

Study Guide

Chapter 12: The Renaissance

For each of the statements below, write a short paragraph. Each paragraph should be 3-4 sentences long.

- a. **Rewrite** the statement *in your own words*, borrowing only key words or phrases
- b. Give at least one example (e.g., person, event) that supports the statement, providing specific detail about the example
- c. Explain how your example supports your statement.

Concept: A revival of classical texts led to new methods of scholarship and new values in both society and religion.

1. Italian Renaissance humanists promoted a revival in classical literature and created new philological approaches to ancient texts. Some Renaissance humanists furthered the values of secularism and individualism.

2. Humanist revival of Greek and Roman texts, spread by the printing press, challenged the institutional power of universities and the Catholic Church. This shifted education away from a primary focus on theological writings toward classical texts and new methods of scientific inquiry.

3. Admiration for Greek and Roman political institutions supported a revival of civic humanist culture in the Italian city-states and produced secular models for individual and political behavior.

Concept: The invention of printing promoted the dissemination of new ideas.

4. The invention of the printing press in the 1450s aided in spreading the Renaissance beyond Italy and encouraged the growth of vernacular literature, which would eventually contribute to the development of national cultures.

Concept: The visual arts incorporated the new ideas of the Renaissance and were used to promote personal, political, and religious goals.

5. In the Italian Renaissance, rulers and popes concerned with enhancing their prestige commissioned paintings and architectural works based on classical styles, the developing “naturalism” in the artistic world, and often the newly invented technique of geometric perspective.

6. The Northern Renaissance retained a more religious focus, which resulted in more human-centered naturalism that considered individuals and everyday life appropriate objects of artistic representation.
