1. Kirk begins this chapter by praising the ancient Greeks – “in philosophy, in warfare, in the early sciences, in poetry, in grace of manners, in rhetoric, in high cunning.” What did the ancient Greeks fail in?

2. The second paragraph on page 51 is important –he says the founders thought Greece “offered few precedents worth following –except…” find that part. What does he mean by “some salutary negative lessons”?

3. Same paragraph – fill in the blanks: For \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we turn

to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

For \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we turn to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

But for a pattern of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ we emulate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Last paragraph on page 51 (this may take a while if we keep on at this pace) – Kirk writes about what the American founders found valuable in the Greek experience or order. What was it?

5. What does Kirk say about the history of Athens on page 52?

6. The last paragraph on page 52 again heaps praise on the Greeks, yet it also offers an explanation for their demise…what is it?

7. Note the paragraph explaining the Greek word *hubris*. Make sure you can talk and write about this.

(Note that little sentence, “Their religion could not restrain them.” I wonder why not…)

8. Love this paragraph on page 53 with the three expressions about Greeks – what are they?

9. Within that same paragraph, Kirk again tells us why the Greeks lost their glory – make sure you annotate that.

10. Create a little timeline of the next paragraph on page 53 – he tells us that when the Israelites were doing X, the Greeks were doing Y. You’ll have to find those dates outside of this book – but let’s give it a shot – draw a little timeline either in the blank space on page 50 or the front or back cover of the book. I’ll be looking for it.

11. Okay, from the last paragraph on page 53, to the end of page 59, there is a discussion that centers around, first, why people of the 18th and 19th centuries idealized the Greeks – so make sure you catch and annotate that. Then he shifts to what the Americans in the 1780s thought about the Greeks – what does he say here? There is a discussion about Polybius, that Greek historian who wrote about the Roman Constitution – what’s that about?

- What did Americans realize about the Greek Polis and the Roman Senate?

- While those Americans might have valued the “accomplishments of the Greeks in the realm

of the mind,” what they needed was not a Greek strength – what was it?

12. Last paragraph on page 54 – gives a reason for why people of the 18th and 19th centuries heaped praise and adulation on Greece – what was it?

13. What was the cause of the Greeks’ political failure? HINT: It has to do with $$$$$$

14. How long was the “Great Age” of Athens?

15. There is a quote on page 55 that ends by saying the “weakness of Greek political speculation can be traced to…” what? How does Kirk explain this (continuing on to page 56)?

16. Back to where I started in #11…from page 56 to 59, note what Kirk says about how “yesteryear’s admirers of Hellenic culture” confused the beautiful ruins of Greece with the ancient Greeks?

17. Please read carefully the discussion of Greek religion – what do you learn about it? Look back at the bottom of page 55 to 56 – “Those temples and the gods’ images that stood within, were symbols of civic pride, and often of civic arrogance; these were “official” gods, but they did not speak to private conscience or nourish the human longing for immortality, or clearly declare a norm for what men and women ought to be.” Follow the discussion of Greek religion through to page 59.

18. In the first paragraph of page 57 Kirk writes something funny – but it’s so subtle that you have to read it carefully. What is it?

19. On page 58, Kirk ties in his observations about the Greek religion not being so “gentle and sunlit as 19th century writers” fancied it to be with another error those same writers supposed about Greece’s civil social order. What was it not? \*Make sure you read carefully the note at the bottom of the page about Sophocles’ *Antigone*. Have you guys every read it?

20. Note what Kirk has to say about slavery in ancient Greece – and what Plato has to do with it.

21. The last paragraph in this section compares ancient Greece to the Hebrews, as well as a political discussion that the founders would later write about in several of the Federalists papers when they were comparing Greek and Roman political means to what they were trying to do. This is an important paragraph – so note well what it says about democracies, tyrannies, oligarchies and the meaning of freedom.

**Next section** – “Solon and the Athenian Polity” pages 60 - 67

I’m really getting tired of writing these questions…aren’t you tired of reading them?

So…let’s try to do this a little differently.

22. Add to your timeline (and if you didn’t do it, turn back to #10 and do it now), the dates for Solon and Plutarch (and make sure you note the difference between B.C. and A.D.).

23. This will require that you either write up a paragraph or a bulleted list of what the Greeks contributed to the “American understanding of order” through Solon as discussed on pages 60 and 61.

24. Do the same thing (that is, write a paragraph or a bulleted list of Solon’s accomplishments (pages 60 to 67).

25. What would Bernie Sanders think of the second full paragraph on page 63, beginning with “His practical reforms…”?

**Last section** – “And that House fell,” pages 67 to 73 details the sad end to all that Solon had worked so hard to bring about.

25. On page 69, the second paragraph adds to the discussion begun in #23 – so add what you learn here about what Americans understood of this period of Greece’s history.

26. For a while now, the word “democracy” has been appearing, and not in a good way. Why does Kirk say that Greek democracy did not end well (which is what the founders felt about democracy as well)?

27. On page 70, that Greek word hubris is back – explain the context – why did the Athenian democracy fall?

28. Last paragraph on page 72 and into page 73 (yea, we’re at the end – aren’t you glad I divided this chapter in half?). Why did the “order of the Greek polis begin to dissolve”?

29. **Okay, last thing**. Here are some words that you need to define in the margins of the book:

p. 55 – rapacious, as in “rapacious imperialism”

p. 61 – there’s that word “decadent.” Look it up.

p. 61 – “checks and balances,” “mixed government” (also on page 64).

P. 62 – probity

p. 62 – there’s that “moral imagination” again – mark that and file it in your brain as we go through trying to figure out what Kirk means by it.

p. 62 – eunomia – righteous order – just mark it (more on it on page 660, and also mark Dike – or Justice on the next page (and note the comments about justice at the bottom of page 63). Also note the Greek word for law and its several meanings.

p. 67 – intrepidity

p. 68 – rectitude

p. 69 – popular sovereignty