



STUDY KIT 2

Title: THE ANCIENT AGORA OF ATHENS

Topic: Some of the most important buildings of classical Athens

Keywords: Ancient Agora, Democracy, Golden Age, Temples, Ionian order, Doric order, museum

Subject: HISTORY, ARTS, POLITICAL SCIENCE, ARCHAEOLOGY, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Cross-curricular Topic: CULTURAL HERITAGE, OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Level: Upper secondary

Age:16+

Number of students:30

Duration in minutes: 90

Place (classroom, outdoor etc.): outdoor

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School: RALLEIO GENIKO LYKEIO THILEON PEIRAIA

Language:ENGLISH

Overview:

Participants will walk through ancient Agora visiting one of the most important archaeological sites in the world. They will have to stop in order to answer questions and/ or perform tasks at particular points/ monuments on the way.

Objectives:

- **To learn about important sites and famous buildings of classical Athens**
- **To learn about the origins of democracy and compare the ancient Greek democratic system to modern ones**
- **To learn about the relationship between ancient Greek religion and Christianity**
- **To exercise by walking**

Learning material and tools:

- **Maps of ancient Agora**
- **Picture of the ancient Greek architectural orders**
- **Summary of the information that students need to study beforehand**

**Preparation:**

All the material will have been uploaded on Wikiloc application
AND/OR
printed on paper handouts in the form of Worksheets

Evaluation:

The answers on the Student's Worksheet

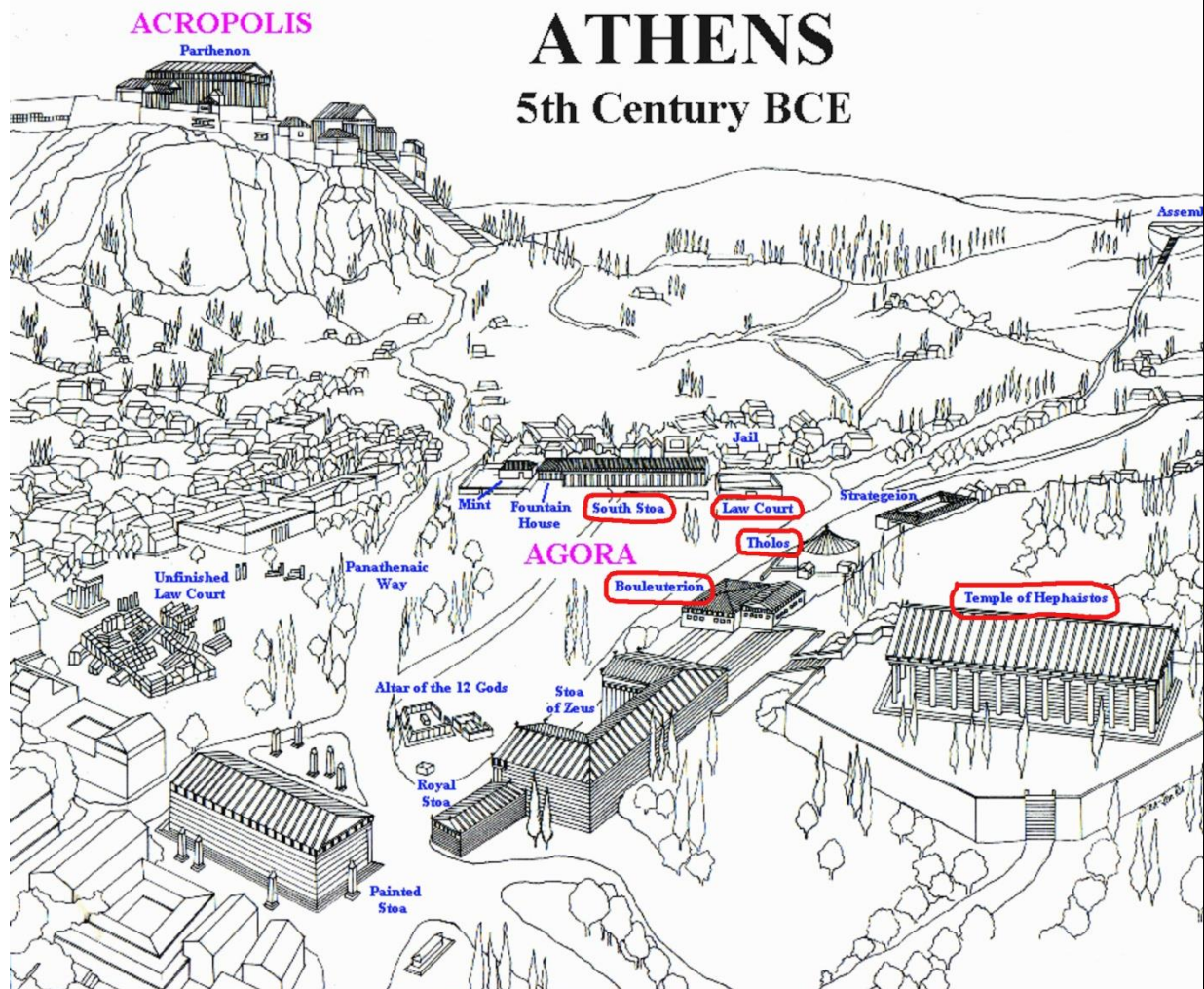
Extra material:

smartphone

Detailed description/instruction:

Students are divided into multinational groups of 3 (2 Greek students, 1 foreign student). Using their smartphones OR their maps they follow the track and stop at each waypoint to answer the relevant questions and do the relevant tasks.

Waypoint 1: ANCIENT AGORA (entrance)



- http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/eh351.jsp?obj_id=2485

It was the political, commercial, religious, social and cultural heart of ancient Athens. In the Neolithic period (about 3000 BC) it was used as a residential area. It became a public area in the 6th century BC. During the classical period, 5th century BC or the Golden Era of ancient Athens, there was extensive construction activity in the area. Many buildings were damaged or destroyed mainly in the Persian Wars (5th century BC) and in later wars in the 3rd and 6th centuries AD.

- **Why was this area important during the classical period?**

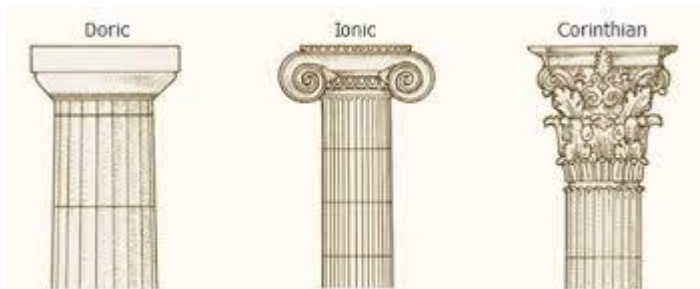
- **When were the most important buildings of the area constructed?**
- **Why were some of the buildings destroyed?**

Waypoint 2: TEMPLE OF HEPHAESTUS

http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/2/eh251.jsp?obj_id=6621

Situated on the top of Agoraios Kolonos Hill on the western side of Ancient Agora, the temple was devoted to god Hephaestus, protector of metal construction, and goddess Athena Ergani, protector of potters. It is of Doric architectural order. In the 7th century AD the temple was used as a Christian church. In modern times (1834 AD) the temple hosted the reception ceremony of the first King of modern Greece, Otto the Bavarian.

- **Which gods was the temple devoted to?**
- **Look at the pictures of Ionic and Doric architectural order. What is the architectural style of this temple and how can you tell?**



- **How is the temple connected to modern Greek times?**

Waypoint 3: BOULETIRION

http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/2/eh251.jsp?obj_id=10302

Bouleftirion was the house of the legislative body (Bouli). At that time there were 10 tribes in the region of Attica. Fifty citizens from each tribe served as representatives (prytáneis) in Vouleftirion for a 35-day term. At the end of this period, they were replaced by 50 other citizens from each tribe. This meant that the total number of representatives was 500 all year long. Bouli had



various duties the most important of which was to prepare the bills (drafts of new legislation or amendments) that would later be put to the vote by the Executive Body, Ecclesia, the popular assembly, open to all male citizens as soon as they qualified for citizenship. Bouli representatives (prytáneis) were accountable to Ecclesia at the end of their term of service.

- **How is this building connected to the democratic regime?**

Waypoint 4: THOLOS

http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/2/eh251.jsp?obj_id=10301

This cylindrical structure of the 5th century BC had various uses. It served as the dining venue for the representatives of Vouli. In fact one third of them could also spend the night there. It was the place where the keys to all the temples of the city were kept as well as the weights and measures of the Athenian commerce system.

- **What was the use of this building?**

Waypoint 5: HELIAIA (The House of the Judicial Body)

In classical years, the old court of Areus Pagus (whose members were aristocrats) was replaced by the court of Heliaia, a popular court of 6000 jurors, whose term of service was annual. The jurors were ordinary citizens who were paid a small fee, which acted as an incentive for their participation in common affairs. In addition, the draw determining which jurors would participate in a certain trial took place one day before the trial so as to avoid bribing.

- **How was Heliaia connected to the democratic regime?**



Waypoint 6: ROAD OF PANATHINAIA

http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/eh351.jsp?obj_id=2392

Panathinaia was the biggest religious festival organized in ancient Athens every four years. This is the route of the big religious procession in honor of goddess Athená, the protector of the city of Athens, one of the many ceremonies organized during Panathinaia festival. The procession, carrying the holy mantle and other gifts to the goddess, started from Kerameikos and ended at the Acropolis.

- **How is this road connected to the goddess Athená?**

Waypoint 7: MUSEUM OF ANCIENT AGORA

http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/1/eh151.jsp?obj_id=3290

The Museum of the Ancient Agora is housed in the reconstructed Stoa of Attalos, originally erected during the 2nd cent. BC as a gift of the king of Pergamon, Attalos II, to Athens. The exhibition in the Museum gallery holds archaeological finds dated from the Neolithic to the post-Byzantine and Ottoman periods. The most important exhibits are the objects associated with the various departments of civic life and the institutions of the Athenian Democracy and are dated from the Classical and Late Classical periods. Among them are exhibited a clay water-clock, used as a timer for public speakers and potsherds inscribed with names of illustrious political personalities of the 5th cent. BC Athens, which were used as ballots in the process of ostracism.

- **Take a photo of the exhibits that you found the most impressive. What are they and why did they make an impression on you?**



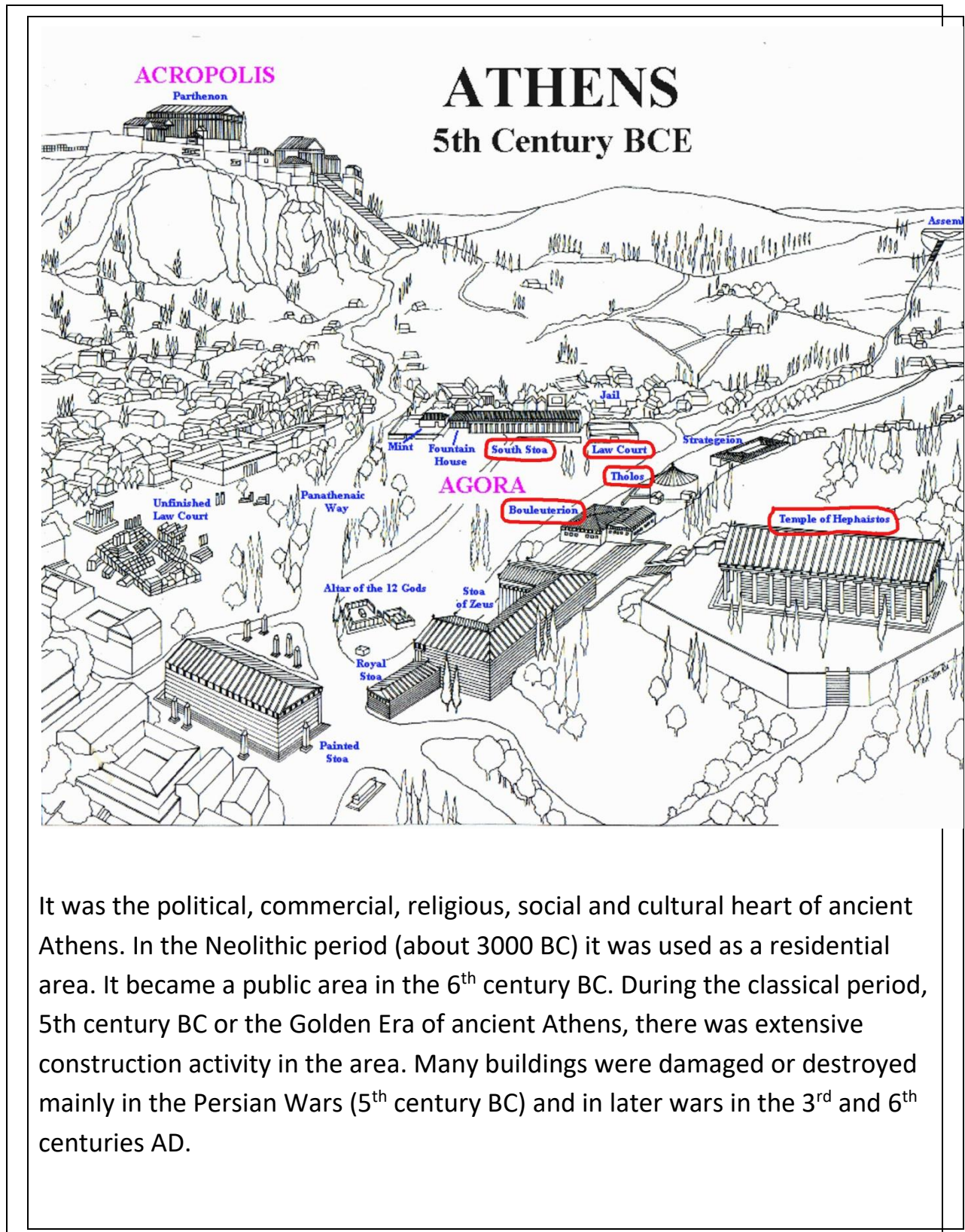
STUDENT WORKSHEET

ANCIENT AGORA STUDENTS' WORKSHEET

STUDENT NAMES

NAME	NATIONALITY

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- **Why were some of the buildings destroyed?**

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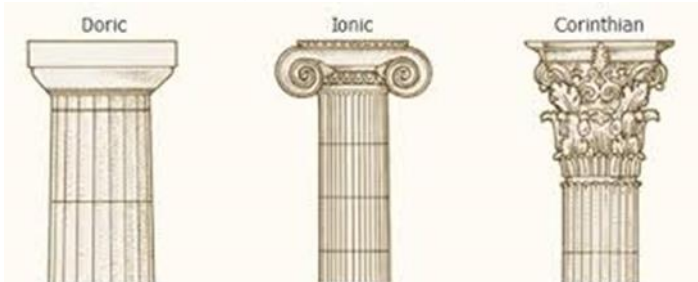
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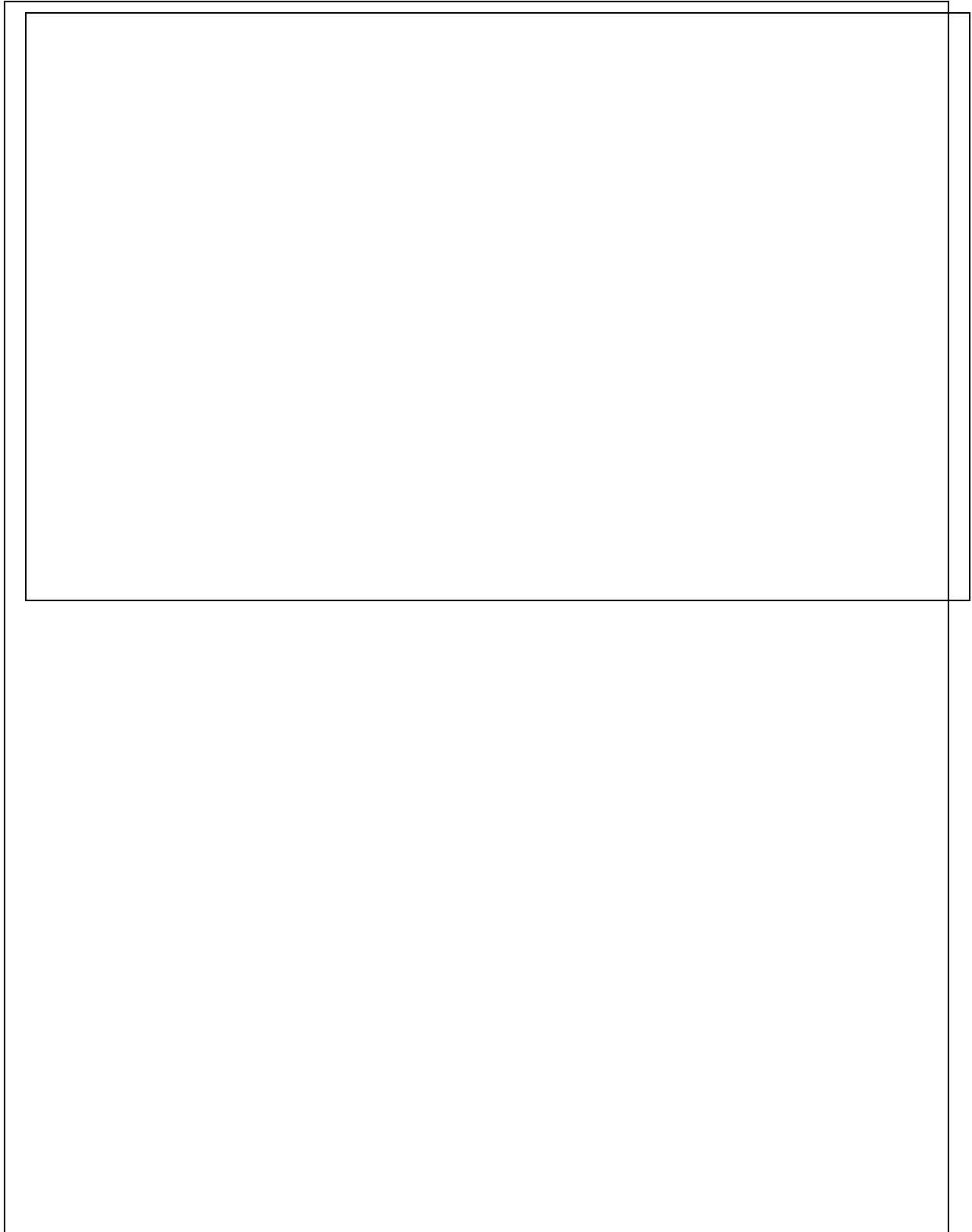
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