**Chapter 7, Section 3:**

**The City-State and the Democracy**

**The Rise of City-States:**

* **Due to mountains, political unity was difficult. As a result, city-states with different political systems developed**
* **The center of the city life was the agora, an open space where people came from business and public gatherings.**
* **Many cities had a fortified hilltop called an *acropolis***

**Forms of Government:**

* **Most city-states started as monarchies and most became aristocracies, ruled by members of the upper class.**
* **Some developed an oligarchy, which was a rule by a few**
* **Sometimes a tyrant gained control. Tyrants were usually supported by the common people**

**Athens builds a limited democracy:**

* **Political leaders Solon and Cleisthenes made gradual reforms that gave the common people of Athens more power.**
* **Solon allowed all citizens to swerve in the assembly. Cleisthenes reorganized the assembly to take power away from the nobles by organizing citizens to swerve in the assembly. Cleisthenes reorganized the assembly to take power away from the nobles by organizing citizens based on their area of residence instead of wealth.**
* **Athens had a direct democracy and had citizens decide on the laws**
* **Citizenship was limited to free adult males and citizens had to serve in the army.**