"Recovery and Rebirth: The Age of the Renaissance"

Chapter 12 Reading Guide *Western Civilization - 10th Ed. - Spielvogel*

**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**MAJOR THEMES / BIG QUESTIONS: (as you work through the chapter, bear these questions in mind)**

* Why did Renaissance ideals first take hold in the city-states of northern Italy? (SP-1, PP-6)
* How did the development of Renaissance humanism encourage study of the classics, promote secularism, and lead to the ideal of virtu? (OS-9, OS-10)
* How did the classical emphasis on individualism and secularism affect the art, literature, and architecture of the period? (OS-5, SP-1)
* How did the growth of cities and commerce along with new theories of government lead to changes in social structure that affected the relationship between the governing classes and the governed?
* Analyze the ways in which the printing press, vernacular literature, and the spread of Renaissance ideals outside of Italy contributed to the development of national culture. (SP-2, SP-3)
* What methods did the new monarchs use to overcome obstacles that hindered the growth of royal power? (SP-2, OS-9)
* How did the fall of Constantinople to the Ottoman Turks lead to changes in trade, diplomacy, and society after 1453? (INT-11)
* What arguments have historians made about the experience of the Renaissance by women? (IS-6, OS-4)

**12.1 Meaning and Characteristics of the Italian renaissance**

1.) Read the section in blue on pages 332-3, what was the nature of the relationship between Pope Julius II and Michelangelo. What great work did Michelangelo end up producing?

2.) Renaissance means "rebirth," but when referencing the era of the "Renaissance" what exactly is it a rebirth of? (hint, read ALL of pg 333 before answering... there are multiple factors you should include in your answer.)

3.) Who was Jacob Burckhardt, and what was his argument about the Renaissance? Do modern scholars agree with Burckhardt? Why or why not?

4.) What was the birthplace of the Renaissance? Why here?

5.) Was the Renaissance a movement for everyone? If not, who was affected by it and where were these people located?

**12.2 The Making of Renaissance Society**

6.) What was the Hanseatic League, or Hansa? What is a monopoly?

7.) What happened to the economy as Europe entered the 15th century? What were some new industries that came along at that time?

8.) What is the Medici family? What important service did they provide across Europe? What happened to them at the close of the 15th century (1400s)?

9.) The social system of the Middle Ages lingered into the renaissance. It was made of 3 estates. What were they?

10.) What percent of the population constituted the aristocracy? What kinds of roles did they play in society?

11.) What did Baldassare Castiglione write? When was it written? What were the three basic attributes he wrote about?

12.) During the Renaissance what percentage of the population was peasantry? What two major systems began to decline after the 14th century?

13.) Generally peasants don't live in towns, what kinds of activities did urban members of the Third Estate do?

14.) Agricultural slavery had been in decline for centuries by the 15th century. Why did it briefly return? Where did slaves re-emerge and how were their jobs different than before?

15.) How was the concept of a "family" during the Renaissance different than most people probably think of a "family" today? (hint, there are a number of ways)

16.) How was there a double standard for men and women in Renaissance Italy when it came to marriage and sexual norms?

**12.3 The Italian States in the Renaissance**

17.) Name the five major powers that dominated the Italian peninsula.

18.) What is an "oligarchy"? Explain how this concept manifested itself in the Republic of Florence.

19.) Who were Battista Sforza and Isabella d'Este? Why are they important in the landscape of Renaissance Italy?

20.) The Italian states utilized a "balance of power" that would later be applied on a larger scale to all of Europe. What was this and how well did it work? What two nations competed to dominate Italy and who were their rulers?

21.) The use of diplomacy expanded extensively during this time. What is a diplomat and what kind of duties do they perform?

22.) Who was Niccolo Machiavelli? What was his book called and what was it generally about? (more specific questions to follow)

23.) What were Machiavelli's biggest concerns and what was it that caused him to develop his ideas?

24.) What was Machiavelli's view of human nature? How did this affect the morality of his ideas?

25.) Who did Machiavelli point to as being a good example of a ruler? Why?

**12.4 The Intellectual Renaissance in Italy**

26.) Define the terms individualism and secularism. What areas were these two characteristics most noticeable in Renaissance Italy?

27.) What is humanism? Who is often called the father of humanism? Where is humanism found in the Italian Renaissance?

28.) What is "civic humanism" and where was it most prominent?

29.) Fill in the chart below pertaining to humanists and civic humanists

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Humanist** | **Major Works** | **Significance/Contribution to the Italian Renaissance** |
| Petrarch |  |  |
| Lorenzo Valla |  |  |
| Leonardo Bruni |  |  |
| Giovanni Pico della Mirandola |  |  |
| Marsilio Ficino |  |  |

30.) What is Neoplatonism? Hermeticism? Pantheism? What do all three of these concepts have in common?

31.) Humanism is often linked to the "liberal studies" - what are these, and how does this relate to the concept of "l'uomo universale" mentioned back on pg.333? What kinds of physical education skills were taught?

32.) Although education was emphasized in this time, what segment of the population was most likely to receive a formal education at this time?

33.) How did women generally fit into the concept of a humanist educaction? How would you summarize the effect of the Renaissance on women of Italy?

34.) If the Roman Catholic Church had so much power, how did the humanists manage to "secularize" the writing of history. (pg 350).

35.) What was the most important invention of the 15th century? Who invented it? About half of the items created by this invention were about what?

**12.5 The Artistic Renaissance**

36.) Who was the first artist since Giotto to begin imitating nature in his work? Where can his work be seen?

37.) Explain at least 4 features of Renaissance art and how it portrayed humanism.

38.) Fill in the chart of Renaissance artists and their major works.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Artist Name** | **Famous Work(s)** | **Early/High** | **At least one element of piece that makes it Renaissance** |
| Leonardo  da Vinci |  |  |  |
| Antonio Pollaiulo |  |  |  |
|  | Primavera |  |  |
| Donatello |  |  |  |
|  | Dome of the Duomo |  |  |
|  | School of Athens |  |  |
| Michelangelo |  |  |  |
| Donato Bramante |  |  |  |

39.) Where did artists rank among society? How did their social position change over time?

40.) What are the "Low Countries," where are they located geographically in Europe, and how did their art differ from Italian art?

41.) What city was considered the center of ITALIAN art? What city was considered the center of Northern art? Name two famous Northern Renaissance artists and one famous work each completed.

**12.6 The European State in the Renaissance**

42.) What are the "New Monarchies" or "Renaissance States" and when did they develop?

43.) What were Louis XI of France's major accomplishments? What do historians give him credit for?

44.) What was the "War of the Roses" in England? Why was it called this? What event caused the Plantagenet dynasty to be replaced? What was the new dynasty?

45.) Henry VII of England was a very important king. What were some cunning political moves he used to legitimize his reign and keep power?

46.) Prior to the 15th century, Spain was actually many different independent kingdoms. What were the two largest kingdoms, who ruled them, and what brought them together to eventually unite?

47.) What were the two large religious minorities in Spain? How were they treated during the renaissance? (hint… read carefully)

48.) What was the Spanish Inquisition? What was the Fall of Grenada?

49.) What dynasty controlled the Holy Roman Empire, where modern day Germany and Austria are located? How did this dynasty manage to become so successful?

50.) How were central and Eastern European kingdoms fundamentally different from those in the West?

51.) Briefly describe the situations in Poland, Hungary, and Russia during this time.

52.) Who were the biggest threat to Eastern Europe beginning in the 14th century? What empire did they trample and what city fell under their control in 1453? What European cultures were most imminently threatened by this new empire?

**12.7 The Church in the Renaissance**

53.) After the Great Schism ended, what new problem was the Roman Catholic Church having difficulty controlling? What two movements can be considered the most prominent threats to the church?

54.) What is a "Lollard" and who did they follow? What were two fundamental beliefs of their leader?

55.) Who is John Hus? What were his beliefs? Who were his followers?

56.) What was the Council of Constance? Explain the two decrees of the Council of Constance. How effective (or ineffective) were these decrees?

57.) Who was the Warrior Pope? Why was he called this?

58.) Explain how nepotism affected the papacy.

**Identifications and Definition Terms**

1.Renaissance

3. Leon Battista Alberti

4. Castiglione’s Book of the Courtier

5. condottieri

6. Francisco Sforza

7. Cosimo d’Medici

8 Isabella d'Este

9. Peace of Lodi

10. 1527 sack of Rome

11. Machiavelli’s The Prince

12. civic humanism

13. Petrarch

14. Leonardo Bruni’s The New Cicero

15. Lorenzo Valla

16. Pico della Mirandola’s Oration

17. “liberal studies”

18. Johannes Gutenberg

19. Masaccio

20. Lorenzo the Magnificent

21. Botticelli’s Primavera

22. Donatello’s David

24. Brunelleschi’s dome

25. Leonardo da Vinci

26. Raphael

27. Michelangelo

28. Sistine Chapel’s David

29 Northern Renaissance

30. Jan van Eyck

31. Albrecht Durer

32. Louis XI the Spider

33. Henry VII

35. Ferdinand and Isabella

36. The Habsburgs

37. Ivan III

38. Constantinople and 1453

39. John Wyclif and John Hus

40. Pius II’s Execrabilis

**QUESTIONS FOR THE PRIMARY SOURCES (BOXED DOCUMENTS)**

1. “A Renaissance Banquet”: Describe the kinds of people who would be present at a banquet where the foods listed on this menu would be served. What does this excerpt tell you about the material culture of the Renaissance and the associations of food with social status? How would a banquet in the twenty-first century differ in its menu from that given by Pope Pius V in the sixteenth century? (page 333)

2. “Marriage Negotiations”: What were the most important considerations in marriage negotiations? Why were they so important? What were the secondary considerations, and why were they secondary? Why and to which segments of society was formal marriage important to in the Renaissance? (page 338)

3. “The Letters of Isabella d’Este”: What do these letters reveal about the character of Isabella and about the attributes and strategies of expression upon which noble females had to rely for effective participation in high politics? What does Isabella’s second letter suggest about her marriage and her relationship with her husband? (page 341)

4. Opposing View: Page 344 (questions in box)

5. “Petrarch: Mountain Climbing and the Search for Spiritual Contentment”: What were Petrarch’s motives for climbing Mount Ventoux? What bothers Petrarch about his own intellectual pursuits? Why did the excerpt from St. Augustine’s Confessions disturb him so much? How does the conflict within himself reflect the historical debate about the nature of the Renaissance? (page 345)

6. “Pico della Mirandola and the Dignity of Man”: What does Pico mean by the “dignity of man”? Why would Pico be regarded as one of the most representative examples of a Renaissance man? Can Pico della Mirandola be considered a “modern” man? Why and/or why not? (page 347)

7. “A Woman’s Defense of Learning”: How does Laura Cereta explain her intellectual interests and accomplishments? Why were Renaissance women rarely taken seriously in their quest for educational opportunities and recognition for their intellectual talents? Were any of those factors unique to the Renaissance era? Can Cereta be described as a “feminist”? Why or why not? (page 348)

8. “The Genius of Leonardo da Vinci”: How did Leonardo da Vinci exemplify the ideal of the “Renaissance man”? How do you think Vasari's comments on Leonardo fostered the image of the Renaissance artist as a “creative genius with almost divine qualities?” What makes for genius in the twenty-first century? (page 355)