AP European History

Renaissance Web Quest

**Purpose:** For you to examine how Italian Renaissance art portrays the main ideals of the time, such as humanism, secularism, individualism, Christianity, and more.

**Introduction:** What does the Renaissance mean to you?

* Is it great works of art by Michelangelo, de Vinci, and Botticelli?
* Is the realization of the human potential or the glory of the individual?
* Is it a rebirth of classical Greece and Rome after a thousand years of the Middle Ages?
* Was it a time when society focused less on Christianity and reveled in the here and now?

Enter this Web Quest and find out how the Italian Renaissance is all this and more.

**Task:** For each of the eight major Renaissance ideas (humanism, individualism, etc.), you will examine three works of art that clearly exemplify each of the ideas.  Carefully study each of the three art works and choose which of the three you feel best shows that Renaissance idea.  Then explain why you chose that particular work of art as the best portrayal of the idea.  Repeat for each of the eight Renaissance ideas.

Once you have examined the eight major Renaissance ideas and the overlapping 24 works of art, you will write a concluding statement.

**Process:**

**Step 1:**

What follows are 24 works of art by Italian artists broken down into our eight major Renaissance ideas.  Some artists are repeated and some works of art are repeated.

As you examine each of these works of art, see how each fits into the definition of its major Renaissance idea category (they are all good examples, I'm not trying to fool anyone).

At the end of each of the eight major Renaissance ideas, you will be prompted to pick which of the three just examined works of art best exemplifies that particular idea.

**Humanism**

Raphael’s *St. George Fighting the Dragon* at: <http://www.abcgallery.com/R/raphael/raphael8.html>

Michelangelo’s *The Last Judgment* at:

<http://www.yepa.com/rome/images/sw.jpg>

Raphael’s *Pope Leo X with Two Cardinals*at:

<http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/raphael/popeleox/popeleox.jpg>

Which picture best exemplifies humanism? Why?

**Individualism**

da Vinci’s *Lady with an Ermine* at:

<http://www.lairweb.org.nz/leonardo/ermine.html>

Michelangelo’s *David* at:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_(Michelangelo)>

Michelangelo's *Creation of Adam* from the Sistine Chapel at:

<http://www.italianrenaissance.org/michelangelo-creation-of-adam/>

Which picture best exemplifies individualism? Why?

**Secularism**

Raphael’s *School* *of Athens* at:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/early-europe-and-colonial-americas/renaissance-art-europe-ap/a/raphael-school-of-athens>

da Vinci’s *Lady with an Ermine* at:

<http://www.lairweb.org.nz/leonardo/ermine.html>

da Vinci *The Vitruvian Man* at:

<https://www.leonardodavinci.net/the-vitruvian-man.jsp>

Which picture best exemplifies secularism? Why?

**Neo-Platonism**

Leonardo de Vinci's *Mona Lisa* at:

<http://smarthistory.khanacademy.org/leonardo-mona-lisa.html>

Michelangelo’s *David* at:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_(Michelangelo)>

Botticelli’s *Birth of Venus* at: <http://smarthistory.khanacademy.org/Botticelli.html?searched=birth+venice&highlight=ajaxSearch_highlight+ajaxSearch_highlight1+ajaxSearch_highlight2>

Which picture best exemplifies Neo-Platonism? Why?

**Liberal Education**

Raphael’s *School* *of Athens* at:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/early-europe-and-colonial-americas/renaissance-art-europe-ap/a/raphael-school-of-athens>

Detail from Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel *Erythean Sibyl* at:

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/3/37/Michelangelo_Buonarroti_033.jpg/800px-Michelangelo_Buonarroti_033.jpg>

da Vinci *The Vitruvian Man* at:

<https://www.leonardodavinci.net/the-vitruvian-man.jsp>

Which picture best exemplifies liberal education? Why?

**Christianity**

Da Vinci’s *The Last Supper* at:

<https://www.leonardodavinci.net/the-last-supper.jsp>

Michelangelo’s *Pieta* at:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piet%C3%A0_(Michelangelo)>

Michelangelo’s *The Last Judgment* at:

<http://www.yepa.com/rome/images/sw.jpg>

Which picture best exemplifies Christianity in the 15th Century? Why?

**Classical Greece and Rome**

Botticelli’s *Birth of Venus* at:   
<http://www.italianrenaissance.org/botticelli-birth-of-venus/>

Raphael's *The Nymph Galatea* at:

<https://www.raphaelpaintings.org/galatea.jsp>

Michelangelo’s *The David* at :

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_(Michelangelo)>

Which picture best exemplifies Classical Greece and Rome ? Why?

**Step 2:**

**Based on your reading from the textbook, notes and discussion in class coupled with the paintings you just examined, write a new definition or explanation for each of the Renaissance ideas.  Be prepared to share your definitions/explanations with the class.**

Humanism

Individualism

Secularism

Neo-Platonism

Liberal Education

Christianity

Classical Greece and Rome

**Step 3:**

**Once you have examined the eight major Renaissance ideas and the overlapping 24 works of art, pick one work of art that you feel best expresses all, or most of, the ideas of the Renaissance.  Write a paragraph in which you explain how that one work of art epitomizes the Renaissance.**