

LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE



CHARACTER: NICIAS

TASK 1/5

Hello! My name is Nicias, and I am 12 years old. I live in Athens, very close to the Agora, with my mother, my father, and my two younger sisters. Every morning I get up early to go to school. It's not like modern schools: there are no blackboards or desks, and we don't use books either. We learn by listening, repeating, and writing on wax tablets.

My teacher is very wise, but also very strict... and quite scary when he gets angry. I especially love mathematics. I enjoy solving geometry problems, and sometimes I imagine myself teaching others or writing books like the great scholars.

My father wants me to follow in his footsteps and become a politician, like my grandfather. But secretly, I dream of becoming a philosopher and thinking about the great questions of life. I'm a bit shy, so sometimes I don't dare to raise my hand in class, but at home, I never stop asking questions.



- **NAME**
Nicias
- **OCCUPATION**
Student in the school (paideia)
- **AGE**
12 years old
- **RESIDENCE**
Humble neighborhood of Athens, near the Agora

1 WHAT DO YOU KNOW NOW ABOUT NICIAS?

Where does he live? with who?

What does he do during the day?

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?

Can you imagine going to a school without books or computers? What would it be like?

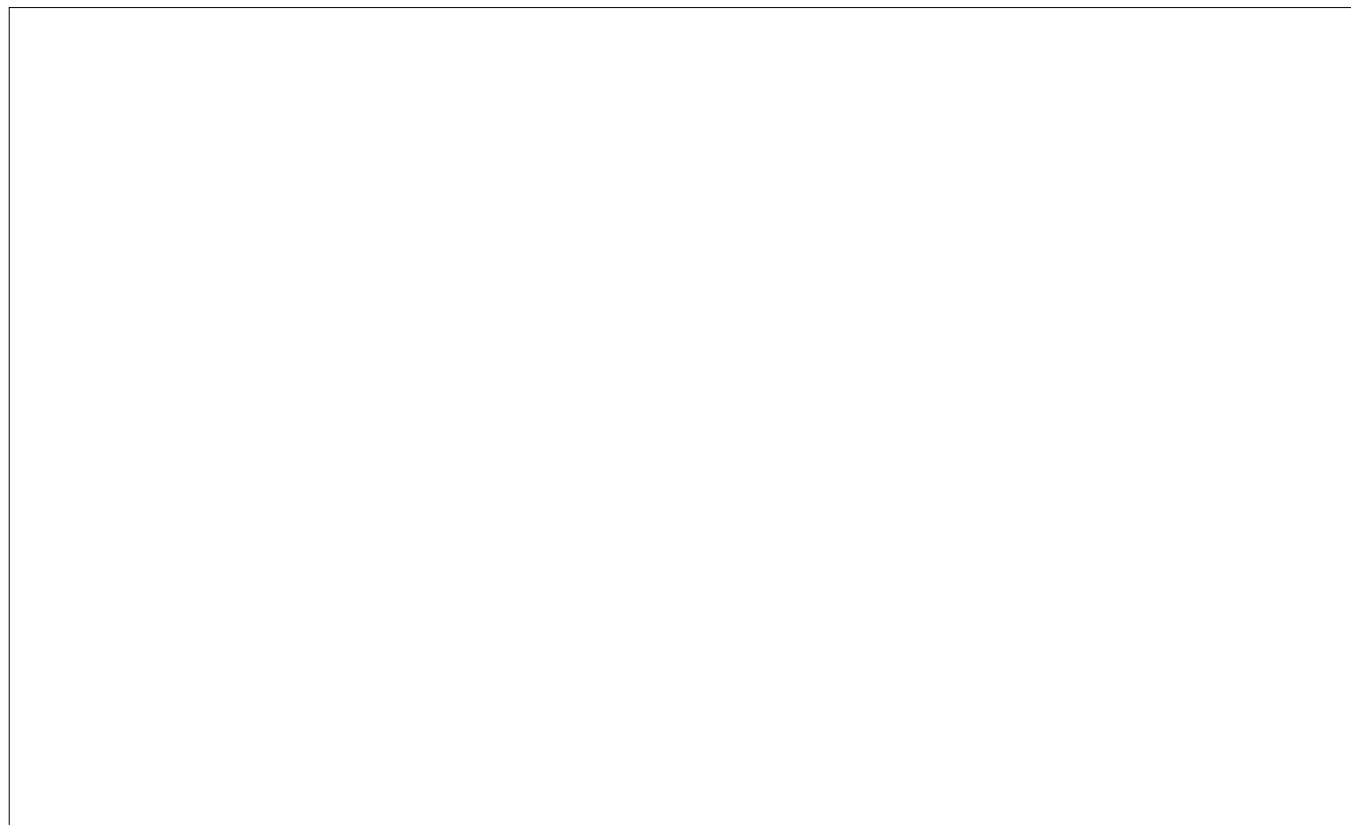


Do you have a favorite subject like Nicias?

Are you like Nicias, who sometimes wants to do something different from what his parents expect?

3 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: DRAW

How do you imagine Nicias' house? Is it big or simple? Does it have a space to study? And what about his school? Does it have benches, blackboards, columns?



4 LET YOUR IMAGINATION FLY: WRITE

Write a sentence that Nicias would say. Something like "There's nothing more fun than solving a difficult problem."
