## Classical Greece - The Philosophers

### Rise of the Philosophers

**Who were the philosophers?**
- Peloponnesian War led to a time of instability and **questions**.
- Philosophers were lovers of wisdom and knowledge in search of **answers** and **truth**
  - Knowledge and truth relied on the use of **logic** and human **reason**
  - Relied on **experimentation**, **observation**, and asking questions
- They encouraged others to **challenge** traditional **ideas** and **authority**
- The most famous philosophers were Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle

### Socrates 469 – 399 BCE

**What contributions did Socrates make to the field of philosophy?**
- Taught that man would pursue “good” if he knew what it was.
  - Evil was caused by **ignorance**
- Believed in rigorous self-examination
  - “**know thyself**”
- Developed the **Socratic Method** to learning
  - Question and answer approach

### Plato 427 – 347 BCE

**What contributions did Plato make to the field of philosophy?**
- Work focused on “ethics”
- Lived during last years of Peloponnesian War and saw **democracy** at its **worst**.
- Wrote the book “**The Republic**” to describe his ideal vision for society, politics, and government.
  - Human soul has three parts
  - Whichever part dominated a person’s soul determined the role of that individual.
- Soul dominated by **Appetite**
  - Provide labor for the state.
- Soul dominated by **Honor**
  - Defend the state
- Soul dominated by **Reason**
  - Rule the state
  - Wisest of all would be the **Philosopher King**.
- Plato taught at his school “The Academy”
  - His most famous student was Aristotle
Aristotle 384 - 322 BCE
What contributions did Aristotle make to the field of philosophy?

- Believed the ultimate goal was human happiness.
- The best life was characterized by moderation, balance, and harmony.
  - The happiest man was the one who spent his life in contemplation (the philosopher).
- Developed the Scientific Method of investigation relying on observations and experiments.
  - Taught at his school “Lyceum”
- 343 BCE hired by Philip II of Macedonia to tutor his son Alexander
  - Future King of Macedonia, Alexander the Great
Match the quote from a famous Greek philosopher with the quote that shows the influence of Greek philosophy on the thinking of others.

Greek Philosophers
A. “Education is the kindling of a flame; not the filling of a vessel.” – Socrates
B. “For a man to conquer himself is the first and noblest of all victories.” – Plato
C. “Criticism is something we can avoid easily by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing.” – Aristotle
D. “Worthless people live only to eat and drink; people of worth eat and drink only to live.” – Socrates
E. “Wise men speak because they have something to say; Fools because they have to say something.” – Plato
F. “We cannot learn without pain.” – Aristotle

Quote of Similar Idea / Influence
1. “Know your opponent and you will never lose, know yourself and you will always win.” – Sun Tzu
2. “It was impossible to get a conversation going, everybody was talking too much.” – Yogi Berra
3. “And in the end, it’s not the years in your life that count. It’s the life in your years.” – Abraham Lincoln
4. “Change is hard at first, messy in the middle, and gorgeous at the end.” – Robin Sharma
5. “Education is not the learning of facts, but the training of the mind to think.” - Albert Einstein
6. “To live a creative life we must lose our fear of being wrong.” – Joseph Chilton Pearce

A. _____  B. _____  C. _____  D. _____  E. _____  F. _____