SAQ Practice – *Persia and Greece*

Question 1 refers to the passages below.

“For that some should rule and others be ruled is a thing not only necessary, but expedient; from the hour of their birth, some are marked out for subjection, others for rule.”

*Aristotle, Politics, c. 340 B.C.E.*

“Nature herself intimates that it is just for the better to have more than the worse, the more powerful than the weaker, and in many ways she shows, among men as well as among animals, and indeed among whole cities and races, that justice consists in the superior ruling over and having more than the inferior.”

*Plato, Gorgias, C. 380 B.C.E.*

1. Answer parts A and B.
   
   A. Identify and explain TWO examples from the Greek city-states and/or Persia of attitudes toward society and social structure.

   Write only the FIRST sentence of an SAQ response (answer the question but don’t go into detail on the evidence).

   B. By using behaviors in either the Greek city-states or in Persia, identify ONE counterargument to the ideas presented in the above passages.

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   A. Identify and example TWO examples from the Greek city-states and/or Persia of attitudes toward society and social structure.

   Write only the FIRST sentence of an SAQ response (answer the question but don’t go into detail on the evidence).

   **A good response would include a discussion of the role of women with a possible analysis of the similarities and differences in the status of women in Athens, Sparta, and Persia.**

   **Another example might be the presence of slavery in Greece and Persia and the methods by which people became slaves (raids, conquering territory, etc.).**

   **A more advanced response would include a discussion of Plato and his opposition to Athenian democracy (e.g. “philosopher-kings”).**

   **A basic response would include a description of the social hierarchy in these areas and a discussion of the degree of rigidity of the social structure in these areas.**
B. By using behaviors in either the Greek city-states or in Persia, identify ONE counterargument to the ideas presented in the above passages.

Write only the FIRST sentence of an SAQ response (answer the question but don’t go into detail on the evidence).

A good response would include that, especially in Sparta, if a man performed well in war, he could rise in status.

Another example would be the status of Spartan women who ran their households: they were educated, could own property, and were not secluded in their homes.

Another example of lower classes having some political power would be the direct democracy of Athens, which allowed free-born men of any class the right to participate in government.

Another example would be the freedoms enjoyed by Persian women, such as property ownership and some economic independence.