Civilizations of the
Ancient World
SPRING 2025

MEETING 8

The Bronze Age Aegean

- *New Kingdom Egypt*
- *The Aegean*
- *Minoans and Mycenaeans*
- *Collapse of the Bronze Age*

1

Upcoming dates

- Monday, March 10 — Gilgamesh essay due
  upload to BlackBoard by midnight

- Tuesday, March 18 — Midterm Exam
  during our regular class meeting, in this room

- Sunday, March 2 — Post your Week 5 responses

2

Four things today

1 New Kingdom Egypt

2 The Aegean

3 Minoans and Mycenaeans

4 Collapse of the Bronze Age

3

Responses

4

Questions about whatever

5

The New Kingdom

6

Egypt during the New Kingdom
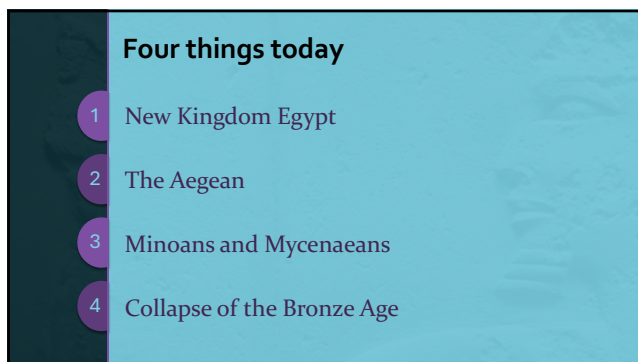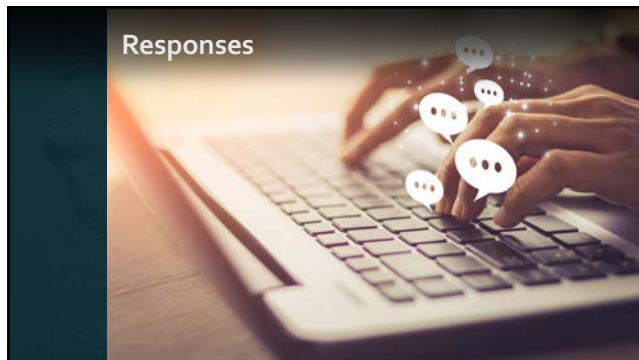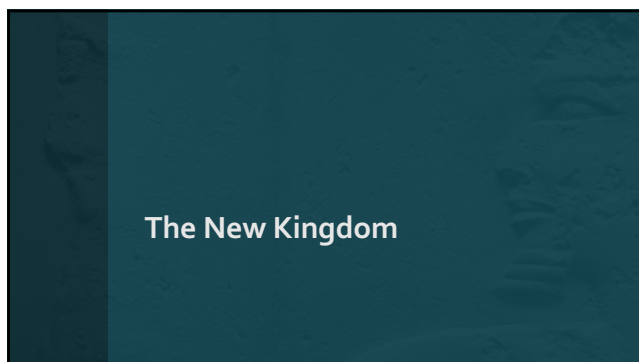
7

Hatshepsut

8

Akhenaten

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Nefertiti

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Nubia

11

Semitic labor

12

The world-views of Sumer and Egypt

- Humans and the natural world
- Humans and the divine
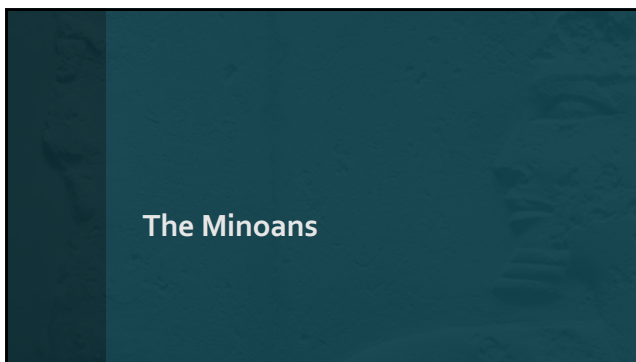- The ruler as intermediary

13

The Bronze Age Aegean
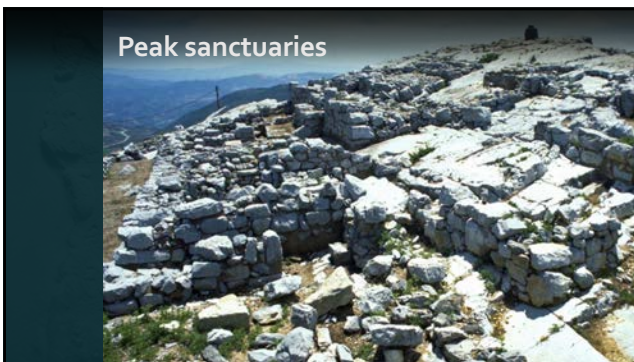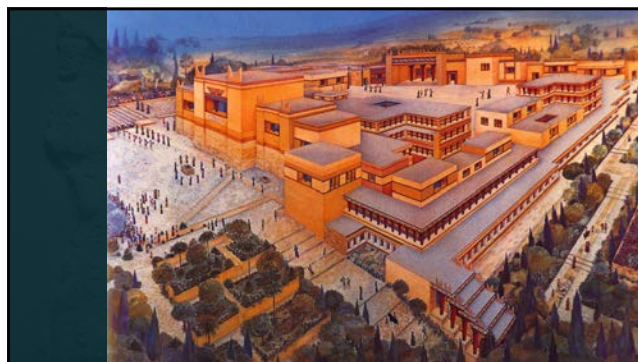
14

The Aegean in the Bronze Age

15

Cycladic civilization

16

The Minoans

17

Minoan Crete

18

19

Bull-leaping

20

Peak sanctuaries

21

22

23

24

Linear A

25

Palace-cities

26

27

Bronze Age economy

28

Hittites

Assyrians

Minoans

Egyptians

29

The coming of the Greeks
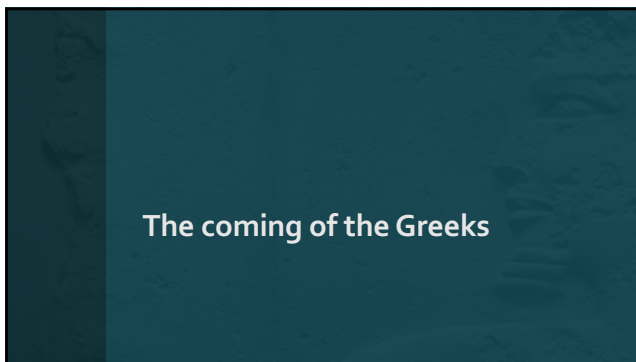
30

Indo-Europeans

- Decentralized
- Nonurban
- Tribal
- Pastoral

31

32

Words I-E Greeks had to borrow

- Maritime terms, words for the sea, shipping
  - (e.g. θάλασσα thálassa "sea")
- Words relating to Mediterranean agriculture
  - (e.g. ρέλαια (w)elaia "olive", Άμπελος ampelos "vine")
- Words regarding rulers, given by the populace
  - (e.g. Τύραννος Tyrannos "tyrant", ραναξ wanax "warrior-king")
- Building technology
  - (e.g. πύργος pyrgos "tower")
- Personal names and theonyms
  - (e.g. Οδυσσεύς Odysseus)
  - (e.g. Ερμής Hermes)
- Place names
  - -nth- (e.g. Κόρινθος Korinthos, Ζάκυνθος Zakynthos)
  - -ss- (e.g. Παρνασσός Parnassos)
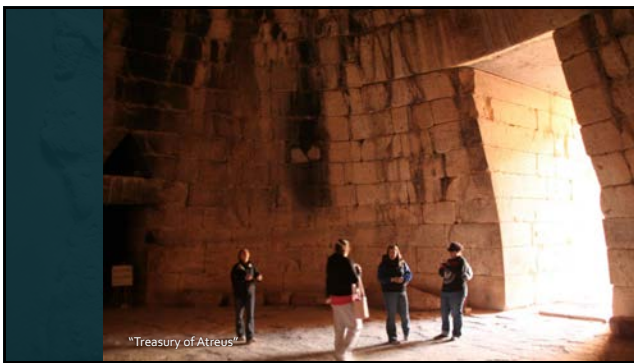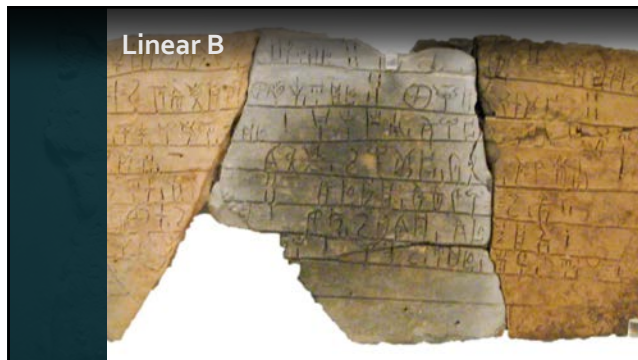 - -tt- (e.g. Λυκαβηττός Lykabettos)

33

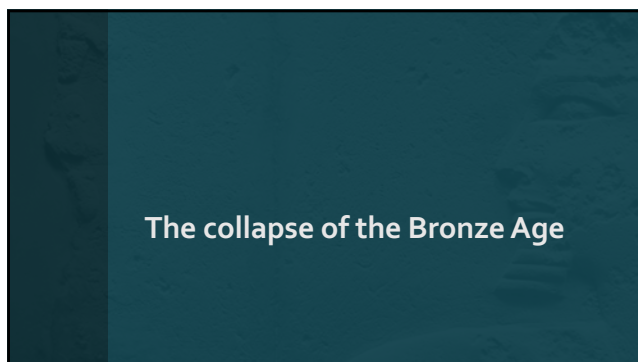**Mycenaean Greeks**

34

Mycenaean warfare

35

Lion Gate at Mycenae

36

Pylos throne room reconstruction

37

"Treasury of Atreus"

38

Mycenaean Period, 1400-1100 BCE
- Palaces; important fortresses
- Mycenaean settlements
- Expansion of Mycenaean influence (1400—1300 BCE)

Iolcus
Pitane
Orchomenus
Gla
Thebes
Athens
Mycenae
Tiryns
Pylos
Knossos

39

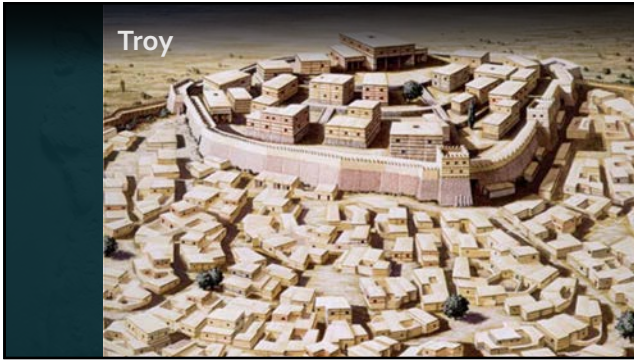**Linear B**

40

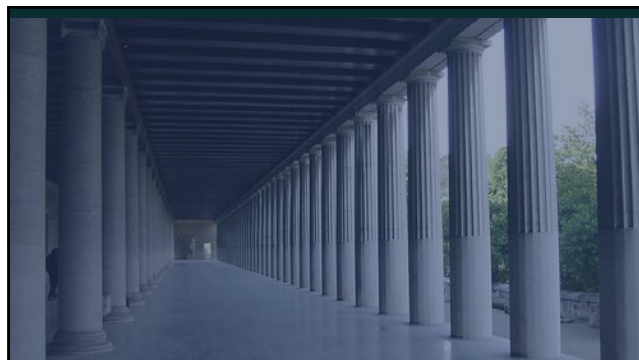**Michael Ventris**

41

The collapse of the Bronze Age

42

Troy

43

Collapse of the Bronze Age

44

45

46