The Renaissance
Why did the Renaissance happen when and where it did?
How did Europe move from the Middle Ages to a era of learning, science, technology, and a flowering of the arts?
What do we mean by Europeans?

England
France
Italy
Netherlands
Spain
Portugal
Germany
Belgium
The Feudal Structure  Feudal society was highly structured. The king ruled at the top of society. Next came wealthy landowners and high-ranking church members. Serving below them were the knights. At the bottom of society were the peasants. Most peasants were serfs. Serfs were people who lived and worked on the land belonging to a lord or a vassal. In return, the nobles granted them shelter and protection.

Feudalism created a new political structure in Europe. Europe became home to many small kingdoms and estates ruled by kings and powerful nobles.
Dover

Peasants

called serfs lived and worked on the manor. The serfs farmed the land, which formed the economic basis of the manor system. Serfs were said to be “bound to the soil.” This meant that they were considered part of the property. They remained on the land if a new lord acquired it. Feudalism and manor life had a powerful effect on the medieval European economy. The land on a manor supplied residents with most of the things they needed. As a result, most activity—from farming to woodworking to wine making—took place on the manor. Manors became worlds unto themselves, and few people ever left the property.
Between 1100 and 1500, European cities were growing.
Living in a medieval town was not much better than living in a village. Or it was worse, considering the smell and sight of a town, where people threw their waste on the street and the street was filled with animal entrails, mud, polluted medieval water and more gross things. Any animals like pigs and horses used the same road as people. High shoes were invented to avoid stepping on the mud, even though hay was on the mud to prevent sinking into the mud. Eventually people were stinking as well as the street, all because of the sewage and waste they produced.

However, living in a town had more freedom than living in a lord's manor where there was no way out. These towns were developed where the major roads met or near a bridge where people came to trade. And if the people made enough money, they could join together to buy a charter from the king or lord for freedom.

There were several jobs you could only do in a Middle Ages town. Numbering, chain mail makers, who made chain mail for the knight; barber surgeons who cut hair and did operations that made the condition of the patient worse; fullers who transported wool; and tanners who turned cattle and sheep skins into leather.
The Growth of Towns

ESSENTIAL QUESTION What was town life like during the Middle Ages?

Around A.D. 1000, town life began to return to Europe. This was due in large part to the fact that a number of lords became increasingly powerful. They brought peace and stability to numerous regions. As a result, people felt more safe and secure. Merchants began to travel more freely and trade their goods. Wherever merchants settled, builders and other tradespeople gathered around them.

Town Life Most medieval towns were dirty, cramped, and busy places. In the center of town were the market square and a cathedral. The streets were narrow, filthy, and usually not paved. After a rain, streets turned to mud that was often knee-deep. Most of the houses were made out of wood and easily caught fire.

The Guilds In towns, people with the same occupation formed groups called guilds. Many guilds were formed by tradespeople, such as goldsmiths, bakers, weavers, and dyers. Guilds made rules that controlled the quantity and quality of production. The guilds watched out for their members and worked to make sure everyone found employment.
VISUAL SUMMARY

Feudal Europe

Culture
- Feudalism brought great cultural changes to Europe. Aspects of European feudalism were similar to feudalism in Japan.

Economics
- Trade declined as warfare and disorder spread across Europe. Instead, manors became the center of most economic and production activity.

Belief Systems
- Powerful leaders and the work done at monasteries helped to spread Christianity.

Geography
- Europe had many rivers and much farmland. This enabled feudal manors to produce much of what they needed. As a result, the manor system grew and thrived.

Government
- Europe came under the rule of small kingdoms and large landowners.
- The landowners aligned with lords and knights to help create order. This relationship became the foundation of feudalism.
Reading Graphs The following graph shows the growth of villages in one region of present-day Germany during the Middle Ages. Use the information and your knowledge of history to answer the questions.

**Growth of Villages**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>900</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1100</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200</td>
<td>990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: *Economic and Social History of the Middle Ages* Vol. 2

1. **Between which years did the number of villages grow the most?**
   
   A. 800–900  
   B. 900–1000  
   C. 1000–1100  
   D. 1100–1200

2. **How many new villages emerged between 800 and 1200?**
   
   A. 350  
   B. 590  
   C. 890  
   D. 990
The streets were mazes of tiny, dark alleys full of sewage and trash. Disease ran rampant.
Guarde de l’eau!

Danger of fire-The houses were built of wood and are close together.
Dirty water meant that ale, mead, cider, and wine for the rich were the daily drinks of the people.
The taste of rancid meat was hidden by spices. The peasant diet did not often include meat.
Education was minimal for the average European.
In order to go to Heaven, people believed they must follow the teachings of the Church. It was through the Church that people were absolved of their wrongdoings. As a result, the clergy were the most likely to be educated, since they would be responsible for communicating the words of the *Bible* to parishioners.
The Church was the most important institution in people’s lives.
The Pope was believed to be God’s representative on Earth. He was often more powerful than the kings.
Medical Care Consisted of ridding the body of the bad by:

Puking (Belly)
Purging (Bowel)
Bleeding (Blood)
European trade with the Muslims of North Africa and the Middle East provided luxury goods from the East to the wealthy and introduced the continent to new foods, arts, and literature.
Europeans learned valuable information from the Muslims, which later aided them in becoming great explorers.
The year was 1347. A ship laden with goods from China arrives at an Italian port. Many on board were dead, or dying. The plague had arrived in Europe.
Scholars believe the plague spread from Central Asia. It moved by land along trade routes from Asia to Europe. It also moved along sea routes. In October 1347, a trading ship brought the disease to Italy. The disease then traveled rapidly north. By the following spring, the plague had spread to France, Germany, and as far north as England.

1. The plague probably spread from Central Asia, but it is impossible to know for certain.
2. Rats carrying infected fleas traveled with merchants along trade routes.
3. Italian merchants unknowingly brought the plague to Europe.
The Black Death

Ring around the roses
A pocket full of posies
Ashes, ashes
We all fall down.
As you watch the video, try to predict what the outcomes of the plague meant to Europeans lucky enough to have survived the pestilence.
The Bubonic Plague killed 1/3 to 1/2 the population of Europe between 1347 and 1350. The Black Death resulted in both bad and good:
What was life like for the peasants of Europe after the devastation of the Plague?

People were richer:
* Land and money inherited from the dead
* Higher wages (fewer workers)
* Lower rents for farmsteads
* People moved to find better opportunities (many moved to cities to take jobs left empty by the dead).
* More people chose own careers, not the lord of the manor.
* More and better food for fewer people.
* End of feudalism. Lords were no longer all-powerful.
* Rise of the middle class.
*Lessening of the church’s power. People begin to question the teachings of the church, which led to the Protestant Reformation.
*More people start learning to read.
*Books are printed.
*Beginnings and growth of Europe’s great universities.
*Beginning of the Scientific Revolution.
Black Death Activity

Acrostic Poem
Create an Acrostic Poem

Use:
Black Death
The Black Death
Bubonic Plague
The Bubonic Plague

Write three 2-3 sentence Paragraphs:

An event
A person
An invention

That changed the world.

You must answer these questions in your paragraphs:

Who/What was the (person, invention, event)?

How did he/it change the world.

What would the world be like if this had never happened or existed?
The Renaissance begins.
A rebirth of classical learning and arts.
The Renaissance lasted from about 1300-1600.
Small kingdoms unified under the rule of one government or ruler to become a country. Stability.

Examples: England, Spain and France.
Hundred Years War—1337-1453

War between England and France over English control over part of France brought an end to the age of chivalry. Knights fighting in hand-to-hand combat was made useless by the armor piercing longbow.
Marco Polo’s book printed. Europeans want to trade with the East via the Silk Road—a series of trade routes that connected China with Europe. Spread of goods and new ideas from China, India and the Muslim Empires.
The Renaissance had its beginnings in the city-states of Italy and then spread to the rest of Europe.

- **City-state** = a city that maintains political (governmental) and economic power over the city and the area around it
Most of the city-states were great trade centers for goods moving from Muslim lands to Europe, and for trade amongst the European kingdoms. Cities became the main places for exchanging goods and ideas.

- Venice
- Florence
- Naples
- Milan
- Genoa
The Papal states were ruled by the Pope who had his headquarters in the Vatican. The Vatican is a country within a country located in Rome, Italy.
Florence was the epicenter of the early Renaissance.

- Great trading center
- Clothing production
- Center of banking. Banking = wealth
- Home to talented artists and writers who were willing to take risks
- Ruling and merchant classes actively supported the arts.

--- Patron = wealthy family who encouraged artists to create work full-time in creating masterpieces by supporting them financially.
Rule of City-States

Most city-states were ruled by wealthy families. For example, Florence was ruled by a family that originally gained its wealth from buying and selling wool, the Medici family. Later on, they became bankers. In fact, they were the bankers to the Roman Catholic Church. They set up branches of their bank throughout Europe in order to collect money the Church took in from its parishioners. The Medici invented modern accounting methods such as the double entry ledger system.

Many of the city-states were republics (people got to elect representatives to government). Wealthy families influenced public opinion by becoming great supporters of the arts. The Medicis were patrons to Brunelleschi, Michelangelo, DaVinci and many others.
RENAISSANCE = REBIRTH OF CLASSICAL LEARNING

- Literature
- Classical Art
- Government
- Architecture
- Medicine
- Ways of thinking
The people of Italy looked back in time for a civilization on which to model this rebirth of learning. They did not have to look far. Italy had once been the center of the Roman Empire. The ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome served as their model.
Review—Why Was Italy the Birthplace of the Renaissance?

(video) Might need to hit refresh if video is blank on website

- Location:
  - Italy centered between Eastern and Western Europe. Trade and ideas moved out of Italy to the rest of Europe. Crusades had brought great wealth to Italy.
  - Italy home to the Roman empire. They could draw inspiration from the remnants of the civilization.

- Wealthy merchant class in urban areas of northern Italy. Spent money on art, architecture and literature. The Medici family was from Florence.

- Great city-states of Florence, Rome, Milan and Venice became powerful and wealthy. Italy not a country. Each city-state had its own form of government.
New Attitudes
Led to
New Ways of Thinking
**Humanism** = a way of thought that focuses on human beings and their potential for achievement. The goal of humanism is to create well-rounded individuals and encourage people to achieve all they could in life. To create that well-rounded individual required the study of such classical subjects as history, literature, art, and philosophy (the humanities).
Petrarch

The Father of Humanism

• Italian poet and scholar
• One of first thinkers to stress the value of classical learning, or the teachings of Greece and Rome.
• He was able to locate many of the ancient writings of Greece and Rome in monastery libraries and re-introduce them to Europeans.
Medieval thought vs. Humanism

- Kings and Church dictated thought
- Suffer life on earth and live by the rules of the Church in order to get to Heaven
- Avoid pleasures in order to please God

- Important individual think for himself
- Live a Christian life. But, think for themselves and not blindly follow church orders.
- Can enjoy life and still be a good Christian

**Humanism** (video) helped strengthen the growing desire among people to experiment, explore, and create.
Renaissance Architecture
1419--Designed building with Roman style arches and columns that had not been used for over 1000 years. His patron was the Medici family. Brunelleschi sparked an architectural revolution across Europe. Many structures were built in the classical style of Rome.
Brunelleschi wins a competition to build the dome to complete the cathedral in Florence.
Brunelleschi looks back to Rome for inspiration and instruction in how to build a dome—knowledge that had been lost in post-Roman Europe.
Will the dome collapse in on itself?
1436--Brunelleschi was successful. The Duomo became the focal point of the Florentine skyline.
Renaissance Art
Which of these two pictures appears more realistic?
What are the differences between the two pictures?
Which of these pieces of art would come from Medieval times and which from the Renaissance? Why?
Medieval vs. Renaissance Art

- Dealt with religious matters
- Two dimensional style of painting—Most important figures were the biggest.
- Still used religious subjects, but portrayed in the classical style, in realistic ways
- Experiment with new styles and techniques to achieve realism—perspective
- Inspired by humanism—beauty of human body.
Renaissance artists gave art a 3-D effect by using linear perspective. Artists drew objects at the right height, width, depth, and position in relation to other objects when viewed from a certain position.
Perspective in Art

To create perspective, artists run parallel lines away from the viewer until they appear to meet at a spot on the horizon called the vanishing point.

Drawing people in the foreground larger than those in the background helps to give the painting a three-dimensional appearance.

**SKILLBUILDER**

**INTERPRETING VISUALS**

Where does the central activity of the painting take place? How do you know?

*The Marriage of the Virgin* (1504), Raphael
Renaissance Art Activity Perspective
1. Draw lines to connect points B, C, D, and E.
2. Draw lines to connect A to B, A to C, A to D, and A to E.
3. Place dots on the lines at the midway point between A and B, A and C, A and D, and A and E.

4. Draw lines to connect these midpoint dots on the B, C, D, and E lines to form a square.
Which of the two squares appears to be closer?
1. Draw and label the diagram below.
2. Draw a stick figure that fills section A of the diagram as illustrated below.
3. Draw a stick figure that fills section B of the diagram as illustrated below.
3. Draw a stick figure that fills section C of the diagram as illustrated below.
Which of these figures appears farthest away?
Italian Artists of the Renaissance
Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo was truly a Renaissance man. He excelled at several subjects, including astronomy, geometry, and anatomy. He was a scientist and an inventor as well as being a painter and sculptor.
Mona Lisa
The Last Supper
Lady with Ermine
Vitruvian Man
Inventions by Leonardo da Vinci
Michelangelo di Buonarroti

Michelangelo considered himself first a sculptor, but is also famous for his paintings. His works convey intense feelings and portray a sense of power.
Pieta
David
Sistine Chapel Ceiling
Raphael

Raphael’s paintings are known for their clarity.
Titian was known for using broad strokes and bright colors, in particular, red in his paintings.
Crowning With Thorns
Botticelli

Botticelli’s paintings were known for their delicate colors, flowing lines, and poetic feeling.
Renaissance Writers
(Mediterranean area)

The Renaissance saw writers focusing on the real life of individuals.
Dante

Dante Alighieri wrote the long poem, *The Divine Comedy*, that was about spiritual development and life after death. Dante used his native language, Italian rather than Latin for his works. Others followed suit and wrote in the vernacular.
Cervantes was a Spanish writer. His most famous work, *Don Quixote*, was the novel about a landowner who imagines that he is a knight and goes on many adventures.
Niccolo Machiavelli

Machiavelli’s most famous work is *The Prince*. The book takes a realistic look at the world of politics and analyzes how to gain and hold political power.
The Northern Renaissance
During the late 1400’s, Renaissance ideas spread north from Italy into France, Germany, Spain, and England.
Why did the Renaissance spread into Northern Europe?

Three Reasons

- Destruction of Hundred Year War ended.
- Trade expanded and cities grew.
- Renaissance ideas came to cities and influenced people.
- Wealthy merchant class developed that sponsored artists and writers.
2. Support from the regions powerful rulers.

- England and France were unified countries, not a collection of city-states like Italy, and ruled by powerful monarchs who took an interest in the arts.
- Artistic achievement a source of pride for the country.
- Governments of northern Europe provided financial support to many artists and writers.
3. Cultural Interaction between Italian artists and those in the rest of Europe.

- Late 1400’s, war between kingdoms in Italy caused many Italian artist to flee to the north.
- They shared new styles and techniques.
- Artists from northern Europe traveled to Italy and learned the new techniques, afterwards bringing the knowledge back to their homes.
Elizabethan Age

- Ruled 1558-1603
- Era named after Queen Elizabeth I of England
- Promoted the Renaissance spirit in England
- Well educated and spoke several languages
- Wrote poetry
- Supported artists and writers
Northern Renaissance Artists
Differences between Italian and Northern European Renaissance artists.

• Northern artists did not study the classics as much as the Italian artists did.
• Northern artists created works that were much more detailed in the presentation of everyday life. Italian artists religious pictures, portraits, and sculptures that idealized the human body.
Albrecht Durer

• Greatest German Renaissance artist
• Realistic and detailed works
• Created paintings and woodcuts (a painted image produced from a wood carving).
• His *Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse* portrays four forces that the *Bible* states will appear at the end of the world—death, war, plague, and famine.
Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse
Jan Van Eyck

• A Flemish painter, now Belgium
• Paintings contain minute details and bright colors
• Symbolism in objects in paintings—High window = single God
Annunciation
by
Jan Van Eyck
Pieter Bruegel

• A Flemish painter
• Show everyday scenes such as peasants working or children playing
• Painted detailed works
Pieter Bruegel the Elder
Northern Renaissance Writers
William Shakespeare

Considered one of the greatest writers ever.
As a poet, he was known for his sonnets.
Shakespeare first came to London to work in the theater.
He became a popular playwright.
He wrote comedies, tragedies and history plays.
Romeo is a Montague. Juliet is a Capulet. Their families hate each other and the young men of both families are constantly fighting with each other.

The prince of Verona warns the families that with the next incident of violence, the offender will be banished.

Romeo meets Juliet at a dance. They fall in love, not realizing who the other is. They decide to get married.

Friar Lawrence agrees to marry them thinking that the marriage may bring the two families together.
Romeo and Juliet (cont)

• While Romeo and Juliet are secretly getting married, there is a fight between one of Romeo’s good friends and Juliet’s cousin in which Mercutio (Romeo’s friend) is killed.
• To exact revenge, Romeo kills Juliet’s kinsman.
• Romeo must flee from Verona to avoid being put to death.
• Juliet is told she is to marry another man.
Romeo and Juliet (cont)

• Friar Lawrence tells Juliet to drink a potion that will make her seem to be dead in order to stop the wedding. She is not really dead.

• Friar Lawrence sends someone to tell Romeo the truth, but a friend of Romeo’s beat him to where Romeo was staying and informs Romeo of Juliet’s death.

• In his anguish, Romeo returns to Verona and Juliet’s tomb. He kills himself.

• Juliet awakens, sees Romeo, and stabs herself to death.

• The families, seeing what grief their feud has caused, reconcile.
Shakespeare’s Globe Theater

- The theater was round so that everyone had a good view.
- All parts, even the female ones were played by males.
- If the audience didn’t like the performance, they threw rotten vegetables at the actors.
- Performances were during the daytime because there were no electric lights.
Chinese Printing

• Built on earlier Chinese technology known as wood block printing
• Wood block printing = a letter or word carved on a wooden block, ink is rolled on the block, and letter or word is printed on paper
In mid-1400’s, German Johann Gutenberg used movable type to invent a printing press.

Printing press=a machine that pressed paper against a tray full of movable type.

Gutenberg printed 500 copies of the Gutenberg Bible in German.
Metal Movable Type
A person could copy a single book in about five months.

A printing press could produce 500 books in the same amount of time.
Impact of the Printing Press

- Fueled the spread of Renaissance ideas
- Before the printing press, printers spent months handwriting copies of books.
- Printing press could produce hundreds of copies quickly.
- Price of books cheap enough for many people to own.
- Availability of books encouraged people to learn to read.
- New ideas spread more quickly.
- Authors began to write in the vernacular, or their native language.
- People were able to read the Bible in their own language and interpret it for themselves.
Mathematicians advanced the study of algebra by introducing letters in algebraic equations.

Scientists developed:
- theories about the universe
- understanding of the minerals and metals that made up the earth’s surface

Advance in study of anatomy by dissecting human bodies (first in 1315)

Cartographers (mapmakers) created more accurate maps.
People should think for themselves and work to achieve their potential based on humanists principles.

These ideas led to advancements in art.

People began taking a more critical look at institutions such as the Church and government.
Renaissance benefited mainly the upper classes.

**Wealthy**
- Wealthy had time to study classical texts and examine humanist ideas.
- Consisted of nobles and merchants.
- Men worked to become well-rounded and learned in art, literature, history, and classical study. Goal was to achieve greatness in many areas (become a Renaissance Man).

**Middle and Lower Classes**
- Middle and lower classes not well educated, so did not take part in Renaissance activities.
- Majority of people in Italy not wealthy.
- Middle-class tradespeople or merchants earned a modest living.
- Most people made up lower class who worked as laborers.
- Ideas and breakthroughs of Renaissance did not reach most of the poor.
Renaissance Man/Renaissance Woman

- Renaissance men were ones who excelled in many aspects of life.
- Mastered fields of classical study.
- Studied the humanities—art, literature, history, and philosophy.

- Many Renaissance women received an education and developed an appreciation for the arts. Some became artists and writers (Italian poet Vittoria Colonna).
- Gained few political rights during Renaissance.
- Women stayed home, leaving to go to the market or church.
- Main duties were overseeing the education of their children and supervising servants.
Vocabulary

urban
rural
Renaissance
city-state
patron
secular—of the world- not based in religion
humanism
Renaissance Man
Silk Road
Key Figures

Thinkers, Patrons, and Innovators

• Petrach
• The Medicis
• Johann Gutenberg

Architecture

• Filippo Brunelleschi
Key Figures

**Artists**
- Leonardo da Vinci
- Michelangelo
- Raphael
- Titian
- Botticelli
- Durer
- Van Eyck
- Bruegel

**Writers**
- Dante Alighieri
- Miguel Cervantes
- Niccolo Machiavelli
- William Shakespeare