4.1 Early People of the Aegean

*Directions: This set of notes goes along with the Ancient Greece Prezi. These notes will cover the information on paths 2-30.*

**Focus Question**: How did the Minoans the Mycenaeans shape early Greek civilizations? (This is the question you should be able to answer at the end of this section.)

**Minoans Trade and Prosper**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was home to a bright early civilization.
  + The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , who lived here, were successful between 1600-1500 BC
  + The people here were based on trade (not attacking others) and set up outposts around the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Sea
  + Traded with Egypt and Mesopotamia. Through this contact they learned about writing and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ they would later adopt for their own.
* Minoan Art at Knossos
  + The leaders lived in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a vast palace full of rooms for family and parties
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were dedicated to honor the gods and goddesses
    - walls covered in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ : watercolor paintings done on wet plaster
      * these tell us a lot about the daily life and society: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ show importance of sea, religious images of the bull, women had freedoms in public and had rights
* Minoan Civilization Disappears
  + 1400 BC: Minoans have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Perhaps an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or volcanic eruption moved the people away.
  + The Mycenaeans invaded and took over the area. They were the first \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people there is written record of.
* How does the art at Knossos reflect Minoan culture?

Trade and War in Mycenae

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were from Indo-Europe and overtook the Greek mainland, then moved to the island of Crete.
* Sea Trade Bring Wealth
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the Aegean world from 1400 to 1200 BC
  + Sea traders and traded with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , Italy, Egypt and Mesopotamia.
  + learned how to write and customs that were later passed on to the \_\_\_\_\_
* Lived in city-states on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ where a warrior king would built a thick-walled fortress. Wealthy rulers were able to gather riches of fine gold that archaeologists have found \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with them’
* The Trojan War
  + The Mycenaeans are best remembered for the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ War
    - Took place around 1250 BC
    - Actual cause may have been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and economic control of the straits connecting the Black Sea to the Mediterranean Sea.
    - Fought between the Mycenaeans and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - Legend: The Trojan prince, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , kidnaps Helen, the beautiful wife of the Greek king. The Mycenaeans sail to Troy to rescue her.
      * She is said to be the face that launched a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ships, because she was so beautiful that all those men were willing to fight for her.
      * For \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ years they battled. The Greeks finally win (via the Trojan Horse) and burn Troy to the ground.
    - It was originally thought to be legend, but there is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ suggesting that battles and a fire actually took place.
* How did trade shape Mycenaean society?

Homer and the Great Legends of Greece

* Soon after success at Troy, the Mycenaeans came under attack by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (a Greek-speaking people from the North).
  + Their power began to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the people abandoned the cities.
    - trade declined and people forgot many skills (such as writing).
    - The Greek civilization seemed to go \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from 1100-900 BC.
* Much of what we know about this period and the Trojan War comes from the epic poems of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* These were credited to have been written by the poet \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ who lived around 750 BC. Homer was a blind poet who wandered from village to village singing.
  + His tales were passed on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for generations before they were written down.
* The *Iliad*: full of gods and goddesses, talking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and tells of the Trojan War.
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ : mightiest of Greek soldiers withdraws from battle when his commander offends him and is begged to return. Only when his best friend is killed does Achilles return to battle. Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the war are told, as well as the discussion among the gods and goddesses that causes the war to begin.
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ : the struggles of the Greek hero Odysseus and his return from the war to his wife Penelope. One his long voyage, he encounters sea monsters, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , beautiful goddesses and other exciting things.
* Both show the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and what is important to ancient Greeks: honor, courage, eloquence.
  + For 3,000 years these works have inspired writers and artists.
* What did Homer’s epics reveal about Greek culture?

Looking Ahead

* After centuries of living in isolated villages, the Greeks created a new civilization that would dominate the region and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ most of the Western world.

Assessment Questions- answer on THIS page!

1. Write a sentence explaining the significance of 1 vocabulary word. (This is not a sentence stating the definition.)
2. How did the Minoans and Mycenaeans shape early Greek civilizations?
3. How did trade contribute to the development of the Minoan and Mycenaean cultures?
4. What values of the ancient Greeks are found in the poems of Homer?
5. Do you think the epics of Homer are reliable sources of information on the history of the ancient Greeks? Why or why not?