

ERASMUS PROJECT
“MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL”

FINLAND MEETING
MARCH 2018

GREEK PRESENTATION
TOPIC: ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

“DEMOCRACY LESSONS”

What is Democracy?

What does this word mean?

Is it an old or modern word?

Where does it come from?

Do you believe or know that you have democracy in your country?

In your school?

In your family?

Can you find 3 words connected to Democracy?

Democracy is a Greek word

DEMOS=PEOPLE

CRATO=RULE

IN DEMOCRACY PEOPLE RULE

Do you know what happens in Democracy ?

Make decisions about what we care about

Co-decide

Discuss

A lot of ideas, political parties

All people equal

Voting

Citizen participation/actions

Majority

Rules and Laws the same for everybody

Respect for Human Rights

Ancient Greece – Athens-The Acropolis- 5th century B.C. –“The Golden century of Pericles”

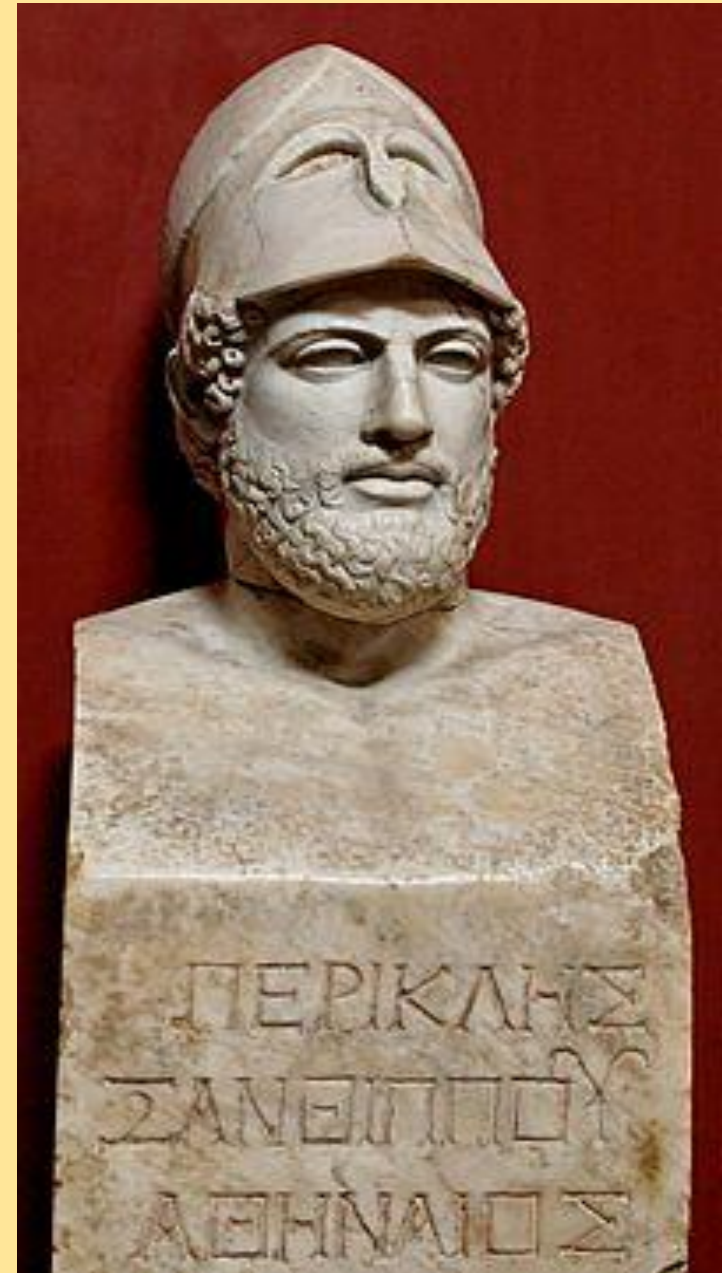
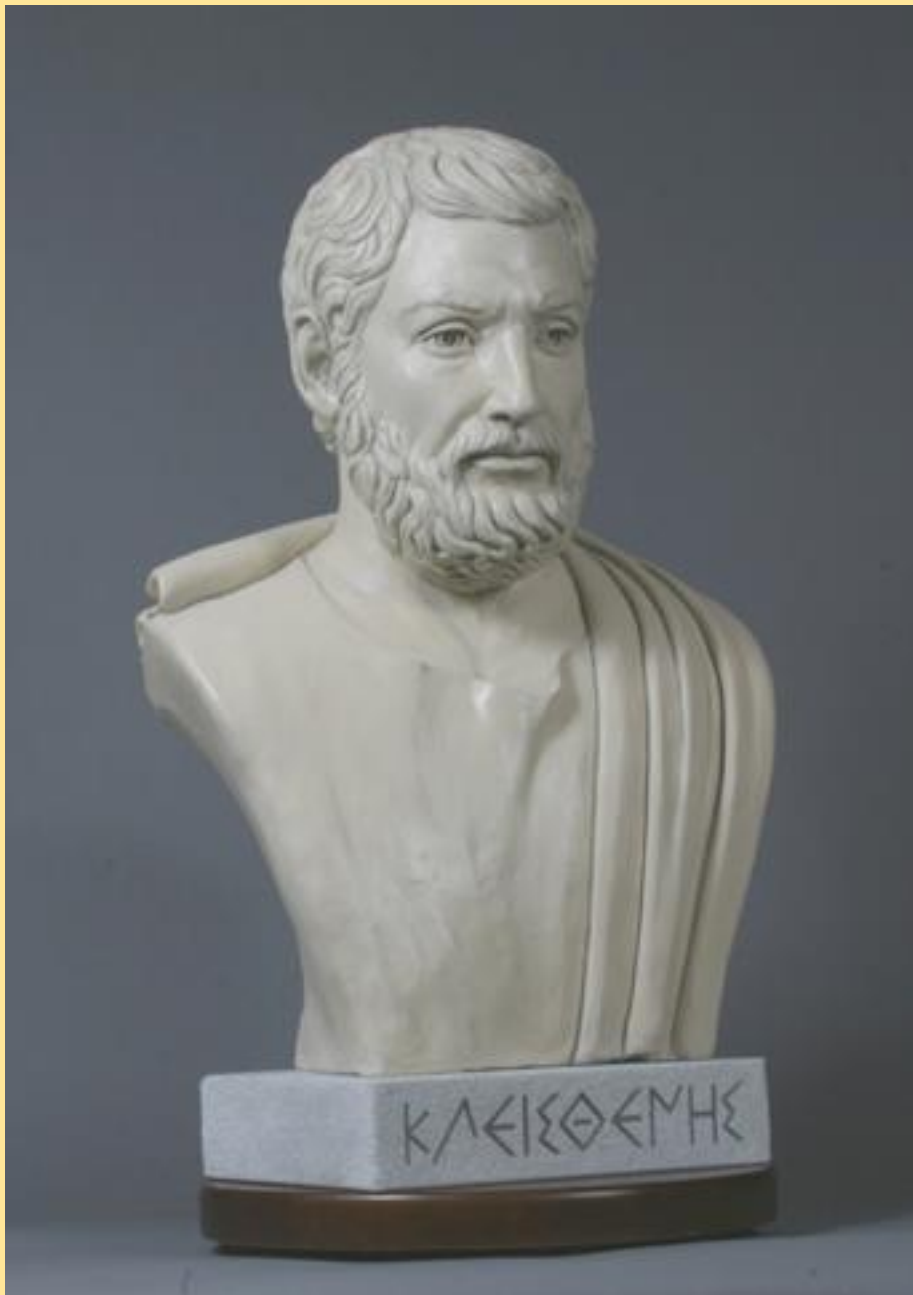


Democracy was born here in Athens 2,500 years ago



Kleisthenis – The father of Democracy

Pericles-he established Democracy
and created the Golden century of Athens







This is the stand of Pnyka in Athens.
Citizens stood up and talked here.



This is Pericles on Pnyca hill. He is talking to the citizens of Athens. This is Gathering of the People. All the people discussed important problems of the town, like war and peace. It was their right and duty to join in the discussions and decisions about their town.



Pericles gave a speech in 432 B.C. Called “Epitaph”. He said about the Citizens of Athens:

“ We take care both of our personal issues and our common issues in our own. We care for the community as we care about our own business. If somebody doesn’t care about the community and isn’t an active citizen, we call him “useless” and “indifferent”, not just “quiet” ...

What can you say about the citizens of Athens?

The citizens of Athens were

- **Active**
- **Responsible**
- **Modern**
- **Democratic**
- **Clever**
- **Useful**
- **Interested**
- **Innovative**

WHY?

And what if a citizen was thought to be an enemy of the community?

If 6,000 people wrote his name on these shells, he lost his rights as a citizen and had to leave the town for a period.

They also voted for the best, the “first” citizen in the same way.



Can we decide together what Democracy is?

Can we give a definition?

Can we use these words?

Power

All

Decide

Good

people

Democracy is a way of deciding :
“all the **people** of a group **decide**
what is **good for them.**”

A “group” can be
a class, school, family, country, project partners etc.
How do they decide? By discussing, expressing ideas and
opinions, voting, raising hands etc.?

In modern countries people **vote** and **choose** some of them
to **represent** them.

They can be a school board, a town council,
country representatives, students and teachers
participating in an Erasmus+ meeting
or the **members** of the **Parliament.**

KEY WORDS FOR A DEMOCRATIC BEHAVIOUR

(Brainstorming activity)

PEOPLE HAVE VOICE
VOTE
WE ARE ALL EQUAL
SHARE IDEAS
SAY MY OPINION
DECISIONS
MAJORITY
WORK IN TEAMS
WE HAVE DUTIES
RESPONSIBILITIES
DECIDE FOR MYSELF
HELP EACH OTHER
WE HAVE RIGHTS

CAN YOU DISCUSS WHAT THEY MEAN?
CAN YOU GIVE EXAMPLES FROM YOUR DAILY LIFE?
CAN YOU FIND ANY MORE KEY WORDS?

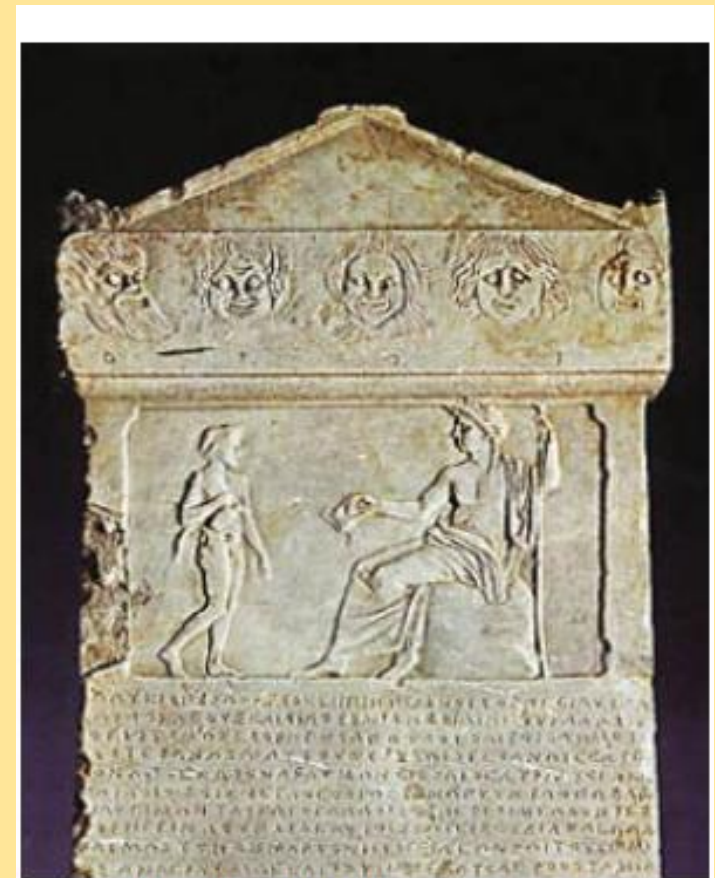
Citizens of Athens gave a part of their money for the **welfare** of their town AND THE LESS PRIVILEGED PEOPLE.

These were the first taxes and the first social policy.

EXAMPLES:

- Rich Athenians gave the money for the training of athletes in the Olympic games
- gave the money for the theatre tickets for poor people because theatrical plays were education and fun in ancient Athens

WELFARE- EYHMEPIA- Living a good life



Τιμητικό ψήφισμα για δύο χορηγούς από τον Δήμο της Αιξονής

Ancient Greek Democracy was unique and innovative but not perfect

Women Slaves People without land
were not citizens and didn't have the right to vote
But for that period DEMOCRACY
was something innovative and "huge"

NOWADAYS ?

Who has the right to vote in your country?





This is the Greek Parliament meeting room

There are 300 members of the parliament

They are elected representatives of the Greek people

They decide and vote for the Constitution/Laws/Rules

Democracy in the FAMILY/FRIENDSHIPS/SCHOOL/RELATIONSHIPS/ OUR PROJECT?/LIFE

Fruits of Democracy



Langston Hughes

<https://www.poemhunter.com/poem/democracy/>

Democracy will not come
Today, this year
Nor ever
Through compromise and fear.

I have as much right
As the other fellow has
To stand
On my two feet
And own the land.

I tire so of hearing people say,
Let things take their course.
Tomorrow is another day.
I do not need my freedom when I'm dead.
I cannot live on tomorrow's bread.

Freedom
Is a strong seed
Planted
In a great need.

I live here, too.
I want freedom
Just as you.

[Langston Hughes](#)



It's our Democracy!

