

Mediterranean Europe

All questions require at least
THREE sentences on own paper.

PLACES & TERMS

city-state a political unit made up of a city and its surrounding lands

republic a government in which citizens elect representatives to rule in their name

Crusades a series of wars in which European Christians tried to take Palestine from Muslims

Renaissance a time of renewed interest in learning and the arts, lasting from the 14th through 16th centuries

aqueduct structure that carried water for long distances

A History of Ancient Glory

What types of governments arose in this region?

The Mediterranean was the birthplace of European *civilization*. Two geographic advantages helped cause this. The mild climate made survival easier. The Mediterranean Sea encouraged trade.

The rise of Greece began about 2000 B.C. People from the north moved onto the Balkan Peninsula and built villages. Mountains isolated the villages, so they grew into separate city-states. A city-state is a political unit made up of a city and its surrounding lands.

The city-state of Athens had the first democracy, a government in which the people rule. Greek science, *philosophy*, drama, and art shaped modern culture.

In the 400s B.C., conflict weakened Greece. Several city-states fought wars with Persia. In 338 B.C., Macedonia (a kingdom to the north) conquered Greece. Alexander the Great of Macedonia then conquered Persia and part of India. He spread Greek culture.

As Greece lost power, Rome grew. Rome ruled

most of the Italian Peninsula by 275 B.C. At that time, Rome was a republic. That is a government in which citizens elect representatives to rule in their name.

Rome conquered the Iberian and Balkan peninsulas. In Italy, turmoil caused the end of the republic. Emperors began to rule Rome.

One of Rome's territories was Palestine, where Jesus was born. Christianity spread from there across the empire.

In A.D. 395, the empire split in two. The Western Roman Empire fell to German invaders in 476. The Eastern Roman Empire lasted nearly 1,000 years longer.

1. What political ideas come from ancient Greece and Rome?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Moving Toward Modern Times

How did the three Mediterranean peninsulas differ?

The Balkan Peninsula was part of the Eastern Roman Empire for 1,000 years. (The Eastern Empire was also called the Byzantine Empire.) Germanic tribes overran the Italian Peninsula. Italy became divided into several small states.

The Crusades began in 1096. European Christians fought these wars to take Palestine from the Muslims. Italians grew wealthy by supplying ships to Crusaders. Banking and trade made Italian city-states rich.

The Renaissance was a time of renewed interest in learning and the arts. It began in Italy's city-states. It lasted from the 14th through 16th centuries.

Muslims conquered the Iberian Peninsula in the 700s. The Catholic rulers Isabella and Ferdinand retook Spain from them in 1492. Queen Isabella also paid for Christopher Columbus's first voyage. Both Spain and Portugal set up colonies. They spread their languages and the Catholic Church around the world.

2. How did Italy become wealthy?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

A Rich Cultural Legacy

How were language and religion spread?

The past shaped Mediterranean Europe's languages, religions, and culture. Greece kept its own language. Portuguese, Spanish, and Italian came from Latin, the language of Rome.

The two halves of the Roman Empire had different forms of Christianity. Eastern Orthodox Christianity is the main religion of Greece. Roman Catholicism is strong in Italy, Spain, and Portugal.

Greece and Italy have ancient ruins from classical times. Spain has Roman aqueducts, structures that carried water for long distances. Spain also has Muslim mosques.

3. Why would Spain have both Roman aqueducts and Muslim mosques?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Economic Change

How has Mediterranean Europe's economy changed?

The region's sunny climate and historic sites encourage tourism. Through history, the economy of the Mediterranean region was based on fishing and farming. But the region's economy changed in the late 20th century.

Manufacturing and service industries, such as banking, are increasing. In the 1980s, Greece, Portugal, and Spain joined the European Union (EU). This promoted trade. Trade leads to growth.

Southern Italy has had less growth than northern Italy. The north is closer to other regions of Europe. Poor transportation and bad planning hurt the south.

4. What slowed the development of southern Italy?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.

Modern Mediterranean Life

What recent problems have affected Mediterranean Europe?

Dictators ruled Spain and Italy for long periods during the 20th century. In 1975, Spain set up a *constitutional* government. After World War II, Italy became a republic but has had dozens of governments. Greece has also been unstable.

In 1970, Spain granted the Basque people self-rule. The Basques live in the western foothills of the Pyrenees and speak their own language. Some Basques want total independence and continue to fight Spain.

As farming decreases, more people move to cities. Urban growth has created housing shortages, pollution, and traffic jams.

5. What conflict exists between Spain and the Basques?

Answer in at least THREE SENTENCES on own paper.