

Timeline	In History	Literature and Culture	Comedies of Aristophanes
431 BC	Start of Peloponnesian War (431-421= Archidamian War)	Pericles' Funeral Oration (Thuc. <i>PW</i> 2.35-46) Euripides' <i>Medea</i>	
430 BC	Plague begins in Athens (Thuc. <i>PW</i> 2.48-53)	Death of Phidias Birth of Xenophon	
429 BC	Death of Pericles (replaced as leading general by Demosthenes / not the orator). Naval victory at Naupactus sweeps Sparta from the seas	Sophocles' <i>Oedipus Tyrannus</i>	
428 BC	Revolt of Mytilene (Lesbos)	Euripides' <i>Hippolytus</i> (428) Birth of Plato Death of Anaxagoras	
427 BC	Laches (A) takes 20 ships to promote war vs. Syracuse (Sicily, 427-25 BC)		<i>Banqueters</i> (<i>Daitateis</i> , lost)
426 BC	Demosthenes' (A) failed invasion of Aetolia		<i>Babylonians</i> (lost), 1 st prize at City Dionysia. Cleon prosecutes A. for slander of the polis.
425 BC	Demosthenes fortifies Pylos to receive runaway Helot slaves. Cleon (leading politician) reinforces him, and 300 Spartans surrender at Sphacteria	Euripides' <i>Andromache</i>	<i>Acharnians</i> , 1 st prize at Lenaia
424 BC	Spartans capture Amphipolis in Thrace (its silver mines fund the Athenian war effort) Demosthenes' losses (A): invasion of Megara (vs. Brasidas of Sparta); Battle of Delium vs. Boeotians; invasion of Sicyon	Alcibiades (rescued by Socrates at the Battle of Potidaea in 432) rescues Socrates at the Battle of Delium. Euripides' <i>Hecuba</i>	<i>Knights</i> (<i>Hippeis / Equites</i>), 1 st prize at Lenaia, his revenge upon Cleon <i>Farmers</i> (<i>Georgoi</i> , lost)
423 BC	Thucydides (the historian and general) foils Spartan attack on Eion, though Sparta now controls much of Thracian Macedonia	Euripides' <i>Suppliants</i>	<i>Clouds</i> (<i>Nephelai / Nubes</i> , lost), last place at City Dionysia <i>Merchant Ships</i> (<i>Holkades</i> , lost)

422 BC	Cleon (A) and Spartan general Brasidas (war hawks) die at 2 nd battle of Amphipolis (Spartans put Athenians to rout).		<i>Wasps (Sphekes / Vespes)</i> , 2 nd prize at Lenaia <i>Proagon</i> (lost)
421 BC	Peace of Nicias (and Laches), lasts officially until 415 BC	Construction of Erechtheion begins	<i>Peace (Eirene / Pax)</i> , 2 nd prize at City Dionysia
420-18 BC	Alcibiades (A) encourages Argos to form a coalition of democracies in the Peloponnese with Mantinea and Elis. Athens invades Epidaurus and Tegea, until the new alliance is defeated at the Battle of Mantinea in 418 BC.	Euripides' <i>Electra</i> (c. 420) Temple of Athena Nike completed.	
417 BC	Hyperbolus (demagogue) proposes ostracism of Alcibiades; becomes himself the last o. in Athens		
416 BC	Seige of Melos (A), women and children taken captive, men put to the sword.	"Melian Dialogue" (Thuc. <i>PW</i> 5.84-116) Euripides' <i>Herakles</i>	<i>Clouds</i> : critics argue that the version known to us was a manuscript revised 420-17 and circulated but not staged)
415 BC	Sicilian Expedition, Alcibiades indicted for asebeia (impiety) over mutilation of the Herms (attempted coup if those protecting royal stoa). Androcles accuses him also of profaning the Eleusinian mysteries. Arrest in Catania, escapes.	Cf. Thuc. (<i>PW</i> 6.8-23, 29), Plutarch <i>Life of Alcibiades</i> 19. Possible background for Plato, <i>Symposium</i> 215a-222b. Euripides' <i>Palamedes</i> and <i>Trojan Women</i>	
414 BC	Nicias and Lamachus (A) left in charge of expedition they did not want. Becomes a seige of wall building. Alcibiades flees to Sparta where he persuades them to help Syracuse, build a fleet	Euripides' <i>Iphigenia in Tauris</i>	<i>Birds (Ornithes / Aves)</i> , 2 nd prize at City Dionysia <i>Amphiaraus</i> (lost)
413 BC	Alcibiades convinces Sparta to fortify Decelea, depriving Athens of crops & Laurium silver mines, driving half of Attica inside the walls.	Euripides' <i>Ion</i>	

	Demosthenes arrives in Sicily with relief force, in vain. A lunar eclipse delays their withdrawal and the whole force is killed (39,000), captured and sent to the quarries to starve (7000).		
412 BC	Alcibiades sails to Ionia to encourage revolt against Athens. When King Agis of Sparta has a son (Leotychidas) who looks like Alcibiades, Alc. defects to Tissaphernes, Persian Satrap of Lydia and Ionia. Advises him to help fund the Spartan navy; three treaties of Sparta w/ Persia.	Euripides' <i>Helen</i>	
411 BC	Athenian conservatives meet w/ Alcibiades on Samos and conspire to overthrow the democracy in favor of an oligarchy of 400, later expanded to 5000. Hyperbolus assassinated on Samos. Alcibiades wins battle of Syme, island by Rhodes		<i>Lysistráta</i> <i>Thesmophoriazusae</i> (<i>Women at the Thesmophoria</i> – the fertility feast for Demeter) – parodies Euripides' <i>Palamedes</i>
410 BC	Alcibiades wins Battle of Cyzicus and control of Hellespont / Black Sea shipping	Euripides' <i>Phoenician Women</i> Parapet, Temple of Athena Nike	
409 BC	Death of Pleistonax (S), succeeded by Pausanias as King of Sparta	Sophocles' <i>Philoctetes</i>	
408 BC		Euripides' <i>Orestes</i>	
407 BC	Alcibiades returns to Athens, leads procession to the Eleusinian mysteries		
406 BC	Alcibiades defeated at Notium, fired as commander, goes into exile on Chersonese. Battle of Arginusae. Athens wins, but generals do not pick up men lost at sea and are put on trial	Deaths of Sophocles and Euripides. Erechtheion completed	
405 BC	Battle of Aegospotamoi. Athenian fleet commanded by Conon destroyed by Lysander (S); Conon escapes to Cyprus w/ last 8 ships.	Euripides' <i>Bacchae</i> and <i>Iphigenia in Aulis</i> produced posthumously.	<i>Frogs</i> (<i>Batrakhoi / Ranae</i>)

404 BC	Alcibiades assassinated on orders from Lysander and Pharnabazus (Persian Satrap) Fall of Athens, occupied by Spartan garrison of 700, and administered by the Thirty. Thrasybulus (A) organizes democratic counter-revolution		
403 BC	Thrasybulus marches on Piraeus, occupies Munychia hill, defeat assault by the Thirty. Democracy restored, pardons most oligarchs.		
401 BC	Sparta and cities of Asia Minor support the uprising of Cyrus the younger (friend of Lysander) against his brother the Persian King, Artaxerxes II. Xenophon (A) joins 10,000 mercenaries against advice of Socrates (Xen. An. 3.1.4-14). Generals assassinated, expedition loses battle of Cunaxa.	Sophocles' <i>Oedipus at Colonus</i> produced posthumously by grandson. Cf. Xenophon's <i>Anabasis</i> (published much later)	
400 BC	Xenophon leads return through snowy mtns of Armenia north to Black Sea.		
399 BC	Trial and death of Socrates Agesilaus King of Sparta. Xenophon and the rest of the Greek army join Spartan general Dercylidas in military campaign in the Troad.	Cf. Plato's <i>Apology</i> Cf. Xenophon's <i>Agesilaus</i> , <i>Apology</i> , <i>Memorabilia</i> (published later)	
397 BC	Lysander mounts invasion to retake the Greek cities of Ionia ceded to Persia by treaty 412/11. Conon given command of 300 ship Persian fleet. In new treaty, Persians withdraw claims to the cities and Sparta withdraws its military.		
396 BC	Agesilaus campaigns in Asia minor, w/ Xenophon		
395 BC	Corinthian War: Sparta under king Agesilaus vs. Thebes, Argos, Corinth, Athens + Persian funding. Death of Lysander at Battle of Haliartus.	Polycrates' indictment of Socrates, mid 390s, prompts <i>Apology</i> of Plato.	
394 BC	Persian navy destroys Spartan fleet at Cnidus. Victorious Conon returns to Athens to rebuild		

	Piraeus and long walls w/ Persian victory booty. After deaths of Pausanias and Lysander, Agesilaus is recalled to command the Spartan army at the Battle of Coronea (Xenophon joins / fights against the Athenian alliance). Athens exiles Xenophon (D.L. 2.51, Xen. An. 5.3.6), and Sparta grants him an estate in Elis at Scillus (near Olympia) where he writes his memoirs until 371.		
392 BC	After Conon captures Cythera and begins harassing Sparta by sea, Sparta sues for peace with the Persians: Persians get Asia minor, Sparta controls Greece; Athenians object.		<i>Ecclesiazusae</i> (<i>Assemblywomen</i>)
388 BC	“The King’s Peace” (387) ends the Corinthian War.		<i>Wealth (Plutus)</i> , revised version

Maps:

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