

Name _____

Clash of Titans: The Peloponnesian War Unveiled

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The long duration of the Peloponnesian War can be attributed to various factors, including the evenly matched strengths of Athens and Sparta, their differing strategies and tactics, and external interventions such as the Athenian alliance with Persia.
2. The Peloponnesian War weakened Greek city-states by depleting their resources and populations, leaving them vulnerable to the rise of Macedonia and the conquests of Alexander the Great. This internal strife also made it easier for external threats, like the Macedonians, to gain power.
3. The war left a legacy of mistrust and division among Greek city-states, setting the stage for further conflicts and power struggles. It also demonstrated the consequences of unchecked ambition and the fragility of alliances.
4. Athens had a powerful navy and a democratic system, while Sparta had a formidable army and an oligarchic society. Athens relied on its navy to exert influence, while Sparta's strength lay in its land forces and disciplined soldiers. Both city-states had their strengths and weaknesses.

