

#### Unit 4 - Homework 1: The Golden Tripod and the Seven Sages of Greece

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To answer the following questions, read pages 9—12 in Unit 4.

1. Before the fishermen had finished reeling in their catch, they made a deal with merchants.

(i) What deal did the fishermen make with the merchants?

(ii) After the fishermen had finished reeling in their catch, why did they argue with the merchants over who should get to keep the golden tripod?

(iii) OPINION: In your opinion, who should have gotten to keep the golden tripod?

— *Explain your answer.*

(iv) Eventually, the Coans and the Milesians went to war over the tripod. Ultimately, how did they decide who should get to keep the tripod?

2. Eventually, the Coans and the Milesians agreed to give the golden tripod to a sage, but the sage to whom they offered the tripod declined to keep it, and so the tripod was given to another sage, who also declined the offer. In the end, the tripod was offered to seven different sages, and each one of the seven refused to keep the tripod. After the tripod had been offered to (and declined by) seven different sages, it was dedicated to a god. Who was that god?

3. The tripod was offered to seven different sages, and each one of the seven refused to keep the tripod.

(i) Who were those seven sages??

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

(d) \_\_\_\_\_

(e) \_\_\_\_\_

(f) \_\_\_\_\_

(g) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) After the tripod had been offered to (and declined by) seven different sages, it was dedicated to a god. Depending on the version of the golden tripod story, either one of three different sages was the sage who dedicated the tripod to the god. Who were those three sages?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

4. The golden tripod was offered to seven different sages, and each one of the seven refused to keep the tripod. Yet even though the Ancient Greeks disagreed about which one of the seven sages was the first to be offered the tripod, the Ancient Greeks agreed that the first sage to be offered the tripod was either one of two sages. Who were those two sages?

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

5. When he visited Lydia, Solon upset Croesus, who was King of Lydia.

(i) According to Solon, why wasn't the most beautiful thing of all in Lydia?

(ii) According to Solon, why wasn't King Croesus of Lydia the happiest man of all?

(iii) According to Solon, why wasn't Croesus the most fortunate man of all?

(iv) According to Solon, why *can't* we know whether or not someone *alive* is a happy person? According to Solon, why *can* we *only* know whether or not someone *dead* was a happy person?