

**5<sup>th</sup> High School-Serres** Subject: English

School Year: 2015-16 **Class: C2**

Teacher: Kloura Katerina

**Project:**

***“A Glimpse Into My Country”***

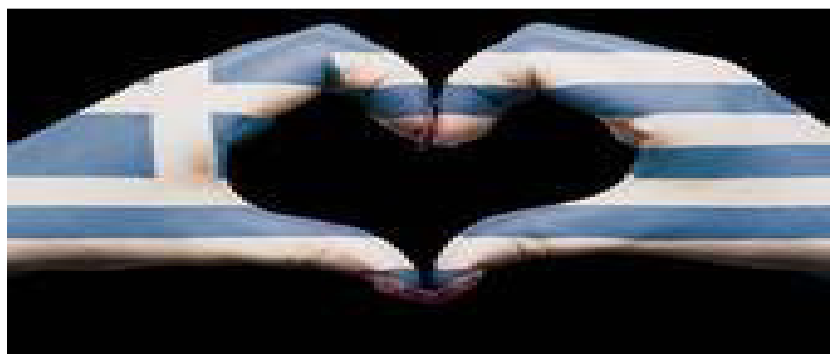


# Class: C<sub>2</sub>

## Project in the **English** lesson of the **C<sub>2</sub>** students:

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Αποστόλου Χρήστος, Αριτζίδης Μιχάλης,  
Βλαχοδήμος Δημήτρης, Βουτσάς Σωτήρης,  
Γεωργιάδης Λευτέρης, Γιαννακίδης Κώστας,  
Γκαργκαβάνης Γιώργος, Δαλάγκα Στεφανία,  
Δαμασκηνός Γιάννης, Δημητριάδης Μανος,  
Διάκος Ιάσων, Δούμας Γιάννης,  
Δρίγκας Νίκος, Ζήκου Κωνσταντίνα,  
Ζήκου Χριστίνα, Θωμαΐδης Νίκος,  
Καλαϊτζής Γρηγόρης

**The teacher:** Kloura Katerina



## Introduction

We are the students of C2 class in the 5<sup>th</sup> High School of Serres, a city in northern Greece.

We would like to share with you a glimpse into our country!

In our country we are friendlier than in other countries and we use **body language** a lot to express our feeling! We love being with lots of people and we can't imagine life without our friends and family around.

People in our country are friendly and well-known for their hospitality, they will always offer you a warm welcoming and will do their best to satisfy you, but mainly they are **“loud”** and they express their emotion with hugs and kisses. We greet people we don't know well with a firm hand shake, people we know are usually greeted with a hag. Most foreigners consider us “loud”, that is because it is not always impolite to shout in Greece. **We like to do everything with result happiness.**

Greeks may argue about anything, but they always end up better friends than before. Laughing and enjoying life is what we do best!



## Food

Greek people love food while sharing time with their beloved ones. Greece caters for every taste.

Traditional dishes are “mousakas” and “souvlaki”. Regional products are honey, yoghurt and “feta” cheese. Mastic is also only produced here, on the island of Chios and can’t be found anywhere else in the world. One of the most widespread Greek drinks is “ouzo” along with “tsipouro” and If you want to relax you can drink frappe, which is a version of cold coffee.



We’re the largest producers of olive oil and wine ever since ancient times and our famous ***Mediterranean cuisine*** may be the reason for our well-being and high spirits.

Many tourists come to Greece every summer to visit the stunning Greek monuments but are eventually also impressed by the Greek food.

### **Eating for us is not a habitat’s a way of living**

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## Tradition

Customs and tradition play a major role in our culture. In Greece tradition and religion are very closely related as Greek Religion is very important to us. There are many local festivals, which include traditional music, dancing, costumes and food. Traditional dances and costumes are different in each region.



We dance in circles, which creates a feeling of belonging, union and power. Dancing makes you feel relaxed and fun.



Many children attend traditional dancing classes because they want to keep their roots alive and they are taught about the customs from the elder, so tradition passes on from one generation to the other.



Perhaps the most important celebration is **Easter**, which we call 'Pascha'. Every spring we celebrate Easter, schools are closed for fifteen days and children are very happy! The families come together, we dye red eggs, bake biscuits, 'tsoureki' and attend the mass at church. That creates a bond between us and God.



'**Magiritsa**' is a kind of soup that we share after the forty- days fast and when Easter Day comes, all Greeks go outdoors to **spin the lamb**. We eat, drink, dance and have a wonderful time together...



## Arts

The ancient Greek civilization is unique and so interesting not only for Greeks, but for all the people around the world. Do not forget that the **Parthenon** is one of the most popular sights all over the world. People could learn a lot by visiting museums full of amazing exhibits.

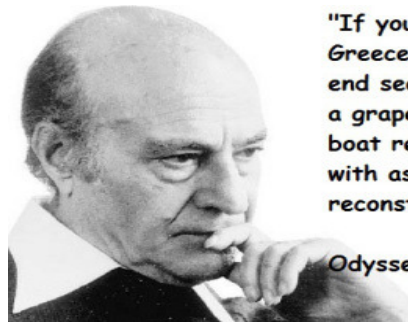


Our country has taught the world **Democracy** while our great philosophers like Socrates, Plato and Aristoteles have been teaching humanity of their way of thinking since ancient times.



Homer, the great poet of *Odyssey* and *Iliad* was Greek while most importantly, Greece gave birth to **Drama**, comedies and tragedies. The classics Sophocles, Aeschylus, Euripides and Aristophanes have produced masterpieces that last in time.

We are grateful to our grand poets Odysseas Elytis and George Seferis who won the Nobel Prize in **literature**, thus spreading Modern Greek **poetry** worldwide, as well as Ritsos, Kavafis and writers like Nikos Kazantzakis.



"If you deconstruct Greece, you will in the end see an olive tree, a grapevine, and a boat remain. That is, with as much, you reconstruct her."

Odysseas Elytis

**Music** plays irreplaceable role in our country. It is part of our daily life and we depend on it to have fun or relax. Theodorakis and Chatzidakis are two Greek Composers who have "made history".



Domenicos Theotocopoulos or El Greco was a great Greek painter who lived in Spain.

Let us not forget that words like: Philosophy, Poetry, Music, Architecture, Theatre, Mathematics, Geography, Physics, Astronomy are all Greek and show that it all started here!!!



## HISTORY

History has also made a glorious way around Greece. There are many archeological monuments in our country because of its rich history.

The battle in **Thermopiles** where Leonidas and the 300 fought against the Persian Empire without giving up, led to their sacrifice for freedom making us believe that power is in our hearts and minds.



**Alexander the Great** started from Macedonia in Greece and reached out to India, spreading Greek ideals and civilization!

Greek history ages back to the ancient times but it has also developed during the different centuries. It has always been involved in wars, even though it isn't a warmonger country.

Greeks were ruled by the Turks for 400 years, they revolted against the Ottoman Empire in 1821. Ever since Greece has become an independent country. Some of the "fighters" were Kolokotronis, Karaiskakis, Makrigiannis, Papaflessas, and many others. The **Greek War of Independence** in 1821 inspired many foreign artists like Lord Byron, who volunteered during the war.



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Heroic was the Greek resistance during **World War II**.

Greeks fought against Germany and Italy in 1940 at the Second World War, it was a big win against Nazism because we delayed Germany for about six months so Germany had to go and fight against Russia in winter. This was a big disadvantage for them. Greece fought against Germany for six months while France was surrendered in just five days!!! People all over the world were amazed at Greek heroism and courage.

Greeks have made a glorious passage around the Europe.



## Sports

Greeks are very fond of sports. We enjoy watching basketball matches and we have celebrated two golden medals in the EuroBasket in 1987 and 2005. Players like Nikos Galis, Panagiotis Giannakis as well as the contemporary Dimitris Diamantidis and Vassilis Spanoulis are great idols.



Football is the sport that we enjoy the most! Children play football all the time and when there is a great match on T.V. People gather to watch it together eating, drinking, commenting on it and having fun! Greece has also excelled on football by dominating the Euro in 2004.



The major contribution of our country to the world concerning Sports though, are the **Olympic Games!**



The Olympic Spirit was born in Greece in Ancient Times as the Games were first held here in Olympia. Wars used to stop during the Games and people united to celebrate. Nowadays the Olympic Games are hosted in different countries every four years keeping the spirit alive. Greece hosted the Modern Olympic Games in 2004 in Athens making us all proud!

Athletes like Pyros Dimas, Spyros Louis, Kostas Kenteris and so many more Greek Olympic winners have become heroes!



A very special event is the **Marathon** which is an annual event. People from all the countries in the world come to Athens to run the distance of 42 km, from the Marathon to the city of Athens, to honor the memory of Fidippidis.

The true meaning of the Marathon is not just winning. It is about being united for a common cause, enduring difficulties and keep trying!

Sports and athletes make Greek people proud, inspiring us to achieve our goals.



We really hope you have enjoyed the glimpse into our country!

The best way to get to know us better is to visit us anytime!

