

Making a persuasive speech: Ancient Greek rules

- 1** Decide what you think – what are you arguing for?
- 2** Gather your information. What information do you need to make a good argument?
- 3** Plan your argument. What points are you going to make?
- 4** Choose persuasive language – you want to convince the audience that your argument is the best one.
- 5** Memorise your main points.
- 6** Deliver your speech. Speak clearly and persuasively.

Persuasion frame

I should like to persuade you that

There are several points I want to make to support my point of view.

Firstly

These words and phrases might help you.

because

therefore

you can see

a supporting argument

this shows that

another piece of evidence is

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Oath taken by all Athenian men

I will never disgrace my sacred arms nor desert my comrades in the ranks.

I will fight for temples and for public property, whether alone or with my fellows.

I will leave my country not less, but greater and better than I found it.

I will obey the magistrates and observe the existing laws, and those the people may hereafter make.

If anyone tries to overthrow or disobey the laws I will resist him in their defence, whether alone or with my fellows.

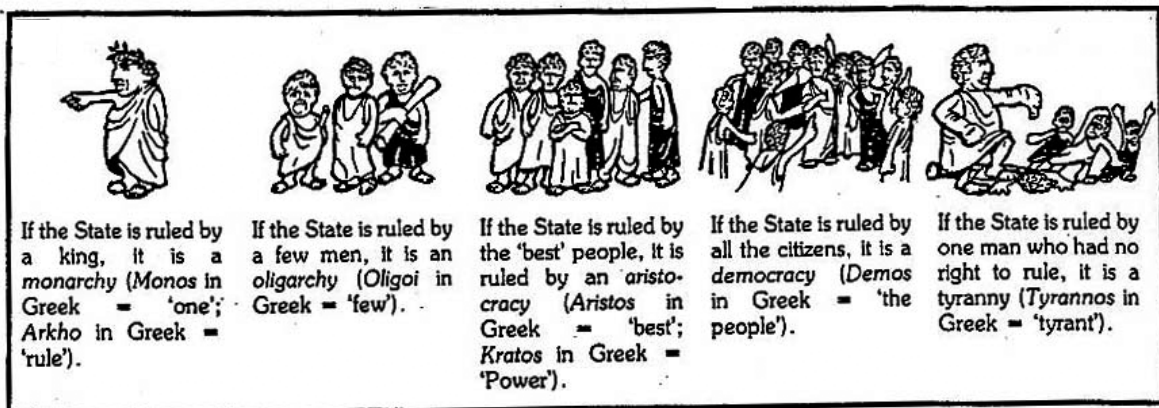
I will honour the temples and religion of my forefathers.

Forms of government

The ancient Greeks lived in many small towns and cities. Around each city was its territory, owned and farmed by its citizens. Each town or city was called a city-state, or *polis*. Every *polis* ran its government in its own way.

Ways in which these city states were ruled

GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE



In the city state lived four kinds of people:

- **Citizens.** These are men who can choose who runs the city and sit on juries.
- **Citizens' wives and children.** Women have no say in running the city.
- **Free non-citizens (resident foreigners).** They have no say in running the city.
- **Slaves.** Slaves have no rights. Citizens own them.