

The Persian Empire

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Summary

This book is about how two great emperors, Cyrus II and Darius I, created and ruled the Persian Empire.

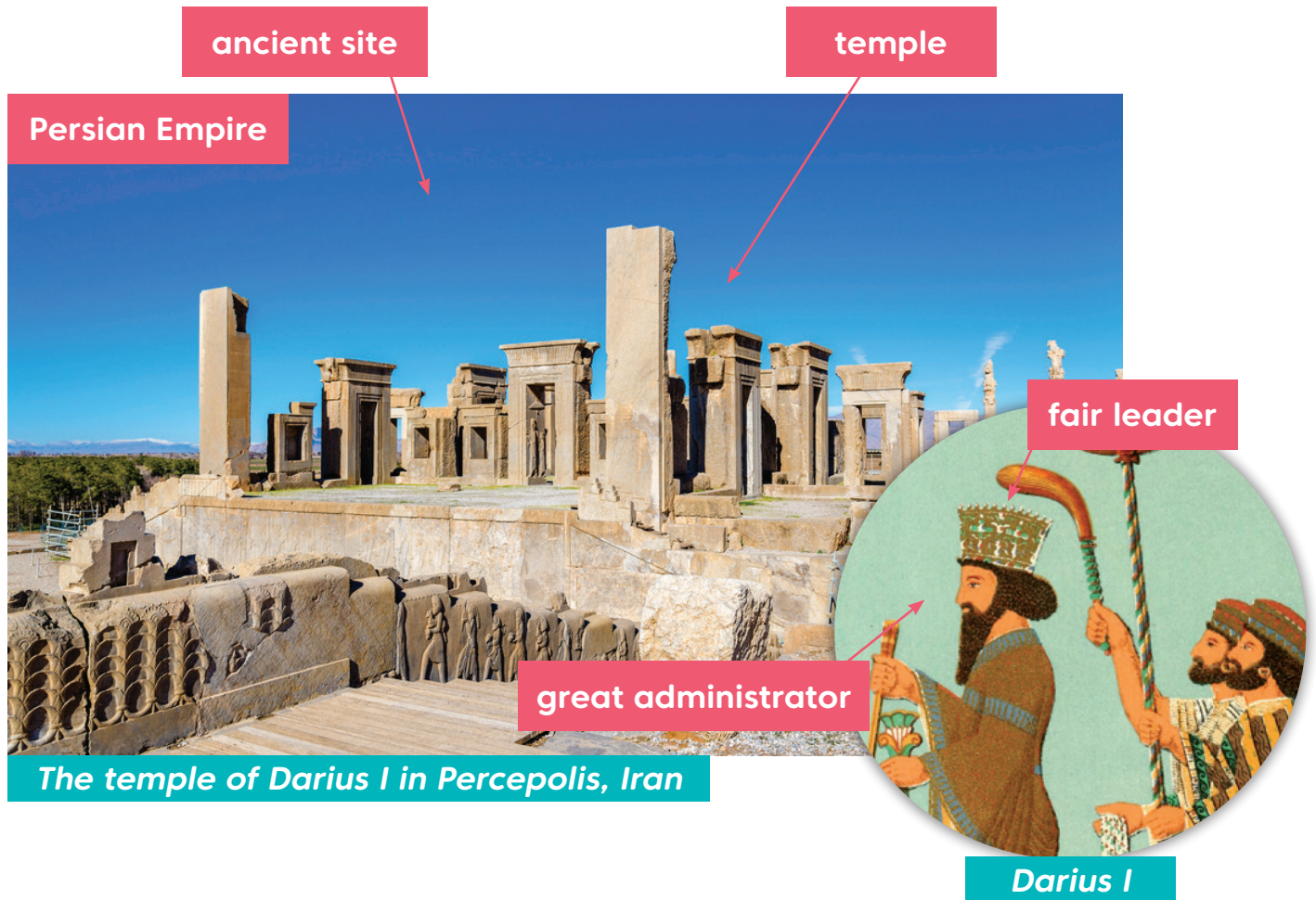
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Before Reading

Think Ahead

Look at the picture and answer the questions.



1. Where is this ancient site located?
2. What kind of religious building was this?
3. What kind of leader was Darius I?
4. What empire did Darius I rule?

Vocabulary

A Read and match.

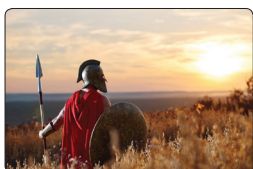
1.



•

• a. generous

2.



•

• b. ancient

3.



•

• c. temple

4.



•

• d. kindness

5.



•

• e. soldier

6.



•

• f. modern

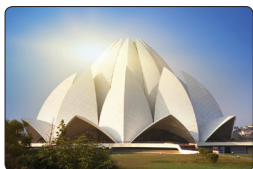
7.



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• g. battle

8.



•

• h. narrow

B Write the word for each definition.

empire

spread

capital

fair

clever

1. _____ to move widely in different directions
2. _____ quick at learning and understanding things
3. _____ a group of countries ruled by one nation
4. _____ treating everyone in the same way
5. _____ the most important town or city of a country

C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.

1. Emperor Cyrus II was known for his kindness and not for mean or unkind behavior.
 a. cruelty b. narrow c. battle d. defeat
2. At one time, the Persian Empire was a very strong state.
 a. capital b. generous c. powerful d. escape
3. Today, tourists can visit very old sites and learn about Persian and Greek history.
 a. temple b. ancient c. expand d. modern
4. Darius I built the Royal Road so that he could share information easily with the far corners of his empire.
 a. administrator b. trade c. unite d. communicate

Comprehension

A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. In 479 BC, the Persians tried to beat the Greeks, but the Greeks had more soldiers and won the war.
- b. Cyrus I was a great leader who led his empire well and fairly.
- c. The Battle of Salamis was fought between the Greeks and the Persians on ships.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

B Choose the best answer.

1. What did Cyrus do after attacking the city of Babylon?
 - a. He showed cruelty instead of kindness.
 - b. He killed the people.
 - c. He collected taxes from the people.
 - d. He showed the people that he was generous.
2. How did Darius build trade in the empire?
 - a. He created a common set of laws.
 - b. He created new ways to collect taxes.
 - c. He allowed the states in his empire to have some control.
 - d. All of the above
3. What war became one of the most important in world history?

a. The Greco-Persian war	b. The Battle of Marathon
c. The Battle of Salamis	d. The Battle of Babylon

C Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

- a. One of the greatest builders of all time
- b. 1,500 km long
- c. A country that is now just one country
- d. Built to celebrate Greece's victory
- e. A man who was influenced by both Cyrus and Darius



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

D Read each sentence. Write "T" if it is true or "F" if it is false.

1. _____ The ancient Greeks were enemies with the Persians from modern-day Iran.
2. _____ Persia was once made up of different states, each with their own leaders.
3. _____ Cyrus II, King of Persia, was known for his cruelty, not kindness.
4. _____ Darius I wanted to expand his empire father into Egypt, India, and Greece, so he built a road.
5. _____ Darius I gave up attacking the Greeks after his army was defeated at the battle of Marathon.

E Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1. Darius I was a great administrator, and he created laws to help _____ trade.
unite expand
2. Darius I built _____ in many cities such as Percepolis and Susa in modern-day Iran.
capitals temples
3. At the battle of Marathon in 490 BC, Darius's _____ was defeated.
army trade
4. Cyrus and Darius's people loved them because they were _____ and did not hurt them.
fair clever
5. Persia was made up of different states until Cyrus II united them all to create one _____.
army empire

F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.

- a. _____ The Persians were defeated by the Greeks during the Battle of Salamis.
- b. _____ Cyrus II united the different states in Persia to create the Persian Empire.
- c. _____ Darius I became the leader of the Persian Empire after Cyrus died.
- d. _____ The Persians attacked the Greeks many times during the Greco-Persian War.
- e. _____ Darius wanted to expand his empire into Greece, but the Greeks fought back.

Think About It

A Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
Two great leaders, Cyrus II and Darius, ruled their people with _____ and fairness.	They created the Persian Empire, which was the most _____ state in the world during its time.	The Persian Empire lasted for almost two _____ years, from 550 BC to 330 BC.	The Persian _____ went from Iran to Egypt, and from eastern Europe to India.	At one time, 2,600 years ago, Persia was made up of different states with their own leaders, and Cyrus II decided to _____ them all to create one powerful empire.

B Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned _____

_____.

Before I read this book, I knew _____

_____.

Now I also know _____

_____.