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| Peninsula | Land surrounded by water on three sides. |
| Colony | A land controlled by another nation. |
| Polis | A city-state in ancient Greece. |
| Agora | A central area in Greek cities used both as a marketplace and as a meeting place. |
| Tyrant | Person who takes power by force and rules with total authority. |
| Oligarchy | A government in which a few people have the power. |
| Helot | Spartan slave. |
| Zoroastrianism | The official religion of the Persian Empire, which understood the universe to be caught in a constant struggle between light and darkness. |
| Direct Democracy | A government in which citizens rule directly and not through representatives. |
| Representative Democracy | A government in which citizens choose a smaller group to govern on their behalf. |
| Philosopher | One who loves wisdom and knowledge; a seeker of the truth. |
| Myth | An old story that explains why something is or how it came to be. |
| Oracle | Someone or something that can predict the future. |
| Epic | A long narrative poem telling of a hero's deeds. |
| Fable | A short story that teaches a lesson. |
| Drama | Story told by actors who pretend to be characters in the story. |
| Hellenistic Era | The period when the Greek language and Greek ideas spread to the non-Greek peoples of southwest Asia. |
| Epicureanism | A philosophy that happiness was the goal of life. The way to be happy was to seek out pleasure. |
| Stoicism | An indifference to pleasure or pain. |
| Astronomer | A person who studies stars, planets, and other heavenly bodies. |
| Plane geometry | The geometry of 2-dimensional figures. |
| Solid Geometry | The geometry of 3-dimensional space. |
| Tragedy | An event resulting in great loss and misfortune. |
| Comedy | An amusing play with a happy ending. |
| Sophist | Professional teachers in ancient Greece. |
| Socratic method | Teaching through questioning. |
| Legacy | What a person leaves behind when he or she dies. |