

# The Renaissance



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Form \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Homework hand in day \_\_\_\_\_

Year 7

# Homework 1

## About the Renaissance

**Read the following information and answer the questions about the Renaissance.**

Renaissance, is a French word meaning rebirth. It is applied to the rediscovery and revival of interest in art, architecture and literary culture of Ancient Greece and Rome.

The Italian Renaissance marked a period of great cultural change in Europe that took place between the 14th and 16th centuries.

The Renaissance is generally considered to have started in Florence, Italy around the years 1350 to 1400. The start of the Renaissance also was the end of the Middle Ages.

### **Coming out of the Dark**

The Middle Ages began with the fall of the Roman Empire. Much of the advances in science, art, and government that had been made by the Greeks and Romans were lost during this time. Part of the Middle Ages is actually called the Dark Ages because so much of what was learned earlier was lost. In the Middle Ages the subject of almost all European art was religion, specifically Christianity and the Catholic Church. Renaissance artists continued to paint religious paintings, they also branched out to other subjects including Greek and Roman mythology, historical subjects, and portraits of individuals. They also focused on the details of everyday life.

The Renaissance was a time of "coming out of the dark". It was a rebirth of education, science, art, literature, music, and a better life for people in general.

### **Humanism**

One of the big changes in the Renaissance was in the basic way people thought about things. In the Middle Ages people thought that life was supposed to be hard. They grew up thinking that life was nothing but hard work and war. However, around the 1300s, the people in Florence, Italy began to think differently about life. They studied the writings and works of the Greeks and the Romans and realized that earlier civilizations had lived differently.

This new way of thinking was called Humanism. Now people thought that life could be enjoyable and they could have comforts.

Humanism was a philosophy that all people should strive to be educated and learned in the classical arts, literature, and science. It looked for realism and human emotion in art.

## **Florence, Italy**

At the start of the Renaissance, Italy was divided up into a number of powerful city-states. These were areas of land that were ruled by a large city. Each city-state had its own government. One of the major city-states was Florence. The government that ran Florence was a republic, like ancient Rome. This meant that the citizens elected their own leaders. Florence is often named as the birthplace of the Renaissance

In the late 1300s, Florence had become a rich city. Wealthy merchants and businessmen had the money to hire artisans and craftspeople. This inspired competitions among artists and thinkers. Art began to flourish and new thoughts began to emerge.

## **The Medici Family**

In the 1400's the Medici family came into power in Florence. They were wealthy bankers and helped the arts along by sponsoring many artists and using their personal funds to further the humanist movement. They generously supported the arts, commissioning the building of great cathedrals, and commissioning the best artists of the age to decorate them.

## **Giotto di Bondone - First Renaissance Painter**

Giotto was a painter in Florence, Italy. He was the first painter to break away from the standard Byzantine style painting of the Middle Ages and try something new.

He painted objects and people as they actually looked in nature. Previously, artists had all painted more abstract paintings that didn't look real at all. Giotto is said to have started the Renaissance in art with his new style of realistic painting. He is outstanding as a painter, sculptor, and architect, Giotto was recognized as the first genius of art in the Italian Renaissance.

## **Answer these questions about the Renaissance:**

1. What does the term Renaissance mean?

---

2. When did the Renaissance take place?

---

3. What period came before the Renaissance?

---

4. What was life like before the Renaissance?

---

5. What did Renaissance artists like to paint?

---

6. What did the Humanism way of thinking believe that people should be educated in?

---

7. What is the name of the wealthy family of bankers that supported the arts by sponsoring artists and funding the humanist movement?

---

8. Which wealthy Italian city state was considered the birthplace of The Renaissance?

---

9. What was the name of the artist who is considered to be the first Renaissance painter? \_\_\_\_\_

10. What was Giotto's new 'style' of painting?

---

My score /10

10-9 = Excellent

8-7 = Good

6-5 = Inconsistent

4-0 = Poor

## Homework 2

### Renaissance Art

**Read the following information and answer the questions about Renaissance art:**

Renaissance artists believed the Arts and Literature had declined during the “middle ages”. They thought that by studying and copying good examples of measuring, drawing, classical sculpture and architecture, it would greatly improve the quality of the arts and literature. Famous Renaissance painters include Raphael, Leonardo Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Sandro Botticelli, Titian and Tintoretto.

#### **Realism**

One of the big changes in art was to paint and sculpt subjects realistically. This is called realism and involves a number of techniques that make the subjects and background look like they would in real life. This also meant giving the subjects more emotional qualities. Renaissance artists focused on developing new techniques and artistic methods of composition to create realistic effects. A number of painters emerged out of the Italian Renaissance and began to show an interest in the beauty of nature and the human body.

These techniques were used by artists to help enhance the quality and realism of the art:

**Perspective** - perspective is drawing or painting a picture such that it looks like there are three dimensions. It gives the illusion that some objects in the painting are further away than others.

**Proportion** - Drawing subjects such that they are the correct size when compared to each other.

**Use of Light and Dark** - Many artists starting using light and shadows in their works to add drama, perspective, and timing to their art.

#### **Training and Practice**

Training usually began at an early age. Some boys were placed with a master before they were ten years old.

The length of an apprenticeship was about three years, during which masters were forbidden from trying to tempt away the students of others. An artist

might specialise as a painter or sculptor, but he often worked as both. Often they were called on to produce works as well, including parade shields, banners, and designs for ceremonial entrances for important visitors to a city. Titian even designed glassware.

Boys who apprenticed in a workshop—called *garzoni*—typically became part of their masters' extended household, lodging and sharing meals with the family. Parents often paid the master for their sons' keep, but masters, in turn, were obliged to pay wages to their apprentices, increasing the wages as skills grew. Pupils began with practical tasks such as preparing panels and grinding pigments needed for paints. They then learned to draw, first by copying drawings made by their masters or other artists.

Michelangelo, for example, copied paintings by Giotto. Apprentices were also encouraged to travel if they could, to Rome especially, to continue their visual education.

The aspiring artist's next step was to draw from statuettes or casts. Ancient sculpture was especially valued for this purpose. Students' study of it helped foster greater naturalism in Renaissance depictions of the human form. The practice of converting a static three-dimensional object into a two-dimensional image was a vital step before a student moved on to draw from a live model.

Students were trained to work in the master's style and succeeded to such a degree that it is sometimes hard for today's art historians to distinguish the hand of a master from that of his most talented pupils.

A master's signature was a sign that a work met his standards of quality, no matter who had actually painted it.

After a period of training in a shop, a student could proceed to journeyman status. Following submission and acceptance of a piece that demonstrated his mastery—the masterpiece—an artist could then open a shop and take on students of his own.

### **Influential Artists**

Italian masters such as Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael were key figures in the movement and some of their works have endured through the decades to remain some of the most popular and well recognised art works ever created. During the High Renaissance these three artists were the most prominent and dominated the art scene.

## Answer these questions about Renaissance art:

1. What is art known as that artists have painted or sculpted realistically?

---

2. What is the technique called that artists used to make things look three dimensional and add depth or distance to an image?

---

3. What name is given to the technique of ensuring a drawing is the correct size compared to the things around it?

---

4. What 3 things can effective use of light and dark add to a painting?

---

5. Typically, how long would an apprenticeship last?

---

6. What were boys that apprenticed in the workshops called?

---

7. After learning to draw by copying their master's drawings, what was the next step to help them capture the naturalism of the human form?

---

8. Name the 3 artists that dominated the High Renaissance period

---

My score **/8**

8 = Excellent

7-6 = Good

5-4 = Inconsistent

3-0 = Poor

# Homework 3

## Leonardo da Vinci

**Read the following information and answer the questions about Leonardo da Vinci:**

Leonardo da Vinci was an artist, scientist, and inventor during the Italian Renaissance. He is considered by many to be one of the most talented and intelligent people of all time.

Leonardo da Vinci is regarded as one of the greatest artists in history. Leonardo excelled in many areas including drawing, painting, and sculpture. Although we don't have a lot of his paintings today, he is probably most famous for his paintings and also gained great fame during his own time due to his paintings. Two of his most famous paintings, and perhaps two of the most famous in the world, include the Mona Lisa and The Last Supper. Leonardo's drawings are also quite extraordinary. He would keep journals full of drawings and sketches, often of different subjects that he was studying.

Leonardo Da Vinci was not only a painter, but a mathematician, scientist, engineer, inventor and architect. His endless curiosity and imagination led him to dream up machines that were far ahead of his time. He was an avid birdwatcher and interested in the science of flying. He was particularly keen on flying machines, and came up with a design for a type of helicopter, although it was never built.

### **The Renaissance Man**

The term Renaissance Man refers to a person that is an expert and talented in many areas. The true geniuses of the Renaissance were great examples of this. Leonardo da Vinci was a master painter, sculptor, scientist, inventor, architect, engineer, and writer. He is often referred to as 'The Renaissance Man' because of his many talents.

### **Drawings**

It is said that his sketchbooks were more like the work of a medical student than an artist. He wanted to understand the human anatomy to create accurate paintings and drawings that would astound people for many centuries. In addition to his inventions of flying machines da Vinci's sketchbooks show hundreds of highly detailed drawings of humans, animals, architecture and



plants. Over the course of his life, Da Vinci filled more than seven thousand notebook pages with sketches and writing.

## Paintings

In his paintings, there is an overwhelming sense of mystery. One of his most famous paintings is the Mona Lisa.

Sfumato - This was a technique used by Leonardo da Vinci to add additional perspective and dimension to paintings. It was a way of blurring the lines between subjects. This technique was used in Leonardo's Mona Lisa.

Leonardo's major artistic achievement at this time was his depiction of 'The Last Supper', which he painted for the wall of the refectory of Santa Maria della Grazie. The subject of the Last Supper is Christ's final meal with his apostles before Judas identifies Christ to the authorities who arrest him.

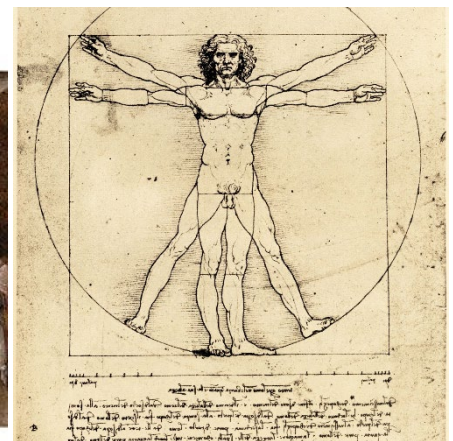
A.



B.



C.



## Answer these questions about Leonardo da Vinci:

1. In addition to an artist, name 3 other talents that Da Vinci was known for being

---

2. What does the term 'Renaissance Man' mean?

---

3. Name Da Vinci's two most famous paintings

---

4. What did Da Vinci design as one of his many inventions?

---

5. In addition to human anatomy and designing inventions, what else did Da Vinci draw in his sketchbooks?

---

6. Name the blurring technique Da Vinci used in his painting The Mona Lisa

---

7. What is the title of painting A?

---

8. What is the title of painting B?

---

9. What is the title of drawing C?

---

My score /9

9 = Excellent

8-7 = Good

6-5 = Inconsistent

4-0 = Poor

## Homework 4

### Albrecht Dürer

**Read the following information about Albrecht Dürer and answer the questions:**

**Albrecht Dürer** was born on May 21, 1471 in Nuremberg, Germany. He was the third child of between fourteen and eighteen children. His father was a goldsmith. Albrecht Dürer became known as the “prince of German artists.” He was the first to fuse the richness of the Italian Renaissance to the harsher northern European arts of painting, drawing, and engraving.

Albrecht's godfather, Anton Koberger, became a printer and publisher in the same year that Albrecht was born. His most famous publication was the Nuremberg Chronicle, which included many woodcut illustrations. Albrecht may have learned about woodcuts and printing while working on this publication. A **woodcut** is a way of printing. An image is carved into a block of wood. The surface is then covered in ink using a roller before pressing the wood block onto paper.

Albrecht, at the age of 13, was the first artist to create a self-portrait. Using a mirror he worked to draw his likeness. He said, "I drew it when I was still a child." In later years he produced 3 more portraits of himself.

At the age of 15 Albrecht was showing a talent for drawing. His talent was recognized, and he became an apprentice to Michael Wolgemut, an important artist in Nuremberg at the time. His workshop created a variety of art works, particularly woodcuts for books.

Dürer made many drawings, watercolours and oil paintings during his lifetime. Sixty of his oil paintings remain. His most celebrated works include *Young Hare* (1502), *The Praying Hands* (1508), and *Rhinoceros* (1515). Albrecht Dürer was one of the first artists to view animals as a subject worthy of attention and he demonstrates this across a range of watercolours and prints that have become hugely popular and frequently reproduced. He developed a fascination with animals that is evident through his many highly detailed, intricate drawings of animals. Dürer wanted to capture the lifelike qualities of animals and had to observe them very carefully to get such accuracy. Dürer's oil paintings,

watercolours, drawings and prints all demonstrate a very painstaking technique executed with an astonishing skill.

Albrecht Dürer died on April 6, 1528 in Nuremberg, Germany. He is regarded as one of the greatest artists of the Renaissance Era, and the greatest printmaker of all time.



## Answer these questions about Albrecht Dürer:

1. Where was Albrecht Dürer from?

---

2. What is a woodcut?

---

3. Albrecht Dürer was the first artist to create what?

---

4. What did he use to ensure he got a good likeness?

---

5. How many of his paintings remain?

---

6. What did he develop a fascination with?

---

7. Name Albrecht Dürer's 3 most celebrated works of art

---

8. Albrecht Dürer is regarded as the greatest what of all time?

---

My score **/8**

8 = Excellent

7-6 = Good

5-4 = Inconsistent

3-0 = Poor

## Homework 5

### Michelangelo Buonarroti

**Read the following information about Michelangelo and answer the questions:**

Michelangelo was a Renaissance sculptor, painter, architect, and poet. He studied fresco painting before studying at the Medici School and becoming a sculptor. He is probably most well-known for painting on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel and his sculptures of David and the Pieta.

The art technique fresco basically means painting on wet plaster on a wall or ceiling.



**Pieta**, is a sculpture of a crucified Jesus lying on the lap of his mother, Mary. **Pieta** is the only sculpture that Michelangelo signed. This famous piece of art currently resides in St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

After **Pieta**, Michelangelo gained notoriety as an amazing sculptor. He was commissioned to make a sculpture of the Biblical hero, David, for the Florence Cathedral. **David** was carved out of marble and took Michelangelo about three years to complete. **David** was meant to be placed along the roof-line of the Florence Cathedral, but it was too heavy to be lifted that high and was too beautiful to be placed where it would not be easily seen. Instead, it was placed outside the doors of Florence's city hall. Currently, the statue resides in a museum in Florence.

The pope commissioned Michelangelo to paint the 12,000-square-foot ceiling of the **Sistine Chapel**. Michelangelo considered himself a sculptor, but agreed to paint the ceiling because the pope insisted. The finished masterpiece took Michelangelo four years to complete and contained nine scenes from the Bible and three hundred people! His most famous scene from the Sistine Chapel is **The Creation of Adam**, a scene where Adam's hand and God's hand almost touch.

## Answer these questions about Michelangelo:

1. In addition to being a sculptor, what else was Michelangelo?

---

2. What are the 3 works mentioned that are Michelangelo's most famous pieces?

---

3. What does the term 'Fresco' mean?

---

4. What material was the sculpture 'David' carved from?

---

5. Why could 'David' not be displayed on the roof of Florence Cathedral?

---

6. Who commissioned Michelangelo to paint the Sistine Chapel?

---

7. How long did the Sistine Chapel take to paint?

---

8. What is the most famous scene painted on the Sistine Chapel?

---

My score **/8**

8 = Excellent

7-6 = Good

5-4 = Inconsistent

3-0 = Poor

## Homework 6

### Raphael

Raphael was born in the Renaissance Italian city-state of Urbino in central Italy. Urbino was considered one of the cultural centers of Italy and a place where artists flourished. His father, Giovanni, was a painter and poet for the local Duke. As a young boy, Raphael learned the basics of painting from his father. When Raphael was just eleven years old his father died. Over the next several years, Raphael honed his skill as an artist. Working out of his father's workshop, he gained a reputation as one of the most skilled artists in Urbino.

When Raphael turned seventeen he moved to the city of Perugia, where he worked with a famous artist named Pietro Perugino for four years. He continued to improve his painting, learning from Perugino, but also developing his own style. In 1504, Raphael moved to Florence. He was now considered a master painter and took on commissions from various patrons including the church. Raphael studied the works of the great masters such as Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo. He absorbed a lot of their style and techniques, but maintained his own unique style. Raphael was considered a friendly and social artist. People liked him and enjoyed his company. He was often seen as a rival to Michelangelo who didn't like him and felt that Raphael plagiarized his work.

Painting for the Pope By 1508 Raphael's fame had spread to Rome. He was invited to decorate some of the rooms (called "stanze") in the Vatican by Pope Julius II. It was here that Raphael painted his greatest work The School of Athens.

. By the time he had completed the rooms, he was considered one of the great artists of Italy. Raphael's paintings were known for their range, variety, grace, strength, and dignity. One art critic said that his work was "more lifelike than life itself." His artwork is often cited as the perfect example of classical art and the High Renaissance. He is considered by many to be one of the greatest painters of all time.





The School of Athens is a fresco painted by Raphael between 1510 and 1511. It was painted on the wall of the library in the palace at the Vatican. The painting shows many of the philosophers of Ancient Greece including Plato, Socrates, Aristotle, Pythagoras, and Euclid.

## Answer these questions about Raphael:

1. Who did Raphael learn the basics of painting from?

---

2. Name two great masters of art that Raphael studied

---

3. What was Raphael like? What did people think of him?

---

4. What is the title of Raphael's greatest work of art?

---

5. What did an art critic say about Raphael's work?

---

6. Where is the school of Athens painted?

---

7. Name 3 of the philosophers of Ancient Greece that are depicted in the painting.

---

8. What is the most famous scene painted on the Sistine Chapel?

---

My score **/8**

8 = Excellent

7-6 = Good

5-4 = Inconsistent

3-0 = Poor

## Homework 7

### Sandro Botticelli

(1445–1510). Although he was one of the most individual painters of the Italian Renaissance, Sandro Botticelli remained little known for centuries after his death. His work was rediscovered late in the 19th century by a group of artists in England known as the Pre-Raphaelites.

Botticelli was born Alessandro di Mariano Filipepi in Florence (now in Italy) in 1445. The name Botticelli is derived from that of his elder brother Giovanni, a pawnbroker who was called Botticello (“Little Barrel”). After his schooling was finished, Botticelli was apprenticed to a goldsmith. Later he was a pupil of the painter Fra Filippo Lippi, who was one of the most admired Florentine masters. By 1470 Botticelli was established in Florence as an independent master with his own workshop. By the time of his artistic maturity about 1478–81, Botticelli was harmoniously integrating figure and setting. Absorbed in his art, he never married, and he lived with his family.

In Florence, Botticelli was a protégé of several members of the powerful Medici family. He painted portraits of the family and many religious pictures. Among these religious paintings was his famous *The Adoration of the Magi* (about 1476) from the Church of Santa Maria Novella. In the early 1480s the pope summoned Botticelli and other painters to Rome to decorate the Sistine Chapel. Three of Botticelli’s finest religious frescoes (completed 1482) adorn the walls. (A fresco is a type of painting done directly on a plaster wall or ceiling while the plaster is still wet.) Botticelli also painted circular pictures. Among his famous circular paintings are *The Madonna of the Magnificat* (1482) and *The Madonna of the Pomegranate* (about 1487).

Besides his portraits and religious paintings, Botticelli also produced original works illustrating Greek and Roman mythology. The best known are the two large panels *Primavera* (about 1477–82) and *The Birth of Venus* (about 1485).



*Primavera (Allegory of Spring) 1477*

An **allegory** is a story or picture with a hidden meaning. The characters in **allegories** are symbols which represent particular ideas. Most of the time, there is a moral of the story, or a life lesson for the reader to learn. An **allegory** is like a really long metaphor, which means you can find meaning beyond the literal storyline.



*The Birth of Venus 1485*

Venus was the Roman goddess of love and beauty. She was believed to have been born from the foam on the sea. By placing her on a seashell, Botticelli shows this in his painting. The painting shows Zephyr, god of the winds holding the gentle breeze Aura, blowing her toward the shore where Horae, goddess of the seasons, is awaiting her with a cloak. She is pictured naked to show her innocence and divinity.

Those two famous paintings are today often considered to symbolize the spirit of the Renaissance.

## Answer these questions about Botticelli:

1. Botticelli got his name from his brother called Botticello, but what does Botticello mean?

---

2. Botticelli was a protégé of which powerful family?

---

3. What is a fresco?

---

4. Besides his portraits and religious paintings, what else did he illustrate in his paintings?

---

5. Name the title of Botticelli's best two illustrations of Greek and Roman Mythology.

---

---

2 marks

6. What is an allegory?

---

7. Who is Venus in 'The Birth of Venus'?

---

My score **/8**

8 = Excellent

7-6 = Good

5-4 = Inconsistent

3-0 = Poor

# Task 5

## Revision

Use this booklet and your knowledge organiser to revise everything you have learnt about the Renaissance. You will have a short quiz to test your knowledge from this half term in the next lesson.

You may be tested on your knowledge of:

Where Renaissance art sits within the timeline

Characteristics of Renaissance art

Techniques used by Renaissance artists

Key figures of the Renaissance

Leonardo da Vinci

Albrecht Durer

Michelangelo

Raphael

Sandro Botticelli

Key terminology

# Mini Test

## The Renaissance

Circle the correct answer

1.            a            b            c            d
2.            a            b            c            d
3.            a            b            c            d
4.            a            b            c            d
5.            a            b            c            d
6.            a            b            c            d
7.            a            b            c            d
8.            a            b            c            d
9.            a            b            c            d
10.           a            b            c            d

My score            /10

10-9 = Excellent

8-7 = Good

6-5 = Inconsistent

4-0 = Poor

# My Homework Record

Tick your result for each homework this half term

Task	Excellent	Good	Inconsistent	Poor
1. About The Renaissance				
2. Renaissance Art				
3. Leonardo da Vinci				
4. Albrecht Durer				
5. Michelangelo				
6. Raphael				
7. Sandro Botticelli				
8. Mini Test				

## Work ethic

How much effort did you put in to your homework this half term? Tick which statement applies to you.

**EXCELLENT**

My best effort is applied to every homework. My homework is always completed on time and to the best possible standard. I have done my own reading on the subject to ensure I understand it fully.

**GOOD**

I work hard to complete my homework by spending at least 20 minutes per week ensuring it is completed to a pleasing standard.

**INCONSISTENT**

I sometimes complete my homework on time and to an acceptable standard, but not always. I do not always spend the time required to do my homework well.

**POOR**

I rarely complete my homework on time or to an acceptable standard.