

INTRODUCTION TO GREEK ART



THE AEGEAN

- Milder climates than Egypt or Mesopotamia
- Mountainous
- Islands
- Independent City-States (Polis)

CYCLADIC CIVILIZATION

- c. 3000 BCE to 1100 BCE
- Likely Economic Activities?
- Why Marble?



- Geometric quality to art

SYROS WOMAN

- c. 2600–2400 BCE
- 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ in
- Abstract with carefully measured proportions
- Note the protruding stomach



MINOANS

- c. 2600 BCE – 1400 BCE



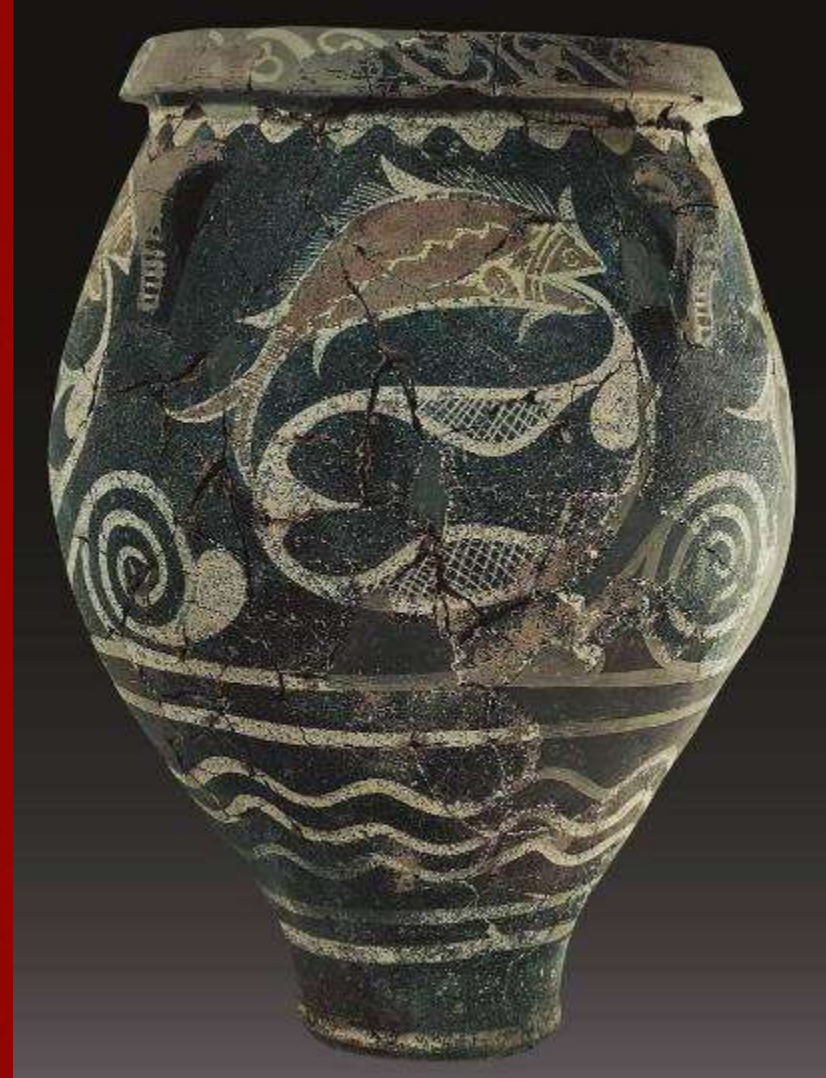
POTTERY

- Kamares Style (Ka-mares)
- Polychromatic (Multicolored)
- Light colors on dark background
- Likely elite table-ware



CURVILINEAR DESIGN

- Curved Lines
- Abstract



MARINE STYLE

- Late Minoan
- Note the reversal of color pattern



HARVESTERS VASE

- c. 1500 BCE
- Bas-relief
- Ceremonial Vessel
- Traditional combined profile and frontal views





PROFILE TORSO

How does this guy differ?

Emphasis on muscle
and skeletal structure



FRESCOES

- Egyptian = Fresco Secco (dry fresco)
- Minoan = True (wet) Fresco
- Advantages and disadvantages to both



TOREADOR FRESCO



TREADOR FRESCO (LEAPING BULL FRESCO)

- c. 1400 BCE
- Scene in profile
- Meaning?
- Frieze
- Long, horizontal strip of artwork



MINOAN SNAKE GODDESS

- c. 1600 BCE



EARLY MYCENAEAN CULTURE
AND ARCHITECTURE

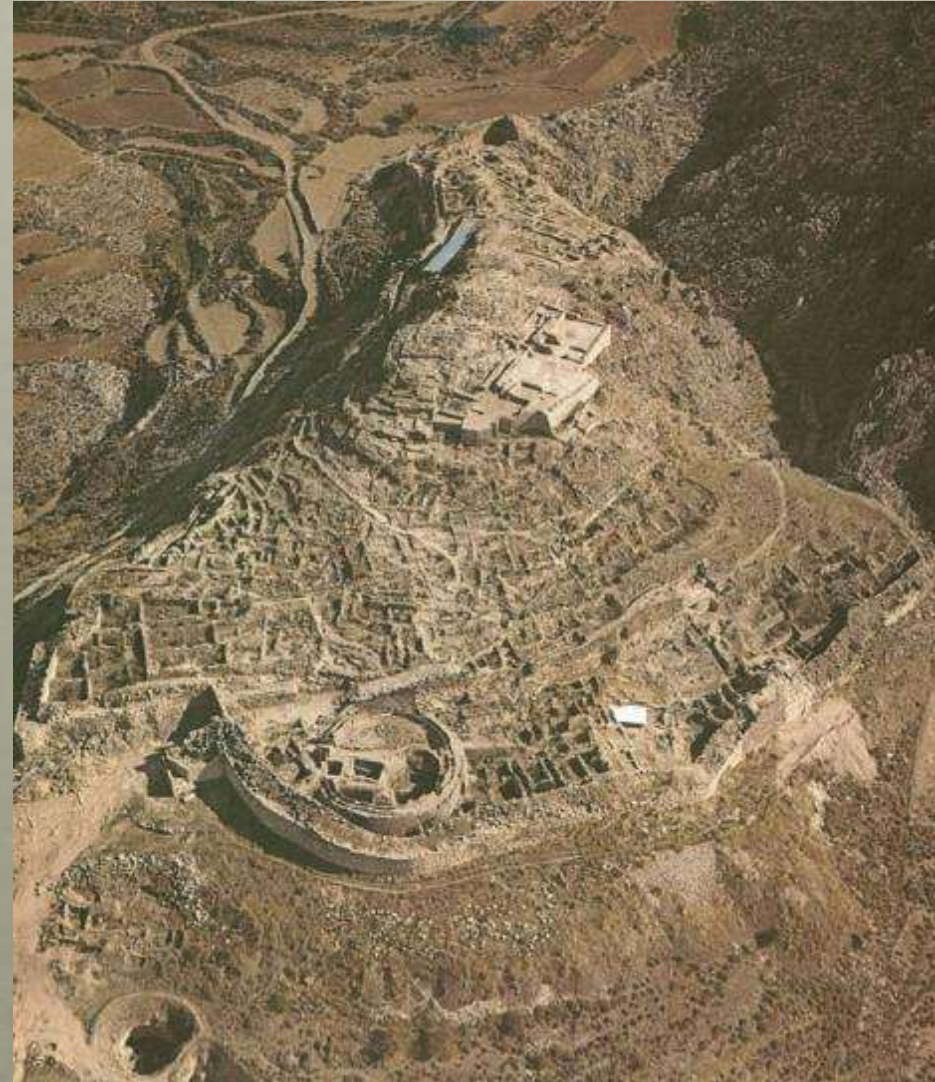
MYCENAEAN CIVILIZATION

- Mainland City-States



MYCENAE

- Excavations began in 1870s
- Estimated Population of 30,000
- Decline
 - Attacks from the north
 - Climate Change
 - Disruption of trade
 - Inhabitants likely moved from the Greek mainland to Anatolia (Turkey)



The Masks



AGAMEMNON?



“MASK OF AGAMEMNON”

- Funerary mask from Grave Circle A
- Mycenae, Greece
- c. 1500 BCE



REPOUSSÉ

- “Pushed up”
 - Hammered on reversed side to create bas-relief
- chasing
 - Sharpen the design on the front



CYCLOPEAN MASONRY





- The Lion Gate
- Mycenae, Greece
- c. 1300 BCE
- Limestone

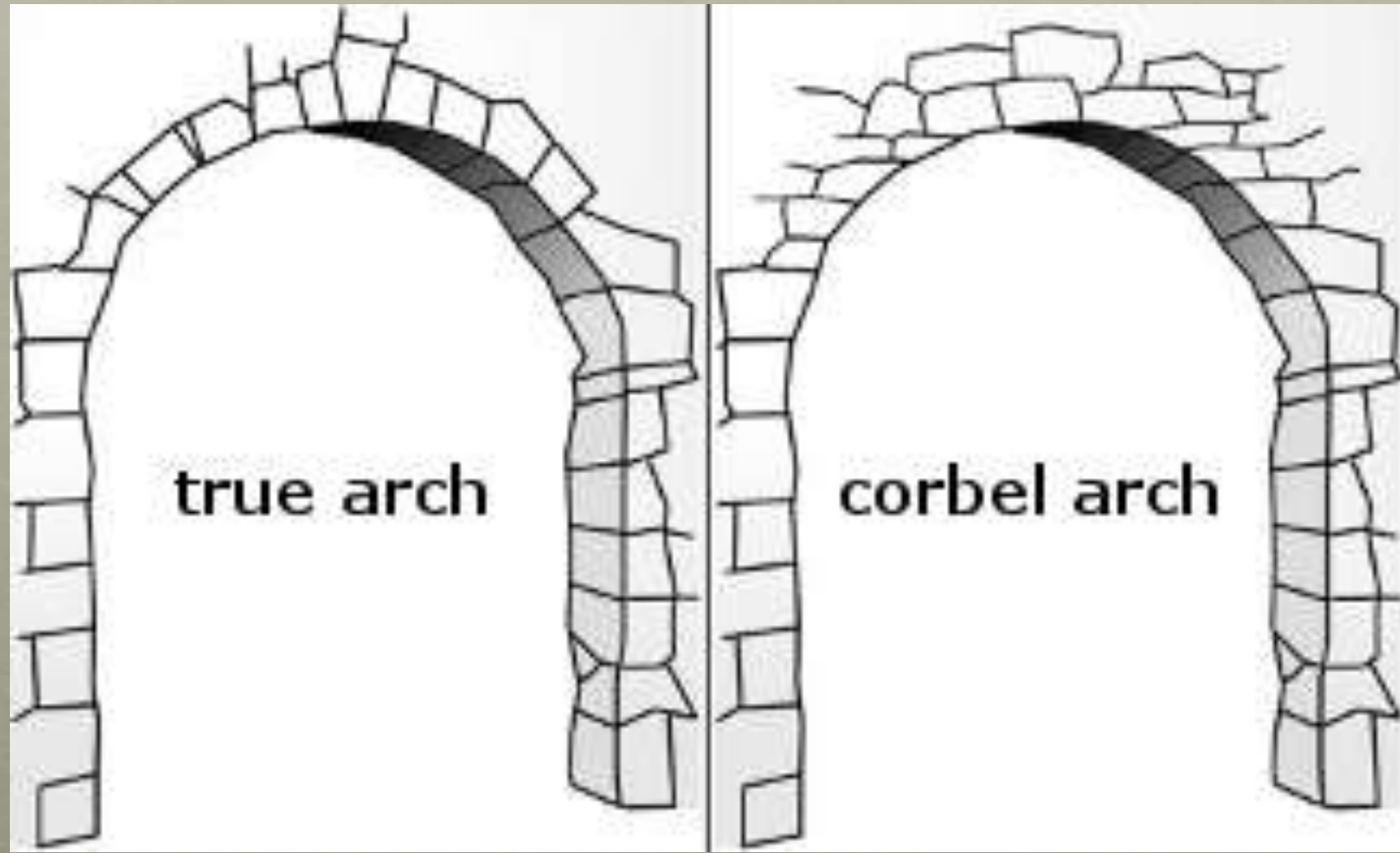




DISTINCTIVE MINOAN COLUMN



CORBELING



TRUE ARCH

- Ruins of Arch of Septimius Severus, Turkey
- Early 200s CE



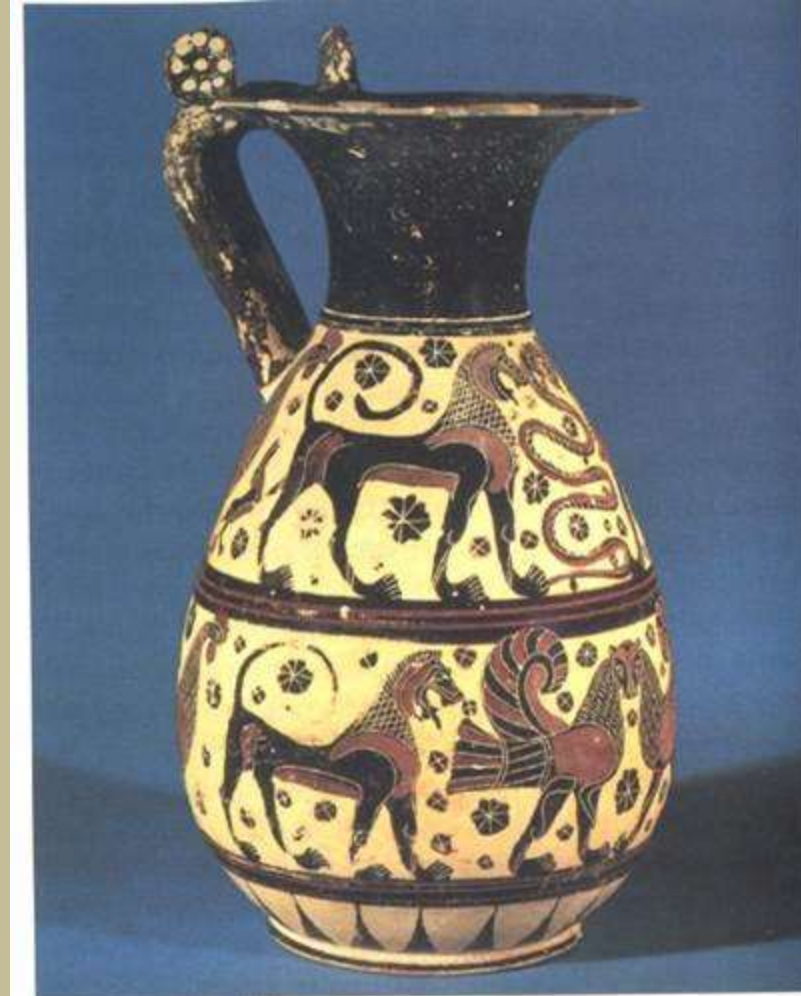
ANSWER IN SENTENCES, CHART, DRAWING...WHATEVER, JUST GET YOUR POINT ACROSS CLEARLY USING SPECIFIC EVIDENCE

- Compare/contrast Egyptian artistic styles with those found in the Aegean (Pre-Greek and Greek). You must include specific works from both regions in your responses
- Remember: Form, Function, Content, Context

EARLY GREEK ART

Orientalizing Greek Art

- 700-600 BCE
- Clear influence from Egyptian and Mesopotamian traditions



- Diplyon Amphora
 - c. 750 BCE
- Monumental Funerary Amphora
 - Hole in the bottom for drainage of ceremonial libations (drinks)
- Terra Cotta



Scene of Mourning



GEOMETRIC STYLE

- Rigid motifs
- Simple patterns
- “The Mourning of the Dead” c. 700 BCE



GEOMETRIC STYLE

- Abstract, Angular Bands
- Meander = Key pattern



BEFORE GREEK ARTISTIC INNOVATION

- Strict, Sacred Rules





THE GREEK KOUROS

- Breaking away from traditional styles
- Increasingly, art based on visual appearance, not just knowledge and skill handed down



- Kore from the Acropolis.
 - Archaic Greek.
- c. 530 B.C.E.
- Marble, painted details.



- Anavysos Kouros.
- Archaic Greek.
- c. 530 B.C.E.
- Marble with remnants of paint



THE PROGRESSION OF SCULPTURE





Similarities?

Differences?



~750 BCE



~700 BCE



~590 BCE



~530 BCE







- *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer).*
- Polykleitos.
- Original 450–440 B.C.E.
- Roman copy (marble) of Greek original (bronze).



- *Doryphoros (Spear Bearer).*
- Greek Canon
 - Perfect human form based on math
- *Contrapposto*
 - Gives a sense of counterbalance and harmony



THE GREEK BODY

- New York *Kouros*
- Archaic Greek
- C. 590 BCE
- Marble



- Anavysos *Kouros*.
- Archaic Greek.
- c. 530 BCE
- Marble



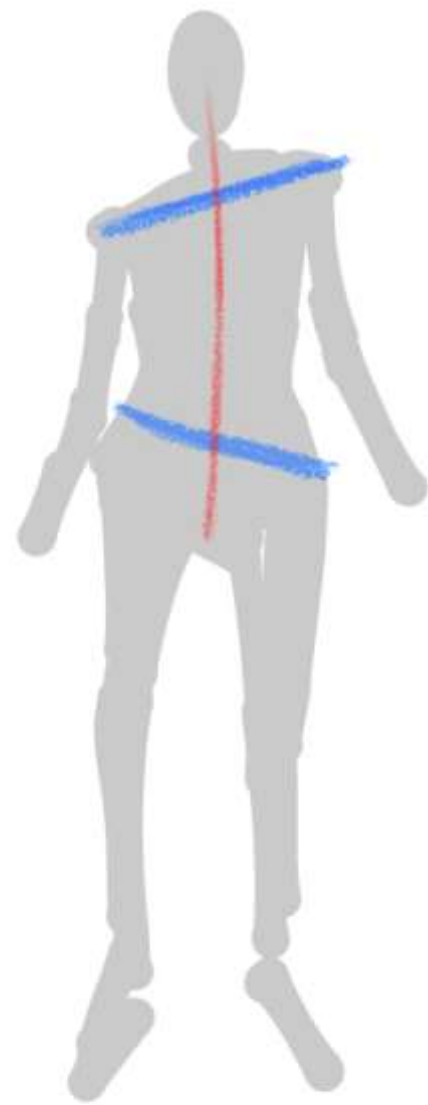
- Warrior from Riace
- Early Classical
- c. 460-450 BCE
- Bronze



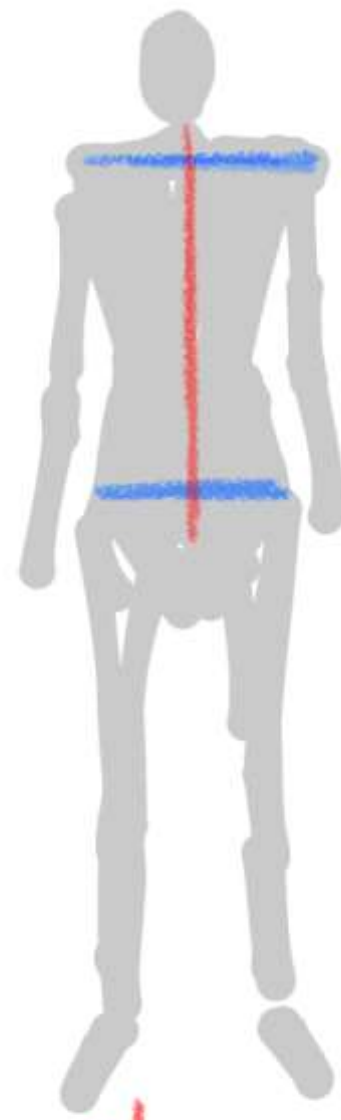
- *Contrapposto*

- a human figure standing with most of its weight on one foot
- shoulders and arms twist off-axis from the hips and legs

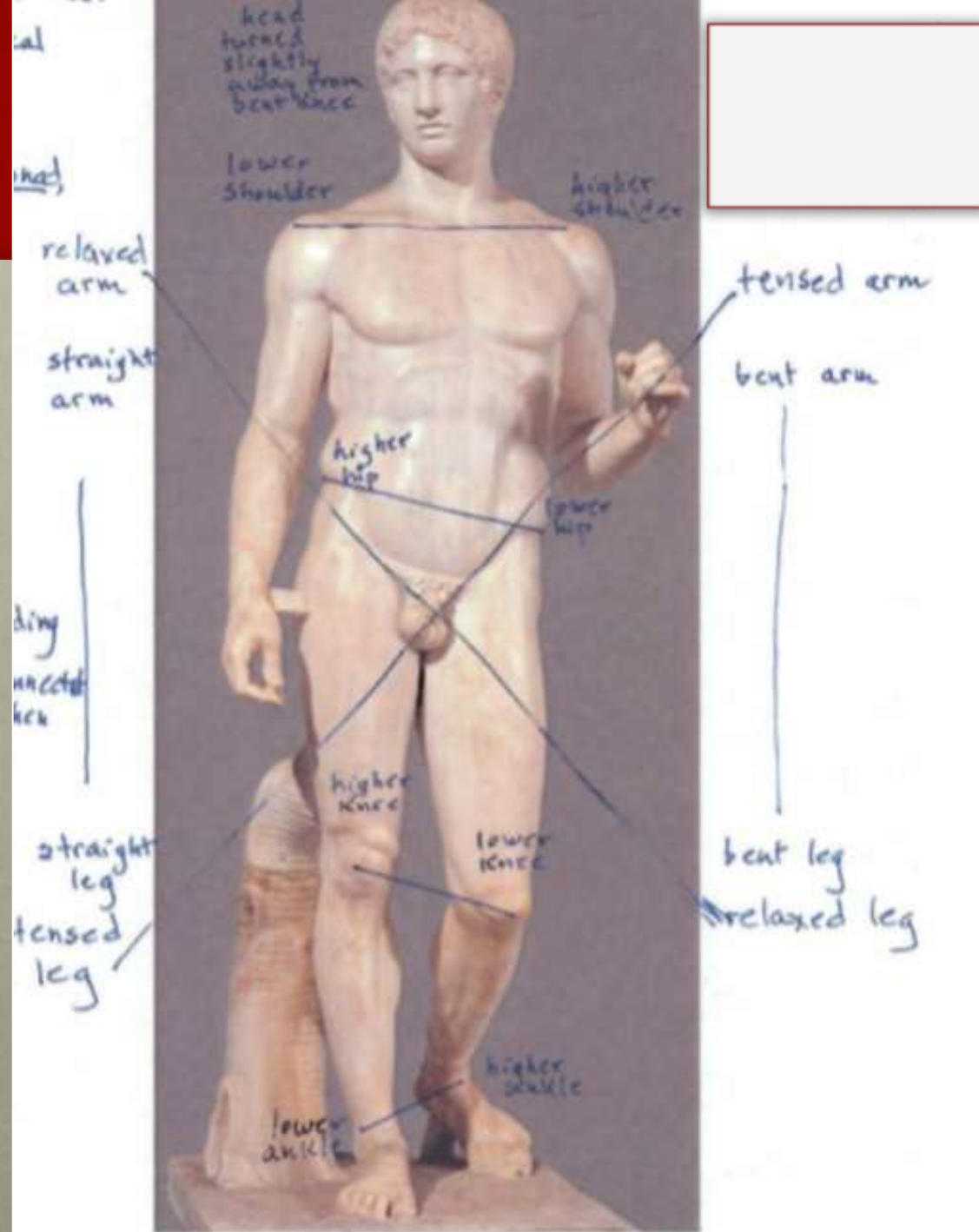




Contrapposto



not
contra-
pposto



ARCHAIC STYLE

- c. 600-480 BCE
 - Figures shown more three dimensional



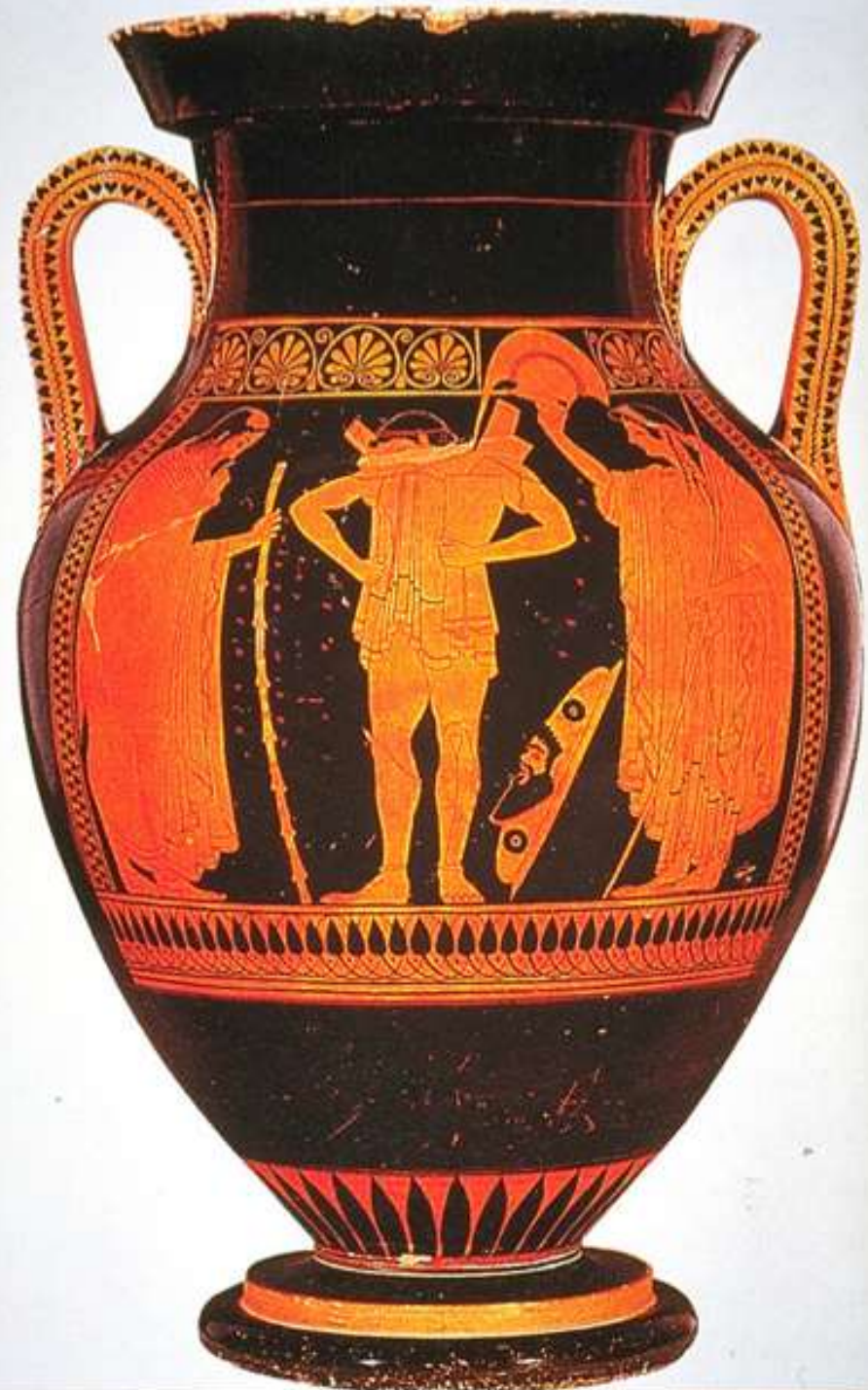
- Exekias
 - c. 500s -520s BCE



FORESHORTENING

- “Warrior’s Leave-taking”
- Look at his left foot
- The shield?
- Not everything must be in its most clearly visible form
- Repetitive style and detail in art is no longer sacred

Does that mean the art is no longer sacred?



NIOBIDES KRATER. ANONYMOUS VASE PAINTER OF CLASSICAL GREECE C. 460–450 B.C.E. CLAY, RED-FIGURE TECHNIQUE





The use of background decoration!
Varying levels (planes) add depth to the image

ARCHITECTURE FOLDABLE

- Create a foldable on Greek and Roman Architecture
 - 8 pages (this includes the title page)
 - You must use at least 3 distinct structures (at least 1 from Greece and 1 from Rome)
 - Must contain at least 1 example of comparative or contrasting structure from a previously studied style
 - Must contain hand drawn illustrations on each page
- Tips
 - Look at form, function, content, and historical context
 - Information is key
 - Easy to read and understand
 - Evidence of effort is very important
 - I LOVE UNIQUE STYLES OF FOLDABLES – LOOK UP DESIGNS
 - Value = 20 points
 - Due: Tuesday, Sept. 18
 - Be ready to share foldables in small groups and discuss

EXAMPLES FROM OUR IMAGE SET

- Greek
 - Athenian Agora
 - Athenian Acropolis (Various Structures)
 - Great Altar of Zeus and Athena at Pergamon
- Roman
 - Colosseum (Flavian Amphitheater)
 - House of the Vettii
 - Forum and markets of Trajan
 - Pantheon
- Don't forget – there are sculptures and/or paintings associated with these places...they can be important, too.

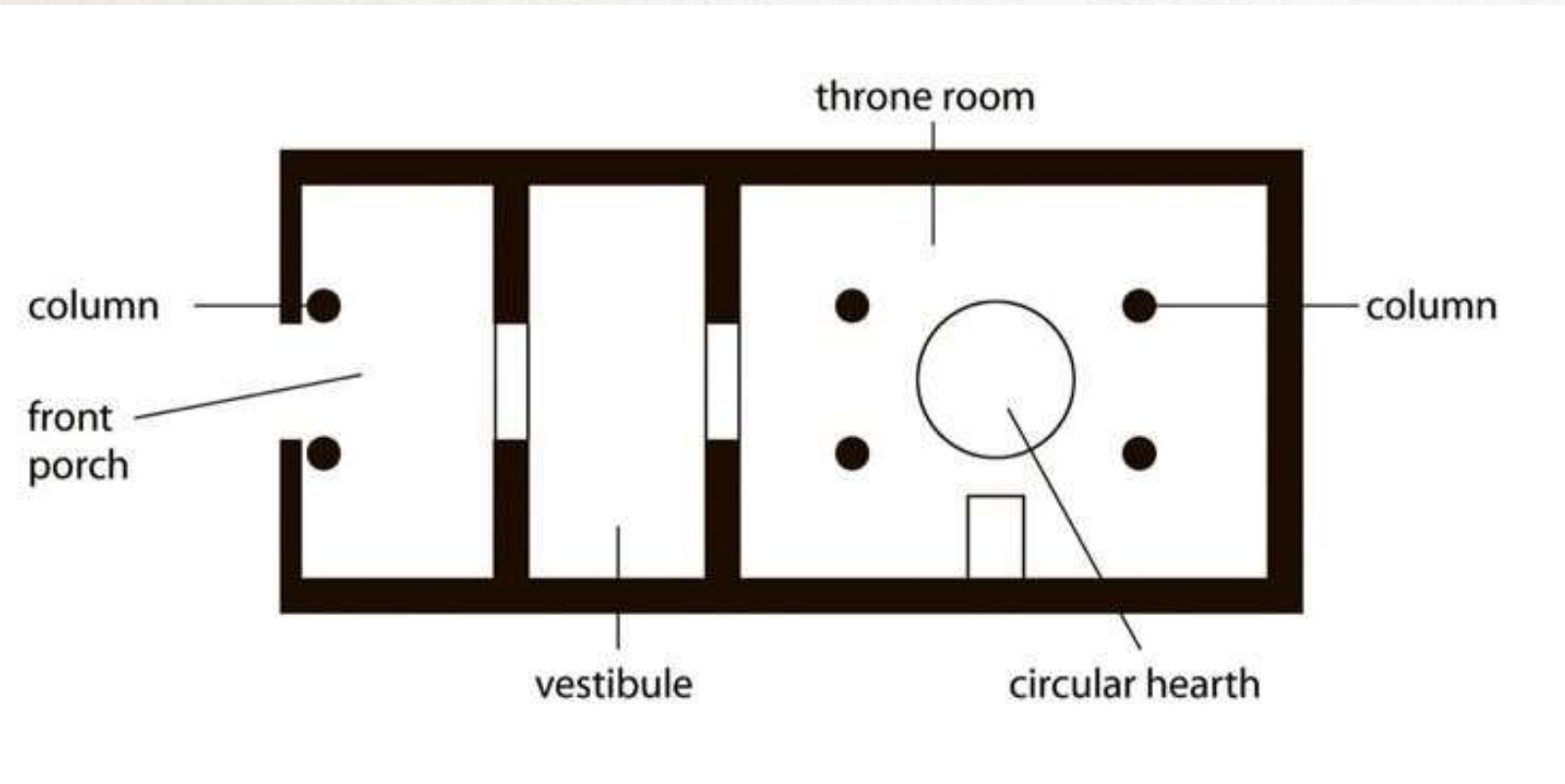
Victory adjusting her sandal,
Acropolis. Athens, Greece. Iktinos and
Kallikrates. c. 447–424 B.C.E. Marble.

Sculpture and Architecture
Combine (Short Video)



GREEK ARCHITECTURE

I'LL TRY TO MAKE THIS AS EASY AS POSSIBLE

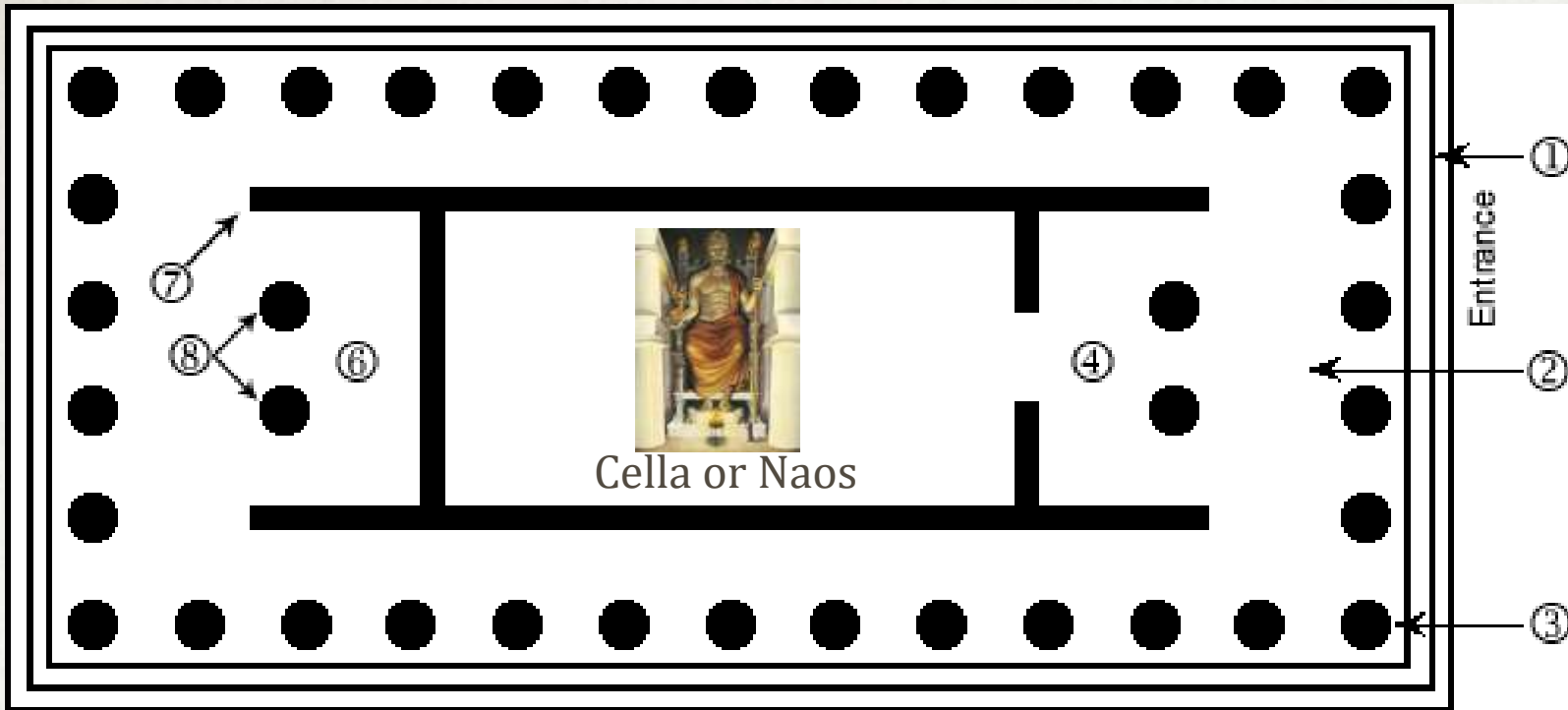


ORIGINS

- Megaron Plans
- Rectangular room with portico
- Cult statue in *naos* (main room)

ARCHAIC STYLES

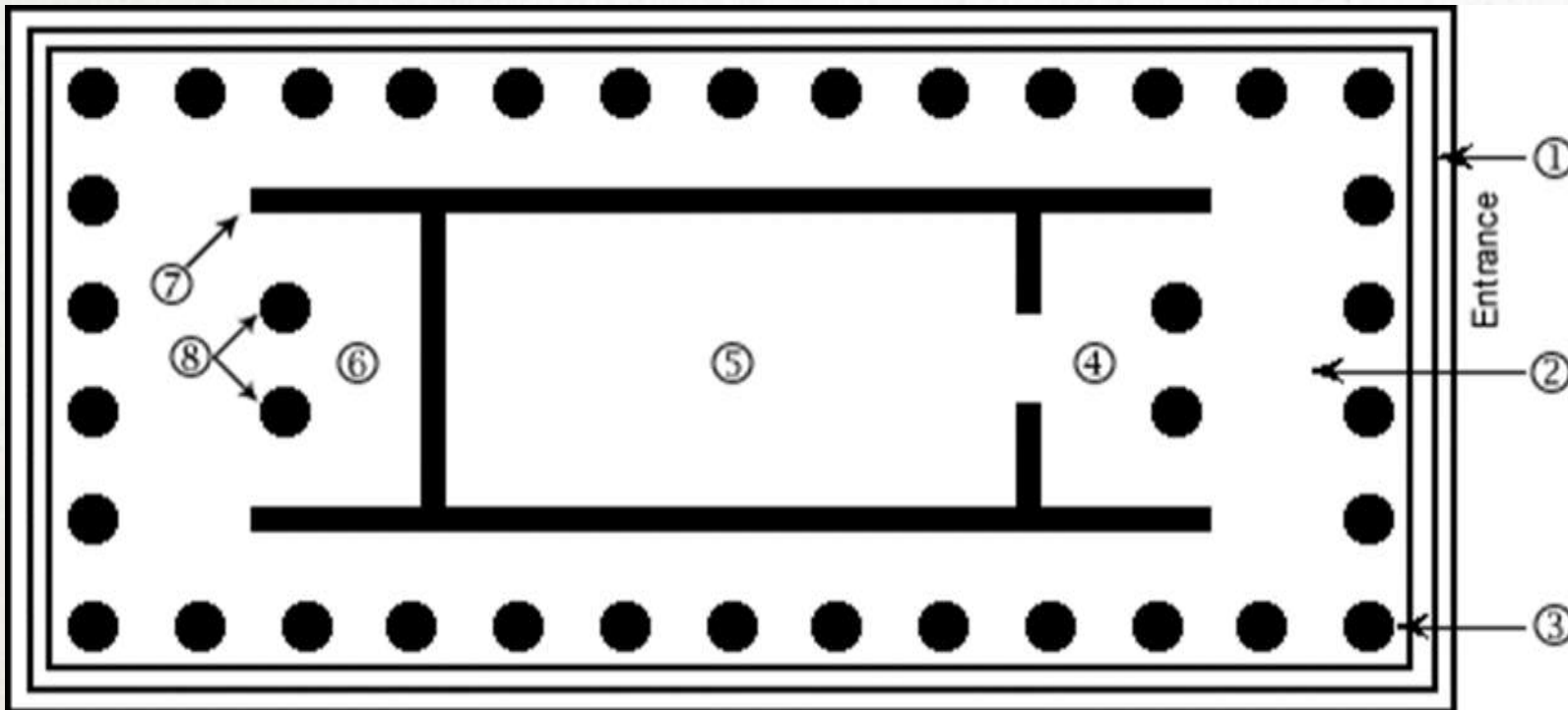
- Multiple rooms with interior columns
- 2 portico
- Colonnade surrounding the structure



- Based on ideal proportions and mathematical ratios

DORIC ORDER

“Petrified Carpentry”



Generalizations:

- 6 columns across
- 13 columns at sides
 - Columns are 4-6 times as tall as the diameter of the column shaft

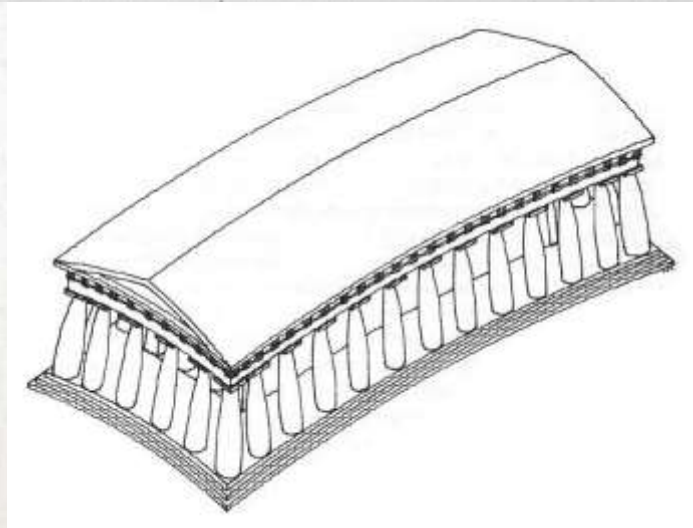
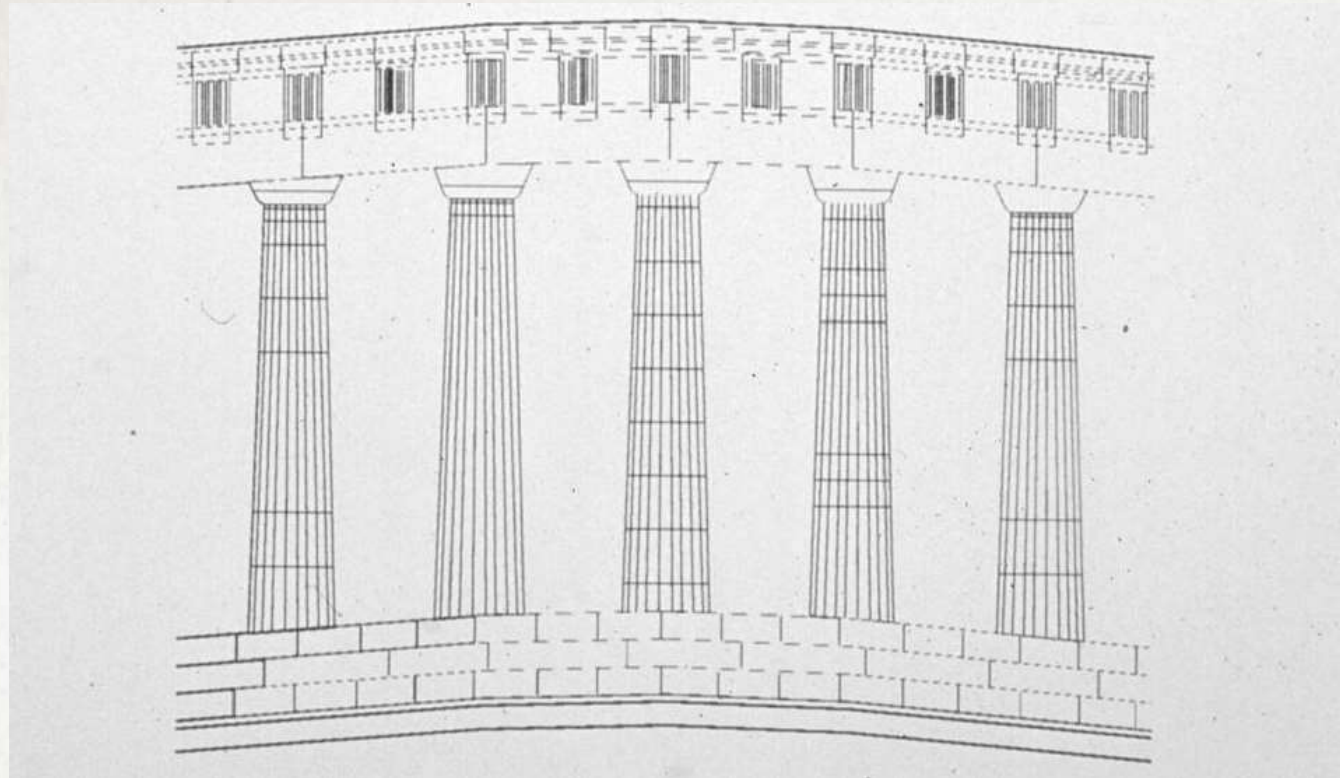


DORIC ORDER

“Petrified Carpentry”

Generalizations:

- Marble
- Rectangular
- Front and rear portico
- Double row of columns
- Frieze in pediments and metopes
- Intended as a sculptural unit
- Housed statue of the honored deity



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- The Parthenon



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Sack of Troy (32 metopes)

Panathenaic Procession (frieze)

Procession (frieze)

Procession (frieze)

Panathenaic procession (frieze)

Athena Parthenos



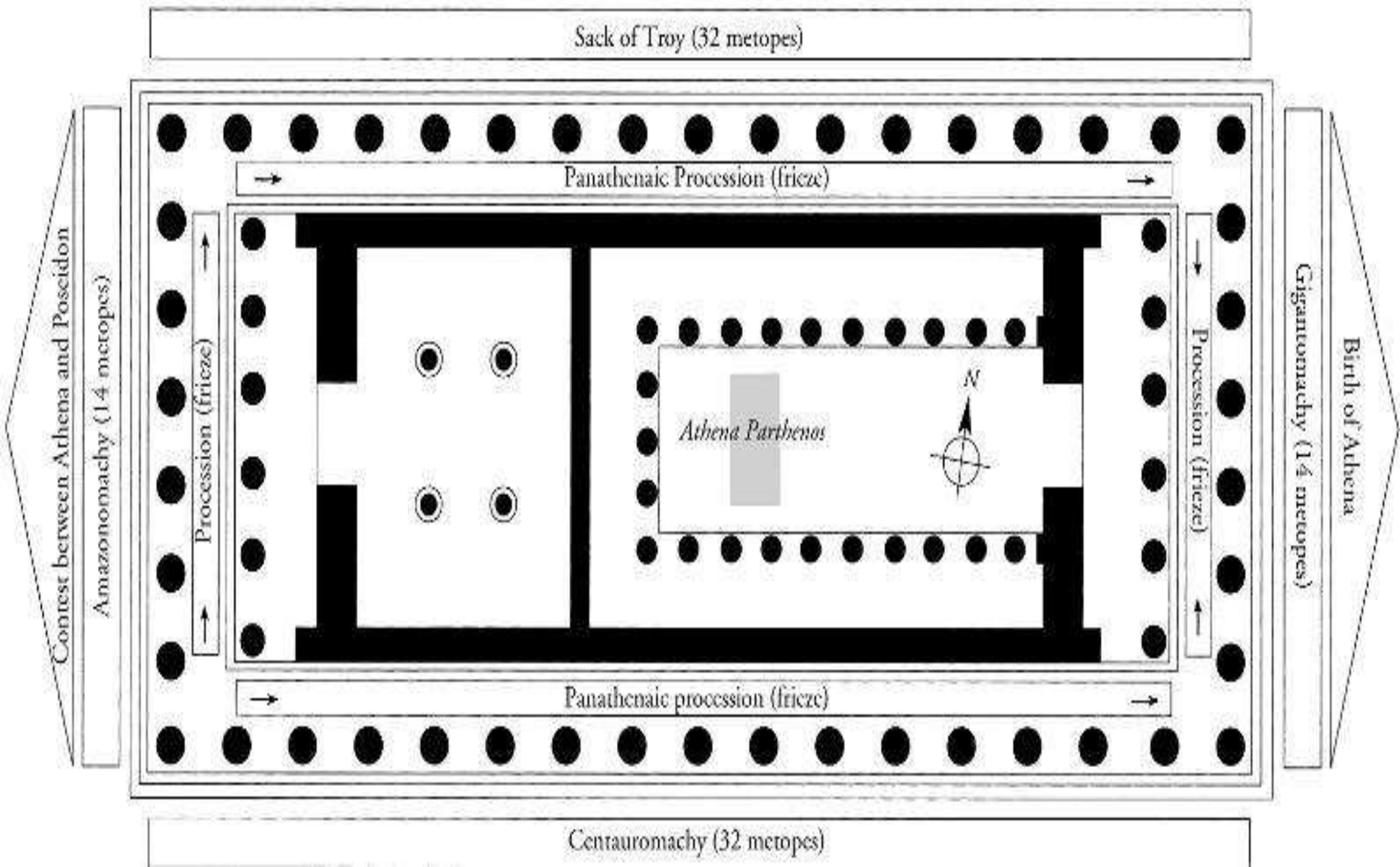
Centauromachy (32 metopes)

Contest between Athena and Poseidon

Amazonomachy (14 metopes)

Gigantomachy (14 metopes)

Birth of Athena





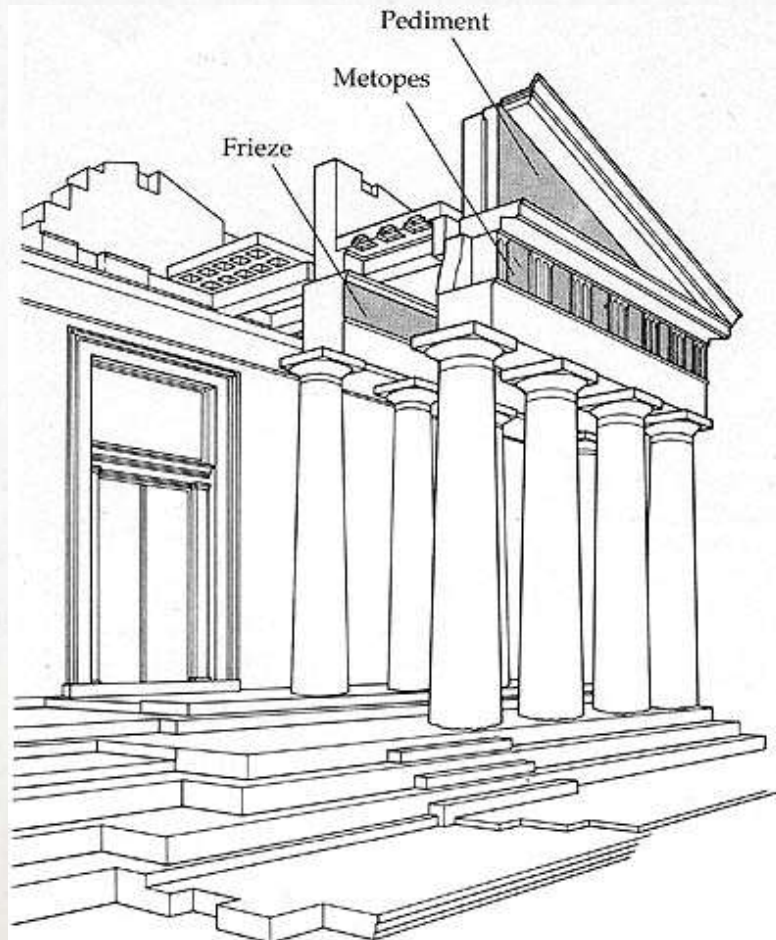
DORIC ORDER

“Petrified Carpentry”

Pantheon Frieze:

- Procession to honor Athena
- 520 feet
- First depiction of humans in a Greek temple
 - Cultural Change?
 - Greek views of themselves?
- 92 Metopes
 - Mythical figures and scenes

- The Parthenon (c. 450 BCE)
 - Doric with Ionic features
 - Panathenaic frieze



DORIC ORDER

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- **The Parthenon (c. 450 BCE)**

- Doric with Ionic features
- Panathenaic frieze
- Pediments

DORIC ORDER

“Petrified Carpentry”

West Pediment Reconstruction



Roman Shinto

Reconstruction of the West Pediment of the Parthenon according to drawing by S. Schumacher (1882)

- **The Parthenon (c. 450 BCE)**

- Doric with Ionic features
- Panathenaic frieze
- Pediments

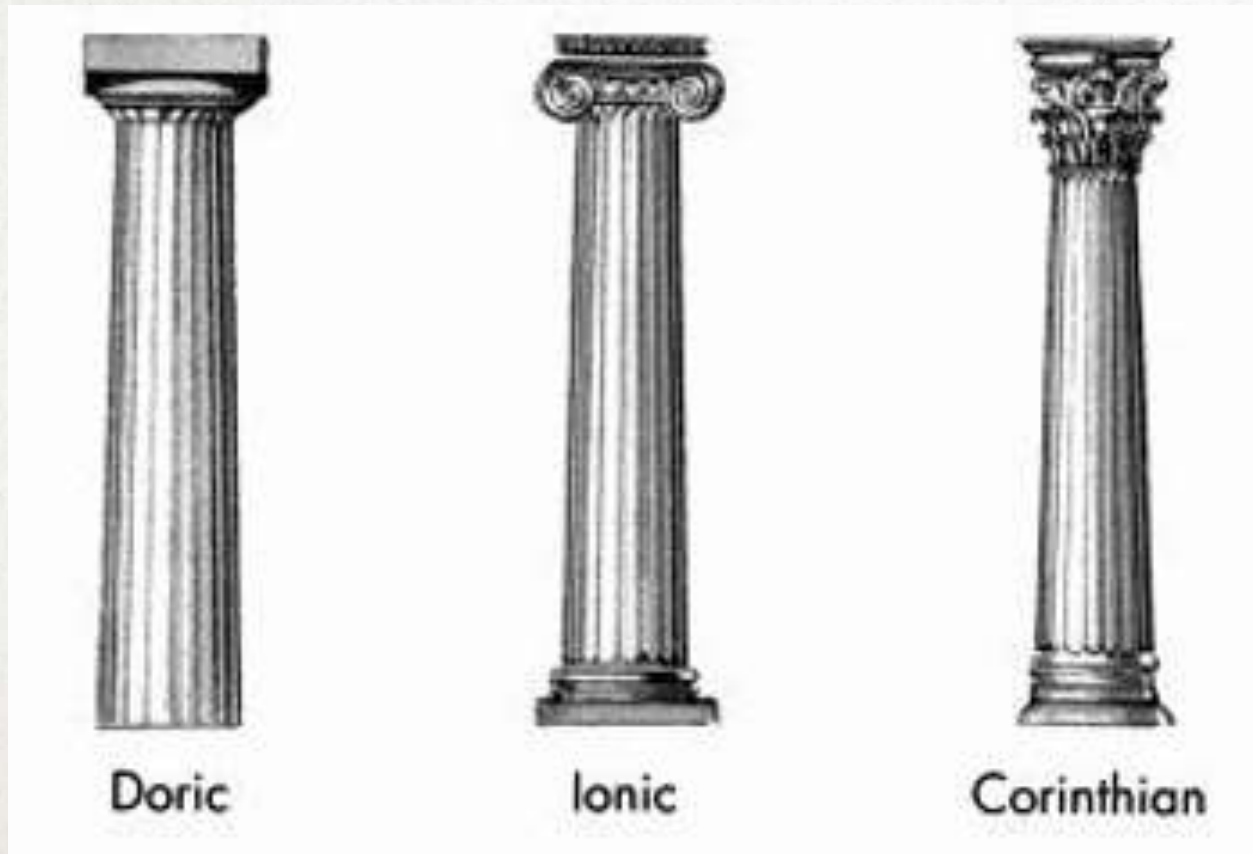
DORIC ORDER

“Petrified Carpentry”

East Pediment Reconstruction



The Orders: Capitals and Flutes

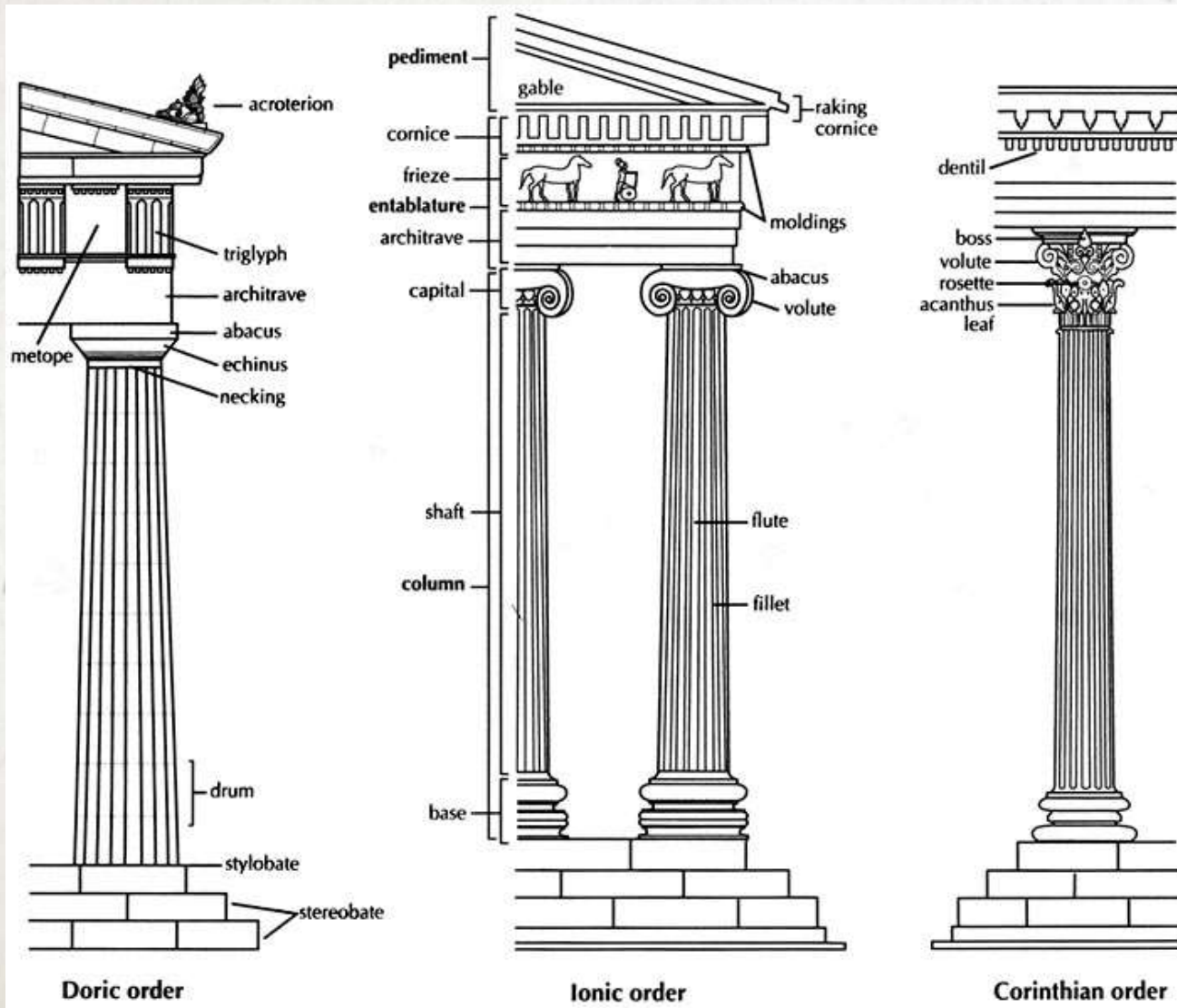


IONIC ORDER

Generalizations:

- Volute on Ionic Capital
- Height of column 8-9 x diameter
- 24 flutes on columns
 - 20 in Doric

The Orders: Capitals and Flutes



IONIC ORDER

Generalizations:

- Volute on Ionic Capital
- Height of column 8-9 x diameter
- 24 flutes on columns
 - 20 in Doric



- Erechtheion (c. 421-405 BCE)
 - “Porch of the Maidens”
 - Caryatids



IONIC ORDER

From, Function, Context:

- Split level design influenced by building site (sloping)
- Rectangular
- Built on ruins of temple destroyed by Persians
- Incorporates shrines, tombs, and Neptune’s trident mark

- Temple of Athena Nike
(c. 427-424 BCE)
- “Victory Adjusting Her Sandal”



IONIC ORDER

From, Function, Context:

- Nike = Victory
- Celebration of military victories
- Portion of the frieze represents the Battle of Marathon
 - Humans again in sacred space

HELLENISTIC VS CLASSICAL



CONQUESTS OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT



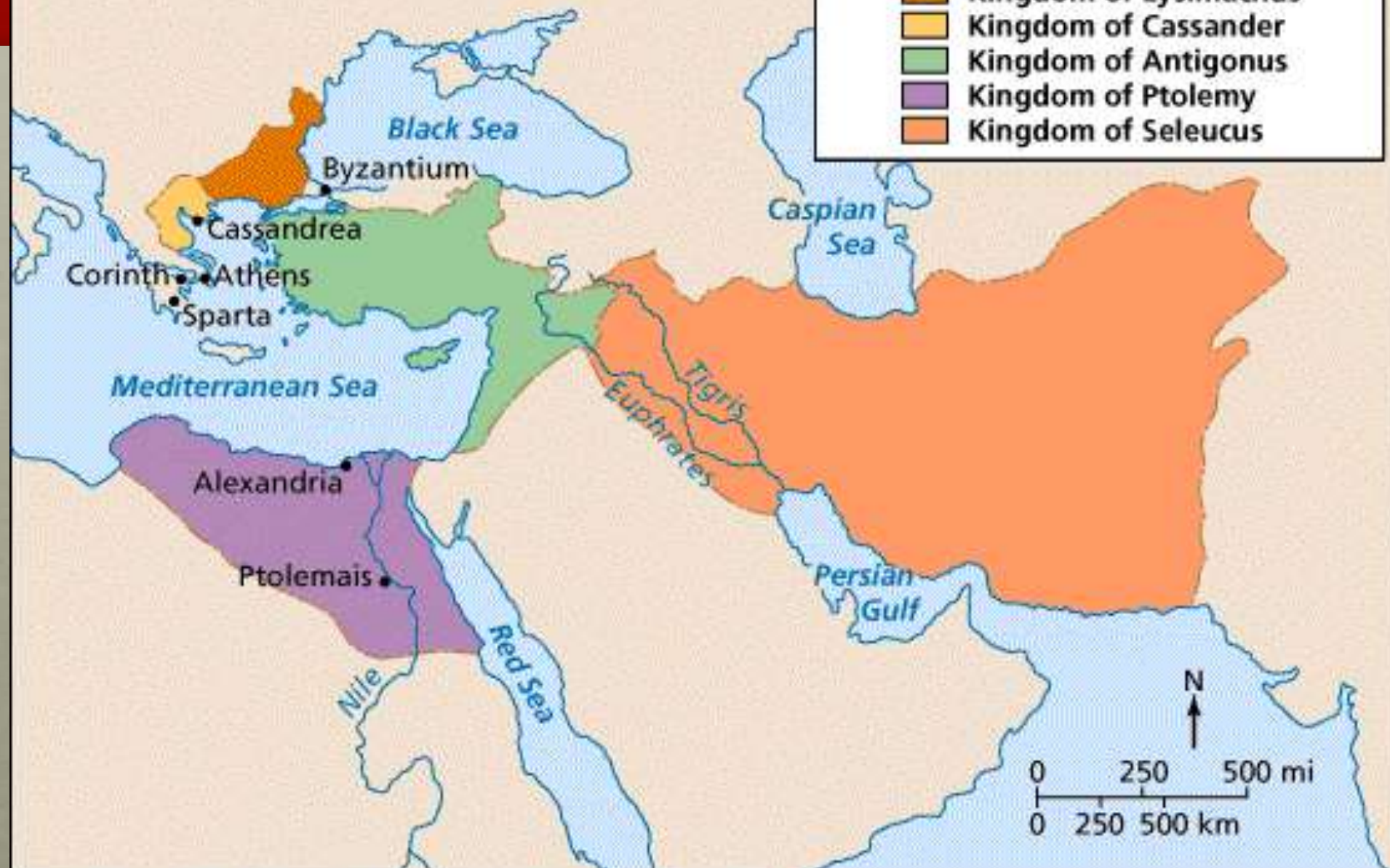
ALEXANDER'S METHODS OF RULE

- Benevolent Despotism
 - Adopted local customs/dress
 - Allowed worship of religions
 - Established Greek colonies



Division of Alexander's Empire, 303 B.C.

- Kingdom of Lysimachus
- Kingdom of Cassander
- Kingdom of Antigonus
- Kingdom of Ptolemy
- Kingdom of Seleucus



LEGACY

- Spread Greek language, culture, and people across Asia Minor
- Built roads and cities such as Alexandria, Egypt
- Hellenistic Civilization – blend of Greek, Egyptian, and Asian cultures

CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC SHIFT

- Great Altar of Zeus and Athena at Pergamom.
- Asia Minor (present-day Turkey).
- Hellenistic Greek. c. 175 BCE
- Marble (architecture and sculpture)



- *Winged Victory of Samothrace.*
- Hellenistic Greek. c. 190 B.C.E.
- Marble.



- Seated boxer.
- Hellenistic Greek. c. 100B.C.E.
- Bronze.

