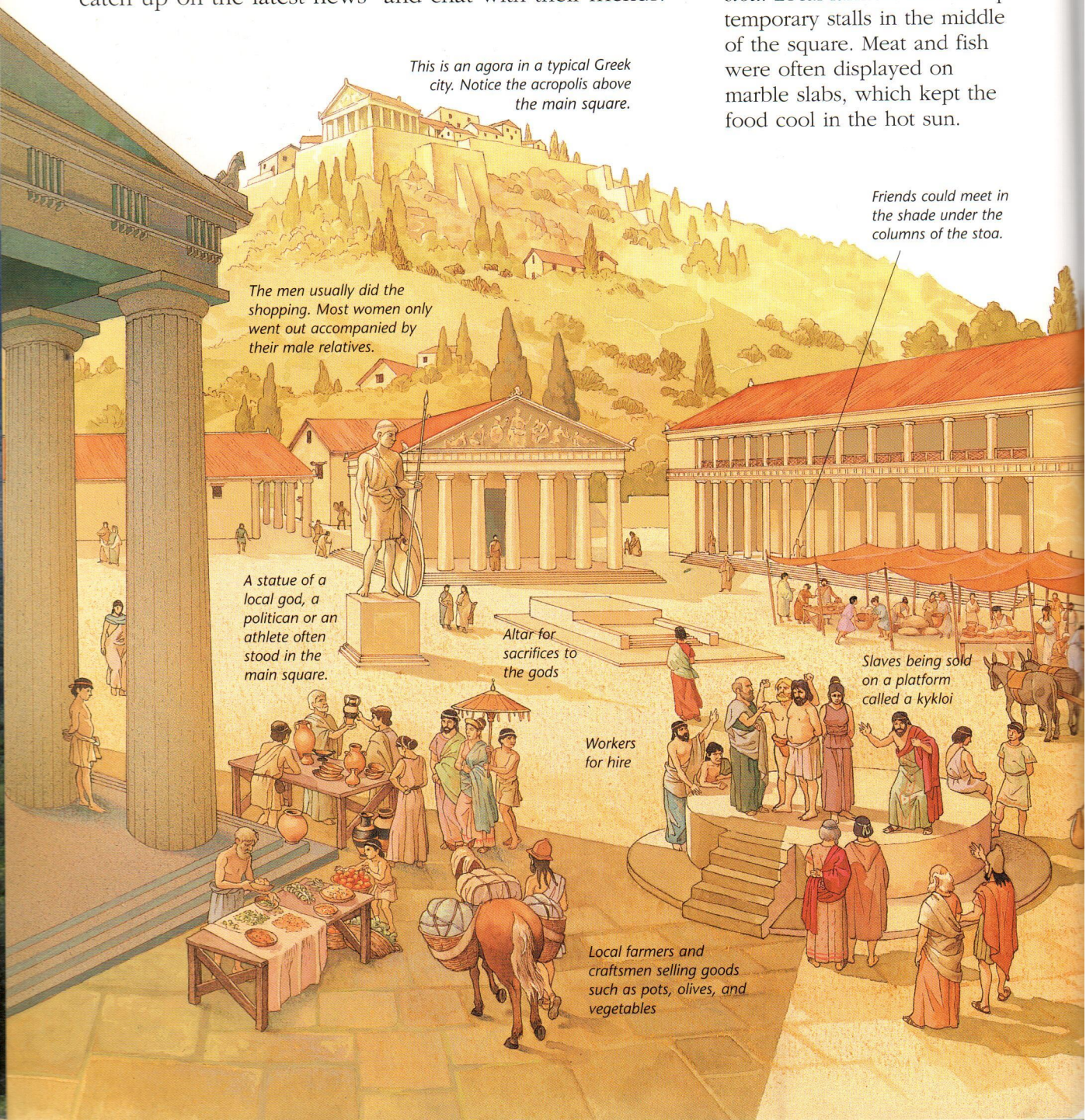
THE MARKETPLACE

At the heart of every Greek city was a main square, or marketplace, called an *agora*. It was the focus for business life and a hub of local gossip - a meeting place, where people gathered to shop, do business, catch up on the latest news and chat with their friends.

BUYING AND SELLING

Storekeepers often sold their goods in open rooms, with a counter across the front, behind a row of columns in a building in the *agora* called a *stoa*. Local farmers also set up temporary stalls in the middle of the square. Meat and fish were often displayed on marble slabs, which kept the food cool in the hot sun.