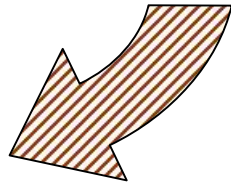
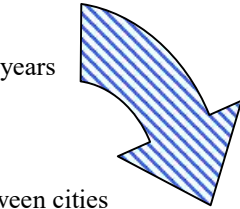


ANCIENT GREEK LITERATURE

(*reliable and precise dating is adduced only on the left)

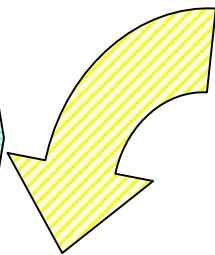
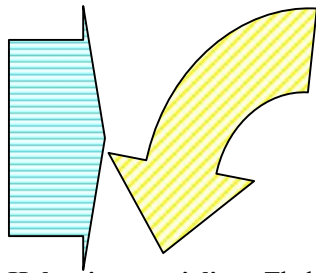
- 609 **THEISTIC IDEALISM:** dream meditation
- 608 a series of ferocious 'sacred wars'
- 607 **Mysticism:** Epimenides dreamt in a cave for 57 years
- 606 he writes religious epic *Theogonia, Kretika*
- 605 *On Offerings, Kathasmoi* - purification songs
- 604 *On the Origin of Kouretes and Korybantes*

- 603 **Militant religious fundamentalism:** hatred between cities
- 602 priest Epimenides exorcises Athens
- 601 **Amphictyons' polemarchy**
- 600 amphictyons' sacred war 600-590
- 599 their siege of harbour Kirrha
- 598 Megara conquered Salamina
- 597 but Athens helped to reconquer it in 594
- 596 a revival of epic heroism: Stasinus' *Kypria*

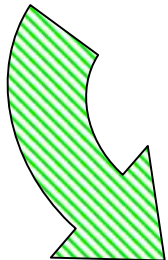


BRIGHT AGE OF CENTRALISED AUTARCHY

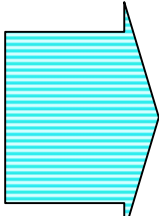
- 595 **Pittakos and tyrant autarchy**
- 594 Solon's social reforms 593
- 593 *seisachteia* - pardoning all debts
- 592 tyrant Pittakos in Mytilene
- 591 tyrant Thrasybulos in Miletos
- 590 Periandros forbade selling slaves
- 589 the sacred war between Phokaia
- 589 and Thessaly, peasants' rebellion
- 588 **Popular reformation:** social reforms
- 588 **Hylozoic materialism:** Thales of Miletus, Anaximandros
- 587 the world arose from four primary elements: air, earth, water and fire
- 587 **Seven Sages:** Solon, Thales, Bias, Cleobulos, Pittakos, Periandros
- 586 classicism, humanism, the philosophy of the Golden Mean
- 586 people should enjoy all pleasures of life in an appropriate measure



- 585 **Alcaean aesthocracy**
- 585 court elegance, poets invited to courts
- 584 Alkaios entertains the court in Mytilene
- 583 Sapho takes care of revels in Lesbos
- 582 Mimnermos composes amorous elegies
- 581 Alcman writes erotic love poems in Sparta
- 581 **Sensualism:** amorous motifs
- 580 epicurean hedonism
- 579 cult of love, bliss and beauty



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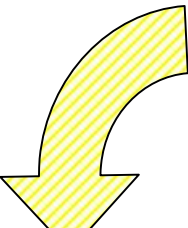
Popular coarse realism
Fable: Aisopos, animal fables
Iambic satire: Hipponax of Ephesus
Archilochos of Paros, satiric poetry
the philosophy of humours
burlesque humour, pragmatic empirism

-572 **Nemean spiritualism**
-571 from 573 Nemean Games:
-570 a mortuary and funerary festival
-569 in honour of Ophialtes bit by a snake
-568 Aristeas: mystical dream epic *Arimaspia*
-567 **Pherekydes theocracy**
-566 Pherekydes: *Theogonia*
-565 *Heptamychos*: allegoric legend in prose
-564 (A Cave with Seven Corners)

-563 **Allegorical mysticism** **New militantism**
-562 *Abaris*, mystical epic on Hyperboreans c. 566
-561 Lydian king Kroisos
-560 waged a war with Ephesos
-559 his battle with Sparta in 560 at Oinoe
-558 **Kroisos' polemarchy**
-556 Sparta beats Argos in 546?

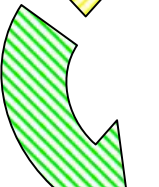
-555 Cheilon's reforms in Sparta 556/5
-554 popular social reformism

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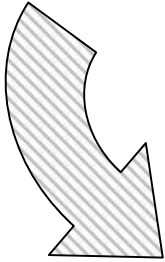
Peisistratian communism
Peisistratos' agrarian reforms
pantheistic and cosmological materialism
Anaximandros and his pupil Anaximenes
the Milesian school of hylozoic materialism
Anaximandros writes his book *On Nature*
Xenophanes: satiric *silloi*
against philosophers, his essay *On Nature*

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Anacreontic sensualism
Anacreon stays at Polycrates' court
philosophical hedonism
subjective materialism
Peisistratos and Polycrates' court elegance
Sappho, Mimnermos, amorous love poetry

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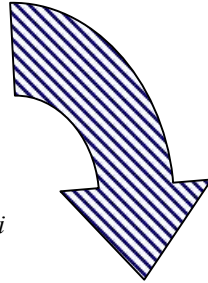


Pythagorean formalism

Pythagoras' geometric studies
a turn to mathematical philosophy
Anaximenes writes letters to Pythagoras
his theory of air as primordial substance
his theory of *apeiron* 'infinity'
he discovered mathematical ratios
between tones in the musical scale

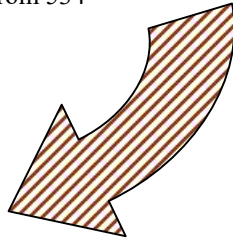
-526 Onomacritan theocracy

-525 Peisistratos' court visited by a group of
-524 **Orphic Mystics:** Onomakritos,
-523 Lasos, Orfeus of Croton and Zopyros
-523 Zopyros: epic *The Descent of Orpheus to Hades*
-522 Pythagorean religious sectarianism
-521 Pythagoreans abandon geometry and take
-520 to studying theosophy, Pythagoras: *Hieroi Logoi*
-518 Pythagorean bible *Sacred Words*
-517 **Tragedies** Phrynichos, Choirilos: tragedy *Alope*
-517 Thespis writes his first tragedies in masques from 534



-516 Tyrannicides' overthrow and polemarchy

-515 Peisistratos' son Hipparchos assassinated 514
-514 by Alcmeonids who called Sparta for help
-513 Sparta attacks the Peisistratids' in Athens
-513 with assistance of Thessaly
-512 tyrant Hippias expelled in -510
-512 the Peisistratids were murdered by
-511 the Tyrannicides Harmodius and Aristogeiton
-510 reign of Peisistratids replaced by the Tyrannicides
-509 **Hymnology.** Bacchylides: paians, Pindaros: heroic odes

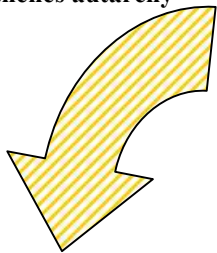


-508 DARK AGE OF PLURALISTIC OLIGARCHY

-507 Cleisthenes autarchy

Cleisthenes' reforms 509
parliament *bule* extended to 500 members
tribal *phyle* cancelled and in -503
phyle are replaced by district organisation

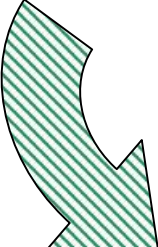
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Eleatic ontism


Eleatic school at Elea: Xenophanes, Zeno,
Parmenides deny the existence of void,
nothingness and not-being,
hence they also refute any physical motion

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Ionian resistance
Ionian islands try to fend off Persian attacks
female poetesses Myrtis and Coprinna
Aischylos writes a tetralogy of tragedies
about the sufferings of Greek women in conquered
cities: *The Suppliants*, *The Phrygian Women*,
Pindaros writes his Pindaric heroic odes
celebrating Olympic winners and military heroes

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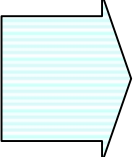


Themistoclean democracy
Cleisthenes introduces *ostrakismos*
Argive slaves' rebellions, Alcmeonids ostracised
from 487 *archontes* elected at random by lot
Popular realism: Susarion's megarian farce
Epicharmos' burlesque parodies, *Odysseus*
as a Deserter, *Heracles at centaur Pol's*
in 480 Themistocles beats Persians
at Thermopylai and Salamis

-479 **Kimón's naval technocracy Formalism**
-478 Kimon elected *strategos* from 479
-477 Athenian naval alliance from 478
-476 based on the island of Delos
-475 **Formalism** in fine arts
-474 painters Polygnotos and Polycleitos
-473 **Eleatic formalism** in philosophy
-472 Zeno of Elea turns to mathematical paradoxes
-471 Theognios of Megara: *Gnomai*, *Gnomologia*

-470 **Kimón's oligarchy** from -471
-469 Sophokles' religious tragedies,
-468 Aischylos: tragedy *The Bone-gatherers*
-468 Kimon made Athens wage a sacred war
-467 to conquer the isle of Skyros to get
-466 Theseus' bones in -468
-465 Spartan war with Attica, -469?
-464 areopagus ostracised Themistocles
-463 Polygnotos' & Polycleitos' monumentalism

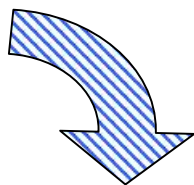
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Messenian pauperism
Messenian peasants' rebellion, the so-called 3rd Messenian
war lasted 10 years, 464-454
Kimon was not allowed to help
Spartans against their slaves

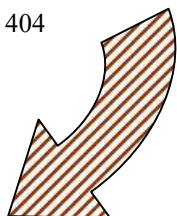


- 413 Spartans start the Decelean war 414-404
- 412 moral nihilism: Thracymachos, Critias
- 411 Callicles: '[human] rights equal power'
- 410 Sophocles and Antiphon contrive
- 409 a oligarchic *coup d'état* in 411
- 408 Euripides' mad tragedies: *Orestes* 408



-406 Critias' oligarchy

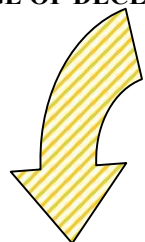
- 405 Spartan hegemony and invasion in Athens 404
- 404 Critias' oligarchic overthrow 404/3
- 403 Lysandros and his rule in Sparta
- 402 winning hegemony over the sea
- 401 Athens' naval fleet defeated in 405
- 400 Lysandros designated local rulers
- 399 *harmostai* to control subdued towns



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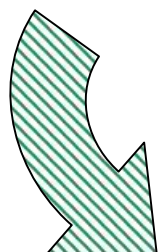
-397 DARK AGE OF DECENTRALISED OLIGARCHY

- 395 **Konon's autarchy** Corinthian war 395-386
- 394 Konon destroyed Sparta's naval fleet 394
- 393 Athens, Thebes, Argos and Corinth
- 392 in coalition against Sparta



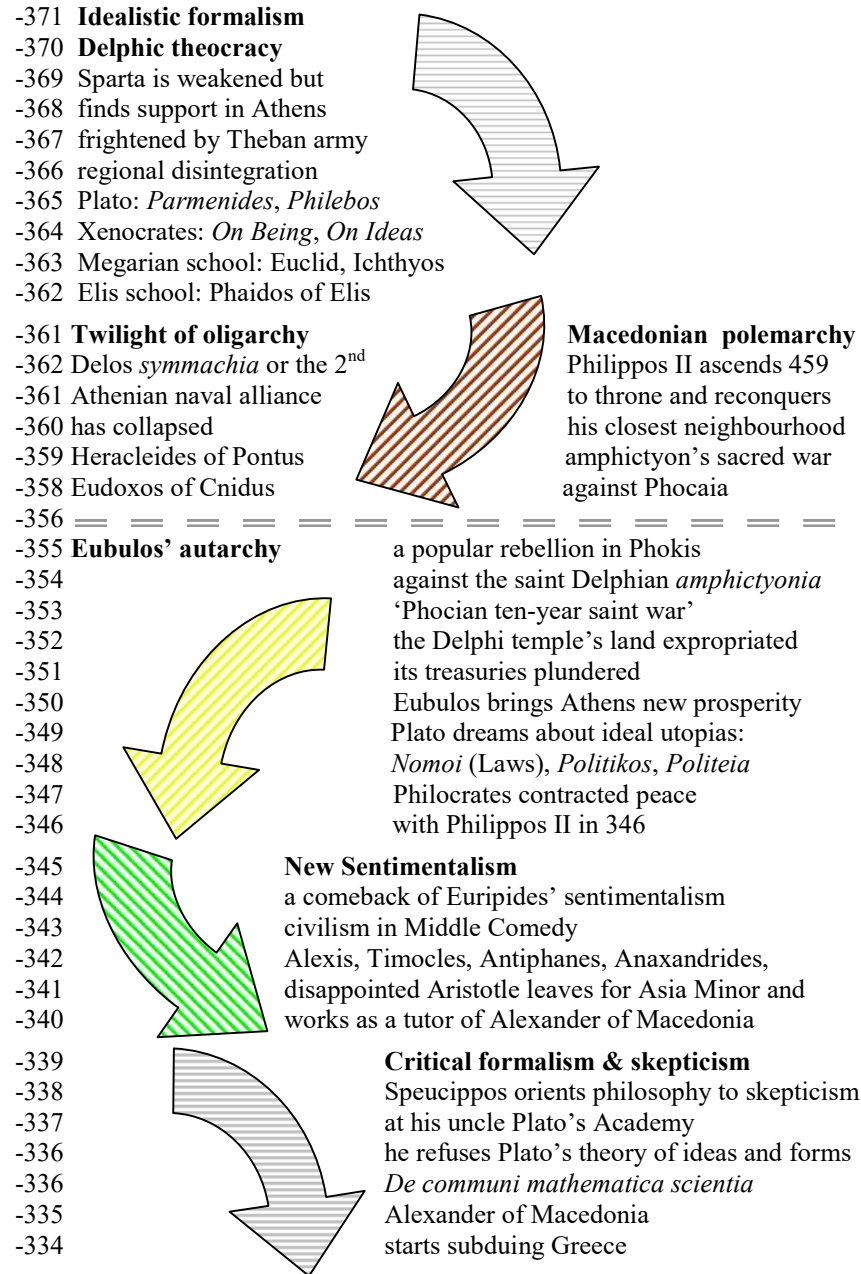
- 391 **Educational humanism:** Xenophon, Antisthenes, Isocrates
- 389 **Cynics:** Antisthenes, Diogenes

- 388 **Dionysios aesthocracy**
- 387 revival of court life at Syracuse, Sparta and Macedonia, Plato, Aristippos and Aischines stay at court
- 386 Antalkidas peace in 386
- 385 **Hedonism:** Aristippos of Cyrene, Plato
- 384 Aristippos: *On the Luxury of the Ancients*
- 383 Plato: *Phaidros*, on beauty and Eros
- 382 poet Philoxenus of Cythera at Syracuse:
- 381 *Deipnon* (Dinner), on luxury at Sicilian courts



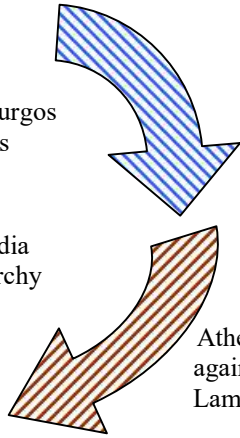
- 378 **Anti-Spartan resistance Post-Democracy**
- 377 2nd Athenian naval alliance 378-355
- 376 Diogenes preaches his Cynicism
- 375 the bloom of Old Comedy
- 374 popular realism
- 373 Sparta defeated by Boeotia in 371
- 372 Theban military hegemony 371-362





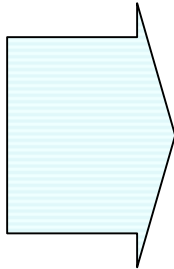
- 333 **Greek catastrophism**
- 332 Greek towns cherish
- 331 catastrophic visions
- 330 leading Athenian politician Lykurgos
- 329 anti-Macedonain party in Athens
- 328 Deinarchos, Hypereides

- 327 **Makedonian polemarchy**
- 326 expedition to Persia and India
- 325 Theopompos on new oligarchy
- 324 Alexandros deified and
- 323 worshipped as a god
- 322 heroic historiography
- 321 inquisition: Theophratos
- 320 sued for impiety



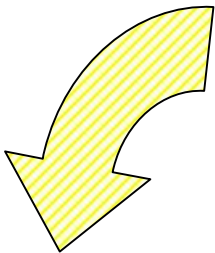
Athens revolts
against Macedonia in
Lamian war 1313-322

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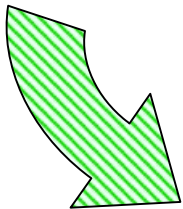
Demetrius' democracy
Demetrios of Phalera's democratic rule in Athens
neo-cynism: Krates
New Comedy (*komoedia nea*):
Menadros, Diphilos, Philemon
Peripatetic School: Theophrastos
Duris of Samos, Dikaiarchos

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HELLENISTIC ABSOLUTISM
Hellenistic autarchy
Hellenistic rulers establish autarchy
and centralised state organisation
Demetrios of Phalera installs democracy
and the bloom of sciences in Athens 317-307
Utopianism: Euhemeros, Iambulos
Theodoros Atheos, Zenon of Citium
Atheism: Theodoros Atheos

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Erotic sensualism
Epicureism: Epicuros, Metrodoros
Erotic elegy: Philetas of Kos
Hermesianax z Kolofon, elegy *Leontion*
Atomism: Epicuros, Metrodoros
Epicuros: "Live and let others live."
he teaches the art of blissful life in his garden
Stoics found a school of Stoa at Athens, 300

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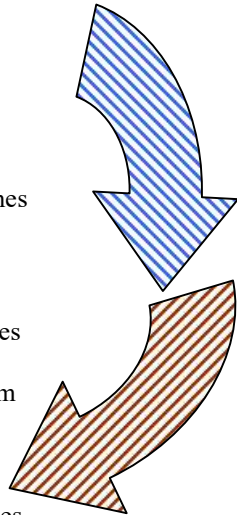


Subdominant democracy
in Hellenistic autocracies
Peripatetic materialism
Straton of Lampsakos
Popular satyric realism:
Bion Borysthenes
Timon of Phleius
Cynic stoicism:
Zenon of Citium

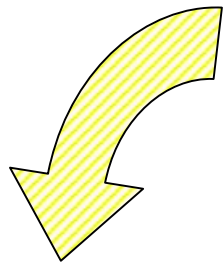
Galatean military crisis
from 280 Celts attack Thrace,
Macedonia, Greece and Anatolia
social and cultural crisis

Catastrophic stoicism:
Zenon of Citium, Cleanthes
Menippean satire: Bion Borysthenes
Menippos of Gadara

Athenian traditionalism
Anti-Macedonian nationalism
Athenians wage the war of Chremonides
against Macedonians (267-261)
Philochoros of Athens, Zenon of Citium
revival of cults and astrology
Alexandrian Pleiad of tragicians:
Homerus, Philiscus, Lycophron,
Alexander Aetolus, Sositheus, Aeantides



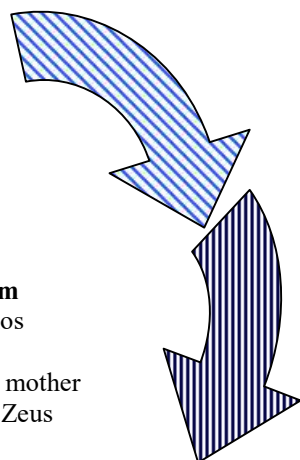
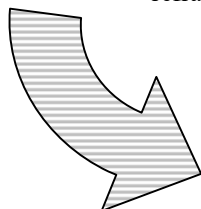
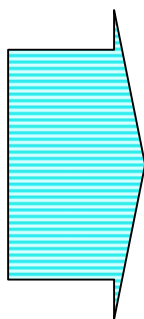
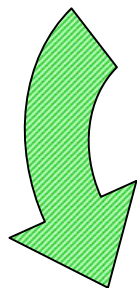
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Alexandrian neoclassicism
classicist learned amorous poetry
erotic elegies and epigrams
Coma Berenices (The lock of Berenice)
Apollonius of Rhodes: *Argonautica*
Alexandros Aitolos
Alexandrian philologism
Kallimachos: *Pinakes*, 390 volumes
literary history and biography

Epicurean elegism
epyllion: petty erotic stories
Eratosthenes: *Hermes and Erigoné*

- 249 *Astraea*, reincarnations in stars
- 247 **Epicurean stoa**
- 246 stoic philosophers Ariston of Chios
- 245 Cleanthes, Herillos, Dionysios the Renegade
- 244 preach the philosophy of bliss and pleasure
- 243 Herillos: the goal of life is knowledge and bliss
- 242 Cleanthes: works *The Art of Loving*, *On Lust*,
On Beautiful Things, *On Love*
- 245
- 244 **Spartan democratic reformation**
- 243 between 245-241 Agis IV carries out
- 242 democratic agrarian reforms in Sparta
- 241 his army defeats Aratos and the Achaian Alliance
- 240 Agis IV was sued and strangled by oligarchs
- 239 **NEW SKEPTICISM**
- 238 Arkesilaos (315-240) fights against Stoics,
- 237 he preaches scepticism and refutes stoic
- 236 cataleptic criteria of truth and veracity, there are no
- 236 objective criteria of truth, he proposes *epoché*,
- 235 refraining from enouncing one's conclusion
- 233
- 232 **Stoic formalism**
- 231 Chrysippos systematised mathematics
- 230 developed formal and propositional logic
- 230 the mathematical theory of number one
- 229 Sfairros: consideration *On Predicates*,
- 228 treatise *On contradictions*
- 227 **New conservative traditionalism**
- 226 **Stoic fundamentalism**
- 225 Chrysippos converts to religious piety
- 224 he writes theological treatises
- 223 *On Divination*, *On Gods*
- 222 **Providencialism**: work *On Providence*
- 221 defence of old philosophical traditions
- 220 *On Ancient Natural Philosophers*
- 219 **Stoic decadence**
- 218 **Stoic catastrophism and apocalypticism**
- 217 Chrysippos foresees catastrophic scenarios
- 216 he defends decadent morals,
- 215 he justifies coprophilia and incest with a mother
- 214 he apologues blasphemy and offences of Zeus



-178 **Catonian Puritanism Plautine realism in Rome**
 comedies and farces whose heroes are slaves
 -177 **Plebeian democracy:** plebeian party wins in Rome
 -176 Cato becomes a censor of moral
 -175 sober reaction again genteel philhellenism
 -174 and polite elegance of the well-to-do's salons
 -173 after the death of Philippos V in 179
 -172 Perseus became a sovereign ruler of Greece
 -171 Greek culture maintains its political independence
 -171 Apollodoros of Seleukia
 -170 his efforts to acquiesce stoicism with cynics

-169 **Spiritualismus**
 -168 the twilight of the Macedonian empire
 -167 and Greek cultural hegemony
 -166 consul Aemilius Paullus beats Perseus at Pydna 168
 -165 Romans strengthen their reign over Greece
 -164 Polybios (c.200-c.118) arrives at Rome in 168 as a hostage
 -163 chronicle *Historiae*, pragmatic historiography, reaching to 146
 -162 *Tactics, On Inhabitability of Equatorial Countries*
 -161 **Anomalism:** stoic Crates of Mallos became a head of
 -161 the philological school at Pergamon in Asia Minor
 -160 alegorical interpretations of Homer, hermeneutics

-159 **Astrology:** spread of sectarian cults and occult superstitions
 -158 Babylonian astronomer Seleukos defends heliocentrism
 -157 **Middle Stoa:** stoic Antipater of Tarsus: 2 books *On Divination*,
 -156 *On Superstitions*, on the deities of fate
 -157 stoic Diogenes of Babylon: *On Divination, On Athena*
 -156 stoic Panaitios: *On Oracles, On Providence*
 -155 Panaitios, Antipatros and Carneades leave for Rome
 -154 **Fundamentalism:** Cato struggles with philhellenism
 -153 Cato and Antipater of Tyre against Greek effeminate manners
 -152 administrative protraction stop Greek scholars
 -151 from founding philosophical schools in Rome

-150 **New humanism** under Ptolemy VI in Egypt
 -148 Egyptian clerk Heraclitos Lembos procures
 -147 excerpts of *Historiai*
 -146 **Roman humanism:** schools of Greek learning
 -145 stoic Panaitios, historian Polybios,
 -144 academician Carneades, peripatetic Kritolaos
 -143

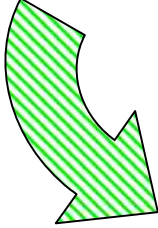
-141		New philhellenism:
-140		Scipion's circle in Rome revives Greek traditions
-139		Polybios and Panaitios heading literary companies
-138		of Roman aristocratic circles
-137		Laelius, satirist Gaius Lucilius, playwright Pacuvius
-136		Ammonios of Alexandria: <i>Commentaries to Homer</i> ,
-135		<i>On People Ridiculed by Comedies</i>
-135		
-134		Democratism
-133		a wave of slaves' rebellions in Sicily
-132		the Gracchus brothers become leaders of democrats
-131		attempts to carry out agrarian reforms
-130		Aristonicos leads slave's rebellions in Asia Minor
-129		Historical encyclopaedism
-128		Apollodoros of Athens: <i>On Gods</i> , Greek mythology
-127		Panaitios: <i>On philosophical schools</i> , trend analysis
-126		Pseudo-Apollodoros: <i>Bibliothēke</i> ,
-125		encyclopaedia of Greek mythology
-124		Dionysios Thrax: <i>Techne grammatike</i> ,
-123		the first systematic grammar of Greek morphology
-122		peripatetic Diodoros of Tyre
-121		New conservative decadence
-121		democratic tendencies suppressed by oligarchy
-120		Linguistic anomalism: Dionysios Thrax
-119		transition from official standard to dialectal irregularities
-118		interest in uniqueness and individuality of styles
-117		a new look at prosody and parts of speech
-116		Traditionalism: theology of rituals
-115		Panaitios' treatise <i>On Duties</i> , observing rites and ceremonies
-114		stoic Hecaton of Rhodos <i>On Duties</i>
-113		Late Middle Stoa
-112		Panaitios acts as a scholarchos of the Stoic School
-111		in Athens until his death in 109
-110		Dardanos of Athens becomes his successor
-109		stoic Hecaton of Rhodos: <i>On Virtues</i> , <i>On Passions</i>
-108		Mnesarchos of Athens, on virtues of orators
-107		Poseidonios, Panaitios' disciple in Athens
-106		the Stoic School splits into several directions
-105		

Table 72. Periodic trends in ancient Greek literature

Extract from Pavel Běliček: *Systematic Poetics II: Literary Ethnology and Sociology: the Ethnic Origins of Oral Folklore and the Social Growth of Literary Genres*. Prague 2017, ISBN 978-80-86580-47-0, pp. 324-336, Table 72.