

Ancient Greek Conflicts Cheat Sheet

Version 30

Conflicts are listed chronologically.

Blue-shaded conflicts are frequent tossup topics.

Name	Year(s)	Details
First Messenian War	743-724 BCE	in Messenia in mainland Greece; Sparta ascended to power by conquering the Messenians; those who did not die or flee were captured and enslaved, becoming the helot class under Spartan rule
Second Messenian War	660-650 BCE	in Messenia in mainland Greece; failed helot revolt in which Aristomenes led the Messenians in an uprising against the Spartans; his capture and death doomed the Messenians; Sparta grew its military power to cope with the revolt
Ionian Revolt	499-493 BCE	in Asia Minor and various islands in the Aegean Sea; several far eastern Greek city-states, aided by Athens and other mainland Greek powers, rebelled against their Persian-installed rulers; Persia, led by Darius the Great , crushed the revolts and prepared to invade Greece in 492 BCE in an invasion that was stopped at Marathon in 490 BCE
First Persian invasion of Greece	492-490 BCE	in Thrace, Greece; the Greco-Persian War begins with Darius' invasion into Greece, which was turned back at the Battle of Marathon
Second Persian invasion of Greece	480-479 BCE	the Greco-Persian War continued; Darius' death in 486 left his son, Xerxes the Great , in power; Xerxes's invasion succeeded through the battles of Thermopylae and Cape Artemisium , but was stopped at Salamis and defeated at Plataea the following year
Wars of the Delian League	477-449 BCE	in Greece, Thrace, Asia Minor, and Egypt; the allied Greeks use the momentum of the Greco-Persian War to push Persia out of the Aegean Sea basin
Third Messenian War	464 BCE	in Messenia in mainland Greece; when thousands of Spartans were killed in a 464 BCE earthquake , the helots seized the opportunity to revolt against their oppressors; Sparta sought aid from other Greek cities, initially including Athens, but their mutual distrust began to fester, leading to the start of the First Peloponnesian War four years later
First Peloponnesian War	460-445 BCE	Athens's Delian League and Sparta's Peloponnesian League feuded over control of Greece; the Athenian advantage at sea and Spartan advantage on land led to an unsteady truce with the Thirty Years' Peace in 445
Second Peloponnesian War	431-404 BCE	the Thirty Years' Peace fell apart; Athens and Sparta resumed fighting; Athens was drastically weakened by its failed attempt to conquer Sicily in 413 BCE, then was routed at the 405 BCE naval Battle of Aegospotami ; Sparta conquered Athens, ending democracy and installing the Thirty Tyrants , who ruled for eight months
Phyle Campaign	404-403 BCE	in Phyle, northwest of Athens; a group of Athenians captured a fort in Phyle, thwarted two Spartan counter attacks, marched on Athens and forced King Pausanias to restore democracy in Athens
Corinthian War	395-387 BCE	Sparta's expansion was opposed by an alliance of Thebes, Athens, Corinth, the Persians, and other cities; after Athens won a few battles, Persia switched sides, forcing a peace treaty and Spartan hegemony over Greece
Theban-Spartan War	378-362 BCE	Thebes, led by Epaminondas and Pelopidas and upset by its standing after the Corinthian War, rose up against Sparta and ended their hegemony over Greece; Thebes won the battles of Leuctra and Mantineia with the help of the Sacred Band , a force of 150 pairs of male lovers
Macedonian Expansion	359-336 BCE	in Greece and Asia Minor; Thrace Macedon's Philip II conquered Greece, Thrace, and Asia Minor around the Aegean Sea; the defeated Greek city-states formed the League of Corinth to support Philip II's ensuing invasion of Persia, but Philip was assassinated in 336, and Alexander the Great rose to power
Wars of Alexander the Great	336-323 BCE	in Europe, Africa, and Asia; Alexander conquered everything from Egypt to India before dying in Babylon at age 32; among the wars was the conquest of Persia, which included the battles of Granicus River , Issus , Tyre , and Gaugamela , and the invasion of India, which included the Battle of the Hydaspes River
Lamian War	323-322 BCE	an Athenian-led alliance of Greek city-states rose up against Macedonian leadership after Alexander the Great's death; Antipater quashed the revolt and forbade democracy in Athens