

1) Early life

- a) Born in Athens in 495 BCE
- b) Name means "surrounded by glory"
- c) Family was wealthy - father was important general
- d) Grew up during Persian Wars
- e) Used his wealth to help artists (like play writers)--this support of the arts made him popular in Athens

2) Career

- a) Military
 - i) Served as general of Athenian army
 - ii) Was able to successfully lead army in several conflicts
- b) Politics
 - i) Helped remove Areopagus (council of leaders) from power
 - ii) Worked on overhauling the government of Athens - example: providing pay for jurors - allowed for people who didn't have a lot of money to serve on juries

3) Achievements

- a) Wanted to make Athens an example of excellence for the rest of the world to admire
- b) Building projects
 - i) Parthenon on the acropolis -- it was a temple for Athena
 - ii) Had long walls built to protect from enemy attack
- c) Golden Age of Athens -- happened due to the leadership of Pericles
 - i) Buildings
 - ii) Arts like plays
 - iii) Education and philosophers
- d) Funeral Oration
 - i) In memory of soldiers who died in Peloponnesian War
 - ii) Primary source that tells us what life was like in Athens

4) End of Life/Death

- a) Died from a plague in 426BCE
- b) Nickname was "The Olympian"
- c) Had two sons