

Get Started

Today you are going to read a history article. You will use what you have learned in this unit to understand what you are reading.

- Ask students to recall what they have learned, such as identifying main ideas and details; explaining the relationships or interactions between individuals, events, and ideas; and supporting inferences with text evidence.
- Encourage students to use the Academic Talk words and phrases from the unit's lessons in their responses.

Read

You are going to read the article independently and use what you have learned to think and write about the text.

- Ask a student to read aloud the title of the passage.
- Encourage students to preview the text, paying close attention to the map, illustration, photograph, and captions.
- Remind students to look inside, around, and beyond when they encounter unfamiliar words. Use the Word Learning Routine on pp. A50–A51.
- When students have finished, have them complete the Think and Write sections.

A Note on Interim Assessment Rubrics

Because the Interim Assessments are more formal assessment environments, we have provided teacher-facing rubrics. The rubrics for Interim Assessments with extended-response items have additional criteria for assessment than those students use to evaluate their own responses within *Ready* lessons. This allows you to detect more subtle differences in student performance in the Interim Assessment writing assignments while keeping the self-evaluation exercise simple for students.

Read

Read the history article. Then answer the questions that follow.

A Time of Discovery and Rediscovery

by Nancy Day, Calliope

1 Italy had awakened from a thousand-year slumber, or so it seemed to fifteenth-century Italians. They felt that the fifth-century sacking of Rome by invading tribes was the bitter pill that had put the world to sleep. They began to call the centuries that followed the Dark Ages. The time period in which they lived was the Renaissance, or “rebirth.” Was their comparison fair? Historians disagree. What is clear is that the Renaissance was a remarkable time of discovery and rediscovery that changed the world.

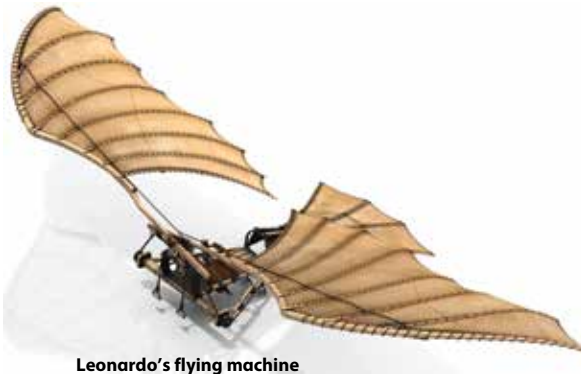
2 In 1347, a merchant ship sailed from Crimea on the Black Sea to Sicily. Onboard were rats infested with fleas that carried a disease called the plague. Soon after, the plague swept through Italy and the rest of Europe. It killed more than one-third of the population. Cities shrank, production slowed, and prices dropped. Rather than give in to low grain prices, Italians switched to more profitable products such as wine, oil, and cheese. As wool exports fell, they turned to silk. Gradually, Italy began to specialize in luxuries such as artistic metalwork, fine leather, and beautiful furniture.

3 The northern Italian city-states, including Venice, Milan, and Florence, prospered. So did the Papal States of central Italy and the kingdoms of Naples and Sicily to the south. Money bought education for the privileged few. Learning had previously focused on religious studies. It expanded to include grammar, rhetoric, history, poetry, and moral philosophy. Wealthy Italians thought that these subjects would lead to a greater understanding of human nature and give them an advantage in business.



Renaissance Italy

- 4 Renaissance Italians turned to ancient Rome as the model for a great civilization. Lawyers studied Roman law. Others discovered the joy of reading classical books. They became interested in poetry, history, and philosophy. Before long, scholars were rediscovering Greek and Roman art, science, and literature.
- 5 In the Middle Ages, the Church had taught people to think about the afterlife. During the Renaissance, people wanted to enjoy life on earth. Enthusiasm for games, sports, and entertainment blossomed. Music flourished.
- 6 Individual expression and accomplishment became important. The fourteenth-century Italian poet and scholar Petrarch spent countless hours studying ancient texts. He left a detailed record of his thoughts and activities. The ideal was to be well-rounded. A “Renaissance man” was supposed to be skilled in all the arts and sciences. A perfect example was Leonardo da Vinci. He was a painter, sculptor, architect, musician, engineer, and scientist.
- 7 Interest in humanity brought realism to art. The great sculptor Donatello, while working on a particularly lifelike work, was heard saying to the stone, “Speak then! Why will you not speak!” Painters drew everyday people in natural settings and faces that showed each individual’s personality and emotions.
- 8 Art stimulated interest in anatomy, mathematics, and even physics. Leonardo’s famous flying machine, for example, was designed to make a decorative angel flap its wings when pulled through the streets during Carnival. Leonardo also studied anatomy by dissecting human bodies. This enabled him to draw detailed studies of human figures.
- 9 The Renaissance achievement that had the greatest effect on the modern world was the printing press. It was invented by a German craftsman named Johannes Gutenberg around 1455. The press revolutionized education and standardized language. Before the printing press, books were reproduced by



Leonardo's flying machine

Teacher Notes

hand. As a result, few were readily available, and they were very expensive. With the invention of printing, the number of books in circulation increased. The cost of a book decreased. As more and more people bought books, the ideas of the Renaissance spread quickly.

10 Italy was located in the heart of the greatest trading area of the time. It became the center not only of trade but also of art, culture, and ideas. By the end of the fifteenth century, the Renaissance had spread to Germany. From there it spread to France, England, and Spain.

11 Not everyone experienced a Renaissance. Most women had few liberties. A fourteenth-century merchant expressed the common attitude toward the female gender: "If you have women in your house, keep them shut up as much as possible and return home very often and keep them in fear and trembling." Laborers, servants, tradesmen, and apprentices also had little say in the rules that controlled their lives. In addition, they were poor and illiterate.

12 As the decades passed, the artistic, cultural, scientific, and intellectual achievements of the period between 1350 and 1550 gradually affected all levels of society. For scholars, philosophers, and artists of the time, the Renaissance led Western civilization from the Middle Ages to modern times.



Gutenberg's printing press

- 4 This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

According to the article, why was Leonardo da Vinci a perfect example of a “Renaissance man”?

- A He had a great enthusiasm for games and sports.
- B** He was skilled in all areas of the arts and sciences.
- C He designed and built a famous flying machine.
- D He wanted more people to study anatomy and science.

Part B

Which sentence from the article **best** supports the answer to Part A?

- A “He left a detailed record of his thoughts and activities.”
- B** “He was a painter, sculptor, architect, musician, engineer, and scientist.”
- C “Leonardo’s famous flying machine, for example, was designed to make a decorative angel flap its wings when pulled through the streets during Carnival.”
- D “Leonardo also studied anatomy by dissecting human bodies.”

- 5 Read these sentences from the passage.

Renaissance Italians turned to ancient Rome as the model for a great civilization. . . . Before long, scholars were rediscovering Greek and Roman art, science, and literature.

Based on these sentences, what can you infer about the Renaissance?

- A The Renaissance made Italians wish they had lived in a different time.
- B The Renaissance helped the Italian people become more civil and cultured.
- C The Renaissance in Italy introduced new and old ideas from the Greeks and Romans.
- D** The Renaissance in Italy was influenced by ancient Greek and Roman ideas.

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4 Part A

The correct choice is B. The passage states that a “Renaissance man” was supposed to be skilled in all the arts and sciences.”

- **A** is incorrect because the passage does not state that Leonardo was interested in games and sports.
- **C** correctly states that Leonardo designed a famous flying machine, but this does not explain why he was the perfect “Renaissance man.”
- **D** is incorrect because the passage never states that Leonardo wanted more people to study anatomy and science.

Part B

The correct choice is B. This list of occupations shows that Leonardo was a master of many fields of study.

- **A** is not one of the requirements of a “Renaissance man.”
- **C** demonstrates only one of Leonardo’s talents.
- **D** shows that Leonardo was interested in science, but a “Renaissance man” had to pursue the arts, as well.

DOK 2

- 5 **The correct choice is D.** Scholars of the Renaissance era studied Greek and Roman arts and sciences, which influenced the development of their own ideas.

- **A** is incorrect because the text never states that Renaissance Italians longed to live in earlier Greek and Roman times.
- **B** suggests that Italians were not previously civil and cultured, which is not supported by the text.
- **C** is incorrect because no new Greek and Roman ideas were introduced during the Renaissance.

DOK 3

- 7 This question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

How did the printing press change people's lives?

- A It had little effect, as most people never learned how to read.
- B** More people could afford to read books, and Renaissance ideas spread.
- C It had a positive effect on people who studied human anatomy.
- D More people were exposed to printed songs, and Renaissance music spread.

Part B

Which paragraph provides evidence to support the answer to Part A?

- A** paragraph 9
- B paragraph 10
- C paragraph 11
- D paragraph 12

- 8 Read the paragraph and the directions that follow.

In the Middle Ages, the Church had taught people to think about the afterlife. During the Renaissance, people wanted to enjoy life on earth. Enthusiasm for games, sports, and entertainment blossomed. Music flourished.

Which statement **best** describes the main idea of the paragraph?

- A Some of the new inventions of the Renaissance include music, sports, and games.
- B The Church taught a different message in the Renaissance than it did in the Middle Ages.
- C In the Renaissance, people lost interest in the Church's teachings about the afterlife.
- D** Changing values led Renaissance people to seek out various ways to entertain themselves.

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7 Part A

The correct choice is B. Paragraph 9 states, "The press revolutionized education and standardized language."

- **A** is incorrect because paragraph 9 states that the printing press had "the greatest effect on the modern world."
- **C** is not mentioned in the passage.
- **D** is incorrect because Renaissance songs are never discussed in relation to the printing press.

Part B

The correct choice is A. This paragraph states that with the invention of the printing press, "the number of books in circulation increased. The cost of a book decreased. As more and more people bought books, the ideas of the Renaissance spread quickly."

- **B** discusses Italy's place as the center of Renaissance trade, art, and culture.
- **C** explains that women and the working class had less opportunity to explore Renaissance ideas.
- **D** describes the lasting effects of the Renaissance as a whole.

DOK 1

- 8 **The correct choice is D.** The paragraph states that Renaissance people began to think more about their earthly lives than they had in the Middle Ages, which led to more leisure activities.
- **A** is incorrect because music, sports, and games were not invented in the Renaissance.
 - **B** is not supported by the passage, which only states what the Church taught in the Middle Ages.
 - **C** does not appear in the passage.

DOK 2

