THE GREEK WAY OF WAR
Target:

1. Identify and describe the tactics, strategies and logistics of the Greek way of war.
The Greek Soldier

- Fought on foot
- Hand to hand combat
- Primary weapons: spear and sword
- Use of heavy armor
- Helmet, shield, breastplate
- “Heavy infantry”
- Hoplite
The Hoplite

- Militiamen
- Not professional soldiers
- They trained a little
- Men served from the same city-state
- Hoplites fought using the “phalanx” formation
The Phalanx

- A group of soldiers standing shoulder to shoulder
- At least 4, usually 8 rows deep
- Could go deeper (12-16-32-50)
- 7-9 foot spears
- Phalanx means “roller”
- Keep the phalanx “rolling”
- Soldier in the rear replaced those who fell
Greek “Light Infantry”

- Weapons systems (what soldiers are armed with)
- Move quickly
- Didn’t have the shock value of heavy infantry
- Used to disrupt enemy formations
- “missiles”
- Missile - a weapon or object designed to be thrown (later fired) or launched towards a target
“Light Infantry”

- The Archer
  - 15-20 arrows; 80 yards
  - Expensive and training extensive
- The Javelin Thrower
  - Short spear with a range of 20 yards
  - Less expensive and less training
- The Slinger
  - Slingshot hurls rocks or lead slugs (50); 100 yards
  - Less expensive but lifetime training
Cavalry

- The Greeks did fight on horseback
- Limited role until later Greek history
- No stirrup meant that rider had to apply pressure using knees
- Not a stable fighting platform
- Mobility
- Attacking the flank and rear
- The most important unit is the HOPLITE and its Phalanx