**The following documents will help you understand the various ideas and contributions of the Ancient Greeks. Examine each document carefully, and answer the question or questions that follow each one.**

**Document 1:** A philosopher’s view on life

This quotation is from the philosopher Socrates, who lived in Athens from about 470 to about 399 B.C.E.

*“The unexamined life is not worth living.”*

What was Socrates suggesting about each person’s individual life in this quote?

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**Document 2:** Humanism in Ancient Greece

This quotation is from the philosopher Aristotle, who lived and taught in Athens from 384 B.C.E. to 322 B.C.E.

*“Since human reason is the most godlike part of human nature, a life guided by human reason is superior to any other…For man, this is the life of reason, since the faculty [ability] of reason is the distinguishing characteristic of human beings.”*

Why did Aristotle believe human nature was so superior to other beings on this planet?

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**Document 3:** A leader in Democratic Athens

This quotation is from the leader Pericles and his famous Funeral Oration (speech) given to his Athenians in about 430 B.C.E.

*“Our plan of government favors the many instead of the few; that is why it is called a* democracy*…While every* citizen *has an equal opportunity to serve the public, we reward our most distinguished [respected] citizens by asking them to make our political decisions…A man may serve his country no matter how low his position on the social scale.”*

What type of government was Pericles describing? What were his expectations for citizens in this type of government?

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**Document 4:** The population in Athens, 430 B.C.E.

Adult male citizens with power to vote………………………………………………40,000

Citizens without political power (women, children, some men)……………………..80,000

Foreign-born residents of Athens………………………………………………….....80,000

Slaves………………………………………………………………………………...250,000

Total population……………………………………………………………………...450,000

--from Bertram Linder, *A world History*, 1979

According to this document, which sector (part) of the population was the largest? Which sector was the smallest?

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What do these two numbers tell us about who had the most power in Athenian society? (Was it a democracy for *everyone*? Why or why not?)

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**Document 5:** Medicine

Following is an excerpt from the Hippocratic oath (pledge). Hippocrates, a Hellenistic-age medical practitioner, lived from about 460 to about 377 B.C.E.

*“I will follow that [treatment] which, according to my ability and judgment, I will consider for the benefit of my patients, and abstain from whatever is [harmful].”*

What was Hippocrates—and doctors who still take his oath—promising to do?

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**Document 6:** Warfare inSparta

The expression below was supposed to be the parting cry of mothers to their sons. Mothers whose sons died in battle openly rejoiced; mothers whose sons survived hung their heads in shame.

*"Come back with your shield - or on it.”*

How does this attitude reflect Spartan values [what beliefs are important to an individual or society]?

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In what ways is this attitude still reflected in our contemporary society? (Think about who is considered a type of “hero.”)

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