

Y5 Summer 2 Week 4: Geography of Greece

ANCIENT GREECE

Learning objective:

To find out about the physical geography of Greece.

IF YOU HAD TO
DESCRIBE TO SOMEONE
WHERE GREECE WAS, WHAT
WOULD YOU SAY?





HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE
WHERE IT IS NOW?





HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE GEOGRAPHY OF MODERN GREECE? CAN YOU ANSWER ANY OF THESE QUESTIONS?

What is the landscape like?

How big is Greece?



What rivers are there?

What is the climate like?

Which seas surround it?



Greece is a country in southern Europe. It is bordered by Turkey, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Albania.

It is made up of mainland Greece and lots of smaller islands. There are around 2000 islands altogether, although only 227 of these are inhabited.

Greece has an area of around 131,940 square kilometres. This is the same as 50,502 square miles. The largest Greek island is Crete with an area of 8260 square kilometres (3190 square miles).

Greece has the twelfth longest coastline in the world and the longest overall in Europe. The total length of the Greek coastline is 13,676 km (8498 miles).



Greece is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe. Around 60% of Greece is covered by mountains. The tallest mountain in Greece is Mount Olympus, which is 2915 metres high.



Mount Olympus

The largest mountain range in Greece is the Pindus range, which forms the backbone of mainland Greece. Because there are so many mountains in Greece, there are also lots of gorges, steep cliffs and chasms.

The climate in Greece is typical of Mediterranean countries. It has warm, dry summers and mild, wet winters. Temperatures and precipitation can vary depending on what part of Greece you are in.

Average temperatures in Athens, Greece (°C)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
10.2	10.6	12.3	16	20.6	25.1	27.9	27.8	24.2	19.5	15.5	12

Average temperatures in London, England (°C)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
4.9	5	7.2	9.7	13.1	16.6	18.7	18.2	15.5	11.6	7.7	5.6

WHAT DIFFERENCES CAN YOU SPOT BETWEEN THESE TWO TABLES?





The longest river in Greece is the Aliakmonas river, which is 297 kilometres in length. The widest part of the river is 120 metres.

The second longest river is the Acheloos river, which is 220 kilometres long. Other major rivers include the Pineios River, the River of Evros and the Mesta River.

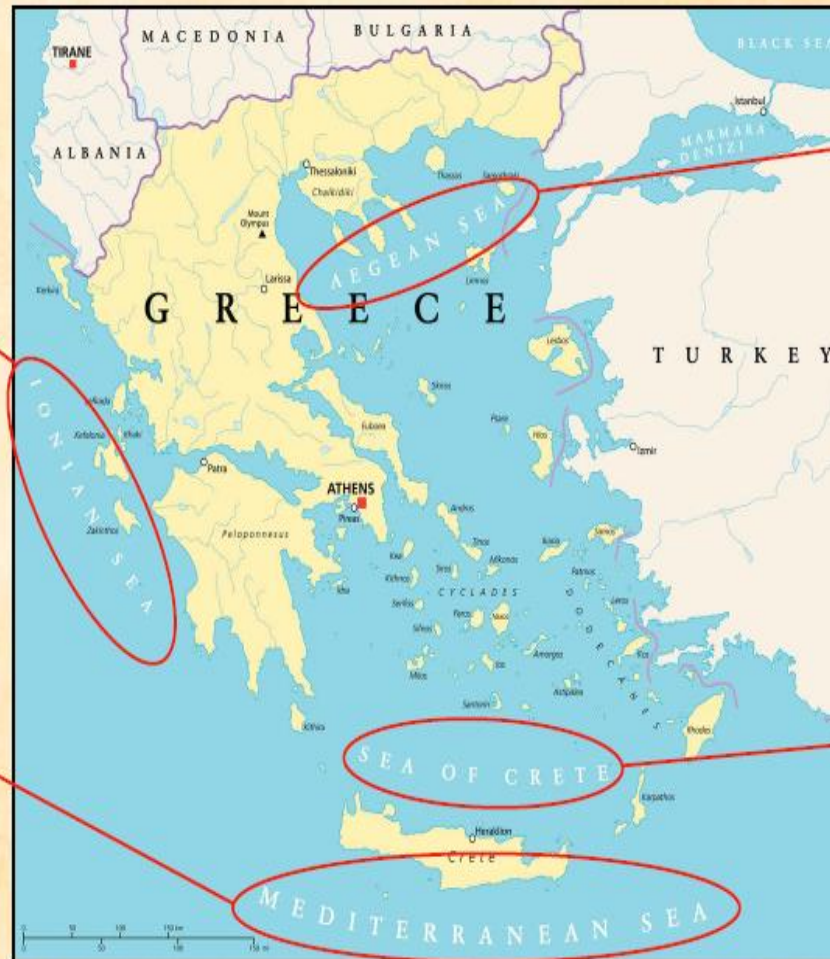


Greece is surrounded by sea on three sides. This makes it a **peninsula**. There are four different seas surrounding Greece, the largest of which is the Mediterranean Sea.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE FOUR SEAS SURROUNDING GREECE?



Did you find them all?



Ionian Sea

Aegean Sea

Mediterranean Sea

Sea of Crete

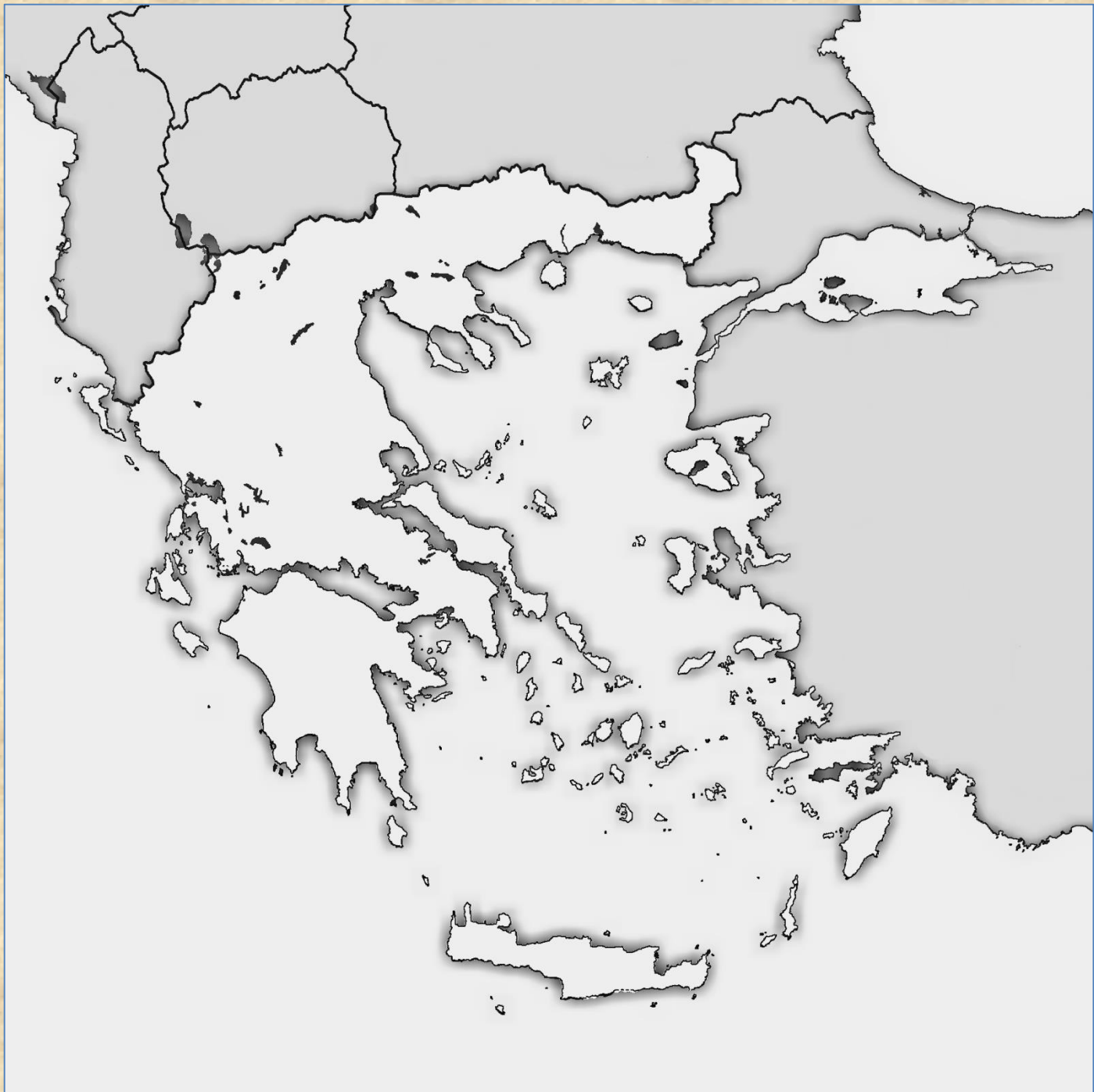
Activity:

Print the blank map on the following slide or draw the outline of Greece (see picture below).

Using an atlas or online map or map on final slide, locate Greece and colour it in one colour and label all the surrounding countries and colour them a different colour.

Mark on any cities, seas, rivers, mountain ranges, etc.





Quiz - How much have you learnt?

1. How big is Greece?
2. What is the largest mountain range in Greece called?
3. What is the tallest mountain in Greece?
4. What is the total length of the coastline of Greece?
5. Which four countries border Greece?
6. How many of Greece's islands are inhabited?
7. What is, on average, the hottest month in Greece?
8. What is the longest river in Greece called?
9. Which 4 seas surround Greece?
10. What is, on average, the coldest month in Greece?
11. Which is the largest of the Greek islands?
12. How long is the longest river in Greece?

Answers

1. Greece is around 131,940 km².
2. The Pindus mountains are the largest mountain range.
3. The tallest mountain is Mount Olympus.
4. Greece has a coastline of 13,676 km.
5. Turkey, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Albania.
6. There are 227 inhabited islands.
7. The hottest month in Greece is July.
8. The longest river in Greece is the Aliakmonas River.
9. The Mediterranean Sea, the Aegean Sea, the Ionian Sea and the Sea of Crete.
10. The coldest month in Greece is January.
11. Crete is the largest island.
12. The longest river is 220 km long.



Kastellórizo Island (not shown) is located about 83 miles (134 km) east of Rhodes Island.