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Study Guide

The Renaissance and the Age of Revolution

Test Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What was the Renaissance?

**The Renaissance was a period in European history that was characterized by the rebirth or interest in learning and art. Renaissance thinkers were inspired by the works and ideas of Greek and Roman thinkers.**

1. How did cultural life change during the Renaissance?

**During the Renaissance, there was a renewed interest in learning and the arts, especially poetry, plays, architecture, sculpture, and painting.**

1. Humanism is both the revival of the study of Greek and Roman ideas, and a theory that focuses on human dignity and values. How did humanism affect the way people thought about life and death?

**Humanism affected the way people thought about life and death because people began thinking about improving the world they lived in rather than hoping for a better life after death.**

1. Who was Michelangelo? How did his statues reflect the idea of humanism?

**Michelangelo was an Italian painter, poet, architect, and sculptor. One of his most famous works was painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. His statues were lifelike and incredibly realistic, rather than being stiff symbols.**

1. Where and when was the printing press invented?

**The printing press was invented in 1450 in Germany. It increased literacy and allowed the ideas of the Renaissance to spread to large numbers of people.**

1. Who was Leonardo da Vinci? What makes him a Renaissance man?

**Leonardo da Vinci was a famous artist known from his paintings, including the Mona Lisa. He studied anatomy of the living world to make his paintings more realistic. Da Vinci was also an accomplished scientist. He designed and built many inventions that were a head of their time. He is considered a the ultimate Renaissance man because he has many talents in many different fields, including art and science.**

1. What style of poetry is William Shakespeare associated with? Why is his work famous if he did not invent this style of poetry?

**William Shakespeare has been associated with the sonnet because of the 154 sonnets he wrote which are considered some of the English-speaking world’s most beautiful lines**

1. What was the Scientific Revolution?

**The scientific revolution was a change in thinking in which scientists formed theories based on facts observed from nature. Previously, scientists had tried to make facts fit religious beliefs.**

1. What is the scientific method? How did the use of the scientific method reflect changes in European attitudes?

**The scientific method is a series of procedures in which ideas are tested with experiments and observations. It showed the Europeans had be influenced by humanism and the Renaissance, since they began basing their theories on facts rather than making them fit with their religious beliefs.**

1. Who was Nicolaus Copernicus? What was the topic of his book and what was the response it received from religious leaders and scientists of the time?

**Nicolaus Copernicus was a Polish astronomer and authority on church law. He studied the solar system and found that the heliocentric system better explained the movements he observed. Copernicus wrote a book to demonstrate the perfection of God’s creation, but many religious leaders were outraged by his work. They complained his theories contradicted the bible and lacked common sense.**

1. Who was responsible for laying the groundwork for the Protestant Reformation? Which new branch of Christianity was formed by the Reformation?

**Martin Luther nailed a list of criticisms he had about the Roman Catholic Church, including the practice of selling indulgences, to the door of a church. This list, also known as the 95 Theses, launched a movement called the Protestant Reformation. As a result of the Reformation, Western Christianity split into two branches; Protestantism and Roman Catholicism.**