



Government of **Western Australia**  
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



# ANCIENT HISTORY

GENERAL COURSE

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Externally set task Source Booklet

Emergence of the Greek City states c. 800–512/11 BC

Sample 2016

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# Ancient History

## Externally set task Source Booklet

### Emergence of the Greek City states in the archaic period to the fall of the Pisistratid Tyranny in Athens c. 800–512/11 BC

#### SOURCE 1

The tyrant is installed in power from among the people ('demos') and the masses against the wealthy so that the people ('demos') suffer no injustice at their hands. This is clear from the events of history. For almost all of the tyrants have gained power from being, in a manner of speaking, leaders of the people, gaining their trust by slandering<sup>1</sup> the wealthy. For some tyrannies were established in this way when their cities had already become great; but others before them came about from kings going beyond custom and aiming at more despotic<sup>2</sup> rule; others arose from those who were elected to the chief office of state...

Aristotle (Greek philosopher, 384–322 BC), *Politics*, 1310b

<sup>1</sup> slandering – saying things that are untrue

<sup>2</sup> despotic – rule which is outside and/or above the law

#### SOURCE 2

In the classical period the Spartans differed sharply from all other Greek states in their constitution and in their way of life, and they liked to think and make others think that their constitution had existed from very ancient times in just the same shape and feature which it displayed in the days of recorded history. We are, however, forced to suspect that this was not the case. There can be little doubt that the Spartan state developed up to the end of the seventh century on the same general lines as other Greek states, though with some remarkable peculiarities. There can be little doubt, like most other states, it passed through the stages of royalty and aristocracy; and that the final form of the constitution was the result of a struggle between the nobles and the people. The remarkable thing was that throughout these changes hereditary kingship survived.

Bury J.B. (1937) *History of Greece to the death of Alexander the Great*, pp. 113–114.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Source 1** Aristotle. [Politics 1310b]. In T. Buckley. (2008). *Aspects of Greek history 750–323 BC*. New York: Routledge, p. 49. (Aristotle 384–322 BC)
- Source 2** Bury, J.B. (1937). *History of Greece to the death of Alexander the Great*. New York: Modern Library, pp. 113–114. Retrieved January, 2014, from <http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015004054154;page=root;view=text;size=100;seq=155;num=121;orient=0>