**Key points from the *Pentecontaetia***

**Thucydides 1.89-1.118**

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| ***Reference*** | ***Detail*** | ***Significance*** |
| **1.90-93** | Athens announces to Sparta that it was building **walls** around the city. | This showed that tension with Sparta was already high by 479/8. Athens and **Themistocles** were demanding that Sparta treat them as equals |
| **1.95** | Athens was given command of the Delian League because “Pausanias acted in a dictatorial manner” | Suggests that the Athens did not seek to build an empire in 478 BC |
| **1.98-99** | * Athens forced the Greek state of Carystus to join the Delian League and used force to stop Naxos leaving * Athens claimed it had the right to control the league because it was doing the bulk of the fighting against Persia | Signs of an Athenian Empire |
| **1.100-101** | * Athens uses force to keep Thasos in the League * Sparta almost sent help to Thasos but was prevented by the earthquake and Helot Revolt | Evidence of tension between Athens and Sparta and Athens’ empire |
| **1.102** | Athens sent help to Sparta to put down the Helot revolt before the Spartans asking them to leave | Shows that Athens and Sparta could still cooperate but that Sparta viewed Athenian influence as a threat. Athens responded by allying with Argos |
| **1.103** | Megara joined the Delian League | Athens was now taking states away from the Spartan-led Peloponnesian League heightening tension. Megara switched sides to gain protection from Corinth but it now meant that members of each league were now at war risking wider conflict |
| **1.106** | Athens defeated a Corinthian army sent against Megara despite also fighting against Aegina and in Egypt at the same time | Conflict starting in 460 often called the First Peloponnesian war. Also demonstrates Athens’ long-term hostility with Corinth which was a major cause of the Peloponnesian War |
| **1.108** | Battle of Tanagra | First direct battle between Athens and Sparta resulting in a Spartan victory. “on the sixty-second day after the battle”, however, Athens defeated an army of Boeotians to take control of Boeotia and Phocis – this was the start of an Athenian land empire (Although soon lost – see 1.113) |
| **1.112** | A five-year truce was agreed between Athens and the Peloponnese (451) | Showed that Greek states could resolve differences using peaceful methods. Also allowed Athens to focus on conflict with Persia leading to the supposed Peace of Callias in 449 |
| **1.114** | Revolt of Euboea against Athens and defection of Megara (again) | Shows opposition to Athenian power and the demands of tribute. Thucydides says that the Peloponnesians were on the point of invading. Also highlights the importance of Pericles in dealing with the threat |
| **1.115** | Conflict between Samos and Miletus | Athenian empire as they imposed democracy on Samos. Pericles’ leadership again highlighted in securing Samos |
| **1.118** | Thucydides’ summary of the period 479-446:   * “In these year the Athenians made their empire more and more strong, and greatly added to their own power at home.” * “The Spartans, though they saw what was happening, did little or nothing to prevent it.” * “The point was reached when Athenian strength attained a peak plain for all to see and the Athenians began to encroach upon Sparta’s allies. It was at this point that Sparta felt the position to be no longer tolerable and decided by starting this present war to employ all her energies in attacking and, if possible, destroying the power of Athens.” | **Very important to remember this!**  Thucydides gives his views on why the war happened – he is relatively balanced recognising that the growth of Athenian power threatened Sparta into action but also blames Sparta’s inaction for allowing this to happen.  Clear that by 431 Sparta wanted war |