

**REVIEW****VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13a**

Economics and the Birth of the Italian Renaissance

WHI.13a: The student will demonstrate knowledge of developments leading to the Renaissance in Europe in terms of its impact on Western civilization by a) identifying the economic foundations of the Italian Renaissance.

Read the summaries to answer questions on the Practice page.

After the Crusades

When Europeans returned home after the Crusades, they brought with them new ideas and desires for goods from the Muslim world. These demands increased the number of goods traded.

Banking

With increased levels of trade and economic activity, merchants had a growing need for money exchange, places for making monetary deposits, and credit. From this need, modern banking was born.

Usury

Initially, there was little initiative for lenders to lend merchants money since the Church outlawed usury – the charging of interest on loans. As trade and the need for loans grew, the Church changed its opinion about usury. It declared that it was legal to charge interest on high-risk loans as long as the interest rate wasn't exorbitant.

Mathematics

The Crusades and the Muslims in Spain also brought about change in how Europeans thought about mathematics. In 1202, Leonardo Fibonacci wrote *Book of the Abacus*. This was the first European book to discuss Arabic numbers. Soon, the use of this number system and the concept of zero was incorporated into the accounting practices of banking.

Growth of Cities

For centuries, coastal Italian city-states had a monopoly on trade in their region, the Mediterranean Sea. Many trade routes from Asia to Europe passed through Italy. As a result, large cities developed, including Florence, Venice, and Milan in northern Italy.

Cities provided an ideal environment for exchanging ideas as well as goods. People lived close together and could meet to talk with each other. Merchants and travelers introduced new styles, attitudes, and views on life. These conditions helped cities become the location from which Renaissance ideas spread.

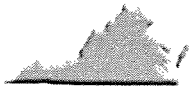
Within these cities, a wealthy merchant class formed. These merchants were involved in politics. They also had the time and money to pursue other interests, such as the arts. Many of these wealthy merchants became patrons. Their financial support allowed artists and writers to create great works.

PRACTICE

VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13a*Economics and the Birth
of the Italian Renaissance*

Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

- 1 Which statement accurately describes the trading position of Italy?
 - A Italy traded with northern Europe and Russia only.
 - B Italy had major trade routes passing through it.
 - C Italy did not participate in trade with the rest of Europe or Asia.
 - D Trade led to the growth of small villages along the Italian coast.
- 2 Which condition helped spread Renaissance ideas?
 - F feudal system
 - G the growth of cities
 - H knowledge of the classics
 - J outbreak of the plague
- 3 Which of the following *best* defines the term *usury*?
 - A to buy favor with the Church
 - B to use money to buy goods
 - C to charge interest on a loan
 - D to pay off debts
- 4 Who was the first European to write about Arabic numbers?
 - F Euclid
 - G Leonard da Vinci
 - H Leonardo Fibonacci
 - J Marco Polo
- 5 What role did merchants play in the Italian Renaissance?
 - A They painted great artworks.
 - B They were great writers.
 - C They saved the government.
 - D They patronized, or hired, artists.

REVIEW**VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13b**

Italy and the Birth of Renaissance Ideas

WHI.13b: The student will demonstrate knowledge of developments leading to the Renaissance in Europe in terms of its impact on Western civilization by b) sequencing events related to the rise of Italian city-states and their political development, including Machiavelli's theory of governing as described in *The Prince*.

Read the summaries to answer questions on the Practice page.

Italian Cities

The years 1300 to 1600 saw a rebirth of learning and culture in Europe. It began there for three reasons. First, Italy had several important city-states, whereas most of northern Europe was still rural. Second, these city-states included a class of merchants and bankers who were becoming wealthy and powerful. Third, Italian artists and scholars were inspired by the ruined buildings and other reminders of classical Rome. These factors made Florence the birthplace of the Italian Renaissance.

Florence

Florence is located in northern Italy on the river Arno. Toward the end of the Middle Ages, Florence became a banking center, making it a wealthy city. Its population grew and included many artists and writers who helped shape the Renaissance. By the 1400s, the Medici family had assumed control of the city. Their dictatorship replaced republican rule. As rich bankers with great power, they were in a position to encourage the work of artists. The patronage of the Medici encouraged many of the great artists and architects to live and work in Florence. The Medicis were patrons of Leonardo da Vinci and Michaelangelo among others.

Machiavelli

In 1513, Niccolò Machiavelli took a new approach to understanding government. In his book, *The Prince*, he focused on telling rulers how to expand their power, even if that meant taking steps that the Church might view as evil. He also relayed that the "ends justify the means" and that evil is sometimes a necessary mean.



PRACTICE

**VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13b**

Italy and the Birth of Renaissance Ideas

Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Which of the following cities did <i>not</i> give birth to the Renaissance?</p> <p>A Florence</p> <p>B Venice</p> <p>C Rome</p> <p>D Paris</p> | <p>4 During the Renaissance, Florence was <i>most</i> noted for its</p> <p>F trade routes.</p> <p>G large churches.</p> <p>H fountains.</p> <p>J great artists.</p> |
| <p>2 Machiavelli promoted the idea that</p> <p>F rulers must obey the Church.</p> <p>G the ends justify the means.</p> <p>H rulers must lead with moral authority.</p> <p>J the desire for power is evil.</p> | <p>5 In Florence, the Medici were</p> <p>A artists.</p> <p>B writers.</p> <p>C clergy.</p> <p>D bankers.</p> |
| <p>3 What made Florence an early center of the Renaissance?</p> <p>A The city had great wealth.</p> <p>B It was on the Arno River.</p> <p>C It was strongly Catholic.</p> <p>D The city was very beautiful.</p> | |

REVIEW**VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13c***Renaissance Achievements*

WHI.13c: The student will demonstrate knowledge of developments leading to the Renaissance in Europe in terms of its impact on Western civilization by c) citing artistic, literary, and philosophical creativity, as contrasted with the medieval period, including Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Petrarch.

Read the summaries to answer questions on the Practice page.

Literature

- Writers began to use the vernacular. More people could enjoy literature.
- Many authors in the Renaissance wrote to express themselves or to develop portraits of individuals. Modern writers still share these purposes.
- Francesco Petrarch was a scholar and humanist who wrote a number of sonnets and letters. He has been referred to as the “Father of Humanism.”

The Arts

- Renaissance artists rejected medieval traditions. They did portray religious subjects, but realistically. Some subjects were from ancient Greece and Rome.
- They sculpted or painted important citizens, emphasizing individuality.
- They developed the technique known as perspective. Perspective allowed them to produce paintings that looked three-dimensional rather than flat.
- Michelangelo was one of the most famous Renaissance artists. As a sculptor, he created the renown *David*. He was also an accomplished painter. While lying on his back on scaffolding, he painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome (now Vatican City).

Science, Engineering, and Mathematics

- Scholars advanced algebra by using letters in equations.
- Artists and scientists studied human anatomy. Scholars of this time made important discoveries, such as the function of the heart.
- Leonardo da Vinci sketched ideas for many inventions, including an aerial screw, the forerunner of the helicopter.
- Scientists developed new theories about the universe. They learned more about the minerals and metals that make up the surface of Earth.
- Architects designed huge domes for cathedrals using math calculations. Filippo Brunelleschi found a way to raise materials to the roofs of high buildings.

Cartography (Map Making)

- Advances in navigation, ship building technology, and astronomy as well as longer voyages of exploration helped make maps more accurate.
- In the 16th century, Gerardus Mercator invented a way for navigators to plot a straight line on a map representing a curved surface. His projection helped sailors chart a more precise course.

PRACTICE

VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING VUS.13c*Renaissance Achievements*

Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

1 What characterizes many works of Renaissance literature?

- A** use of Latin
- B** suspenseful plots
- C** focus on people as individuals
- D** emphasis on religion

Use the following quote to answer question 2.

“What a piece of work is a man, how noble in reason, how infinite [endless] in faculties [abilities], in form and moving, how . . . admirable.”

—William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*
(Act 2, Scene 2)

2 What Renaissance value does the quote from *Hamlet* reflect?

- F** Humans were put on Earth to serve God and their king.
- G** The potential of human beings is limitless.
- H** Most humans are weak and need to be guided by authority.
- J** Humans have little control over their destinies.

3 Renaissance artists tended to produce works that

- A** were realistic.
- B** were lacking in detail.
- C** had dull colors.
- D** resembled medieval art.

4 The use of perspective allowed artists to

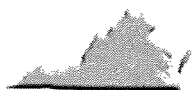
- F** copyright their paintings, drawings, and sculptures.
- G** show the muscles under the skin in their sculptures.
- H** create the appearance of three dimensions in their paintings.
- J** apply layers of paint to create color variations.

5 The engineering achievement often associated with the Renaissance is the construction of

- A** thousands of miles of road.
- B** elaborate tombs for popes.
- C** huge domes on cathedrals.
- D** bridges across many rivers.

6 One factor contributing to the increased accuracy of maps in the Renaissance was

- F** greater knowledge about the physical world.
- G** discovery of ancient Greek and Roman maps.
- H** greater attention to detail by the mapmakers.
- J** greater availability of large sheets of paper.

REVIEW**VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13c***Humanism*

WHI.13c: The student will demonstrate knowledge of developments leading to the Renaissance in Europe in terms of its impact on Western civilization by c) citing artistic, literary, and philosophical creativity, as contrasted with the medieval period, including Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Petrarch.

Read the summaries to answer questions on the Practice page.

Reasons for Growth of Humanism

- People wanted to enjoy life after having suffered through wars and the plague in the late Middle Ages.
- Increased trade in the 14th and 15th centuries introduced new ideas to the people in Europe.
- Ancient Greek and Latin texts became more available. As a result, interest in the classics grew. Scholars studied the classical works to learn more about the values of the ancient Greeks and Romans. Some of the qualities prized by the Greeks, such as order, harmony, balance, logic, and individual achievement, influenced the development of humanism and Renaissance values.

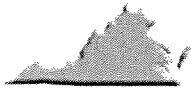
Humanism

- This revival of classical learning and other factors led to humanism, the intellectual movement that focuses on human potential and achievements.
- Humanism stressed the study of subjects such as history, grammar, literature, and philosophy.
- It emphasized the individual. In the Middle Ages, institutions such as the Church were more important than the people who belonged to them.
- Humanists tried to achieve a balance between intellect and faith. They felt that people should not accept blindly the teachings of the Church.
- Humanism also taught that people could enjoy life and still be good Christians.

Effects of Humanism

- Society adopted a more secular view. This meant that instead of the focus being on religion, it was on the things of the world.
- Important Church officials and wealthy merchants became patrons, or supporters, of the arts. They sponsored the creation of great works of art to bring glory to themselves.
- Artists and architects returned to the classical styles of the Greeks and Romans.
- The renewed interest in classical culture strengthened the Renaissance, which had already begun in Italy. The Renaissance was an explosion of creativity in the arts, literature, and thought from 1300 to 1600.

PRACTICE



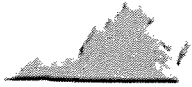
**VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13c**

Humanism

Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Why did scholars study the classics in the 14th and 15th centuries?</p> <p>A There were no medieval works to study.</p> <p>B They wanted to trace the development of Christianity.</p> <p>C They wanted to combine Greek and Christian views.</p> <p>D They wanted to learn more about the ancient Greeks and Romans.</p> | <p>4 How did humanism try to balance intellect and faith?</p> <p>F Humanism encouraged people to think about Church teachings.</p> <p>G Humanism encouraged people to give up their faith.</p> <p>H Humanism encouraged people to sacrifice for the Church.</p> <p>J Humanism encouraged people to do what made them happy.</p> |
| <p>2 Humanism is an intellectual movement that</p> <p>F emphasizes prayer and the Bible.</p> <p>G leads to happier lives.</p> <p>H encourages people to learn Latin and Greek.</p> <p>J focuses on the potential of humans to achieve.</p> | <p>5 What style of architecture became common during the Renaissance?</p> <p>A Egyptian</p> <p>B Chinese</p> <p>C Arab</p> <p>D Roman</p> |
| <p>3 What helped the growth of humanism during the 14th and 15th centuries?</p> <p>A Many Muslims moved from Africa to Europe.</p> <p>B People became interested in other religions.</p> <p>C Trade encouraged people to think in new ways.</p> <p>D People wanted to prepare themselves for death.</p> | <p>6 In what way did the Church show the influence of humanism beginning in the 14th century?</p> <p>F Church officials became less secular.</p> <p>G The Church changed all of its teachings.</p> <p>H Church officials became patrons of the arts.</p> <p>J The Church discontinued its collection of taxes.</p> |

REVIEW

VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13d*The Northern Renaissance*

WHI.13d: The student will demonstrate knowledge of developments leading to the Renaissance in Europe in terms of its impact on Western civilization by d) comparing the Italian and the Northern Renaissance, and citing the contributions of writers.

Read the summaries to answer questions on the Practice page.

Northern Europe Emerges from the Middle Ages

By 1450, the bubonic plague had ended in northern Europe and the population was recovering. Also, the Hundred Years' War between France and England was ending. The suffering caused by these two events was fading, and the new ideas from Italy spread to northern Europe, where they were quickly adopted.

Christian Humanism

The Northern Renaissance had a difference, however. While the educated people there became interested in classical learning, they were more likely to combine that with interest in religious ideas. Major artists appeared in parts of Germany, France, Belgium, and the Netherlands. The use of oil-based paints became popular.

Art and Literature

Artists and writers during the Northern Renaissance revealed the thoughts and living conditions of the period.

Art

- Albrecht Dürer—engraved religious subjects and realistic landscapes.
- Hans Holbein the Younger, Jan van Eyck, and Pieter Bruegel the Elder painted lifelike portraits and scenes of peasant life.

Literature

- Sir Thomas More—wrote *Utopia* to represent a model society. In Greek, the word *utopia* means “no place.” More’s book gave new meaning to the word; today, it represents an ideal world.
- Desiderius Erasmus—wrote *The Praise of Folly*. In his book, Erasmus pokes fun at greedy merchants, heartsick lovers, quarrelsome scholars, and pompous priests.
- Christine de Pizan—wrote *The Book of the City of Ladies*. Pizan was one of the first Europeans to question the different treatment of boys and girls. However, her goal of equal, formal education for both sexes would not be achieved for many centuries.

PRACTICE



VIRGINIA STANDARD
OF LEARNING WHI.13d

The Northern Renaissance

Directions: Choose the letter of the *best* answer.

1 How did the Italian Renaissance differ from the Northern Renaissance?

- A** Changes in art only occurred in Italy.
- B** Only literature in Italy was influenced by classical thinking.
- C** Humanism was only an interest in Italy.
- D** Classical learning was combined with Church teachings in the north.

2 Which of the following events was a trigger for the birth of the Northern Renaissance?

- F** the end of the bubonic plague
- G** the end of Charlemagne's reign
- H** the fall of the Roman Empire
- J** unification of England

3 Which of the following represents an artist of the Northern Renaissance?

- A** Michelangelo
- B** Leonardo da Vinci
- C** van Eyck
- D** Machiavelli

4 Who wrote the book *Utopia*?

- F** Petrarch
- G** Erasmus
- H** More
- J** Pizan