

# GRADE SIX DBQ

**Did the character strengths of Pericles shape the classical civilization of Ancient Greece?**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III:** This part consists of a document-based question. On this part, you will be provided with one version of the test based on your readiness to handle critical thinking challenges. (You may opt for a more difficult version than your teacher provides, but you will be graded on the version that you complete).

## Document Based Question

Directions: The task below is based on documents 1 through 5-6. The task is designed to test your ability to work with documents. Examine each document and answer all questions beneath the document. Use the answers to the questions to help write your essay.

### Background

The Golden Age of Athens was stimulated by the leadership of Pericles. Pericles took control of Athens democratic party in 465 B.C. and transformed Athenian democracy. He strengthened their control over the other Greek city-states, changed the rules to participate in the Athenian democracy and gave the arts the platform to grow.

Task: Use the information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, write an essay in which you:

Use the information from the documents and your knowledge of social studies, write an essay in which you:

- Discuss two of Pericles's character strengths
- Discuss two conditions of what life was like in Athens under Pericles's rule
- Evaluate if Pericles's character strengths helped to shape the culture of Athens

In your essay remember to

- Write an opinion essay, arguing whether Pericles character strengths shaped Ancient Greece.
- Include an introduction, a body, and a conclusion
- Use information from *at least three* documents in your answer
- Include historical facts, relevant details, and reason in developing your ideas

Document #1:

Pericles was born into a family of wealth and was influenced from his father who was a hero from the Persian war and his mother's family which was culturally powerful as well in Athens. In 461 B.C. Pericles ousted and exiled Cimon, his rival. From this moment Pericles took over Athens's Democratic Party and would never look back. He maintained his vision for Athens throughout his rule.

-Anonymous

1. According to the document, what kind of family was Pericles born into?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

2. Referring to the text above, what two actions did Pericles take in Athens?

A. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

B. \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

Fairness	Bravery	Persistence
Love of Beauty	Leadership	

3. What character strengths did Pericles exhibit in Athens?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

## Document #2

Pericles was a politician, great speaker and general in Athens. His goals while in rule were to beautify Athens, strengthen democracy and expand power. After the formation of the Delian League, Pericles used his political prowess to have the Delian League treasury moved to Athens, where he used it to fund his public work projects like the Parthenon. Also under Pericles, public officials would be paid and he tried to close the gap between the rich and poor. Pericles expanded Athenian power when he conquered Corinth and created colonies for Athens along the Black Sea in 454 B.C..

-Anonymous

1. What were the aims for Athens under Pericles leadership?

A. Political: \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

B. Architecture: \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

C. Power: \_\_\_\_\_ [1]

2. How did Pericles's goals to beautify Athens show his persistence?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

Document #3:

“Our constitution is called a democracy because power is in the hands not of a minority but the whole people. When it is a question of settling private disputes, everyone is equal before the law; when it is a question of putting one person before another in positions of public responsibility, what counts is not membership of a particular class, but the actual ability which the man possesses.”

-Pericles defining democracy.

1. According to the document, who held the power in Pericles democracy?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

2. According to the author, what qualifies one to have a position of public responsibility?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ [2]

Document #4

“I will speak first of our ancestors, for it is right and seemly that now, when we are lamenting the dead, a tribute should be paid to their memory. There has never been a time when they did not inhabit this land, which [democracy] will have handed down from generation to generation, and [they will] receive a free state.”

-Pericles speech at the Funeral Oration

1. According to the passage above, who is Pericles paying tribute to?

\_\_\_\_\_ [1]

2. What did Pericles intend to have handed down to future generations?

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[1]

Document #5



-Pericles was a great public speaker and communicator. He understood had to tap into the emotions of the people of Athens. This is a painting of Pericles giving his Funeral Oration Speech, even at a time when Athens was struggling due to the Peloponnesian War, Pericles was seen as a symbol of hope. When Athens was at its most weak, Pericles was strong. He offered a voice to all classes.

1. According to the document, was Pericles loved in Athens?

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[1]

2. How is Pericles positioned in the painting? Does he look like a leader?

Task: Use the information from the documents:

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