



Name: _____ Class/Teacher: _____

West Pediment:

The West Pediment sculptures tell the story of a contest between Greek gods Athena and Poseidon to become the patron god of Athens. Poseidon, god of the seas, gifted the Athenians a salt water stream representing control of the seas. Athena, goddess of wisdom, warfare, crafts, and weaving, gifted the first olive tree, representing wisdom and industry. Athena won the contest, and legend says her first olive tree still stands on the Acropolis in Greece today.





Name: _____ Class/Teacher: _____

East Pediment:

The sculpture in the East Pediment of the Parthenon tells the story of how Athena become one of the 12 Olympian gods. Zeus, king of the Greek gods, sits in his throne watching Nike, goddess of victory, crown Athena with a victory wreath. Zeus swallowed Athena's mother, Metis, but Athena, goddess of wisdom, warfare, crafts, and weaving, kept growing inside her father until bursting from his head. Athena was born as a fully-grown Greek goddess complete with weapons and armor!

