**Chapter 5: Ancient Greece**

I. Greek Culture and Geography

* In ancient times Greece was not a united country
* **Polis –**
* Each polis acted as their own country

1. The Sea

* Shapes Greek life just as rivers shaped early civilizations
* All Greeks lived within 85 miles of the sea
* Water links all of Greece together
* Greece has poor natural resources but was able to create a vast trade network

1. The Land

* 75% of Greece is covered by mountains
* Made it impossible to unite the Greeks under a single government
* Every city ruled itself independently from other cities

1. Mycenaean Civilization

* 1st civilization in Greece
* **Mycenae –**
* **Linear B –**
* Important because Western Civilization has roots in Greek civilization

1. Trojan War

* **1250 BC –**
* “Face that launched a thousand ships”
* Greeks fought a ten year war with the city of Troy
* Famous Trojan Horse
* **1872 –**

1. Epics of Homer

* **Dark Ages –**
* **Homer –**

1. Homer’s Books

* Homer is considered the father of Western literature
* Books written around 400 years after Trojan Wars

**Most famous books**

1)

2)

1. Importance of Books

1)

2)

3)

1. Greek Myths

* **Myths –**
* Used by Greeks to answer the mysteries of nature
* **Zeus –**