

In 1900 Elias Stadiatos, a sponge diver, discovered the wreck of a cargo ship near the Greek island of Antikythera. The statues, jewelry, pottery, and furniture he found were archaeological treasures because they dated back to the first century B.C. However, the most significant discovery was a box containing a mechanical device.

At first historians believed the Antikythera mechanism was a kind of astronomical computer that showed the position of the sun and the moon in the zodiac. Years later using the most up-to-date X-ray imaging available, Michael Wright at London's Science Museum revealed that there might be more to the ancient dials and gears.

Wright believed that the mechanism described the movements of the sun, moon, Mercury, and Venus at any given date with reasonable accuracy. He hypothesized that there might have been an additional layer of gears that would have shown the positions of Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn—the other known planets at that time.

Wright re-created the Antikythera mechanism with tools that were available to the ancient Greeks. Although there is no way to know if his model is completely accurate, the device appears to be an early precursor to the clockwork mechanism—a discovery that changed modern views about the levels of sophistication that Greek technology had achieved.

- 1** The wreck of a cargo ship near Antikythera was discovered by
 - a** Elias Stadiatos.
 - b** Michael Wright.
 - c** a sponge diver.
 - d** Both **a** and **c**
- 2** What is the name of the mechanical device found in the wreckage?
 - a** The astrology mechanism
 - b** The Antikythera computer
 - c** Antikythera
 - d** The Antikythera mechanism

- 3** Wright hypothesized about the existence of
 - a** the planets.
 - b** the box that contained the Antikythera mechanism.
 - c** another layer of gears in the mechanism.
 - d** Both **b** and **c**
- 4** Which planets were the Greeks aware of around the first century B.C.?
 - a** Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn
 - b** Mercury, Venus, Neptune, Jupiter, and Saturn
 - c** Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, and Pluto
 - d** Mercury and Venus
- 5** Which of the following was *not* found among the wreckage at Antikythera?
 - a** Statues
 - b** Books
 - c** Pottery
 - d** Jewelry
- 6** According to Wright, the Antikythera mechanism
 - a** had already been invented by the Egyptians.
 - b** probably produced fairly inaccurate information.
 - c** could probably show the movements of the known planets at any given time.
 - d** was not ever used by the Greeks.
- 7** The discovery of the Antikythera mechanism
 - a** changed people's ideas about how advanced Greek technology was.
 - b** was mostly insignificant.
 - c** was not as important as the discovery of the other artifacts in the wreckage.
 - d** changed modern views about the positions of the planets.
- 8** The Antikythera mechanism was probably an early form of
 - a** an engine.
 - b** the clockwork mechanism.
 - c** a battery.
 - d** The article does not say.

1 d

2 d

3 c

4 a

5 b

6 c

7 a

8 b

SAMPLE