New Ideas, New Empires
1200–1800

CHAPTER 15
Renaissance and Reformation
1300–1650

CHAPTER 16
Exploration and Expansion
1400–1700

CHAPTER 17
New Asian Empires
1200–1800

Themes

ARTS AND IDEAS
A revival of learning led to new ways of seeing the world, which in turn influenced artists.

BELIEF SYSTEMS
The Protestant Reformation was a response to perceived excesses in the Catholic Church and in turn led to the Counter-Reformation.

MIGRATION AND DIFFUSION
European exploration expanded European knowledge of the world and led to the exchange of plants and animals between Europe and Asia and the Americas.
CHAPTER 15
1300–1650

Major changes in Europe caused the medieval period to give way to a new period. As trade with the East increased, Europeans rediscovered the classical knowledge of ancient Greece and Rome. This knowledge led to a period of creativity and learning called the Renaissance. A new focus on the individual emerged, contributing to new ideas about religion. These ideas caused a struggle in Christianity known as the Reformation.

North Carolina Standards

Social Studies Objectives
3.03 Trace social, political, economic, and cultural changes associated with the Renaissance, Reformation, the rise of nation-states, and absolutism;

Language Arts Objective
2.013 Demonstrate the ability to read, listen to and view a variety of increasingly complex print and non-print information texts appropriate to grade level and course by providing textual evidence to support understanding of and reader’s response to text.

TIME LINE

1300s
The Renaissance begins in Italy’s city-states.

1368
The Ming dynasty begins in China.

1434
The Medici family controls the city-state of Florence.

1453
Sunni Ali founds the Songhai Empire in West Africa.

1464
Christopher Columbus reaches the Americas.

1492
More than 100,000 Jews are expelled from Spain.

1492
Gutenberg develops a printing press with moveable type.

1500

c. 1455
Gutenberg develops a printing press with moveable type.

Battista Sforza and Federico da Montefeltro, by Piero della Francesca, c. 1420–1492, Courtesy of Alinari/Art Resource, NY

Major changes in Europe caused the medieval period to give way to a new period. As trade with the East increased, Europeans rediscovered the classical knowledge of ancient Greece and Rome. This knowledge led to a period of creativity and learning called the Renaissance. A new focus on the individual emerged, contributing to new ideas about religion. These ideas caused a struggle in Christianity known as the Reformation.
1508
Michelangelo starts painting the Sistine Chapel.

1537
Spanish conquistadors conquer the Inca Empire in South America.

The Renaissance saw a rebirth in artistic creativity. New themes and techniques, such as perspective, made Renaissance art more realistic and three-dimensional than medieval art. During the 1400s Renaissance artist Piero della Francesca painted the portraits above of the Duke of Urbino and his wife.

**Analyzing Visuals** What aspects of the portraits show realism and a three-dimensional perspective?

Starting Points. During the 1300s, Italian city-states controlled most of the trade of goods into and out of Europe. Italian merchants brought wealth to Europe, wealth which sparked a revolutionary period of new ideas.

1. Identify Which cities controlled most of the trade with Asia?
2. Predict How might the trade with Asia spur new ideas in Italy and Europe?

Listen to History
Go online to listen to an explanation of the starting points for this chapter.

go.hrw.com
Keyword: SHL REN
Main Idea
In Italy the growth of wealthy trading cities and new ways of thinking helped lead to a rebirth of the arts and learning. This era became known as the Renaissance.

Reading Focus
1. What changes in society and in cities stimulated the beginning of the Renaissance?
2. What ideas formed the foundation of the Italian Renaissance?
3. What contributions did artists make to the Renaissance?

Key Terms and People
- Renaissance
- humanism
- secular
- Baldassare Castiglione
- Niccolò Machiavelli
- Lorenzo de Medici
- Leonardo da Vinci
- Michelangelo Buonarroti
- Raphael

Before You Read

How did one man’s vision turn a ceiling into a masterpiece? Weak light filtered through the arched windows of the Sistine Chapel in Rome. High above the ground, the artist Michelangelo stood on a platform. He looked up, raised his brush to the ceiling, and carefully applied paint to the wet plaster. For almost four years, this ceiling had been his canvas. Across it, he had painted vivid scenes of events and people from the Bible. The expressive, detailed figures were monumental, so they could be seen from far below.

Each day, Michelangelo and his assistants climbed a 40-foot ladder to a scaffolding. From there, steps rose another 20 feet to a platform 7 feet beneath the chapel’s immense, vaulted ceiling. All day Michelangelo stood, his head craned back, his arm raised high to the ceiling.

Yet when the agony of the work was finally done, Michelangelo had created one of the world’s great masterpieces. One observer wrote that the Sistine Chapel was so beautiful “as to make everyone astonished.”

The Beginning of the Renaissance
Michelangelo’s painting was not only beautiful but also very different from the art of the Middle Ages. A new direction in art was only one of the ways in which European society began changing after the 1300s.

Changes in Society
The Black Death, starvation, and warfare had overtaken Europe about 1300. These catastrophic events and the enormous loss of life may have led to some of the changes of the 1300s.
The decrease in population allowed farmers to produce more food than they needed. Food prices declined, allowing people more money to spend on other things. The demand for agricultural goods increased, allowing various areas of Europe to begin to specialize in the products that were best suited to their environment. For example, England began to produce more wool and areas of Germany, more grain. As specialization increased, regions had to trade for the products they did not produce.

The Rise of City-States Urban areas also began to specialize, particularly in Italy. The territory that today makes up Italy was divided into several large city-states in the north and various kingdoms and the Papal States in the south. The northern city-states of Venice, Milan, and Florence became bustling centers of commerce. In these city-states, the Roman Catholic Church, nobles, merchants, and artisans dominated society. Merchants were usually either bankers or traders. Artisans practiced such crafts as goldsmithing. Knowledge of arts such as painting, sculpture, and architecture increased as nobles and merchants sought to display their new wealth.

Venice, a city with access to the sea, built its economy and reputation on trade. Its people had a long history of trading with other ports along the Mediterranean Sea. Shipbuilding prospered, and sailors traveled to the Near East. As a result, Venetian merchants became some of the wealthiest in the world. They used this wealth to build a unique city that has been described as “a work of art.”

Milan, to the west of Venice, based its economy on agriculture, silk, and weapons. Florence, to the south, was famous for its banking and cloth. Monarchs appealed to Florentine bankers for money to fund wars or other endeavors. Merchants refined raw wool into fine cloth and sold it abroad. The leading merchants and bankers poured their wealth into creating a city that rivaled any other in Europe. A citizen of Florence expressed his admiration:

**HISTORY’S VOICES**

“...What wealth of buildings, what distinguished architecture there is in Florence! Indeed, how the great genius of the builders is reflected in these buildings, and what a pleasure there is for those who live in them.”

—Leonardo Bruni, *Panegyric to the City of Florence*, 1403

**Finding the Main Idea** How did society and cities change in the 1300s?

**Reading Check**

*Predicting* How might the change in economic structure change other parts of society?
Renaissance Ideas

As the economy and social structure changed, new ideas began to appear. The ideas led to a sustained period of renewed interest and remarkable developments in art, literature, science, and learning. This era became known as the Renaissance. (The word *renaissance* is French for “rebirth.”) The Renaissance arose in Italy, in part because of its thriving cities, increased trade, and wealthy merchant class.

Inspiration from the Ancients Along with goods for trade, the ships of Venice carried Greek scholars seeking refuge in Italy from the Ottomans. These scholars brought works by ancient writers that the Italians had thought to be lost.

Suddenly the doors to a new world of ideas opened to Italians who could read. They began looking for more information, reading Arabic translations of original texts and searching the libraries and finding lost texts. As they read, they began to think about art, philosophy, and science in different ways. Along the way they began to think more like the classical thinkers who had believed in the human capacity to create and achieve.

Humanism The interest in ancient Greek and Roman culture drove scholars to think about the characteristics of a good education. Under their influence, the church’s scholastic education began to give way to the classics: rhetoric, grammar, poetry, history, and Latin and Greek. These subjects came to be known as humanities, and the movement they inspired is known as humanism.

In contrast with Church teachings that individuality and achievement were relatively unimportant, humanists emphasized individual accomplishment. They believed that the potential of the human mind was almost limitless. A humanist from Florence, Giovanni Pico della Mirandola (mee-ran-oh-lah) wrote about the importance of the human mind:

**HISTORY’S VOICES**

“On Man . . . the father conferred the seeds of . . . every way of life . . . If [a man is] rationale, he will grow into a heavenly being. If [a man is] intellectual, he will be an angel and the son of God.”

—Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, *On the Dignity of Man*, 1486

The roots of humanism are sometimes traced back to the work of Dante Alighieri, a Florentine poet of the late middle ages. His work contains glimpses of what would become the humanist focus on human nature. Many historians believe the Renaissance itself began with two humanists who lived a generation after Dante. Giovanni Boccaccio (bo-ka-choh) and Francesco Petrarch (PET-rahrk) both wrote literature in the vernacular, or everyday language of the people. In the past, most writing had been done in formal Latin.

Humanists rediscovered ancient texts on anatomy, geography, and astronomy. Advances were made in medicine—notable among them were Leonardo da Vinci’s studies of human anatomy. Progress was also made in astronomy. Philosophers and writers produced works that would influence Europeans for centuries.

Secular Writers After a period of war in the early 1500s, life in Italy seemed insecure and precarious. The church no longer served as a source of stability and peace. Looking for comfort and guidance in the midst of this instability, some people turned to a form of humanism developed from Petrarch’s ideas. Their focus was also secular; that is, they had a worldly rather than a spiritual focus.

These humanists argued that individual achievement and education could be fully expressed only if people used their talents and abilities in the service of their cities. Under their influence, the ideal Renaissance man came to be the “universal man,” accomplished in the classics, but also a man of action. Such a man could respond to all situations.

### Causes of the Renaissance

- Increased trade with Asia and other regions as a result of the Crusades
- Growth of large, wealthy city-states in Italy
- Renewed interest in the classical learning of ancient Greece and Rome
- Rise of rich and powerful merchants, who became patrons of the arts
- Increased desire for scientific and technical knowledge
- Desire to beautify cities
One of these humanists, the Italian diplomat Baldassare Castiglione (cas-steel-yoh-nay) wrote a book called The Courtier. Published in 1528, it describes how the perfect Renaissance gentleman—and gentlewoman—should act. In the book Castiglione creates a fictional conversation between a duke and his guests. They discuss how courtiers and court ladies should behave, suggesting that they should

- Speak of serious subjects as well as amusing ones,
- Have a knowledge of Latin and Greek,
- Be well-acquainted with poetry and history,
- Be able to write prose as well as poetry.

Merchants also used Castiglione’s book as a guide to behavior. They hoped that if they acted like courtiers, they would raise their status.

At about the same time that Castiglione was finishing The Courtier, a fellow Italian, Niccolò Machiavelli (mahk-ee-uh-VEL-ee) of Florence, was writing another influential book. Machiavelli was a political philosopher and statesman whose experiences with violent politics of the time influenced his opinions about how governments should rule. He set down his ideas in a book called The Prince.

Much of Machiavelli’s advice seemed to encourage harsh treatment of citizens and rival states. He describes men as “ungrateful, fickle, liars, and deceivers” and advises rulers to separate morals from politics. Power and ruthlessness, Machiavelli says, are more useful than idealism to a ruler. He insists that a ruler must do whatever is necessary to maintain political power, even if it is viewed as cruel, for without it the state will cease to exist.

The Arts Around the World

Art and Architecture

The Italian Renaissance

What is it? Art and architecture of the Italian renaissance did not follow a single style or method. Instead, works from the period of about 1350 to 1550 display a change in attitudes. Renaissance attitudes about the value of people affected artists and architects. These talented individuals competed with one another for paid assignments and for fame. Subject matter went beyond religious scenes to real people and their places in the natural world. Moreover, the works produced were for people to enjoy, not solely for the glory of God.

What are the key characteristics?

- Realistic portrayals of people and other subjects
- Use of perspective
- Influence of classical Greece and Rome
- Beauty, balance, and harmony
- Value of the individual

Why is it important?

With the Italian Renaissance, art and architecture entered the modern era. Not only are the paintings, sculptures, and buildings beautiful and inspiring, but they also reflect modern people’s interest in competition, achievement, and the world we see around us.
A prudent ruler cannot, and must not, honor his word when it places him at a disadvantage and when the reasons for which he made his promise no longer exist. —Niccolò Machiavelli, *The Prince*, 1513

Machiavelli’s theory that “the end justifies the means” deviated from accepted views of correct behavior. However, its idea that the state was an entity in itself, separate from its ruler, became the foundation for much later political philosophy.

**Science of the Renaissance** As humanists searched archives and Arab translations for classical texts, they discovered a wealth of scientific information. Although the majority of humanist scholars and writers during the Renaissance focused on human sciences such as history, geography, and politics, new ideas about the natural world were beginning to be explored. Science would soon become an important avenue of inquiry, challenging the church’s teachings about the world.

Among other scientists who challenged the church’s ideas about nature, viewers of the night sky began to claim that Earth was not the center of the universe as the church taught. Nicholas Copernicus, a Polish astronomer, suggested that the Sun sat at the center of the universe, orbited by the planets and stars. Galileo Galilei, an Italian astronomer who wrote that Earth orbited the Sun, was placed under house arrest by church officials for expressing his views.

**Reading Check** Draw Conclusions What were some important new ideas of the Renaissance?

**Academic Vocabulary**

*deviate* to turn away from a course or topic

**Skills Focus**

**Interpreting Visuals**

1. **Analyze** How is the use of perspective a type of realism?
2. **Evaluate** How do Renaissance works display a change in attitudes?
Even more than politics, the arts reflected the new humanist spirit. Whereas medieval artists had used idealized and symbolic representations of religious themes, Renaissance artists depicted the things they observed in nature.

**Patrons of the Arts**  
In medieval times, artwork was created by anonymous artists who worked for the church. During the Renaissance, artists worked for whoever offered them the highest price. The buyers of art, or patrons, might be wealthy individuals, city governments, or the church. Wealthy individuals competed against one another, displaying their wealth and modernity through the purchase of artworks.

In Florence, the Medici—a wealthy and powerful family who ruled the city—supported the arts. They gave huge sums of money to artists, intellectuals, and musicians. Lorenzo de Medici, himself a well-educated poet, supported some of the most talented artists of the day. The Sforza family, rulers of Milan, were also benefactors of artists and others.

**Styles and Techniques**  
Renaissance artists wanted to paint the natural world as realistically as possible, which was a change from the style of the Middle Ages. To help with this goal, they studied perspective. Using perspective, artists could represent three-dimensional objects on flat surfaces. Painters also experimented with new ways of using color to portray shapes and textures accurately.

Renaissance art also differed from that of the Middle Ages in its subject matter. Although many artists continued to choose religious subjects, artists began to paint and sculpt scenes from Greek and Roman myths. In addition, religious paintings focused as much on the human personality of the figures as their religious significance. This shift in themes displayed the humanist interest in classical learning and human nature.

During the Renaissance, the design of buildings also reflected humanist reverence of Greek and Roman culture. Churches, palaces, and public buildings incorporated columns and domes inspired by those of classical Greek and Roman architecture.

**Faces of History**  
**Two Renaissance Masters**

**Leonardo Da Vinci**  
1452–1519  
Leonardo was born in Vinci and moved to Florence when he was 15. He was apprenticed to an artist, but Leonardo’s skill soon surpassed his master’s. He left for Milan, where he served the duke. While continuing as a painter, he advised the duke on architecture and weaponry.

Leonardo spent time in Milan, Florence, and Rome as power struggles gripped Italy. Today he is remembered for his masterful painting and for his wide-ranging knowledge of many topics, including anatomy, physics, and engineering.

**Infer**  
Why was Michelangelo a successful artist?

**Michelangelo Buonarroti**  
1475–1564  
Michelangelo considered himself a “son of Florence,” although he was born in Caprese. His father was an official who relied on the Medici family for support. As a young artist, Michelangelo studied in the Medici garden school.

When Lorenzo de Medici died in 1492, Florence was torn into political factions. Michelangelo’s art career became tied up with power struggles there and in Rome. The artist continued to receive important commissions, however, and to create what many consider to be the finest art in the world.

**Analyze**  
How did Leonardo achieve fame?

**Compare and Contrast**  
How were the careers of these two artists alike and different?

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Today the U.S. government helps support artists and art education through grants and special programs. The National Endowment for the Arts oversees many of these programs.
Leonardo da Vinci  The genius Leonardo da Vinci was a highly talented painter; but he was also a writer, an inventor, an architect, an engineer, a mathematician, a musician, and a philosopher. Two of his paintings, The Last Supper and the Mona Lisa, continue to be studied and admired today. The Last Supper shows a gathering of the disciples of Jesus the night before his crucifixion. The Mona Lisa tries to capture the complexity of the human spirit with its mysterious smile.

Leonardo filled some 20,000 pages with notes recording his ideas for building an armored tank and a flying machine, sketches of human anatomy, and countless other things. He designed and built canals, developed a machine to cut threads in screws, and designed the first machine gun. His interests and enthusiasms were boundless.

Michelangelo  The sculptors of the Renaissance studied anatomy to make their statues more lifelike. One of the most accomplished of these was Michelangelo.

In Rome at the age of 24, Michelangelo Buonarroti won fame with his Pietà, a sculpture of Mary, the mother of Jesus, holding her son after his death. Michelangelo’s Pietà communicates themes of grief, love, acceptance, and immortality. Michelangelo soon amazed Rome again with his 13-foot marble statue of David.

The statue’s representation of the human form, suppressed energy, and depth of expression are unsurpassed.

In painting, Michelangelo is most famous for his artwork on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in Rome. The ceiling shows sweeping scenes from the Old Testament of the Bible. Many art historians consider it one of the greatest achievements in the history of painting because of the personalized characterizations of Biblical figures.

Raphael  Raffaello Sanzio, who became known as Raphael, was a renowned painter and an accomplished architect. His most famous work, The School of Athens, is a fresco, a painting made on fresh, moist plaster. The fresco shows Plato and Aristotle surrounded by philosophers from the past and present who were admired by the humanists. He is also well known for his many paintings of the Madonna, or mother of Jesus.

Bramante  Renaissance architecture reached its height with the work of Donato Bramante. He had already achieved fame with his designs when he was chosen architect of Rome. His design for St. Peter’s Basilica influenced the appearance of many smaller churches.

Find the Main Idea  What was the ideal of Renaissance art?

**SECTION 1  ASSESSMENT**

**Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People**

1.  **a. Recall** Which groups came to dominate Italian city-states in the 1300s and 1400s?
   **b. Identify Cause and Effect** How did the Black Death influence the economic system of Europe?

2.  **a. Define** What is humanism?
   **b. Draw Conclusions** How did Machiavelli’s The Prince reflect humanist and Renaissance ways of thinking?
   **c. Evaluate** How did Castiglione's book reveal a new idea about the role of achievement?

3.  **a. Describe** How were Renaissance artists funded?
   **b. Explain** For what reason(s) is Leonardo da Vinci considered a Renaissance man?
   **c. Predict** How might the new ideas of the Renaissance affect society?

**Critical Thinking**

4.  **Identify Cause and Effect** Using your notes on the section and the graphic organizer below, show what effect humanism had on arts and ideas during the Renaissance.

5.  **Exposition** Choose a person from the chapter and write a short paragraph explaining why he was important in the Renaissance. You should include a list of his achievements.
The Northern Renaissance

Before You Read

Main Idea
Renaissance ideas soon spread beyond Italy to northern Europe by means of trade, travel, and printed material, influencing the art and ideas of the north.

Reading Focus
1. How did the Renaissance spread to northern Europe?
2. What contributions did writers and philosophers make to the northern Renaissance?
3. How did the works of northern artists differ from those of the Italian Renaissance?

Key Terms and People
Johannes Gutenberg
Desiderius Erasmus
Sir Thomas More
William Shakespeare
Christine de Pisan
Albrecht Dürer
Jan van Eyck

How did a German artist find hope in Italy? In 1506, the German artist Albrecht Dürer was soon to end a visit to Italy. He wrote to a friend, “I want to ride to Bologna to learn the secrets of the art of perspective, which a man is willing to teach me. I will stay there about eight or ten days and then return to Venice . . . Here I am a gentleman; at home only a parasite.” Dürer’s letter provides evidence of the spread of Renaissance techniques and ideas to other parts of Europe. It also comments on the low position of artists in most parts of Europe during the 1400s and 1500s. That would soon change, as the Renaissance passion for art and culture raised the status of artists everywhere. Dürer’s 1500 self-portrait shows his view of the importance of artists by portraying himself as the subject of a painting.

The Renaissance Spreads North

In the 1200s and 1300s, most cities in Europe were in Italy. By the 1500s, however, large cities had also sprouted in northern Europe. Soon the ideas of the Renaissance reached the growing cities of London, Paris, Amsterdam, and others. Trade, the movement of artists and scholars, and the development of printing helped spread Renaissance ideas northward.

Trading Goods and Ideas As cities grew, a vast trading network spread across northern Europe. This network was dominated by the Hanseatic League, a merchant organization that controlled trade throughout northern Europe. The league operated from the 1200s to the 1400s, working to protect its members from
pirates and other hazards. It also made shipping safer by building lighthouses and training ship captains. Along with goods, northern Europeans exchanged ideas with people from other places. Thus, trade helped the ideas of the Italian Renaissance spread to the north.

Renaissance ideas were also spread by Italian artists who fled to northern Europe to escape violent clashes between the armies of northern monarchs and the wealthy Italian cities. The artists brought their humanist ideas and new painting techniques with them.

In addition, some northern scholars traveled to Italy for an education. When these scholars returned home, they brought the humanist ideas they had learned with them. As newly wealthy northern Europeans became able to afford higher education, universities were established in France, the Netherlands, and Germany.

A Book Revolution In the mid-1400s, the German Johannes Gutenberg cast the letters of the alphabet onto metal plates and locked those plates into a wooden press. This movable type, which had its roots in China and Korea, resulted in one of the most dramatic upheavals the world has ever known. Other people had made steps toward this invention, but Gutenberg is traditionally given the credit.

With movable type, text could be quickly printed on both sides of a sheet of paper. Until this time, the only way to reproduce writing was by hand, which was a long, painstaking process. Movable type made producing books and other printed material faster and cheaper, making them available to more people.

Gutenberg's first publication was a 1,282-page Bible. Soon printers in other cities, such as Rome and Venice, appeared. Within 35 years, a Gutenberg press appeared as far away as Constantinople. Books could now be made quickly and inexpensively. A scholar wrote that “thirty buyers rise up for each volume . . . tearing one another’s eyes out to get hold of them.” Printed books provided more rapid access to new ideas. With easier access to books, more people learned to read and more books were printed. The explosion of printed material quickly spread Renaissance ideas.

**Philosophers and Writers**

As Renaissance ideas spread beyond Italy, northern humanists expressed their own ideas in works that combined the interests of theology, fiction, and history. They created philosophical works, novels, dramas, and poems.

**Erasmus** Some northern philosophers combined Christian ideas with humanism to create Christian humanism. The leading Christian humanist was Desiderius Erasmus. Working as a priest in what is now the Netherlands, Erasmus wrote extensively about the need for a pure and simple Christian life, stripped of the rituals and politics of the church on earth. He also advised readers on educating children.

Erasmus's writings fanned the flames of a growing discontent with the Roman Catholic Church. He himself was dismayed by this effect, but his works were later censored in Paris and condemned by the Church.

**Reading Check** Find the Main Idea How did Renaissance ideas spread to northern Europe?
Sir Thomas More  Humanism was introduced to England by Italians living there and by English people who had studied in Italy. Erasmus also lived in England for a time. During his stay, he became friends with an important fellow humanist and English statesman, Sir Thomas More.

More’s best-known humanist work is the novel *Utopia*. The book was meant for a humanist audience, and it was widely read across Europe. More’s book contains both a criticism of English government and society and a vision of a perfect, but nonexistent, society based on reason. The title of his work has become a common word for any ideal society.

William Shakespeare  In an age of great writers, many scholars believe the greatest was English playwright William Shakespeare. As one contemporary writer noted, Shakespeare “was not of an age, but for all time.”

Shakespeare drew inspiration from ancient and contemporary works of literature. A wide knowledge of natural science and humanist topics, as well as a deep understanding of human nature, were expressed in his plays. His use of language and choice of themes, however, made his plays appeal even to uneducated people.

Through his plays, Shakespeare helped spread the ideas of the Renaissance to a mass audience. His dramatic plays were a shift from the religious morality plays that had become popular during the Middle Ages. Unlike morality plays, which focused on teaching ideal behavior, Shakespeare focused on the lives of realistic characters. The first public theaters were not built in London until the end of the 1500s, but by Shakespeare’s death in 1616, London was the scene of a thriving theater district, with some theaters able to hold up to 2,000 spectators. Shakespeare’s plays were a popular pastime for people from every class.

Christine de Pisan  Italian-born writer Christine de Pisan wrote important works focusing on the role women played in society. Pisan grew up in the French court of Charles V. After she was widowed, she turned to writing as a way of supporting herself and her three children. Her writings included poetry, a biography of Charles V, and works that guided women on proper morality.

Pisan was recognized as a great writer during her lifetime. In her book *The City of Women*, she discusses different views of women and their roles in society. She was one of the few to champion equality and education for women.

**Reading Check**  What were some characteristics of Renaissance writers’ work?
Artists

Like their literary counterparts, the artists of northern Europe were influenced by the Italian Renaissance. They adopted Italian techniques, but their works reflected a more realistic view of humanity. Whereas Italian artists tried to capture the beauty of Greek and Roman gods in their paintings, northern artists often tried to depict people as they really were.

German artist Albrecht Dürer (door-uhr) visited Italy in the late 1400s. On his return to Germany, he used the Italian techniques of realism and perspective in his own works.

Dürer’s paintings also exhibit features that were unique to the northern Renaissance. For example, Dürer painted in oils, a medium that characterized the art of northern Europe. Oil paints also suited the northern artists’ love of detail. They reproduced the texture of fabric, wood, and other material; the reflection of objects in a room in a mirror; scenes outside a window; and other tiny details.

Northern artists in the area of the Netherlands known as Flanders developed their own distinct style. Known as the Flemish School, they used a technique of oil painting that had been perfected in the 1400s by the Flemish painter Jan van Eyck. Van Eyck’s work often focused on landscapes and domestic life. Northern artists fused the everyday with the religious through the use of symbolism in their paintings. A single lit candle or the light streaming through a window are representations of God’s presence. German painter Hans Holbein used objects as symbols to characterize the subjects of his portraits.

In the 1500s Flemish artist Pieter Brueghel (broy-guhl) the Elder used Italian techniques. In subject matter, however, Brueghel’s art followed that of earlier northern artists. His paintings showed scenes from everyday peasant life, very different from the mythological scenes of Italian paintings.

Contrast How did northern Renaissance artwork differ from that of Italian artists?

Northern Renaissance art contains more realistic scenes than Italian Renaissance art does. The hunting scene on the left portrays daily life, while the woodcut and portrait display intricate details and textures of clothing and objects. How did northern artists adapt Italian techniques to their own subject matter?

Critical Thinking

4. Sequence Using your notes and the graphic organizer below, describe some of the differences between Italian and northern Renaissance painting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Italian Renaissance</th>
<th>Northern Renaissance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

5. Persuasion Write a short speech that an Italian might make to a northern European to convince him or her that the Renaissance would bring beneficial changes to the culture. Give at least three reasons.
About the Reading  A form of poem called a sonnet became popular during the Renaissance, when poets began writing about more worldly matters, such as love or politics. A sonnet is a 14-line lyric poem that follows a strict pattern of rhyme and rhythm. Italian poet Francesco Petrarch perfected the Italian sonnet, which consists of two sections. English poets created their own version of the sonnet, perfected by English poet and playwright William Shakespeare. The English sonnet consists of three sections followed by two lines, called a couplet. A major theme in Renaissance sonnets is how the best things in life, such as youth and beauty, are fleeting and should be enjoyed before they fade away.

**Sonnet 61 (1329)**  
*Petrarch*  
1304–1374

Blest be the day, and blest the month and year,  
Season and hour and very moment blest,  
The lovely land and place where first possessed  
By two pure eyes I found me prisoner;  
And blest the first sweet pain, the first most dear,  
Which burned by heart when Love [Cupid, the god of love] came in as guest;  
And blest the bow, the shafts which shook my breast,  
And even the wounds which Love delivered there.  
Blest be the words and voices which filled grove  
And glen [valley] with echoes of my lady’s name;  
The sighs, the tears, the fierce despair of love;  
And blest the sonnet-sources of my fame;  
And blest that thought of thoughts which is her own,  
Of her, her only, of herself alone.  
—translated by Joseph Auslander

**Sonnet 116 (1609)**  
*Shakespeare*  
1564–1616

Let me not to the marriage of true minds  
Admit impediments [barriers]. Love is not love  
Which alters when it alteration finds,  
Or bends with the remover to remove:  
O no! It is an ever-fixed mark [navigational beacon]  
That looks on tempests [storms] and is never shaken;  
It is the star [North Star] to every wandering bark [ship],  
Whose worth’s unknown, although his height be taken.  
Love’s not Time’s fool, though rosy lips and cheeks  
Within his bending sickle’s compass come:  
Love alters not with his brief hours and weeks,  
But bears it out even to the edge of doom.  
If this be error and upon me proved,  
I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

---

AS YOU READ  Think about how each poet expresses his personal feelings about love.

1. **Find the Main Idea**  
   How would you summarize the main idea of Petrarch’s sonnet?

2. **Analyze**  
   In what ways does Shakespeare’s sonnet explore the theme of the nature of love?

3. **Interpret Literature as a Source**  
   Both sonnets focus on worldly romantic love. How might the focus of these sonnets have been different if they had been written during the Middle Ages? Explain your answer.

**Main Idea**

Criticism of the Roman Catholic Church led to a religious movement called the Protestant Reformation and brought changes in religion and politics across Europe.

**Reading Focus**

1. What was the state of Catholicism in the 1400s?
2. How did Martin Luther challenge the Catholic Church?
3. How did Protestantism spread to other areas?
4. What were the effects of the Reformation in England?

**Key Terms and People**

- Protestant Reformation
- indulgences
- Martin Luther
- theocracy
- John Calvin
- predestination
- Henry VIII
- annulled
- Elizabeth I

**The Inside Story**

**Why did a humble monk defy the Holy Roman Emperor?**

In the fall of 1517 a monk nailed a list of items to the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg. He listed certain financial and religious practices he wanted to debate with Catholic leaders and bring to an end. His list of complaints, posted where many people could see them, shocked the people who read it. In the early 1500s no one criticized the church publicly, certainly not a monk.

As people read the list, word spread around Germany. The complaints, called the Ninety-Five Theses, were soon printed and distributed around Europe. The pope, upset by the monk’s defiance, banned the work, telling Roman Catholics not to read it.

Eventually the Holy Roman Emperor and German parliament got involved, demanding that the monk take back his words. The monk refused, saying that he must obey his conscience and stand by his work. The actions of that monk, named Martin Luther, are considered the beginning of the movement called the Protestant Reformation.

**Catholicism in the 1400s**

Over the centuries since its beginning, the Roman Catholic Church had gained power and wealth in Europe. As the influence, extravagance, and worldliness of the church grew, some people thought it had strayed too far from its spiritual roots. By the early 1500s, the concerns crystallized into a reform movement that eventually came to be called the Protestant Reformation.

**The Monk Defies the Emperor**

In 1517 a Catholic monk named Martin Luther posted Ninety-Five Theses criticizing the Roman Catholic Church.
Dissatisfaction with the Church As the wealth and worldliness of the Church grew, so did instances of financial corruption, abuse of power, and immorality. In return, people’s respect for priests, monks, and even popes weakened. Heavy taxation also caused discontent. The church financed Renaissance artists in elaborate projects, but it was the middle class and peasants who were taxed to pay for those projects.

In the early 1500s Pope Leo X needed money for the construction of Saint Peter’s Basilica in Rome. To help raise money, he approved the sale of indulgences. Indulgences were pardons issued by the pope that people could buy to reduce a soul’s time in purgatory. For almost a thousand years, Catholics had believed that after dying people went to purgatory, where their souls worked off the sins they had committed. The sale of indulgences, however, was one of the church’s most criticized practices.

As unhappiness with taxation, the sale of indulgences, and other church practices grew, another major shift was occurring in Europe. Nationalism, or the devotion to a particular state or nation rather than to the church, began to grow. People began to consider themselves citizens of a government separate from the church.

Early Reformers Earlier, two men had stepped forward to challenge the church. The first, John Wycliffe, was born in England about 1330. He believed that the church should give up its earthly possessions. His views proved unpopular with church officials, who removed him from his teaching position.

Another reformer, Jan Hus (yahn hoos), was born in southern Bohemia about 1370. He became a priest and was soon preaching against the immorality and worldliness of the Catholic Church. In 1412 Hus was excommunicated by Pope Gregory XII. Hus was later arrested, tried for heresy, and burned at the stake.

These two men were some of the first and most influential theologians to openly criticize the church. Their views, though condemned by the church and not widely accepted by ordinary people, began a discussion that would eventually lead to reform.

**Reading Like a Historian**

**Reformation Woodcuts**

Analyzing Visuals Historians can learn about how events or people were viewed by analyzing visuals that convey a point of view. Some German Protestant reformers used woodcuts to spread their ideas. Woodcuts were cheap to produce and easy to print, and people did not have to be able to read to understand them. The two woodcuts here, made in 1521, attack Pope Leo X by comparing him unfavorably to Jesus.

To interpret these woodcuts, think about:
- the subject of each illustration
- the details and symbols in each illustration
- the overall message of the pair of illustrations

**Skills Focus**

1. **Subject** How are the subjects of the two woodcut illustrations related?
2. **Details** What details in each of the woodcut illustrations show how Jesus and Pope Leo X view themselves and live their lives?
3. **Message** What is the overall message of the pair of woodcut illustrations?


**Martin Luther**

Although scholars, priests, and laypeople had criticized the church before 1517, this year symbolically marks the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. It was in this year that Martin Luther made public his complaints about the church.

The Ninety-five Theses To Martin Luther, selling indulgences was sinful. In his theses, Luther flatly denied that indulgences had any power to remit sin. He also criticized the power of the pope and the wealth of the church.

Luther’s theses were not intended for the common people of his parish but for church leaders. They were written in academic Latin, which most people did not understand. In nailing them to the church door, Luther was following a common practice of the time. Church doors then served much as community bulletin boards do today.

**Reading Check** Summarize What conditions led to the Protestant Reformation?
Jesus is washing the feet of his disciples. He taught that people should serve others and not put themselves above others.

Luther's theses, as he had intended, stimulated a discussion among university intellectuals. Soon, thanks to the newly invented printing press, the theses were published. The work spread across Europe and was widely read by intellectuals, clergy, and laypeople. The ideas expressed in the theses made sense to many people, and the desire for reform grew.

**Luther's Message** Following the publication of the theses, Luther continued to study and debate. He contradicted basic Catholic beliefs when he insisted that God's grace cannot be won by good works. Faith alone, he said, was needed. In Leipzig in 1519, he shocked many when he declared that the only head of the Christian Church is Jesus himself, not the pope. He also insisted that individual Christians should be their own interpreters of scripture and that Christian practices should come only from the Bible. To further this aim, Luther translated the Bible into German. The translation enabled many more people to read the Bible without the aid of the clergy.

**Reactions to Luther** In 1520 Pope Leo X excommunicated Luther, or expelled him from the Church. In 1521 Martin Luther was summoned to appear before the newly crowned Holy Roman emperor, Charles V, and the German Diet, or assembly, at the city of Worms. Luther refused to change his opinions.

The Holy Roman emperor handed down the Edict of Worms. This decree declared Luther to be an outlaw and condemned his writings. The edict did not prevent Luther's ideas from spreading, however. Although Martin Luther himself had not intended to begin a new religion, by 1530, Lutheranism was a formally recognized branch of Christianity.

In 1529, Charles V moved to suppress Lutherans in Germany. Lutheran princes in the German assembly issued a protestatio, or protest, against these measures. This is how the term Protestant came into being.

**Reading Check** Identify Supporting Details  Describe the ideas of Martin Luther and how they contradicted the church's teachings of his day.
The Spread of Protestantism

Martin Luther's stand against the Roman Catholic Church opened the door for others to put forth their differing ideas on religious matters. As Lutheranism arose in Germany, new religious movements began in Switzerland and other places in Europe.

Ulrich Zwingli

Another Reformation priest, Ulrich Zwingli, was born in Switzerland within months of Luther. Zwingli entered the priesthood at the age of 22 and soon began preaching similar ideas to those of Martin Luther. His proposed reforms, however, went even farther than those of Luther.

Many of Zwingli’s ideas about religion were viewed as radical. The church he established in Switzerland had the notion of theocracy at its base. A theocracy is a government in which church and state are joined and in which officials are considered to be divinely inspired.

Although Zwingli’s movement gained support throughout Switzerland, some areas of the country opposed him and his supporters. His opponents included Martin Luther, who accused Zwingli of tampering with the word of God. Since the Swiss Protestants could not win the Lutherans’ support, they were vulnerable to attack by the Catholics. When the disagreement between Swiss Protestants and Catholic officials erupted in war, Zwingli was one of the casualties. He died in battle in 1531.

John Calvin

Next to Luther, John Calvin was the most important Protestant reformer. Born in 1509 and educated in France, Calvin was influenced by Erasmus and other Renaissance humanists. He also supported the reforms of Martin Luther in Germany.

Inspired by the ideas of Augustine, Calvin preached the doctrine of predestination. Predestination holds that God knows who will be saved, even before people are born, and therefore guides the lives of those destined for salvation. Thus, nothing humans can do, either good or bad, will change their predestined end.

Calvinism took root in Geneva, Switzerland, and the city became a theocracy under Calvin’s leadership. Calvinists viewed people as sinful by nature, and strict laws were enacted that regulated people’s behavior. In Geneva, church attendance was mandatory, and even matters such as the number of courses in each meal and the color of clothing were the subject of laws. Amusements such as feasting, dancing, singing, and wearing jewelry were forbidden.

This strictness was actually the heart of Calvinism’s appeal. It gave its followers a sense of mission and discipline. Calvinists felt they were setting an example and making the world fit for the “elect,” those who had been chosen for salvation.

Other Reformers

Other reformers took the ideas of Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, and John Calvin and adapted them to their own beliefs. John Knox became the spokesman for the Reformation in Scotland after spending time in John Calvin’s Geneva. After years of religious turmoil in Scotland, Knox’s Reformed Church replaced the Roman Catholic Church. His church structure laid the ground for the Presbyterian denomination that arose later.

Another group separated itself from the Lutherans, Calvinists, and other Protestant Reformers by its beliefs about baptism. The Anabaptists insisted on rebaptizing adults, which was a crime punishable by death at that time. The Anabaptist Church later evolved into several religious factions, including the Hutterites (named for their founder, Jakob Hutter), the Mennonites, and the Amish Mennonites.

Make Generalizations

How did the ideas of reformers who came after Luther differ from those of Luther?
Protestantism Spreads to England

The Protestant Reformation began with criticism of the Catholic Church by priests and other religious thinkers. In England, the Reformation began with the king.

A King’s Protest Henry VIII became king of England in 1509 at the age of 17. As a young king, he was a devout Catholic who wrote angry protests against the “venomous” ideas of Luther. Henry’s actions won him the title “Defender of the Faith.”

By 1525, Henry’s wife, Catherine of Aragon, had borne only one child, a girl named Mary. This presented a problem for Henry, who wanted a male heir. It was thought that a female monarch could weaken England politically, and he believed Catherine would produce no male heir. Henry decided to have the marriage annulled, or declared invalid based on church laws, so that he could marry again.

The pope offered Henry several solutions to his problem but would not agree to the annulment because Catherine and her nephew, Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, opposed it. The dilemma became known as “the king’s great matter.” While Henry argued with the pope over his annulment, he fell in love with Anne Boleyn. Henry soon took matters into his own hands.

The Reformation Parliament Henry summoned Parliament. Known as the Reformation Parliament, the gathering led to a declaration that England no longer considered itself under the authority of the pope. Instead, Henry himself became the head of the Church of England. He changed the rituals of the church very little, but Henry closed Catholic monasteries and convents and distributed much of the land to nobles. This helped build more public support for the split from the Church.

In 1533, Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII were secretly married. Later that year, after Parliament had declared Henry’s marriage to Catherine null and void, Anne gave birth to a girl, Elizabeth. The next year Parliament passed the Act of Supremacy, which required subjects to take an oath declaring Henry VIII to be “Supreme Head of the Church of England.” The break with Rome was complete.
Henry’s Heirs  In the end, Henry VIII had six wives. Henry’s third wife, Jane Seymour, gave England its male heir, Edward VI. None of Henry’s later three marriages produced any children.

When Edward VI took the throne in 1547 at age nine, Protestantism gained more ground under the guidance of his guardians. Edward died before his 16th birthday, and Henry’s daughter Mary became queen of England.

Mary returned England to the authority of the pope. Hundreds of people were burned at the stake for their Protestant beliefs, earning the queen the title Bloody Mary. The news of Mary’s death caused little sorrow among Protestants. Her 25-year-old half-sister Elizabeth, the daughter of Anne Boleyn, became queen.

Elizabeth’s Reign  Elizabeth I was a Protestant at heart. One of her first acts as queen was to draft a new Supremacy Act in 1559, splitting England once again from Rome.

Throughout her reign, Elizabeth was threatened by Catholics who plotted to place Mary, Queen of Scots, on the throne. In turn, Elizabeth persecuted any who dared to worship as Catholics. A strong queen, Elizabeth survived these struggles, firmly establishing the Church of England.

Summarize  What caused the Reformation to spread to England?
The Counter-Reformation

Main Idea
Catholics at all levels recognized the need for reform in the church. Their work turned back the tide of Protestantism in some areas and renewed the zeal of Catholics everywhere.

Reading Focus
1. What reforms were made in the Catholic Church?
2. What were the religious and social effects of the Counter-Reformation?
3. What wars occurred because of the Counter-Reformation?

Key Terms and People
- Counter-Reformation
- Jesuits
- Ignatius of Loyola
- Council of Trent
- Charles Borromeo
- Francis of Sales
- Teresa of Avila

Before You Read

Taking Notes
Use a graphic organizer to take notes on the reforms, effects, and wars related to the Counter-Reformation.

Section 4

From Soldier to Saint

How does a soldier change his life to become a saint? A Spanish soldier, whose legs had been shattered by a cannonball, was taken by litter to a castle. His right leg had to be rebroken in order to be set correctly, and, eventually, part of the bone had to be sawed off. During the long months of recovery, the soldier’s life changed.

The soldier needed something to occupy his time until he could walk again, so he read the only material available to him in the castle—biographies of saints. At first the soldier and former courtier in the Spanish royal court was bored by the stories of penance. But the ideas in the books soon filled his mind with the desire to find a religious purpose, and he began to see religious visions.

The books and visions inspired the soldier, whose name was Ignatius, to change his life—to become a “soldier of God” rather than a “soldier of man.” Ignatius later founded a religious teaching order still active today—the Jesuits.

† This painting by an unknown artist shows Saint Peter offering a key to Ignatius of Loyola. The key allows one to enter Heaven.
Reforming the Catholic Church

Protestant reformers were not the only ones who were dissatisfied with the state of the Catholic Church. Even before Martin Luther posted his theses, some Catholics had been working toward reform of the church itself. Later, in response to the spread of Protestantism, the church began a series of reforms known as the Counter-Reformation.

Early Reformers

A monk named Girolamo Savonarola (sahv-oh-nuh-ROH-luh) was one of the first reformers to try to change the church from within. During the late 1400s, he preached fiery sermons against the abuses of the church. He called for churches to melt down their gold and silver ornaments to buy bread for the hungry and poor members of the church. Savonarola convinced people to gather and burn jewelry and trinkets. This enormous fire was known as “the bonfire of the vanities.” Pope Alexander at first allowed Savonarola’s work but eventually excommunicated him for spreading ideas the pope thought dangerous. In 1498, Savonarola was executed at Florence.

Jesuits

Other leaders formed new religious orders whose members worked to reform the church. Their work renewed the church’s emphasis on spirituality and service. The most influential of these groups was the Society of Jesus, or the Jesuits.

The Jesuit order was founded in 1534 by Ignatius of Loyola, a Basque nobleman and former soldier. The order was approved by the pope in 1539. Loyola, the Father General, ran the Jesuits like a military organization, emphasizing obedience to the church above all. The Jesuits concentrated on education as a means of combating the Protestant Reformation. They established missions, schools, and universities. With such effective organizations, the Catholic Church began to regain ground against Protestantism.

The Council of Trent

Recognizing the need to redefine the doctrines of the Catholic faith, Pope Paul III convened the Council of Trent in 1545. It met on and off until 1563. Its delegates examined the criticisms made by Protestants about Catholic practices. In doing so, they clarified Catholic teaching on important points.

The delegates addressed the abuses that had weakened the church over the past century. A series of reforms addressed the corruption of the clergy. The training of priests was regulated and financial abuse was curbed. The sale of indulgences was abolished.

Above all, the Council of Trent rejected the Protestants’ emphasis on self-discipline and individual faith. The council argued that the
church could help believers achieve salvation by using mystery and magnificent ceremonies to inspire faith. This was consistent with the beliefs of millions of people, indeed the majority of Europeans, who remained Catholic.

The pronouncements of the Council of Trent meant that there would be no compromise between Catholicism and Protestantism. The council's bold action was a great boost to Catholicism. Austria, Poland, and other parts of Europe returned to the Catholic Church. In addition, Catholics everywhere felt renewed energy and confidence.

The Jesuits used this renewed spirit to expand the scope of the church. By 1700, they operated 669 colleges in Italy, Germany, and other places. Many future leaders were educated at Jesuit schools. In this way, the order had some influence over political affairs. As they worked in India, Japan, China, and other places, the Jesuits also gained and passed along information about the cultures of other lands.

Reforming Catholics Several important figures in the Catholic Church helped to carry out the reforms decreed by the Council of Trent. Charles Borromeo (bohr-roh-MAY-oh) was the archbishop of Milan from 1560 to 1584. He took decisive steps to implement the reforms ordered by the council, such as building a new school for the education of priests.

In France, Francis of Sales worked to regain the district of Savoy, which had largely turned to Calvinism. As a result of his missionary work, most of the people of Savoy returned to the Catholic Church. He later founded a religious teaching order for women.

Women and the Church During the Renaissance, women in religious orders began to take on more active roles in the Church. Before the Renaissance, they lived in secluded convents. By the late Middle Ages, it was acceptable for nuns to help the poor, orphaned, or sick.
Many women had a profound and important influence on others through their work with the church. In 1535 Italian nun Angela Merici began the Company of Saint Ursula, an order of women dedicated to teaching girls. Jane of Chantal and Francis of Sales cofounded the Visitation of Holy Mary order, which trained women to be teachers. Mary Ward of England began a network of schools for girls throughout Europe. At first her work was denounced by anti-Jesuits and the church because Ward’s ideas about women were considered dangerously new. Later, however, her missionary influence was formally recognized by the church.

Perhaps the most famous female spiritual leader was Teresa of Avila. Born in Spain in 1515, Teresa decided to become a nun about the age of 20. Her father opposed her plan, but Teresa ran away to a convent about 1536. At the convent, after deciding that the practices were too lax, she followed her own strict rules regarding fasting, prayer, and sleep. Eventually the church gave her permission to reform the Carmelite order. Teresa’s deep spirituality, reported visions of Christ, and fervor for the Catholic faith inspired many would-be Protestants to remain in the church.

The Inquisition To counter the Reformation, the church established a church court, called the Roman Inquisition, in 1542 to fight Protestantism. Later popes increased the Inquisition’s power. They tried people who were accused of being Protestants, of practicing witchcraft, or of breaking church law. The Spanish monarchs set up and controlled the much harsher Spanish Inquisition in 1478. They used the Inquisition to impose religious uniformity, especially on converted Jews and Muslims, and later, on Protestants.

The church also tried to stamp out rebellion through its Index of Forbidden Books. The church warned the people not to read books on the lists or they would lose their souls. Accounts of torture and executions by the courts damaged the church’s image. The Inquisition’s actions during the Counter-Reformation are still seen as an abuse of the church’s power.

**Religious and Social Effects**

The Counter-Reformation affected the whole world. Although the Roman Catholic Church was no longer the only religious authority in Europe, its policies influenced governments and societies wherever the church existed.

**Changes in Religion** A renewed zeal for the Catholic faith spread the religion to other continents, largely through the work of the Jesuits. In North America and elsewhere, their influence at times softened the harsh colonial rule of the governments under which they worked. Protestants broke away from the Catholic Church and then split into many factions. Religious turmoil increased as Catholics persecuted non-Catholics and non-Catholics persecuted Catholics and one another.

Adding to the religious discord, rifts soon opened between the various Protestant churches. Martin Luther and his followers denounced the radical ideas of the Anabaptists and Zwingli’s followers. Those whose thinking coincided with John Calvin disapproved of some of the ideas on which Lutheranism was based. Martin Luther’s theses had opened the door to religious freedom. That freedom brought an equal proportion of conflict and turmoil.

**Persecution and Hysteria** Both Catholics and Protestants, including Luther, viewed Jews and Muslims as heretics. In 1492, Jews and, in 1500, Muslims were forced to convert to Catholic Christianity or leave Spain. Many Jews resettled in eastern and southern Europe. The majority of the Jews who had earlier converted to Christianity and who were members of the educated elite, stayed in Spain.

In many of the areas in Europe where Jews were allowed to stay, they were not as restricted as they had been during the Middle Ages. However, in some places they were forced to live in a particular part of the city, called a ghetto. The ghettos were walled and their gates closed at a certain time each evening.

Across Europe, many people feared that witches roamed the land, killing children and cattle and working with the devil. Their fears increased in times of poor harvests or other hardships. The fears inspired hysteria in which accused witches were rounded up and tried for their alleged wrongdoing.
The penalty for practicing witchcraft at this time was often death, and many innocent victims were executed for alleged witchcraft. The majority of executions for witchcraft occurred between 1580 and 1660. Thousands of people, most of them women or poor, were killed.

Political Effects A rising sense of national identity was interwoven with a decline in the power of the Catholic Church. The Protestant Reformation indirectly encouraged the formation of independent states and nations. Rulers and merchants both wanted the church to be less involved in state and business affairs, which they sought to control on their own. Political power became separated from churches, although nations and churches often aligned themselves with one another to increase their own influence in a region.

**Reading Check** Generalize How did religious turmoil affect society during the 1500s?

## Religious Wars and Unrest

In 1494, shortly before Michelangelo sculpted his *Pietà* and Savonarola was executed, King Charles VIII of France invaded Italy. This began a series of wars in which France and Spain vied for control of the Italian peninsula.

### The Italian Wars
During the Italian Wars, control of Italy bounced between these two powers. England also eventually became involved, as did several popes. The fighting finally culminated in the sack of Rome by the Spaniard and Holy Roman Emperor Charles V in 1527.

The Italian Wars officially ended in 1559. The real significance of the Italian Wars was that they were credited with expanding the Italian Renaissance throughout Europe. Troops returned home carrying ideas they had been exposed to in Italy. In addition, artists from Italy fled to the north, bringing new techniques and styles with them.
Conflicts among Germans With new ideas circulating amongst a growing population, peasants were becoming more unhappy with high taxes and a lack of power. At the same time, Reformation preachers were giving backing to the idea of freedom. Stirred by these factors, in 1524 tens of thousands of German peasants stormed castles and monasteries, a rebellion known as the Peasants’ War. The nobles harshly suppressed the uprising.

Martin Luther, accused of beginning the unrest, denounced it. The peasants, he wrote, “rob and rage and act like mad dogs.” Luther’s refusal to side with the peasants prevented the Reformation from spilling over into a social revolution that encouraged social equality.

Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, a devout Catholic, was determined to turn back the tide of Protestantism. In 1546 he began a war against the Lutheran princes of Germany. After years of battles, enthusiasm for the war waned, and the Peace of Augsburg was signed in 1555. Charles, who scorned religious compromise, would not attend the meeting.

The agreement reached in Augsburg allowed each prince to choose the religion that his subjects would practice. The only choices were Catholicism or Lutheranism, and the subjects had no say in the choice. Still, the seeds of religious freedom had been planted.

Conflicts between Religions In France the Huguenots, the Protestant minority, fought for years against the Catholics. The fighting ended when their leader, Henry of Navarre, became Catholic. His conversion led to political stability by encouraging Catholics to accept him as king. In 1598 Henry’s Edict of Nantes granted religious freedom to Protestants.

**Reading Check** Identify Cause and Effect What factors led to the Peasants’ War?

**Quick Facts**

**The Reformation**

**Causes**

- Humanist values led people to question church authority.
- Some clergy were corrupt, worldly, or poorly educated.
- Martin Luther posted his Ninety-five Theses.
- The printing press helped spread Reformation ideas.

**Effects**

- Many Protestant sects developed.
- Church leaders reformed the Catholic Church.
- Religious intolerance and anti-Semitism increased.
- Religious conflicts spread across Europe.

**Conflicts among Germans**

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**Conflicts between Religions**

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**Reviewing Ideas, Terms, and People**

1. **Recall** On what issues did the reformer Ignatius of Loyola focus?
   **Explain** How did the Catholic Church try to keep people from becoming Protestant?
   **Evaluate** In your opinion, what was the main importance of the Counter-Reformation in European history?

2. **Describe** What were some of the effects of the Counter-Reformation on European society?
   **Summarize** What led to the persecution of witches across Europe during the 1500s?

3. **Identify** Who were the Huguenots?
   **Interpret** How did the Peace of Augsburg encourage religious toleration?
   **Elaborate** How did Luther’s reaction to the Peasants’ War affect the Counter-Reformation?

**Critical Thinking**

4. **Compare** Using your notes from the section and a graphic organizer like the one below, analyze causes, characteristics, and effects of the Counter-Reformation.

**Focus on Writing**

5. **Exposition** Which Counter-Reformation reform do you think was most important? Write a paragraph identifying the reform and exploring why it was so important.
Migration and Diffusion

Before Gutenberg’s press, books were rare and expensive. New ideas usually spread by word of mouth as people traveled from place to place. Although clergy and nobles might have been able to read the few books that existed, the majority of books were philosophical and religious works with little practical knowledge in them. Political ideas, technical knowledge about agriculture or medicine, and even laws, were usually learned directly from others.

Diffusion of Ideas Then The movable type that Gutenberg developed changed the way people shared information. New forms of literature began to appear in Europe for new kinds of audiences. Novels were published for pleasure reading. Manuals on agriculture were published to help farmers learn techniques that produced more and better crops. Political tracts began appearing and changed the way people thought about their place in society. Printed sheets of news, the first European newspapers, appeared in German cities in the late 1400s. Italian news sheets were purchased for a small coin called a gazeta.

As printing presses spread throughout Europe and literacy rates grew, anyone who could read had access to ideas previously known only to the elite. For the first time, religious and political authorities had little control over the spread of information between people and places, although many tried to institute a measure of censorship.

Diffusion of Ideas Now Today a similar revolution is occurring with the spread of computers and access to the Internet. An immense amount of information is available to people in areas that have no libraries or universities.

In addition, new forms of communication are being created that take advantage of the new technology. Music and graphics can accompany text in a way books do not allow and can make certain ideas more easily understood. Hyperlinked text allows readers instant access to more information on certain topics.

As with the technology of printing, Internet technology raises issues for modern authorities, who struggle to maintain a flow of information that respects the legal rights of all concerned. The illegal downloading of copyrighted material is one such issue.

A Sotho woman in South Africa uses a laptop to access information on the Internet.

A woodcut shows printers working on a printing press, a revolutionary technology at the time.

The Printer’s Workshop, by Jost Ammann, 1568
The Renaissance and Individualism

Historical Context  The documents below illustrate the changing view of individuals that occurred during the Renaissance.

Task  Study the documents and answer the questions that follow. After you have studied all of the documents, you will be asked to write an essay explaining changes that occurred during the Renaissance.

A Medieval View

In 1195 Pope Innocent III published a work entitled *On the Misery of the Human Condition*. In it, he described all of humanity as sinful people who should focus all their energy on receiving God’s forgiveness.

[Man] does depraved [evil] things by which he offends God, offends his neighbors, offends himself. He does vain and shameful things by which he pollutes his fame, pollutes his person, pollutes his conscience. He does vain things by which he neglects serious things, neglects profitable things, neglects necessary things.

Individuals and Accomplishment

Wealthy people with access to education began learning not just religious or practical things, but things that interested them. Geography, music, art, and mathematics were learned because they interested the student, not in order to obtain employment or gain salvation. This painting of two French ambassadors by Hans Holbein shows items associated with subjects that the two men have studied.

The Ambassadors, Hans Holbein the Younger, 1533
Christian Humanism

The writings of Desiderius Erasmus brought together the ideas of Christianity and the ideas of humanism. In a preface to his Latin version of the New Testament, he discusses why it is important for humanists to study Christianity.

And in the first place, it’s not pleasant to raise the complaint, not altogether new but all too just and never more timely than in these days when men are applying themselves singlemindedly each to his own studies, that the philosophy of Christ is singled out for derision [mockery] even by some Christians—-is ignored by most and cultivated [studied] (coldly at that—I won’t say insincerely) by only a few. In all other disciplines where human energy is invested, there’s nothing so obscure and elusive that lawless curiosity has not explored it. Yet how does it happen that even those of us who lay claim to the Christian name fail to embrace this philosophy in full sincerity, as we should? Platonists, Pythagoreans, Academics, Stoics, Cynics, Peripatetics, and Epicureans all know the doctrines of their particular sects, they learn them by heart, and fight fiercely for them, ready to die rather than abandon the cause of their particular patron. Why then don’t we stand up even more spiritedly on behalf of our maker and our leader, Christ?

The change in the view of humanity during the Renaissance was a subtle and gradual shift that would have a profound effect. What changes occurred in the view of the individual? Using the documents above and information from the chapter, note some changes. Then write an essay about how they may have affected the way people lived.

### Review Key Terms and People

For each term or name below, write a sentence explaining its significance to the Renaissance or Reformation.

1. Renaissance
2. humanism
3. Leonardo da Vinci
4. Johannes Gutenberg
5. Albrecht Dürer
6. William Shakespeare
7. Protestant Reformation
8. Martin Luther
9. indulgences
10. Henry VIII
11. Catholic Reformation
12. Council of Trent

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### Events of the Renaissance

- **mid-1300s** ▪ Italy experiences a rise of city-states.
- **1435** ▪ Alberti writes an explanation of perspective for other artists.
- **1455** ▪ Gutenberg develops a printing press with moveable type.
- **1506** ▪ Dürer returns to Germany from a trip to Italy.
- **1508** ▪ Michelangelo starts painting the Sistine Chapel.
- **1517** ▪ Luther posts his Ninety-Five Theses at Wittenberg.
- **1518** ▪ Castiglione completes *The Courtier*.
- **1533** ▪ Henry VIII marries Anne Boleyn.
- **1537** ▪ Teresa of Avila runs away from home to join a convent.
- **1540** ▪ Ignatius of Loyola founds the Jesuits.
- **1542** ▪ The Inquisition is established.
- **1545** ▪ Pope Paul III convenes the Council of Trent.
- **1558** ▪ Elizabeth I comes to the throne of England.
- **1593** ▪ Shakespeare appears in London records.

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### People of the Renaissance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lorenzo de Medici</td>
<td>Ruler of Florence and patron of many artists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonardo da Vinci</td>
<td>Italian artist, engineer, and scientist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelangelo</td>
<td>Italian painter and sculptor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baldassare Castiglione</td>
<td>Italian writer and courtier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niccolo Machiavelli</td>
<td>Italian political writer and statesman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albrecht Dürer</td>
<td>German painter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johannes Gutenberg</td>
<td>German creator of moveable type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desiderius Erasmus</td>
<td>Christian humanist philosopher and writer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Shakespeare</td>
<td>English playwright and poet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Luther</td>
<td>German religious reformer</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Calvin</td>
<td>Swiss religious reformer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry VIII</td>
<td>King of England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth I</td>
<td>Queen of England and daughter of Henry VIII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ignatius of Loyola</td>
<td>Spanish monk and founder of the Jesuits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teresa of Avila</td>
<td>Spanish nun and reformer of the Carmelite order</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comprehension and Critical Thinking

SECTION 1 (pp. 437–443)
13. a. Recall What was humanism?
   b. Explain How did medieval artwork differ from the artwork created during the Renaissance?
   c. Evaluate How did the success of Italian city-states help make the Renaissance possible?

SECTION 2 (pp. 444–447)
14. a. Identify Name the functions of the Hanseatic League.
   b. Summarize What were the various ways that Renaissance ideas were spread?
   c. Elaborate Why did it become dangerous to own a book by Erasmus?

SECTION 3 (pp. 449–454)
15. a. Define What were the Ninety-Five Theses?
   b. Sequence Describe the sequence of events that led to England’s break with the Roman Catholic Church.
   c. Support a Position If Martin Luther had not posted his theses back in 1517, would the Reformation ever have happened? Take a position on this question and write a few sentences in support of that position.

SECTION 4 (pp. 455–460)
16. a. Identify Main Ideas What was the purpose of the Council of Trent?
   b. Compare The Catholic Church used many methods to stop the spread of Protestantism. Compare the methods of the Jesuits to those of the Inquisition. Which had more far-reaching effects?
   c. Predict “The pronouncements of the Council of Trent meant that no middle ground between Catholicism and Protestantism existed.” Predict the future of both religions based on this statement and the other information in this chapter.

Reading Skills
Predicting Use what you know about predicting to answer the following questions.
17. If you know that the Catholic Church played an important role in society before the Renaissance and Reformation, what might you predict would happen to the church after these movements?
18. After studying the religious wars in Europe during this time what do you think might happen next on this continent?

Analyzing Visuals
Reading Like a Historian The painting below shows wealthy Italians at a daily meal during the Renaissance.

19. Draw Conclusions The musicians on the left side of the painting are performing a concert for the diners. What does this painting tell you about what wealthy Italians valued during the Renaissance?

Using the Internet
20. Certain religious practices caused a number of people to call for change. Using the keyword above, do research to learn about leaders of the Reformation. Then use the information you learned to create a pamphlet on the topic.

Writing for the SAT
Think about the following issue:
Although drastic changes occurred during the Renaissance, most people’s lives changed very little. The elite and nobles benefitted the most from the changes of the Renaissance.

21. Assignment: Why would the poor not benefit as much as nobles from changes of the Renaissance? Write a short essay discussing this issue. Support your point of view with examples.