

Ancient Greece

What were the greatest achievements of the ancient Greeks?

Lesson 3: How did the Minoans trade in early Greece?



Grammarsaurus



Historical skills



Key historical skills



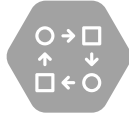
Chronology



Evidence and interpretation ✓



Similarity and difference



Cause and consequence



Change and continuity



Historical significance

Supporting enquiry skills



Understanding timelines



Studying evidence



Sifting arguments



Developing perspective and judgement



Thinking critically ✓



Asking and answering questions



What were the greatest achievements of the ancient Greeks?

How did early Greece begin and what was it like there?

Lesson 1: How can we learn about early Greece?

Lesson 2: What was life like in early Greece?

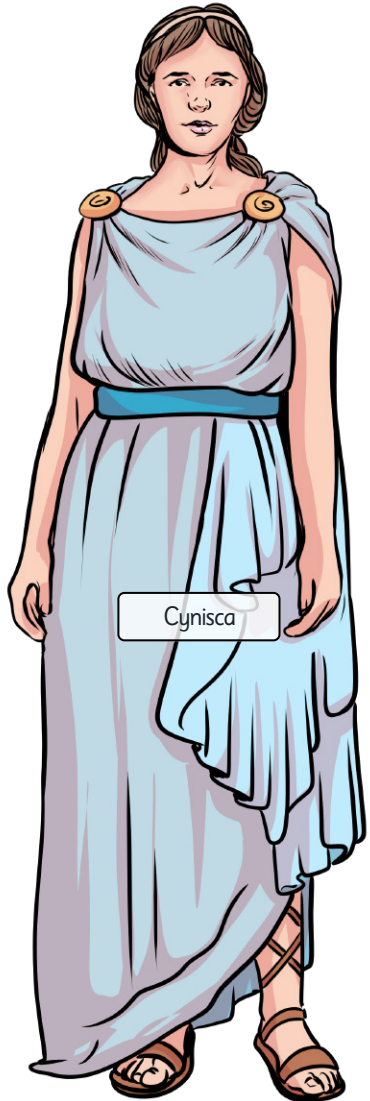
Lesson 3: How did the Minoans trade in early Greece?

What was life like in the city-states of Greece?

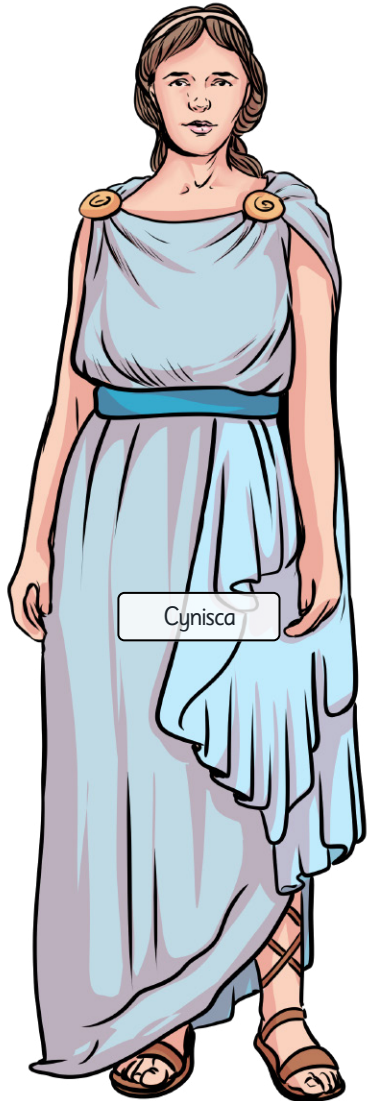
Lesson 4: What was life like in Athens and Sparta?

Lesson 5: How did the city-states overcome the Persian invasion?

Lesson 6: What was life like in the city-states after the Persians



What were the greatest achievements of the ancient Greeks?



How did Alexander the Great expand Greek power and influence?

Lesson 7: How did King Philip II grow the Macedonian Empire?

Lesson 8: Who was Alexander the Great and what made him a significant leader?

Lesson 9: How important were the ancient Greeks' achievements in philosophy and democracy?

Lesson 10: What were the greatest achievements of the ancient Greeks?



Key vocabulary for this lesson



trade

– the action of buying and selling goods and services



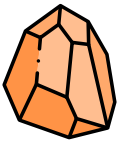
import

– to receive something from another country



export

– to send from one country to another country



bronze

– an alloy metal made of molten tin and copper



ceramic

– clay that has been baked so it doesn't break easily



Evidence and interpretation



Hi, my name is **Gale** and I am an **archaeologist**. This means I am like a detective of the past. I study history, which is everything that happened before today.

Today, we will use **evidence** to find out about the Minoans and some of their achievements in trade, including importing and exporting goods.

Evidence is anything you see, experience, read, or are told that causes you to believe something is true or has happened.

Interpretation is how we explain the evidence.



Evidence

Objects and artworks from the past can be used as evidence.

Interpretation

I could interpret this as evidence that people in the past decorated objects and had the skills and materials to make them.



Let's discuss



Discuss the **following questions** with your learning partner.



Where did the Minoans live?
What artefacts were left behind by the
Minoans?

Be ready to share your feedback with the class.

Use the following sentence starters to help you.

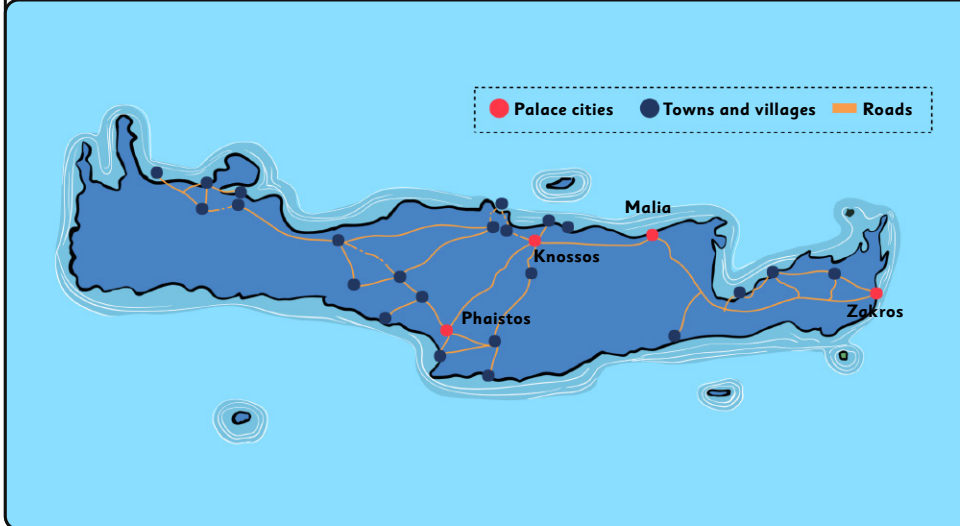
“The Minoans lived...”

“They left behind...”



Let's discuss answers

The Minoans lived on the island of Crete.

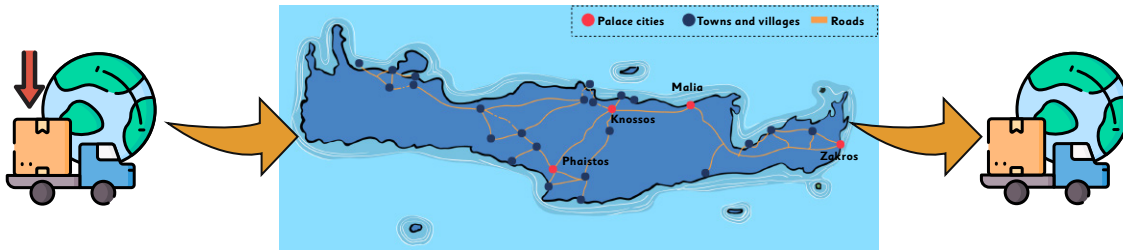


The Minoans left behind evidence of palaces, frescoes, pottery and gold jewellery.



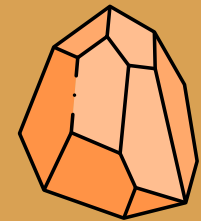
The Minoans and trade

The Minoans **invested heavily in trade** . They **imported** materials unavailable on the island of Crete (**such as tin and copper, used to make bronze**) and used them to create objects to **export**.



Bronze, a metal mixture of copper and tin, was vital for making:

- tools
- weapons
- luxury goods and ornaments



Let's discuss



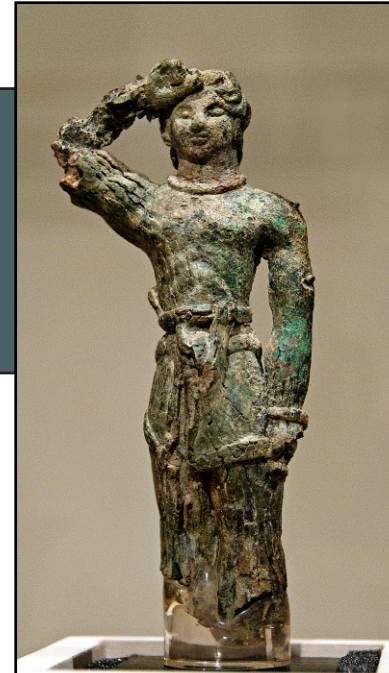
Discuss the **following question** with your learning partner.

Why was it important for the Minoans to create and export these bronze goods?

Be ready to **share your feedback** with the class.

Use the following sentence starter to help you.

“It was important for the Minoans to create and export bronze goods because...”



bronze figurine



bronze dagger

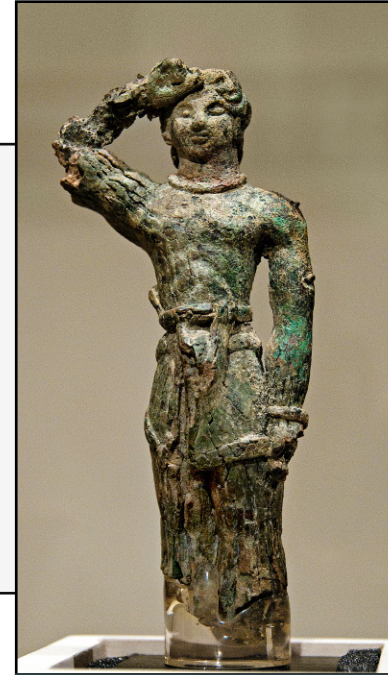


Let's discuss

answers



These items were sold to generate **wealth** and were an important way to pay **for the building** of their **civilisation**.



bronze figurine



bronze dagger



How do we know?



We know the early Greeks traded **with many people**. A **shipwreck** was found which had objects from **at least six different places**, including Italy, Cyprus and Egypt.

A scarab beetle decoration was found with the word 'Nefertiti' inscribed on it, one of the first female pharaohs!



a reconstruction of the Uluburun ship and its cargo

Panegyris of Granovetter, Cargo, Uluburun Shipwreck, via World History Encyclopedia, 2017. CC BY-SA 4.0.





Which countries did the Minoans export to?



The **Minoans** also **exported** various other goods across the Mediterranean, including **ceramics** , **timber**, **lamps** and **stone vessels**. They sent them to **Italy**, **Cyprus**, **Greece** and even **Egypt**!

Use this map to **discuss the following questions with your learning partner.**

What were the most **popular goods** to export?

Which **countries** did they go to?

Be ready to **share your feedback** with the class.

Use the following sentence starter to help you.

“I think... was the more popular export because...”



Which countries did the Minoans export to?

answers



13



The most popular exported goods were **ceramics**, which were sent to **Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Egypt!**



What happened to the Minoans?



In 1450 BCE, the **Minoan civilisation ended**.
No one is quite sure what happened to them.
It is quite a mystery!

Some historians have put forward **ideas** based on the evidence they have found.

Historians believe it was likely a combination of:

- a volcanic eruption destroyed the island
- a tidal wave destroyed the island
- another group of people invaded them



What happened to the Minoans?



Theory one:

A natural disaster occurred. A volcanic **eruption** caused a **giant tidal wave** that brought chaos and destruction to the island.

Evidence

Evidence suggests a massive volcanic eruption.

This could have caused a giant tidal wave which surged towards Crete.



Theory two:

A nearby civilisation invaded and took over the island. After the eruption, the Minoans may have been too weak to fight off invaders.

Evidence:

From 1450 BCE, the Mycenaeans (another civilisation) ruled over Crete.



Activity



Try to give three reasons using evidence to support each adjective you choose.

Read the adjectives on the activity worksheet.

Cut out your chosen adjectives and set out your reasons like the example below.

For example:

resourceful

They imported tin and copper and used these to make bronze.

They sold goods, such as ceramics and timber to make money.

They used available materials to build the Palace of Knossos.



Thinking critically



Evidence and interpretation



Civilisation

Activity

How did the Minoans trade in early Greece?

Key historical skill: Evidence and interpretation

How could we describe the Minoan people using evidence?

Choose three adjectives, cut them out, and mind map the evidence supporting your point. There are some key facts below to help you with your ideas.

resourceful

creative

aggressive

naive

peaceful

practical

intelligent

innovative

lazy

Minoans: Key reminders

- they invested heavily in trade
- they imported tin and copper and used these to make bronze
- the Minoans exported goods to countries such as Italy, Greece, Cyprus and Egypt
- some of the exported goods were daggers, jewellery and ceramics
- they built huge palaces that were linked to towns by roads
- beautiful frescoes were designed and decorated the palaces
- archaeologists found tablets with evidence of a language written in scripts



Challenge



Discuss the **following question** with your learning partner.

Which adjectives do NOT describe the Minoans? Use evidence from our lessons to explain your answer.

Be ready to **share your feedback**.



resourceful

creative

aggressive

naive

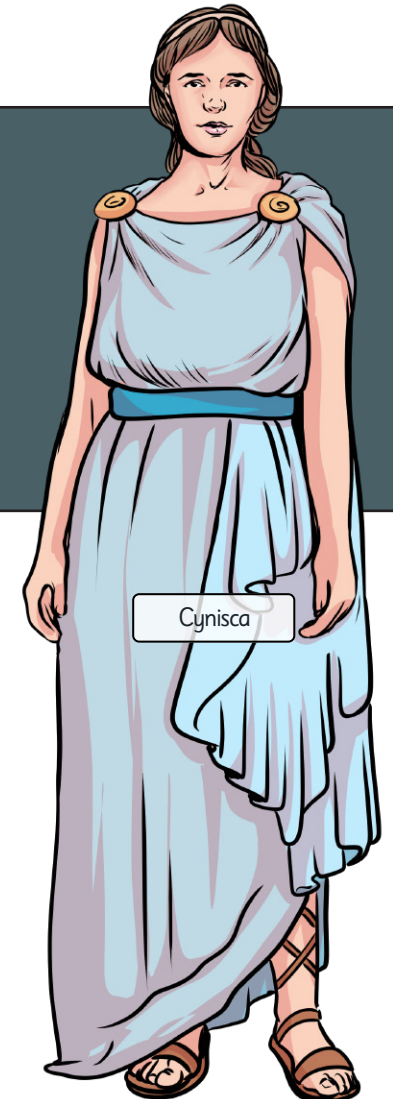
peaceful

practical

intelligent

innovative

lazy



Challenge

answers



Evidence and
interpretation



Understanding
timelines



Civilisation



Alexander the Great

resourceful

creative

aggressive

naive

peaceful

practical

intelligent

innovative

lazy

You could say:

The Minoans were NOT lazy because we know they built huge palaces and linked them together with roads. They also developed successful trade routes; this shows they worked hard to improve their civilisation.

The Minoans were NOT aggressive. They focused more on trade with other regions than on conquering other places.



Hippocrates

