

1 All About the Renaissance, Part One: Historical Background, Beginnings, and Art Pre-Test

Directions: Answer each of the following either True or False:

1. The Renaissance was a period of cultural rebirth. _____
2. The leaders of the Renaissance were inspired by ancient cultures. _____
3. The study of humanism was important during the Renaissance. _____
4. During the Renaissance, painting became more three-dimensional. _____
5. The Renaissance began in England. _____

2**All About the Renaissance, Part One:
Historical Background, Beginnings, and Art****Post-Test****Fill in the blanks:**

1. The Renaissance began in _____ in the early to mid- _____.
2. The period between the fall of Rome and the Renaissance is called the _____, or _____ era.
3. The Renaissance period ended roughly around _____.
4. The glorification of the human body by Renaissance artists may have helped inspire scientists to study _____.
5. Wealthy supporters of artists, musicians, scholars, and scientists are called _____.

Essay Question:

What big shift in thinking (away from Medieval patterns) occurred among the leaders of the Renaissance and how did the classical civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome influence them?

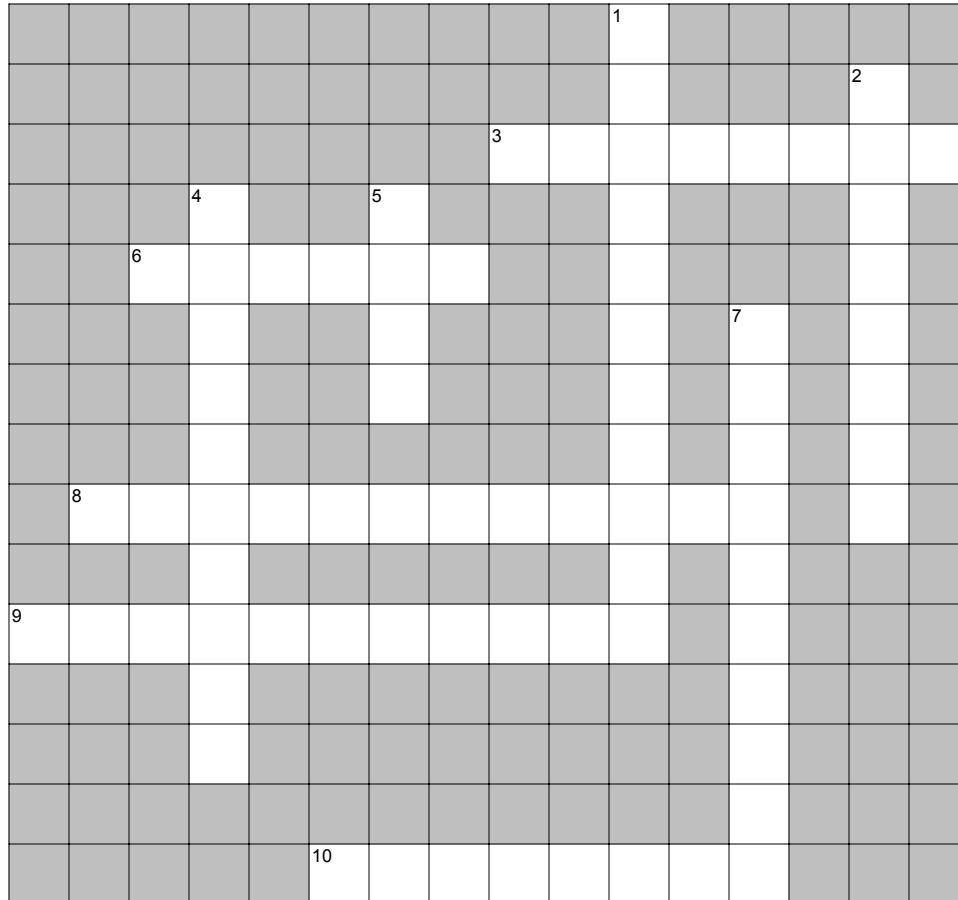
3**All About the Renaissance, Part One:
Historical Background, Beginnings, and Art****Video Quiz**

Answer each of the following questions either True or False:

1. During the Renaissance, a unified Italian nation did not exist. _____
2. The Dark Ages occurred during the last part of the Medieval era. _____
3. The Renaissance began in northern Spain. _____
4. Humanism is the study of God. _____
5. Perspective was rarely used in Medieval art. _____

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All About the Renaissance, Part One: Historical Background, Beginnings, and Art Crossword Puzzle

**Across**

3. The first part of the Middle Ages marked by a decline of art and learning.
6. A wealthy supporter of artists, writers, scholars, etc.
8. The religion that took hold across most of Europe during the Dark Ages.
9. An era of great cultural and scientific rebirth.
10. A way of thinking that is focused more on human than on religious subjects.

Down

1. An artistic technique used to create the illusions of three dimensions on a drawing or painting.
2. A Belgian doctor who is referred to as the father of anatomy.
4. Tribes of people that helped bring about the collapse of Rome.
5. Head of the Roman Catholic Church.
7. A religion that worships many gods and goddesses.

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All About the Renaissance, Part One: Historical Background, Beginnings, and Art Timeline and Timeline Activity

27 B.C.-180 A.D.- Time of the Pax Romana (Roman Peace) and the peak of Roman power.

395- Division of the Roman Empire into eastern and western halves. The Eastern Empire was ruled by an emperor in Constantinople, and the Western Empire was ruled by another emperor in Rome.

410- Barbarians called Visigoths sack Rome. Romans leave Britain. After their departure, the Germanic Angles, Jutes, Saxons, and Frisians invade Britain and establish Barbarian settlements.

432- St. Patrick brings Christianity to Ireland.

447- Attila and the Huns invade the eastern Roman Empire from Asia.

455- Barbarian tribes called Vandals ravage Italy.

470- Huns are driven out of Europe.

476- Fall of Rome, the collapse of the Western Roman Empire, and the beginning of the Dark Ages; rapid decline in learning and art. The Barbarian Chief Odoacer becomes the king of Rome.

1100-1350- High Middle Ages; the time when Europe's magnificent gothic cathedrals are built.

1200-1250- Gunpowder begins to be used in Europe for the first time.

1215- England's King John signs the Magna Carta, a document that limits the powers of English monarchs.

1300-1350- The dawn of the Renaissance in the city-states of northern Italy.

1347-49- A major outbreak of Bubonic Plague strikes Europe.

1338-1453- "The Hundred Years' War" between France and England.

1419- Portuguese explorers from Prince Henry the Navigator's school explore African islands and the coast of Africa.

1439-1450- Johannes Gutenberg invents moveable-type printing in Germany.

1444- Birth of famous Italian Renaissance painter Sandro Botticelli.

1452- Birth of Italian artist and inventor Leonardo da Vinci.

1453- The Turks capture Constantinople. The Eastern Roman Empire collapses.

1473- Birth in Poland of Nicolaus Copernicus who, in the 1500s, proposes that the sun is at the center of the solar system and the earth and other planets revolve around the sun.

1475- Birth of Italian painter, architect, and sculptor Michaelangelo.

1483- Birth of the great Italian painter Raphael.

1492- First voyage of Christopher Columbus.

1498- Vasco da Gama reaches India.

1517- The German priest and professor, Martin Luther, publicly lists his disputes (*95 Theses*) with the Roman Catholic Church.

1521- Spanish conquistador Hernando Cortéz enters Tenochtitlan (Mexico City) for the first time.

1522- Ferdinand Magellan sails around the world.

1532- Francisco Pizzaro conquers Peru.

1534 A.D.- Henry VIII outlaws Roman Catholicism and declares himself to be the head of the Church of England.

1540-1543- Francisco Vasquez de Coronado explores parts of modern-day New Mexico, Texas, Kansas, and Oklahoma.

1543- Andreas Vesalius publishes his classic book on anatomy.

1545-1563- The Council of Trent tries to bolster the power of the Pope and works to reform the Catholic Church.

1564- Birth of William Shakespeare.

1565- St. Augustine, Florida, is founded by the Spanish.

1590- The microscope is invented in Holland.

1606- Dutch navigator Willem Jansz becomes the first European to sight the coast of Australia.

1607- The first English settlement in North America is established at Jamestown, Virginia.

1608- The telescope is invented in Holland.

1610- The Italian scientist Galileo improves the telescope and proves the theories of Copernicus. Santa Fe, New Mexico, is founded.

1620- Pilgrims found Plymouth colony in New England.

Timeline Activity

By consulting the Timeline, fill in the correct date:

1. The fall of Rome to the Barbarians. _____
2. Birth of Leonardo da Vinci. _____
3. Dawn of the Renaissance in northern Italy. _____
4. Vesalius publishes his book on anatomy. _____
5. Major outbreak of Bubonic Plague. _____

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All About the Renaissance, Part One: Historical Background, Beginnings, and Art

Vocabulary List and Vocabulary Activity

anatomy - The study of the structure of the body carried out by cutting it apart (dissection).

Anglo-Saxons - Barbarians, such as the Angles, Jutes, Saxons, and Frisians, who lived along the coast of the North Sea from Denmark to Holland. The Anglo-Saxons settled in England after the departure of the Romans in 410 A.D.

Barbarians - A word the Romans used to refer to people from outside the boundaries of the Roman Empire. The word has come to mean people who are primitive and violent.

besieged - Being under attack for a long period of time.

Britannia - The Romans' name for England.

cathedral - A large Christian church that serves as the headquarters of a bishop.

city-state - A small nation ruled by a city.

complacency - The state of "taking things for granted." Not actively working to maintain a certain situation.

corrupt - No longer honest or pure.

crucial - Of key importance.

Dark Ages - The first part of the historical period called the Middle Ages that began with the collapse of Rome around 476 A.D. and ended around 800-1000 A.D. This was a period marked by a great decline in art and learning in western Europe.

decadence - Overindulgence and lax morality. Decadence helped bring about the fall of Rome.

dissection - To cut apart in order to study the structure of the body and its parts.

excellence - Outstanding achievement or performance.

feudalism - The system of economic, political, and social organization that existed in Medieval Europe.

flourished - Was very successful.

glorify - To praise.

Greco-Roman - Pertaining to both the ancient Greek and Roman civilizations.

Gutenberg, Johannes - Inventor of a technique for making moveable type for printing.

High Middle Ages - The part of the Middle Ages (Medieval era) when the great European cathedrals were built. This era began around 1100 A.D. and ended with the Renaissance.

humanism - A system of the thought that focuses on human rather than religious values that was prevalent during the Renaissance. Humanism focuses on human needs and relies on rational (logical) rather than spiritual (mystical) methods of solving human problems.

humanist - A follower of humanism.

influenced - Had an effect on a person or event.

illusion - A trick.

inspired - Caused something to occur.

Medici family - Owners of the largest banking empire in Europe and great patrons of Renaissance artists, scholars, and scientists.

Medieval era - Same as the Middle Ages.

Middle Ages - The "middle period" of history between the collapse of Rome and the birth of the Renaissance.

monastery - A place devoted to religious practice where monks live lives of simplicity.

monotheism - The worship of one all-powerful God (as opposed to many gods).

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All About the Renaissance, Part One: Historical Background, Beginnings, and Art Vocabulary List and Vocabulary Activity (continued)

moveable type - A printing method in which individual, raised letters are arranged into words, sentences, and paragraphs on a flat printing plate. Ink is applied to the letters on the plate and pages are printed. The technique for making moveable type was invented by Johannes Gutenberg in the first half of the 15th century and resulted in the mass production of inexpensive books.

Papal States - A large territory in central and northern Italy where the pope ruled as both a spiritual and political leader for many centuries. Today only the Vatican City remains under the pope's political control.

perspective - A technique used in painting and drawing that creates the illusion of three dimensions on a flat surface.

polytheism - The worship of many gods and goddesses, such as was practiced in ancient Greece and Rome.

pope - The head of the Roman Catholic Church.

Protestants - People who broke away from the Roman Catholic Church during the Reformation.

Ptolemaic system - The astronomical system conceived by the Greek astronomer Ptolemy (second century A.D.) that was considered to be true throughout the Middle Ages. Under the Ptolemaic system, the earth was believed to be the stationary center of the entire universe and the sun and planets were thought to revolve around it.

rational - Based on reason (logic) as opposed to mysticism.

recede - To fade into the distance.

Reformation - A religious movement in the 16th century directed at reform of the Catholic Church that led to the creation of Protestant Christian churches.

Renaissance - A period of great cultural and scientific rebirth that began in Italy in the early to mid-14th century and ended during the first half of the 17th century.

representations - Artistic portrayals of objects or people.

thatch - The reeds or straw from which thatched roofs are made.

theology - The study of God.

unique - One-of-a-kind, unusual.

Vesalius, Andreas - A Belgian doctor of the 1500s considered to be the father of modern anatomy.

Vocabulary Activity:

Directions: By consulting the vocabulary list find the correct word (or words) to fill in the blank.

1. _____ uses rational rather than religious ways to try to solve human problems.
2. One way to create the illusion of three dimensions on a flat surface is to use _____.
3. The study of the structure of bodies carried out by performing dissections is called _____.
4. The Romans called England _____.
5. During the Renaissance, the _____ owned the largest banking empire in Europe.