

Democracy in Ancient Athens

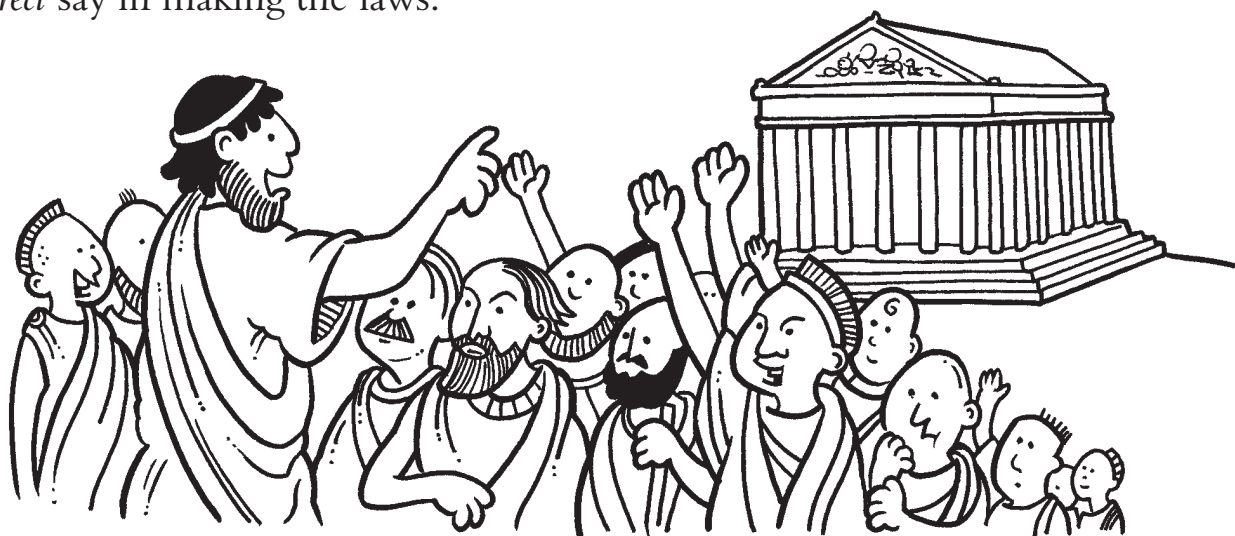
Who were the citizens?

- men who were born free (not slaves)
- men whose parents were also from Athens

Assembly

- All citizens had the right to speak and vote at the Assembly.
- There had to be at least 6,000 citizens to hold a meeting.

In a population of no more than 45,000 citizens every citizen *could* have *his* say. We call the Ancient Athenian system direct democracy because every citizen had a *direct* say in making the laws.



Citizens of Athens were freeborn men who had Athenian parents. They had power and rights but along with these came duties.

Rights	Duties
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to participate in the government of Athens • to take turns to lead the Council of 500, which thought up laws • to vote on those laws, talking over any changes they wanted to make to them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to participate in the government of Athens • to volunteer to be judges and jury in the law courts • in times of war, to fight for Athens