How did Greece and Rome influence the US?
Our government is based on ideas from Ancient Greece & Rome. We call Greece “The Birthplace of Democracy.”
Greece had a systematic set of political theories and ideals.

The main political unit of Ancient Greece was the city-state (polis).

Some Greek Polis’ were monarchies, oligarchies, democracies, or a form of republic.

Greeks invented political terms and concepts still used to this day.

Overall, the people of Greece used a Direct Democracy.
Rome had a...

(What was Rome’s influence on the US?)

- Rome had been ruled by a monarchy,
  - Expanded greatly during its republican period that lasted until Caesar became emperor
- Members of the Roman Senate held the greatest amount of power
- The Romans used a Republican form of Government - Representative Democracy.
What form of government does the United States have?! A Democratic Republic!!
Why is our government so successful?! 

Democratic Principles
Examples of Democratic Principles…

- Checks and Balances: Gov’t divided into 3 separate branches (video)
  - Legislature
  - Judicial
  - Executive

- Consent: give up some freedoms if the gov’t protects us

- Freedom: Freedom of speech, religion, and press

- Rule of Law
  - U.S. rule of law is the Constitution!
Influence on other countries…

Our fight for freedom and our rule of law has influenced dozens of other countries!

(i.e. France…our next unit!)