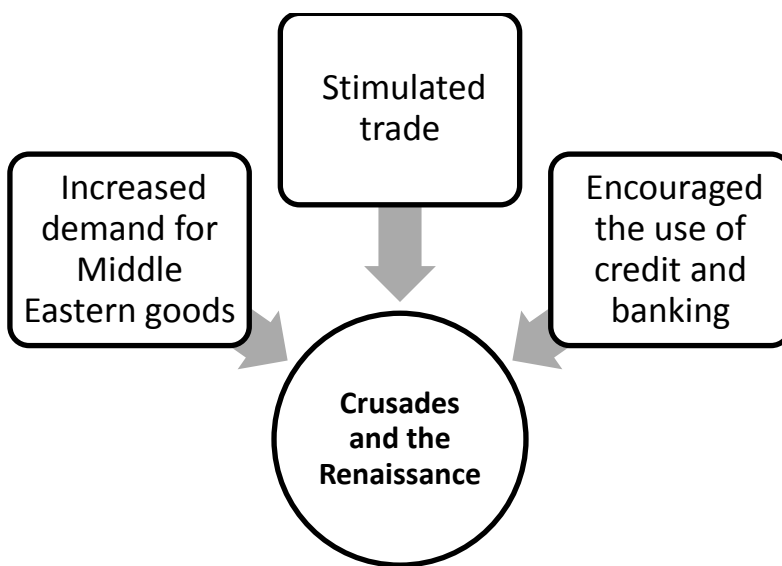


WHI.13ab in a Nutshell

The **Crusades** stimulated trade by introducing Europeans to many desirable products.

How did the Crusades lead to the Renaissance?

This led to new banking practices such as...

Usury (charging interest)
allowed

Letters of credit

New accounting and
bookkeeping practices,
use of Arabic #'s

The Italian City-States

Wealth accumulated from European trade with the Middle East led to the rise of Italian **city-states**. The three main Italian city-states were **Florence**, **Venice**, and **Genoa**. These city-states became wealthy because they had access to **trade routes** connecting Europe and the Middle East. They also served as **trading centers** for the distribution of goods to northern Europe.

The Italian city-states were initially governed as **republics** and wealthy **merchants** were active government leaders.

Machiavelli

Niccolo Machiavelli observed city-state rulers of his day and produced guidelines for the acquisition and maintenance of power by **absolute rule**. His book, ***The Prince***, was an early treatise on government. He said that the **end** justifies the **means**, and advised leaders to do **good** if possible, but do **evil** when necessary.