

Read the following story then answer the questions at the end.

Egyptian Cinderella, Rhodopis

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Once upon a time, there was a girl who got kidnapped from Greece. Her name was Rhodopis. It meant, "rosy cheeked." The people who kidnapped Rhodopis were pirates, and she was taken across the Nile River. When she reached Egypt she was sold as a slave.

When she saw the house-girl servants, she felt different and she was. She had pale skin and her cheeks were rosy. Her hair was gold and blew when the wind was windy, and there hair was black and stayed straight. Her eyes were green and theirs were brown. They would tease her and make fun of her. They made sure that she did all the work, like washing clothes, weeding the garden, and making their food for them. But her master was kind and old. When the days were hot, he would sleep underneath a fig tree.

Rhodopis found friends with the animals. But one day her master awakened and saw her dance and said, "No goddess is more quiet!" Then he said, "Such a gift deserves a reward." Then he demanded a pair of red-rose gold slippers. When the servant girls saw Rhodopis' slippers they were very jealous.

Then one afternoon, the master of the servant girls learned that the pharaoh was holding court.

There would be music, dancing, and lots of food. "Sorry, Rhodopis.

You can't go," said Kipa. "You have to wash the linen, grind the grain, and weed the garden." So the next day they left to go to the court. Kipa was wearing blue beads, the second was wearing colored bracelets, and the third wore a colored sash. But one of Rhodopis' friends was the hippopotamus.

When Rhodopis sang to him he would usually enjoy it, and when the servant girls left she sang to him. He soon got tired of her singing the same song over and over. Then he splashed her new slippers and she scolded him.

After she cleaned her shoe, she put it behind her and did the rest of her chores.

The god Horus came down from the sky as a falcon and took her slipper. Then she started to cry.

When the falcon reached the pharaoh, he gave the pharaoh the slipper. Since it was bright he thought it was scrap of the sun. Then he realized that it was a gift and said, "All the gods and

goddesses give us pharaohs something so we know who the perfect wife for us is."

Then he immediately set out to find whoever could fit the slipper. Many of the girls wanted to try on the slipper but no one's foot could fit in the slipper. So he set out to go by the Nile River, and finally found the last little house. He raised the slipper and the servant girls knew whose it was, but they tried it on anyway. Neither one's foot could fit. Then the pharaoh saw Rhodopis and asked if she would try on the slipper. She did and it fit. Then she became the queen.

"Egyptian Cinderella." [Oracle ThinkQuest Library](http://library.thinkquest.org/J002037F/egyptian_cinderella.htm). 17 Oct. 2009 <http://library.thinkquest.org/J002037F/egyptian_cinderella.htm>

Page 1

Questions:

1. How did Rhodopis get to Egypt?
2. Why did the other girls dislike Rhodopis so much?
3. Why do you think the hippo splashed water on Rhodopis's shoes?

Read the section then answer questions 1 and 2 at the end.

Colonization and Trade

The ancient Greeks were always on the look out for fertile land and materials such as timber, metals, and luxury goods. Together these prompted the Greeks to trade and settle around parts of the Mediterranean where they could control the land.

MAIN IDEA

Ancient Greeks spread their culture around the Mediterranean and Black seas.

NEW SETTLEMENTS

Growing city-states meant growing populations and new problems. The hot, dry, and mountainous Greek countryside did not have enough usable farmland to feed everyone. As hunger fueled unrest, the leaders of city-states had two choices. They could fight other city-states for space or they could reduce their own populations.

Most did both. Between 750 and 550 B.C., the city-states waged wars with one another for control over limited natural resources. They also sent people overseas to establish new colonies in places with better farmland and valuable raw materials. Remember, a colony is an area controlled by a distant ruler. City-states selected their colonists by lottery and often prevented them from returning to Greece. The rulers wanted to make sure the new colonies would stay populated.

Greek city-states established hundreds of colonies in the Mediterranean region. Most colonies were situated on or near the coastlines of the Black and Mediterranean seas. They were located in present-day Spain, France, and Italy, in North Africa, and on the islands of Sardinia, Corsica, and Cyprus.

The new colonies were self-governing, but they maintained close political and economic links with their parent city-states. Although colonists adopted some local ways, they remained proudly Greek in their culture and outlook. They shared a common language, worshipped the same gods, and took part in Greek festivals such as the Olympic Games.

GREEK TRADE, C. 500 B.C.

WATER HIGHWAYS

Colonies served many purposes for the ancient Greeks. Overall, they allowed access to land and resources not available in Greece. Some colonies were specifically set up to secure and control trade routes.

The Mediterranean and Black seas were relatively easy to navigate. Because most colonies were positioned near good harbors, sea trade flourished throughout the region. Expert sailors on well-built merchant ships carried raw materials such as silver and tin from present-day Spain and France back to Greece.

The flow of new resources to and from these colonies stimulated the production of goods. These goods were then traded at home and abroad. Trade boosted Greece's growing economy, as did the introduction of coins after 600 B.C.

Wide-ranging sea trade also encouraged cultural diffusion, or the spread of ideas from one culture to another. This dual exchange of goods and ideas was important in shaping civilizations in the ancient world. For example, the ancient Egyptians welcomed learning about Greek military skills. Ancient Greece had a strong cultural influence on early Rome and carried Mediterranean culture as far away as present-day France. The ancient Greeks also incorporated ideas from other cultures. Elements of Egyptian culture influenced Greek art and architecture. Some historians think that ancient Greeks may have gotten their ideas of city-states, colonization, and sea trade from the Phoenicians.

One of the major effects of cultural diffusion in the ancient Mediterranean was the Greek adoption of the Phoenician alphabet. The Greeks made changes to the Phoenician alphabet, which then became the foundation of the modern alphabet we use today.

REVIEW & ASSESS

- 1. READING CHECK** Why did the ancient Greeks establish colonies in the Mediterranean region?
- 2. ANALYZE CAUSE AND EFFECT** In what ways did trade and cultural diffusion shape the ancient Greek world?
- 3. INTERPRET MAPS** How far north did Greek influence reach as a result of trade?