

Final exam

[History](#)



Final Exam Part One Spartan and Athenian assemblies share one similarity and it's based on mode of governance. It means in both entities, the people elected them to enact laws sound for initiating change and development. However, the Spartan assembly practiced monarchy while Athens relished in democracy and, thus, making life more creative. In terms of councils, both were meant to administer decisions for the assembly. Contrastingly, while the Athenian council consisted of five hundred individuals above 30 years, the Spartan government only required 28 members. The scenario meant that the Athenian had a superior authority in terms of proposing laws for the assembly unlike Spartan.

2.

The Peloponnesian War involved the battle pitting the Athenians and the Peloponnesian League under the guidance of Sparta. As a result two immediate long term effects occurred and, hence, affected both sides. For instance, it caused the breakdown of peace meaning Athens violated the Peace of Nicias treaty signed in 421 BC. Another effect included the introduction of the Ionian and Deceleian Wars. These two wars occasioned a devastating phase of bloodshed as both sides struggled to gain victory for the acquisition of empires.

Subsequently, three long term effects emerged from the Peloponnesian War such as the explosion of the Archidamian War (Tritle 100). It is war that was led by Spartan forces under king Archidamus II. Second effect entailed the contravention of the Peace of Nicias treaty that was meant to stop the war between Spartan and Athenian forces. Third effect is the Sicilian Expedition that was heralded by the Athenians in order to defeat their rivals. The Spartans prevailed over the Athenians because of their prolonged siege that

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induced diseases and starvation in the Athenian population. The Spartans later showed clemency to the Athenians by refusing to enslave them. It is crucial to highlight that the aftermath of the war played a major role in changing the Greek civilization. The tyrants that ruled Greece suspended democracy. In this sense, it became a reactionary regime that would eliminate the oligarchs and create the capacity for true democracy.

3.

During the Peloponnesian War, Pericles demonstrated two political strengths worth noting because they contributed to the favorable outcome witnessed in the duel. First, he was a charismatic speaker who applied both rhetoric and flowery language in persuading the masses. As the leader of Athens, therefore, he integrated colorful speech with the need for his people to exact revenge against the Spartans. Second political strength that propped the stature of Pericles involved his visionary approach to issues. In the lead to the war, he had foreseen the tactics of his rivals and this enabled him to plan early. Consequently, it sharpened Pericles's strategic skills because the Athenian Empire was at great stake and that meant marshalling his forces without any errors.

Part Two

1.

Thucydides and Plutarch are both right in casting Pericles as tyrant based on various reasons. First, Pericles was a politician who used his gift of speech to whip emotions of bloodshed and death that resulted to the endless war between Spartans and Athenians.

Another reason was Pericles's refusal to engage his enemies in reconciliation even after the signing of the peace treaty. The gesture signified the

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behaviors and mannerisms of a tyrant unwilling to stop a war.

Similarly, engagement in reckless military pursuits as a means of physical glorification was a testament of Pericles's tyranny.

In other words, he invested both his energy and vision creating divisions between states without any consultations.

2.

From various fronts, the Peloponnesian war was more defining of Greek history than the Persian war. This proposition, also held by Thucydides, is due to various facts. Firstly, the Peloponnesian war took place years after the Persian war, meaning that this was after the effects of the Persian war had worn off.

Additionally, while the Persian war had left imbalanced power among the Greek states, the Peloponnesian War tried to neutralize the power of the Greek states. After the Persian war, Athens was the most powerful Greek state. This changed during the Peloponnesian war since all of the states had to provide equal input in defense of Greece.

From the above point, it can also be argued that the Peloponnesian war enabled the Greek states to come together and integrate their resources, thereby highlighting the importance that this war had on Greece, thereby greatly defining its history more than the Persian war.

Work Cited

Tritle, Lawrence. Peloponnesian War. Mason, OH: SAGE. 2004. Print.