

History Knowledge Organiser

Year 6

Spring (ii)

What are the Achievements of the Ancient Greeks?

Substantive Knowledge - The Ancient Egyptians were advanced and many of their ideologies are still in use today. They developed the Hippocratic Oath for medicine and the idea of democracy. There are a number of pioneering Ancient Greek women whom we still remember today.

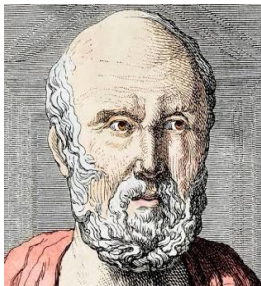
Medicine and the Hippocratic Oath

The Hippocratic Oath (Ορκος) is the most widely known of Greek medical texts. It requires a new physician to swear upon different healing gods that he will uphold a number of professional ethical standards.

Bone forceps were used by Ancient Greek doctors to take out bone fragments that you could not take out by using your fingers. Scalpels were tools that were generally used to make incisions. These tools were usually made from bronze or steel.

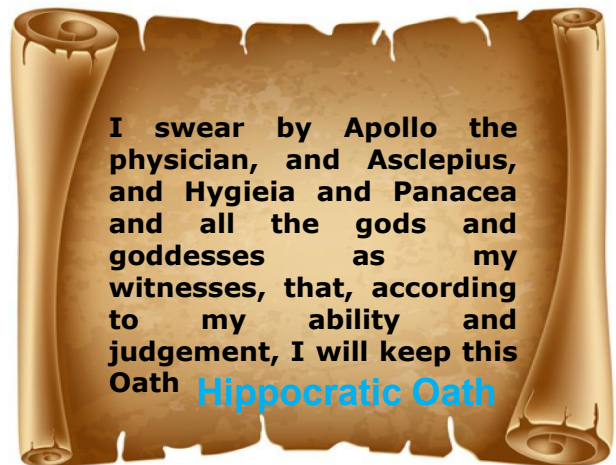


Medical Tools



Hippocrates

A Greek Physician who developed a School of Medicine



Did you know?

Cauterizing (burning of part of a body to remove or close off a part of it) was a standard medical procedure in ancient times.

Democracy

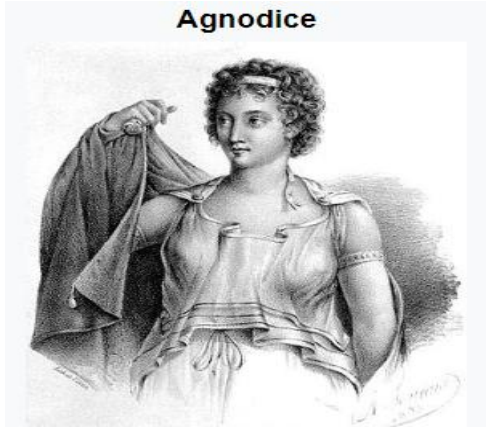
The word “democracy” comes from two Greek words that mean people (demos) and rule (kratos). Democracy is the idea that the citizens of a country should take an active role in the Government of their country and manage it directly or through elected representatives. Democracy in Ancient Greece was very direct. What this means is that all the citizens voted on all the laws. Rather than vote for representatives, like we do, each citizen was expected to vote for every law. They did have officials to run the government, however.



Greek Pioneering Women

Agnodice of Athens

Agnodice (c. 4th century B.C.E.) is a legendary figure credited as the first female midwife or physician in ancient Athens. Her story is told by the Roman author Gaius Julius Hyginus Gaius in his *Fabulae*.



According to Hyginus, Agnodice studied medicine under Herophilus and worked as a physician in her home city of Athens disguised as a man, because women at the time were forbidden from practising medicine. As her popularity with female patients grew, rival physicians accused her of seducing the women of Athens. She was tried, and revealed her sex to the jury by lifting her tunic. Accused of illegally practising medicine as a woman, she was defended by the women of Athens who praised her for her effective treatments. She was acquitted, and the law against female physicians in Athens was revoked.

Hypatia of Alexandria

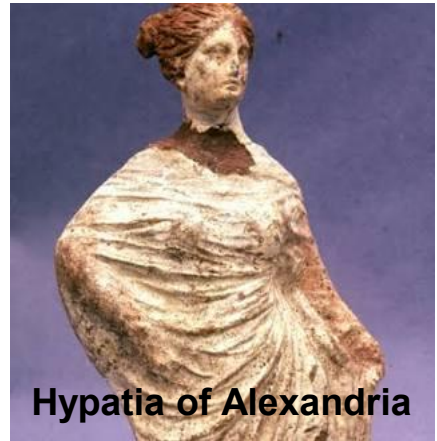
Hydna of Scione (480 B.C.E) was an ancient Greek swimmer and diver given credit for contributing to the destruction of the Persian navy in 480 B.C.E.

According to Pausanias, prior to a critical naval battle with the Persians, Hydna and her father, Scyllias, volunteered to assist Greek forces by vandalizing the nearby Persian naval fleet. Hydna was well known in Greece as a skilled swimmer, having been trained by her father, a professional swim instructor named Scyllias, from a young age. She was known for her ability to swim long distances and dive deep into the ocean.

On the night of the attack, father and daughter swam roughly ten miles through rough, choppy waters to reach the ships. They silently swam among the boats, using knives to cut the moorings and dragging away the submerged anchors. Without anchors and moorings to secure the ships, they crashed together in the stormy water. Most of the ships sustained considerable damage and a few sank. The resulting delay allowed the Greek navy more time to prepare for the battle.

Did you know?

Greek surgeons performed surgeries such as bloodletting, amputations, and draining lungs of fluid?



Portable Knowledge - What we need to remember

The Ancient Greeks have had an impact on governments and medicine up until this day.

Some of their ideology and even vocabulary is still followed today.

Core Vocabulary

Democracy– power of the people
Hippocratic – relating to Hippocrates and his work and writing
Oath - promise