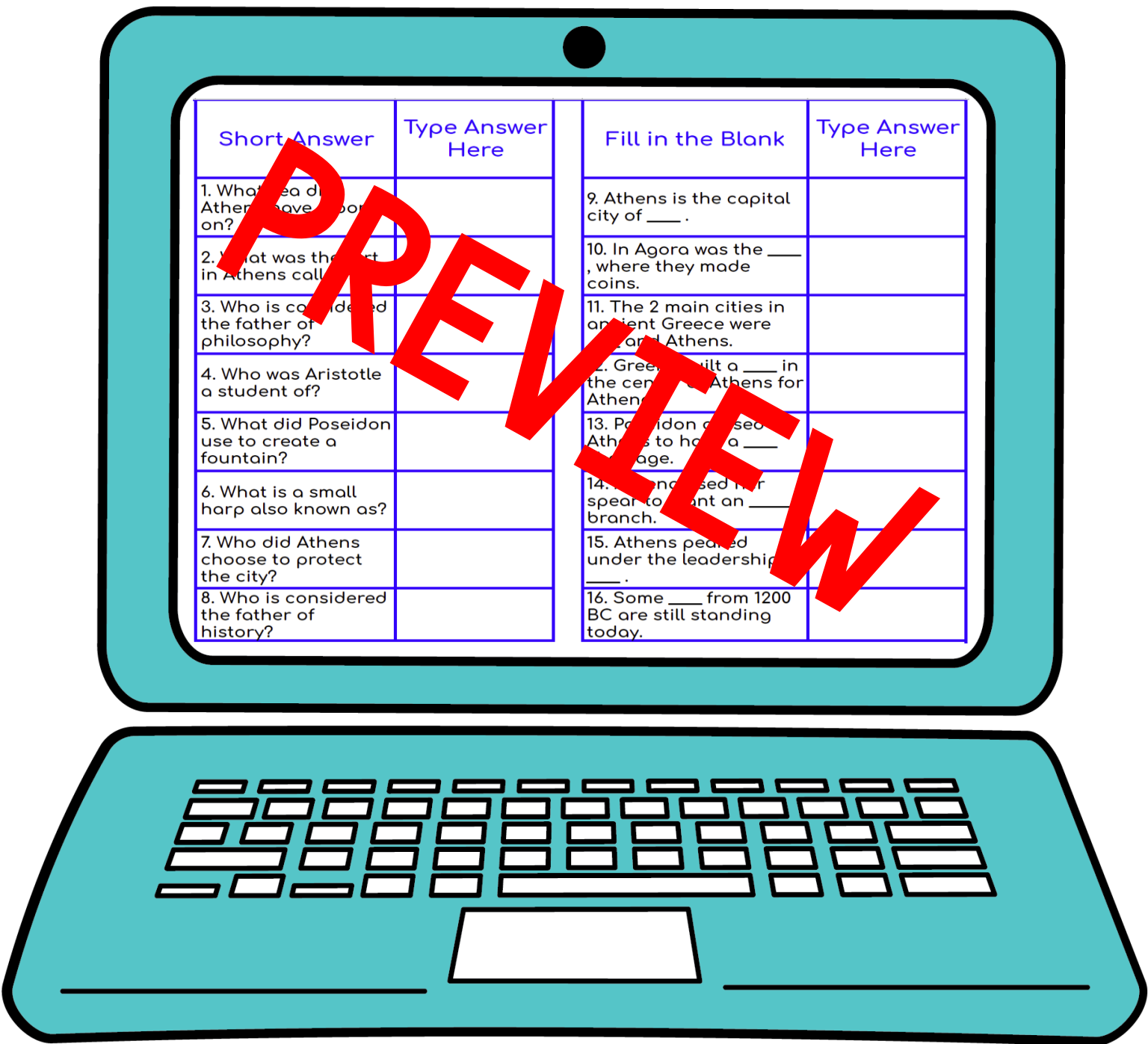


| Short Answer | Type Answer Here |
|--|------------------|
| 1. What sea did Athens have a port on? | |
| 2. What was the fort in Athens called? | |
| 3. Who is considered the father of philosophy? | |
| 4. Who was Aristotle a student of? | |
| 5. What did Poseidon use to create a fountain? | |
| 6. What is a small harp also known as? | |
| 7. Who did Athens choose to protect the city? | |
| 8. Who is considered the father of history? | |





| Short Answer | Type Answer Here | Fill in the Blank | Type Answer Here |
|--|------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. What sea did Athens have a port on? | | 9. Athens is the capital city of ____. | |
| 2. What was the first in Athens called? | | 10. In Agora was the ____, where they made coins. | |
| 3. Who is considered the father of philosophy? | | 11. The 2 main cities in ancient Greece were ____ and Athens. | |
| 4. Who was Aristotle a student of? | | 12. Greeks built a ____ in the center of Athens for Athens. | |
| 5. What did Poseidon use to create a fountain? | | 13. Poseidon caused Athens to have a ____ plague. | |
| 6. What is a small harp also known as? | | 14. Pericles used his spear to plant an ____ branch. | |
| 7. Who did Athens choose to protect the city? | | 15. Athens peaked under the leadership of ____. | |
| 8. Who is considered the father of history? | | 16. Some ____ from 1200 BC are still standing today. | |

ATHENS

Athens, the capital of Greece, is the oldest capital in Europe. It is also one of the oldest cities in the world. The first settlement in Athens happened between the 10th and 11th centuries BC. By 500 BC, it had become a respected and influential city in the ancient world. Its buildings and ruins from 500 BC are still standing today.

Athens was one of the main cities of ancient Greece, along with Sparta and Athens. Athens had a strong port on the Aegean Sea. As a result, it was the prime location for business, trade, and transportation in Greece. Athens was the home of King Theseus, who united the region of Attica.

Athens, the largest city in Greece, was the center of the Central Greece region. It was known as "the land of the Röm (Romans)." It remains the most populated region in Greece.

Mythology may have a background in Athens. The Greek gods Athena and Poseidon had a competition to see who would protect Athens. First, Poseidon banged the earth with his trident and created a fountain. Next, Athena came, however, it was salty. Next, Athena threw her spear into the ground and planted an olive branch. An olive tree symbolizes peace and prosperity. The olive tree would grow there. Athens chose Athena to protect it. Poseidon was unhappy, so he cursed the city of Athens so it would always have a water shortage.

Athens was named after Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom and civilization. Note that some scholars think that Athena got her name from Athens, not the other way around.

On top of a hill in Athens stood an ancient fort called Acropolis. At first, Acropolis was built as a fortress to protect from war. As time passed, Athenians added temples, buildings, and even entertainment to Acropolis. Finally, to honor Athena, Greeks built a Parthenon for her in the center of the Acropolis. They believed Athena watched over the city and its people.

The land in Athens was not suitable for crops. The Greeks relied on trade because it was on the Aegean Sea.

Athens is the birthplace of democracy, even though many Greek city-states had kings or councils. Cleisthenes introduced demokratia, "rule by the people." Pericles, the leader of Athens between 461 to 429 BC, helped celebrate arts and literature while creating a government that included:

- Ekklesia - a group that wrote laws

- Boule - a council of representatives from ten Athenian tribes
- Dikasteria - the court where jurors heard cases

Athenians had privileges, including the ability to vote and the right to a trial. However, only males were full citizens - if their mothers and fathers were from Athens. Women, children, slaves, and foreigners had no say in government matters.

The Agora was the center of commerce and government. Meetings were held in an open area surrounded by buildings, including temples to Zeus, Hephaestus, and Apollo. Also in Agora was the Mint, where they made coins. The Strategion was the meeting place for the ten military leaders. Democracy began at the Agora.

Athens peaked under the leadership of Pericles. Writers, thinkers, and artists emerged, including:

- Herodotus - "the father of history"
- Socrates - "the father of philosophy"
- Hippocrates - "the father of medicine"
- Phidias - the sculptor who created famous works for the Parthenon, including the statues of Athena and Zeus at Olympia
- Aeschylus, Sophocles, Aristophanes, and Sophocles - playwrights
- Plato (student of Socrates)
- Aristotle (student of Plato)

Athens was an educational center, with playwrights, historians, and scholars, learning philosophy, and more in Athens, Greece. Writing and politics also started here because of all of the cultural contributions, Athens is considered the cradle of Western civilization.

Education was an important component of Athenian society. However, only the boys went to school. The school included reading, public speaking, drama, reading, poetry, and musical instruments. A typical instrument at the time was the lyre, a small harp. Wealthy families of nobles attended their school to learn math, science, arts, government, and politics. Girls, on the other hand, stayed home to cook, clean, and sew.

In 404 BC, Athens lost a war, and was ruled by the Macedonians. In 336 BC, the Macedonians and then the Romans took control of Athens. Finally, the Turkish Ottoman Empire gained control in 1453. Athens remained under Turkish rule until 1833.

Another famous note about Athens - it was the home for the first Olympic Games in 776 BC.

