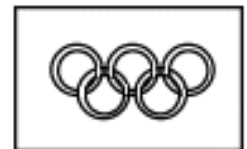


Greece

α β γ



By _____

Greece: Introduction

Intro



Label the continents
and as many
countries as you can.

Greece, the Hellenic Republic (*Ellinikí Dimokratía*), is a country in southeastern Europe. Greece's area is 131,940 sq. km; it has a population of about 10,647,529 (2004 estimate). The country is divided into 51 prefectures (government divisions).

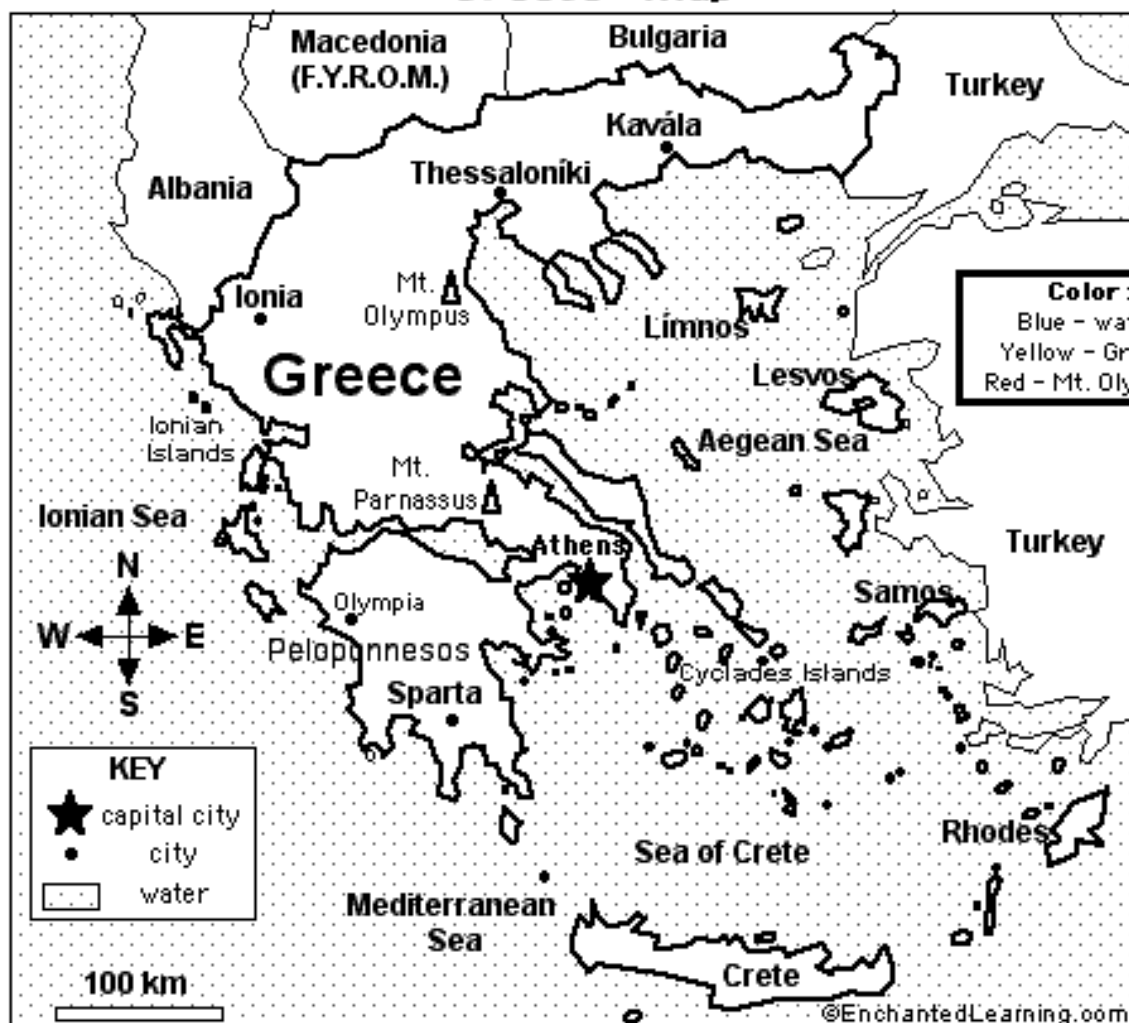
The language of Greece is Greek. The monetary unit of Greece is the euro, which replaced the drachma in 2001. Greek Independence Day is celebrated on March 25, recognizing independence from the Ottoman Empire (Turkey).

The first major civilization in Europe was in Greece, which was originally settled thousands of years ago.

On what continent is Greece located? _____

What is the monetary unit of Greece? _____

Greece: Map



Greece is a mountainous peninsula with many islands. Athens is the capital of Greece and is its largest city. The highest point in Greece is Mount Olympus (2,917 m tall).

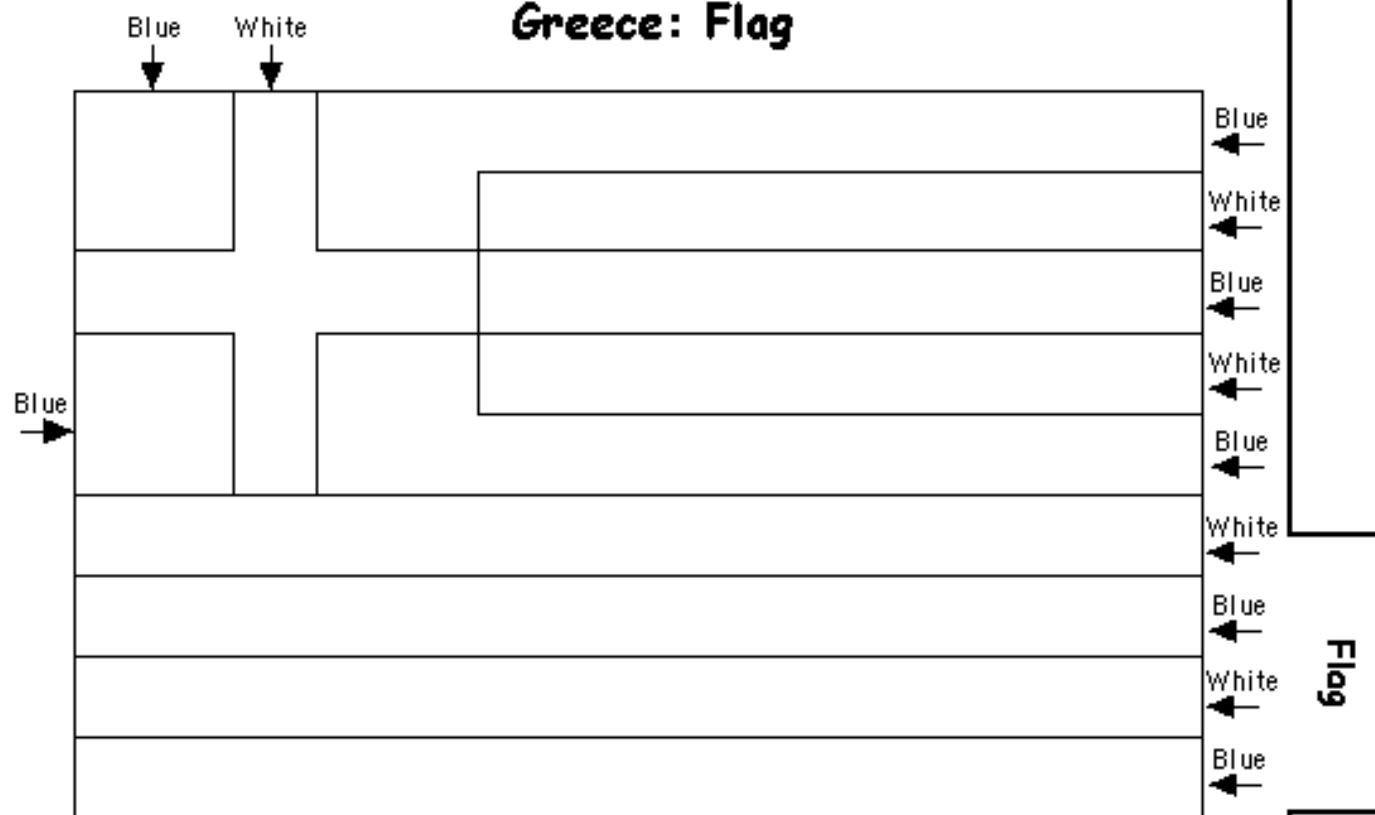
Greece borders Albania, Bulgaria, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, the Aegean Sea and the Ionian Sea (arms of the Mediterranean Sea).

What is the capital of Greece? _____

What is the name of the long Greek island south of the mainland?

What is the tallest mountain in Greece?

Greece: Flag



flagpole
(hoist)

The flag of Greece is blue and white. It has nine horizontal blue and white stripes, with a white cross on a blue square field in the canton position (the upper left corner by the flagpole). The white cross symbolizes Greek Orthodoxy, the established religion of Greece. The ratio of its height to its width is 2:3.

The blue and white colors represent the seas surrounding Greece with its blue water and white wave crests. This flag was officially adopted on December 22, 1978.

What does the white cross in Greece's flag represent?

What do the colors in Greece's flag symbolize?

Greece: Language

The Greek Alphabet

A	α	alpha
B	β	beta
Γ	γ	gamma
Δ	δ	delta
E	ε	epsilon
Z	ζ	zeta
H	η	eta
Θ	θ	theta
I	ι	iota
K	κ	kappa
Λ	λ	lambda
M	μ	mu
N	ν	nu
Ξ	ξ	xi
O	ο	omicron
Π	π	pi
P	ρ	rho
Σ	σ	sigma
T	τ	tau
Υ	υ	upsilon
Φ	φ	phi
X	χ	chi
Ψ	ψ	psi
Ω	ω	omega

The Greek alphabet has 24 letters. The word alphabet comes from the first two letters of the Greek alphabet, alpha and beta.

The Greek alphabet emerged around 800 B.C. or earlier (over 2,800 years ago), adapted from the Phoenician alphabet. It was the first language that had symbols for both consonant and vowel sounds.

The Greek people today use essentially the same alphabet as the one used in ancient Greece (with lower-case letters added and a few other minor changes). Greek letters are used throughout the world as symbols in mathematics and the sciences.

Numbers

- 0 - mithen
- 1 - ena
- 2 - dio
- 3 - tria
- 4 - tesera
- 5 - pente
- 6 - exi
- 7 - epta
- 8 - okto
- 9 - enia
- 10 - deka

areestera
Left

dheksya
Right

Phonetic Greek

Yassas	Hello
Kherete	Good-bye
Tee-caneese?	How are you?
Ime kala.	I am fine.
Nai	Yes
Okhee	No
Kalos oreesate	Welcome!
Me lene...	My name is...
Pos se lene?	What is your name?
Khero polee.	Nice to meet you.
Parakalo	Please
Efhareesto.	Thank you.
Parakalo.	You're welcome.
Then katlaveno.	I don't understand.
Milate Anglika?	Do you speak English?

Language

What is the Greek word for yes? _____

What is the Greek phrase for thank you? _____

Greece: Ancient Greece



A Greek amphora (a two-handled pottery container used to store liquids) that dates from about 540 B.C.

Greece's earliest settlements date from about 12,000 years ago (during the Stone Age). Much later, during the Bronze Age, the Minoan Civilization on the island of Crete (named for King Minos) and the Mycenaean civilization on the mainland had flourishing trade, pottery, metal working, and agriculture.

During the classical period (or Golden Age) of Ancient Greece (from 480 B.C. to 323 B.C), the Greeks were the major power of the Mediterranean.

Socrates, Plato and Aristotle were Greek philosophers/teachers whose ideas revolutionized Western thought for thousands of years. Mathematicians like Pythagoras, Euclid and Archimedes developed geometry and the beginnings of modern mathematics.

The ancient Greeks had an advanced civilization that created democracy, written history and modern literature; their contributions to mathematics, science, medicine, and philosophy were crucial to the development of Western culture.

When was the Golden Age of Greek civilization?

Name a Greek mathematician.

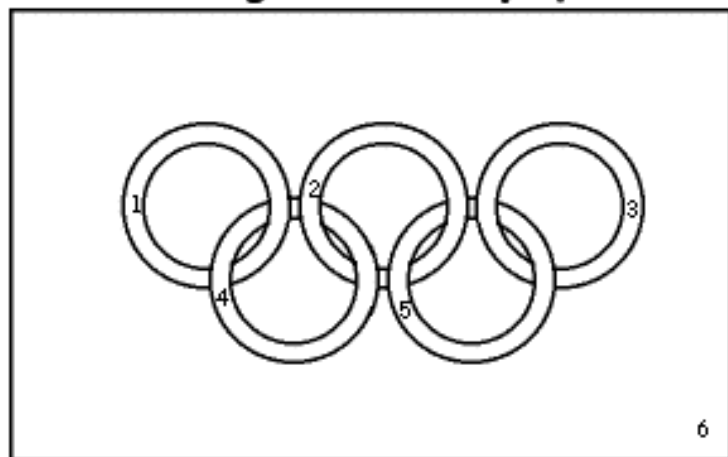
Greece: the Olympics



The Greeks held the first Olympic games in the year 776 BC (over 2700 years ago). The first games had only one event, a sprint (a short run that was called the "stade"). Many other events were added later.

The ancient Greeks dedicated the Olympic Games to the god Zeus. The original games were held on the plain of Olympia in Peloponnesos, Greece.

The Flag of the Olympics



Color: 1 - blue 3 - red 5 - green
2 - black 4 - yellow 6 - white

The Olympic flag is paraded during the opening ceremony of the Olympics. The flag has five interlocking rings on a white field. The rings represent the five parts of the world that were joined together in the Olympics: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia and Europe.

The tradition of the Olympic flame began during the ancient Olympic Games. A flame was lit for each Olympics and burned throughout the games. The flame symbolized the death and rebirth of Greek heroes.

For each Olympics, a new flame is started in the ancient Olympic stadium in Olympia, Greece, using a parabolic mirror to focus the rays of the Sun. The flame is extinguished during the closing ceremony.

There was no torch relay in the ancient Olympics. The first torch relay occurred at the 1936 games in Germany.



Greece: The Gods and Mount Olympus

In the religion of ancient Greece, there were many gods, each of whom ruled part of the world after they overthrew the Titans (the original gods). The 12 most powerful Greek gods were called the Olympians because they were said to live on Mount Olympus; Zeus was the supreme god. The Olympians were all related to each other, and included:

God	Realm
Zeus	Law, Justice, Morals
Apollo	Music, Medicine, Archery
Athena	Wisdom, War, Arts, Industry, Justice
Dionysus	Wine, Agriculture
Hera	Marriage and Birth
Aphrodite	Love and Beauty
Ares	War
Artemis	The Hunt, Fertility
Demeter	Agriculture
Hephaestus	Fire and Metalworking
Hermes	Shepherds, Travel, Literature
Poseidon	The Sea

There were many other lesser gods who were said to be in charge of less important things.

Who was the Supreme Greek god? _____

What was the Greek god of the sea called?
