

### Ancient History GCSE Word List

1. **Source** – A piece of evidence from the past (e.g. text, object).
2. **Inference** – A conclusion you make based on clues in a source.
3. **Interpretation** – Different views or explanations about the past.
4. **Evidence** – Information used to support an idea or argument.
5. **Bias** – When a source shows one side more than another.
6. **Provenance** – Where a source comes from and who made it.
7. **Context** – The background or situation in which something happened.
8. **Chronology** – Putting events in the correct time order.
9. **Significance** – Why a person, event, or idea is important.
10. **Cause** – Why something happened.
11. **Consequence** – What happened as a result.
12. **Change** – How things became different over time.
13. **Corroboration** – When two or more sources agree or say the same thing about an event or person.
14. **Comparison** – Looking at similarities and differences between people or events.
15. **Judgement** – Your own conclusion based on evidence and reasoning.
16. **Reliability** – How trustworthy a source is.
17. **Perspective** – The point of view of the person who created a source.
18. **Enquiry** – A question you investigate using historical skills.
19. **Argument** – A clear explanation supported by evidence.
20. **Evaluation** – Judging how strong or useful something is (like a source or argument).

## PERSIA

1. **Cyrus the Great** – Founder of the Persian Empire, known for tolerance and expansion.
2. **Cambyses II** – Cyrus' son, known for his conquest of Egypt and controversial rule.
3. **Darius I** – Persian king who expanded the empire and built Persepolis.
4. **Xerxes I** – Son of Darius, led the invasion of Greece.
5. **Satrap** – A provincial governor in the Persian Empire.
6. **Pasargadae** – Capital city built by Cyrus.
7. **Persepolis** – Ceremonial capital built by Darius and Xerxes.
8. **Royal Road** – A major road for communication and trade across the empire.
9. **Ahuramazda** – The chief god in Zoroastrianism.
10. **Herodotus** – Greek historian who wrote about Persia.
11. **Cyrus Cylinder** – An inscription praising Cyrus' rule and policies.
12. **Nabonidus Chronicle** – Babylonian source describing Cyrus' conquest.
13. **Behistun Inscription** – Darius' account of his rise to power.
14. **Croesus** – King of Lydia defeated by Cyrus.
15. **Sardis** – Capital of Lydia, captured by Cyrus.
16. **Massagetae** – Tribe involved in the legendary death of Cyrus.
17. **Ionian Revolt** – Rebellion of Greek cities under Persian rule.
18. **Tribute** – Payment made by conquered peoples to the Persian king.

## PERICLES

1. **Pericles** – A powerful Athenian leader who shaped democracy and led Athens.
2. **Democracy** – A system where citizens vote to make decisions about laws and leadership.
3. **Ecclesia** – The Athenian assembly where citizens met to vote on important issues.
4. **Boule** – A council of 500 citizens who prepared topics for the assembly to discuss.
5. **Stratego**i – Military generals elected to lead Athens' army and navy.
6. **Archons** – Magistrates who carried out religious and legal duties in Athens.
7. **Ostracism** – A vote to exile someone from Athens for 10 years.
8. **Delian League** – An alliance of Greek city-states led by Athens.
9. **Long Walls** – Defensive walls that connected Athens to its port, protecting trade and supplies.
10. **Funeral Oration** – A famous speech by Pericles praising Athenian democracy and values.
11. **Panathenaia** – A major religious festival in Athens honouring the goddess Athena.
12. **City Dionysia** – A festival with plays and performances celebrating the god Dionysus.
13. **Acropolis** – A sacred hill in Athens with important buildings like the Parthenon.
14. **Parthenon** – A temple built to honour Athena, showing Athenian wealth and power.
15. **Pheidias** – A sculptor who created statues for the Parthenon and was later put on trial.
16. **Aspasia** – A well-known woman in Pericles' life, often discussed in debates about women's roles.
17. **Arrephoroi** – Young girls who served Athena in religious rituals.
18. **Sophists** – Teachers who taught public speaking and argument skills in Athens.
19. **Sparta** – A rival Greek city-state often in conflict with Athens.

## EARLY ROME

1. **Romulus** – Legendary founder and first king of Rome.
2. **Remus** – Romulus' twin brother, killed during Rome's founding.
3. **Senate** – A council of elders advising Roman kings and later the Republic.
4. **Patricians** – Wealthy, noble families in early Rome.
5. **Plebeians** – Common people of Rome, often in conflict with patricians.
6. **Republic** – A system of government without a king, started in 509 BCE.
7. **Consul** – One of two elected leaders of the Roman Republic.
8. **Tarquinius Superbus** – The last king of Rome, known for his tyranny.
9. **Lucretia** – Noblewoman whose death led to the fall of the monarchy.
10. **Brutus** – Leader in overthrowing the monarchy and founding the Republic.
11. **Aeneas** – Trojan hero linked to Rome's mythical origins.
12. **Sabines** – A neighbouring tribe involved in early Roman history.
13. **Census** – A population count used to organize Roman society.
14. **Twelve Tables** – Rome's first written laws.
15. **Tribune** – An official elected to protect plebeian rights.
16. **Decemvirs** – A group of ten officials who wrote Roman laws.
17. **Cloelia** – Heroic Roman girl who escaped captivity.
18. **Horatius Cocles** – Roman hero who defended a bridge against enemies.

## CLEOPATRA

1. **Cleopatra** – Queen of Egypt.
2. **Egypt** – Ancient civilisation ruled by pharaohs, including Cleopatra.
3. **Pharaoh** – A ruler of ancient Egypt.
4. **Ptolemy** – Cleopatra's family name; a Greek dynasty ruling Egypt.
5. **Julius Caesar** – Roman general and Cleopatra's ally and lover.
6. **Mark Antony** – Roman leader and Cleopatra's partner in politics and romance.
7. **Octavian** – Caesar's heir and Cleopatra's enemy; later became Augustus.
8. **Pompey** – Julius Caesar's political rival and son-in-law.
9. **Crassus** – third member of the First Triumvirate.
10. **Lepidus** – third member of the Second Triumvirate.
11. **Propaganda** – Information used to influence public opinion.
12. **Battle of Actium** – Naval battle where Octavian defeated Antony and Cleopatra.
13. **Dynasty** – A line of rulers from the same family.
14. **Senate** – The governing body of Rome.
15. **Triumvirate** – A political alliance of three leaders in Rome.
16. **Deity** – A god or goddess.
17. **Revolution** – A major change, often involving uprising.
18. **Hospitality** – Friendly and generous reception of guests.