

Democracy in Athens

Fill in the blanks with words from the box.

assembly
hands
pottery

city-state
oligarchies
vote

debates
participating
war

democracy
people
Women



The Greek _____ of Athens was famous for its method of government. Unlike most Greek city-states, which were ruled by _____, monarchies or tyrants, Athens in the 5th century B.C. was a _____, which means the rule of the _____.

In Athens, male citizens would gather in an _____ on a hill and make new laws for the city. At the assembly, every Athenian citizen had the right to speak his opinion. Citizens had public _____ and speeches before laws were passed.

In Athenian democracy each male citizen also had a right to _____. The citizens usually voted by having a show of _____. If they needed a secret vote then they voted by scratching their answers on a broken shard of _____.

The Athenians felt strongly about democracy. Pericles felt that _____ in government was as important as defending the city in times of _____. However, Athenian democracy excluded many people. _____, slaves, freed slaves and foreigners were not given the right to vote.

