

## Part One: Assignment for August 30

Read the funeral oration of Pericles (as written for him by Thucydides). What is the view of Athens he presents in this speech? What are the values this speech expresses? How does he distinguish Athens from other states? Can you identify places where his description may be clouded by the desire to present Athens in its best light? To what extent do you think we can use this speech as historical evidence?

Please write a short essay answering these questions and any related ones that you wish to consider. Two pages should be sufficient; one page will probably not be enough. Your job is to analyze the passage. No research is necessary.

## Part Two: Final take-home questions, part II

Reread the speech of Pericles. Then reread your first paper and the comments on it. Also consult the evaluation criteria that we have been using for papers this semester. Then readdress the questions below in light of your reading and experiences during the semester in one to two pages. Please do not simply copy your original paper. If you don't feel that your original remarks need revising, find something else to discuss about the oration that you may not have noticed the first time around. If you changed your opinion about something, explain what and why, but this should not make up the bulk of your answer. The point of this exercise is to see what you have learned about Athenian democracy and about the critical use of ancient sources in the course of the semester.

What view of Athens is Pericles presenting in this speech? What are the values this speech expresses? How does he distinguish Athens from other states? Can you identify places where his description may be clouded by the desire to present Athens in its best light?

(The original question ended with this: "To what extent can this speech be used as historical evidence?" You may answer this part or not as you choose.)