

CONTINUOUS DISTANCE LEARNING LESSON

Was Thera The Real Atlantis? 5th - 6th Grade

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Please watch this [video](#).
Please note, in the video the term “roarsy” was used in the lesson to describe virtuous people. ROARS stands for Respect, Ownership, Appreciation, Responsibility, and Safety. Acting out these ROARS values is called “being Roarsy.”
- Read the documents and remember to annotate (by highlighting) and answer the questions after each document. Make sure to keep scrolling down.
- At the end, you’ll need to type a paragraph.

Document A

Secrets of the Lost City of Atlantis (Modified)

The city of Akrotiri (the main city on Thera) is a time capsule that reveals technological wonders including homes built using anti-earthquake engineering. Walls are decorated with breathtaking paintings. The Therans were not short of cash either – their women sported heavy, gold hoop earrings and necklaces made of cornelian (a beautiful orange-red stone), men rowed in ships covered with sun-shades and flowers.

The island had not much fertile land, not much water – but it was located between Asia, Africa, and Europe, and the Therans frequently sailed to far away places. In a Thera wall painting, a technologically advanced ship is shown sailing to a new land. Around the edge of the painting, are lions, date palms, and African antelope. Obviously, Thera would have been a legend in its own lifetime.

The similarities between Plato's account and the hard facts of the Thera eruption are too similar to have happened by chance. Many of the specific details in the Atlantis story have direct ties to Thera. Plato describes the Atlantean buildings as being red, black and white – as were indeed the buildings at Akrotiri. He also talks about the city encircled by rings of land – this matches the formation of the collapsed volcano.

Source: Published on The Telegraph website (a British newspaper), September 28, 2013

According to this source, was Thera the real Atlantis?

(highlight one) YES

NO

Why? Explain.

Type here

Don't move onto the next document until you've annotated and answered the questions above.

Document B

Where in the World? (Modified)

There are many theories about where Atlantis was—in the Mediterranean, off the coast of Spain, even under what is now Antarctica. "Pick a spot on the map, and someone has said that Atlantis was there," says Charles Orser, curator of history at the New York State Museum in Albany. "Every place you can imagine." People are obsessed with trying to prove that Plato's story was true.

Plato said Atlantis existed about 9,000 years before his own time, and that the story had been passed down by poets, priests, and others. But, Plato's writings about Atlantis are the only known records of its existence.

Few, if any, scientists think Atlantis **actually** existed. Ocean explorer Robert Ballard, a National Geographic explorer-in-residence who discovered the wreck of the *Titanic* in 1985, notes that no serious scholars have said that what Plato wrote about Atlantis is true.

Source: By Willie Drye National Geographic Website, 2010

***Critics also say that the timing of Thera's eruption (which happened around 3,600 years ago) doesn't match with when Plato said Atlantis was destroyed (9,000 years ago). In fact, there is no evidence of any civilizations existing 9,000 years ago, and certainly not an extremely advanced one.

According to this source, was Thera the real Atlantis?

(highlight one) YES NO

Why? Explain.

Type here

Don't move onto the next document until you've annotated and answered the questions above.

Document C

The Real Story Behind the Lost City of Atlantis

There was also an ancient Egyptian story recorded on a disk which tells of how the Cretans (Minoans) had a mighty civilization, and how they were impacted by a deadly natural disaster. The theory in this documentary states that Plato heard this story from another philosopher (Solon) who went to Egypt. They think Plato changed the name and some of the details to write his story of Atlantis.

Another point mentioned by these documentarians is that Thera is Atlantis because the Minoans (living on Thera) knew how to control water with their advanced sewer system. They also channeled wind to air-condition their palace. Their palaces were the most beautiful and splendid at the time. Having a city with technologically advanced palaces matches Plato's Atlantis.

This is a summary from a National Geographic Television Documentary, Published September 2, 2014

According to this source, was Thera the real Atlantis?

(highlight one) YES NO

Why? Explain.

Type here

Don't move onto the next document until you've annotated and answered the questions above.

If this project was completed in a group, below are a few discussion questions.

1. Which source is the strongest?

(highlight one) **Doc. A** **Doc. B** **Doc. C**

2. Which source is the weakest?

(highlight one) **Doc. A** **Doc. B** **Doc. C**

The moment of truth: *Based on the evidence from these sources, do you think the Thera was the real Atlantis?*

(highlight one) **YES** **NO**

ASSIGNMENT: Argue your opinion in a persuasive paragraph.

**You must refer to at least one source.* This should be 6 strong sentences. Write in the 3rd person, and remember to pay attention to punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

**On the next two pages you'll find examples and tips for writing a solid paragraph.*

** If you would like, make an illustration and upload it on this document.*

Type paragraph here

PLAN OUT WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY

Topic= Humans/intelligent= unique

Ex 1= Complex language= pass down info

Ex 2= Tech invented= survival

Topic= Humans/intelligent= unique

Topic sentence ∨

Humans are different from other animals because of their intelligence. For example, with the ability to use complex language, humans are able to pass down information. Most animals cannot communicate new learning because they do not have this skill. According to Britannica Encyclopedia, intelligence also allows them to develop technology to make their lives easier. This ability to make sophisticated tools ensures survival when change happens, whereas animals depend purely on evolving biologically. **Due to their advanced thinking, humans are unique creatures.**

sentence

Make sure to pay attention to these criteria:

WRITING

- Clearly written
- Attention given to capitalization and punctuation
- Wrote in 3rd person (do not use me, I, we, you, your, ours, us, etc...)
- Used expanded sentences (appositives/conjunctions)
- Wrote at least 6 sentences

CONTENT

- Used expanded sentences
- Included examples and explained them
- Referenced a source

Write in the 3rd Person

Make sure to write in the 3rd person: Avoid using "you, me, we, our, us, I etc..." and instead use "they, he, she, it"

- **Use Conjunctions** (because, but, so, and, therefore, consequently, however, additionally etc...) to connect two independent clauses. Independent clauses are phrases that can stand on their own as a sentence. However, they can also be combined to make a complex sentence. You should not try to connect more than two independent clauses.

Examples of punctuation for conjunctions:

Simple Conjunctions	Conjunctive Adverbs (fancy conjunctions)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• , and• , but• , so• , although	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ; therefore,• ; however,• ; consequently,• ; otherwise,

EXAMPLE: Prehistory/but

There were no written records in prehistory, but there are other ways to learn about the people of this period.

Remember to include two independent clauses.