

Scheme of Learning: The Homeric World: Cultural Study

Topic Sequence:

1	2	3	4
Mycenaean Age: Key Sites	Mycenaean Age: Life in the Mycenaean Age	Mycenaean Age: Decorative Arts	Mycenaean Age: Tombs, Graves, and Burials

Topic Overview:

This is the first topic in the cultural study that forms half of the second Classics paper. The cultural study focuses on the Mycenaean Age and is more of a historical study of this period. It explores four major concepts: the cities of Mycenae, Tiryns and Troy; life in the Mycenaean Age; the decorative arts of the Mycenaean Age; and what we can learn from the tombs and graves of the cities, particularly Mycenae. This first topic explores the key sites within the cities of Mycenae, Tiryns and Troy. Pupils have to have an understanding of the key sites, their locations within the city, and how the key sites within each city contributed to the defence of the city and its commerce.

Lesson Sequence:

The lessons have been sequenced to with the aim of making sure pupils are familiar with the layout and design of each of the three cities which are studied (Mycenae, Tiryns and Troy), as well as developing their knowledge of the key features of each city. Pupils will need to be able to identify key sites and features of a city from photos, accurately describe them, but then apply them to questions about how they supported each city in their defences or accumulation of power and wealth.

The first series of lessons explores the city of Mycenae – the main focus of this topic. The first lesson of the sequence explores Mycenae on a macro-level, getting pupils familiar with the layout of the city and the names of key features such as the Cyclopean Walls and the Lions Gate. Only after consolidating an overview of the city, we pupils then explore the key features of the city in detail. The following lessons look at key features and pupils not only answer questions to build their knowledge but are regularly tested on how they apply this knowledge to exam questions. The lessons look at the Lion Gate and Cyclopean Walls, followed by a look at the key graves and tombs of the city, which is then concluded with a look at the Sally Ports and Underground Cistern. Unlike the first paper, the second paper requires pupils to draw information from a variety of places in which to answer exam questions.

The second series of lessons follows a similar approach but this time to the city of Tiryns. Again it starts with an overview before exploring more specific features of the city in more detail. This accumulation of knowledge will be tested with exam questions, with a particular focus on the questions that require a longer form answer: the 8 mark questions.

The last section of lessons explores Troy, the legendary city that was involved in the Trojan War. We look at it from an historical point of view and examine a particular period of the city that was supposedly at the time of the Trojan War. This looks at the archaeological findings of the period to ascertain which version of Troy is most likely to have been the one on the Trojan War. A slightly different focus to the previous two cities that were examined.

With an understanding of the three key cities, the study then shifts to the next topic which is Life in the Mycenaean Age.

Sequence of Lessons:

1	MA Lesson 1 – Mycenaean Age (Overview)
2	MA Lesson 2 – Mycenae (Overview)
3	MA Lesson 3 – Mycenae (Walls Analysis)
4	MA Lesson 4 – Mycenae (Grave Sites Analysis)
5	MA Lesson 5 – Mycenae (Other Key Sites Analysis)
6	MA Lesson 6 – Tiryns (Overview)
7	MA Lesson 7 – Tiryns (Key Sites Analysis)
8	MA Lesson 8 – Troy
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Topic Resources:

Knowledge Map:	1. Knowledge Map: Mycenaean Age – Key Sites	Prescribed Sources:	Prescribes Sources: Mycenaean Age – Key Sites
	2. Knowledge Map: Mycenaean Age – Mycenae		
	3. Knowledge Map: Mycenaean Age – Tiryns		

Assessment:

Knowledge:	TBC
Application of Knowledge:	TBC

Supportive Reading:
