

Introduction to the Greeks

Topic: Greeks saw themselves as **different** from other people.

A. Definition: different

B. Hellenes and Barbarians

C. Differences:

1. Primary difference: Language -
Barbarians did not speak Greek

2. Literature
Epic poetry, theater, philosophy, economics, mathematics,
natural science, history, etc.

3. Government
 - a. Greeks were free – democracy
 - b. Barbarians were slaves – kings
 - c. Homer said, “Zeus takes away from a man half of his manhood if the day of enslavement lays hold of him.”

4. Dignity of man
 - a. With freedom comes dignity (self worth).
 - b. John Adams wrote, “We must study war and military, so our children can study science, so their children can study art, pottery, etc.”
 - c. Aristotle wrote, “Man is a political animal.”