

PROJECT

LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE



CHARACTER: MENESICLES

TASK 1/5

My name is Menesicles, and I am a builder working on the construction of the Parthenon, on the Acropolis of Athens. I am 33 years old, and my life is not easy, but sometimes I am amazed by the beauty of what we are creating. I wake up at dawn and spend the day working among dust, marble, and giant columns. My main task is to raise the structures and prepare the site for the sculptors, like Phidias, whom I admire greatly, even though sometimes it feels like his art has little to do with the hard physical work we do.

I live in a modest house in one of the poor neighborhoods of Athens, with my wife and two children. My salary is not much, but just enough so that my family does not go hungry, although I always complain about how poorly we are paid for so much effort. I don't care much about politics or the great debates among the citizens. I prefer to talk about how to build better and faster. My secret dream is to one day have a small house in the countryside, far from the noise of the city.



- **NAME**
Menesicles
- **OCCUPATION**
Builder working in the Parthenon
- **AGE**
33 years old
- **RESIDENCE**
Humble neighborhood of Athens, near the Agora

1 WHAT DO YOU KNOW NOW ABOUT MENESICLES?

Where does he live? with who?

What does he do for living?

What does he like or worry about?

Do you like him or not? Why?

What question would you ask him if you met him?

2 WHAT DO YOU THINK?

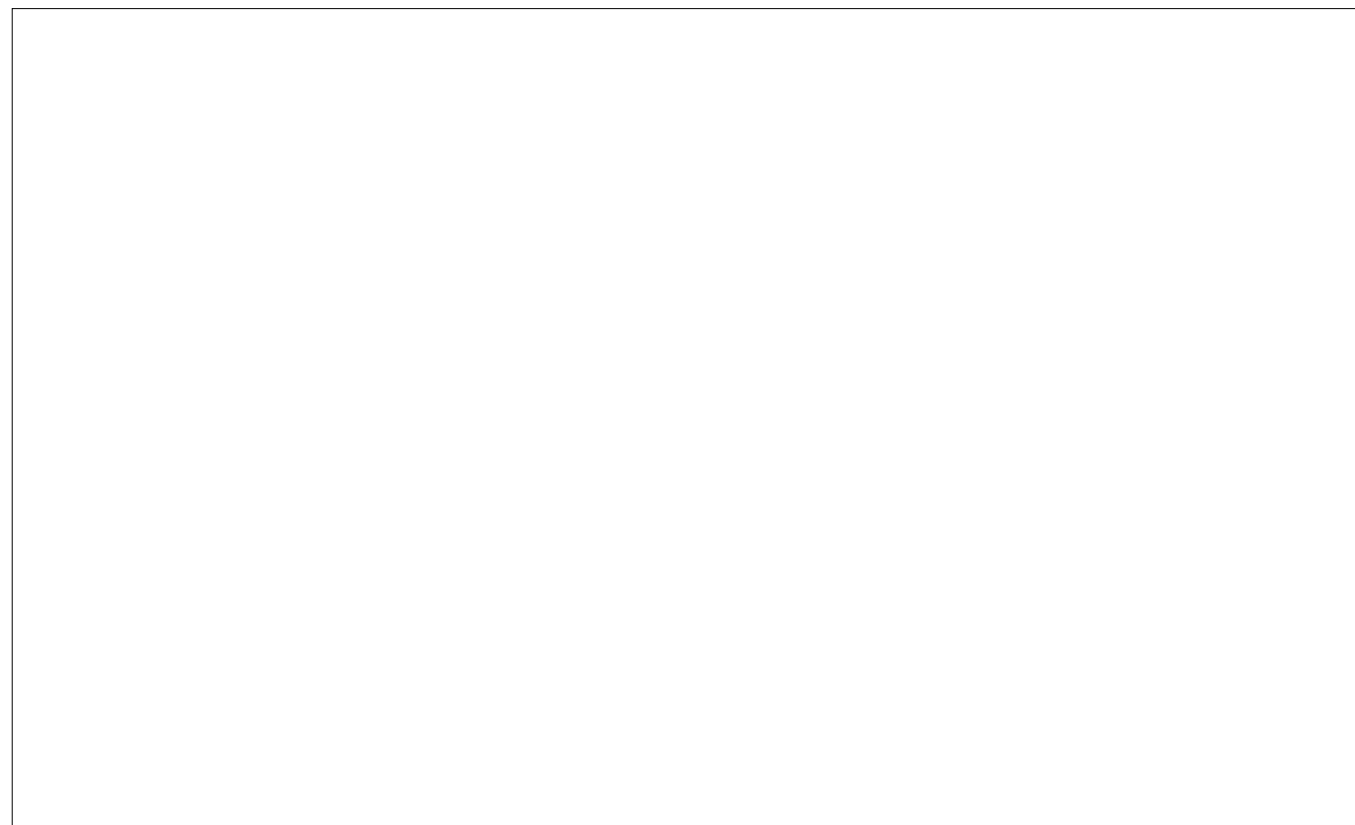
Do you think Menesicles' work is important for Athens? Why?

What do you think about the fact that there are famous artists like Phidias and other less well-known workers like Menesicles?

Would you like to live in the countryside like he dreams of? Why?

3 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: DRAW

Imagine the place where Menesicles spends his day. What is the space where he works like? Is it big or small? Is it full of tools or rather simple? And what might his house be like in a humble neighborhood of Athens? Draw what you think his home could look like.



4 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: WRITE

How does Menesicles speak? What might he say while working or when complaining about his wages? Think of a sentence that fits his personality.
