

7-11 year-olds

The Ancient Greeks and the battle of Marathon

1. Use the important facts listed below to write an Athenian newspaper report about the battle of Marathon. Write your report in the second box.

FACTS:

Date: 490BC

Place: Marathon

Battle: Greece vs Persia

EVENTS:

Persia planned to invade Athens.

Athens asked for help from Sparta.

The Spartan army did not come for several days because of a religious festival.

The Athenians fought the Persians without help.

The Athenians defeated the Persians at Marathon.

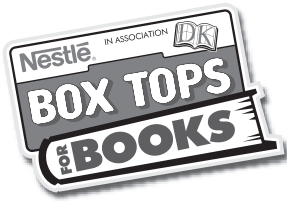
The Spartans arrived the next day.

QUOTES:

Miltiades (Athenian General): 'I had a stroke of genius. I fooled the enemy by pretending to retreat and then attacked them from the sides.'

A Citizen of Athens: 'This great battle will never be forgotten. And neither will the fact that Sparta abandoned us.'

A Citizen of Sparta: 'We answered the call for help and came when we could. We were a little late... but we were not really needed.'



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ATHENS DAILY NEWS

Headline:

Report:

2. How did you do? Read through your finished report. Have you included all the facts? Does it sound like a newspaper report?
3. Find out more: Investigate the relationship between Athens and Sparta. How would you change the newspaper report for a paper that would be read in Sparta?
4. Can you spot differences in newspaper reporting? Read an account of the same event e.g. a modern day conflict in two different papers. Make a list of the main differences you find in style and content.