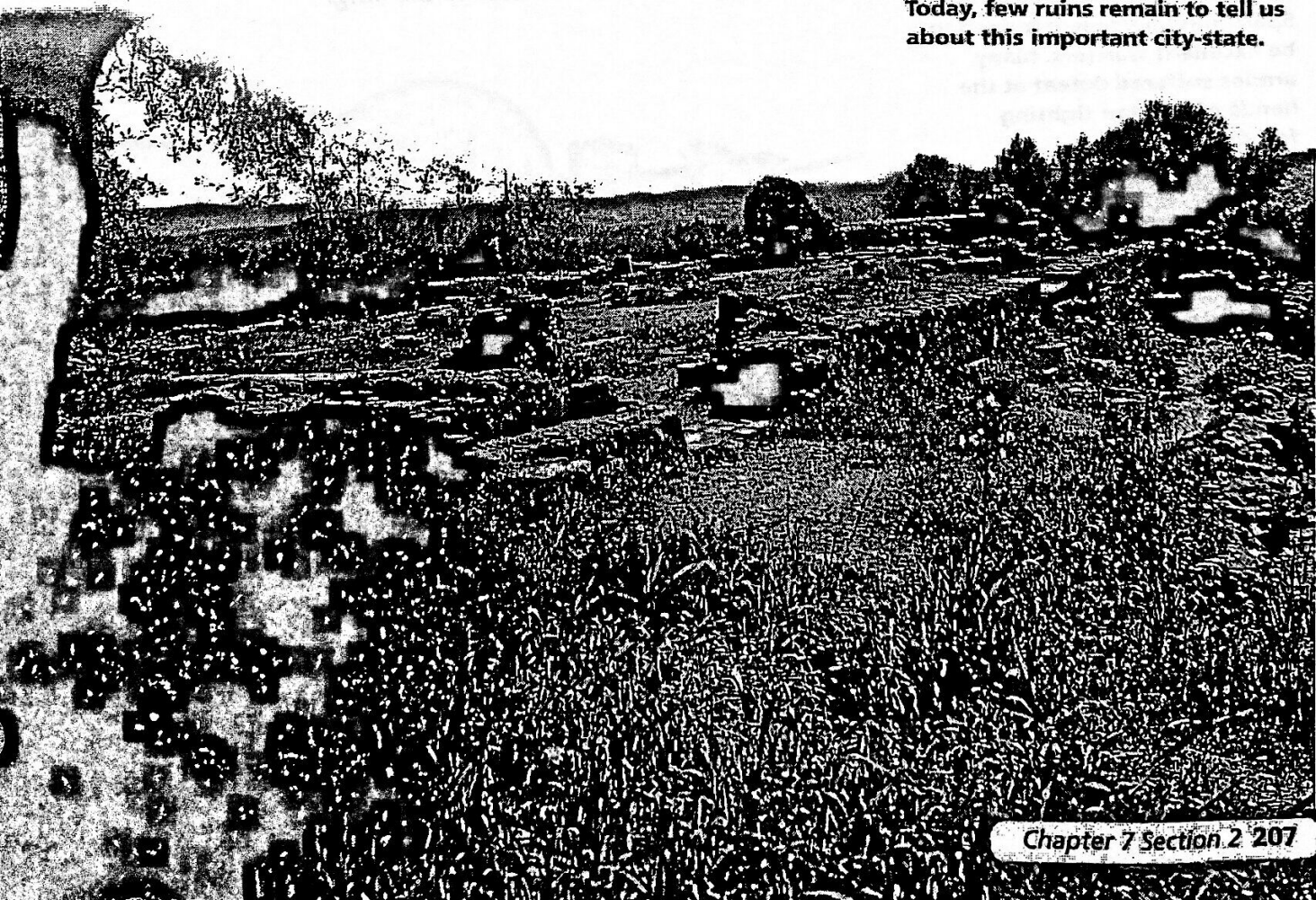
Life in Athens was free and open, but life for the citizens of Sparta was just the opposite. Life in Sparta was harsh and even cruel. The Spartans themselves were tough, silent, and grim. Sparta's army easily equaled that of Athens' in the 400s B.C. However, Sparta never came close to equaling Athens' other achievements.

In its early days, Sparta was similar to other Greek cities. Then, in the 600s B.C., wars inside and outside the city led to changes in the government and the way people lived. The changes turned Sparta into a powerful war machine. The city-state established one basic rule: Always put the city's needs above your own.

Early in its history, the Spartans conquered the land around their city. They turned the conquered people into **helots**, or slaves owned by the city-state of Sparta. Helots did all the farm work on the land owned by Spartan citizens. This system left the Spartans free to wage war. However, the helots far outnumbered the Spartans. Living in fear of a helot revolt, the Spartans turned their city into an armed camp. They treated the helots very harshly.

✓ Reading Check What type of people were the Spartans?

Sparta lies in a fertile valley with mountains on three sides. Sparta spent its money and energy on its army instead of fine buildings. Today, few ruins remain to tell us about this important city-state.



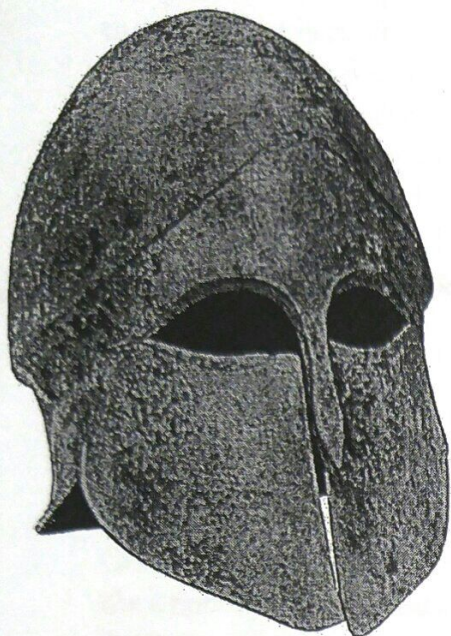
Growing Up in Sparta

The life of every Spartan was in the hands of the government from birth. Only the healthiest children were raised because the Spartans wanted only the healthiest people in their city.

Growing Up Male Training began early. At seven, a Spartan boy left his home to live in barracks with other boys. His training continued for the next 13 years.

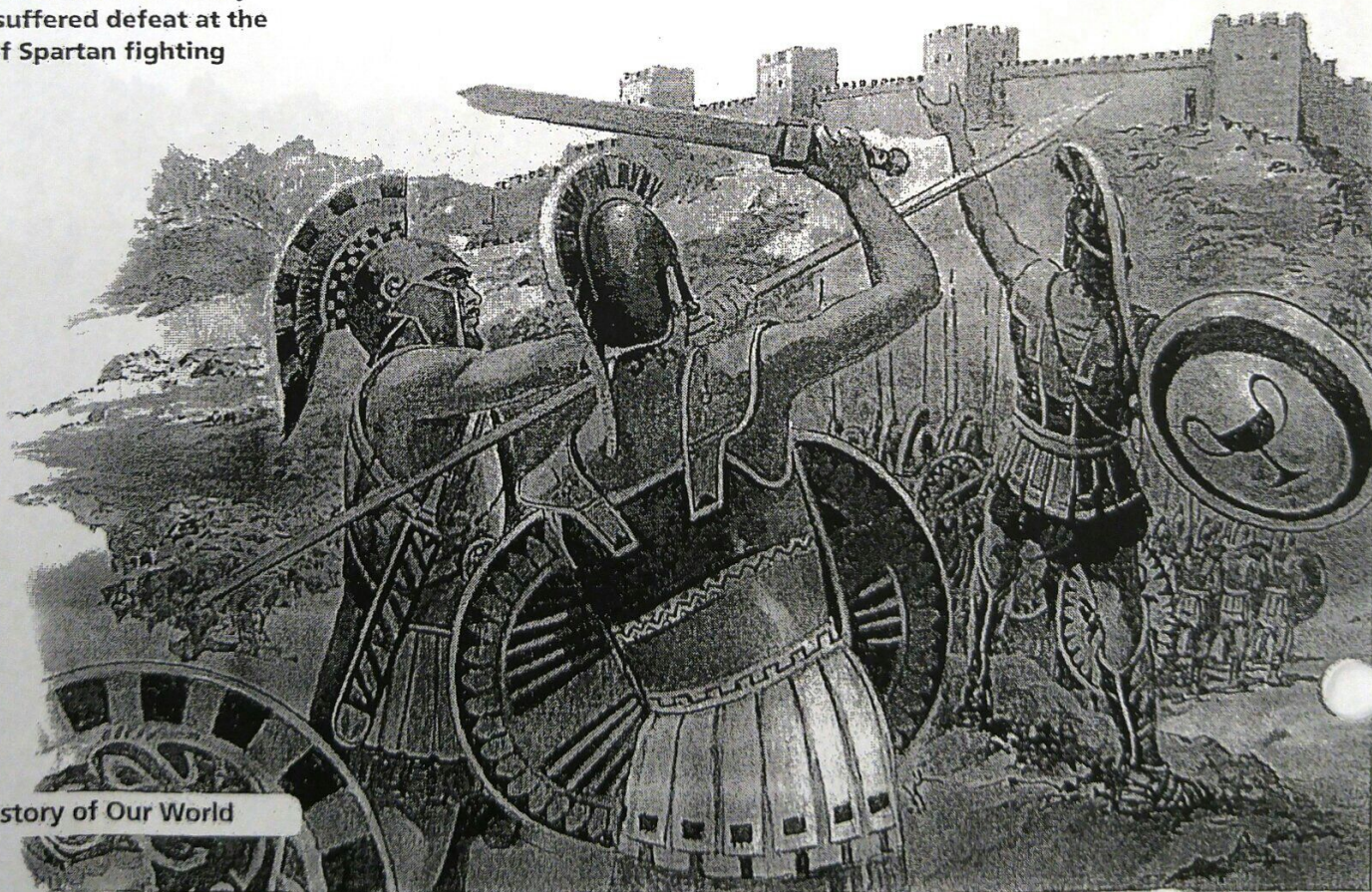
By the age of 12, a boy had spent long hours practicing with swords and spears. He had only one cloak and a thin mat to sleep on. He could hardly live on the small amount of food he was given, so he was urged to steal. The Spartans thought that a boy who learned to steal would know how to live off the land during a war. However, if the boy were caught stealing, he was severely punished. Boys were expected to bear pain, hardship, and punishment in silence. Through this rigid discipline, Spartan youths became excellent soldiers.

When he became 20, a young man officially became a soldier. Men remained soldiers until their sixtieth birthdays. At the age of 30, a man was able to take his place in the assembly, a council consisting of all the male citizens born in Sparta. As in Athens, only non-slave males were considered citizens in Sparta. The council approved the decisions made by the council of elders who, in turn, acted as advisors to the king.



Helmet worn by Greek soldiers

Spartan soldiers were trained to be excellent warriors. Many armies suffered defeat at the hands of Spartan fighting forces.



Growing Up Female Like the boys, girls also trained and competed in wrestling and spear throwing. No one expected girls to become soldiers. However, Spartans did believe that girls who grew up strong and healthy would have strong, healthy children. Therefore, unlike other Greek women, Spartan women were trained to exercise and build up their bodies.

Spartan women had a somewhat better life than women in other Greek city-states. They were allowed to own land and even take some part in business. However, like their Athenian sisters, they had to obey the males—the fathers, husbands, or brothers—in their lives. Because the men were so involved in military matters, some Spartan women took on larger responsibilities, such as the running of their farms or estates.

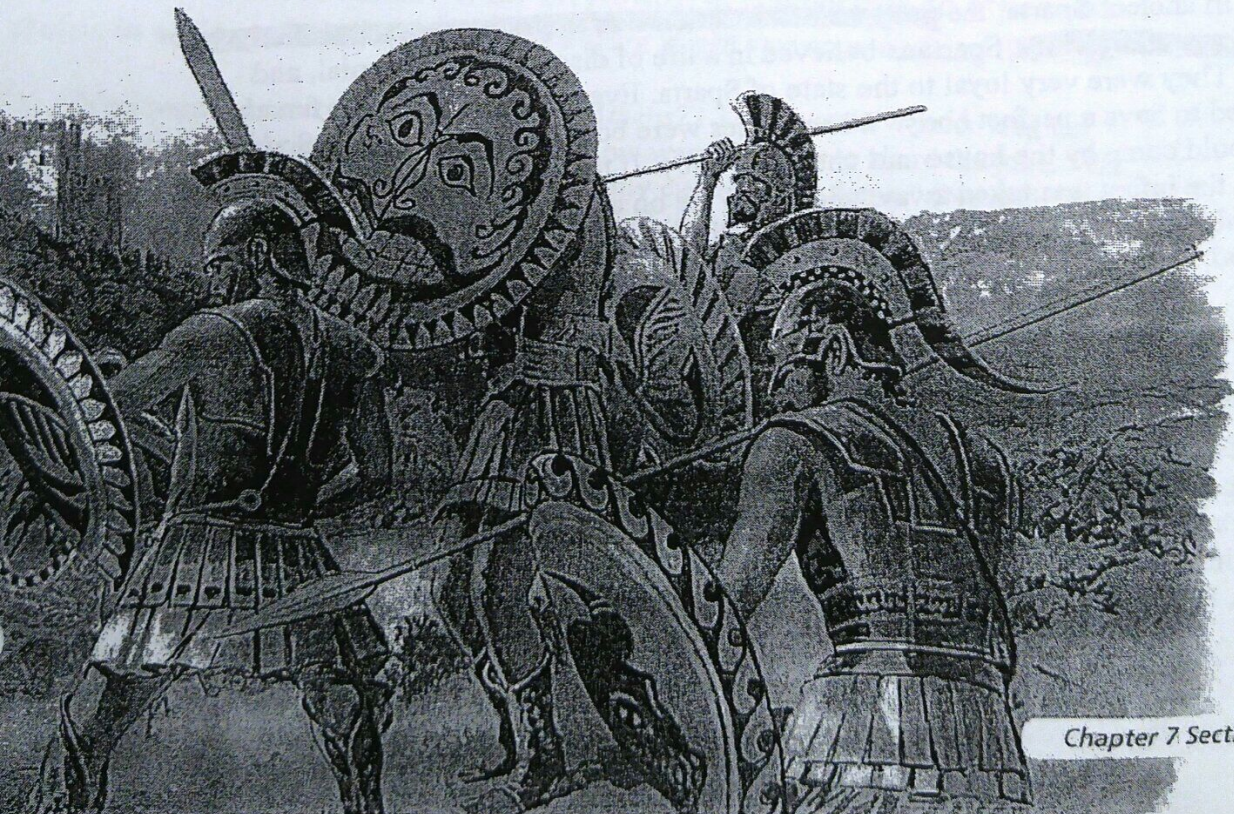
Spartan Attitudes The Spartans did not mingle with other Greeks. They were not allowed to travel. They looked down on the desire for wealth and on those engaged in trade. They lacked the interest in the arts that the Athenians and some other Greeks cultivated. However, Spartan warriors were known for their skill and bravery. The Spartan fighting force played a key role in the Greek wars against the Persians, a people who lived across the Aegean Sea, east of Greece.

✓ **Reading Check** What was the Spartan attitude about trade?



Identify Contrasts

Contrast the life of Spartan women to that of Athenian women. Enter your findings on your Taking Notes chart.



NAME: _____
DATE: _____
CLASS: _____
PERIOD: _____

Daily Life in Ancient Sparta

Both daily life and education were very different in Sparta than it was in the other city-states. With the exception of the Athenians (who thought Athens was the best!), Greeks from other city-states had a grudging admiration for the Spartans. They wouldn't want to be Spartans, but in times of war, they most certainly wanted Sparta to be on their side. The Spartans were tough, and the ancient Greeks admired strength.

Reference:

ATHENS: In ancient Athens, the purpose of education was to produce citizens trained in the arts to prepare citizens for both peace and war. Girls were not educated at school, but many learned to read and write at home, in the comfort of their courtyard. Until age 6 or 7, boys were taught at home by their mother or by a male slave. From age 6 to 12, they went to a public or private school. Books were very expensive and rare, so subjects were read out-loud, and the boys had to memorize everything. In primary school, they learned two important things—the words of Homer, a famous Greek epic poet, and how to play the lyre, a musical instrument. Their teacher, who was always a man, could choose what additional subjects he wanted to teach. He might choose to teach drama, public speaking, government, art, reading, writing, math, and another favorite ancient Greek instrument—the flute. Following that, boys attended a higher school for the next five years. When they turned 18, they entered military school for two years. At age 20, they graduated.

SPARTA: In ancient Sparta, the purpose of education was to produce a well-drilled, well-disciplined army. Spartans believed in a life of discipline, self-denial, and simplicity. They were very loyal to the state of Sparta. Every Spartan, male or female, was required to have a perfect body. When babies were born in ancient Sparta, Spartan soldiers would come by the house and check the baby. If the baby did not appear healthy and strong, the infant was taken away, and left to die on a hillside or trained as a slave (a *helot*.) A baby who passed this examination was assigned membership in a brotherhood or sisterhood, usually the same one to which his father or her mother belonged.

Spartan Boys: Spartan boys were sent to military school at age 6 or 7. They lived, trained and slept in the barracks of their brotherhood. At school, they were taught survival skills and other skills necessary to be a great soldier. School courses were very hard and often painful. Although students were taught to read and write, those skills were not very important to the ancient Spartans. Only warfare mattered. The boys were not fed well, and were told that it was fine to steal food as long as they did not get caught stealing. If they were caught, they were beaten. The boys marched without shoes to make them strong. It was a brutal training period.

Poetry: Like all Greeks, the ancient Spartans loved stories about their gods, their heroes, and their history. They also loved poetry. The Spartans, not the Athenians, wrote the first love poems in Greece. They were fierce warriors, but quite romantic in their way.

Greek Weddings:

In ancient Athens, wedding ceremonies started after dark. The veiled bride traveled from her home to the home of the groom while standing in a chariot. Her family followed the chariot on foot, carrying the gifts. Friends of the bride and groom lit the way, carrying torches and playing music to scare away evil spirits. During the wedding ceremony, the ~~bride would eat an apple~~ or another piece of fruit, to show that food and other basic needs would now come from her husband. Gifts to the new couple might include baskets, furniture, jewelry, mirrors, perfume, and vases filled with greenery.

In ancient Sparta, the ceremony was very simple. After a tussle, to prove his superior strength, the groom would toss his bride over his shoulder and carry her off. ~~Spartan men only married women who wanted to marry them~~. There were no forced marriages in Sparta, and no marriages created for social gain. ~~Spartan men married for love~~. They chose a bride the same way they chose everything—as a teammate for life.

Spartans believed in teamwork. You fought in teams, with a brother warrior, so you always had someone to watch your back. To the Spartans, teaming up with another city-state was logical. Sparta teamed with different city-states at different times for different reasons. For all their warlike behavior and training, when a problem arose with another city-state, Sparta would first try to solve that problem through discussion and negotiation. If that failed, they would fight. Since they were legendary warriors, in most cases, the other Greek city-states worked out their differences with Sparta without going to war.

ASK A SPARTAN:

How do Spartans feel about their city-state in comparison to other city-states in ancient Greece? A Spartan warrior might answer something like this:

“You want me to compare Sparta with *Athens*?” The Spartan warrior laughed uproariously. He waved a few of his fellow warriors over to share the joke. “We would rather die than behave like those silly citizens of Athens.” (Nods all around.) “We know we are superior and we are delighted to be Spartan! Lie, cheat, and steal, but do not get caught – that is the Spartan way.” (All the warriors nodded. These were wise words indeed.) “We endure unbelievable pain and hardship to become a superior Spartan soldier and citizen! Taken away from our parents at age 7, we live a harsh and often brutal life in the soldiers’ barracks. Older children, who start fights to help make us tough and strong, beat us. We are often whipped in front of groups of other Spartans, including our parents, but we never cry out in pain. We are given very little food. We are encouraged to steal food, instead. If caught stealing, we are beaten. To avoid severe pain, we learn to be cunning, to lie, to cheat, to steal, and how to get away with it! We are fierce, capable, and proud of our strength. Compare

Sparta to *Athens*? Don’t make me laugh!” Laughing heartily, shoulder to shoulder, the warriors marched away. (I fled.)