

Achievements of the Renaissance

Literature

Person and Area	Work	Key Ideas
Petrarch (Francisco Petrarca) Northern Italy: Milan, Padua, Venice 1304-1374	<i>Africanus: Sonnets</i>	Sonnets and Love songs in both Italian (modern) and Latin (classical) languages
Giovanni Boccaccio Florence, Italy 1313-1375	<i>Decameron</i>	100 traditional tales of Medieval life which were written in vernacular Italian (Italian dialects from local regions)
Dante Alighieri Florence, Italy 1265-1321	<i>The Divine Comedy</i>	This was an epic allegory (fable) written in Italian vernacular that described a journey through hell, purgatory and paradise
Geoffrey Chaucer England 1340-1400	<i>Canterbury Tales</i>	Stories of pilgrims while on their journey about Medieval life, written in vernacular English
Desiderius Erasmus Netherlands 1466-1536	<i>Praise of Folly</i>	He used teachings of the bible, early Christianity and ancient pagan thinkers to ridicule the corruption of the officials and the clergy of the Roman Catholic church.
Thomas More England 1478-1535	<i>Utopia</i>	He protested and spoke out about the unjust social and economic corruption in England. In his book he describes an ideal state based on humanist reason
Francois Rabelais France 1483-1553	<i>Gargantua and Pantagruel</i>	These works were humanist attacks on the older values of the Medieval age. He also called for strong reforms within the church
Miguel de Cervantes Spain 1547-1616	<i>Don Quixote</i>	His book makes fun at the Spanish romances of chivalry and analyzes the value of idealism



Art and Architecture in Italy

Person and Area	Work	Key Ideas
Leonardo Da Vinci 1452-1519	<i>Mona Lisa, Last Supper</i>	Created the model of the "Renaissance Man" Experimented in the arts, mechanics, science; constructed fountains, fortifications, churches; experimented in manned flight, war machines, underwater vessels.
Michelangelo Buonarotti 1475-1564	<i>Moses, David, Sistine Chapel ceiling dome of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome</i>	Painted biblical and classical figures showing their athletic prowess and dynamic action; painting, sculpture, and architecture all reflect these themes
Raphael (Rafello Sanzio) 1483-1520	<i>Disputa, Sistine, Madonna</i>	Art in their classical forms, allegories, Madonna's, and subjects from older times.

The Renaissance Art used the principle of perspective, which creates the appearance of three dimensions. There is always a visible vanishing point and a horizon in these art works. Perhaps the best example is shown below; *Marriage of the Virgin* (1504) by Raphael



Political Science

Person and Area	Work	Key Ideas
Niccolo Machiavelli Florence, Italy 1469-1527	<i>The Prince</i> , <i>Discourses</i>	He gave written advice to absolute monarchs. His work included how to increase and hold power, he recommended that absolute monarchs use violence carefully; they must respect their subjects and their property, which will keep national prosperity. He claimed that political actions have consequences that cannot be fully controlled, and the ruler must sometimes accept that "the end justifies the means;" he called for Italian unity and an end to any foreign intervention

Technical Innovation

Person and Area	Work	Key Ideas
Johann Gutenberg Germany 1398-1468	The Printing Press , which involved moveable type, block printing, letter press process and the improvement of printing ink.	He invented movable type printing in Europe, which had been created in China in the 8 th century. His invention supplied the needs for more and cheaper reading matter and expanded learning and communication. Printed the Gutenberg Bible

