# hapter 6 – Rise Of Greece

# Geography **Greek islands are tops** Only one fifth of the

# Greece is made up of islands and a peninsula made up of peninsulas Mountains are a major landform

of mountains

land is good for growing crops

**Greeks** were islanders—some lived on real islands, some lived on peninsulas, others lived on land separated by mountains

**Greek communities** thought of themselves as different countries

**Each community** developed its own customs and beliefs

There was much fighting among the **Greeks** 

## **Origins**

**Minoans on Crete** developed a sea trade network and a vibrant culture, then declined in the middle of the 1400s B.C.

**After the Mycenaeans** came to power, focus moved to the mainland

Around 1400 B.C., the **Mycenaeans** controlled the Aegean Sea and parts of the **Mediterranean Sea** 

Mycenaeans wrote and spoke an early form of modern Greek

**Mycenaeans** conquered others

**During Dark Ages,** writing forgotten

**Family farms** developed into villages

### Government

Around 750 B.C. villages joined together to form city-states with their own governments and laws

**Most city-states** were controlled by **Aristocrats** 

Middle classes eventually took over government of the city-states

Around 594 B.C., Solon reformed the laws of Athens

Athens became the leading democracy of the ancient world

Only men with **Athenian parents** could be citizens in **Athens**