Athenian Military Innovations

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was the trademark of the Athenian military.

The Athenian army was no match for the size and effectiveness of the Spartan army, but what they lacked on land, they made up for at sea, with an innovation that completely changed the face of naval warfare and would make Athens the dominant naval power for a century or more.

**The Athenian Trireme**

The Athenian trireme was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that was different from anything else in Greece.

At the time, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had primarily consisted of attempting to either\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_an enemy's ship, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The trireme's special \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ allowed it to do things that other ships, at the time, could not do.

It's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ran the length of the ship, as in most ships, but it also stuck out \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with bronze plates.

This projection was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that became the ship's primary weapon.

Until the trireme, ramming opposing ships was not done because of the extraordinary speed it required. But the trireme was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, which aided its speed and maneuverability.

What aided it even more were the \_\_\_\_\_\_ rows of oars on each side, manned by a total of \_\_\_\_\_ oarsmen.

Using the oars, the trireme could reach a maximum speed of \_\_\_\_\_\_ knots, or about \_\_\_\_\_ mph.

The trireme was also fitted with a huge \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that it used in combat conditions to give the rowers a break.

