

## **Chapter 6 – Rise of Greece**

### **Section 2 – Religion, Philosophy, and the Arts Notes**

#### **I. The Golden Age of Athens**

**A. Golden Age lasted from 479B.C. to 431B.C.**

##### **B. Athens Sources of Wealth**

- 1. Trade with other city-states**
- 2. Silver mined by slaves**
- 3. Tribute paid to Athens by smaller city-states**

##### **C. Pericles**

- 1. Powerful Aristocrat, but supported democracy**
- 2. Made the city pay officials, poor could now hold office**

#### **II. Ancient Greek Religious Beliefs**

##### **A. Gods and Goddesses**

- 1. Greeks believed in many gods and goddesses led by Zeus**
- 2. Greeks also honored mythical heroes such as Heracles**

##### **B. The Oracles**

- 1. Sacred sites where Greeks believed the gods spoke**
- 2. Heads of state often sought advice at the Oracles**

#### **III. Science and Philosophy**

**A. Philosophers Thales and Democritus tried to use reason/knowledge to understand nature**

**B. They did not experiment, but observed and thought**

**C. Socrates asked questions that made people think about what they believed, but was condemned to death**

**D. Socrates' student, Plato, distrusted democracy**

**E. Aristotle believed reason should guide the pursuit of knowledge. He found his own school the Lyceum**

#### **IV. Visual And Dramatic Arts**

##### **A. The Parthenon**

- 1. Temple built in Athens to their Patron goddess Athena**
- 2. Most magnificent work of Greek Architecture**

##### **B. Dramas**

- 1. Athenians were the first to write plays**
- 2. Greek tragedies became famous**
- 3. Tragedies were performed as part of religious festivals**

##### **C. Comedies**

- 1. Made fun of well-known citizens and politicians**
- 2. Because of the freedom in Athens, people accepted the humor and jokes that were made about people**