

Ancient History Source Booklet

Source A

Faience statue wearing a theatre mask



Source B

Athenaeus, *The Deipnosophists*, Book 5.

After them was a four-wheeled wagon ... drawn by a hundred and eighty men; and in it was placed an image of Dionysus ... pouring libations of wine out of a golden goblet ... And the wagon was followed by priests and priestesses, and newly initiated votaries, and by companies of every nation ... And next to that another four-wheeled wagon was drawn along ... by three hundred men. And on it there was a [huge] wine-press ... full of grapes; and sixty satyrs were trampling on the grapes, singing a song in praise to the wine-press, to the music of a flute ... and the new wine ran out over the whole road ... there was a figure of Dionysus, riding upon an elephant, [with] golden trappings; and on his neck he had a crown of ivy-leaves made of gold; and he was followed by five hundred maidens dressed in purple tunics, with golden girdles.

Source C

Achilles Tatius *Leucippe and Clitophon*. 5.2

It chanced to be the time of the sacred month of the great god whom the Greeks call Zeus, and the Egyptians Serapis, and a torch procession took place. And this was the greatest spectacle I ever saw; for it was evening and the sun had set, but night was nowhere to be seen – rather, another sun had arisen, refracted into countless fragments. For then I thought the city was competing with the heavens for beauty.

Source D

Structure on an island just off the coast of Alexandria.



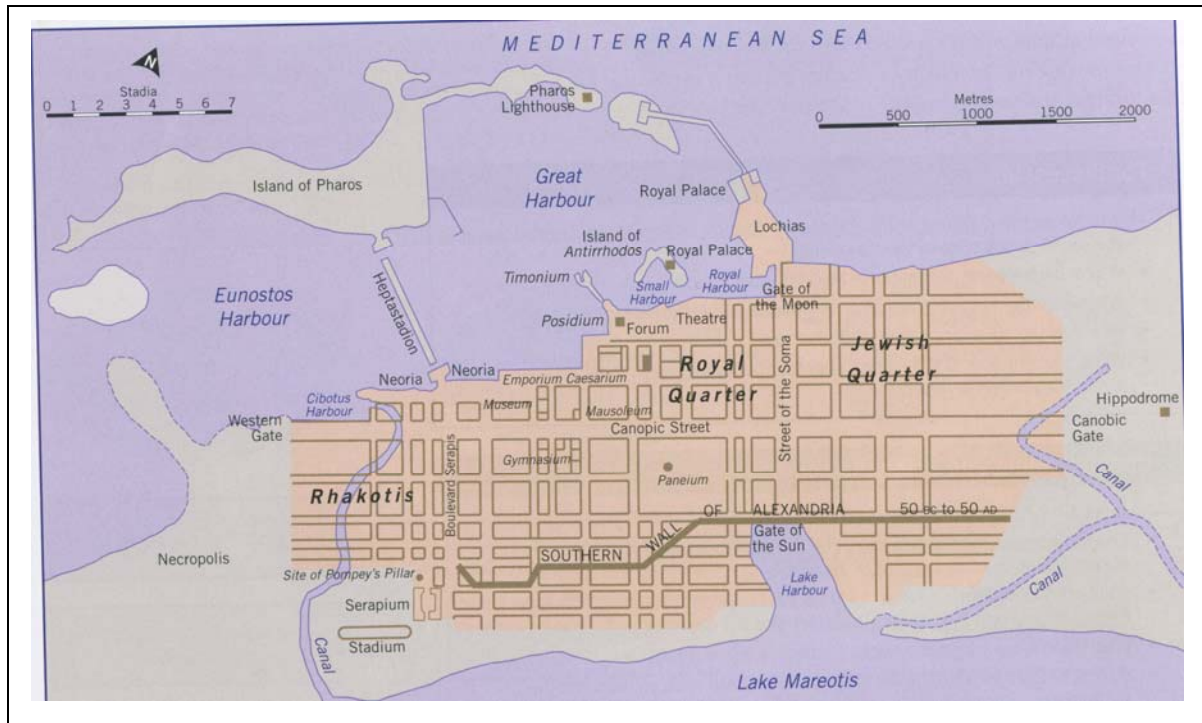
Source E

Achilles Tatius, *Leucippe and Clitophon*. 5.1.1-6

As I was coming up to the city entrance ... suddenly the beauty of the city struck me like a flash of lightning. My eyes were filled to the brim with pleasure. A double row of columns led straight across the entire city ... Between the columns there lay the city's open area. Crossing it is such a long journey that you would think you were going abroad, though you are staying at home. Proceeding a little distance into the city, I came to the quarter named for Alexander himself, where I saw a whole other city, one whose beauty was split up in separate sections: for a row of columns went in one direction and another just as long crossed it at right angles. ... The totality of its beauty was beyond my eyes' scope.

Source F

A map of Alexandria in 1st Century BC and the 1st Century AD



Source G

Ray, J. 'Alexandria.' in Walker, S. and Higgs, P. *Cleopatra. From History to Myth*. The British Museum Press. 2001.

The languidness of Alexandria, at least in the imagination, is unmistakable, but it contrast with another aspect of the city, its restlessness. Analogies are half-truths, but it is not too fanciful to call Alexandria the New York of the ancient world. It was laid out in a grid pattern by the sea, to take advantage of the prevailing winds. Its colonnades were gleaming white, at least when new, ... There were passenger terminals, world-class libraries, and financial houses. Automatic doors were designed for some of the buildings, and there were rudimentary coin machines. Its quarters were named after letters of the alphabet, and it may have been the first place in history to have address in the modern sense. ... The city drew immigrants from most of the Greek world, and most of everywhere else, and race riots were frequent, as, one suspects were fast food and street crime. ... In the Christian era even the porters at the docks were famous for arguing about philosophy and the latest heresy. The Ptolemaic rulers and Roman emperors were popular only fitfully, ...