Quick Study Guide

Major Themes of the Renaissance
- Importance of classical learning
- Emphasis on the individual
- Adventurous spirit and willingness to experiment
- Focus on realism in art and literature
- Questioning of traditional religious ideas

Important Figures of the Scientific Revolution
- Nicolaus Copernicus
- Galileo Galilei
- Johannes Kepler
- Tycho Brahe
- René Descartes
- Robert Boyle
- Isaac Newton

Key Events of the Renaissance and Reformation
- The Renaissance begins in the city-states of Italy.
- The Medici family gains control of Florence’s government.
- The Ming dynasty is founded in China.
- The Kingdom of Songhai emerges in West Africa.
- Mansa Musa makes hajj.

Chapter Events
1300
The Renaissance begins in the city-states of Italy.
1350
1368
1400
1450

Causes and Effects of the Protestant Reformation
- Long-Term Effects: Religious wars in Europe
- Founding of Lutheran, Calvinist, Anglican, Presbyterian, and other Protestant churches
- Reformation of the Church

Use your Concept Connector worksheets and the text to help answer these questions. In addition, record information from this chapter about the following concepts.

1. Cultural Diffusion
   During the Middle Ages, many European peoples were cut off from each other as trade broke down and disease ravaged populations. With the Renaissance, renewed trade and increased curiosity about the world led to great cultural diffusion. For example, art techniques developed in Italy spread to northern Europe, and vice versa. Compare the cultural diffusion of the Renaissance to the spread of Islam from about 750 to 1300. Consider:
   • cultural achievements
   • trading centers
   • economic growth
   • religious expression

2. Science
   Many people disputed Copernicus’s heliocentric view of the universe, because it challenged the belief of the Earth-centered universe that both made sense to them and was taught to them by the Church. Compare the reaction of people to Copernicus’s ideas with the reaction of people to the ideas of Isaac Newton. Why were Newton’s theories not seen as controversial?

3. Cultural Diffusion
   The European Renaissance ushered in a period of great cultural achievements that would eventually influence people far beyond Europe. Compare the achievements of Europe during the Renaissance with achievements of the Tang and Song dynasties of China. Consider the following: architecture, print technology, literature, and painting.

Tell students that the main concepts for this chapter are Cultural Diffusion and Science and then ask them to answer the Cumulative Review questions on this page. Discuss the Connections to Today topics and ask students to answer the questions that follow.

1. Connections to Today
   1. Technology: The Communications Revolution During the Renaissance, one technology like the printing press revolutionized life. Consider the various impacts that the printing press had during the Renaissance, in areas ranging from literacy to religion. Then choose a modern technology that had a comparable effect. Write two paragraphs explaining why the technology you chose is as important in terms of its impact today as the printing press was in Renaissance times.

2. Science: Its Global Impact The Scientific Revolution transformed technology, government, economy, and society in Europe. Use of the scientific method allowed Europeans to improve farming techniques and ways of manufacturing goods. It helped them to improve mapping and navigation techniques and to sail across oceans. European governments found that these changes increased their income and power, and so many of them supported scientific research. As you will read in the next two chapters, Europe’s improved sea power, military technology, and economic might allowed it to conquer parts of Africa and Asia and most of the Americas. Considering these developments, explain how the world today is different from the world before the Scientific Revolution.

For additional review of this chapter’s core concepts, remind students to refer to the Reading and Note Taking Study Guide Concept Connector, pp. 245, 290
Chapter Assessment

Terms, People, and Places

1. patron
2. vernacular
3. predestination

Main Ideas

6. Artists and writers adopted both a new realism and an emphasis on humanity. It quickly spread the works of humanists and other Renaissance writers to a large audience.

7. It challenged the Church as the sole source of religious thinking. Renaissance thinkers began to question the Church as the sole source of religious thinking.

8. Artists and writers adopted both a new realism and an emphasis on humanity. Renaissance thinkers began to question the Church as the sole source of religious thinking.

9. It was the role of the printing press in spreading religious authority that weakened the authority of the Church.

Critical Thinking

12. How did the Renaissance shape European art, thought, and religion?

13. How did the Church respond to the Protestant Reformation?

17. Test Conclusions The Renaissance and Scientific Revolution are often described as eras of human progress. Evaluate whether this is an accurate description.

Chapter Focus Question

12. How did the Renaissance shape European art, thought, and religion?

Writing About History

Writing a Persuasive Essay

Writing a Persuasive Essay

European history from 1300 to the 1650s was a time of great change, discovery, and religious upheaval. Write a persuasive essay that presents your position on either the Renaissance, the Reformation, or the Scientific Revolution. Consult pages SH15–16 of the Writing Handbook for additional help.

15. Sample: When there is great uncertainty—whether financial, social, or religious—people are more likely to feel threatened by those with different religious beliefs or ways of life.

16. The importance of education

17. Answers may agree with this description because great discoveries were made, advancing science and enriching art. Other answers may suggest that most people did not benefit greatly from the period’s advances and still lived in poverty.

18. Queen Elizabeth’s efforts to make compromises satisfied both Protestants and Catholics and averted religious warfare.

19. The Protestant Reformation could not have spread so quickly nor had such a great impact without the invention of the printing press.
Document-Based Assessment

The Impact of the Printing Press

In a time when new ideas and discoveries were commonplace, the invention of the printing press was no less than astonishing in its impact. Documents A, B, and D describe the spread of printing during the Renaissance. Document C, written by a historian in the 1500s, describes its impact at the time.

Document A

"In 1455 all Europe’s printed books could have been carried in a single wagon. Fifty years later, the kilos ran to tens of thousands, the individual volumes to millions. Today books pour off presses at the rate of 10,000,000 a year. That’s some 50 million tons of paper. Add in 2,000 to 5,000 daily newspapers, and the Sunday, and the magazines, and the figure rises to 150 million tons. . . . It would make a pile [2,297 foot] high—four times the height of the Great Pyramid."

—From Gutenberg: How One Man Remade the World with Words by John Man

Document B

"Printing spread from Milan to Strasbourg (1458), Colmar (1465), Augsburg (1468), Nuremberg (1470), Leipzig (1481), and Vienna (1482). German printers, or their pupils, introduced the ‘linear’ art to Italy in 1462. Switzerland and Bohemia in 1466, France and the Netherlands in 1470, Spain, England, Hungary, and Poland between 1474 and 1476, Denmark and Sweden in 1482–1483. By 1500 the presses had issued about six million books in approximately forty thousand editions, more books, probably, than had been produced in western Europe since the fall of Rome . . . Now individuals could afford to own books, where before they had normally been owned almost exclusively by institutions—monasteries, cathedral chapters, and colleges."

—From The Foundation of Early Modern Europe, 1460–1559 by Eugene F. Rice, Jr.

Document C

"As if to offer proof that God has chosen us to accomplish a special mission, there was invented in our land a marvellous new and subtle art, the art of printing. This opened German eyes even as it is now bringing enlightenment to other countries. Each man became sager for knowledge, not without feeling a sense of amazement at his former blindness."

—From Address to the Estates of the Empire

by Johann Sleidan

Document D

The Spread of Printing in Renaissance Europe

Analyzing Documents

Use your knowledge of the Renaissance and Documents A, B, C, and D to answer questions 1–4.

1. According to Document B, the increased supply and lower cost of books had what effect?
   A. More people became teachers.
   B. More people became printers.
   C. More people bought books.
   D. More people bought printing presses.

2. What information about printing can be found only on Document D?
   A. Specific dates when printing presses were introduced
   B. Areas where the concentration of printing presses was greatest
   C. Numbers of printing presses introduced into select cities
   D. Countries where printing presses were introduced

3. What does German historian Sleidan, in Document C, imply is the most important role of the printing press?
   A. Spreading the Protestant religion
   B. Teaching German history to other countries
   C. Making books cheaper
   D. Giving Germans more knowledge

4. Writing Task: How did the invention of the printing press affect the spread of the Reformation? Use specific evidence from the documents above, along with information from this chapter, to support your answer.

Answers

1. C
2. B
3. A
4. Responses should show a clear understanding that the printing press had a dramatic impact on the spread of the Reformation, and should be supported with specific examples from the chapter and the documents.