

7 –The Renaissance

The Rebirth of classical culture

AKS:

analyze the change and continuity in the Renaissance and Reformation (GPS)
(SSWH_E2007-38)

Indicators of Achievement:

38a - explain the social, economic and political changes that contributed to the rise of Florence and the ideas of Machiavelli, 38b - identify artistic and scientific achievements of the "Renaissance Man", Leonardo da Vinci, and Michelangelo, 38c - explain the main characteristics of humanism to include the ideas of Petrarch, Dante and Erasmus

Values during the Renaissance

- Emphasis was on the individual. Artists wanted credit for their work; people wrote autobiographies; wealthy patrons commissioned portions of themselves.
- Classical culture = Greek and Roman culture. There was a major revival of Greek and Roman painting, sculpture, architecture, and writing.
- Enjoyment of worldly pleasures. In the Middle Ages, people had shown how devout they were by how plain their clothes were. Now, people immersed themselves in the luxuries such as food, clothes, music, etc.

Geography: The Renaissance began in Florence, Italy and then spread throughout Europe. Northern Italy contained many cities such as, Genoa, Venice, and Florence, which had high population centers. Many wealthy merchants and traders lived in these cities and funded many of the artists that lived in Italy.

Key Terms:

- **Humanism**- regard to classical civilizations as the model and goal of all culture.
- **Vernacular**- everyday language
- **Perspective**- technique developed by Brunelleschi that gave objects the appearance of distance
- **Fresco**- painting on wet plaster

Renaissance Chart

<i>Name</i>	<i>Field</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Accomplishments</i>
Giotto di Bondone	Painting	Italy	Invents the technique of the fresco (painting on wet plaster). He gave his painting depth.
Dante Alighieri	Writing	Italy	Wrote the Divine Comedy. Wrote in the everyday language of the people (vernacular)
Lorenzo Ghiberti	Gold Smith	Italy	Spent 50 years creating 2 pairs of bronze doors for the Baptistery.
Brunelleschi	Architecture	Italy	He placed a dome on the cathedral of Florence.
Donatello	Sculpture	Italy	Sculpted free-standing figures, such as the statue of "David" as well as people on horseback.
Masaccio	Painting	Italy	Called the Father of Modern Painting. Painted using the technique of perspective (gives objects the appearance of distance).
Machiavelli	Writing	Italy	Wrote <i>The Prince</i> .
Michelangelo	Painting, Sculpture. Architecture	Italy	Sculpted the 16 foot tall "David", painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, sculpted the "Pieta", and designed a dome for St. Peters Church.
Raphael	Painting	Italy	Painted "The School of Athens" in the pope's library.
Leonardo da Vinci	Painting, Inventing	Italy	Painted the "Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper". Experimented with bicycles, hydraulics, and masonry.
Albrecht Durer	Wood Engravings	German States, Northern Renaissance	Completed many woodcuts and engravings that emphasized realism.
Hans Holbein the Younger	Painting	German States, Northern Renaissance	Painted many portrait paintings that were of photo quality, such as Henry VIII.
Jan van Eyck	Painting	Flanders, Northern Renaissance	Used oil based paints.
Pieter Bruegel	Painting	Belgium, Northern Renaissance	Captured everyday life in his paintings such as weddings and festivals.

Characteristics of the Renaissance

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interest in classical culture	Artisans restored old monuments and works of art. Scholars searched out forgotten Latin and Greek manuscripts.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of Humanities	Scholars valued subjects concerned with humankind and culture, such as Latin and Greek language and literature, composition, history, and philosophy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interest in earthly life	Renaissance thinkers were interested in earthly life for its own sake, rejecting the medieval view that it was only a preparation for the afterlife.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appreciation of individuals	People were interested in the qualities that made individuals unique. The Renaissance ideal was the well-rounded person.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concern with public service and politics	Renaissance education was intended to prepare men for public service. Philosophers such as Machiavelli wrote handbooks for political success.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited roles for women	Women were expected to make use of their education and talents in the home.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advances in technology	The invention of the printing press made bookmaking cheaper, gave scholars access to one another's works, and encouraged the spread of literacy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achievement in literature and art	The works of writers such as Cervantes, Rabelais, and Shakespeare brought to life the ideals of the Renaissance. Renaissance art and architecture reflected an interest in realism.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for arts	Wealthy patrons such as the Medici family supported poets and artists.

Document Practice:



The Madonna of Chancellor Rolin by Jan van Eyck, 1435.

Write one paragraph to answer the following question.

Discuss what elements shown in this painting are characteristic of art from the Northern Renaissance.