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Academic ESL World History Unit 2.4. Ancient Greece, Democracy Reading Assignment Reading

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1. Reading: Ancient Greece, The Democratic Experience

Source:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/greeks/greekdemocracy_01.shtml

THE DEMOCRATIC EXPERIENCE

By Paul Cartledge

Pre-reading activity:

1. Democracy is a Greek word. What does democracy mean in your opinion? List at least three countries with a democratic government and three countries, past or present, which are ruled by a dictator.
2. How long have the democracies that you listed existed?
3. Which type of government rule exists in your country? What do you believe has caused this type of government?
4. Looking at your own country, what or who has brought about change in the past, the people, a leader, a family, or an outside power?
5. Which other words do you know that are Greek? Discuss with your friends.

VOCABULARY

Vocabulary	Explain the meaning
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Monarchy

Tyranny

Oligarchy

Democracy

Ambiguous

To be scattered

To usurp power

Contrary to

To be pioneered

Conspicuous

To encourage

To demand

Notorious

Ostracism

To ostracize

Greek Democracy and Modern Democracy:

According to the text, there are three major differences between modern democracies, such as France and the U.S.A., and Ancient Greece. Explain what these differences are.

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