

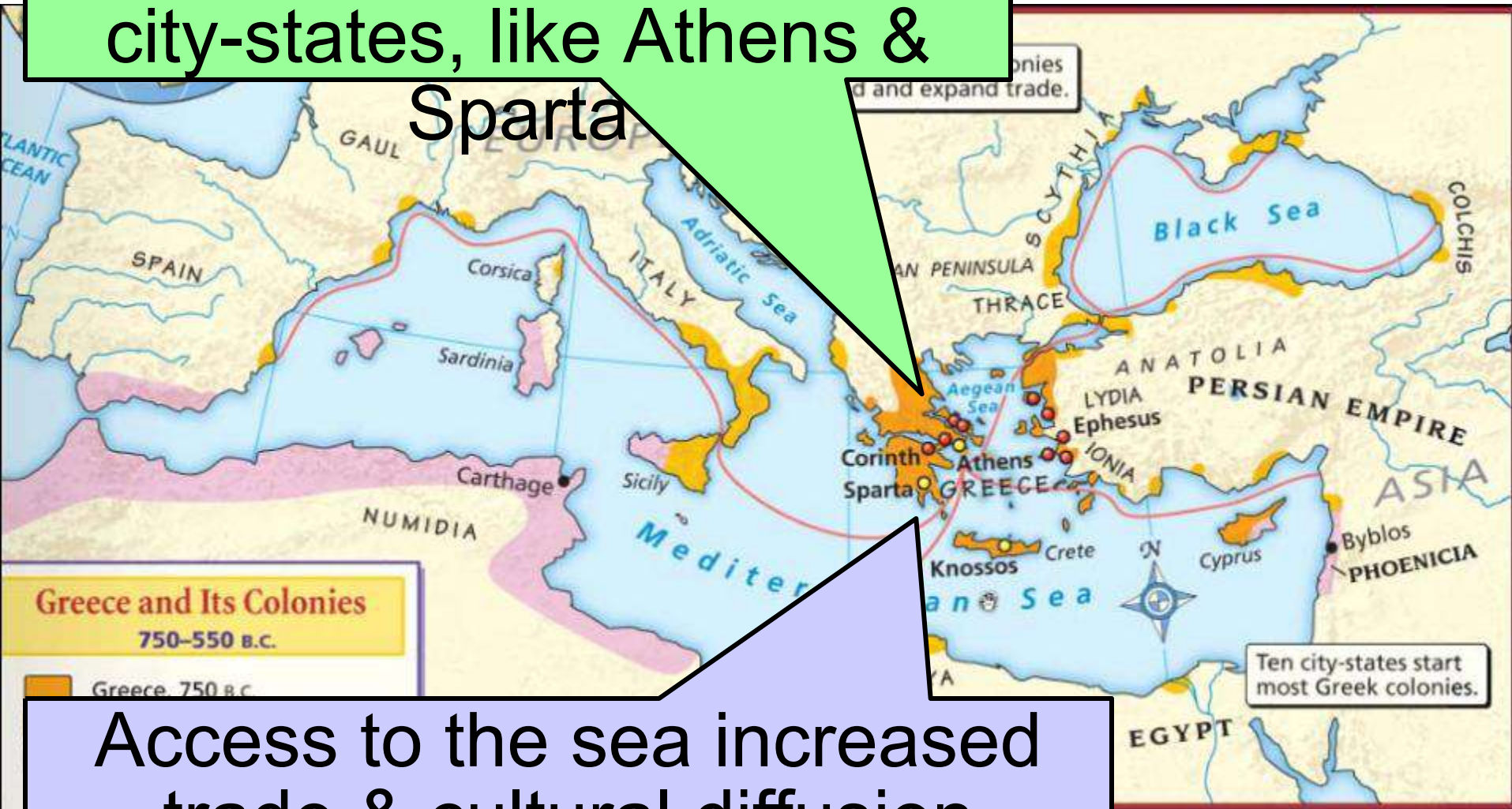
■ Essential Question:

- What was the impact of the spread of Hellenic culture under Alexander the Great?

■ Warm-Up Question:

- What are the top 3 Greek innovations? Explain how our world is better because of these 3 achievements.

Mountains divided the Greeks into independent city-states, like Athens & Sparta



Access to the sea increased trade & cultural diffusion (sharing ideas) with other

The Greek city-states, especially Athens, developed cultural innovations that are still used today which transformed Greece into a “classical civilization”

The Legacy of Greece



Culture

- Greek language
- Mythology about gods and goddesses
- Olympic games
- Philosophers search for truth



Science and Technology

- Disagreement whether Sun or Earth at center of universe
- Euclid's geometry textbook
- Accurate estimate of Earth's circumference
- Development of lever, pulley, and pump



Arts

- Drama and poetry
- Sculpture portraying ideals of beauty
- Painted pottery showing scenes of Greek life
- Classical architecture



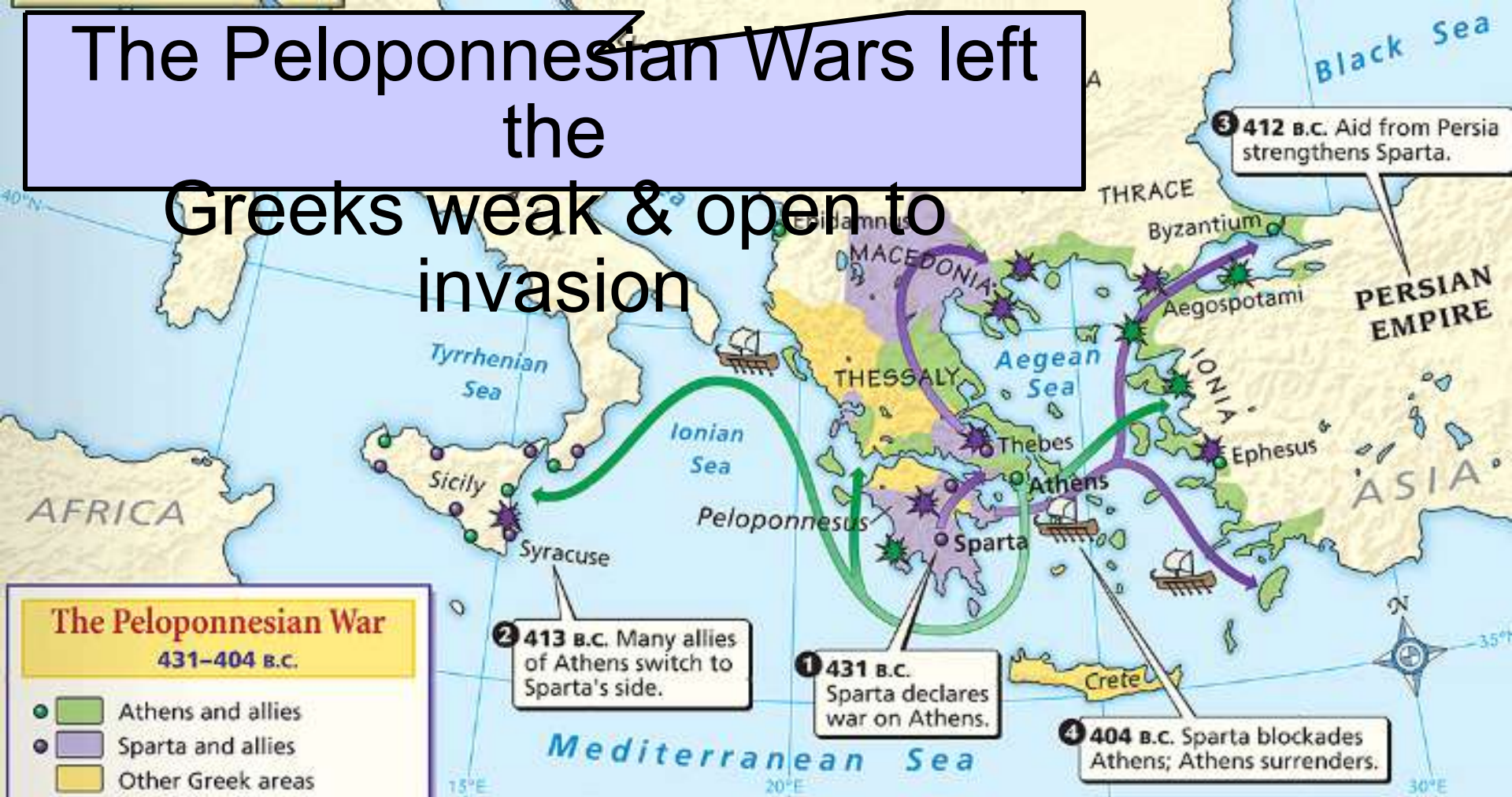
Government

- Direct democracy; citizens rule by majority vote
- Citizens bring charges of wrongdoing
- Code of laws
- Expansion of citizenship to all free adult males, except foreigners



Greek wealth & innovation made it a target to outside invasion; From 493 B.C. to 479 B.C., Persian kings Darius & Xerxes tried (but failed) to conquer the Greeks in the

The Peloponnesian Wars left
the
Greeks weak & open to
invasion



After the Persian Wars, the
Greek city-states, led by rivals
Athens & Sparta, fought each
other in the Peloponnesian

In 338 B.C., King Philip II of Macedonia attacked & conquered the Greeks, but he died soon after



Macedonians viewed themselves as Greeks
& shared much of their culture; King

King Alexander of Macedonia

■ Alexander was only 20 years old when he became king of Macedonia:

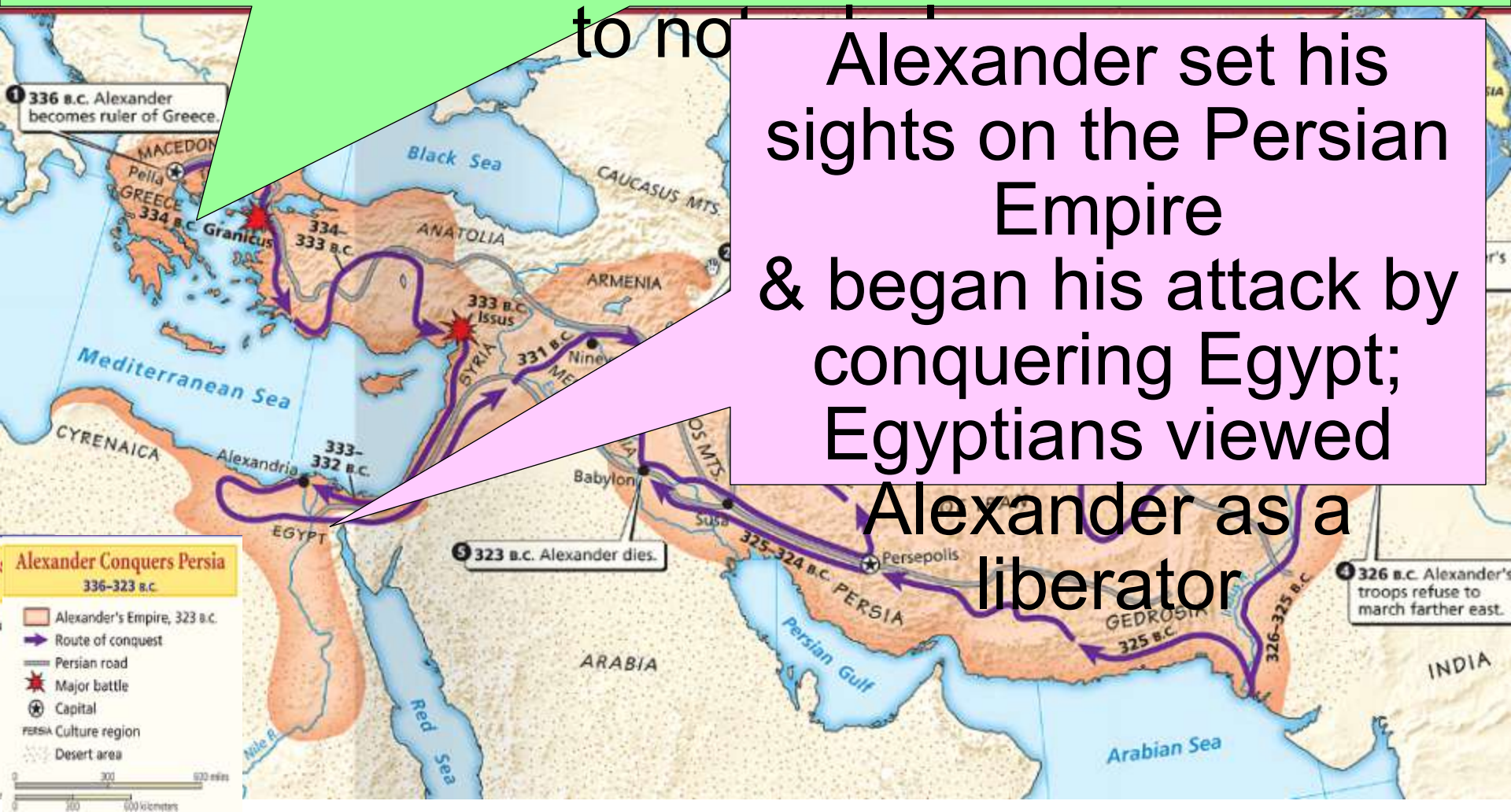
- But he proved to be ambitious & a brilliant military strategist
- Once in power, Alexander began to expand his empire



Alexander began his conquest by crushing a Greek revolt in Thebes; He ordered the death of 6,000 people & sold everyone else into slavery; His brutality convinced other Greeks

to not

Alexander set his sights on the Persian Empire & began his attack by conquering Egypt; Egyptians viewed Alexander as a liberator



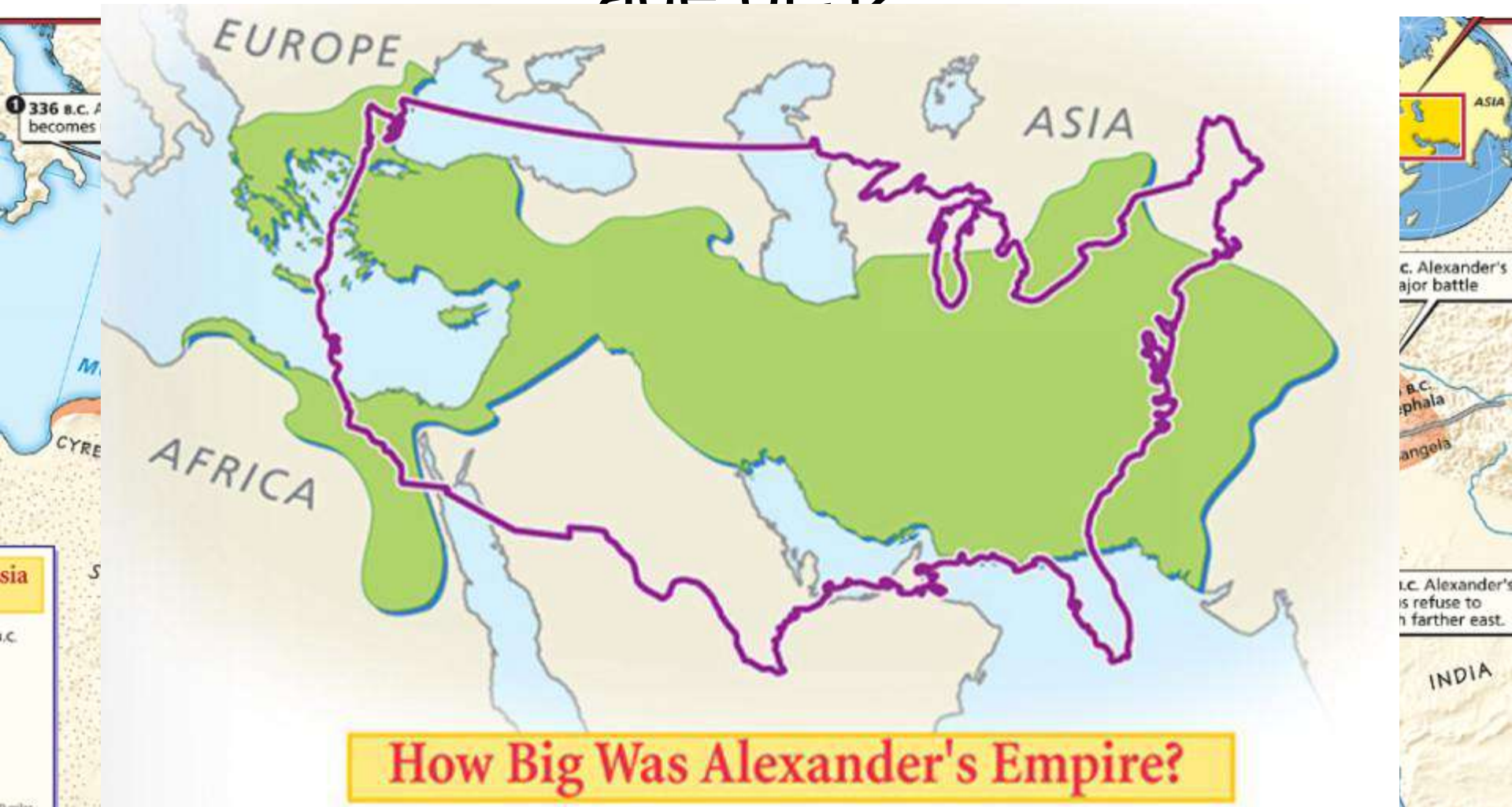
In 331 B.C., Alexander attacked & defeated the mighty Persian army led by King Darius III.

Alexander destroyed the capital of Persia.

Alexander led his army to conquer India; After taking the Indus River Valley, Alexander's troops begged him to return home after 11 years away from their homes while conquering the empire.

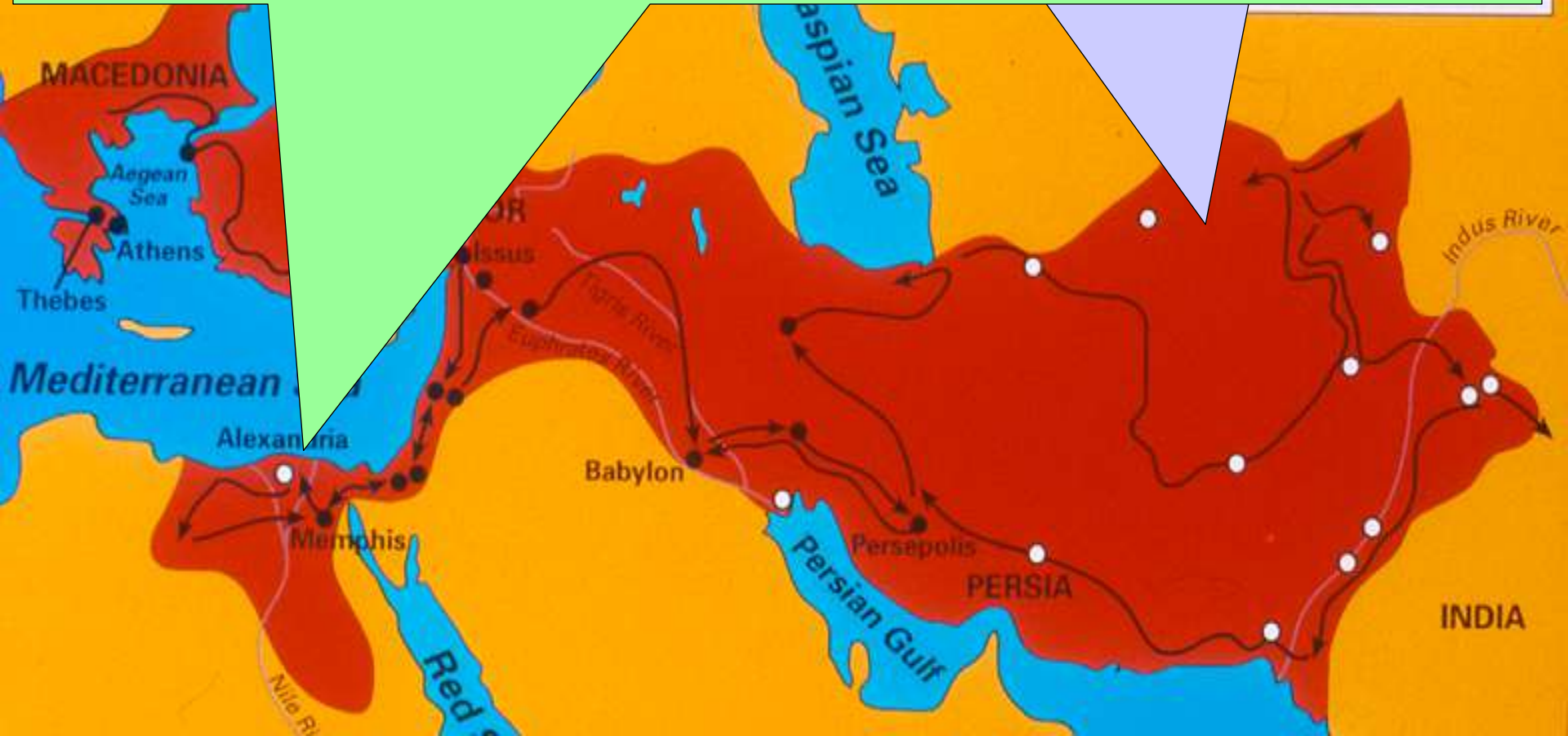


By 323 B.C., Alexander had conquered a massive empire & began plans to govern & unify his kingdom, but he fell ill & died at the age of 32



Alexander left behind an important legacy:
He spread Hellenic (Greek) innovations &
culture throughout his empire

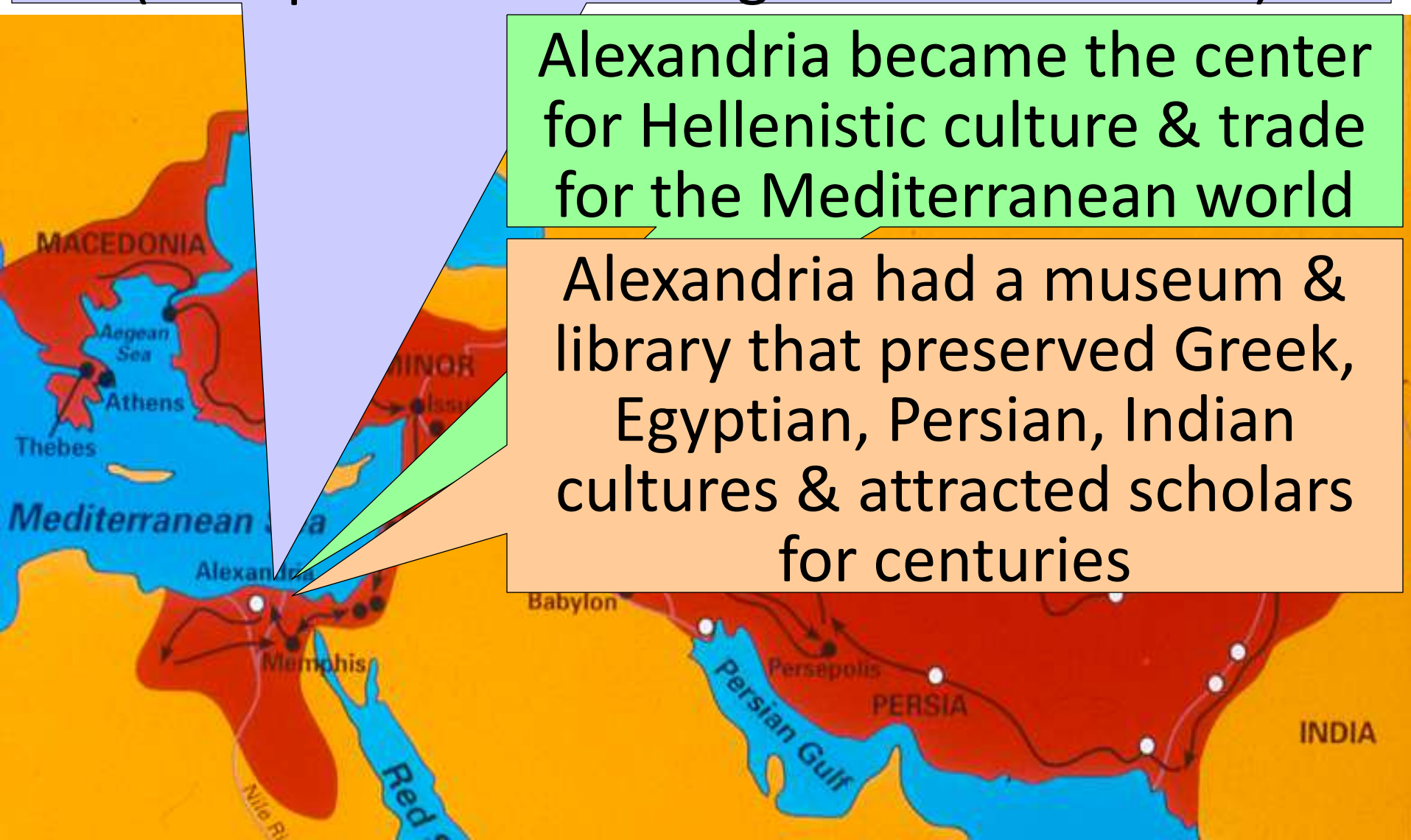
In each territory he conquered, Alexander left
behind a Greek-styled city named Alexandria



Alexandria in Egypt was the most significant of these cities & best represented Hellenism (the spread & blending of Greek culture)

Alexandria became the center for Hellenistic culture & trade for the Mediterranean world

Alexandria had a museum & library that preserved Greek, Egyptian, Persian, Indian cultures & attracted scholars for centuries



Alexandria Egypt



When Alexander died without an heir, his empire was divided among his top 3 generals

Alexander's empire was the largest of the classical era, but it was short-lived (13 years) & was never unified or governed



■ Summary of Alexander the Great:

- He was a military genius & well educated
- His interest in Greek history & culture as well as Persian, Egyptian, & Indian ideas led to a vibrant new culture, Hellenism, that shaped future civilizations
- But, his empire did not last long enough to compete with future empires, such as those ruled by Rome and the Mongols



Closure Activity

- Which emperor was “greater”: Darius of Persia —*OR*— Alexander of Macedonia?
—Give 3 reasons to explain your answer

