

GII-Renaissance

Renaissance: Italian Geography

- Started cities like Florence, Venice & Genoa 1400's
- Cities had a new wealthy middle class and were located at the center of trade
- Rebirth of Greco-Roman culture

Humanism

- During the Middle Ages religion was the most powerful institution
- Renaissance: People began to focus on secular beliefs (worldly or not-religious) as well as religion
- Humanism: focus on individual achievements
- Stressed reason and logic

Printing Press

- Created by Johannes Gutenberg
- More people began to read and write
- Spread ideas throughout Europe during the Renaissance
- Spread Luther's 95 Theses and the Protestant Reformation

Machiavelli

- Wrote *The Prince*, Niccolò Machiavelli
- quote: "the end justifies the means."
- This stated that a wise ruler:
- Should do what is necessary to stay in power
- Should use absolute power to maintain order

Sample Questions

1. The revival of Greek and Roman culture, the economic growth of Italian city-states in the 1400s, and the development of humanism were aspects of the

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| (1) Age of Revolutions | (3) spread of Islam |
| (2) Protestant Reformation | (4) European Renaissance |

2. What was one reason that some Italian cities developed into major commercial and cultural centers during the 13th and 14th centuries?

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| (1) unified central government | (3) geographic location |
| (2) isolationist economic policies | (4) system of social equality |

3. Which factor contributed to the beginning of the Renaissance in Italian cities?

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| (1) occupation by foreign powers | (3) surplus of porcelain from Japan |
| (2) interaction with Latin America | (4) access to important trade routes |

4. In his book *The Prince*, Niccolò Machiavelli advises that a wise ruler is one who

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| (1) keeps taxes and food prices low | (3) allows advisors to speak their minds |
| (2) encourages education and the arts | (4) does what is necessary to stay in power |

5. What is meant by Machiavelli's belief that "the end justifies the means"?

- (1) Leaders may use any method to achieve what is best for the state.
- (2) The general public always acts in its own best interest.
- (3) Pleasing all of the people at any given time is possible.
- (4) Leaders must always act for the common good.

6. A major reason that the Renaissance began in Italy was that
- (1) Italian city-states had grown wealthy from trade between Europe and Asia
 - (2) farmers produced great agricultural surpluses on vast plains
 - (3) merchants supported the Green Revolution
 - (4) many European scholars had migrated to this area
7. Which statement best expresses an idea held by many Renaissance humanist philosophers?
- (1) People should study worldly subjects as well as sacred matters.
 - (2) Governments should establish overseas empires.
 - (3) Individuals should withdraw from the world and study religion.
 - (4) Scholars should dedicate themselves to the study of life after death.
8. The Renaissance in western Europe is best described as a period marked by
- (1) unquestioned reliance on the teachings of Aristotle
 - (2) an advance of Muslim culture
 - (3) Christian unity throughout the region
 - (4) great intellectual and artistic creativity
9. A direct impact that the printing press had on 16th-century Europe was that it encouraged the
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| (1) spread of ideas | (3) establishment of democracy |
| (2) beginnings of communism | (4) development of industrialization |