

Italian Renaissance Art

Humanism and the Allure of Antiquity

Reading Questions II

Gardner's Chapter 21

1. What important invention of the 15th century had a profound impact on the Renaissance? How did it impact culture and society?
2. List 8 scientific fields that developed in the 15th century. Which famous Renaissance artist made tremendous discoveries in several of these fields?
3. What effect did the princely courts have on the Renaissance?
4. Which family was considered the most important private patron of the arts?
5. The competition for the baptistery doors of Florence Cathedral was about which allegory? Explain.
6. Compare the two panels' styles.
7. Why did Ghiberti's entry win the competition?
8. How was Ghiberti's Gates of Paradise different than earlier door reliefs?
9. Describe the pictorial techniques used in door panel titled "Isaac and his sons".
10. Describe the Four Crowned Saints in an architectural niche in San Or Michele.
11. Which two figures from the classical Greek era has a similar pose as Donatello's St. Mark?
12. Compare Donatello's Zuccone to an earlier figure sculpture.
13. Describe a few of the innovations of Masaccio's Tribute Money.

14. Describe Masaccio's The Holy Trinity.
15. Compare Brunelleschi's dome of Florence Cathedral with earlier domes and / or Gothic cathedrals.
16. Compare Santo Spirito to Florence Cathedral.
17. How was mathematics used in the design of Santo Spirito?
18. What is significant of the rise of private family chapels?
19. Why was Brunelleschi not involved in palazzo buildings in Florence?
20. How does the subject of Donatello's David connect with Florence and his patron?
21. What is the significance of Pollaiuolo's Battle of the Ten Nudes?
22. Describe the differences in engraving techniques between northern and Italian Renaissance.
23. Botticelli's paintings are considered visual representations of what other art form? By whom? P. 596
24. Describe Portrait of a Youth by Botticelli.
25. Compare Gattamelata by Donatello with the equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius.
26. Who was the first architect to understand Roman architecture in depth? What system of architecture did he promote?
27. Describe Santa Maria Novella in mathematical terms.

28. Explain the stylistic successes and weaknesses of Castagno's Last Supper.

29. Explain why Fra Filippo's Madonna and Child is a naturalistic painting of this subject. How might this painting be different from Giotto's?

30. Describe Perugino's Christ Delivering the Keys to Saint Peter.

31. Describe the style of the Room of the Newlyweds by Andrea Mategna. Use specific vocabulary terms.

32. Compare the innovations of the Room of the Newlyweds with Mategna's Dead Christ.

33. What was Piero della Francesca's artistic point of view? Who influenced Piero and how?

34. Use these terms in describing Piero's Enthroned Madonna: hierarchy, perspective, symbolism, portraiture, patron.

35. Describe the monk Savonarola's influence on late 15th century Florence. How is Signorelli's Damned Cast into Hell connected to this monk's ideas?

36. List the 10 most important works of the 15th century. Why was each considered significant?