

**WHAP**  
**CH2**

**A Brief Geohistorical Synopsis  
of the Early Classical Era**

**Foundation of Civilizations 5**

Note: all of the following information in addition to your reading is important.

**The Early Classical Era**

• Define: polytheism, and describe how some second-wave civilizations followed several deities – \_\_\_\_\_  
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• Define: empire, and briefly explain how Persia fit this definition - \_\_\_\_\_  
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• Define: multinational state (include heterogeneous population) - \_\_\_\_\_  
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• Briefly describe the hearth and essential tenets of Zoroastrianism (include monotheistic and cultural religion) - \_\_\_\_\_  
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• Explain TWO ways in which the Persian empire developed centripetal forces on its population - \_\_\_\_\_  
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• Explain how Persia experienced centrifugal forces – \_\_\_\_\_  
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• Define: multistate nation, and briefly explain how the Ancient Greek city-states fit this definition – \_\_\_\_\_  
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• Explain the importance of the Greek innovation of democracy – \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Greece as the Foundation of Western Culture

- Briefly explain TWO key differences between Athens and Sparta – \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Define: rationalism and reason – \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Explain how Athenian philosophy was a major foundation of Western culture – \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Describe how the results of the Persian Wars (between the Persians and Greeks) established an East/West divide – \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Describe the extent of Alexander the Great's Empire, and how he was revered by its inhabitants – \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Define: Hellenistic era (include syncretism and assimilation) – \_\_\_\_\_  
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- Describe Alexandria, and explain its centrality – \_\_\_\_\_  
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