

The Hellenistic World

Essential Question

What advances did the Greeks make that still influence the world today?



About the Photo: Even after the Romans conquered the Hellenistic kingdoms, Greek influence endured. This library, built at Ephesus in the AD 100s, reflects Greek architectural designs.

In this module you will learn that Alexander the Great built a large empire and that the ancient Greeks left behind a rich legacy of art and thought.

What You Will Learn...

Lesson 1: Alexander the Great 306

The Big Idea Alexander the Great built a huge empire and helped spread Greek culture into Egypt and Asia.

Lesson 2: The Hellenistic Kingdoms 311

The Big Idea Alexander's death resulted in fighting among his generals and the division of his empire into three kingdoms.

Lesson 3: Hellenistic Achievements 316

The Big Idea The Hellenistic kingdoms had a blended, Greek-inspired culture.

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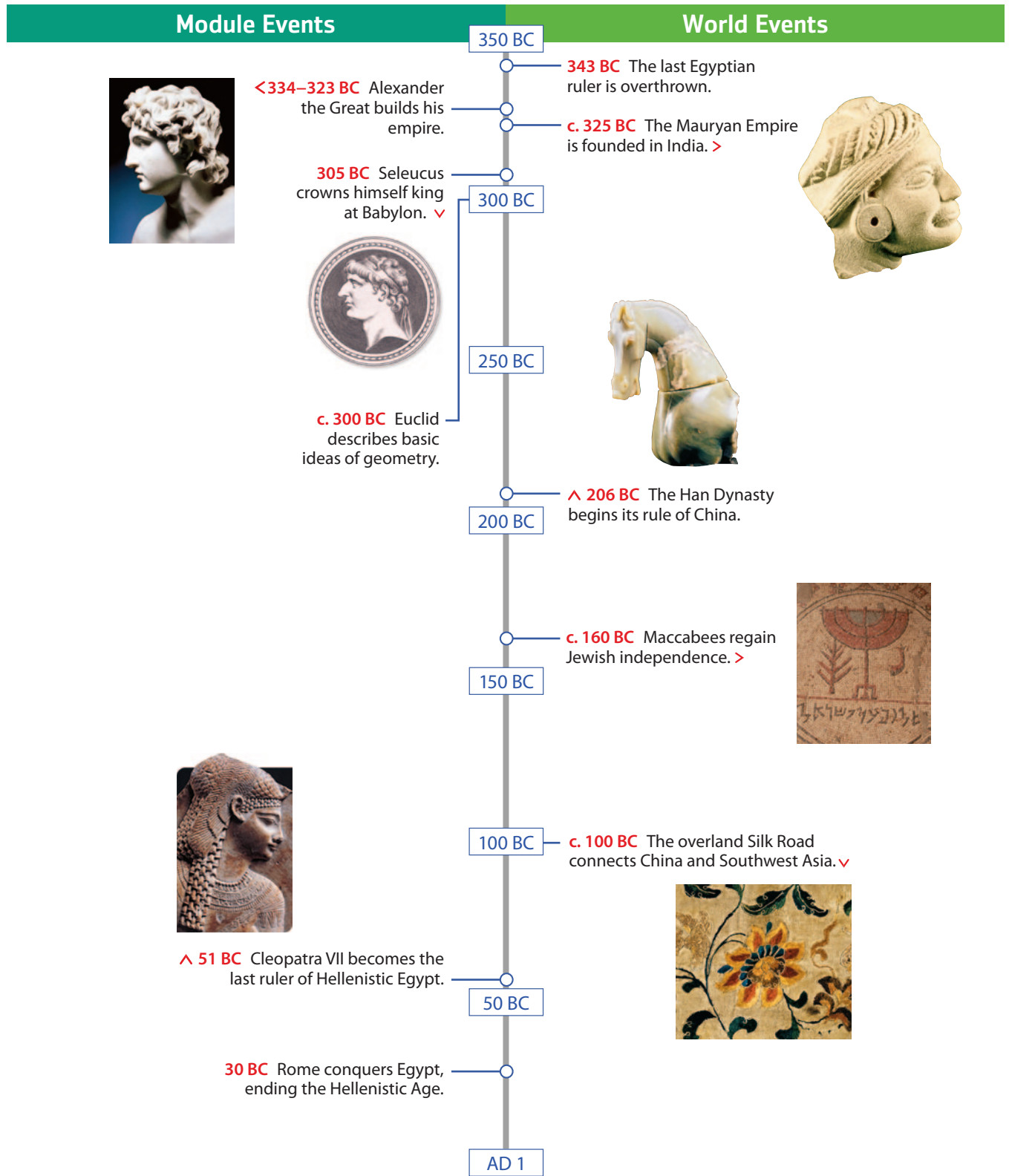


HISTORY.

VIDEOS, including...

- Alexander and his City
- Decisive Battles: Gaugamela
- The Lighthouse of Alexandria

- ✓ Document-Based Investigations
- ✓ Graphic Organizers
- ✓ Interactive Games
- ✓ Animation: Archimedean Screw
- ✓ Interactive Map: Alexander the Great's Empire, c. 323 BC
- ✓ Image Carousel: Hellenistic Art and Design



Reading Social Studies

THEME FOCUS:

Politics, Society and Culture

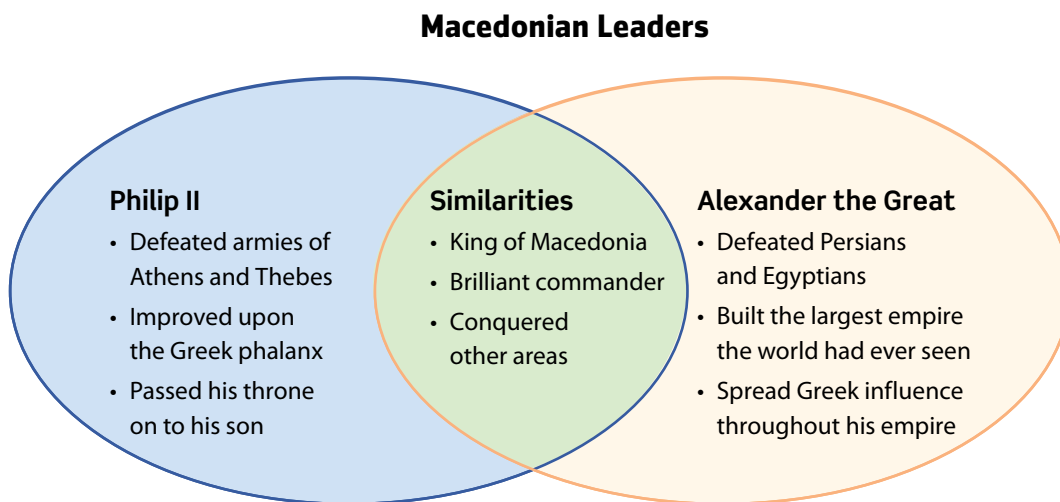
In this module, you will learn about the empire Alexander the Great built from his base in Macedonia. You will also read about the three kingdoms that lasted when his empire broke up after Alexander's death. Finally, you will learn about the achievements of the Greek culture that influenced the world long after the Greek kingdoms fell. Without a doubt, you need to understand the politics of the time in order to understand the Greek world and its society and culture.

READING FOCUS:

Compare and Contrast Historical Facts

Comparison and contrast are good ways to learn. That's one reason historians use comparison and contrast to explain people and events in history.

Understand Comparison and Contrast To **compare** is to look for likenesses, or similarities. To **contrast** is to look for differences. Sometimes writers point out similarities and differences. Other times you have to look for them yourself. You can use a diagram like this one to keep track of similarities and differences as you read.



Clues for Comparison-Contrast

Writers sometimes signal comparisons or contrasts with words like these:

Comparison—*similarly, like, in the same way, too*

Contrast—*however, larger, smaller, less, more, unlike, but, while, although, in contrast, instead*

You Try It!

Read the following passage and then answer the questions below.

Greek and Hellenistic Architecture and Art

Hellenistic buildings tended to be larger and more ornate than earlier Greek buildings had been. The lighthouse at Alexandria, for example, was much taller than anything the Greeks had built. Buildings were so large because they served as symbols of the rulers' power and greatness.

In addition, Hellenistic artists tried to make their works look more natural than earlier works. While many early Greek statues show people or gods in formal poses, Hellenistic sculptors liked to show their subjects in more active or natural poses. Instead of a king seated on a throne, a Hellenistic artist might choose to show a father holding a crying baby.

Answer these questions based on the passage you just read.

1. Does the word *while* introduce a comparison or a contrast?
2. Which buildings were greater in size—Hellenistic buildings or Greek buildings? What comparison or contrast signal word helped you answer this question?
3. What other comparison or contrast words do you find in the passage? How do these words or phrases help you understand the passage?
4. How are the similarities and differences organized in the passage—alternating back and forth between topics (ABAB) or first one topic and then the next (AABB)?

As you read this module, think about the organization of the ideas. Look for comparison and contrast signal words.

Key Terms and People

Lesson 1

Philip II
phalanx
Alexander the Great
Hellenistic

Lesson 2

Antigonus
Seleucus
Ptolemy
Cleopatra VII

Lesson 3

Aristarchus



Alexander the Great

The Big Idea

Alexander the Great built a huge empire and helped spread Greek culture into Egypt and Asia.

Main Ideas

- Macedonia conquered Greece in the 300s BC.
- Alexander the Great built an empire that united much of Europe, Asia, and Egypt.
- Alexander spread Greek cultural influences throughout his empire.

Key Terms and People

Philip II
phalanx
Alexander the Great
Hellenistic

If YOU were there . . .

You are a soldier in the most powerful army in the world. In just eight years, you and your fellow soldiers have conquered an enormous empire. Now your general wants to push farther into unknown lands in search of greater glory. But you're thousands of miles from home, and you haven't seen your family in years.

**Do you agree to go on fighting?
Why or why not?**

Macedonia Conquers Greece

In 359 BC, **Philip II** became king of Macedonia. Philip spent the first year of his rule fighting off invaders who wanted to take over his kingdom. After he defeated the invaders, he was ready to launch invasions of his own.

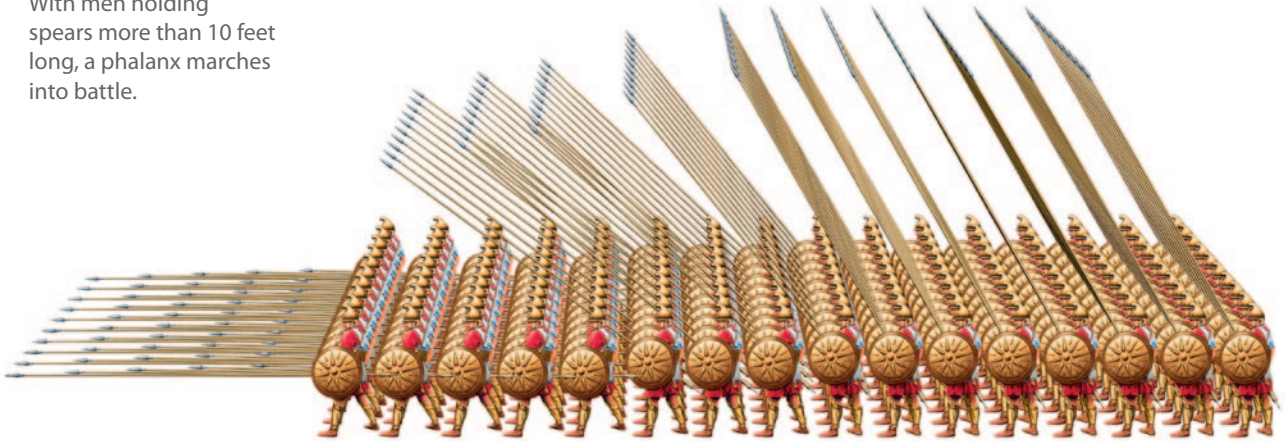
Philip's main target was Greece. The leaders of Athens, knowing they were the target of Philip's powerful army, called for all Greeks to join together. Few people responded.

As a result, the armies of Athens and its chief ally, Thebes, were easily defeated by the Macedonians. Having witnessed this defeat, the rest of the Greeks agreed to make Philip their leader.

Philip's Military Strength Philip defeated the Greeks because he was a brilliant military leader. He borrowed and improved many of the strategies Greek armies used in battle. For example, Philip's soldiers, like the Greeks, fought as a phalanx (FAY-langks). A **phalanx** was a group of warriors who stood close together in a square. Each soldier held a spear pointed outward to fight off enemies. As soldiers in the front lines were killed, others stepped up from behind to fill their spots.

Philip improved upon the Greeks' idea. He gave his soldiers spears that were much longer than those of his opponents. This allowed his army to attack effectively in any battle. Philip also sent cavalry and archers into battle to support the phalanx.

With men holding spears more than 10 feet long, a phalanx marches into battle.



Reading Check

Summarize

How was Philip II able to conquer Greece?

After conquering Greece, Philip turned his attention to Persia. He planned to march east and conquer the Persian Empire, but he never made it. He was murdered in 336 BC while celebrating his daughter's wedding. When Philip died, his throne—and his plans—passed to his son, Alexander.

Alexander Builds an Empire

When Philip died, the people in the Greek city of Thebes rebelled. They thought that the Macedonians would not have a leader strong enough to keep the kingdom together. They were wrong.

Controlling the Greeks Although he was only 20 years old, Philip's son Alexander was as strong a leader as his father had been. He immediately went south to end the revolt in Thebes.

Within a year, Alexander had destroyed Thebes and enslaved the Theban people. He used Thebes as an example to other Greeks of what would happen if they turned against him. Then, confident that the Greeks would not rebel again, he set out to build an empire.

Alexander's efforts to build an empire made him one of the greatest conquerors in history. These efforts earned him the name **Alexander the Great**.

Building a New Empire Like his father, Alexander was a brilliant commander. In 334 BC, he attacked the Persians, whose army was much larger than his own. But Alexander's troops were well trained and ready for battle. They defeated the Persians time after time.

According to legend, Alexander visited a town called Gordium in Asia Minor while he was fighting the Persians. There he heard an ancient tale about a knot tied by an ancient king. The tale said that whoever untied the knot would rule all of Asia. According to the legend, Alexander pulled out his sword and cut right through the knot. Taking this as a good sign, he and his army set out again.

After defeating the Persians near the town of Issus, Alexander went to Egypt, which was part of the Persian Empire. The Persian governor had heard of his skill in battle. He surrendered without a fight in 332 BC and crowned Alexander pharaoh.

Alexander and His Horse

In about AD 100, Plutarch, a famous Greek biographer, wrote about the life of Alexander. Plutarch told the story of the young Alexander and the wild, powerful horse Bucephalus, which no one had been able to ride. As King Philip and others watched, Alexander approached the unruly Bucephalus.

Analyze Historical Sources

Why do you think King Philip said that Macedonia didn't have room for Alexander?

"After Alexander had calmed the horse . . . he quietly cast aside his mantle and with a light spring safely bestrode [mounted] him . . . but when he saw that the horse was rid of the fear . . . he gave him his head . . . Philip and his company were speechless with anxiety at first; but when Alexander made the turn . . . and came back towards them proud and exultant, all . . . broke into loud cries, but his father . . . actually shed tears of joy, and when Alexander had dismounted, kissed him, saying: "My son, seek thee out a kingdom equal to thyself; Macedonia has not room for thee."

—Plutarch, from *Life of Alexander*, translated by Bernadotte Perrin

After a short stay in Egypt, Alexander set out again. Near the town of Gaugamela (gaw-guh-MEE-luh), he defeated the Persian army for the last time. After the battle, the Persian king fled. The king soon died, killed by one of his nobles. With the king's death, Alexander became the ruler of what had been the Persian Empire.

Marching Home Still intent on building his empire, Alexander led his army through Central Asia. In 327 BC, Alexander crossed the Indus River and wanted to push deeper into India. But his exhausted soldiers refused to go any farther. Disappointed, Alexander began the long march home.

Alexander left India in 325 BC, but he never made it back to Greece. In 323 BC, on his way back, Alexander visited the city of Babylon and became sick. He died a few days later at age 33. After he died, Alexander's body was taken to Egypt and buried in a golden coffin.

The Greek empire that Alexander built was one of the great civilizations of the ancient world. The Persian Empire was also one, and Alexander had conquered that empire. The Chinese and Indian civilizations were continuing to grow. Rome, another great ancient civilization, was still to come.

Reading Check

Find Main Ideas

What steps did Alexander take to create his empire?



Alexander on his horse Bucephalus

Spreading Greek Culture

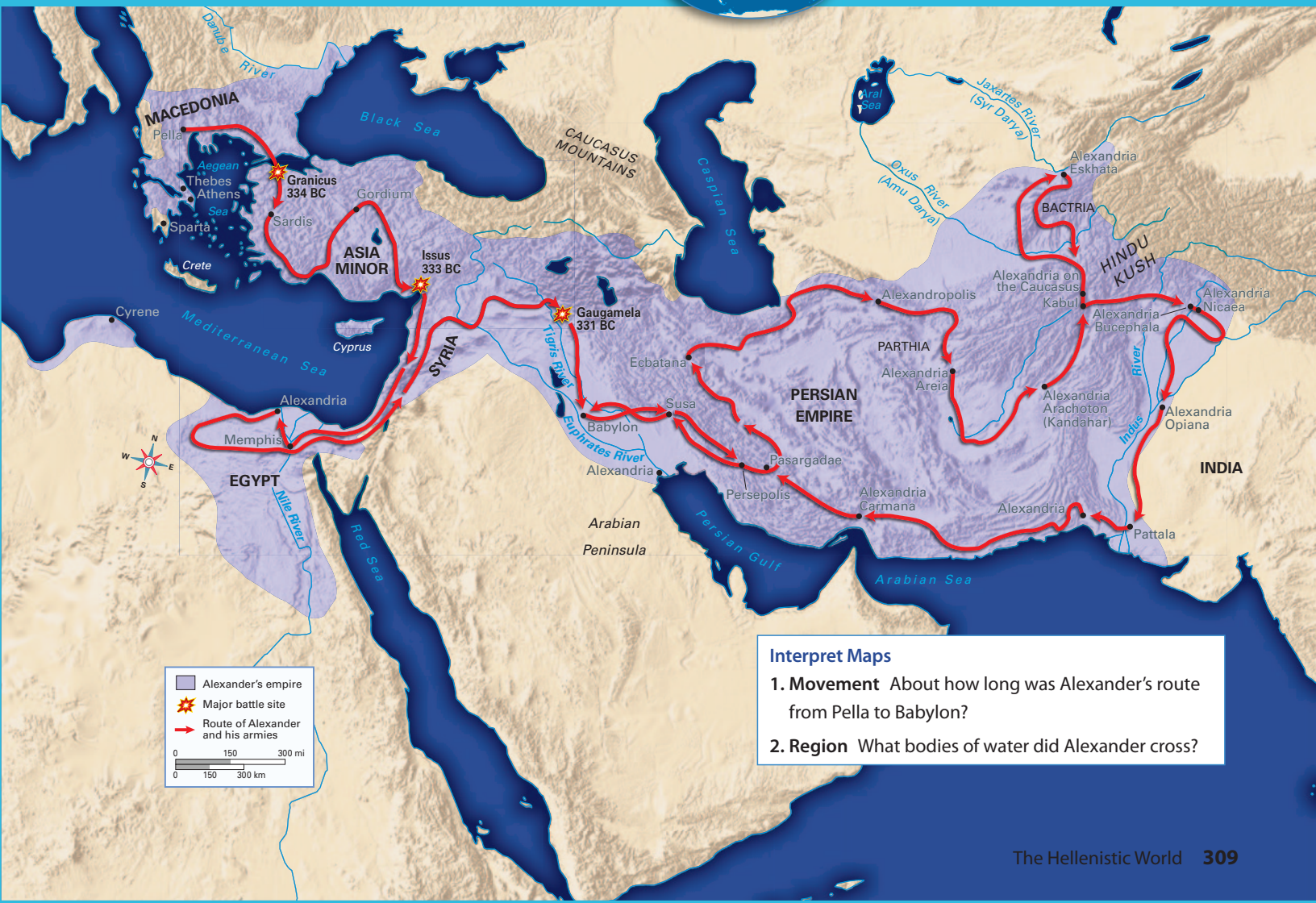
Alexander's empire was the largest the world had ever seen. He ruled his empire as an absolute dictator—whatever he said was law. There are no individual rights under a dictatorship. At times he enforced his orders with the ultimate punishment—death. Alexander executed governors, generals, and other leaders who were dishonest or who governed poorly.

A New Culture Develops An admirer of Greek culture, Alexander worked to spread Greek influence throughout his empire by founding cities in the lands he conquered. He modeled his new cities after the cities of Greece. He named many of them Alexandria, after himself. He built temples and theaters like those in Greece. He then encouraged Greek settlers to move to the new cities. These settlers spoke Greek, which became common throughout the empire. In time, Greek art, literature, and science spread into surrounding lands.

Alexander also established standardized coins of silver and gold to be used throughout his empire. On these coins, called “Alexanders,” were portraits of gods or heroes. These standard coins continued to be used in the region long after Alexander was gone.

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Alexander the Great's Empire, c. 323 BC



Interpret Maps

- 1. Movement** About how long was Alexander's route from Pella to Babylon?
- 2. Region** What bodies of water did Alexander cross?

Even as he supported the spread of Greek culture, however, Alexander encouraged conquered people to keep their own customs and traditions. As a result, a new blended culture developed in Alexander's empire. It combined elements of Persian, Egyptian, Syrian, and other cultures with Greek ideas. Because this new culture was not completely Greek, or Hellenic, historians call it **Hellenistic**, or Greek-like. It wasn't purely Greek, but it was heavily influenced by Greek ideas.

Hellenistic Literature Literature remained a popular art form during the Hellenistic period. The leading poet and dramatist of the age was Menander, who lived in Athens. Menander wrote more than 100 plays, most of which were comedies. Menander's comedies were different from those of the great Greek dramatist Aristophanes. Menander's plays often focused on romantic love and were more realistic and less satiric.

Another prominent Hellenistic poet was Callimachus, who lived in the Egyptian city of Alexandria. His poetry was polished and learned, and showed the strong connection between Greece and Hellenistic Egypt.

Writers of the Hellenistic period also crafted histories, biographies, and novels. One of the best-known Hellenistic historians was Polybius, who lived in Greece. Much like the earlier Thucydides, Polybius was neutral in his writing, with a great respect for the truth. Polybius lived for a time in Rome, and his works describe the rise of that empire. Strabo, a Greek geographer who lived later during the Hellenistic period, wrote a book called *Geography*, which describes the people and countries known to the Greeks at that time.

Some writers wrote novels with exciting or romantic plots. For example, the Hellenistic writer Longus wrote a novel about a romance between a goat herder and a shepherdess on the Greek island of Lesbos.

Summary and Preview Alexander the Great caused major political changes in Greece and the Hellenistic world. In the next lesson, you will learn about the Hellenistic kingdoms that arose after Alexander's death.

Reading Check

Analyze Effects

In what ways did Alexander help to create Hellenistic culture?

Lesson 1 Assessment

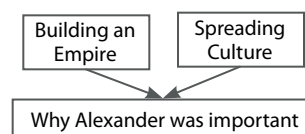
Review Ideas, Terms, and People

- a. Identify** What king conquered Greece in the 300s BC?
b. Describe How did Philip improve on the Greeks' phalanx?
- a. Describe** What territories did Alexander the Great conquer?
b. Synthesize Why did Alexander destroy Thebes?
c. Recall Why did Alexander's troops refuse to march farther into India?

- a. Identify** What does the term *Hellenistic* mean?
b. Compare What trait did the historian Polybius share with Thucydides?

Critical Thinking

- Summarize** Use a graphic organizer like this one to record details about Alexander and his empire. Then, write one sentence explaining why Alexander is an important historical figure.





The Hellenistic Kingdoms

The Big Idea

Alexander's death resulted in fighting among his generals and the division of his empire into three kingdoms.

Main Ideas

- Three powerful generals divided Alexander's empire among themselves, establishing Hellenistic Macedonia, Hellenistic Syria, and Hellenistic Egypt.
- A uniform system of trade developed throughout the Hellenistic kingdoms, with a common language, culture, and coinage.

Key People

Antigonus
 Seleucus
 Ptolemy
 Cleopatra VII

If YOU were there . . .

You are a Macedonian soldier in Alexander's army, stationed in Alexandria, Egypt, where you helped Alexander conquer the Egyptians. Unexpectedly, you hear that Alexander has died, far away in Asia Minor. He was a young man, with no heir to take his place. You have no idea who will take his place, though you know that several generals probably want to become the main leader. This could become dangerous. You wonder if Macedonians will begin to fight each other.

What do you think will happen now?

Three Hellenistic Kingdoms

When Alexander died, he didn't have an obvious heir to take over his kingdom, and no one knew who was in charge. The result was great confusion. Alexander's generals began to fight each other for power. In the end, three powerful generals divided the huge empire among themselves.

Hellenistic Macedonia The first of these generals was **Antigonus** (an-TIG-uh-nuhs). He became the king of Macedonia—Alexander's homeland—and part of Greece. (The rest of Greece became independent.) The Antigonid Kingdom, as it was called, was the most Greek of the three parts

Large, bustling cities could be found throughout all the Hellenistic kingdoms. The ruins of the major city of Ephesus are in modern Turkey.



The Hellenistic Kingdoms, c. 300 BC



Seleucus I

of the empire. However, it also had the weakest government. The Macedonian kings had to put down many revolts by the Greeks. Damaged by the revolts, Macedonia could not defend itself. Armies from Rome, a rising power from the Italian Peninsula, marched in and conquered Macedonia in the mid-100s BC.

Hellenistic Syria The second general to seize part of the empire was named **Seleucus** (suh-LOO-kuhs). He took control of most of Alexander's Asian conquests, including Persia. The Seleucid Kingdom, as it came to be known, was much larger than Macedonia. However, its great size proved to be a problem. The kingdom was home to many different peoples with many different customs.

After Seleucus died, his son could not keep control of the entire kingdom. The capital, Antioch, was so far away from some parts of the kingdom that people in those areas thought they could ignore the king. Large regions in the east, such as Bactria and Parthia, soon broke away from the

Cleopatra VII 69 BC–30 BC

The last ruler of Hellenistic Egypt was also the most famous. A popular subject of paintings, books, and movies, Cleopatra has become a symbol of ancient Egypt. However, Cleopatra would never have considered herself Egyptian. As a direct descendant of Ptolemy, she was Macedonian.

Cleopatra ruled Egypt jointly with her father and then with her brother. After they died, she became the sole ruler of the kingdom. When Julius Caesar, the ruler of Rome, visited Egypt, the two rulers became close allies. This alliance with Rome would eventually spell her downfall. After Caesar's death, Cleopatra allied herself with one of his aides, Marc Antony. Within a few years,

Antony became involved in a civil war in Rome, which he lost. Rather than face capture and imprisonment, both Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide. With Cleopatra's death, Egypt became a Roman territory.

Draw Conclusions

Why didn't Cleopatra think of herself as Egyptian?



Ptolemy was Egypt's first Macedonian ruler. This image shows him dressed as an Egyptian pharaoh.

Reading Check

Analyze Effects
Why were three kingdoms created from Alexander's empire?

kingdom. Seleucid rulers maintained control of Persia until they, too, were conquered by the Romans. In the 60s BC, the Romans marched in and took over Syria.

Hellenistic Egypt The last of Alexander's generals to become a king was **Ptolemy** (TAHL-uh-mee). He ruled Egypt, and the Ptolemaic Kingdom became the most powerful and the wealthiest of the Hellenistic kingdoms. Ptolemy took the title "pharaoh" to win the support of the Egyptian people. From the capital at Alexandria—which became one of the ancient world's greatest cities—Ptolemy and his descendants ruled over a stable and prosperous land.

The rulers of Egypt encouraged the growth of Greek culture. They built the ancient world's largest library in the city of Alexandria. Also in Alexandria, they built the Museum, a place for scholars and artists to meet. Through their efforts, Alexandria became a great center of culture and learning.

Nonetheless, Egypt eventually was drawn into conflicts with other powers, especially Rome. In the end, the Egyptian kingdom lasted longer than the other Hellenistic kingdoms. However, in 30 BC, the last Ptolemaic ruler of Egypt, **Cleopatra VII**, died, and the Romans took over Egypt. The Hellenistic kingdoms were no more.

Government and Economy

Like Alexander, the generals who divided his empire ruled without limits on their power. Rule passed down within families. In Macedonia and the Seleucid kingdom, only men could be kings. In Egypt, however, a few women became pharaohs. Cleopatra VII, perhaps the most famous and powerful woman of the ancient world, was a descendant of Ptolemy.

Hellenistic rulers surrounded themselves with advisors and officials to help their kingdoms run smoothly. These advisors were often Greek and had been raised and educated much like the rulers had. Some rulers also chose local individuals to advise them. Together, the rulers and their advisors worked to strengthen their economies. They built and repaired roads and irrigation systems, promoted manufacturing and trade, and supported the arts.

The rulers encouraged increased production of goods in the cities and on farms. The taxes on manufactured and agricultural goods made the kings wealthy. Huge cities grew up, including Antioch in the Seleucid Kingdom and Alexandria in Egypt. Most importantly, a uniform system of trade developed throughout the Hellenistic region. A form of Greek became the common language. The kingdoms continued producing the standard coins that Alexander had begun during his lifetime. Foods and manufactured goods were commonly traded items in the Hellenistic region.

Link to Economics

Booming Economies

The economies of the region grew tremendously after the generals established the Hellenistic kingdoms. The territorial expansion by Alexander had created a huge empire with new resources. Over time, the whole area was linked together by a common language and culture.

The kings seized much of the agricultural land in their kingdoms, and large farms meant increased agricultural production. The use of new technology, such as the iron plow, also helped increase production. Small farmers could not compete with the larger royal lands. Many independent farmers became agricultural workers. Slavery on farms decreased in the Hellenistic kingdoms because it did not cost the owners much to hire the many people looking for work. However, slave labor in manufacturing in cities remained common. Independent trade flourished throughout the kingdoms and was taxed and regulated by the royal families.

Analyze Information

How does use of the iron plow explain why small farmers became workers on larger farms?



A coin used in the Hellenistic kingdoms

Reading Check

Summarize

What made trade throughout the Hellenistic region a uniform system of trade?

Hellenistic civilization and the Indian and Chinese civilizations also developed trade networks. Specialized production of goods became possible because of the uniform system of trade. For example, China could send silk to the Hellenistic kingdoms, and the Hellenistic kingdoms could send other goods back to China. For two centuries after Alexander's death, the Hellenistic kingdoms prospered.

Summary and Preview In this lesson, you read about the three Hellenistic kingdoms that developed after the death of Alexander. In the next lesson, you will learn more about Hellenistic culture and achievements.

Lesson 2 Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and People

- a. Recall** What three kingdoms were created out of Alexander's empire after his death?

b. Explain Why were these kingdoms called Hellenistic?

c. Elaborate Why did the Seleucid Kingdom have trouble remaining united?
- a. Explain** How did the generals who ruled the three kingdoms make the laws for the people of the kingdoms?

b. Identify What new technology helped increase agricultural productivity in the Hellenistic kingdoms?

c. Summarize Where was slavery still common in the Hellenistic kingdoms?

Critical Thinking

- 3. Categorize** In this lesson you learned about the development of a uniform system of trade in the Hellenistic region. Create a chart like this one to rank the reasons the system of trade became uniform throughout the region. Next to the chart, write a sentence to explain your choices.

Most Significant

1.
2.
3.

Least Significant



Hellenistic Achievements

The Big Idea

The Hellenistic kingdoms had a blended, Greek-inspired culture.

Main Ideas

- Greek-influenced culture was most noticeable in the cities, while rural areas tended to be more traditional.
- Hellenistic art and architecture demonstrated Greek influences but had their own unique touches.

Key People

Aristarchus

If YOU were there . . .

You and your family live in the large Greek city of Alexandria, Egypt. Your father was a soldier in Alexander's Macedonian army, and your mother was an Egyptian who grew up on a farm. There is a huge Greek library in the center of the city, and your children go to a school organized on a Greek model. They speak both Egyptian and Greek. You cook mostly traditional Egyptian dishes, and the clothes you wear are a mix of Greek and Egyptian.

Do you consider yourself an Egyptian or a Greek or both?

Society and Daily Life

Alexander encouraged the blending of cultures in his empire. He introduced Greek customs into the areas he conquered but did not force people to give up their own traditions. The result was a blended Hellenistic, or Greek-inspired, culture that spread into the kingdoms built by his generals. Thus, the cultural landscape of Hellenistic Egypt became a blend of Greek and traditional Egyptian.

The Greek influence was most noticeable in cities. The Greek language was used for government and official business. Many buildings in Hellenistic cities resembled those in Athens and other Greek city-states. Members of the upper classes adopted Greek philosophy and even clothing styles to feel closer to their rulers.

One excellent example of a Greek-style Hellenistic city was Alexandria, Egypt. Founded by Alexander and chosen by Ptolemy as his capital, it became one of the largest cities in the Mediterranean world.

The city was filled with splendid buildings that reflected Greek tastes and technological ability. Towering above the city was a magnificent lighthouse called the Pharos. More than 350 feet tall, the lighthouse was widely admired as one

of the wonders of the ancient world. Also located in Alexandria was a huge library, the greatest collection of Greek and Hellenistic knowledge in the world.

Greek influence was less common in rural areas, particularly among the lower classes. In such areas, most people used their own native languages and kept their own religions. They built and dressed as they always had. The laws varied in some places, too. Large Greek cities, such as Alexandria, had their own Greek-influenced laws. But smaller towns and rural areas had traditional Egyptian laws that had developed over time.

As time passed, Hellenistic culture changed. One significant difference was in the treatment of women. In most Greek city-states, women had few rights. Hellenistic women, on the other hand, were less restricted. They could be educated, own property, and run businesses. However, women still had fewer rights than men.

Reading Check

Summarize

How would you describe the cultural landscape of Hellenistic Egypt?

Culture and Achievements

Like the Greeks, the people of the Hellenistic kingdoms were fascinated by architecture and art. Inspired by Greek works, they sought to create beautiful, meaningful pieces of their own. This Greek influence is obvious in Hellenistic art and architecture, but Hellenistic artists added their own touches.

For example, Hellenistic buildings tended to be larger and more ornate than earlier Greek buildings had been. The lighthouse at Alexandria, for example, was much taller than anything the Greeks had built. Buildings were so large because they served as symbols of the rulers' power and greatness.



This etching from the early 1900s shows one artist's idea of what the Lighthouse at Alexandria may have looked like. The lighthouse was destroyed before 1500.

Hellenistic Art and Design

Hellenistic rulers were great supporters of the arts. They commissioned artists to create elaborate public works such as sculptures, and collected personal luxury items like jewelry, often fashioned from gold and gems acquired through trade.



Hellenistic
gold earrings

One of the most famous statues from the Hellenistic period, the Winged Victory, shows the goddess of victory taking flight. The statue was carved in about 200 BC.



Hellenistic
vase from
the 200s BC

Analyze Visuals

How do the works shown here reflect elements of Hellenistic art and society? Give specific examples.

In addition, Hellenistic artists tried to make their works look more natural than earlier works. While many early Greek statues show people or gods in formal poses, Hellenistic sculptors liked to show their subjects in more active or natural poses. Instead of a king seated on a throne, a Hellenistic artist might choose to show a father holding a crying baby.

The blend of the cultural landscape in Hellenistic Egypt can be seen in the artistic expression inspired by religion. People worshiped both Greek and Egyptian gods in the Ptolemaic kingdom. Artists made statues of both

Hellenistic Philosophies		
Philosophy	Founder	Basic Teachings
Cynicism	Diogenes	People should live according to nature. They should ignore pleasure, wealth, and society.
Skepticism	Pyrrho	People can never know how things really are. They should just accept whatever happens to them.
Epicureanism	Epicurus	People should avoid pain and pursue pleasure. They should withdraw from public life.
Stoicism	Zeno	All people have a role to play in society. They should practice self-discipline and control their emotions.

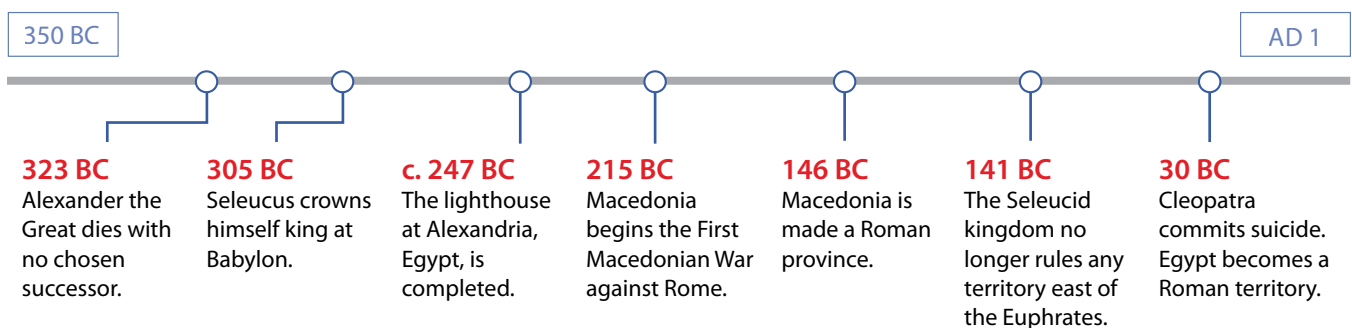
sets of gods. Ptolemy I even had a temple built in Alexandria dedicated to the god Serapis. Serapis was a combination of a Greek god and an Egyptian god.

Another similarity between Greek and Hellenistic culture was the value placed on philosophy. Hellenistic thinkers spent much of their time thinking about how people could be happy. Some of these thinkers became very influential and formed new schools of thought. Four of these philosophies are described in the chart called “Hellenistic Philosophies.”

Some Hellenistic thinkers, however, were more interested in how the physical world worked. To help them learn about the world, these thinkers turned to science. Hellenistic scientists were eager to conduct experiments that could improve their understanding of the world. As a result of these experiments, they sometimes created wondrous inventions that made

Timeline: Key Events in the Hellenistic Kingdoms

This timeline shows some key events in the history of the Hellenistic region that helped shape Hellenistic culture and society.



Analyze Timelines

When did Seleucus crown himself king at Babylon?

Reading Check

Synthesize

How did religion influence the art and architecture of Hellenistic Egypt?

life easier for other people. Perhaps the greatest Hellenistic inventor was Archimedes (ahr-kuh-MEED-eez). Among his inventions was a device that helped farmers bring water uphill to their fields. He also designed a war machine that could lift a fully loaded ship out of the water.

Hellenistic scientists also made great advances in mathematics and astronomy. Around 300 BC, Euclid described the basic ideas that govern geometry. **Aristarchus** (ahr-uh-STAHHR-kuhs) of Samos, an astronomer, was the first person to propose that the earth moves around the sun.

Summary In this lesson, you read about the society and daily life of the Hellenistic region and about the achievements of Hellenistic culture.

Lesson 3 Assessment

Review Ideas, Terms, and People

- a. Explain** Describe the cultural landscape of Hellenistic Egypt.

b. Identify How was Alexandria, Egypt, a good example of a Greek-style Hellenistic city?

c. Form Generalizations How did individual rights change over time for Hellenistic women?
- a. Contrast** How were Hellenistic buildings different from earlier Greek buildings?

b. Summarize What are the basic teachings of Stoicism?

c. Predict Effects How might Archimedes' inventions have made life easier?

Critical Thinking

- 3. Evaluate** In this lesson you learned about people in the Hellenistic kingdoms as well as their culture and achievements. Create a graphic organizer like this one listing how Greek culture influenced the culture of the Hellenistic kingdoms.

Language	Art	Architecture	Philosophy

Social Studies Skills

Interpret Charts

Define the Skill

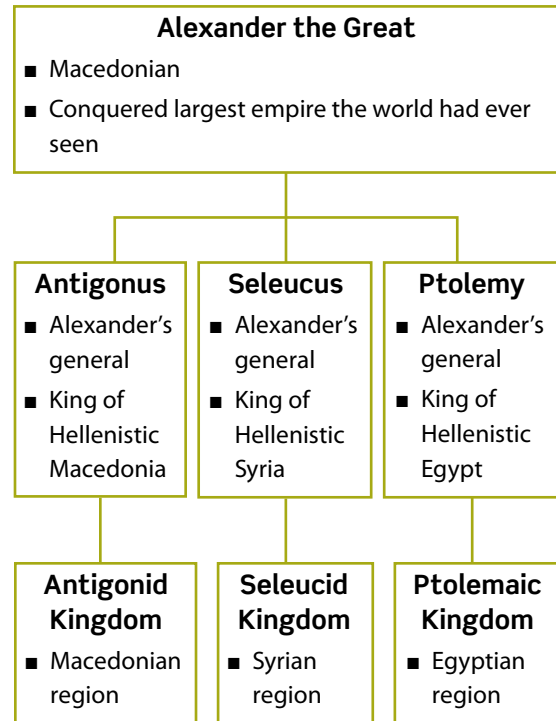
Charts present information visually to make it easier to understand. Different kinds of charts serve different purposes. *Organizational charts* can show relationships among the parts of something. *Flowcharts* show steps in a process or cause-and-effect relationships. *Classification charts* group information so it can be easily compared. Tables are a type of classification chart that organize information into rows and columns for easy comparison. The ability to interpret charts helps you to analyze information and understand relationships.

Learn the Skill

Use these basic steps to interpret a chart.

1. Identify the type of chart, and read its title in order to understand its purpose and subject.
2. Note the parts of the chart. Read the headings of rows and columns to determine the categories and types of information. Note any other labels that accompany the information presented in the chart. Look for any lines that connect its parts. What do they tell you?
3. Study the chart's details. Look for relationships in the information it presents. If it is a classification chart, analyze and compare all content in the rows and columns. In flowcharts and organizational charts, read all labels and other information. Follow and analyze directional arrows or lines.

Hellenistic Kingdoms



Practice the Skill

Apply the strategies given to interpret the chart, and answer the following questions.

1. What type of chart is this, and what is its purpose?
2. In what way was Alexander the Great connected to Antigonus, Seleucus, and Ptolemy?
3. Which general became king of Hellenistic Egypt?
4. What was the name of the Hellenistic kingdom in the Syrian region?

Module 9 Assessment

Review Vocabulary, Terms, and People

Complete each sentence by filling in the blank with the correct term or person.

1. A king of Macedonia named _____ easily defeated Athens and Thebes.
2. A _____ was a group of warriors who stood close together in a square.
3. The Macedonian _____ built the largest empire the world had ever seen.
4. A general named _____ took control of Alexander's Asian conquests after Alexander died.
5. A ruler named _____ was the last ruler of Hellenistic Egypt.
6. _____ is a term used to describe Greek-like culture.
7. A general named _____ took the title "Pharaoh" and ruled Egypt from the capital of Alexandria.
8. _____ proposed that the earth moves around the sun.

Comprehension and Critical Thinking

Lesson 1

9.
 - a. **Explain** How did Philip improve on the Greeks' idea of a phalanx for use in battle?
 - b. **Analyze** In Plutarch's story of Alexander and Bucephalus, Philip said that his son should seek a kingdom equal to himself. What did he mean by that?
 - c. **Elaborate** Why do you think Alexander's empire was considered one of the great civilizations of the ancient world?

Lesson 2

10.
 - a. **Identify** Who ruled Hellenistic Macedonia, Hellenistic Syria, and Hellenistic Egypt after Alexander's death?
 - b. **Explain** What were the characteristics of the uniform system of trade in the Hellenistic kingdoms?
 - c. **Draw Conclusions** What led to the economic boom in the Hellenistic kingdoms after Alexander died?

Lesson 3

11.
 - a. **Describe** How would you describe the cultural landscape of Hellenistic Egypt?
 - b. **Analyze** How was artistic expression in Hellenistic Egypt inspired by religion?
 - c. **Contrast** How were the Hellenistic philosophies of Epicureanism and Stoicism different?

Module 9 Assessment, continued

Review Themes

- Politics** How would you describe the way that Alexander governed his empire?
- Politics** What happened when Alexander died and left no obvious heir to take over his empire?
- Society and Culture** In what ways was the culture of Hellenistic Egypt a blend of two cultures?

Reading Skills

Compare and Contrast Historical Facts Use the Reading Skills taught in this module to complete the activity below.

- Complete the chart to compare and contrast two powerful leaders you studied in this module, Philip II and Alexander the Great.

Compare	
List two characteristics that Philip and Alexander shared.	
a.	_____
b.	_____

Contrast	
How did Philip's and Alexander's empires differ?	
Philip	Alexander
c. _____	d. _____
What happened to their empires after they died?	
Philip	Alexander
e. _____	f. _____

Social Studies Skills

Interpret Charts Use the Social Studies Skills taught in this module to complete the activity below.

- Create a chart in your notebook that identifies key Hellenistic achievements in architecture, art, and philosophy. Use details from this module.

Focus On Writing

- Write a Rap for a Hero** Write a rap song that tells the story of Alexander the Great, who rose from childhood in a small country to become the leader of the greatest empire the world had ever known. Include events in his life that you have read about in the module, and describe how his empire changed after he died. Make your rap rhyme in ways that make sense to you.